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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the City of Mount Gambier 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 year and is intended as a point of reference to inform the reader of 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 service 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 and Regional
- Finance

Each year, Council delivers many initiatives to help improve the quality of life for its 26,348 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.



THE CITY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK PROJECT

The City Development Framework Project was fundamental in the development of the Futures Paper. This project commenced to ensure we have a robust and planned approach to meet the current and future challenges facing the City. The project involved the development of overall strategies for development, incorporating economic, social, environment and community opportunities and aspirations.

The Futures Paper looks forward and focuses on two key questions:

1. Is what we have done in the past going to sustain our community and economy into the future?
2. What do we need to do to change or introduce to ensure that our community and economy are sustainable into the future?

Most importantly the Futures Paper was developed entirely on the aspirations and issues raised and identified from people within the community.

It is important to identify that the development of the Futures Paper is based on sound academic research that has identified four key characteristics of successful cities:

- Home to a highly skilled population;
- Centrally located, at the heart of a rich market and/or well positioned for trade with expanding markets;

- Has a diversified economy with a significant proportion of high order services;
- Boasts a climate and/or natural setting superior to most other cities in the nation.

In using and applying the Futures Paper as a guiding strategy for the long term development of the City, Council will be able to develop policies and allocate resources where the most gain can be achieved.

THE COMMUNITY PLAN

The Community Plan represents Council's vision, aspirations and priorities of the community now and into the future. It describes Council's values, how we work together and outlines the strategic initiatives to achieve ongoing sustainability and prosperity. The Community Plan was endorsed by Council at its meeting in May 2016.

The Community Plan together with the Futures Paper are now Council's key strategic documents and are supported by the Long Term Financial Plan, the Asset Management Plan and the Annual Budget. These plans identify the direction, services and facilities that Council wishes to provide for the Community, specifically for the next four years but also for the future.

The Community Plan is a significant departure from the previous Strategic Plan and significant work has commenced to consider how to effectively deliver the outcomes.

OUR VISION

Within the Community Plan, Council describes its vision as:

"An inclusive city where people lead fulfilling lives."

What makes Mount Gambier the thriving successful place that people are proud to call home is the richness and diversity of:

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

It is these elements that will all contribute towards the future growth and development of the City and form the goals of Council's Community Plan.

Council strives to create vibrancy, promote our identity and build a reputation as a place to live, work, visit and invest. To provide a future for our people we need more economic growth and employment as well as recreational and educational opportunities.

The Vision is supported by the above mentioned 4 goals which identify what is important to the community and how the community would like to see the City develop and grow. Working together both Council and the community can collectively achieve these goals.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to present the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report for the 2015/2016 Financial Year on behalf of Council and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Elected Members for their support throughout the year.

In my message last year I briefly touched on Council's efforts in seeking new opportunities for diversification and expanding our economic development to ensure the prosperity of our City and Region. As always it has been a busy year however I believe we have made some credible progress.

Our Council has invested \$500,000 into Economic Development – our first ever budget to put allocated funds into Economic Development and has contracted the services of an Economic Development Manager to assist in developing and driving our plans forward. We have developed a 1 plus 3 Economic Direction, which for the first year identifies activities to create a platform for the following 3 years and beyond.

Council has also allocated an additional \$160,000 in the 2016/2017 Budget to support Tourism Development and congratulates the efforts of the local Chamber of Commerce on the formation of Tourism Mount Gambier – a group which is working diligently to find fresher ways to promote our City.

In September 2015 the City hosted a regional dinner for County Mayors from Shandong who travelled especially to our region from Adelaide on their way to Melbourne. This in itself is testimony to the increased awareness of the quality of our clean and green region's produce and beautiful natural assets. And more so, perhaps evidence of the significance of our local Councils supporting our local industries and State Government to achieve the same goals – working together to advance South Australia.

Along with other Regional Councils, the City of Mount Gambier participated in the 2016 State led delegation to Shandong, China. Mount Gambier based International Timber Solutions joined the delegation and the Principal and Chinese Teacher from St Martin's Lutheran College also participated and joined me in a visit to Zaozhuang City in Southern Shandong to promote education, cultural activities, our City and Region.

A delegation of representatives from Lu'an City, Anhui Province in China made a reciprocal visit to Mount Gambier in June 2016 and an Agreement on the Establishment of a Friendly Cooperative Relationship between our two cities was signed and will hopefully lead to mutual economic opportunities.

Council will continue to work in consultation with and on behalf of the community to explore opportunities which will stimulate economic development and safeguard the future prosperity of our City.

It is important to acknowledge the contribution of all Council employees. I see first hand how committed they are and they can take pride in the reputation Mount Gambier has gained for its beautiful amenities and facilities and the positive impression of the City.

Input from representatives of the community is essential to keeping a balanced perspective during the decision making process of Council and I thank the community members who serve on various Council Committees and provide support and expertise to our Advisory Groups. Council also relies on the support of many volunteers to assist in the numerous community events and activities throughout the year and I know I speak on behalf of Elected Members and all Council employees in thanking them for their contribution.

I hope you will find this Annual Report an informative record of Council's wide ranging activities and a reflection of our progressive, beautiful City.

Andrew Lee
MAYOR
City of Mount Gambier



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

The next four year term Local Government Elections will be held in November 2018.

Council 2014-2018 (L-R)

Cr Sonya Meziniec

Cr Steven Perryman

Mayor Andrew Lee

Cr Josh Lynagh

Cr Des Mutton

Cr Mark Lovett

Cr Christian Greco

Cr Ian Von Stanke

Cr Penny Richardson
(Deputy Mayor)

Cr Frank Morello

Cr Hanna Persello

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

The following is the recorded attendance (or apologies) of Elected Members at the twelve Ordinary Council Meetings and the three Special Council Meetings held during the 2015/2016 year.

COUNCIL MEETINGS – JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016

Elected Member	Council Meetings Held	Meetings Attended	Apologies	Not in Attendance
Mayor Lee	15	13	2	0
Cr Greco	15	13	2	0
Cr Lovett	15	12	3	0
Cr Lynagh	15	15	0	0
Cr Meziniec	15	12	3	0
Cr Morello	15	12	3	0
Cr Mutton	15	12	3	0
Cr Perryman	15	10	4	1
Cr Persello	15	14	1	0
Cr Richardson	15	13	2	0
Cr Von Stanke	15	14	1	0





**HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
MR ANDREW LEE**

Council Committee Position

- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee (Presiding Member)
- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee

Ex Officio

- Corporate and Community Services Standing Committee
- Operational Services Standing Committee
- Audit Committee
- Building Fire Safety Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee
- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee
- Lifelong Learning Sub-Committee
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded November 2015)

Other Positions

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association
- Local Government Association
- Provincial Cities Association (wound up 10th March, 2016)



**CR PENNY RICHARDSON
DEPUTY MAYOR (to Nov 2016)**

Council Committee Position

- Operational Services Standing Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee
- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee
- Lifelong Learning Sub-Committee
- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee

Other Positions

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association (proxy – as Deputy Mayor)
- Local Government Association (proxy – as Deputy Mayor)
- Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier and Districts Health Advisory Council (27th January, 2015)
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Reference Group (from 20th April, 2016)
- Provincial Cities Association (proxy – as Deputy Mayor) (wound up 10th March, 2016)
- Riddoch Art Gallery Inc



CR CHRISTIAN GRECO

Council Committee Position

- Operational Services Standing Committee
- Council Development Assessment Panel
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded 17th November 2015)

Other Positions

- Limestone Coast Violence Against Women Collaboration (from 18th August 2015)
- Joint Boundary Roads (with DC Grant) Advisory Group
- Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal Advisory Group
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust (until June 2015)

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2014 - 2018 (FROM NOVEMBER 2014)



CR MARK LOVETT



CR JOSH LYNAGH



CR SONYA MEZINEC

Council Committee Position

- Corporate and Community Services Standing Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee
- Council Development Assessment Panel
- Lifelong Learning Sub-Committee (from 15th March 2016)
- Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded November 2015)
- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee

Other Positions

- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre Advisory Group

Council Committee Position

- Corporate and Community Services Standing Committee

Other Positions

- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel Advisory Group
- Australia Day Celebrations Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group

Council Committee Position

- Corporate and Community Services Standing Committee (Presiding Member from 20th January 2016)
- Lifelong Learning Sub-Committee (Presiding Member from 20th February 2015)
- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee (as Presiding Member of CCS)
- Audit Committee
- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded November 2015)

Other Positions

- Seniors Month Advisory Group





CR FRANK MORELLO

Council Committee Position

- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee (Presiding Member)
- Operational Services Standing Committee
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded November 2015)

Other Positions

- Greater Green Triangle University Department of Rural Health
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust (until December 2015)



CR DES MUTTON

Council Committee Position

- Operational Services Standing Committee (Presiding Member from 20th January 2016)
- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee (as Presiding Member of OPS)
- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee

Other Positions

- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- Mount Gambier and Districts Airport (DC Grant s41) Committee
- LCLGA Regional Waste Management Steering Committee



CR STEVEN PERRYMAN

Council Committee Position

- Corporate & Community Services Standing Committee (Presiding Member until 19th January 2016)
- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee
- Rail Lands Development and Management Committee (disbanded November 2015)

Other Positions

- LCLGA Limestone Coast Economic Development Reference Group



COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2014 - 2018 (FROM NOVEMBER 2014)



CR HANNA PERELLO

Council Committee Position

- Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund Committee (Presiding Member)
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee (Presiding Member from 22nd February 2016)
- Corporate and Community Services Standing Committee
- Lifelong Learning Sub-Committee (until February 2016)

Other Positions

- Community Mental Health Network
- Limestone Coast Community Services Round Table
- Mount Gambier and District Road Safety Group
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Advisory Group



CR IAN VONSTANKE

Council Committee Position

- Council Building Fire Safety Committee (Chairperson)
- Operational Services Standing Committee (Presiding Member until 19th January 2016)
- Council Development Assessment Panel
- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee
- Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust

Other Positions

- Group Training Employment
- Limestone Coast Zone Emergency Management Committee
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust (from July 2015)
- Riddoch Art Gallery Inc (proxy)
- LCLGA Roads and Transport Working Group
- LCLGA Regional Planning Alliance Implementation Group



Over many years Council has provided a wide range of passive, active and open spaces to meet the needs of the community and people visiting our City. Residents are generally within close proximity of neighbourhood parks, formal sporting facilities and large areas of passive open space. After many years of planning the Rail Lands was officially opened in November 2015, providing an important City Centre recreational space.

In developing the Rail Lands significant consideration was given to how people of all ages would use the space. A natural play space for children including water features, a walk/cycle path, shelter and barbecue areas, platform area for events, performance spaces and labyrinth make maximum use of the space. Council engaged with business and community groups to make the Rail Lands a living, interactive space, hosting large and small activities and events. Community support for "The Rail" has been huge, cementing its place as the cosmopolitan, vibrant and happening heart of Mount Gambier.

The Rail Trail east and west of the Rail Land has added opportunities by providing a safe and enjoyable walking, running and cycling track across the City. Plans will see this track extend over the next few years to reach right across the City and attract greater use by the community.

These spaces along with others in the City provide an important role in connecting people across the community. A place to celebrate, congregate and enjoy our wonderful city environment. Acknowledgement for activating The Rail must go to the Councillors, staff and a vast number of community groups and businesses who seized the opportunity and made it happen.

Council is taking significant steps to strengthen the City's economy, working to deliver a number of outcomes. The community recognises that we all need to be at the forefront of invigorating our own economy – it involves everybody and also as appropriate support from State and Federal Government.

The tourism economy is one core to our economic prosperity and Council is partnering with the industry group, Tourism Mount Gambier, to drive tourism initiatives and increasing visitation spend and money flowing into the community. The total tourism experience is all of our responsibility, social media strengthens and promotes positive

experiences, however the reverse is also the case.

As South Australia's largest regional city we punch above our weight in our urban amenity, services, recreation, sport and sense of community. Continual growth and resilience of our City is all of our responsibility, recognising that many in our community require additional support, assistance and respect – we can all play a part in achieving this.

Positive and innovative decision making by Council is recrafting our direction via the Community Plan and delivering services that meet community needs and the changing environment in which we all live.

My acknowledgement and thank you to Councillors, Staff and the community who collectively deliver an inclusive City where we lead fulfilling lives.

Mark McShane
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



GOVERNANCE STATEMENT



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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.

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 2015/2016 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	19	8	6	-	5	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	4	-

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 2015
16	11*	14^

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

^ Includes 4 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
21-Jun-2016	Chief Executive Officer Performance Development and Review Committee	(a)	n/a
17-May-2016	Review of in-Confidence Items	(m)	n/a
20-Apr-2016	Riddoch Art Gallery Heads of Agreement	(b), (d) & (j)	Released
20-Apr-2016	Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(a) & (i)	Current
20-Apr-2016	Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(a) & (i)	Current
15-Mar-2016	District Centre Zone Development Plan Amendment - City of Mount Gambier Development Plan	(m)	Current
16-Feb-2016	Frew Park Ambulance Station Development	(d)	Current
17-Nov-2015	Discussion regarding CEO Performance Review	(a)	n/a
17-Nov-2015	Discussion regarding Employment Contract	(a)	Current
17-Nov-2015	Discussion regarding Draft Report received from AME Recruitment and Employment Contract	(a)	Current
17-Nov-2015	Development Control - Regulating - Section 29 Amendment and Proposed Industry (Timber Mill) Zone	(m)	Released
17-Nov-2015	Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(a) & (i)	Current
17-Nov-2015	Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(a) & (i)	Current
17-Nov-2015	Riddoch Art Gallery	(b) & (d)	Released
15-Sep-2015	Riddoch Art Gallery	(b) & (d)	Released
18-Aug-2015	Riddoch Art Gallery	(b) & (d)	Released
18-Aug-2015	Section 29 Amendment and Proposed Industry (Timber Mill) Zone Development Plan Amendment - City of Mount Gambier Development Plan	(m)	Released
18-Aug-2015	Railway Lands - Expression of Interest - Management of Community Markets	(b)	Current

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status
18-Aug-2015	Railway Lands - Expression of Interest - Occupation and Use of Old Railway Station Building	(b)	Current

COMMUNITY LANDS

Council is required to have in place Community Land Management Plans for all of its land that has been 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	Description
NEW LAND HOLDINGS		
6136/677	Lot 204 Wehl Street North, Mount Gambier	Open Drainage Reserve
6150/317	Lot 605 St Andrews Drive, Worrolong	Open Reserve (Walkway)
6124/908	Lot 604 Kennedy Avenue, Worrolong	Roadside Screening Reserve
6124/907 6150/314	Lot 603 St Andrews Drive, Worrolong Lot 609 Kennedy Avenue, Worrolong	Roadside Screening Reserve
6124/909	Lot 607 St Andrews Drive, Worrolong	Open Reserve (Easement)
6134/665	Lot 900 Lillypilly Court, Worrolong	Open Drainage Reserve
6134/666	Lot 901 Australis Avenue, Worrolong	Roadside Screening Reserve

// GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

COMMUNITY LANDS

Title Description	Address	Description
6129/516	80 Wireless Road East, Mount Gambier (1 Mickail Court)	Open Drainage Reserve
6129/515	78 Wireless Road East, Mount Gambier (2 Mickail Court)	Open Drainage Reserve
6146/398	Lot 107 Tecoma Close, Mount Gambier	Open Reserve
6150/315	Lot 610 St Andrews Drive, Worrolong	Roadside Screening Reserve
LAND HOLDINGS (AMENDED)		
CR 5947/867	Bay Road, Mount Gambier (Crater Lakes Reserve)	Inclusion of Lot 50 Shelley Crescent

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

LAND ACQUISITIONS

Council did not purchase, sell or otherwise dispose of any other land during the 2015/2016 financial year.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATIONS AND STATEMENT

The City of Mount Gambier did not receive any Freedom of Information applications during the 2015/2016 financial year.

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

Manager - Governance & Property
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 on Council's website.

Number of applications	0
Number of Applications carried over from 2014/2015	0
Full access granted	0
Access refused	0
Fees not paid	0
Documents otherwise available	0
Incomplete (as at 30 June 2016)	0

Applications for Internal Review	0
Decision confirmed	0

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

COUNCIL POLICIES, REGISTERS AND CODES

COUNCIL POLICIES

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

The following Policy Index lists all current Council Policies as at 30 June 2016.

All Council Policies and a range of other Council Registers and Documents as required by legislation are available for viewing on the Council website and/or at the principle office of the Council.

Corporate Services	
Administration	
C200	Complaint/Compliment Policy
E115	Elections - Council Entitlement to Vote
F140	Flags - Flying of
P155	Privacy Policy
R180	Records Management
R200	Community Land (Reserves) - Lease/Licence/Rental Arrangements
R305	Risk Management Framework
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'
Council and Committees	
C160	Coat of Arms
C190	Community Identity
C265	Communication of Council Committees
C290	Internal Review of Council's Decisions
C305	Caretaker Policy
C320	Council Chamber and Reception Area - Use of

COUNCIL POLICIES, REGISTERS AND CODES

C410	Conduct of Meetings (s92 Code of Practice)
F130	Flag - Mount Gambier
F225	Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
M130	Media - Statements on behalf of Council
M205	Members - Mayor - Anniversary Messages
M225	Members - Service Recognition
M240	Members - Access to Information
M260	Members - Use of Council Letterhead
M265	Members - Complaint Handling
M270	Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice
M405	Members - Allowances, Re-imbursements, Benefits & Facilities
M500	Members - Training & Development
P195	Community Consultation and Engagement Policy
P415	Prudential Management
P420	Procurement and Disposal of Land and Assets
S400	Supplementary Elections
V140	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	Investment
B300	Budget Reporting and Amendment
D230	Donations - Authority to Approve Requests
R105	Rating
R130	Rates - General Matters
R155	Rates Rebate
T150	Treasury Management
Operational Services	
Engineering/Works	
C120	Cemeteries - Carinya Gardens and Lake Terrace Cemetery
E500	Provision of Council Resources to Support the Emergency Services in Emergencies
F175	Footways and Crossovers

F190	Footways - Requests for Paving - Works within City Centre Zone
R270	Road Pavement - Excavation and Reinstatement Of
S115	Fencing of Stormwater Retention Basins
S120	Street Signs - Directional Tourist and Other Scenic Facility Signs
Health and Environmental	
W115	Waste Management - Receiving of Waste - Caroline Landfill
W125	Waste Management - Refuse Collection
Inspectorial	
A515	Animal Control - Dogs
A520	Animal Control
B150	Building - Sewer Connections, Waste Management Control and Provision of Toilet Facilities
E135	Encroachments - Protection of Public During Building and Maintenance Works
E240	Expiation Notices - Cancellation and Waiver
F110	Fencing Costs - Contributions by Council
F120	Fires - Clean Air, Burning in Open - Non-Domestic Premises
F135	Flammable Undergrowth
F500	Footways and Council Land - Removal of Objects
F505	Footways and Council Land - Sale of Commodities
F510	Footways and Council Land - Fundraising and Promotion
O110	Order Making
T110	Taxi Regulation
Planning	
A170	Advertising and Signage
D140	Development Act - Delegations
D150	Development Act - Inspection of Building Work
D160	Development Act - Inspection and Copying of Documents
L130	Land Divisions
L230	Licensed Premises
P135	Entertainment Venues
S135	Streets - Naming of
Recreational	
A240	Assemblies and Events on Street and other Council Land
C355	Council Land - Irrigation
T120	Tree Policy

// GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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

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

financial reports also take account of the principles of financial sustainability adopted by Council along with the three 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.



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

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Council's Committee structure is set out below (as at 30th June 2016).



DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE OF COUNCIL

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

Standing Committee Meetings are held the week preceding Council Meetings as follows (unless otherwise amended or altered by Council or the relevant Standing Committee):-

Corporate and Community Services Committee - normally 2nd Monday of each month commencing at 5.30pm.

Operational Services Committee – normally 2nd Tuesday of each month commencing at 7.30am.

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

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

matter considered by Council should communicate in writing to the Chief Executive Officer. These matters are first considered by the relevant Council Committee or Sub-Committee, and closing dates apply for agendas for matters to be considered by a Council Committee. Please check with Council for timeframes and the date/times of Committee and Sub-Committee meetings.

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

In addition to the above Standing Committees, Council has also appointed a range of Statutory Committees, (Sub)Committees and Advisory Groups which meet as and when required. Council's Decision Making Structure is detailed in the diagram on the preceding page.

DELEGATIONS

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

The current schedule of delegations was reviewed and adopted by Council on 20th April 2016 and is available for public inspection free of charge and for purchase.

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

The annual review and delegation adoption process and report references which legislative powers are being delegated and any limitations and/or conditions that are applicable to those delegations.

INTERNAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS

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

The policy and procedure is reviewed during the term of each Council, and is next due for review in November 2019, having last been reviewed in August 2015.

The procedure is one aspect of Council's customer-focused approach to service delivery. It provides the opportunity for

any person to seek a review of a Council decision, the manner in which Council provides services to the community and to identify areas for improvement.

The Internal Review of Council Decisions procedure applies to all formal requests for review of decisions of Council, its employees or other persons acting on behalf of Council, except in instances where specific procedures are prescribed in the Local Government Act 1999 or other relevant legislation where these

alternative review processes will be followed.

Section 270(8) of the Act requires Council to initiate and consider on an annual basis, and to include in the annual report, a report that relates to:

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

On 16 August 2016, Corporate and Community Services Report 60/2016 reported that during the 2015/2016 Financial Year two formal applications were received in relation to Section 270 of the Act or Council's Internal Review of Council's Decisions Policy.

INTERNAL REVIEW – PLANNING/ APPROVAL (ROOF MATERIAL) – 66 FERRERS STREET

An application for internal review of a response letter received from a Council Officer relating to concerns with a planning approval and development for a neighboring property and the applicant's perception that light levels had changed as a result of building and roofing works. The application claimed that the letter from Council did not address all of their issues.

The review application and accompanying documentation also inferred deficiencies in the development assessment and approval process. The development process and development principles were also considered as part of the internal review.

The outcome of the internal review supported the applicant's claims that the original response letter, whilst affirming the status of the development concerned, did not adequately respond to all of the applicant's specific queries.

As a remedy, an alternate response provided a brief overview of the development assessment/approval regime and addressed each of the applicant's specific queries.

The development assessment process associated with the subject works was found to have been soundly based upon principles of development assessment.

INTERNAL REVIEW – BLACKALL STREET LANEWAY

An applicant, having been referred by the SA Ombudsman, sought internal review of a number of interrelated and longstanding matters associated with Blackall Street Laneway, including concerns relating to vehicle parking, collection of rubbish, unsafe use of a road and unregistered vehicles and questioning Council's dealing with such matters.

The outcome of the internal review included detailed findings and commentary relating to each of the matters raised. Remedies were proposed and have been actioned to address four minor administrative and operational matters identified in the review.

No further action was proposed in relation to 14 other findings from the review, including several where the applicant was referred to the responsible state government agencies.

The applicant proceeded to seek a further review by the SA Ombudsman. The Ombudsman, having formed the opinion that there is a public interest in disclosure of his decisions under the Ombudsman Act, authorised disclosure of the letter containing the outcome of his enquiries and findings, being that:

- Council had undertaken a detailed internal review,
- Council had provided explanation of the considerations taken into account in determining whether or not to take further action in relation to the issues raised,
- It appeared on assessment of the evidence available that Council had not acted in a way that was unlawful, unreasonable or wrong within the meaning of the Ombudsman Act,
- Further enquiries by the Ombudsman's office were not necessary or justifiable.

MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Since the 2010 Local Government General Elections, Elected Member allowances 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 allowance determination for the City of Mount Gambier from July 2014 (determination 7 of 2014 made on 28th July, 2014) is as follows:

Council	Group 2 Classification (Out Of 5 Groups)
Group 2	Base is \$16,081
Mayoral Allowance	4 times the \$16,081 = \$64,324
Deputy Mayoral Allowance	1.25 times the \$16,081 = \$20,101
Presiding Member	As for Deputy Mayoral Allowance \$20,101
Members	\$16,081
Incomplete (as at 30 June 2016)	0

Note

(i) All Member Allowances are paid monthly (2 weeks in advance/2 weeks in arrears). For efficiency, allowances are via Electronic Funds Transfer direct to the Elected Member's bank account.

(ii) A Council Member is entitled to decline payment of the allowance (see Section 76 (7) of the Act), but it must still be recorded in the Register of Allowances and Benefits.

(iii) The Allowances set out in the Determination will be adjusted annually on the first, second and third anniversaries of the 2014 Local Government elections to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index as defined at section 76 (15) of the Local Government Act 1999.

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 Expenses;
- Seminar/Training Expense reimbursement.

Full details (including limitations and conditions associated with the Council approved expense reimbursements) are included in Council Policy M405 – Members – Allowances, Re-imbursements, Benefits and Facilities adopted by Council following the November 2014 Local Government Election, available from Council's website.

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

- Introduction to Local Government
- Legal Responsibilities
- Council & Committee Meeting Procedures
- Financial Management and Reporting

Following the 2014 Local Government Elections, Council conducted a comprehensive Elected Member Development Program for the newly-elected Council that addressed the mandatory training requirements.

Council's Elected Member Training and Development Policies were reviewed during the 2015 year and a replacement Elected Member Training and Development Policy M500 was adopted by Council in December 2015.

The replacement policy introduces 3 training/development categories (Local training, SA Local Government Association Training, Conferences and Meetings (Adelaide based), and Other Training) and an Application and Evaluation Pro-Forma to enable Elected Members to make application to attend and to report on the nature, benefits and feedback on LGA and other training attendances.

During 2015/2016, Elected Members participated in a varied program of training programs, workshops and briefings covering:

UniSA Workshop and Site visit	Economic Development
Economic Blueprint and Brand Identity	Meeting Procedures and Conflict of Interest
Elector Representation Review	South East Animal Welfare League Presentation
China Engagement Strategy Tour	Tourism Mount Gambier
Peter Smith – Placemaking	Chamber of Commerce
Confucius Institute	Member for Mount Gambier (regional update)
Code of Conduct and Social Media	Outdoor Burning
City Centre Streetscape Developments	NBN Fixed Line Rollout
Rental Policy	Youth Advisory Group
Naming of Former Hospital Site	Chinese Business Protocols and Social Etiquette
Fire Season – Council's Emergency Response	Strategic Review of Budgeted Grant Funding Programs
Review of Strategic Plan	Development of the Strategic Plan – Community Plan
Economic Development Analysis and Action	Events Proposals
Crater Lakes Commercialisation	Wellbeing and Resilience

// GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

LGA General Meetings and various sessions/conferences attended:

LGA 2016 Council Best Practice Showcase and General Meeting	LGA 2015 Annual General Meeting
Provincial Cities Association Meeting	Ministerial Meetings
Trade Delegation Shandong Province China	Suicide Prevention Annual Network of Networks Meeting
The Mental Health Services (MHS) Conference 2015	BrandSA 2016 Regional Summit
CEDA Innovation and the Arts Forum	National Local Roads and Transport Congress
LGA Mayor's and Chairperson's Seminar	

The 2015/2016 Budget allocation for Elected Member Training and Development was \$14,000 and an amount of \$13,700 was expended for this purpose.



