

District Council of

Grant



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF COUNTRY**

It is a privilege to be standing on
Boandik country.

We acknowledge the contributions
of Aboriginal Australians and
non-Aboriginal Australians to the
development of all peoples in
this country we live in and share
together - Australia.

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Australia Day Citizen of the Year Winners.



MAYOR'S REPORT

On behalf of the District Council of Grant, I am pleased to present the 2024–2025 Annual Report. As we conclude the third year of this council term, it is rewarding to reflect on the tangible outcomes we've delivered across our council each one shaped by collaboration, care, and a shared commitment to our District's future.

Key Achievements:

- **Transport and Infrastructure Program:** Over \$3.6 million invested in road upgrades, footpaths, and public spaces - ensuring safer, more connected communities across our townships.
- **Community Building Upgrades:** \$367,500 allocated to improving Council-owned facilities, enhancing the spaces where people gather, celebrate, and collaborate.
- **FOGO Trial Launch:** A successful rollout of the Food Organics and Garden Organics initiative, helping households reduce landfill and embrace more sustainable waste practices.
- **Mobile Coverage Improvements:** Continued partnership with Telstra to upgrade mobile phone towers, improving connectivity and safety across the district.
- **Local Heritage Survey Progression:** Advancing our efforts to preserve the stories and structures that define our region's identity.
- **Financial and in kind support** provided to support local clubs, events, and grassroots initiatives that enrich our district's social fabric.

We also continued to advocate for the Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Transformation Project. While external funding remains a challenge, Council has remained proactive in preparing for future opportunities and ensuring this vital asset is positioned for long-term success.

This year, we've also laid the groundwork for future planning, strengthening our financial position, engaging with community groups, and refining our strategic direction to ensure we remain responsive and resilient.

Community Engagement and Events:

- **Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards:** Honouring individuals and groups who make a lasting impact in our community.
- **Positive Ageing Lunches:** Celebrating our senior residents and promoting wellbeing through connection and inclusion.
- **Community Drop-In Sessions:** Providing space for open dialogue and meaningful feedback on Council priorities.
- **Generations In Jazz:** Supporting one of our region's most vibrant cultural events, showcasing talent and community pride.
- **Bay Festival – Port MacDonnell:** We proudly supported the return of the Bay Festival, a much-loved celebration that brought locals and visitors together to enjoy music, food, and the coastal spirit that defines our district.

- **Holdfast Limestone Coast Art Project:** An ongoing initiative blending art, science, culture, and environmental education, highlighting the ecological and cultural significance of seaweed along the Port MacDonnell coastline and fostering deeper community connection to our marine environment.

And the list goes on, we're proud to be involved in so many great community events and projects that reflect the heart and soul of our district.

On behalf of the Council, I extend my thanks to our Elected Members, dedicated staff, and the many volunteers and residents who contribute to our shared success. We are fortunate to live in a region defined by natural beauty, strong values, and a deeply connected community. Together, we continue to promote a relaxed rural lifestyle, quality services, and a thriving local economy.

Our door remains open, please don't hesitate to reach out with your ideas, questions, or concerns.



Kylie Boston
MAYOR

CEO REPORT

It's been a big year for Council, and I'm proud to share some of the highlights with you.

In August 2024 Council launched its new Strategic Plan, which sets out clear goals across five key areas: Community, Economy, Environment, Infrastructure, and Council. This plan reflects our commitment to building a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable future for the District Council of Grant.

As part of our commitment to shaping a thriving and resilient future for our region, Council is progressing a number of strategic initiatives that reflect our focus on community wellbeing, environmental sustainability, economic growth, and infrastructure development.

- **Shared Spaces at Port MacDonnell** - We're exploring opportunities to enhance shared public spaces in Port MacDonnell, creating welcoming, accessible areas that support community connection, tourism, and local business. These improvements aim to celebrate the town's coastal character while ensuring spaces are inclusive and functional for all.
- **Airport Masterplan** - The Mount Gambier Regional Airport continues to evolve as a dynamic community destination. The Airport Masterplan outlines future development to support increased passenger services, aviation-related industries, and community use of the precinct—including the Hangar Gallery and other shared facilities.

- **Coastal Adaptation Project** - With climate resilience in mind, the Coastal Adaptation Project is focused on protecting our coastline and preparing for environmental changes. This includes assessing erosion risks, planning for sea level rise, and working with local communities to safeguard natural assets and infrastructure.
- **Free and Low Cost Camping** - Successfully implemented clear delineation and booking system for 12 designated unpowered campsites at Eight Mile Creek, enhancing visitor experience, environmental protection, and alignment with the District Council of Grant's Strategic Management Plan objectives. Free and