COMPLIANCE STATEMENT



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// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW

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

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

- when the Council next intends to conduct a review under Chapter 3 Part 1 Division 2; and
- 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 2015)

Council	Members	Electors	Elector Ratio
Pirie Regional	10	12,679	1:1267
Barossa	12	16,815	1:1401
Victor Harbor	10	11,956	1:1195
Murray Bridge	10	13,800	1:1380
Mount Gambier	11	19,146	1:1740
Whyalla	10	15,168	1:1516
Mount Barker	11	22,060	1:2005
Alexandrina	12	19,006	1:1583
Adelaide Hills	13	28,745	1:2211
Port Augusta	10	9,496	1:949
Port Lincoln	11	10,258	1:932

Section 12(4) of the said Act provides 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 last conducted a Elector Representation Review in the 2008/2009 year and the State Electoral Office approved the following Council composition applicable from the November 2010 Local Government Elections:

- 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 area Councillors

Council commenced a representation review in April 2016, to be conducted during 2016 and 2017; providing public notice of the preparation of a representation options paper and subsequent report responding to the options paper, and inviting written submissions on each document at the relevant time. The Elector Representation Review is to be completed by April 2017 and to take effect from the November 2018 Local Government Elections.

Council's liability for employee entitlements is as follows:

Year End	Current \$'000			Non-Current \$'000		
	Annual Leave	LSL	TOTAL	Annual Leave	LSL	TOTAL
2012	\$979	\$856	\$1,835	NIL	\$235	\$235
2013	\$811	\$911	\$1,722	NIL	\$257	\$257
2014	\$836	\$883	\$1,719	NIL	\$252	\$252
2015	\$974	\$1,050	\$2,024	NIL	\$232	\$232
2016	\$1,037	\$1,398	\$2,435	NIL	\$209	\$209

"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 44.38 years (male 47.78 and female 40.12).

The average years of service for all employees is 10.14 years (male 12.93 and female 6.51).



// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

SUBSIDIARIES

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

Council, together with the six other Councils in the South East region, is a member of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) (formerly known as South East Local Government Association*), which is a regional subsidiary established pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

The Council Members of LCLGA 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

**The South East Local Government Association changed its name to Limestone Coast Local Government Association with effect on 1st September 2015.*

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

The Council Members of the PCA were:

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

Acting upon a request from the Councils' Members of the PCA the Minister approved the winding-up of the Association by notice published in the Government Gazette on the 10th March 2016.

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 reports from the LCLGA and the PCA for the year ended 30th June 2016 that incorporate the independent audit reports and audited statements of income and expenditure.



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. The CDAP Members for 2015/2016 were:

- Mrs Elizabeth Travers (Presiding Member)
- Ms Emily Finnigan
- Mr Peter Seebohm
- Ms Margaret Trotter
- Cr Christian Greco
- Cr Mark Lovett
- Cr Ian Von Stanke

Council cannot influence or overturn any decision made by the CDAP. It should be noted that all CDAP Members are to fulfill 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 the 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) **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, the minor nature of items for discussion and lack of need for site inspections, the sitting fees be as follows:

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

// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

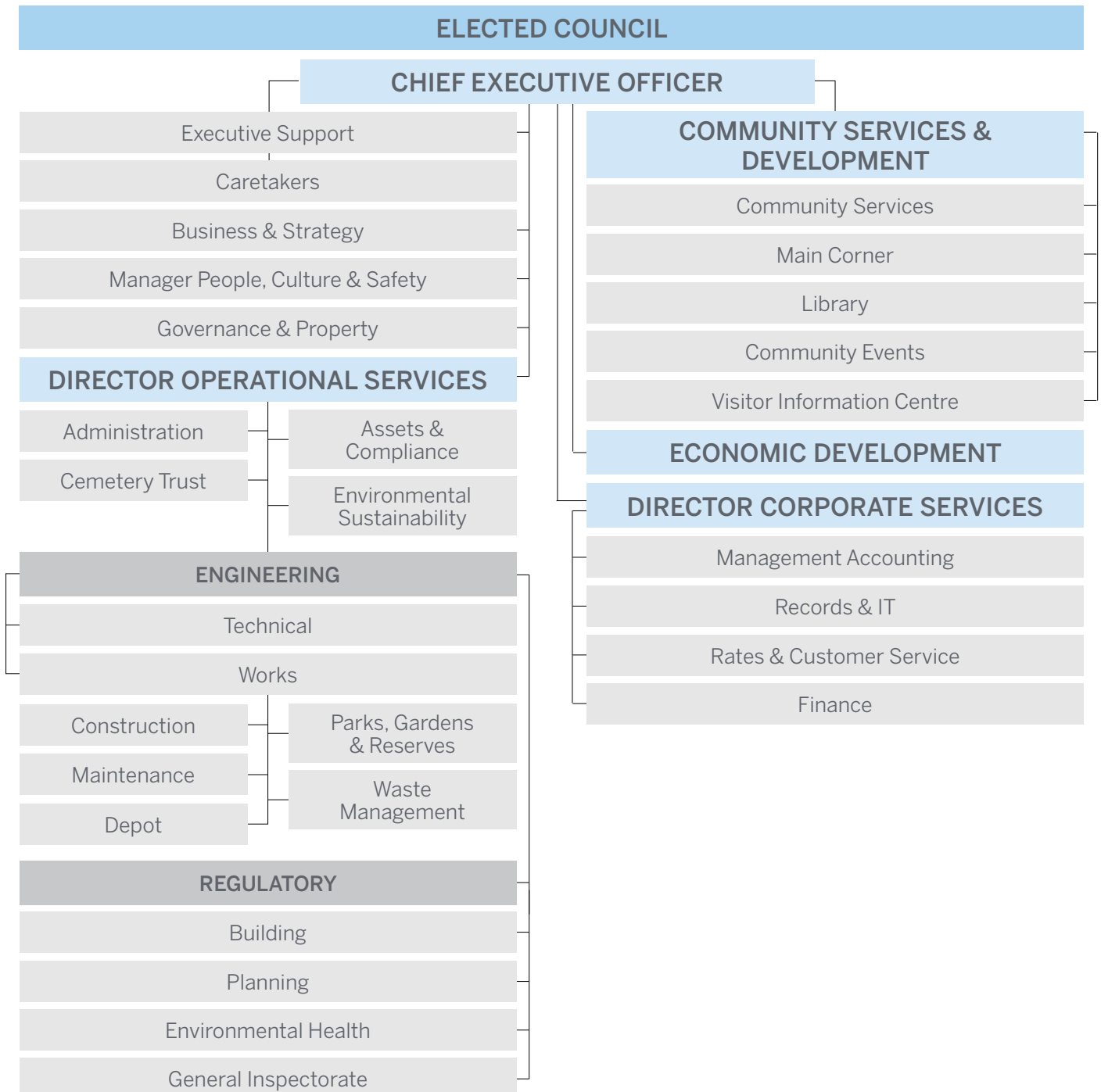
COMPETITIVE TENDERING STATEMENT

During the 2015/2016 year, Council advertised and accepted the following competitive tenders for the provision of goods and services (all excluding GST):

Item	Value
Design, Supply and Installation of Playground (Michielan Reserve)	\$48,180.00
Supply and Delivery of Vehicle (Unit 111)	\$16,752.92*
Supply and Delivery of Two Dual Cab Utilities (Unit 106 & 107)	\$37,439.08*
Supply and Delivery of Utility (Unit 147)	\$24,515.00*
Supply and Delivery of Two Vehicles (Unit 108 & Unit 116)	\$26,369.45*
Supply and Delivery of Vehicle (Unit 123)	\$23,835.96*
Supply and Delivery of Vehicle (Unit 113)	\$19,572.73*
Council Building Maintenance 2015/2016	\$223,008.00
Supply and Delivery of Landfill Compactor (Unit 31)	\$440,000.00*
Supply and Delivery of Concrete Pavers for City Centre	\$69.00m ²
Supply and Delivery of Vehicle (Unit 124)	\$11,385.72*
Supply and Delivery of 4WD Tractor/Front End Loader (Unit 222)	\$25,000.00*
Supply and Delivery of Front Deck/Zero Turn Mower (Unit 79)	\$35,611.00*
Supply and Delivery of 4WD Motorbike (Unit 75)	\$7,058.20*
Supply and Delivery of 2WD Dual Cab Tip Truck (Unit 27)	\$43,165.55*
Supply and Delivery of Van (Unit 143)	\$17,952.22*
Supply and Delivery of Three 2WD Utilities with Tipping Body (Units 10, 17 & 20)	\$54,627.92*
Receival and Disposal of Organic Waste 01/07/2016 to 30/06/2021	Delivered direct \$38.49/tonne Receivable of WTC \$20.43m ²
Supply and Delivery of Vehicle (Unit 126)	\$18,866.55*

* Excluding GST and after trade-in

Organisational Chart (144 Employees; 122.2 FTE)



// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

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

The Committee is made up of one Council Member (in 2015/2016 this was Councillor Ian Von Stanke, 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 months.

WORKPLACE LOST TIME INJURY

Mount Gambier City Council has strong evidence of a well performing workplace health and safety culture and environment with good statistics keeping us above industry standards and performing well in comparison to other Councils. Council was able to consolidate many years of preparation and planning into the implementation of several targeted strategic and preventative actions.

However the results achieved in 2014 have slipped back in 2016 with the lost time incidents increasing from 0 in 2014 to 5 in the current year and the number of claims increasing 2 to 0 with the Council now being above the averages for similar councils for incidents and claims.



CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER – COMPARISON WITH GROUP B COUNCILS

Year End June	For	Number of LTI's	Number of LTI days	Number of Claims	Duration Rate	Freq. Rate	Incident Rate	Claims Greater 5 days
2009/2010	Council Groups	2 5	20 43	13 14	10.0 8.2	9.9 17.3	2.0 3.5	2 2
2010/2011	Council Groups	3 6	118 49	10 13	39.3 8.9	13.8 18.5	2.8 3.7	1 3
2011/2012	Council Groups	1 4	1 63	14 12	1.0 14.1	4.5 16.4	0.9 3.3	0 2
2012/2013	Council Groups	3 4	66 79	7 10	22.0 18.1	12.4 16.1	2.5 3.2	3 2
2013/2014	Council Groups	2 4	15 68	13 10	3.0 13.7	20.8 17.1	4.2 3.4	1 3
2014/2015	Council Groups	0 3	0 40	2 7	0.0 13.1	0.0 13.1	0.0 2.8	0 2
2015/2016	Council Groups	5 3	59 55	9 12	11.8 18.9	24.3 13.6	4.9 0.2	2 2

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 = $\text{LTI days} \div \text{LTI}$
Number of claims = all claims (that is primary and secondary claims reported during the period)

Lost Time Injuries as defined in Australian Standards 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.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

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

The remuneration of the SEO's, the conditions and contract of employment are detailed in the Senior Officers Register and Remunerations - Salaries and Benefits, that is available for public inspection.

The summary of the benefits of SEO's are as follows (as at June 2016):

- Award Salary - all SEO's (exception of CEO as at 1st January 2016)
- Private use of a Council vehicle (conditions apply) - all SEO's (exception of CEO as at 1st January 2016)
- 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 SEO is on a five-year fixed term non-renewable Contract of Employment with conclusions as follows:

Director - Corporate Services - 15th May 2017

Chief Executive Officer - 1st January 2021

Director - Operational Services - 12th September 2019

// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

As part of our commitment to corporate excellence, the organisational structure of Council was comprehensively reviewed in 2012 and will continue to be evaluated and developed to encourage the organisation to better deliver improved efficiencies and be totally accountable.

The management as at June 2016 is made up of:

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
**Manager Business &
Strategic Planning**



Alan Hollway
**Manager People,
Culture & Safety**



Michael McCarthy
**Manager Governance
& Property**



Lynne Dowling
**Team Leader
Executive Support**

DIVISIONAL MANAGERS



Kris Roberts
**Manager Economic
Development**



Daryl Morgan
Engineering Manager



Gary Button
Finance Manager



Vicki Hutchinson
Library Manager



Michael Silvy
**Manager Regulatory
Services**



Chris Mustart
Works Manager

// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES

Council's Human Resources Strategy ensures strategic objectives are met by encapsulating the personnel elements of our Strategic and Corporate Plan. The 3-year 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. A new HR strategy will be developed to align with Council's Community Plan as it is implemented.

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).

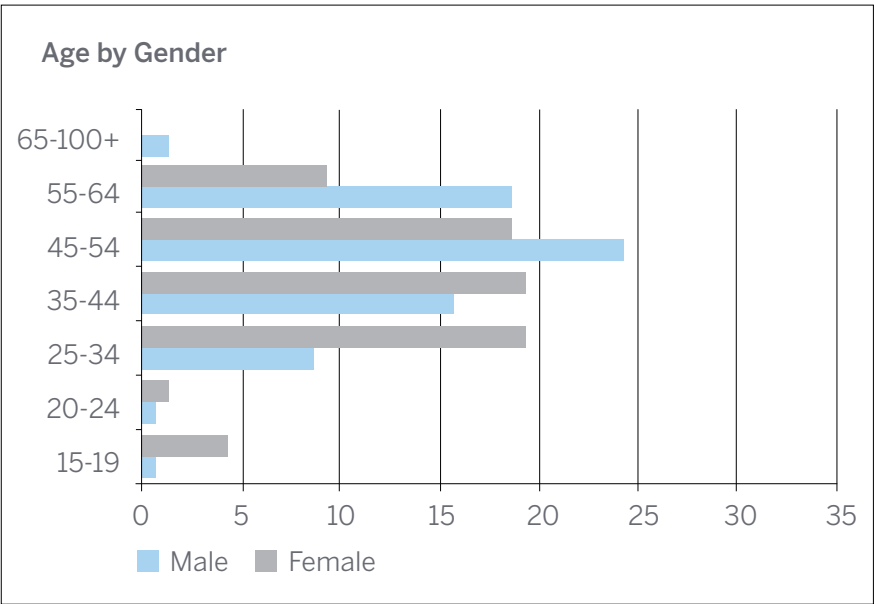
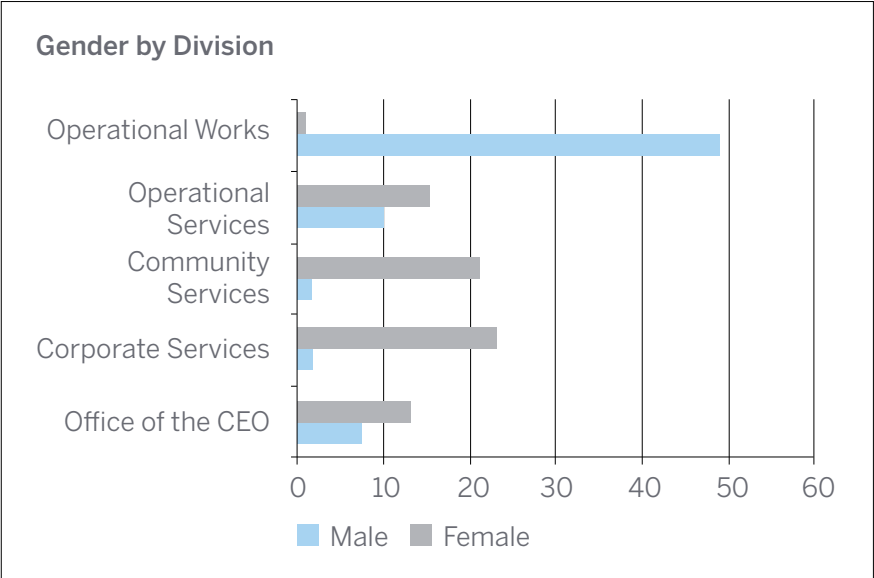
TRAINING

Council understands that employees must have the appropriate level of knowledge and skills in order to effectively contribute to a safe and efficient work environment. To this end, our commitment to employee training and development begins at induction and continues throughout the working life of an employee.

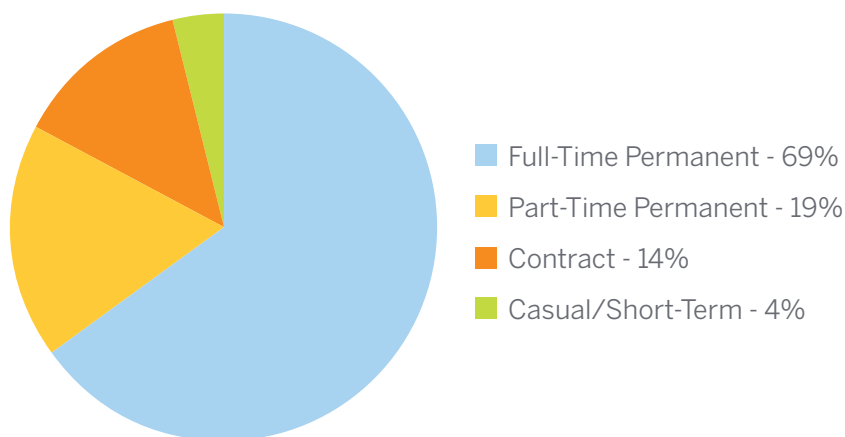
Council's training plan is the foundation of our training management process. It defines objectives, sets priorities, plans resource allocations, ensures training funds are allocated appropriately, and evaluates the effectiveness of training programs. It is the guiding document providing direction for 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.

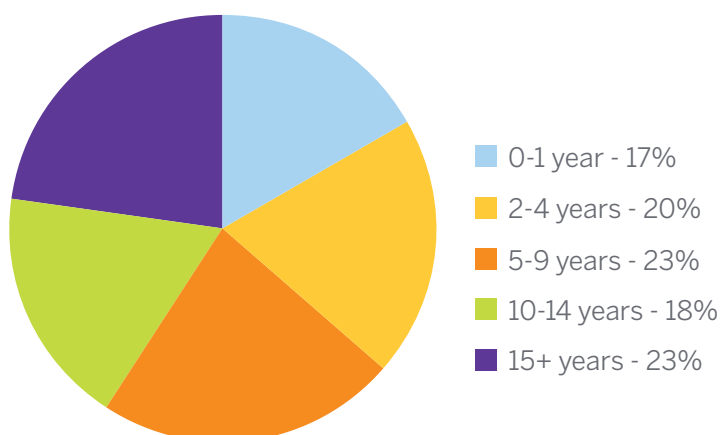
CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROFILE



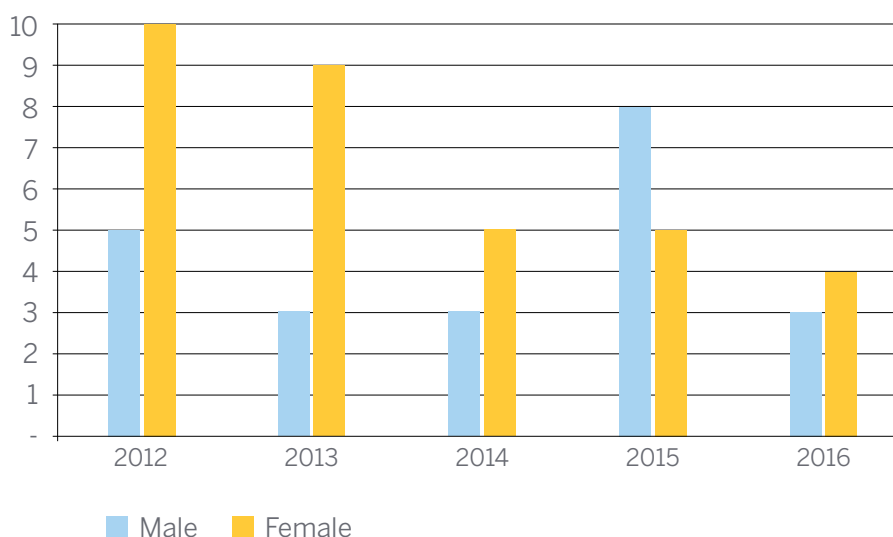
EMPLOYMENT STATUS



EMPLOYEE YEARS OF SERVICE



EMPLOYEE RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS



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

// COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES

a Senior Management Team structure to drive and implement the improved work health and management system across the organisation. This group has undergone a period of evolution to the point that WHS remains a primary consideration but is now driven by management and workgroups as a critical element of all Council projects and planning.

Council's priority programs for 2014/2015 were:

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

As with the HR strategy, a new WHS Strategy will be developed to align with Council's strategic plan when implemented.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Council is committed to the provision of a workplace that values, supports and promotes equity and embraces the differences in every employee by encouraging diversity in our backgrounds, skills, talents and views to enrich our working environment and the quality of the work undertaken by Council.

In 2015, Council provided Equal Employment Opportunity Contact Officer training to eight employees from all divisions to provide an advocacy and support role to all employees from all backgrounds. On completion of this training, the new Contact Officers worked with Human Resources to develop a new Equal Opportunity Policy and three new procedures: Recruitment & Selection, Bullying & Harassment, and Equal Opportunity and Discrimination, to consolidate their learning and reinforce the organisational commitment to equity and diversity.

POLICY

The equal opportunity (EO) policy was developed to:

- Facilitate an all-inclusive culture of tolerance, fairness,

equity and diversity in the work environment;

- Ensure that all employees are aware of inappropriate workplace behaviours and how to prevent them from occurring;
- Ensure the best person for the job is selected based on merit;
- Promote an understanding among all employees of the particular considerations and benefits of different diversity groups in the workplace;
- To provide and maintain so far as is reasonably practicable a working environment and system of work that is safe and without risk to health;
- Ensure legislative compliance with a view to preventing all forms of discrimination, harassment and bullying;
- Mitigate any employment-related disadvantage for all employees and particularly those from different groups.

PRINCIPLES

Council is committed to achieving fair and equitable employment practices including:

- Merit-based recruitment, selection and promotion;

- Access for all employees to appropriate training, development and employee assistance programs; and
- grievance handling procedures.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All Council employees will treat everyone with respect and courtesy, and without harassment, bullying or discrimination. All employees will at all times behave in a way that upholds the City of Mount Gambier's values and the integrity and good reputation of the Council.

The City of Mount Gambier will:

- Demonstrate commitment to equal opportunity and diversity through its actions and decision making;
- Demonstrate and embrace the principles of equal opportunity, workplace diversity and the employee code of conduct; and
- Facilitate a culture of inclusiveness.

COMMITMENT

Council will ensure that:

- All policies, procedures and decisions are fair and equitable;

- All employees are valued and respected;
- All employees are aware of and understand the EO and diversity policy and procedures;
- All employees have equal access to employment opportunities;
- All Council operations are undertaken with minimal risk to staff and others at all times;
- All employees are treated fairly and with respect; and
- Groups recognised under equal opportunity legislation are provided opportunities and encouragement.

Team	Males	Females	Total
Office of the CEO	7	12	19
Corporate Services	2	12	14
Community Services	2	30	32
Operational Services	10	13	23
Operational Services - Works	55	1	56
Totals	76	68	144
Percentages	52.78%	47.22%	100%

Total Number Employees: 144
Full Time Equivalents: 122.2
(all as at 30th June 2016)



CORPORATE STATEMENT



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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 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 as the Grants Commission "database" reports.

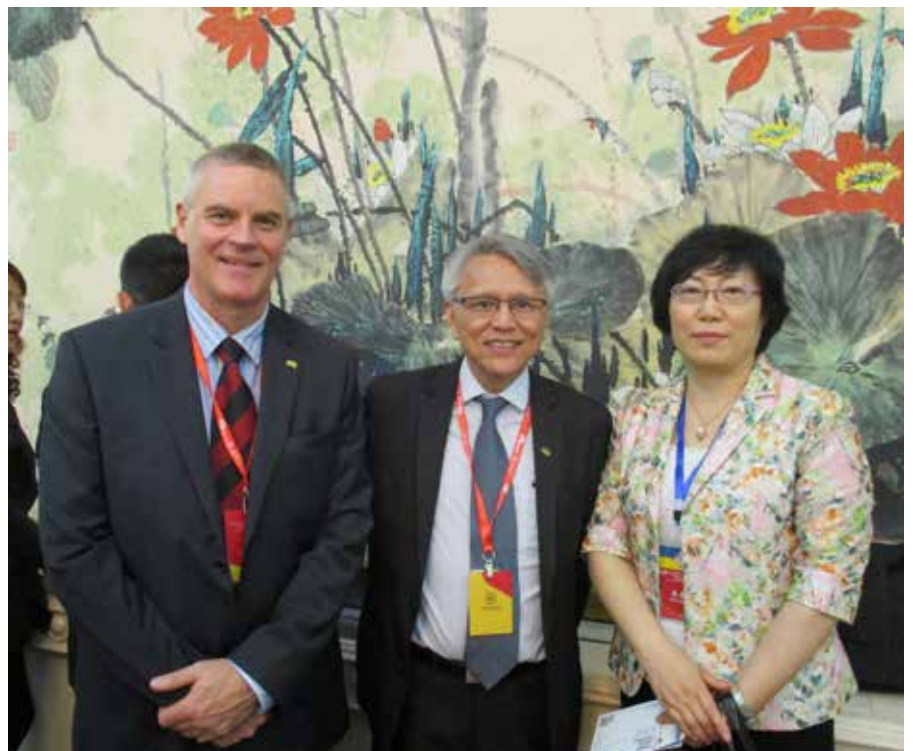
Relevant data from the Grants Commission reports has been extracted and assembled in the following formats:

In 'Comparative' format – with other similarly classified South Australian Councils, under four 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 five financial years. The Time Series reports have been arranged under the following headings;

- Employee/Operating
- Assets
- Financial
- Rating.



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	417,768	35,570	382,198	5,150	30,420	1	76	50
Barossa	345,931	23,187	322,744	9,645	13,542	(1)	40	230
Gawler	252,917	17,098	235,819	6,371	10,727	5	44	140
Mount Barker	469,585	14,053	455,082	8,100	6,403	0	16	106
Mount Gambier	233,034	9,453	223,581	2,645	6,808	(2)	27	53
Murray Bridge	279,402	17,589	261,813	11,945	5,644	0	17	?
Port Augusta	214,819	41,760	173,060	7,187	34,783	(25)	92	?
Port Lincoln	170,326	5,430	164,895	5,652	(222)	0	1	313
Victor Harbor	266,617	16,664	249,953	7,374	9,290	7	39	58
Whyalla	253,589	13,605	239,984	3,771	9,834	(3)	32	87

EXPENDITURE COMPARISON

Council	Estimated Resident Population 30 June 2015	Employee Costs (\$000)	Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses (\$000)	Finance Costs (\$000)	Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment (\$000)	Total Operating Expenses (\$000)	Operating Surplus/ (Deficit) (\$000)
Alexandrina	25,449	12,768	15,827	1,498	9,547	39,640	971
Barossa	23,104	11,428	14,053	1,191	7,465	34,177	277
Gawler	22,618	8,849	10,175	741	3,323	23,153	1,578
Mount Barker	32,558	12,665	17,777	64	8,297	38,803	646
Mount Gambier	26,348	9,197	8,920	299	6,649	25,065	1,045
Murray Bridge	20,971	14,375	11,329	534	6,170	32,408	1,926
Port Augusta	14,522	17,419	15,644	1,440	5,741	40,244	(2,620)
Port Lincoln	14,984	4,320	9,378	22	3,280	17,000	691
Victor Harbor	15,169	8,214	7,991	792	5,331	22,328	1,602
Whyalla	22,759	10,332	12,792	390	6,312	29,826	1,680

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

REVENUE COMPARISON

Council	Total Rates (\$000)	Statutory Charges (\$000)	Grants, Subsidies & Contributions (\$000)	Finance Costs (\$000)	Investment Income (\$000)	Reimbursements (\$000)	Other Revenues (\$000)	Total Operating Revenue (\$000)
Alexandrina	33,008	951	2,090	3,389	48	436	633	40,611
Barossa	26,500	579	2,421	3,296	281	464	907	34,454
Gawler	18,564	702	1,276	3,547	140	349	18	24,731
Mount Barker	30,660	1,057	3,423	2,944	78	709	574	39,449
Mount Gambier	17,641	417	3,706	3,604	29	350	363	26,110
Murray Bridge	19,975	553	2,278	10,607	177	188	552	34,334
Port Augusta	16,488	238	4,967	13,084	132	675	2,040	37,624
Port Lincoln	11,900	258	1,284	2,236	119	502	1,392	17,691
Victor Harbor	18,479	446	2,057	1,775	197	667	256	23,930
Whyalla	18,361	406	4,070	6,980	38	115	1,536	31,506

RATES COMPARISON

Council	Estimated Resident Population 30 June 2015	Number of Rateable Properties January 2015	Capital Value January 2015 (\$Mil)	Total Rates (\$000)	Number of Rateable Residential Properties as at January 2014	Total Residential Rates (\$000)	Total Residential Rates per Rateable Residential Property (\$)	Total Rate Revenue % Increase/ Decrease
Alexandrina	25,449	18,040	6,627	33,008	11,996	20,503	1,709	6.3%
Barossa	23,104	12,437	4,512	26,500	8,240	13,405	1,627	5.3%
Gawler	22,618	10,675	3,247	18,564	8,731	14,711	1,685	8.1%
Mount Barker	32,558	15,377	6,060	30,660	10,688	18,368	1,719	7.1%
Mount Gambier	26,348	13,957	3,225	17,641	11,586	13,246	1,143	4.8%
Murray Bridge	20,971	11,640	2,788	19,975	7,707	12,152	1,577	7.3%
Port Augusta	14,522	7,629	1,649	16,488	6,311	10,028	1,589	9.1%
Port Lincoln	14,984	8,149	2,376	11,900	6,385	9,507	1,489	8.8%
Victor Harbor	15,169	10,469	3,746	18,479	7,864	14,131	1,797	5.8%
Whyalla	22,759	12,024	2,494	18,361	10,653	14,904	1,399	6.8%

// CORPORATE STATEMENT

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

RATING

Year	Estimated Population	Ratable Properties	Capital Value of Rateable Properties	Total Rates	No. of Residential Properties	Total Residential Rates	Total Residential Rates per Property
2010/2011	26,206	13,801	3,171,000	13,872,000	11,276	10,157,000	901
2011/2012	25,911	13,937	3,209,000	14,881,000	11,276	11,474,000	1,018
2012/2013	26,092	14,037	3,127,000	15,772,000	11,317	11,688,000	1,033
2013/2014	26,246	14,145	3,170,000	16,826,000	11,457	12,596,000	1,099
2014/2015	26,348	13,957	3,225,000	17,641,000	11,586	13,246,000	1,143

EMPLOYEE / OPERATING

Year	Employees Full Time Employment	Employee Costs	Operating Exp	Operating Rev	Operating Surplus / (Deficit)
2010/2011	110	7,286,000	20,742,000	19,632,000	(1,110,000)
2011/2012	112	7,983,000	23,038,000	22,455,000	(583,000)
2012/2013	116	8,318,000	22,153,000	22,452,000	299,000
2013/2014	118	8,772,000	23,408,000	22,740,000	(668,000)
2014/2015	116	9,197,000	25,065,000	26,110,000	1,045,000

FINANCIAL

Year	Total Liabilities	Total Financial Assets	Net Financial Liabilities	Total Equity	% Operating Surplus Ratio	Net Financial Liability Ratio %	Asset Sustainability Ratio %
2010/2011	12,534,000	10,818,000	1,716,000	135,289,000	(8)	9	51
2011/2012	8,432,000	2,451,000	5,981,000	211,612,000	(4)	27	52
2012/2013	7,070,000	2,072,000	4,998,000	189,053,000	2	23	85
2013/2014	9,418,000	2,459,000	6,959,000	188,222,000	(4)	31	107
2014/2015	9,453,000	2,645,000	6,808,000	223,581,000	(2)	27	53

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

SA Local Government Grants Commission database time series reports

ASSETS

Year	Cash / Cash Equivalent	Other Receivables	Inventories	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Plant / Equipment	Other Assets	Total Assets
2010/2011	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
2011/2012	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
2012/2013	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
2013/2014	1,173,000	1,286,000	37,000	40,858,000	86,810,000	60,343,000	4,749,000	2,384,000	197,690,000
2014/2015	969,000	1,676,000	40,000	40,818,000	87,891,000	94,772,000	4,648,000	2,220,000	233,034,000

2015/2016 BUDGET ANALYSIS

The City of Mount Gambier's Annual Business Plan is a statement of the 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 these objectives, and 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 the implications for our ratepayers.

Key aspects of the 2015/2016 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 specialist major events and conferences;
- Continued development of Council's infrastructure and asset management framework;
- Capital infrastructure program

of approximately \$6.088m (new and renewal);

- Maintaining our extensive public realm assets and infrastructure and the programs that directly support our community;
- 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

2015/2016 Budgeted Expenditure consisted of:

- Operating Expenditure \$24,258,000
- Non-Operating Expenditure \$874,000
- Capital Expenditure \$6,088,000.

The 2015/2016 budget proposed to spend a total of \$30.3m (operating and capital) on the delivery of all Council services and programs, maintenance of assets and the development of new or upgraded assets.

2015/2016 Budgeted Revenue, to fund Council's Budgeted Expenditure, consisted of:

- Operating Revenue \$24,324,000
- Non-Operating Revenue \$6,890,000.

// CORPORATE STATEMENT

2015/2016 BUDGET ANALYSIS

OPERATING RESULT

Operating Expenditure was budgeted to increase by \$1,097,000 or 4.7% on 2014/2015. In comparison, Operating Revenue increased by \$1,207,000 or 5.2%

resulting in a minor budgeted operating surplus of \$66,000.

When factoring in non-operating and capital revenues and expenditures, Council proposed to record an overall very minor cash deficit of \$6,000.

2015/2016 BUDGET INITIATIVES

Key components within Council's 2015/2016 Budget include:

Function/Activity	\$'000 Expenditure		\$ '000 Revenue
Administration	Operating	Capital	
Rates (General and NRM)			18,546
Grants Commission			
General Purpose Grant			2,208
Road Grants			387
Civic Centre GRC Panels Repair		120	
Community Services			
General Community Support/Donations	155		
Community Celebrations	56		
Public Conveniences	230		
Community Amenities (Inc. Main Corner)	685		98
CCTV Network Upgrade		80	
Cultural Services			
Library Operating	1,377	120	217
Cultural Venues	326		175
Heritage	383		
Economic			
Regional Development	153		
Tourism – Major Event Support	171		
Tourism – Visitor Information Centre	893		413
Environment			
Waste Management - refuse collection	923		285
Waste transfer/landfill	1,462	85	1,380
Stormwater drainage	162	135	
Street cleaning/sweeping	320		
Street Lighting	497		
Street Trees	175	39	
Environmental Sustainability Initiatives	100		

Function/Activity	\$'000 Expenditure		\$ '000 Revenue
Recreation	Operating	Capital	
Parks, Gardens, Reserves	1,727	135	
Crater Lakes	297		
Crater Lakes - diseased tree removal	100		
Sport Facilities	283	34	
Aquatic Centre	263	60	
Sporting grants/support	112		
Railway Lands/Margaret Street walkway		75	
Council Building Maintenance Program		230	
Regulatory			
Development Control (Planning/Building)	696		255
Health Services	190		
Dog/Parking Control	305		189
Transport/Engineering			
Plant and Machinery (Replacement/Operating)	960	1,103	
Footpath/Kerbing - Maintenance - Annual Program	314	394	
Road Infrastructure - Maintenance Annual Capital Program, includes:	2,689	3,307	
CBD renewal: \$900			
Reseal program: \$499			
Boundary Roads: \$164 (Wireless West)			
Roads to Recovery: \$564			564
Roads Reconstruction Program: \$1,130			
Major projects:			
Holder Street			
James Street			
Commercial Street West			
O'Halloran Terrace			
Eglington Terrace			
Non-Operating	Non-Operating		Non-Operating
Annual Borrowing Program			Nil
Loan Repayment - Principal	864		
Asset Disposal (Trade-ins)			249
Grant Funding			142

2015/2016 BUDGET ANALYSIS

IMPLICATIONS FOR RATES

In order to deliver Council's services and programs in 2015/2016, Council determined that it required an increase in the overall general gross rate revenue equivalent to 4.5% 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 0.65% benefit in general rate revenue which will provide a "cushion" to the full extent of the 4.5% rate rise.

Ratepayers generally experienced an increase in rates payable in the range of 3% to 4% depending on individual assessment details.

For the average residential ratepayer, this equated to an estimated \$40 per annum (77¢ per week) increase in Council rates, bringing the average annual residential rates to \$1,061.00 to assist in funding the 2015/2016 Budget.

At this level, Council's residential rating effort continues to be well below the average residential rates for South Australian Councils as indicated in comparative data provided by the SA Local Government Association Rates Data Report (2014/2015):

- Average for SA Regional Councils \$1182 (2014/2015)
- Average for City Of Mount Gambier \$1021 (2014/2015)
- Average for City Of Mount Gambier \$1061 (2015/2016).

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 \$177,801 was provided by Council for statutory or discretionary rebates on Council rates as follows:

	2015/2016	2014/2015
Mandatory	\$166,668	\$152,644
Discretionary	\$11,133	\$10,049
Boundary Adjustment	-	\$3,306

All rebates are reviewed on an annual basis.

State Government legislation has significantly increased 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 are increasingly required to 'pick up' this shortfall in rate revenue.

The five year Boundary Adjustment Program concluded as at 30th June, 2015.

Rating Component		2015/2016	2014/2015
1	Fixed Charge	\$585.80	\$565.50
	Amount Total Collection	\$8,079,939	\$7,729,820
	% of Total Rates	45%	45%
2	Differential Rates		
	Residential	.22631	.21980
	Commercial - Shop/Office/Other	.611037	.59346
	Industry - Light/Other	.611037	.59346
	Primary Production	.22631	.21980
	Vacant Land	.611037	.59346
	Other	.22631	.21980
3	Valuation		
	Rateable Land	\$3,251,510,225	\$3,202,252,530
	Non Rateable Land	\$205,393,515	\$203,617,310
	All Land	\$3,456,903,740	\$3,405,869,840
4	Rate Revenue		
	Gross General Rates	\$17,956,000	\$17,183,000
	% Increase on Previous Year	4.5%	4.8%
5	Separate Rate		
	Catchment Board Contribution	\$578,276	\$554,609
	Catchment/NRM Levy	\$42	\$40.90
6	Average Residential Rates Calculations (Growth Excluded)		
	Average Residential Rates	\$1,061	\$1,021
	Average Dollar Increase	\$40	\$37
	Average Percentage Increase	3.9%	3.8%
7	Growth (New Assessments)		
	Number of (Net)	114	149
	Rate Value of	\$117,047	\$156,773
	Established Growth Percentage	.65%	.90%
8	Average Residential Rates (Growth Included)		
	Average Percentage Increase	3.25%	2.90%

2015/2016 RATING AND VALUATION SUMMARY

		2014/2015		2015/2016		
Land Use Category		Properties	Assessed Value \$	Fixed Charge	Differential Rates	% Increase
9	Valuation Comparison					
1	Residential	11,939	2,488,244,085	12,042	2,528,590,827	1.60%
2	Commercial	1,018	473,287,243	1,024	477,470,331	0.88%
3	Industry	220	117,080,486	217	115,532,486	-1.33%
4	Primary Production	60	23,359,500	53	22,307,500	-4.72%
5	Vacant Land	417	56,051,946	438	61,622,023	9.93%
6	Other	56	44,229,270	61	45,987,058	3.97%
	TOTALS	13,710	3,202,252,530	13,835	3,251,510,225	1.54%

		2014/2015			2015/2016			
Land Use Category		Fixed Charge	Differential Rates	Total Rates	Fixed Charge	Differential Rates	Total Rates	% Increase
10	Rating Comparison							
1	Residential	6,728,319	5,469,160	12,197,479	7,053,617	5,721,780	12,775,397	4.7%
2	Commercial	575,679	2,808,771	3,384,450	591,658	2,917,520	3,509,178	3.7%
3	Industry	124,410	694,826	819,236	123,604	705,946	829,550	1.3%
4	Primary Production	33,930	51,344	85,274	25,190	50,484	75,674	-11.3%
5	Vacant Land	235,814	332,646	568,460	250,722	376,534	627,256	10.3%
6	Other	31,668	97,216	128,884	35,148	104,073	139,221	8%
	TOTALS	7,729,820	9,453,963	17,183,783	8,079,939	9,876,337	17,956,276	4.5%

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A LTFP?

Whilst the development of Long Term Financial Plans (LTFP) 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 LTFP 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 upgraded 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. Given the recent major capital infrastructure projects completed by Council and the associated loan borrowings to fund those projects, the next three years projected operating indicates some deficit returns however the following years of the plan return Council to surplus.

Council's LTFP is reviewed periodically and is available from the Council website www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

ELECTRONIC SERVICES - RATES

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 2015/2016, this was 32% of rate revenue.

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

PAYMENT STATISTICS

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

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

ELECTRONIC SERVICES - RATES

65% of Council's total rate revenue collection is now collected via these facilities compared to 59% five years ago in the 2011/2012 financial year.

STATISTICS - 2015/2016

Service	No. of Payments	\$ Value
IVR (Phone)	1,633	535,301
Internet	1,208	565,376
BPay	36,181	8,043,601
Direct Bank Debits	2,699	499,193
Australia Post	6,107	1,982,455
TOTAL	47,828	11,625,936

Council also offers the following electronic delivery of rate notice facilities:

- Form Sport
- Bpay View

Refer to Council's website www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au for the application process to have your rate notice delivered electronically.



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 the Grants Commission are classified according to ACLG categories.

These 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) 2015	Total Rates \$	Rates as % of Revenue	Residential Rates/ Residential Property \$
Alexandrina	UFS	25,449	33,008	81	1,709
Barossa	UFS	23,104	26,500	77	1,627
Gawler	UFS	22,618	18,564	75	1,685
Mount Barker	URM	32,558	30,660	78	1,719
Mount Gambier	URS	26,348	17,641	68	1,143
Murray Bridge	URS	20,971	19,975	58	1,577
Port Augusta	URS	14,522	16,488	44	1,589
Port Lincoln	URS	14,984	11,900	67	1,489
Victor Harbour	URS	15,169	18,749	77	1,797
Whyalla	URS	22,759	18,361	58	1,399
State Average				69	1,417
URS/URM/UFS Average				68	1,573

In 2014/2015 the City of Mount Gambier residential rates per rateable property (\$1,143) was equivalent to 80% of the State average (\$1,417) or in other words 20% below the State average.

In the previous financial year (2013/2014) this figure was also 80% of the State average or 20% below the State average.

// CORPORATE STATEMENT

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Council's Audit Committee was initially established in November 2006, as required under Section 126 of the Local Government Act. The Committee comprises two persons independent of Council and 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 occasions during the 2015/2016 financial year, with one member attending all meetings, the others attending three of the four meetings.

Council's External Auditor also attended three of the four meetings held.

Matters examined by the Audit Committee included:

External Auditor	2016 Interim Audit
External Auditor	2015 Statutory Audit
External Auditor	Meeting Attendance
Audit Committee	2015 Annual Report to Council
Policy Reviews	Fraud and Corruption Framework Whistleblowers Policy Internal Review of Council Decisions Complaints Handling Risk Management Framework Procurement Policy Monitoring Budget Performance
Long Term Financial Plan	Review of Long Term Financial Plan
Risk Management	Policy Review Business Continuity
Financial Internal Controls	Internal Program
Treasury Management	Annual Report
Council Annual Report	Information Report
Business Plan and Budget Program	Information Report
Budget Reviews (5 of)	Information Report
Information Reports	Various
Annual Financial Statements Financial Sustainability Asset Management Asset Revaluation Strategy	2014/2015 Key Financial Indicators Update of Plan Update Strategy

The Audit Committee activities follow its adopted Work Program 2014-2018, which incorporates annual reviews of the Committee's 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 www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au.

Council is required under Section 128 of the South Australia Local Government Act 1999 to appoint a suitably qualified person as its external auditor. The auditor will be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the Council's Audit Committee and must be:

- (a) a registered company auditor; or
- (b) a firm comprising at least one registered company auditor.

The auditor of Council must undertake an audit of:

- (a) the council's financial statements within a reasonable time after the statements are referred to the auditor for the audit (and, in any event, unless there is good reason for a longer period, within 2 months after the referral); and
- (b) the controls exercised by the council during the relevant financial year in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities.

The auditor must provide to the council:

- (a) an audit opinion with respect to the financial statements; and
- (b) an audit opinion as to whether the controls audited are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

The auditor will provide the opinions:

- (a) to the principal member of the Council;
- (b) to the Council's Audit Committee.

Following a competitive tendering process, Council appointed the firm Galpins as Council's external Auditors for a five 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 during the 2015/2016 financial year:-

- The sum of \$8,000 (ex GST) was paid for the interim annual audit of the Council's internal controls;
- The sum of \$11,800 (ex GST) was paid for the annual audit of statutory financial records and related specific purpose statements (2014/2015 Audit).



// CORPORATE STATEMENT

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COUNCILS IT NETWORK - OVERVIEW

Council's entire network operates on a cloud platform managed by our Local Government software solution provider Civica Pty Ltd. 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 (HP Records Manager) 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.

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 provide 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's local area network is supported by local service provider, Green Triangle Electronics.

The network is progressively refreshed or renewed over a four (4) year finance/rental cycle, with the last major network refresh occurring in November 2014.

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 has over the past year introduced some new practices aimed at improving processes:

- Implemented Records Manager version 8.1 - this Electronic Document Management System introduces a new level of functionality to capture Council's Electronic Documents. Some new features available with this program enable a workflow process, automating document delivery, Media Hub - ability to capture video, photos and other metadata simply and easily. Documove allows documents to be captured into

RM8 seamlessly from external drives.

- Introduction of Corporate Receipting functionality to standardise and improve receipting functions across Council deployed at the Library and Main Corner.
- Integrate Communication and computer systems at Riddoch Art Gallery into City of Mount Gambier systems.
- Reconfigure eservices payment processes after State Government changes introduced alternate providers.
- '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.

WEBSITE

A complete review of Council's web presence has resulted in:

The purchase and installation of a new content management system (Unity).

The merging of Council's two existing sites (Council and Tourism) and migration into the new content management system

The redesign of Council's web presence in conjunction with the introduction of new corporate branding.

The introduction of Council Staff Intranet also using the same Content Management System (Unity).

INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT



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// INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

Council's continued commitment towards maintaining the road network to a high standard saw the reconstruction of various roads throughout the network. Approximately \$2.2M was spent on road infrastructure upgrades that involved projects such as:

- Road resealing works
- Road patching works
- Reconstruction of sections of Commercial Street West
- Reconstruction of Graham Road
- Reconstruction of sections of Anthony Street
- Reconstruction of sections of Holder Street
- Reconstruction of sections of Wehl Street (North & South)
- Reconstruction and widening of a section of Wireless Road East
- Reconstruction of sections of Eglington Terrace.

BOUNDARY ROADS

The City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant share responsibility for the upkeep and management of the roads that form the boundary between the two Councils.

In 2015/2016, each Council contributed \$82,000 to the program and the funds will be carried forward to the 2016/2017 financial year again to allow for major works at the intersection of Bishop Road and Kennedy Avenue.

It is also proposed to undertake works on Bishop Road, east of Attamurra Road to coincide, with the future residential development of adjoining land.

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 2015/2016 Financial year, Council put on hold major infrastructure works in the City Centre as it focussed on completing the Railway Lands project.

City Centre revitalisation projects in Gray, Helen, Percy and James Street are planned for completion in the 2016/2017 financial year in line with the Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

The Railway Lands redevelopment project was on Council's agenda for over 10 years, ever since Council took formal ownership of the land from State Government in May 2005. The Master Plan was developed over the last seven years, with the final design predominantly created internally by the City of Mount Gambier.

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

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.



// INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

RAILWAY LANDS

Thanks to \$2m worth of State Government funding and Council's \$2.248m contribution, Council was able to realise the vision of Stages 1 and 2 of the project including completion of the landscaping, wetlands and nature play space. Also included in the works is the refurbishment of the former signal box, solar lighting, public art projects, extension of the existing platform, and the creation of a large paved central plaza area with feature palm avenue.

The project was launched on the 15th of November 2015 with many thousands of people turning up to see the finished project and experience the community led activities organised for the day.

Since the launch numerous other community events have been held at the site as the people of Mount Gambier embrace the flexibility and accessibility of the space in the centre of town.

A new walkway link through to Margaret Street is planned to commence later in 2016.

RAILWAY LANDS ACTIVATION

Over 10 years in the making, the Mount Gambier Railway Lands was an ambitious and strategic land redevelopment that has transformed how we, as a City, engage with public space.

From the outset, the 4 ha site required bold planning and design, significant community

engagement and the strategic integration of a range of broader objectives of Council in the areas of sustainability, lifelong learning, early childhood development and cultural/economic development.

In recognition of the aspirations held by the community for the site to become a vibrant and

dynamic intergenerational space, Council sought the services of Mr Peter Smith of Place Governance Partners to run a series of workshops with Elected Members and Council staff. Peter shared his experience and success in space activation and drew on best practice place making models from Australia and overseas. The Council accepted the challenge of place activation and provided the required resources to ensure a successful outcome.

As a result of these workshops, Council formed a unique cross-divisional team who were given the undertaking to launch and build sustainable community-led activity at the site. This team combined staff from a range of different backgrounds and expertise, drawing on both their professional and personal experience and diverse relationships with various sections of our community.

Adopting the principles of place making, the team commenced an extensive stakeholder engagement



program, completing over 100 site meetings and consultations with the community within the final stages of the capital works at the site. These discussions created the opportunity to explore how the site could lend itself to a variety of different uses and identified the energy of various sections of the community to lead, test and trial activity at the site.

Additionally, these conversations gave us an opportunity, as a City, to challenge our own perceptions regarding what's possible in public space and who's responsible for the ongoing delivery of community activity. Council also developed an insight into the preventable barriers which traditionally hinder the delivery of community activity and were able to swiftly effect changes to internal systems to simplify, and encourage, applications.

The site was officially opened by His Worship the Mayor, Mr Andrew Lee on Sunday 15 November 2015 with a range of activities across the entirety of the site, showcasing

the dynamic potential of the new public space. Attendance at the opening exceeded expectations, attracting crowds of over 8,000 people throughout the day.

Feedback generated from participants at the opening formed the focus of further programming at the site throughout the remainder of the 2015/2016 financial year. This guided Council's collaboration with a range of stakeholders, resulting in the delivery of an additional 20 event bookings at the site.

Events have included family fun days, civic celebrations, Christmas carols, educational children's events, product displays and launches, pop up bars, fundraising and charity events and large scale music festivals. Almost all events have exceeded organiser's participant expectations, identifying the demand for a new style of activity at the Railway Lands.

Activity at the site has had many CBD businesses identify an increase in patronage and others

have embraced the opportunity to diversify or extend on their operation through the provision of mobile catering or the delivery of events which showcase their product to a new audience.

Agreements with various local fitness training providers have encouraged the use of the site for a range of regular fitness classes and personal training activities.

The Activation Team has also worked in collaboration with the local artist community through the delivery of public artwork at the Railway Lands. This has resulted in the delivery of two significant murals and numerous artistic play pieces installed within the Nature Play area.

While the initial test and trial period is now complete, the sustainability of activity at the site is evident with a strong calendar of bookings already presenting for the 2016/2017 financial year.



// INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION

The City of Mount Gambier allocated approximately \$774,000 towards the construction of new footpaths and shared bicycle paths in 2015/2016. The purpose of this program is aimed at improving the footpath and bicycle path network to provide an alternative means of transport to rate payers and to also connect new residential areas to the existing network.

2015/2016 construction works occurred at the following locations:

- Holloway Crescent
- Gordon Street
- Umpherston Street
- Genoa Street
- Tumut Drive
- Lake Terrace West
- Rail Trail shared path (Pick Avenue to White Avenue)

FORMER HOSPITAL

Demolition of the former Hospital buildings was 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 and event space within the park.

Rejuvenating the former laundry building for public use including the installation of self cleaning toilets was completed in late 2015. Landscaping works to the reclaimed park lands where the former hospital buildings once stood was also completed in late 2015 where the park is now officially known as Elizabeth Knight Reserve.

Further infrastructure in the form of a shelter, street furniture, a BBQ and landscaping is planned for later in 2016. These works are to be carried out in conjunction with the Lion's Clubs of Mount Gambier and local region.



In 1997 Council embarked on a 20 year program to increase the street tree population in the City. The original plan was to have 10,000 street trees by 2017, which, in 1997, required a net increase of 300 street trees per year (assuming no other removals of existing street trees).

Due to the success of the Street Tree Program Council has resolved to continue with the annual program for another 10 years.

In 2016 the street tree plantings are as listed in the following table.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Street Name	Trees Being Retained	Proposed Removals	Proposed Plantings	Net Gain
Blackwood	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Wireless Road East	0	0	15	15
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Glensform' Chanticleer	Kyrenia Court	0	0	7	7
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Glensform' Chanticleer	Ellwood Court	0	0	18	18
Common Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	Macquarie Court	0	0	20	20
Common Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata'	Eyre Court	0	0	8	8
Euky Dwarf	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. 'Euky Dwarf'	Honan Street	2	0	19	19
Euky Dwarf	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. 'Euky Dwarf'	Phillip Street	1	8	23	15
Euky Dwarf	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. 'Euky Dwarf'	Werona Street (West Side)	0	0	18	18
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Werona Street (East Side)	1	0	19	19
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Gardiner Terrace	2	0	30	30
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Lawson Street	0	0	28	28

// INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

STREET TREES

Common Name	Botanical Name	Street Name	Trees Being Retained	Proposed Removals	Proposed Plantings	Net Gain
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Crimson Sentry'	Aramanta Drive	0	0	32	32
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Crimson Sentry'	Mayflower Court	0	0	23	23
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Crimson Sentry'	Ramsay Avenue	0	6	44	38
Willow Leaf Pear	<i>Pyrus salicifolia</i> 'Pendula'	Ramsay Avenue	0	0	10	10
TOTAL			6	14	314	300



Innovative Leisure Management (ILM) have again completed another successful year at the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre. Overall attendances were again excellent (see table) and the number of children utilising Learn to Swim programs is very encouraging.

As with previous years, independent facility audits have ensured that the Centre is maintained and presented to a very high standard. Centre Manager, Peter Collins, is to be complimented on the effort he and his staff put into the operation of the facility.

The boiler (in its third year of operation) again proved to be very successful. Experience has now shown that woodchips of the correct size and moisture content are the key to consistent and high levels of performance from the boiler and Council constructed a storage facility at its Works Depot to store woodchips to ensure a constant supply of fuel is available at all times.

The following statistics are provided for 2015/2016:

Individual Admissions	
Swimming - Adult	3668
Swimming - Child	6928
Swimming - Spectator	514
Swimming - Pensioner	398
Swimming - Family	238
Aquavoucher Return - Pensioner	63
Swim School - Preschool	3662
Swim School - School age	4561
Swim School - Adult	31
Season Pass – Laps	6895
Season Pass – Swimming Lessons	2840
Lap Swimming	2205
VacSwim	2718
Carnivals - General	25
Carnivals – School	1322
Education Department - Primary	10734
Education Department - Junior Primary	4943
Aquavoucher Return - Adult	309
Aquavoucher Return - Child	137
Fitness (Aqua aerobics)	964
Swim Club	496
School Groups	3084
Individual Total	56,735
Comparison 2014/2015	53,835
Royal Life Saving Society	86
Hire Group Total	86
Comparison 2014/2015	137
No Charge Spectator	9,879
Education Department - Teachers	714
Complimentary Total	10,593
Comparison 2014/2015	11,832
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	67,414
Comparison 2014/2015	65,804

// INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

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 with the materials salvaged for re-use;
- Construction of a new lookout using the salvaged materials;
- Re-decking of the main boardwalk over the pond;
- Installation of an 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 the 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, timber feature fence and modifications to the existing shelter and building.

Since then, Council staff, working with Mr Orazio Cultreri along with members of the Lions Club and other volunteers, have concentrated their efforts on effective weed control and native re-vegetation of the area along with the construction of two new bird hides and linked walking tracks.

The Conservation Area is returning to a more “natural” area overtime with a growing emphasis on small, native wildlife.

CARINYA GARDENS CEMETERY

There were 425 services conducted at Carinya Gardens Cemetery during the 2015/2016 year, compared with 419 for the same period in the previous year.

The Trust conducted 123 burial services at Carinya Gardens Cemetery in 2015/2016, compared with 140 the previous year.

During 2015/2016, the Trust conducted 302 cremations compared to 279 the previous year.



ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT



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City of Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group	84
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Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Plan	86
Stormwater Management	86
Graffiti Removal	86
Blue Lake Capture Zone Working Group	87
Strategic Bushfire Prevention Plan	87
Dog and Cat Management Plan 2013-2018	87
General Inspectorial	88
Crater Lakes	88

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015/2016

Mount Gambier: Edible City

The Mount Gambier Edible City project was launched in June 2015 to promote the development of Mount Gambier's local food culture. Its aim is to encourage residents to grow their own food, whilst supporting existing local food producers to connect with and educate the community.

The project involved running a series of workshops focused on the various aspects of home food production – from the basics through to more involved topics. Examples of workshops include: Basics of Home Food Production; Handy Herbs; Wicking Box Making; Planting Perennial Plants; In Your Backyard- Urban Gardening; Coastal Food Tour; Organic Pest Management; Composting for Beginners; and Pruning Fruit Trees. Each of these has given people the skills to continue in their journey of growing their own food.

Over the course of the project a diverse group of speakers from the

local community and experts from other locations have contributed to the success of each workshop. Collaboration between the City of Mount Gambier Council, not-for-profit organisations, community groups, the Mount Gambier Farmers Market, local primary schools, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, businesses and individuals made this program possible.

In addition, various educational materials and gardening materials have been made or purchased and handed out and planted as part of the project.

Environmental Commitment and the Natural Step Framework

Council has a proud history of strong support for Environmental Sustainability. With the adoption of the Natural Step Framework in 2008, Council has since been using the framework as a planning tool. The 'system conditions' of the Natural Step Framework are used as a guide to reduce and eventually

eliminate the City of Gambier's contribution to:

1. Putting substances into the environment that cannot be broken down faster 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:
www.naturalstep.org/en/faq

Council Solar Power Projects

Between January 2016 and March 2016, solar power systems were installed on the roofs of three City of Mount Gambier sites – Works Depot, Waste Transfer Station and Carinya Gardens Cemetery. In total over 45kW of solar systems were installed. The three sites are ideally suited for a commercial solar system as they are open virtually every day of the year, occupied during the day, and so as the solar electricity is being generated it can be used directly in the building. The solar systems will supply a significant proportion of the overall electricity usage at each site.

These solar power projects have been undertaken in order to continue to reduce Council's reliance on external electricity, deliver long-term savings on electricity costs, foster local



renewable energy, reduce Council's environmental impact, and reduce its emissions.

Park and Stride

The City of Mount Gambier launched the Park and Stride program in November 2014 to encourage people to park in an off-street car park within the city centre and walk to do small shopping trips. It is a unique and innovative way to achieve the multiple aims of improving the vibrancy of the city centre, improving the local economy, and improving people's health, whilst helping the environment.

The program utilised paid media, including print and radio, a website, survey, information posters, and a Facebook page to promote community engagement and participation. More than 15 local businesses have demonstrated their support by offering give-aways and discounts to those who make a public commitment to Park and Stride. Selected participants have received gift vouchers from local stores, donated daily planners as well as Park & Stride EFTPOS cards valued at up to \$50.

Water Week

During October 2015, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR), together with the City of Mount Gambier, hosted a range of community events to celebrate and emphasise Water Week at the local level. A number of local primary school participated in tours of Bool Lagoon and Piccaninnie Ponds. One of the main events involved opening one of the gross pollutant traps (GPT) in the Cave Gardens and cleaning it out in front of eager local school children. This display was filmed and edited for future viewing on the DEWNR website.

Following this display was 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 150 registered participants.

During the week the "In Your Backyard Workshop Series: Natural Resources in the Urban Environment" public session was held in the Main Corner. This session included short talks relating to soil, weeds and natural habitat management.

Sustainable Communities / Tidy Towns Awards

Mount Gambier won the Best Large Town Award in the 2015 KESAB Sustainable Communities program. Additionally, the City won the Environmental Sustainability Award for the Blue Lake Solar Lighting project and; the Litter Prevention, Waste Management and Resource Recovery Award for the Old Hospital Demolition Redevelopment project. The Mount Gambier Library and the City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group won the Leadership & Youth Award, and the Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group received a Judges Commendation Award for the many years of work engaging youth in the community. Finally, Tenison Woods College was awarded Outstanding Participation by a school. These awards recognise the exceptional work these organisations had been doing in and/or for the community.

Earth Hour

In March, Council participated in Earth Hour 2015, 'Places We Love' to support and promote the environmental issue of climate change. The City of Mount Gambier

turned off the lights for one hour at major attractions around the city including the Main Corner, City Hall, Vansittart Park, the Library, the Centenary Tower, the Lady Nelson Brig, and the Railway Lands. In the lead up to Earth Hour an event was held where documentaries from 2014/2015 were screened including "Appetite for Change" and "Lights Out for the Reef". Additionally, screenings of the Earth Hour documentary "Places We Love" were held at the Main Corner before and after the event, while the library created an Earth Hour theme for its story time sessions.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- New volunteers have managed to pull down all the old fences and have made tree guards out of the materials.
- Extensive weeding has been undertaken.
- The display garden has been mulched and plants are starting to reshoot.
- Pond 2 was used for a Yarra Pygmy Perch relocation program by Millicent High School. The students collected 203 Yarra Pygmy Perch from a private dam and placed them in Pond 2. After some time a survey was completed and 51 fish were caught, with 15 being juveniles, suggesting breeding has occurred successfully.
- Pond 2 has Potamogeton Pectinatus, a native aquatic plant, which was initially believed to be a weed in the pond. The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources in Adelaide identified the plant and this is the first time it has been found in the area.

- Cameras have been set up to monitor nocturnal animals. The cameras have recorded at least one bandicoot and there are signs that potoroos are also present.

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:

- Created and distributed 10,300 fridge magnets to educate the community on helpful recycling tips to improve recycling behaviours.
- Created five videos about waste, recycling and organics within Mount Gambier to educate the community to reduce waste and contamination.
- Organised community tours at the Green Triangle Recyclers facility. 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.
- Participated in the National Garage Sale Trail for the second time.
- Conducted waste audits of household bins in order to let the community know what they are doing well and where they can improve.

Fruit & Nut Trees

In March 2016, Council put out an Expression of Interest (EOI) to partner with local residents to plant fruit and nut trees in local reserves. One of the requirements of the EOI was that local residents agree to work with their neighbours to help look after the trees - including watering over summer - and to make sure that the fruit and nuts get eaten. Strong submissions from neighbours near Michielan Reserve; Sealy Reserve; and Tenison Woods College were put together and all were selected to have fruit and nut trees planted in their local reserve.



As part of this year's program, 26 fruit and nut trees have been planted including apples, avocados, citrus fruits, fig, pears, stone fruits and walnut. These plantings were planned to align with Planet Ark's National Tree Day, with plantings taking place at Michielan Reserve and Tenison Woods College on Schools Tree Day, Friday 29th July 2016.

Council hopes the project will lead to greater interaction between residents, while also promoting fresh, 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, but 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, www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au located under "Sustainable Living".

Ride 2 Work Day

On Wednesday 14th October 2015 Council hosted a free community breakfast at Mount Gambier City Hall for Ride 2 Work Day. Over 15 people dropped in throughout the morning to share breakfast and meet other riders. Mount Gambier is a very cycle friendly city, with almost the entire urban area being within 4-5km of the city centre by road (within 3-kilometres as the crow flies).

Waste Audit

Over a two-week period in February 2016 City of Mount Gambier staff conducted a waste audit of household rubbish, recycling and organics bins. The purpose of the audit was to see what Mount Gambier residents are doing well, and where improvements need to be made in relation to the way we manage our waste.

Over the two weeks, 95 household general rubbish and 95 recycling bins were audited, as well as 25 organic waste bins. The content of each was sorted by hand (tongs). Bins were randomly selected and sorted in large batches, preserving anonymity.

Results:

What Mount Gambier Residents are Doing Well

General Rubbish (small green bin)

- Generally there was not much glass or beverage containers in the rubbish bins.

Recycling (large blue bin)

- There was not a great deal of contamination in the vast majority of recycling loads.

Organic Waste (large green bin)

- There was minimal contamination. The organics

bin was the least contaminated of all three bins, only 1% contamination – an excellent result.

What Mount Gambier Residents Need to Improve

General Rubbish (small green bin)

- Put food in the organics bin or home compost – over 35% of the content of the general rubbish bins was food waste.
- Try not to waste food in the first place – there were many full or half full packets and containers of food in rubbish bins.

Recycling (large blue bin)

- Don't put recyclables inside plastic bags.
- Take lids off bottles and empty the contents.
- Make sure all containers and packages are empty and clean of food waste.

Organic Waste (large green bin)

- Put food in the organic waste bins – but no packaging.
- Don't put any plastic in the organics bin.

In summary, Mount Gambier residents are doing a reasonable job of managing their waste, but improvements can definitely be made.



// ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Waste Profile:

Rubbish

In 2014/2015 Mount Gambier residents sent a total of 5,779 tonnes of rubbish to landfill via their general rubbish bins. Over 4,033 tonnes (69.8%) of this could have been prevented through putting all recyclables in the recycling bin, and putting organic waste in the organics bin or home compost.

Recycling

In 2014/2015 Mount Gambier residents put a total of 2,161 tonnes of material in their recycling bins. However, over 346 tonnes (16%) of this was not actually recyclable. This should have gone in the general rubbish bin, organics bin/home compost, or the Waste Transfer Centre.

Common contaminants include: bottles with lids on, clothes, items inside plastic bags, metal pots and cutlery, soft toys, plastics #6, plastics #7, containers with food in them, and nappies. Only plastics #1-5 can be recycled in Mount Gambier. Council also strongly encourages residents to take lids of bottles and jars, give items a quick rinse, and to also flatten cardboard boxes.

Organics

In 2014/2015 Mount Gambier residents composted a total of 2,487 tonnes of organic waste via the green organics bins. A further 2,577 tonnes of organic waste was put into the general rubbish bins – this could have been diverted from landfill and then composted if it had been placed in the right bin. This equates to a total of over 5,000 tonnes, or an average of 424 kg of organic waste per household.

RUBBISH

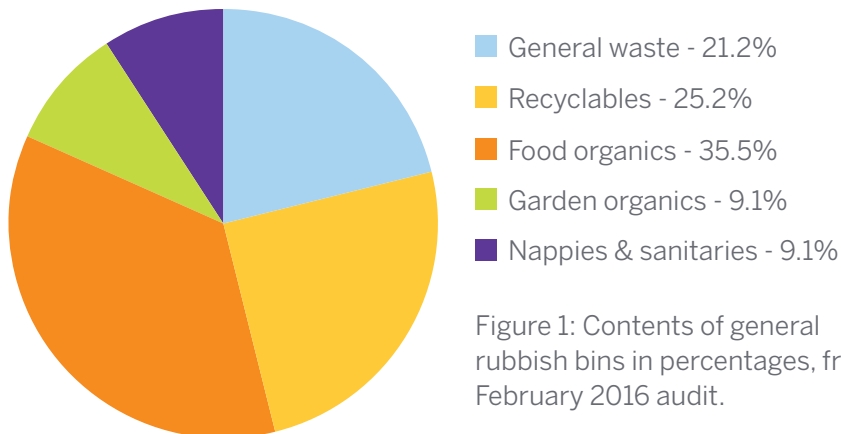


Figure 1: Contents of general rubbish bins in percentages, from February 2016 audit.

RECYCLING

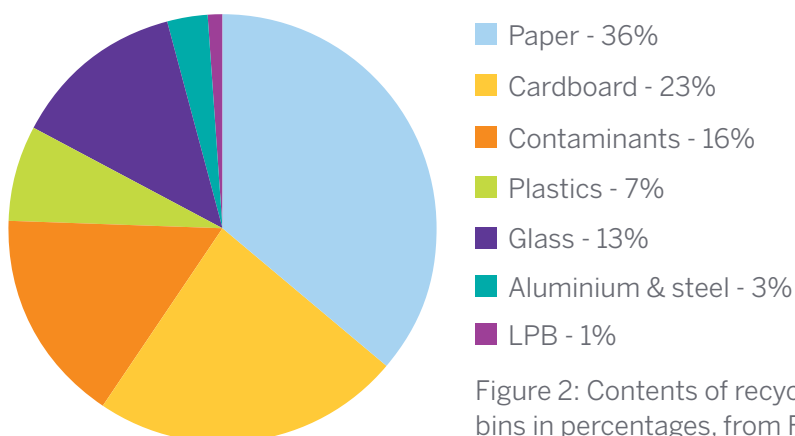


Figure 2: Contents of recycling bins in percentages, from February 2016 audit.

ORGANICS

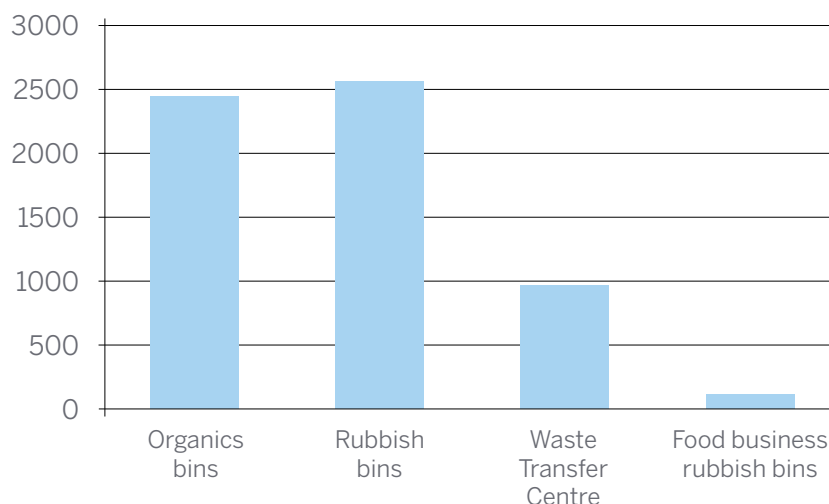


Figure 3: Sources of organic material in total tonnes, 2014/2015.

Over 996 tonnes of organic waste was received at Council's Waste Transfer Centre. It is estimated that a further 110 tonnes of organic waste was contained in food business rubbish bins.

Annual Waste Volume Trends

The graphs below show the trend over the past 10 financial years in terms of total waste per year per category, and also total average waste per household per year per category.

ORGANICS

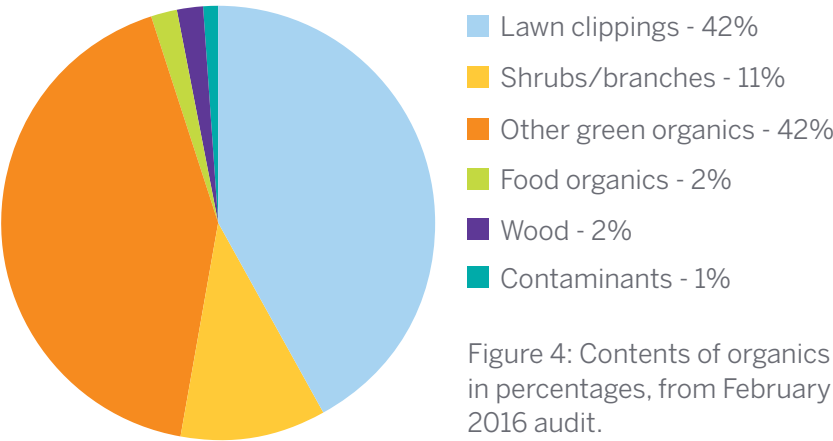


Figure 4: Contents of organics bins in percentages, from February 2016 audit.

ANNUAL WASTE TREND VOLUMES

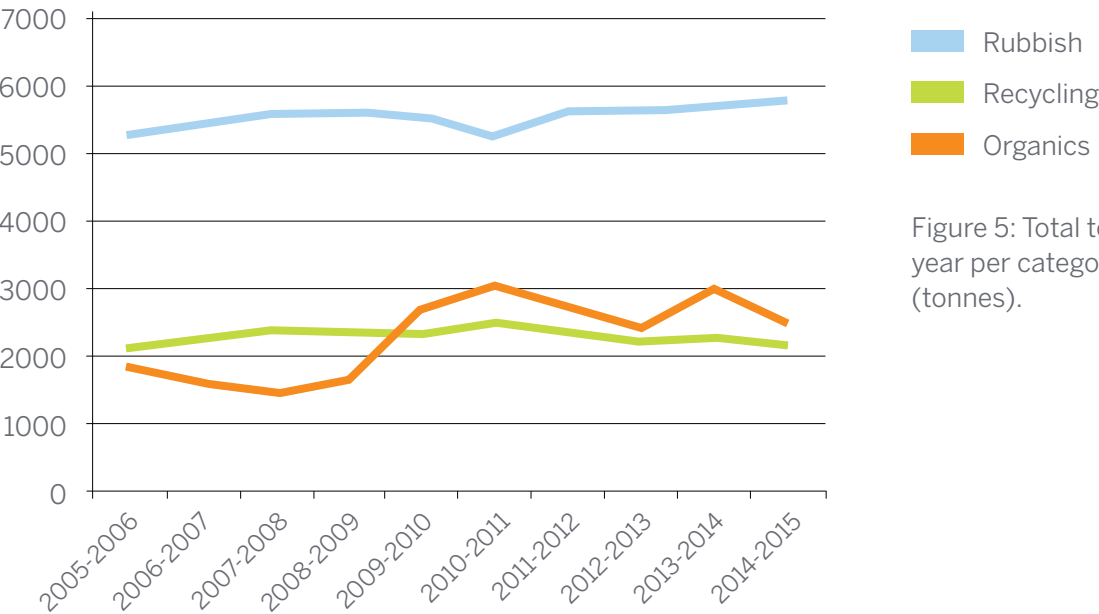


Figure 5: Total tonnes of waste per year per category for entire City (tonnes).

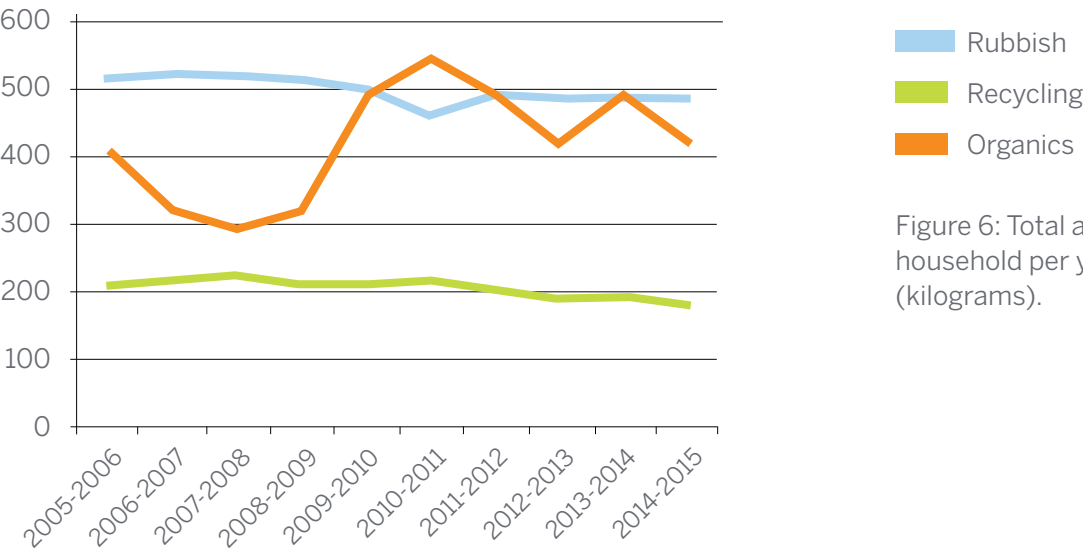


Figure 6: Total average waste per household per year per category (kilograms).

// ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

FOOD SAFETY

Food Premise Inspections

Council's authorised officers conduct regular inspections of food premises within the Council area to ensure compliance with the SA Food Act, SA Food Regulations and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code and to protect the health of community and visitors from potential food poisoning. 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. This includes community groups, sporting clubs and fundraising activities which sell food to the public. In 2015/2016 there were a total of 346 active food businesses in the council area.

Over this financial year there were 36 applications for new food businesses or for the change of ownership of existing businesses in Mount Gambier. Council offers the opportunity for individuals considering starting a new food business, to have authorised officers provide fit-out advice on potential premises so that individuals can make informed decisions before spending money, signing leases or completing structural alterations.

Council's authorised officers have a strong focus to work with local businesses and assist in education if gaps in knowledge are highlighted during inspections. Follow up inspections are conducted with businesses to ensure that appropriate corrective actions are taken. Where inspections reveal continued poor food safety practices, or immediately for those of significant risk, Council can impose penalties for non-compliance, including expiation fees, notices and orders

to restrict the operations of a food business.

City authorised officers also take action when individuals have concerns regarding the safety of a food premise. Observations can be discussed with Officers to determine if they comply with the food standards, if a potential breach is perceived Council conducts complaint based inspections to investigate.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/2016

Complaint Type Received	
Alleged food poisoning	7
Confirmed food poisoning	1
Food unsafe due to foreign matter	1
Food unsafe due to microbiological contamination	2
Poor personal hygiene or poor food handling practices	11
Refuse storage	1
Unclean Premises	6
Vermin/insects/pests observed within or around the premises	3
Other	5
Total Complaints	37

Food Safety Education

To ensure that local food safety training options are available for food handlers, Councils supports two food safety courses. City of Mount Gambier continues its partnership with TAFE SA to deliver the Accredited Food Safety Short Course which provides participants with a nationally recognised statement of attainment at the successful completion of the course. A total of 4 accredited courses were held by TAFE SA and Council over the year and were attended by 140 participants. In March 2016 Council subsidised a session for volunteers to complete

this accredited training for a cost of \$5 per person, rather than the \$95 TAFE SA fee. The afternoon session was attended by 92 local volunteers and this represented 38 local community groups and sporting clubs.

Council also subscribes to the I'm Alert online food safety training program, which is free program accessible via Council's website all year, with 371 individual users in the 2015/2016 period. I'm Alert is a non-accredited course and is recommended for community groups and sporting clubs that conduct low risk food activities or as a refresher for staff members.

An industry wide food safety newsletter is distributed twice per year and provides general advice and updates. The use of the newsletter as a free training tool for food handlers is encouraged and is also available on Council's website.

Council participated in Food Safety Week during November 2015 with the theme being "Did you Know – busting the food safety myths". Food safety week aims to highlight food safety in the home for individuals in the community. Food safety information was displayed in the Mount Gambier Library, local newspaper and discussed on various local radio stations to educate the community and protect them from food poisoning.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Council is the local health authority under the South Australian (SA) Public Health Act (the Act) 2011 and authorised officers administer and regulate the Act and associated Regulations for disease prevention. Public health web links, fact sheets and videos have been

added to Council's website for access by industry and community members. The Public Health web page has had 349 views since it was created as a single page in August 2015. The Act charges Council with the responsibilities to promote, prevent and protect the health and well being of individuals and the community through a public health approach.

Promote Well Being

The inaugural Regional Health Plan outlined in the Community Health Division section is now a requirement of South Australian Council's under this Act and is designed by each Council for their communities focus strategies. City of Mount Gambier has 11 health priorities within this plan.

Prevention

Reduction in preventable illness, injury, disability and disease is achieved by education and regulation. Authorised officers through inspections monitor onsite wastewater disposal systems,

public swimming pools and spas, hairdressing, beauty and skin penetration premises, high risk manufactured water systems (Legionella), domestic squalor and other public health complaints. Pre-fit out general advice (see Council's web site) and an onsite inspection are available to hair, beauty and skin penetration operators to assist with compliance. Authorised officers received 56 environmental health complaints and customer requests for 2015/2016 which included but not limited to insanitary conditions, wastewater and rodents. Not all complaints resulted in confirmed non-compliances or directed action.

Monthly Communicable Disease Control Branch (CDCB) reports for City of Mount Gambier show a prevalence of disease which can be reduced by effective hand washing practices due to faecal and other cross-contamination. If a person is infected with a mandatory notifiable disease and works in a vulnerable or high risk industry



(including food, child/ aged care) as directed by the CDCB contact is made to educate on return to work timeframes and prevention measures.

Effective hand washing is a major prevention strategy and some industries are required by legislation or guidelines to use warm running water, soap and single use towel to dry their hands.

Promotion and Community Engagement

Improved hand washing throughout the community should result in the reduced spread of disease and promotion is conducted throughout events such as Food Safety Week, Public Health Week, inspections and workshops. Interactive demonstrations with school groups, corflute signage for events and hand wash stickers are some of the resources used by staff. The SA Health Animal Contact Guidelines 2015 are used for regulation and education for local event organisers and hosts where community members have direct animal contact.

Industry Workshops

Several workshops included education to industry on legislation requirements. The first local Hair, Beauty and Skin Penetration Service Provider workshop was held in July 2015 with 37 participants from across the region attending. The City of Mount Gambier has 78 registered Hair, Beauty and Skin Penetration businesses and includes commercial, home based and mobile operators.

In February 2016 the Master Plumber Association Roadshow hosted 23 local plumbers and Council's authorised officer provided a presentation on

legislative requirements and was available for questions for onsite disposal systems (septic tanks). Mount Gambier is unique in groundwater supply to the Blue Lake and compliance checks are conducted.

City of Mount Gambier co-hosted with ac.care the "Footprints through the clutter" program presented by Junction Australia for local service providers in June 2016. This was attended by 37 providers from government, non-government organisations and the private business sector. The aim of the workshop was to develop skills and to understand and support people living in challenging environments such as hoarding. This included awareness of new and existing resources and stakeholders in this arena.

Public Health Week

The inaugural South Australia Public Health Week was held in April 2016 and included a large display in the Mount Gambier Library with over 7,000 door count for the week. Schools,

Kindergartens and Childcare centres were invited to order resources and/or host an event. Healthy get-together fact sheets to assist the community are available on Council's website.

Supported Residential Facilities (SRF)

A SRF is a premise that provides residential accommodation or offered together with personal care services as defined under the South Australia SRF Act 1992 (SRF Act) and is a home to some of our vulnerable community members. Council is the licensing authority under the SRF Act and monitors management of these premises to check it is operating in compliance with legislation. This may include announced and unannounced inspections or visits and complaint investigations throughout the year by authorised officers. A SRF must not operate without a licence and is currently audited annually for assessment for licence approval.



140

FOOD HANDLERS HAVE
COMPLETED THE ACCREDITED
TRAINING
(64 MORE THAN 2014/2015)



FOOD BUSINESSES
IN MOUNT GAMBIER

346



I'M ALERT ONLINE
FREE FOOD SAFETY
TRAININGS
371 COMPLETED

ACCREDITED
FOOD SAFETY
TRAININGS
4 COURSES HELD



36 NEW
FOOD
BUSINESSES
/ CHANGE
OF OWNERS

37 FOOD COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

See breakdown of complaint types in report on pg 76



79 HAIR/BEAUTY/SKIN PENETRATION BUSINESSES REGISTERED WITH COUNCIL

51 CASES CONFIRMED FOOD POISONING

(3.4% of all reported
cases in South Australia)



93.3% FEEDBACK
OF THE FOOTPRINT
THROUGH THE
CLUTTER -
RELEVANT TO WORK



17 OPERATING
PUBLIC SWIMMING
POOLS AND PUBLIC
SPAS REGISTERED
WITH COUNCIL

OF CASES REPORTED STATEWIDE

MOUNT GAMBIER REPORTED

CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS
1 OF 9 CASES STATEWIDE

ROTA VIRUS
24 OF 284 CASES STATEWIDE

ARBO VIRUS
1 OF 4 CASES STATEWIDE

HEPATITIS A
1 OF 1 CASE STATEWIDE

SHINGELLA
2 OF 14 CASES STATEWIDE

COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION

The City of Mount Gambier is committed to encouraging and supporting residents to lead active and healthy lifestyles with access to high quality local health services. The Community Health Division of Council supports a number of local services which target preventative health, such as public immunisation sessions and the community sharps disposal program. In addition Council also promotes public health topics to raise awareness in the local community. This year health topics promoted included SunSmart, World No Tobacco Day, Red Cross Blood Donation services, food safety at home and rainwater tank maintenance.

REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

The City of Mount Gambier Regional Public Health Plan 2015-2020 was endorsed by Council during July 2015. This document highlights 11 health priorities that Council will focus its community health actions on over the next five

years to assist in improving the community's health status. The current 11 health priorities are:

- Poor Nutrition and Diet
- Obesity & Overweight
- Physical Inactivity
- Potentially Avoidable Hospital Admissions
- Degenerative & Mobility for the Aged
- Substance Abuse (tobacco, illicit drugs and alcohol)
- Mental Health
- Suicide Prevention
- Domestic Violence
- Delayed Early Childhood Development (incl. immunisations, learning, socialising)
- Dental Health

The first official reporting period on the 2015-2020 plan is due to the Chief Public Health Officer by end of September 2016 to monitor local implementation and outcomes.

HASTINGS CUNNINGHAM RESERVE DOG PARK

The official opening of the Hastings Cunningham Reserve Dog Park was held on Sunday, 30th August 2015 with more than 150 dogs in attendance. The opening was held to promote and encourage the exercise and socialisation of dogs off-leash in the new enclosed facility. Residents and their dogs enjoyed a range of products, services and advice which were provided by local Veterinary Clinics, the South East Animal Welfare League and Council's General Inspectors. On the day reduced rate micro-chipping was made available and over 40 dogs were chipped for responsible tracking. The unique Hastings Cunningham Reserve Dog Park has now been open for a year and continues to be well utilised by the community.



IMMUNISATIONS

Council continues to support the South East Regional Community Health Service in the provision of the Public Immunisation Sessions to assist in maintaining appropriate immunisation rates within our community. Public immunisation sessions are held twice a day on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, and provide childhood vaccinations in accordance with the Australian Immunisation Schedule. Over the last 2 financial years Council has increased its promotion of the vaccines available for influenza and whooping cough (pertussis). Reported cases of whooping cough in the Council area have declined significantly between 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, number of cases were 46 and 24 respectively.

Reported cases of influenza however doubled in this most recent flu season.

COMMUNITY SHARPS DISPOSAL PROGRAM

The Community Sharps Disposal Program allows residents to purchase approved sharps containers and dispose of them responsibly free of charge. 'Community sharps' is the collective term given to needles, syringes and lancets used by members of the community for the administration of medication. The increasing impact of chronic illness such as diabetes in the community and the home management of these conditions highlights the need for a safe disposal method of community sharps. Since commencing in 2004 the program

continues to grow with increased uptake by the public. During this financial year the program sold 122 sharps containers and safely disposed of approximately 207kg of hazardous waste. In addition to the disposal service, Council maintains the 16 wall safe sharps containers located in public toilets throughout the City.

DENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2015

Dental health, particularly in young children, has been highlighted as a health priority in the City of Mount Gambier's Regional Public Health Plan. Council participated in Dental Health Week during August 2015 to increase the local awareness of this issue in primary schools. SA Dental Service held educational sessions with reception classes in local public primary schools



and the Mount Gambier Library promoted dental health to parents during the Baby Bounce and Toddler Time sessions. Activities during this week educated approximately 250 children aged up to 5 years of age. All children were provided with free resources to take home including, toothbrushes, toothpaste, stickers, magnets and information pamphlets.

PILLS & SPILLS

The City of Mount Gambier and Council of the Aged (COTA SA) collaborated to provide another advice session locally on degenerative and mobility issues for the aged. In July 2015 a free session on falls prevention and medicine management, 'Pills & Spills', was held at the Mount Gambier Library.

The session was attended by residents from around the limestone coast, including children on behalf of elderly parents. Information learnt by participants will hopefully decrease their risk of avoidable hospital admissions.



122
SHARPS
CONTAINERS SOLD
(+13 MORE THAN LAST YEAR)

OF SHARPS CONTAINERS SOLD:
19% TO BUSINESS / 81% PERSONAL USE



250 CHILDREN
AGED 0-5 YEARS
EDUCATED DURING
DENTAL HEALTH WEEK



207KG
OF HAZARDOUS
WASTE SAFELY
DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL



150 DOGS AND THEIR OWNERS
ATTENDED THE OPENING OF
HASTINGS CUNNINGHAM RESERVE
DOG PARK

146 CASES
OF INFLUENZA REPORTED



LOCAL HERITAGE AND LAKES ZONE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

After completing the 2007 Heritage Survey Review, Council undertook the Local Heritage and Lakes Zone Development Plan Amendment which incorporated the survey recommendations into the Development Plan.

Council-appointed project consultants Jensen Planning who prepared the draft DPA on behalf of Council.

The Development Plan Amendment was authorised by the Minister for Planning and incorporated into the Development Plan on 19th March, 2015.

INDUSTRY (TIMBER MILL) ZONE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Upon the consolidation of the Urban Boundary Adjustment Development Plan Amendment into the Development Plan it was noted that the Zone boundary for the Industry (Timber Mill) Zone was not sufficient to accommodate all of the activities of the existing timber mill. This effectively prevented the mill from operating as intended through recent upgrades to the main industrial activities of the mill.

The area affected by this Development Plan Amendment included:

- 35 Wireless Road West, Suttontown
- 126-128 Wireless Road West, Suttontown
- 102-124 Suttontown Road, Suttontown
- 96 Suttontown Road, Suttontown

The issues addressed as part of this DPA included:

- The most appropriate location for the Industry (Timber Mill) Zone Boundaries;
- The orderly and proper development within the vicinity of the existing timber mill;
- The potential impacts on surrounding more sensitive land uses;
- The potential impacts on the existing timber mill;
- The development of policies to best facilitate development within the Industry (Timber Mill) Zone; and
- The development of policies to minimise impacts on surrounding development.

This Development Plan Amendment was authorised by the Minister for Planning and incorporated into the Development Plan on 21st April, 2016.

BUILDING DIVISION

Throughout the past financial year's 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 Council's Building Fire Safety Committee;

These duties are carried out under a series of regulations and statutory instruments adopted under the Development Act 1993, including principally the National Construction Code (previously Building Code of Australia). Council's building division has, throughout 2015/2016, recorded statistics regarding the progression and state of the local construction industry as presented overleaf;

// ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

BUILDING DIVISION

	2015/2016	2014/2015	2013/2014
Estimated Expenditure	\$32,562,828	\$43,093,104	\$46,225,552
Dwellings	85	101	112
Dwelling additions	18	31	15
Outbuildings	172	181	174
Commercial	22	26	29
Industrial	13	6	6
Signage	9	16	24
Wastewater	2	0	2
Other	61	56	56
TOTAL	382	417	418

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER HERITAGE ADVISORY GROUP

The City of Mount Gambier Heritage Group was established in 1991, and has recently changed its name to the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group. It plays 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 following heritage-related projects are examples of achievements in which the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group has been involved in over the past twelve months:

- Heritage education and distribution of information to the public
- Advice to Council regarding appropriate Heritage Bollard/Walks brochures
- Local Heritage Restoration Fund

The following are examples of projects, in which the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group 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 Advisory Group are:

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

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

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. In 2015/2016, Council allocated \$12,000 as part of the 2015 Local Heritage Restoration Fund to six owners of Local Heritage Places within the City on the recommendation of Council's Heritage Advisory Group.

This is the thirteenth year that Council has offered grants as part of the Local Heritage Restoration Fund, and this year, Council's Heritage Advisory Group had a strong field of applicants making for difficult choices. All applicants that demonstrated potential 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.

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.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

KERBSIDE RECYCLING

Kerbside recycling continues to be 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 to maximise their recycling effort.

Businesses are encouraged to ensure recycling becomes part of their core business. Council has undertaken extensive audits of waste entering the landfill, and business waste from across the entire region still contains a substantial amount of recyclable material. "Point source segregation" of waste in order to ensure disposal to the correct waste stream will continue to be a Council focus in the coming years.

ORGANIC RECYCLING

Organic recycling - although a voluntary, user pays service - continues to expand, with more residents taking up this service each year. The total amount of

Greenwaste generated for the City of Mount Gambier for 2015/2016 was 3,553 tonnes.

2,591 tonnes was collected from kerbside pickup (Organic service).

962 tonnes was from drop-off at the transfer station.

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 represents 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.

E-WASTE RECYCLING

E-waste 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, which covers the cost of transportation and the fees of the recycling company that receives the e-waste.

The introduction of a free dumping service for televisions, computer monitors etc has proven to be extremely successful.

// ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT

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, where residents can tip their waste oil 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

The amount of rubbish received at the landfill has increased in 2015/2016 (due to new regional

customers) and the extraordinarily wet winter (2016) has provided operational staff with challenges with access and leachate control.

Council purchased a new landfill compactor (\$570,000) during the year and this is a vital piece of equipment in ensuring that maximum density of waste is achieved – which in turn help preserve landfill life.

LIMESTONE COAST BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (FES Act 2005) requires each of the nine South Australian Bushfire Management Committees (BMC's) to prepare and maintain a Bushfire Management Area Plan (BMAP). Each BMC will adopt a BMAP that will:

(a) Identify existing or potential risks to values from bushfire within the BMA

(b) Outline coordinated and cooperative bushfire prevention and mitigation strategies to achieve appropriate hazard reduction associated with bushfire management within its area

(c) Identify asset or land custodians responsible for the implementation of the bushfire risk mitigation treatments

(d) Use or establish principles and standards to guide or measure the success of the bushfire management strategies and initiatives

The Limestone Coast BMAP has been approved and is available to view on the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The City of Mount Gambier allocated approximately \$135,000 towards storm water management in 2015/2016, primarily to improve storm water infrastructure in order to reduce flooding and increase the quality of water being discharged back into the underground aquifer.

Some of the improvement projects involved the construction of additional settlement pits and drainage bores, whilst other projects involved the construction of roadside drainage swales and retention basins.

2015/2016 improvement works occurred at the following locations:

- Eagle Court
- Rook Road
- Livingston Street
- Davison Street.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Timely removal of graffiti is a high priority for Council, and Council has a rapid response unit to address graffiti removal. Every

effort is made to ensure the graffiti is removed (if possible) as soon as possible after it is reported.

As reported in the 2014/2015 Annual Report, the Blue Lake Management Committee has now been disabled. A group of professional officers from

a number of State and Local Government agencies (with a professional interest in the Blue Lake) have formed a Blue Lake Capture Zone Working Group that

will meet twice yearly to consider and exchange information relating to the Lake and its environment.

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.
- Notification on Council website and social media pages regarding Crater Lakes closure due to Extreme/Catastrophic fire ban. Alert provided from the Country Fire Service (CFS).

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 fireworks, and dog owners should make arrangements to secure their pets when storms and/or fireworks are predicted or publicised.

// ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

GENERAL INSPECTORIAL

The following statistics are provided in respect of the Division of Inspectorial and Dog Control for the 2015/2016 year.

Dog expiations	89
Dog complaints	690
Dog impoundments	141
Dog attack report	9
Parking offences	512
Longrass notices	242
Fire permits	30
Cattle impoundments (sheep and cows)	2
Vehicle impoundments	2
Dog Registrations	4,810
Payment to SEAWL (provision of pound sevicees)	\$28,914.60
Dog expiation income	\$11,075.70
Dog registration fees	\$109,138.25

CRATER LAKES

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

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 continue to offer their time and substantial experience to this project.

A number of infected trees have been removed from the Freemans Landing area and replaced with new trees. This is a staged project, with Stage 2 and 3 now completed. Council also continued with its program to remove pest 'woody' plants, namely invasive Pine and Olive trees.

Council has also removed approximately 1,000 infected Pine trees from the west slope of the Crater (facing towards Carinya Gardens Cemetery). These infected trees had turned a grey colour and upon completion of the project (in the early part of 2016/2017) only healthy trees will remain.

The community needs to be forever vigilant to ensure the Blue Lake water quality is not compromised in any way by human activity.

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COMMUNITY, SERVICES, LIFESTYLE, WELFARE & WELLBEING

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 2014/2015:

Care Ring Telephone Service (Lifeline SE)	\$2,000
Crime Prevention initiatives (Security Foot Patrols, CCTV Cameras, Graffiti Control, Lighting)	\$5,960
General Community Donations	\$28,735
Lambert Village - supported residential facility (for capital improvements)	\$5,000
Senior Citizens' Centre (maintenance to building/other expenses)	\$4,252
Seniors' Month/Seniors Activities	\$1,958
Syringe Disposal Service	\$4,103
Youth Advisory Committee and projects	\$3,879
Reidy Park Centre	\$4,000
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)	\$66,719
Wehl Street Theatre (Centrestage)	\$22,229
Community Events Support	\$35,172
Naidoc Week	\$1,000
Heritage Restoration Fund	\$12,000
Mount Gambier Christmas Parade	\$29,357
Citizenship Ceremonies	\$6,704
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
The Junction	\$1,000
Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West - Careers Expo	\$1,500
Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce Business Awards	\$1,000
Christmas Decorations - Purchase/Display Costs	\$69,715
Tertiary Education grants	\$27,175
New Years Eve Celebrations (Mount Gambier Community Events)	\$12,000
Party in the Park (Rotary Mount Gambier West)	\$1,000
Blue Lake Fun Run	\$3,403
Eisteddfods (Backstage Inc.)	\$5,000
Australia Day Breakfast	\$5,000

Mount Gambier Gold Cup Races	\$3,000
Suicide Prevention Network	\$3,000
Cultural Grants	\$11,000

CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES

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

MOUNT GAMBIER LICENSING ACCORD

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

MOUNT GAMBIER DRY AREAS

Council maintains five State Government-approved Dry Areas within the City of Mount Gambier.

The proclaimed Dry Areas are:

- Mount Gambier City Centre (Area 1)
- Vansittart Park Oval (Area 3) and Surrounding Areas (Area 2)
- Dimjalla Park (Area 4)
- AF Sutton Memorial Park (Area 5)

CCTV SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Council, in partnership with SAPOL, has installed new cameras at various strategic locations within Mount Gambier's City Centre. A significant upgrade to the CCTV network has seen the installation of 12 new cameras and the replacement of 10 existing cameras. The upgrade has seen a major increase in quality with the newest technology and SAPOL have increased their detection and prevention capabilities. The new cameras have Pan-Tilt-Zoom and Infra Red functions and the system is monitored at the Mount Gambier Police Station. SAPOL identified a number of strategic locations that were busiest and places where anti-social behavior was evident at different times of the day. Council had new internet based technology and cameras installed to the highest quality in these locations and the network is capable of being expanded in future.

CCTV is a useful tool to decrease anti-social behavior and increase public safety. A survey was undertaken by Council to measure the public's perception of safety using CCTV. A large majority of participants supported the use of CCTV. The Attorney General Department contributed 50% of the funding and Council funded 50%.

The cameras are monitored by the Mount Gambier Police Station and have proved to be an effective initiative.

UNDER VERANDAH LIGHTING

Lighting has been installed under verandahs with the assistance and co-operation of property owners in the City Centre area to assist in the prevention of anti-social behaviour.

// COMMUNITY STATEMENT

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 2012/2013	Total Number of Calls 2013/2014	Total Number of Calls 2014/2015	Total Number of Calls 2015/2016
July	117	85	70	33
August	78	106	77	42
September	102	108	86	82
October	107	103	78	85
November	123	83	106	83
December	173	222	216	216
January	119	152	119	95
February	106	93	86	86
March	144	112	101	85
April	131	98	74	60
May	118	65	54	68
June	88	76	47	57
Total Calls	1,406	1,303	1,114	992

The Mount Gambier City Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is made up of people aged 13 - 25 years, who meet monthly to plan events and consult with Council 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 diverse youth events and activities.

2015 saw the group develop a clear vision and concise goals, to focus their work over the coming period. Their vision is clear – they want youth to be inspired, engaged, empowered and living in a socially connected community.

YAG Focus Goals:

- Short Term - The development of more inclusive youth events.
- Medium Term - The development of youth surveys researching what people want to do.
- Long Term - To focus on developing/reconsidering youth dedicated drop in zones.

2015/2016 saw YAG members volunteer actively through the STEM Limestone Coast FUN Days, NexGen and Unleashed Open Data competition, Escape Room events, the Railway Lands launch, fund raising for the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal and more.

They planned and hosted the South Western Regional Skate Park Leagues Series at Dimjalla Park in March, in partnership with YMCA Victoria. The event saw around 300 people attend, to enjoy loads of spills and thrills to a background of live punk music.

YAG also developed and hosted a successful National Youth Week program with support of funds received through the SA Department for Communities and Social Inclusion. Some key outcomes included a great live music schedule, the Lyrically Speaking song writing workshop, an after dark night scenes photography tour and the ever popular LOUD in the Library.

YAG represented the views and opinions of young people, aiding the development of headspace locally, hosting the State Minister for Youth at the 'It Starts With YOUth' Limestone Coast Youth Forum, meeting with our local State Parliament representative and the Acting Minister for Youth. They also provided advisory representation on the Mount Gambier Youth Network and liaised with Red Cross, Carers SA, Flinders University, Uni SA amongst others.

Throughout the year YAG have kept an active facebook presence to support young people to link into local opportunities.

Find out what they've been up to by visting Mount Gambier City Youth on Facebook.



LIMESTONE COAST STEM 2016

The City of Mount Gambier were proud to explore new realms of possibility with the community by aligning with the Blue Lake Partnership (Department of Education and Child Development - DECD) to produce Limestone Coast STEM 2016. It is understood this was the first city wide STEM promotion event of its kind in Australia.

The partnership saw over 800 educators attend a full day STEM Education Summit on Friday 27th May, featuring some of Australia's most celebrated futurists, science educators and digital technology thinkers, as guest presenters.

The summit was followed by two days of free #STEMfun16 activities for children and families. We never could have predicted how much fun science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) could be, with free community events offered across the Main Corner, the Mount Gambier Library and the Railway Lands.

All activities were designed to encourage children's imagination and diverse ways of thinking. Exploring, innovating and problem solving were key outcomes driving our goal, which was for children and families to engage with and explore STEM in a fun way.

The Main Corner did just this, offering great science with resident ABC (surfer) scientist, physicist Ruben Meerman, along with video blogging, robotics and coding workshops, demonstrations with the latest Gear VR, LEGO play and community arts workshops.

Mount Gambier Library offered a journey through the galaxy under the star dome hosted by astronomy educators. 3D Printing and WACOM drawing tablets, GOOGLE cardboard virtual reality and a challenge specifically designed for families to see if they could escape the puzzle room.

Sunday saw the Railway Lands flood with music, colour and creation. A giant mud pit kept children delighted for hours. There were special mud stations, dance, puzzles, creek play, play on wheels, planting, tepee building, lantern making, clay play, billy cart building and speed trials and much more. This included demonstrations with steam engines and machinery, science and exploring the five senses of nature. #STEMfun 16 culminated with screening a film that highlighted activities from across the weekend followed by a lantern parade and creek float.

Because imagination will guide the inventions of the future, it must be nurtured. For our future prosperity, social and economic growth, children must flourish, physically, socially, emotionally, intellectually and creatively. Supporting young minds to flourish takes a whole community and with over 3,000 people taking part in the Limestone Coast STEM activities across the three days, we welcome seeing our community prepare for the future ahead.



This year marked the third year that Mount Gambier has hosted the Tour of the Great South Coast Bike Race, riders were greeted with beautiful sunny weather.

The high-profile sporting event attracted 124 elite men cyclists, and is held as part of a National series of five races during the year. It offers vital points required for gaining positions in International racing teams, and this year, four cyclists in this race were in the running to head to Rio de Janeiro for the 2016 Olympics. A majority of the entrants came from all states of Australia and were joined by some very competitive riders from Germany, New Zealand and USA. The accompanying officials, dieticians, marshals,

physiotherapists and coaches made up the contingent of 400 participants who stayed a total of 3-4 nights in Mount Gambier.

The cyclists compete in two stages while in Mount Gambier - the first is a 30 lap Criterium of 1.2kms around the streets enclosing picturesque Vansittart Park. This 36km circuit includes 11 sprints, and features a very fast pace throughout the race, with none of the riders able to make a serious breakaway from the main pack. This format provides spectators with plenty of tight action. Stage One saw an overall win to the Avanti team, comprising three riders from Ballarat, New Zealand and New South Wales.

The second stage was 10 lap road race of a 6.5km circuit starting on O'Halloran Terrace, then proceeding along Lake Terrace, around the iconic Blue Lake and then a very fast run down Bay Road before a sharp left turn back into O'Halloran Terrace. This circuit included four sprints and four hillclimbs in the 65km race. Stage Two was won by two cyclists from Germany, with a West Australian competitor gaining the third placing.

The city's backdrop certainly provided a spectacular venue for the elite riders, with the racing live-streamed to the world through SBS and on FOXTEL. The event was also a rare opportunity for residents to see the cream of Australia's up-



TOUR OF THE GREAT SOUTH COAST BIKE RACE

and-coming young cycling talent in the professional National Road Series.

Two teams visited seven schools the day before the race to teach children bicycle road safety, especially pushing the “wearing a helmet” message. The schools visited included Allendale East Area

School, North Gambier Primary School, Melaleuca Primary School, Tenison Woods College, Gordon Education Centre and Reidy Park Primary School. The teams enjoy the interaction with the students and have said that Mount Gambier is the only town that takes up the offer of having cyclists visit

the schools. Again, the schools embraced the second stage and gave their full support, with lots of cheering when the cyclists raced past in a blur of colour.

MELALEUCA RESERVE COMMUNITY DAY

Following the success of the Big Play Day Out at John Powell Reserve earlier in the year, the City of Mount Gambier with local partners presented a Community Day at Melaleuca Reserve (formally known as Manhattan Reserve) situated at the City’s Eastern end.

Council is committed to supporting a thriving backyard and public food culture. This community day provided a perfect opportunity for local families and the wider community to gather and share in cooking demonstrations and home gardening workshops. The community built a herb and native edible plant bed on site, made from recycled tyres and colourfully decorated by young locals keen to make a creative mark on the landscape.

Council is well aware of the health and wellbeing benefits connecting with and exploring nature and the outdoors offers people, especially children, by way of learning and improved development. The Community day saw us speaking with many locals to learn how they use the reserve, and what they would like the reserve to offer and look like in the future.

The day also provided the first trial of the newly built loose parts play trailer, developed by Mount Gambier’s Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) Action Group with the Mount Gambier Children’s Centre. ‘Play on Wheels’ engaged children and families to use their imaginations in building, constructing, problem solving and trialling ideas. A wonderful make shift car was built by some families, and this received a healthy nod of approval by local police who joined in on the day.

A back ground of music was delivered by an ensemble of Mount Gambier Brass Band players, who set up in the shade and played live music during the event. Food was provided by volunteers from the Gambier City Lions Club, along with Jen McCourt and Glenys Hughes. With around 200 residents participating in the day, there were many ideas shared for future activities which may enhance the enjoyment of the space for local residents.



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 2015/2016 was as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	20,600
Support for special Coaching Clinics	5,000
Assistance to Disadvantaged Juniors	1,120
Members' Contributions	9,931
Councils' Contributions	16,000
Bank Interest earned	1,079
Donations received	1,500
Sponsorship of Programs received	7,900
Other Expenses	-
Government and Bank Charges	2
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2016	69,135

For the thirty one years of the Fund's operations, the consolidated transactions to 30th June 2016 are as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	430,400
Support for special Coaching Clinics	75,383
Assistance to Disadvantaged Juniors	6,510
Members' Contributions	153,948
Councils' Contributions	292,500
Bank Interest earned	67,728
Donations received	41,586
Sponsorship of Programs received	25,800
Other Expenses	300
Government and Bank Charges	1,324
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2016	69,135

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:-

- 21 sporting organisations/clubs are members of the Fund;
- Commercial Club Inc again provided a very generous \$2,500 contribution to the Fund;
- There were no Members resigned / suspended
- 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 the Funds Annual Coaching Clinic Program to a maximum of \$5,000 (applied for each 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 dependent on applications and is part of the surplus from the Blue Lake Fun Run.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

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

- Cr Hanna Persello (Presiding Member)
- Cr Mark Lovett
- Cr Penny Richardson
- John Amoroso (community)
- Rob Foggo (community)
- Caroline Hill (community)

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

Throughout 2015/2016 the sub committee has sought to formally acknowledge the traditional custodians of our land and build respectful partnerships with our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities.

Strong progress is being made towards the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for the City of Mount Gambier.

The RAP Focus Group includes Elected Members, Elders, Aboriginal health, justice and youth representatives from the local community and Council staff. The group are able to access the CEO's of both Aboriginal controlled local organisations, Burrandies and Pangula Mannamurna as advisors to the RAP.

Having met four times, to date the Focus Group have;

- Prioritised Focus Group member awareness and recognition of the past, to inform a platform of shared understanding of history.
- Identified the importance of using reclaimed Boandik language through the RAP process. The group are calling the RAP Yerkalalpata – Leading the Way.

- Participated in a tourism industry recce hosted by Winda Mara at their Budj Bim Orientation Centre in Heywood, travelling onto the Tyrendarra Indigenous Protected Area.
- Prioritised five significant key dates for the City to schedule activities or support for annually. These being;
 - Feb 13th – The Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations
 - May 26th – National Sorry Day – as a mainstream service it was recognised as being significant for City of Mount Gambier to take a lead on this.
 - May 27th – June 3rd - Reconciliation Week
 - July 6th – 13th - NAIDOC Week– continued support and partnership with local services.



- August 4th - National ATSI Children's Week.
- Identified the value of re-telling Mount Gambier/Berrin's history - in partnership with the local Aboriginal community. Bringing forth important missing elements of our City's history, and re-telling this alongside what already exists.
- Identified the opportunity to expand the role of the library to build up a powerful resource of Aboriginal history from around the area - significant history and living history.
- Identified the importance of increasing awareness of the various groups who made up the Boandik Nations, and have this information available to the wider community through a map.
- Began shortlisting cultural awareness training providers, with a view that training occur with Elected Members and staff alongside Aboriginal community members.

The group are at the early stages of developing a Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan and are aware the challenge ahead is to motivate meaningful long lasting change through the plan. Prioritising key focus area is yet to occur however, the group recognise there are opportunities to also explore strategies that may impact the City's urban design and development, sustainability, tourism, economic and social health outcomes and education. Exploring these areas will remain part of the focus moving forward.

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

Six Citizenship Ceremonies were conducted during the 2015/2016 financial year, with a total of 72 people receiving Australian Citizenship. This year the City of Mount Gambier welcomed new residents from China, Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Iran, Italy, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

Representatives from Soroptimist International of Mount Gambier also attend the ceremonies and present a gift to each of our newest citizens.

Commenced as a trial two years ago to provide the opportunity for new citizens, particularly in regional areas, to attend the Royal Adelaide Show, The Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia now provides complimentary tickets to the Royal Adelaide Show as a special gift for each person who receives Australian Citizenship in South Australia. The tickets are provided to Councils at the commencement

of each Calendar Year and are valid for the period of the Show, held in September.

For each public ceremony, Council arranges for an individual or group to attend and lead in the singing of the National Anthem.



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2016

This Australia Day, the Mount Gambier community was encouraged to rise early to share a cooked breakfast at the Mount Gambier Railway Lands in the lead-up to the annual Australia Day Awards honoring the outstanding achievements of local individuals and groups. On 26th January 2016, Council presented its Australia Day Awards to:

CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Libby Furner

Known by many as a passionate early learning literacy educator, former teacher Libby Furner also has a lengthy involvement with the South Australian Red Cross, where she currently serves on both the State Advisory Board and the National Council. Libby has volunteered at the Mount Gambier Red Cross Service for many years, in both fundraising and project coordination roles. She has also had a long term active involvement

with the Mount Gambier West Rotary Club and is a past President and now Vice Patron.

Robin Conboy

Local nurseryman Robin Conboy has created a strong botanical legacy throughout our City, a result of his extensive knowledge being readily shared. Robin was involved in the Valley Lakes conservation area redevelopment and the Community Garden since its inception in 2007, being President for three years. He has been closely involved with the Botanic Gardens along with overseeing the grounds of Boandik Lodge, advising on the suitability of plants for that space. Robin has been involved with the Facilities Management Committee at Boandik for over 18 years. He has also made a significant contribution to the University of the Third Age and the Mount Gambier Seniors Festival. Robin is a member of the Lions Club of

Mount Gambier and has been a Lions member for over 43 years, receiving multiple awards in that time.

Beryl Mahoney

Having migrated to Mount Gambier from New Zealand in the mid 1980's, Beryl joined the local Lioness Club soon after arrival, enhancing the Mount Gambier community through her local volunteering for humanitarian purposes for over 30 years. She is fondly recognised by many people for her work over a decade in organising local debutante balls with Jenny Bowman. Beryl has been involved in advancing many important causes and social programs including the Leukaemia Foundation, the Library home delivery program, hospital patient visitations, Relay for Life and the Look Good Feel Better program, amongst many others.



YOUNG CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Shekinah Horsburgh

Local musician and social inclusion advocate Shekinah Horsburgh has just completed year 12 at Mount Gambier High School. Shekinah is actively involved with Mount Gambier the Youth Advisory Group, where she is well respected for her leadership, reliability and compassion. Her involvement with the group in particular the Let's Talk About Sexuality Forum in 2015 saw a KESAB excellence award presented to the group. She has been involved with her family in organising the Walk Together Mount Gambier event over the past two years. She has won numerous Lions Youth of the Year public speaking events and awards for academic excellence.

Sam Jenner

A young volunteer with the Moorak CFS and Contact Under Officer with the Mount Gambier Australian Army Cadet Unit 48, Sam Jenner has completed the Junior Leader's course with them

and was promoted to CPL. Shortly after this he became Section Commander. Sam has been recognised for his community involvement and strong advocacy skills, having lobbied successfully at a State level to ensure a future for the Unit. Sam declined a highly coveted invitation to attend the 2015 Gallipoli Cadet selection, in order to allow a younger Cadet to have the opportunity to represent their community at the event. He is acknowledged as a young leader worthy of taking note of into the future.

COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR

The 2016 Australia Day Community Event of the Year award went to Mount Gambier Parkrun.

Encouraging inclusion and participation from runners of all ages, Parkrun promotes active lifestyle, with weekly timed runs. Operating in Mount Gambier for almost two years, the group have hosted over 99 local events involving 807 runners from 44 clubs. The Mount Gambier Parkrun

course has gained a reputation of being both challenging and beautiful, with members from over 40 clubs coming to participate. Fitness advocate and personal trainer Phil Acland will accept the award on behalf of Mount Gambier Parkrun.

SPECIAL THANKYOU

To Mount Gambier Rotary Lakes for volunteering to cook the breakfast for the public to enjoy. Thank you, also, to all of those who donated their time entertaining the crowd in the lead-up to the Australia Day Awards.



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2016

Clean Up Australia 2016 consisted of clean ups held on two days, the Schools Clean Up Day on Friday, 4th March and the Community Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, 6th March.

The Schools Clean Up Day 2016 consisted of ten participating educational facilities with over 2,500 students cleaning up their school grounds and surrounding areas. The 10 educational facilities which participated included kindergartens, primary schools and high schools. The participation of students and teachers in this national event helps to clean up the community and also educates children to recycle and reduce the amount of rubbish going into landfill.

The Community Clean Up Australia Day event involved approximately 110 volunteers and 9 registered community sites. Volunteers collected a substantial amount of rubbish. Roadside clean ups had the highest accumulation of rubbish, consisting mostly of drink cans/bottles, fast food packaging and tyres. The Community Clean Up Day was again supported by the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes, who provided a BBQ lunch for all volunteers on the day.

This environmental initiative spreads an important message of inspiring the community to clean, fix and conserve our natural environment. Rubbish that is not disposed of properly poses a threat to animals, plants, ecosystems and humans. Additionally, products that are not recycled effectively result in more energy and natural resources being used unnecessarily. Therefore keeping Mount Gambier clean and green is valuable and helps keep the environment and community healthy.



CELEBRATES 56 YEARS

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, businesses, families and individuals who all work together to bring a unique, quality family event to the community. This year the Parade celebrated 56 years since the Junior Chamber of Commerce started the event at 9.30am on Saturday 5th December 1959. An extract from the Border Watch on 8th December 1959 recounts:

“Mount Gambier’s first Christmas Pageant packed the biggest crowd ever seen into Commercial Street to enjoy a gay and colourful procession of 25 decorated floats and another 26 marching groups, clowns, bands and novelties.”

That 1959 pageant started at Vansittart Park, and then headed east along Commercial Street to Crouch Street. It now travels in the

opposite direction and has grown, with 11 brass bands and 42 floats participating in this year’s event. A highlight of the Parade was live streaming provided for the first time, the whole world was able to see the beginning of the Brass Band Festival, Christmas Parade and the Brass Band Concert. Video of Mount Gambier’s attractions added to the experience for viewers.

The Youth Advisory Group joined the Mayor’s Annual Christmas Appeal “Star Float”, with YAG clowns encouraging 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. There were local and visiting marching bands performing much-loved Christmas Carols along the length of the Parade route. Eleven brass bands from across Victoria and South Australia competed in a street march and competition

before the Parade, followed by a performance at a public concert and competition in the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre, with major prizes on offer.

The Mount Gambier Rotary West Club held their annual “Party in the Park” in the Cave Gardens following the Parade. Children enjoyed telling Father Christmas what they would like for Christmas. There were musical and dance performances, face painting and a bouncy castle also provided as entertainment along with the Mil-Lel Steam and Machinery Association giving rides for the children behind their small steam traction engines.

Freestyle Motorcross performer Josh Burdon, provided spectacular action along Commercial Street with his flying motorcycle stunt acts entertaining the large crowd.

The 2015 Mount Gambier Christmas Parade was a tremendous effort by all the community members involved and by the Parade Advisory Group.



MOUNT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE 2015

WIN Television, as major sponsor of the Christmas Parade provided the following awards for the 2015 Parade winners:

Most Outstanding	"Maxwell & Bakker's Futurepunk" by Grant High School
Best Christmas Theme	"Christmas in Mexico" by Nangwarry Primary School
Best School Entry	"We Remember Them" by Compton Primary School
Best Club or Community Organisation	"Christmas Ninja's" by National Karate Academies
Best Out of Town	"International Year of Soil" by Mil-Lel Primary School
Best Musical	"Cruising in the 70's" by Allendale East Area
Best Brass Band	Maryborough City Band
Best Individual	"Despicable Minion Christmas" by Robin Weston & Friends
Encouragement Award	"We are one, we are many, we are Australian" by North Gambier Primary School



Each year the Mount Gambier Senior's Festival aims to celebrate the achievements of people in our community who are over 55. October 2015 marked the 22nd year the City has been actively celebrating senior citizens, and with art classes, bushwalking, local films and open days on offer, there was a lot to celebrate.

The festival saw local businesses, clubs and organisations partner to deliver the diverse program of events. Opening celebrations took place during an afternoon of entertainment, music, food and laughter at the Mount Gambier and Districts Senior Citizen's Club, and culminated in a wonderful concert courtesy of the Mount Gambier City Band and the Mount Gambier City Concert Band.

The festival included a week of free travel for seniors on local transport, courtesy of the Mount Gambier City Bus Service, film screenings, sports events, come and try fitness classes for over 55's at Active8 Health and Sports Centre, a mystery bus tour, the Retiring Gracefully forum and much more.

Our active Festival Advisory Group is made up of representatives from different sports and recreation clubs, service agencies and other local groups whose active seniors organise events and activities to aid celebrations each year. Council work alongside this group offering administrative and financial support, to ensure the diverse range of activities.

Since 1993, Council have celebrated Senior's recognising the remarkable local achievements they make, and duly awarded 49 Senior's in our community through the Senior Citizen of the Year and Recreation Awards. In 2015, in conjunction with the Lions Club of Gambier City, and the Lions Club of Mount Gambier, both these awards went to those with a long history of community volunteering. Robin Conboy was named Senior of the Year, in recognition of his extraordinary botanical legacy, and the 2015 Recreation Award went to local musician Kevin Sporer. Both men have made significant volunteer contributions to our City, making it a better place to live.



// COMMUNITY STATEMENT

THE MAIN CORNER

The Main Corner continues to solidify its ties with industry and community to serve as a regular venue for Mount Gambier's vibrant calendar of events including Generations of Jazz Welcome night, Gold Cup Carnival Cocktail event, White Ribbon Fundraisers, School Leadership programs, Exhibition openings, Program launches and more. With its sophisticated technology and strong sense of history and culture, the complex provides a diverse range of venues for community organisations, agencies and the general public to meet and share information and celebrations.

JAMES MORRISON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AT UNISA

The James Morrison Academy of Music, now in its second year of operation, has expanded its presence at the Main Corner Complex with end of year recitals and performances at events as well as their weekly creative presentations classes.

FORK & CORK FESTIVAL

The second Fork and Cork Festival was held in February 2016 with all venues of the Main Corner utilised for school presentations, live cooking demonstrations by local chefs as well as wine, beer and cider masterclasses. The celebrity Chef Miguel Maestre worked with local students and delivered a series of live cooking demonstrations as well as a long Spanish lunch where he performed alongside James Morrison for some impromptu entertainment. The festival was attended by 1,200 people from across the region and interstate.

STEM EDUCATION FORUM AND FAMILY FUN DAY

For the first time in Australia over 800 educators convened in Mount Gambier for a summit focussed on increasing awareness of STEM learning. Teachers attended workshops involving the theme of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, hosted by various venues including the Main Corner Complex. The summit was

followed by a weekend of Family Fun activities which saw the Main Corner come alive with LEGO building workshops, robotics, Ruben Meerman the Surfing Scientist, Virtual Reality headsets, community artist presentations.

HAIGHS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

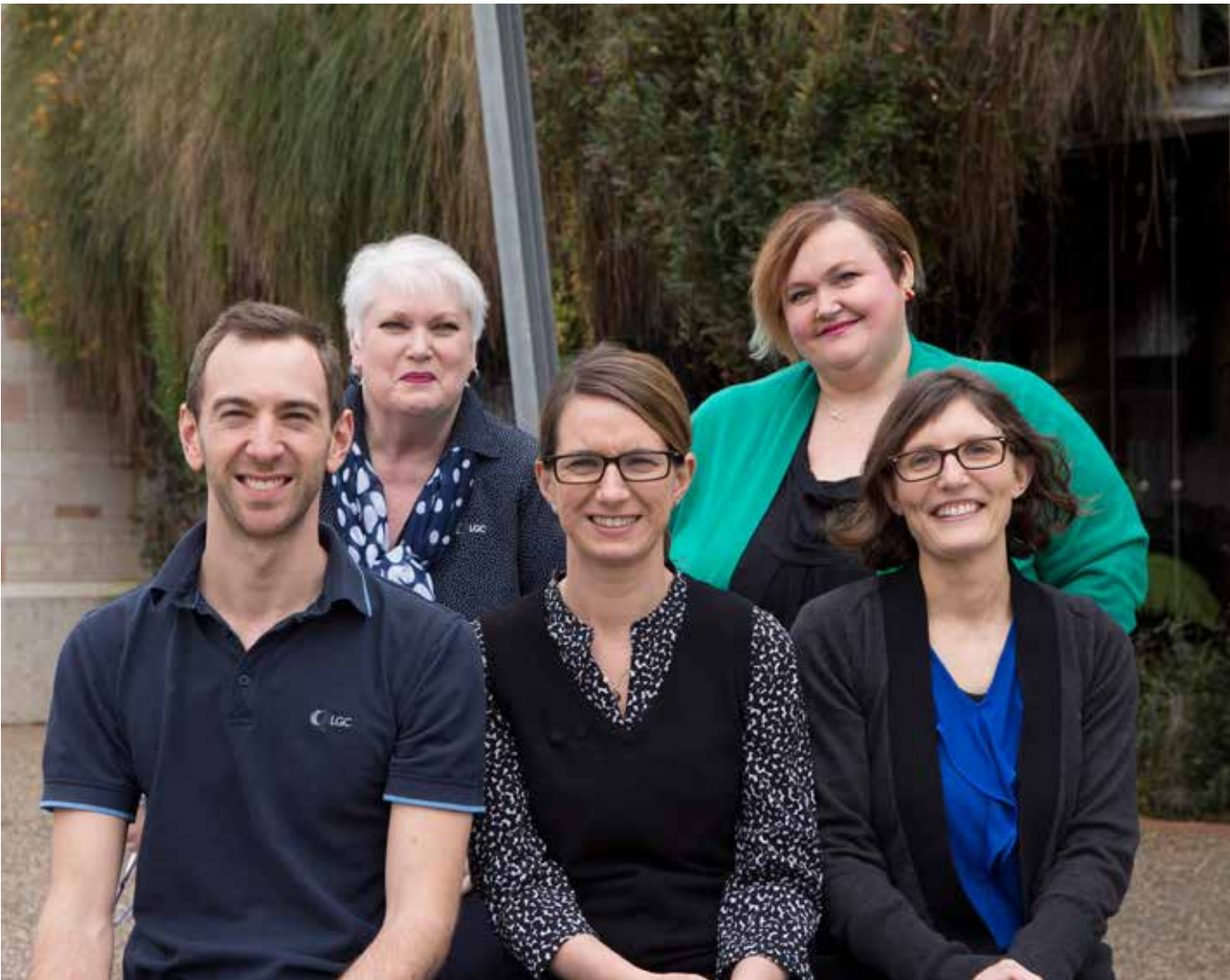
The Main Corner hosted a touring exhibition for Haigh's Chocolates to celebrate the company's 100th anniversary, and its status as South Australia's longest running family owned business. As the place where it all began with the Great Grandfather Alfred Haigh, Mount Gambier was the last stop for the exhibition and included large graphic boards depicted the story of Haigh's, as well as vintage chocolate making tools and videos to watch.



ATTENDANCE RECORD

Despite SciWorld altering their regional presence and the loss of 3,000 people that usually attend this event, attendance rates continued to increase overall from last year with consistent client bookings and partnership programming.

JULY 2015	6,789	JANUARY 2016	4,664
AUGUST 2015	4,047	FEBRUARY 2016	5,284
SEPTEMBER 2015	4,732	MARCH 2016	4,682
OCTOBER 2015	6,359	APRIL 2016	5,028
NOVEMBER 2015	4,278	MAY 2016	6,233
DECEMBER 2015	3,315	JUNE 2016	3,931



// COMMUNITY STATEMENT

THE MAIN CORNER

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

- Moto Classica vintage motorbike fundraiser
- Country Arts regional consultations
- NAIDOC events
- Homelessness Collaborations
- Ardlair Highland Dance displays
- Recycled Runway Fashion event
- White Ribbon Cocktail Party
- Road Safety Forum
- Automotive Industry Awards
- Citizen of the Year Awards
- Australian Cricket Association conference
- MGHS Leadership programs
- Chinese Delegation forums and events
- Career Development Centre 10th Anniversary
- Wellbeing and Resilience workshops
- Sole Sisters 'Patternista' exhibition
- Fork and Cork Food & Wine Festival
- Earth Hour
- Live Global Auction
- Pride Festival
- Maritime Museum War at Sea exhibition
- Youth Mental Health First Aid courses
- Climate Change workshops
- Haigh's Chocolates 100th anniversary exhibition
- Gold Cup Carnival Cocktail Party
- Generations in Jazz Welcome party and school performances
- Women in Business & Regional Development Breakfasts
- Sit Down Shut Up Film Festival for kids with special needs
- STEM – Education Forum and Family Fun Day
- Simultaneous Story Telling day
- James Morrison Academy end of Semester concerts
- Mount Gambier History Club display
- Countering Extremist Violence Workshops with SAPOL
- Refugee Week launch and exhibition
- Tenison Woods Charity Ball
- LGA Youth Traineeship Program
- Riddoch Art Gallery Exhibition openings
- Limestone Coast Community Services Round Table
- Seniors Week Film Screenings
- Leukaemia Foundation opening
- Pine City Quilters Expo
- Biodiversity Teleconference
- Cave Divers Association AGM
- Ride 2 Work Day Breakfast
- National Water Week
- Australian Breast Feeding Association Shopping Spree
- Community Action for Sustainability Public documentary screenings
- Lifeline Anti Poverty program
- Youth Week launch and Scavenger Hunt
- Relay for Life Launch



During 2015/2016 Council has worked tirelessly toward assuming full management responsibility for the Riddoch Art Gallery.

A “Heads of Agreement” between Country Arts SA, District Council of Grant and City of Mount Gambier has been signed by all parties to secure partnership funding and support the future of the Riddoch Art Gallery. In addition, a \$2.058 Million grant fund from Arts SA to purchase the Riddoch Art Collection was received and remitted to Country Arts SA.

This key milestone addresses the essential criteria of the platform on which Council agreed to assume operational responsibility for the Riddoch Art Gallery at the November 2015 Council meeting that included:

- Ownership of physical Riddoch Art Gallery assets (including the institute Collection) to revert to Council.
- Riddoch Art Gallery Members and Friends support and participation in Gallery activities to continue as registered volunteers of Council.
- Country Arts SA and District Council support is satisfactorily negotiated.

Accordingly, the City of Mount Gambier is now the proud owner and custodian of the Riddoch Art Collection that includes the original Institute Collection, the Gooch Collection, and all artworks comprised in the collection, including a Ken Done gift.

Assuming control of the Riddoch Art Gallery presents a multitude of opportunities for Council and the community.

To enable a seamless transition to Council an implementation team was established including staff from Building Services, Governance, Main Corner, Finance, IT and Community Development. This group managed the development of a new business unit and successful integration into to Council operations.

Additionally, an activation team was established including staff from Community Development, Library, Events, Publications/ Marketing, Main Corner and Visitor Information Centre to assist with the Gallery functions, engage with the community to activate arts and culture, and ensure minimal disruption to Gallery programming.

One of Council's key first roles is to expand the exhibition program and ensure that exhibitions extend beyond the physical gallery into the community and draw a diverse range of the community into the Gallery. The Gallery operations will integrate Council's existing 'Main Corner' and 'City Hall' activities that provide for tourist/ visitor services and event/ business facilities, with cross-

organisational support as part of Council's Community Services and Development Division.

To lead this new business activity Council have established a full time position of Gallery Director/ Manager Arts and Culture. This position will support art and culture as a part of Council's broader cross-organisational objectives, programs and community activities, with a strong focus on regional engagement to support, promote and outreach the Riddoch Art Gallery, including in conjunction with other Council programs and activities.

The City of Mount Gambier considers it imperative for growth and development of arts and culture (as well as other community, tourism and economic benefits) that the Riddoch Art Gallery transition into a valuable asset to support, develop and promote arts and culture within the city and regional community and beyond.



// COMMUNITY STATEMENT

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

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

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 that freely give their time to conduct workshops with the students. The 10-week program features a Mayoral graduation ceremony at the end where students are presented with certificates and prizes donated by local businesses. This year also saw the introduction of a successful pilot Finding MY Place Program for Primary School students.

HISTORY MONTH

History Month is held as part of the About Time SA History Festival and celebrates our connection with the past and our collections, places and stories through an amazing range of history-related activities. More than 1,000 people attended activities ranging from author and school visits, an historical exhibition and numerous workshops.

LOUD IN THE LIBRARY

LOUD in the Library transforms the Library into an entertainment and learning arena filled with 250 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.

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

The Library continues to focus on improving the quality of our early literacy programs, which include Baby Bounce, Move and Groove and Storytime. Children's programming staff have adopted principles and practices to underpin children's early learning in all of our sessions. Over 8,000 children and parents participated in sessions this year.

UNLEASHED OPEN DATA COMPETITION

For the second year, Mount Gambier Library was the only regional location to host the Unleashed Open Data and NeXGen Unleashed (Youth) Competition, part of the National GovHack Competition held simultaneously across the country over a weekend in July. Unleashed provides an opportunity for web and application developers, open data and visualisation gurus, journalists, graphic designers, researchers, and anyone interested in playing with data to come together over a single weekend. Teams work together to create new mashups, data visualisations and apps with open data from government, research and industry. The concepts on promoting the data to the public do not have to be a fully functioning or completed website or application – just a great idea needs to be formed with teams promoting their idea via a three minute recording which was then uploaded by the Sunday deadline. Judges across the state watched these videos and chose



winners across various categories, with local Mount Gambier teams winning in the Youth Categories at both State and National level.

FORESTRYSA HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION DIGITISATION PROJECT

In a unique community collaboration, the Mount Gambier Library assisted ForestrySA in digitising an extensive collection of historical images, which document the birth and development of South Australia's forestry industry throughout its 140 year history. Some of the images date back to the early 1900's and were captured within the state's main forest-growing districts in the Green Triangle, Mount Lofty Ranges and Mid North. Over 6,000 images have been digitised by volunteers and added to the Mount Gambier Library website with the associated information for access by the community online.

MAKERSPACE

The Library introduced the MakerSpace concept this year, which supports learning in an informal, play-focused environment, cultivating interest in science, technology or design. With a range of programs including technology, crafting, science, photography, cooking, anything where skills and knowledge can be shared is explored. MakerSpace would not be possible without the support of volunteers who give their time to share their skills with others eager to learn at every stage of their life, and the Friends of the Mount Gambier Library who have provided funds to purchase technology such as a 3D printer, 3D scanner and drawing tablets.

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.



MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY STATISTICS

Loans	2015/2016	2014/2015
Adult Fiction	77,794	82,343
Adult Non-Fiction	35,740	37,594
Large Print	20,453	21,199
Ebooks	9,101	7,981
Childrens Fiction	51,870	56,094
Childrens Non-Fiction	5,473	6,088
Graphic Novels	5,105	4,715
Magazines	12,107	12,809
Music CD	8,829	9,293
Software	147	181
DVD	106,179	115,097
Hear a Books	6,199	6,091
Eaudiobooks	5,831	4,616
Community Languages	379	326
Bikes	54	35
Other	448	566
TOTAL	345,709	365,028

Attendance	2015/2016	2014/2015
Door Count	382,335	394,172
Internet (hours)	24,946	25,860
Baby bounce, Storytime, Move & Groove	8,459	7,203
Holiday Activities	1,624	2,241
School and Outreach Visits	3,253	2,257
Adult and other programs	4,180	1,923
JP Service	1,132	1,197
Author Events	1,287	3,282
Visits per head of population	14.51	15.02
Number of borrowers (est.)	18,347*	20,891

* Reduction due to the implementation of the One Card System.



18,347
REGISTERED PATRONS

ATTENDANCE
AT PROGRAMS
AND EVENTS

UNDER 5'S PROGRAMS

8,459

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

1,624

SCHOOL VISIT NUMBERS

3,253

AUTHOR EVENT ATTENDEES

1,287

ADULT COMPUTER LESSONS
AND OTHER PROGRAMS

4,180

NUMBER OF PUBLIC
COMPUTER HOURS USED

24,946

345,709 ITEMS

BORROWED BY REGISTERED PATRONS

31,861

PEOPLE VISITED
THE LIBRARY

EACH MONTH - THAT'S

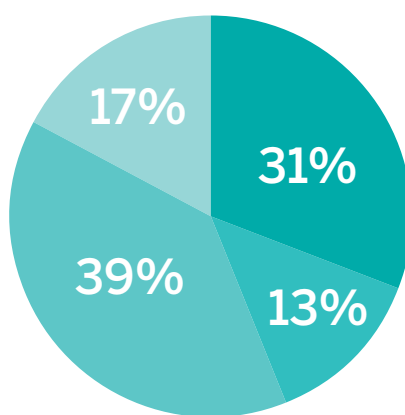
382,335

FOR THE YEAR

THAT IS

14X

THE ENTIRE
POPULATION
OF MOUNT GAMBIER



■ UNDER 24
■ 25-34 YEARS
■ 35-64 YEARS
■ 65+ YEARS

MALE V FEMALE
PATRONS



37% 63%

“ONE
CARD”
ITEMS

40,215

ITEMS RECEIVED
FROM OTHER
LIBRARIES FOR
MOUNT GAMBIER
BORROWERS

38,120

ITEMS SENT BY
MOUNT GAMBIER
LIBRARY TO OTHER
LIBRARIES

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 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:

- What are the characteristics of the people who live here?
- How are they changing?
- 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 ABS 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 via the Community Profile button on the homepage of 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 via the Community Profile button on the homepage of Council's website.

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, to assist professionals to integrate into our

community. YPN is particularly aimed towards those who have either relocated for employment/career purposes, are on rural work placements, or professionals who may be returning to the area.

Mount Gambier YPN hosts occasional meet and greet opportunities along with an active Facebook page which promotes professional development opportunities along with local arts, cultural and social opportunities.

THE MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The City of Mount Gambier wishes to thank everyone who generously donated to the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal again this year, along with the volunteers who continue to support this initiative. The communities' good will and support ensures the success of this important local fundraiser each year.

In 2015 our long running Christmas appeal had a name change, to better reflect the community collaboration which occurs behind the scenes.

Last year, the proceeds of the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal enabled us to distribute \$28,000 for community contributions to vulnerable and isolated people in our City. We assisted more than 590 families - including 731 children - with Christmas hampers, vouchers or gifts.

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
- The Salvation Army

Additional valuable coordination support was once again offered through the Sunset Kitchen, Families SA and our valuable supporter Mount Gambier Central.

Over recent years we have seen an increase in the number of people seeking financial support at Christmas time, and we applaud those services who offer assistance, and the strong community spirit of our City's residents, who assist us to raise funds for the appeal each year.



ECONOMIC & REGIONAL STATEMENT



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Mount Gambier has a diverse and vibrant economy and is a City in transition.

Our key businesses, services and industries provide a strong economic base upon which the City can continue to diversify, innovate and grow its economy to support long term sustainability and prosperity for its community.

We have the opportunity to be recognised as one of the State's and Nations leading regional cities, this can be achieved by working together in:

- Building our "brand" story;
- Creating a "state of art" digital and cultural economy;
- Creating wealth through increased tourism and service deliver;
- Building a dynamic and responsive workforce; and
- Building value add opportunities for our businesses and industries (globally recognised).

Key economic outcomes will include increased employment and incomes, a relevant and skilled workforce, engaged youth, year round tourism visitation, a diverse and resilient service industry.

To date, we have been undertaking comprehensive work in assessing and reviewing economic, market, business and industry data, assessment of new economic opportunities including attraction of new investment, businesses and industries, status of workforce/ business delivery, barriers to year round visitation and initial engagement with key stakeholders, business and industry leaders. We have been examining the City's branding and our identity for both local and international markets.

It is imperative that we adopt a long term vision and develop priorities and actions that will deliver "on the ground" outcomes for the community.

A City Economic Development Blue Print will be developed in 2016/2017 which will highlight areas in specific need for the City of Mount Gambier to grow. Part of this will include looking specifically at:

- A strategic 'City Growth' Master Plan;
- A Business Audit of the City;
- Implementing a City Brand and Identity;
- Stakeholder engagement and building business relationships;
- Develop a digital strategy;
- Tourism economy

To assist with driving the growth of the City's visitor economy, the Tourism Mount Gambier Board will be formed as a subcommittee of the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce and a partnership has been proposed between Tourism Mount Gambier and the City of Mount Gambier to help deliver strategies and resources to help grow Mount Gambier's Tourism Economy.

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 this Council.

The following are the more significant Council contributions provided to State and/or regional organisations for 2015/2016:

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast	\$23,077
Regional Tourism	\$31,284
Local Government Association of South Australia	\$34,232
Provincial Cities Association	\$11,000
Regional Recreation and Sport position	\$13,235
Regional Waste Officer Position	\$15,207
South East Local Government Association	\$73,072
South East Heritage Advisory Service	\$22,611
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
Lifelong Learning Initiatives/Tertiary and Higher Education Initiatives	\$13,738

(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 Sonya Meziniec (Presiding Member)
- Cr Hanna Persello
- Cr Penny Richardson
- David Meziniec (community)
- Sarah Pellen (community)
- Alexandra Nicholson (community)

The City of Mount Gambier continues to adopt Learning as a key theme and strategy.

This year the City of Mount Gambier endorsed development of a community Wellbeing and Resilience strategy and the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) South East Strategy and Action Plan 2015 – 2018 as key focus areas for the Lifelong Learning subcommittee.

To progress the development of a Wellbeing and Resilience strategy, Council hosted two Wellbeing & Resilience Forums facilitated by Gabrielle Kelly, Director of the Wellbeing and Resilience Directorate at the South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) to workshop this initiative with Council’s Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement & Social Inclusion Sub Committees and key regional stakeholders.

These Wellbeing & Resilience forums produced two outcomes:

- A collaborative Limestone Coast Regional Wellbeing & Resilience Prototype for SA that was submitted to the Department of Premier and Cabinet in March 2016.
- Scope a Council Wellbeing Workforce/Positive Organisation project to lead, measure, build and embed wellbeing and resilience inside the City of Mount Gambier workforce as a significant commitment to building a region of wellbeing inside the State of Wellbeing.

It is recognised that the wellbeing and resilience of the Limestone Coast community underpins all aspects of regional life. With leadership from the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) Wellbeing & Resilience Centre, this project will embed wellbeing and resilience skills across a wide section of the community.

Measuring and building wellbeing using the **PERMA+** framework will focus on driving outcomes across each of the elements including,

- **Positive Emotion,**
- **Engagement,**
- **Relationships**
- **Meaning and**
- **Accomplishment,**
- **+ Resilience, Optimism, Physical activity, Nutrition and Sleep.**

The PERMA + methodology provides for rigorous measurement, quality and monitoring of results.

The proposed Limestone Coast Regional Wellbeing & Resilience Prototype outlines delivery from four platforms across the Limestone Coast.

Schools – with partnership and involvement by both public and private schools, to reach educators, students and their families.

Libraries – focussed in Mount Gambier, Naracoorte and Bordertown in the first instance, to grow libraries as hubs to build the wellbeing capacity of the community.

Rural Community Networks – to work with existing networks to increase the wellbeing and resilience capacity of agricultural businesses and rural communities, particularly in light of climatic and economic pressures.

Community Service Agencies – to grow a regional network of trained technicians and providers through the Limestone Coast Community Services Roundtable that can bring improved wellbeing and resilience to their organisations and their clients.

Regional Industry Groups is a fifth platform proposed for the final stage of the prototype with a particular focus on small business, entrepreneurs and building capacity for industry innovation and growth.

Each platform will serve as an ‘activating hub’, to provide reach into the community via a coordinated network of trainers.

Integration of the Wellbeing and Resilience Program with the STEM, South East Strategy and Action Plan 2015 – 2018 will strengthen community learning.

The regional STEM initiative brings together science and research agencies, education providers, industry and business and community organisations at a regional level and provides a platform for a coordinated approach to advance student learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to build community awareness of STEM skills. The strategy is supported by the **Inspiring Australia Regional Science Hub** and is focused on progressing a sustainable whole of community approach to maximise the potential benefits that Science and Innovation can bring to our region.

Our State and our region needs a bold approach to ensure our children and young people are at the highest level of achievement and capability by Australian and world standards. Our evidence

is that most of our children and young people do well in their learning but too few experience higher levels of achievement or demonstrate the capacity to be powerful in their learning. Powerful learning is not a subject to be studied but is something children and students do every day in their learning. It is not based on notions of personal power or power over others. Rather it refers to learners who have the curiosity, creativity and confidence to:

- Actively participate in their learning.
- Make decisions based on sound evidence.
- Skillfully solve problems and deal proactively with new situations.
- Communicate effectively in a variety of forms.
- Collaborate with others.

Powerful learners also have what Professor Carol Dweck terms a 'growth mindset' – the belief that they are capable of learning and achieving with effort. Strong numeracy and literacy development enables aspiring powerful learners to achieve these qualities.

It is important to understand that STEM is about developing resilience and perseverance skills in both our students and our educators to enable them to be creative and innovative thinkers.

The PERMA+ model taught in the Wellbeing & Resilience training becomes the critical integration point that dovetails with the STEM, South East Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2018 and supports Councils strategic focus - that learning in all its forms is a lifelong activity and is a core source of individual, social and community strength.

MOUNT GAMBIER & DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS

Council continued the Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants program in 2015/2016 in response to future planning for local skill shortage areas. Now in its 10th year, the program aims to encourage and foster education for those persons who normally reside within our City and District who need to leave the region to undertake health studies in the identified skill areas required within our community. It is our hope that recipients will return to our region at some point 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 successful applicants.

The program received additional philanthropic support this year from private benefactors keen to support rural health skill development.

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
- Flinders Rural Health SA
- Mount Gambier & District Community Bank
- Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes
- And private benefactors keen to remain anonymous.

Council is indebted to the above financial sponsors who through their vision and confidence are able to provide meaningful financial support to the successful students and their families. This assists students to meet the very high costs of tertiary study.

MOUNT GAMBIER & DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS

Council continue to be impressed with the standard and number of our residents who are undertaking demanding study away from home in the critical areas of medicine and allied health.

Council extends its very best wishes to the successful recipients in their studies and we trust they obtain the success and rewards that come from dedication, commitment and desire to achieve.

It is the wish of the community partnership to support any initiative that strengthens and enhances our strategic objective for Mount Gambier to be a leading community in encouraging all forms of Lifelong Learning and assist in meeting local essential skills shortages.

Successful recipients in 2016 were:

Alice Telford	Bachelor Nursing - Deakin University
Sarah Hayman	Bachelor Medical Science - Vision Science / Master of Optometry - Flinders University
Kimberly Stark	Bachelor Midwifery - University of South Australia
Holly Sprakel	Bachelor Health Science - Deakin University
Caitlin Schutz	Bachelor of Science - Biomedical - University of South Australia
Alycia Close	Bachelor of Applied Science - Occupational Therapy - University of South Australia
Annabelle Lockwood	Bachelor of Applied Science - Occupational Therapy - University of South Australia
Jaylee Clarke	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy - Deakin University
Anna Telford	Bachelor of Physiotherapy - University of South Australia
Brianna Walters	Bachelor Applied Science, Human Movement and Health Studies - University of South Australia
Michael Zaccardo	Bachelor Psychological Science - University of Adelaide
Elise Thompson	Masters Psychological (Clinical) - University of South Australia
William Cercelli	Bachelor Health Sciences (Advanced) - University of Adelaide



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

VISITOR INFORMATION & DISCOVERY CENTRE

A total of 75,325 visitor enquiries were counted in 2015/2016*. This represents an average year for visitation. International visitors made up 16% of the total visitation mainly from the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and Canada. 42% of enquiries handled were from out of the local area. 8% of total visitors also visited the Discovery Centre.

Monthly statistics show peaks in March, January, and December, reflecting our busiest periods of Christmas and Easter. The busiest day of the year occurred on the 29th December 2015, with 681 visitors. The 5th of June 2016 was the quietest, with 60 visitors.

Staff have undertaken an enormous amount of training and working with a variety of digital platforms, developing strategies, and creating content for the website, sourcing imagery, and creation and trial of a Facebook page, Discover Mount Gambier.

Staff continue weekly familiarisations to all attractions and accommodation properties in Mount Gambier, building knowledge and fostering communication with local operators.

Regular attendance at local forums and committees has also been undertaken, including, Limestone Coast Visitor Information Providers quarterly meeting, Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce, South Australian Tourism Commission Forums, and SA State Visitor Information Centre Annual Conference, Cross Border Conference held in Horsham.

Staff were also involved in four days working at the Adelaide Caravan and Camping Show, this sector is a large demographic for our town and region was invaluable in terms of promoting our town and region, but also in gaining a better understanding of this sector.

PUBLICATIONS AND BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION

All publications have been reviewed and updated with the new City of Mount Gambier branding. After many years using the same format the Mount Gambier Guide, our major marketing tool, has been changed considerably, making it more user friendly and catering to the changing needs of the travelling public.

Content from the guide has been removed and converted into A4 handouts allowing visitors to tailor make their own information packs according to their own interests, needs and length of stay. These include: Top 10 Sights and Experiences in Mount Gambier, Things to Do Kids and Teens, 48 Hours in Mount Gambier, 1 Week in Mount Gambier, Tours to the North, South, East and West. These guides and all of our other major publications are available to download from our website.

The Accommodation Guide and the Eating Out Guide have also been totally updated. Limited print runs allow staff to maintain the accuracy of all documents ensuring they are always up to date. This also provides excellent digital collateral for inclusion on our website allowing visitors to download the information, before they reach our destination, encouraging a push through from our Facebook page back to our website.

The Mount Gambier Guide, Accommodation Guide, Eating Out Guide and the A4 pages will form the basis for all School and Coach Packs, Information Packs for Events and Conferences, and after hours Information Packs.



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

ACCOMMODATION HUB

Generations in Jazz was again assisted in the provision of alternative accommodation. Hosted via the Generations in Jazz website, moderation, proof reading, loading live to website and removing properties once booked, was undertaken by the Lady Nelson staff.

PASSENGER BUS SERVICES

Staff handled a total of 10,867, bus enquiries, with 5,327 bus tickets sold. This represents 14% of total enquiries through the door, but 20% of the actual counter enquiries handled by staff. Premier Bus ticket sales were slightly down, due to: Premier Stateliner reducing their services, with limited access to the coastal route. This has led to a slight reduction in the ticket sales for this service. V Line offered free travel for a period of three weeks during January/February, also resulting in a slight reduction of sales.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE ENQUIRY FIGURES 2015/2016

July	4,465
August	3,739
September	5,406
October	6,828
November	6,133
December	7,482
January	9,674
February	6,369
March	8,885
April	7,420
May	4,794
June	4,130
TOTAL	75,325
Total visitation cumulative (May 1977 - June 2016)	2,904,222

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

Total Counter Enquiries	53,310
Counter Enquiries from outside of Mount Gambier	46,176
International Visitors	12,475
Entries to Discovery Centre	6,506
Christmas Period Visitation (26 Dec 2015 – 6 Jan 2016)	5,614
Easter Long Weekend Visitation	2,134
Information Packs/Mail outs	1,761
Total Email and Phone Enquiries	2,419
Busiest Day (29 Dec 2015)	681
Quietest Day (5 Jun 2016)	60
Bike Hire	68
Cave Diver Keys	285

PREMIER STATELINER BUS TICKETING	TOTAL PAX	TICKETING EX GST (\$)
Premier Adult Ticket	655	5,640.50
Premier Child Ticket	158	7,233.40
Premier Concession Ticket	1,341	74,527.45
Premier Student Ticket	338	15,366.10
Premier Stateliner Total	2,492	74,527.45
V Line Adult Ticket	1,269	68,849.00
V Line Child Ticket	146	2,491.25
V Line Concession	1,333	41,658.90
V Line Student Ticket	87	1,918.95
V Line Total	2,835	11,4918.10
Combined Bus Ticket Sales	5,327	268,685.40
Bus Enquiry No Ticket Sale	5,540	
TOTAL BUS ENQUIRIES	10,867	

BLUE LAKE CAROLS 13 DECEMBER 2015

The Blue Lake Carols changed venue for 2015 from the Cave Gardens to the new Railway Lands. This transformed the Railway Lands to a sea of colour and swaying candles from over 6,000 people who attended the event. The Carols were the first big event to be staged at the Railway Lands after the opening and the committee did not realise how positively the public would respond to the change. This move proved to be a great success and we hope to build on this success with improvements in 2016 to make the event even bigger and better.

Each year the Carols is presented by the Mount Gambier and District Ministers' Association in conjunction with City of Mount Gambier. They're helped by many other sponsors who donate money, time and effort to make this a wonderful Community Christmas celebration. The committee was overwhelmed by the response of the community in supporting the

carols and giving generously to those who are less fortunate during the Festive Season.

The program was jam-packed with vocalists, bands and musicians from across the Limestone Coast.

DOWNHILL MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE 23 & 24 APRIL 2016

Mount Gambier held its first professional downhill mountain bike race over two beautiful sunny days with chilly mornings. The weekend event attracted around 130 competitors to the Brownes Lake area. The riders started from Potters Point 700metres above the finish line in Brownes Lake, taking from 75 to 90 seconds to descend. The track is no more than a 'mountain goat track' with lots of twists and turns, and jumps created from soft volcanic dirt. The black dust left its mark on many riders' faces!

The event is a collaboration between Adelaide-based series organisers 'Inside Line Mountain Bike Club' and the newly formed Mount Gambier Mountain Bike

Club. This was Event one of a State Series. The local club had 12 riders competing against visiting rivals from Adelaide and Victoria and a local lad was overall champion, with two of Mount Gambier's riders now competing internationally. The local club has been very proactive in helping Council build the tracks and there are now around a dozen in use throughout the Crater Lakes area.

2016 AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS 3-11 JANUARY 2016

Headline: "SA Country Cricket Championships won by South Australia's Outbacks team to win comfortably over Western Australia".

The win gave the South Australian side its first championship in the competition's 31-year history.

The South Australia's female cricketers also did the state proud after reaching the grand final of the inaugural Australian Country Cricket Women's Championships. The SA women's side lost to East Asia Pacific in the final over.



MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS 2015/2016

Mount Gambier was very proud to host this prestigious cricket event and it was the first time women have competed in their own designated competition.

The week long cricket tournament started with a Twenty20 match at Frew park where a combined Mount Gambier team made its mark in the competition with a win over the Australian XI side. The Mount Gambier side included some of the best cricketers from the region with a couple of visiting "mentor" cricketers from the Australian Cricketers' Association. The game raised funds for the McGrath Foundation, and there were no vacant car parks around Frew Park with around 300 people watching the game.

The games through the week saw men's teams from SA, VIC, QLD, NSW, WA and East Asia Pacific. The women's competition had representatives from SA, QLD, VIC, NSW, WA, ACT/NT and East Asia Pacific. The Mount Gambier community and businesses embraced the nine day event.

This level of support was evident at the Presentation evening with The Barn full to capacity with local people showing their appreciation for the visiting cricketers.

LIMESTONE COAST OPERA – A NIGHT TO REMEMBER, ONE ENCHANTED EVENING 19 MARCH 2016

Mount Gambier and district was in for a special night of entertainment when we hosted internationally renowned opera singers performing at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. The sold out one night performance starred married couple soprano Michelle Buscemi and baritone Mattia Campetti, together with tenor Giancarlo Monsalve. The trio performed arias, duets and favourites of opera and operetta accompanied by accomplished pianist Stefano Teani. All performers are from Lucca in the Tuscany area of Italy. What a performance and what a rare opportunity for Mount Gambier to hear such stunning music; acclaimed of course with

a standing ovation. The night's performance at the Helpmann also included nine local singers who took to the stage to sing with the Trio.

The couple has also enlisted the services of much sought after vocal coach and tenor Gary Nardella, who is based in London. He conducted two training sessions and workshops for Limestone Coast singing teachers and school children. The children were introduced to classical music, including its history, given lessons in voice control, opera singing and acting skills. There was also a small performance by the married couple to residents at Boandik Lodge. A unique delight for the aged care residents; an afternoon to remember.

It's hoped the Duo will be regularly returning to Mount Gambier over the next five years, to continue this association with the local community. An opportunity rarely presented to a regional centre.



RED HOT SUMMER TOUR 17 JANUARY 2016

Close to 4,000 people watched five iconic Australian acts perform at the Old Mount Gambier Gaol for the Red Hot Summer Tour concert.

The appreciative audience was warmed up by 'The Badloves' followed by 'The Undertow' and then 'The Angels'.

As the sun was setting, the band Noiseworks took to the stage with lead singer Jon Stevens belting out their favourite songs. Finally, as audience got into the groove of dancing and singing along with the music, they were blasted by the feature act, the legendary Jimmy Barnes. His headline show featured many tunes from his solo career and from his time with the Cold Chisel band.

The Old Mount Gambier Gaol operator, James Stephenson was ecstatic to have had such iconic bands performing at his venue, and was thrilled by the big crowd that came along to support the concert. James hopes the public will keep

getting behind him as he plans his next "big act" for 2017.

PEDAL PRIX (HPV) 1-2 APRIL 2016

Mount Gambier's inaugural human powered vehicle (HPV) endurance race was hailed as a great success and will now become an annual event on the state Pedal Prix calendar.

Around 600 enthusiastic participants descended on McNamara Park, to contest the prelude event to the Uni SA Australian HPV Super Series.

Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast had a representation of 11 teams mostly from South East schools. There were 25 Adelaide teams and 15 from Victoria. The 2.4km track at McNamara Park was ideal for the eight hour marathon race with a "tent" city set up for the 51 teams and merchandise vendors. Hundreds of spectators came out to see an Adelaide-based crew taking out

the overall win. Bendigo's Wattle Racing snared second, with Mount Gambier's own GTrikes claiming third. It was fantastic to see a local team amongst the winners.

The local school groups really enjoyed the community engagement, especially with the faster open field squads. There were many teams who said they would be back next year as the track was scenic and smooth and the race was conducted very professionally by organisers, Australian International Pedal Prix (AIPP). They are already looking at locking in dates for a 2017 event at Mac Park.

Scrutineering on Friday was held at the Railway Land on the old platform. This was an ideal place for the bikes/carts to be inspected as it showed off this beautiful public space close to the centre of town.



MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS 2015/2016

Organisers are hopeful there will be a boost in the uptake of pedal prix among Limestone Coast schools in 2017 to coincide with the push for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the community.

LIME FM – LIMESTONE COAST COMMUNITY FESTIVAL 17 APRIL 2016

The inaugural Limestone Coast Community Festival was the brainchild of Lime FM Community Radio, with the aim of offering the community a day of activities and fun.

Lime FM worked closely with a wide range of community groups and charities to feature craft stalls, markets, food stalls, family games and entertainment.

The event was held at the Railway Lands, giving the committee lots of room to hold the many activities they offered such as a mechanical bull, inflatable boxing ring, a dunk tank and sumo suit wrestling. They involved families in a tug of war, a lime and spoon race, sand and water race, pie eating contest, musical chairs, gumboot race, bungee pull, and many more activities. They also put on fashion parade, a magic show, singing, dancing, cooking demonstrations, a balloon artist, face painting and handmade crafts.

It was a very successful day for the whole family, so Lime FM radio are inspired to do it all again next year.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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SELECTED GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

Area	3,388 ha or 34 km ²
Length of Roads	224 km
Number of Properties coded Residential	12,042
Median Age	37
Unemployment	7.1%
Capital Value (July 2015)	\$3,251,510,225

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Residents of the City of Mount Gambier	25,911	25,911	26,092	26,246	26,348
Eligible Voters	17,411	18,050	18,379	18,345	18,874
No. of employees (full time equivalent)	111	116	118	116	122
Development Applications (Blg & Plan)					
Applications and Land Divisions (No.)	444	363	442	417	382
Dwellings (No.)	104	75	112	101	85
Flats/Units (No.)	0	0	0	0	0
Business/Commercial /Industrial (No.)	51	56	35	32	35
Additions and Alterations (No.)	220	191	189	212	190
Other, signs, divisions	69	43	80	72	72
Estimated Expenditure (Value \$m)	93.1	31.9	46	43.1	32.6
No. of Dogs Registered	4,837	4,818	4,945	4,491	4,611

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, the Railway Lands 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
1992	20,813
2001	22,720
2006	23,922
2011	25,257
2013	26,092 (ABS – ERP)
2014	26,246 (ABS – ERP)
2015	26,348 (ABS – ERP)

ABS: Australian Bureau of Statistics

ERP: Estimated Resident Population

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2	18,327	17,641
Statutory charges	2	340	417
User charges	2	3,806	3,706
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	1,078	3,604
Investment income	2	32	29
Reimbursements	2	274	350
Other income	2	382	363
Total Income		24,239	26,110
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	10,066	9,197
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	8,955	8,920
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	6,704	6,649
Finance costs	3	236	299
Total Expenses		25,961	25,065
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(1,722)	1,045
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(124)	58
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	1,757	796
Physical resources received free of charge	2	604	-
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)			
transferred to Equity Statement		515	1,899
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	3,932	33,460
Total Other Comprehensive Income		3,932	33,460
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		4,447	35,359

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with Notes commencing page 133

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	991	969
Trade & other receivables	5	1,158	1,568
Inventories	5	39	40
Total Current Assets		2,188	2,577
Non-current Assets			
Financial assets	6	68	108
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	234,422	230,349
Total Non-current Assets		234,490	230,457
Total Assets		236,678	233,034
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	8	2,092	2,436
Borrowings	8	239	184
Provisions	8	2,435	2,076
Total Current Liabilities		4,766	4,696
Non-current Liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	8	-	-
Borrowings	8	3,675	4,525
Provisions	8	209	232
Total Non-current Liabilities		3,884	4,757
Total Liabilities		8,650	9,453
NET ASSETS		228,028	223,581
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		54,680	49,398
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	168,966	165,034
Other Reserves	9	4,382	9,149
TOTAL EQUITY		228,028	223,581

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with Notes commencing page 133

STATEMENT OF CHANGES OF EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Notes	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
2016					
Balance at end of previous reporting period		49,398	165,034	9,149	223,581
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		515	-	-	515
Other Comprehensive Income					
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	3,932	-	3,932
Transfers between reserves		4,767		(4,767)	-
Balance at end of period		54,680	168,966	4,382	228,028
2015					
Balance at end of previous reporting period		46,307	131,574	10,341	188,222
Restated opening balance		46,307	131,574	10,341	188,222
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		1,899	-	-	1,899
Other Comprehensive Income					
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	33,460	-	33,460
Transfers between reserves		1,192	-	(1,192)	-
Balance at end of period		49,398	165,034	9,149	223,581

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with Notes commencing page 133

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Rates - general & other		18,345	17,591
Fees & other charges		367	417
User charges		4,298	3,562
Investment receipts		33	28
Grants utilised for operating purposes		1,159	3,604
Reimbursements		301	350
Other revenues		1,657	415
Payments			
Employee costs		(9,778)	(8,762)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(10,766)	(9,518)
Finance payments		(237)	(339)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		5,379	7,348
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Receipts			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,757	796
Sale of replaced assets		368	299
Sale of surplus assets		-	612
Repayments of loans by community groups		46	60
Payments			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(4,579)	(5,156)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(2,154)	(4,091)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(4,562)	(7,480)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-
Payments			
Repayments of borrowings		(839)	(72)
Repayment of finance lease liabilities		-	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		(839)	(72)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		(22)	(204)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	10	969	1,173
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	10	947	969

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with Notes commencing page 133

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

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* dated 18th October 2016.

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

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

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 recent years the payment of untied financial assistance grants has varied from the annual allocation as shown in the table below:

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation		Difference
2013/2014	\$1,749,034	\$3,016,230	-	\$1,267,196
2014/2015	\$3,911,799	\$2,594,677	+	\$1,317,122
2015/2016	\$1,435,554	\$2,752,676	-	\$1,317,122

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

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

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.

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.

6.3 Materiality

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

6.4 Subsequent Recognition

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. For infrastructure and other asset classes where no active market exists, fair value is determined to

be the current replacement cost of an asset less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Further detail of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

6.5 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

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

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

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

6.6 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash outflows or value in use).

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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

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	1.59% (2015, 2.00%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year (2015, 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 Agreement No. 9 of 2015, on the following basis:-

- Termination Pay-Out – Clause 28
- Annual Cash-Out – Clause 28

A provision has been raised in 2016 for \$30,000 resulting in an over all liability of \$82,309 being recorded by Council. This will continue to be increased over a 5 year period (commenced from 2014) to match the maximum in any one year that would need to be paid by Council. Currently that figure is \$156,712 however to date only three employees have qualified for this benefit with \$27,479 being paid since the introduction of this benefit.

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 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.

11 Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2016 reporting period and have not been used in preparing these reports.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

AASB 7	Financial Instruments – Disclosures
AASB 9	Financial Instruments
AASB 15	Revenue from Contracts with Customers
AASB 124	Related Party Disclosures

Standards containing consequential amendments to other Standards and Interpretations arising from the above - AASB 2010-7, AASB 2014-1, AASB 2014-3, AASB 2014-4, AASB 2014-5, AASB 2014-6, AASB 2014-7, AASB 2014-8, AASB 2014-9, AASB 2014-10, AASB 2015-1, AASB 2015-2, AASB 2015-3, AASB 2015-4, AASB 2015-5, AASB 2015-6 and AASB 2015-7.

(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.

Accounting Standard AASB 16 Leases may have a material effect on the amounts disclosed in these reports, particularly in relation to Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment, but does not commence until the 2019/2020 financial period, and it is not Council's intention to adopt this Standard early.

NOTE 2 - INCOME

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
RATES REVENUES			
General Rates		17,856	17,183
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		-	-
		(178)	(166)
		17,678	17,017
Other Rates (including service charges)			
Natural Resource Management levy		579	559
		579	559
Other Charges			
Penalties for late payment		70	65
		70	65
		18,327	17,641
STATUTORY CHARGES			
Development Act fees		80	114
Town planning fees		98	112
Animal registration fees & fines		121	123
Parking fines/expiation fees		31	50
Other licences, fees, & fines		10	18
		340	417
USER CHARGES			
Cemetery/crematoria fees		770	789
Green Waste Collection		431	410
Landfill		1,430	1,319
Hall & equipment hire		344	319
Recycling		124	118

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 2 - INCOME CONT.

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Sales - general		374	391
Bus Ticketing		290	320
Sundry		43	40
		3,806	3,706
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest on investments			
Local Government Finance Authority		29	27
Banks & other		2	1
Loans to community groups		1	1
		32	29
REIMBURSEMENTS			
for roadworks		16	35
for private works		86	102
other		172	213
		274	350
OTHER INCOME			
Insurance & other recoupments (infrastructure, property, plant & equipment)		241	235
Donations		25	42
Sundry		116	86
		382	363
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,757	796
Other grants, subsidies and contributions			
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant		183	3,078
Roads to Recovery		806	280
Library & Communications		84	75
Sundry		5	171
		1,078	3,604
		2,835	4,400
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 11.</i>			

NOTE 2 - INCOME CONT.

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Sources of grants			
Commonwealth Government		806	280
State Government		2,024	4,120
Other		5	-
		2,835	4,400
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>			
Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period		100	-
Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods			
Railway Lands Artwork		(100)	-
Subtotal		(100)	-
Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions			
Railway Lands Artwork		-	100
Subtotal			100
Unexpended at the close of this reporting period		-	100
Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period		(100)	100
PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE			
Land & Improvements		81	-
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths		523	-
TOTAL PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED		604	-

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		8,931	8,094
Employee leave expense		372	491
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	871	821
Workers' Compensation Insurance		263	240
Other		46	44
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(417)	(493)
Total Operating Employee Costs		10,066	9,197
Total Number of Employees <i>Full time equivalent at end of reporting period</i>		120	116
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
Prescribed Expenses			
Auditor's Remuneration			
Auditing the financial reports		20	20
Bad and Doubtful Debts		-	-
Elected members' expenses		311	294
Election expenses		-	77
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		331	391
Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses			
Contractors		3,044	2,869
Contributions / Donations		902	1,035
Individually Significant Items		-	-
Energy		803	956
Insurance		324	324
Levies paid to Government - EPA, ESL & Dog Levies		662	577
NRM Levy		578	555
Materials		1,791	1,624
Training		240	160
Sundry		280	429
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		8,624	8,529
		8,955	8,920

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES CONT.

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Land		-	-
Buildings & Other Structures		2,999	2,850
Infrastructure		-	2,340
Waste Management		-	-
Stormwater Drainage		108	-
Bridges		3	-
Footpaths		254	-
Pavement		731	-
Seals		1,205	-
Kerb & Channel		353	-
Plant & Equipment		626	986
Minor Plant		48	39
Office Equipment		131	201
Other		246	233
		6,704	6,649
FINANCE COSTS			
Interest on Loans		236	299
		236	299

NOTE 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Assets renewed or directly replaced			
Proceeds from disposal		368	299
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		492	319
Gain (Loss) on disposal		(124)	(20)
Assets surplus to requirements			
Proceeds from disposal		-	612
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	534
Gain (Loss) on disposal		-	78
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS		(124)	58

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	Notes	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		63	67
Deposits at Call		928	902
		991	969
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		443	461
Rates postponed for State Seniors		-	-
Accrued Revenues		4	5
Debtors - general		646	1,010
GST Recoupment		45	66
Loans to community organisations		40	46
Total		1,178	1,588
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts		20	20
		1,158	1,568
INVENTORIES			
Stores & Materials		20	19
Trading Stock		19	21
		39	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	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Receivables			
Loans to community organisations		68	108
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		68	108

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Fair Value Level	2015 \$'000					2016 \$'000		
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	2	7,243	-	-	7,243	7,371	-	-	7,371
Land	3	33,575	-	-	33,575	34,246	-	-	34,246
Buildings & Other Structures	2	57,248	-	(6,078)	51,170	58,820	799	(7,734)	51,885
Buildings & Other Structures	3	67,463	-	(30,742)	36,721	68,085	768	(32,733)	36,120
Infrastructure		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waste Management	3	4,543	-	(876)	3,667	4,622	254	(891)	3,985
Stormwater Drainage	3	6,808	-	(1,983)	4,825	6,928	60	(2,126)	4,862
Bridges	3	161	-	(63)	98	164	-	(67)	97
Footpaths	3	14,471	-	(1,884)	12,587	14,726	912	(2,171)	13,467
Pavement	3	44,827	-	(10,904)	33,923	45,614	2,063	(11,825)	35,852
Seals	3	25,387	-	(6,405)	18,982	25,834	665	(7,723)	18,776
Kerb & Channel	3	26,477	-	(5,787)	20,690	26,943	166	(6,242)	20,867
Plant & Equipment		5,464	-	(978)	4,486	-	6,161	(1,478)	4,683
Minor Plant		155	99	(92)	162	-	362	(140)	222
Office Equipment		-	1,915	(1,340)	575	-	1,829	(1,354)	475
Other	3	1,926	416	(697)	1,645	-	2,458	(944)	1,514
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		295,748	2,430	(67,829)	230,349	293,353	16,497	(75,428)	234,422
Comparatives		241,868	13,139	(59,863)	195,144	295,748	2,430	(67,829)	230,349

Continued...

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

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

	2015 \$'000	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR \$'000								2016 \$'000
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers		Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
		New/ Upgrade	Renewals				In	Out		
Land	7,243	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	128	7,371
Land	33,575	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	590	34,246
Buildings & Other Structures	51,170	562	237	-	(1,656)	-	-	-	1,572	51,885
Buildings & Other Structures	36,721	453	315	-	(1,343)	-	-	-	(26)	36,120
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waste Management	3,667	254	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	3,985
Stormwater Drainage	4,825	60	-	-	(108)	-	-	-	85	4,862
Bridges	98	-	-	-	(3)	-	-	-	2	97
Footpaths	12,587	531	381	-	(254)	-	-	-	222	13,467
Pavement	33,923	-	2,063	-	(731)	-	-	-	597	35,852
Seals	18,982	33	632	-	(1,205)	-	-	-	334	18,776
Kerb & Channel	20,690	-	166	-	(353)	-	-	-	364	20,867
Plant & Equipment	4,486	47	1,266	(490)	(626)	-	-	-	-	4,683
Minor Plant	162	108	-	-	(48)	-	-	-	-	222
Office Equipment	575	25	8	(2)	(131)	-	-	-	-	475
Other	1,645	-	115	-	(246)	-	-	-	-	1,514
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	230,349	2,154	5,183	(492)	(6,704)	-	-	-	3,932	234,422
Comparatives	195,144	4,091	5,155	(852)	(6,649)	-	-	-	33,460	230,349

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT CONT.**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.

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 2016

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

Office Furniture & Equipment	\$5,000
Other Plant & Equipment	\$5,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	\$5,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	\$5,000
Road construction & reconstruction	\$5,000
Paving & footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	\$5,000
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 and 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

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT CONT.**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.

As at 1 July 2015, the values were indexed at a rate of 1.76% in line with the Building Price Index (BPI) for the Adelaide market. The next valuation is due in the 2017 financial year.

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 removed from our financial statements.

As at 1 July 2015, the values were indexed at a rate of 1.76% in line with the (BPI) for the Adelaide market. The next external valuation is due in the 2017 financial year.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Transportation assets were valued by Council officers at depreciated current replacement cost as at 1 July 2014, based on the latest unit costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2014. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

As at 1 July 2015, the values were indexed at a rate of 1.76% in line with the (BPI) for the Adelaide market. The next valuation by Council officers is due in the 2017 financial year.

Further interrogation of the data held for stormwater infrastructure assets is underway in preparation for the valuations due for the reporting period ending 30 June 2017. It is anticipated that any increase in value will not be in the vicinity of the increases recognised in 2015.

All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

PLANT, FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

ALL OTHER ASSETS

These assets are recognised on the cost basis. Library books and other lending materials are capitalised in bulk, and written out when fully depreciated.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 8 - LIABILITIES

	Notes	2016 \$'000		2015 \$'000	
		Current	non-current	Current	non-current
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		1,391		1,454	
Payments received in advance		263	-	516	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		132	-	180	-
Accrued expenses - other		9	-	10	-
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds		193	-	190	-
Other		104	-	86	-
		2,092	-	2,436	-
<i>Amounts included in trade & other payables that are not expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date.</i>		-		-	
BORROWINGS					
Bank Overdraft		44		-	
Loans		195	3,675	184	4,525
		239	3,675	184	4,525
All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.					
PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		2,435	209	2,076	232
		2,435	209	2,076	232

NOTE 9 - RESERVES

		1/7/2015	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2016
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE					
Land		30,652	718	-	31,370
Buildings & Structures		73,872	1,546	-	75,418
Infrastructure		56,090	1,668	-	57,758
Plant & Equipment		769	-	-	769
Minor Plant		34	-	-	34
Other		3,617	-	-	3,617
TOTAL		165,034	3,932		168,966
Comparatives		131,574	33,460	-	165,034

NOTE 9 - RESERVES CONT.

	Notes	1/7/2015	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2016
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
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 Division - Outstanding Work		232	-	(232)	-
Downstream Drainage		174	90	-	264
Work in Progress		2,987	2,640	(2,987)	2,640
City Centre Development		688	-	(688)	-
Major Capital Works		482	-	(482)	-
Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust		672	13	-	685
Junior Sporting Assistance Fund		60	9	-	69
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES		9,149	2,752	(7,519)	4,382
Comparatives		10,341	3,193	4,385	9,149

PURPOSES OF RESERVES**Asset Revaluation Reserve**

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of non-current assets (less any subsequent impairment losses, where applicable).

Other Reserves*Long Service Leave*

- Established to fund City of Mount Gambier employee long service leave entitlements.
- Ongoing Reserve Fund.
- Transfers from the Fund are made as 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

- Originally this fund was established to fund off street parking initiatives in the City Centre precinct
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for

the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

Plant Replacement

- Established to fund Council's plant and machinery fleet requirements.
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

Lady Nelson Park Development

- Established to fund any development works that may occur at The Lady Nelson site.
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 9 - RESERVES CONT.

processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

Asset Replacement

- Established to fund the City of Mount Gambier Asset replacement/renewal requirements
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

Land Divison Outstanding Works

- Funding contributions made by developers to ensure sub divisional works are completed.
- There are now no outstanding works.
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

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
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

Major Capital Works

- Established to assist Council fund impending major capital works projects which have now been completed.
- In line with Council's Treasury Management practice, proceeds from this fund were used to assist with the Capital Expenditure required for the Main Corner precinct. Journal entries were processed in 2016 to reflect this action. Future projects and maintenance will be funded via Council's Annual Budget, Infrastructure & Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans.

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

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	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	991	969
Less: Short-term borrowings	8	(44)	-
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		947	969

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)		515	1,899
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		6,704	6,649
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		288	435
Change in allowances for under-recovery		-	20
Non-cash asset acquisitions		(604)	-
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		(1,757)	(796)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		124	(58)
		5,270	8,149
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		404	(470)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		1	(3)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		(296)	(328)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		5,379	7,348

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Acquisition of assets by means of:			
Physical resources received free of charge	2	604	-
		604	-

(d) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
Bank Overdrafts		250	250
Corporate Credit Cards		21	21
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility		10,000	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 2016

NOTE 11 - FUNCTIONS

INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES										
	INCOME		EXPENSES		SURPLUS (DEFECIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	2015 \$'000	ACTUAL	2015 \$'000	ACTUAL	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
	2016 \$'000	20,967	2016 \$'000	5,143	2016 \$'000	15,824	1,261	3,911	18,934	18,345
Administration / Support Services	19,224		5,347		13,877					
Community Support	117	946	2,207	2,221	(2,090)	(1,275)	589	34	9,467	10,430
Culture	464	446	2,898	2,994	(2,434)	(2,548)	174	175	42,602	44,258
Economic Development	365	406	1,625	1,622	(1,260)	(1,216)	-	-	4,734	4,024
Environment	2,319	2,053	3,740	4,145	(1,421)	(2,092)	-	-	11,834	11,229
Recreation	116	112	2,586	2,603	(2,470)	(2,491)	-	-	40,235	42,616
Regulatory Services	398	426	1,157	1,195	(759)	(769)	-	-	-	-
Transport	832	315	3,247	2,754	(2,415)	(2,439)	806	280	92,305	87,286
Engineering / Indirect	-	-	2,331	1,431	(2,331)	(1,431)	-	-	7,100	7,146
Unclassified Activities	404	439	823	957	(419)	(518)	-	-	9,467	7,700
TOTALS	24,239	26,110	25,961	25,065	(1,722)	1,045	2,830	4,400	236,678	233,034

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.

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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 11 - FUNCTIONS CONT.

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.

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 realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.
	Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 2.15% and 2.35% (2015: 2.15% and 2.50%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of e days and an average interest rate of 2.00% (2015: 1 day, 2.42%).
	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 0.604% (2015: 0.645%) 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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONT.

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 (2 repayments per year with fixed terms of between 10 - 15 years); interest is charged at fixed (or variable - 4.00% as at 30 June 2016) rates between 5.05% and 5.97% (2015: 5.05% and 7.90%).
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities - Finance Leases	Accounting Policy: accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

Liquidity Analysis

2016	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	991			991	991
Receivables	650	-	-	650	650
Other Financial Assets	40	68	-	108	108
TOTAL	1,681	68	-	1,749	1,749
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	1,951	-	-	1,951	1,951
Current Borrowings	239	-	-	239	239
Non-Current Borrowings	-	825	2,850	3,675	3,675
TOTAL	2,190	825	2,850	5,865	5,865
2015	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	969			969	969
Receivables	1,015	-	-	1,015	1,015
Other Financial Assets	46	108	-	154	154
TOTAL	2,030	108	-	2,138	2,138
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	2,246	-	-	2,246	2,246
Current Borrowings	184	-	-	184	184
Non-Current Borrowings	-	814	3,711	4,525	4,525
TOTAL	2,430	814	3,711	6,955	6,955

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONT.

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

	30 June 2016		30 June 2015	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Carrying Value \$'000	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Carrying Value \$'000
Overdraft	3.03	44	3.12	-
Other Variable Rates	4.19	679	4.58	1,334
Fixed Interest Rates	5.51	3,191	5.93	3,375
		3,914		4,709

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.

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2016	2015	2014
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These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia. Detailed methods of calculation are set out in the SA Model Statements. The Information Paper was revised in May 2015 and the financial indicators for previous years have been re-calculated in accordance with the revised formulas.

Operating Surplus Ratio			
Operating Surplus	(7.0%)	4.0%	(3.0%)
Rates - general & other less NRM levy			
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>			
Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	(2%)	(1%)	3%

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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS CONT.

	2016	2015	2014
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio			
Net Financial Liabilities	27%	26%	31%
Total Operating Revenue less NRM levy			

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

Asset Sustainability Ratio			
Net Asset Renewals	57%	53%	107%
Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan required expenditure			

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

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.

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

All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Income	24,239	26,110
less Expenses	25,961	25,065
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(1,722)	1,045
less Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	4,579	5,156
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(6,704)	(6,649)
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	(368)	(299)
	(2,493)	(1,792)
less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including investment property & real estate developments)	2,154	4,091
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	(1,757)	(796)
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	-	(612)
	397	2,683
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	374	154

NOTE 15 - OPERATING LEASES**LEASE PAYMENT COMMITMENTS OF COUNCIL**

Council has entered into non-cancellable operating leases for various items of computer and other plant and equipment.

No lease imposes any additional restrictions on Council in relation to additional debt or further leasing.

Leases in relation to computer and office equipment permit Council, at expiry of the lease, to elect to re-lease, return or acquire the equipment leased.

No lease contains any escalation clause.

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases that have not been recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Not later than one year	86	43
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	102	127
Later than 5 years	-	-
	188	170

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 the Accumulation section and/or Salarylink. All other employees (including casuals) have all contributions allocated to the Accumulation section.

Accumulation only Members

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9.50% in 2014/2015; 9.25% in 2013/14). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) Members

Salarylink is a defined benefit scheme where the benefit payable is based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and level of contribution and final average salary. Council makes employer contributions to Salarylink as determined by the Fund's Trustee based on advice from the appointed Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6.3% in 2014/2015) of "superannuation" salary.

In addition, Council makes a separate contribution of 3% of ordinary time earnings for Salarylink members

to their Accumulation account. Employees also make member contributions to the Salarylink section of the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Salarylink section of the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Salarylink section is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Salarylink section's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by each employer, and employees may transfer to another employer within the local government sector and retain membership of the Fund, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.32(b), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, A C Miller, FIAA, of Russell Employee Benefits Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2014. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes

Council also makes contributions to other superannuation schemes selected by employees under the "choice of fund" legislation. All such schemes are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

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 225 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 (2015: \$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 has not received notice of any appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2016

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2016, 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 14th day of October 2016

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2016

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 2016, 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



Jeroen Zwijnenburg
**PRESIDING MEMBER
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Date: 13 October 2016

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2016


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 2016 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



.....
Andrew Lee
MAYOR

Date: 13 October 2016



Accountants, Auditors
& Business Consultants

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Simon Smith FCPA
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of City of Mount Gambier

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of City of Mount Gambier (the Council), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2016, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Council Certificate of City of Mount Gambier.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 and for such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

Independence

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of City of Mount Gambier as at 30 June 2016, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Simon Smith FCPA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

14 / 10 / 2016



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& Business Consultants

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT ON THE INTERNAL CONTROLS OF THE CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

We have audited the Internal Controls of the City of Mount Gambier ("the Council") under the requirement of Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the year ended 30 June 2016 have been conducted properly and in accordance with the law.

The Council's Responsibility for Internal controls

The Council is responsible for implementing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, in accordance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with the law, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 *Compliance Engagements*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the internal controls specified above for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of controls in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities, evaluating management's assessment of these controls, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design of controls on a sample basis based on the assessed risk.

Limitation of Use

This report has been prepared for the members of the Council in Accordance with Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to the Internal Controls Specified above. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the members of the Council, or for any purpose other than which it was prepared.

Inherent Limitation

Due to the inherent limitations of any compliance procedure, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. A reasonable assurance engagement is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to the Internal Controls specified above, as the engagement is not performed continuously throughout the period and the procedures performed in respect of compliance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to the Internal Controls specified above are undertaken on a test basis.

The opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Independence

In conducting our engagement, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Opinion

In our opinion, the Council has complied, in all material respects, with Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to Internal controls established by the Council relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the year ended 30 June 2016.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Simon Smith, CPA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

14 / 10 / 2016



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Design/Print: juliareader.com.au
Photography: Graham Spring and Council
ISSN 1834-0903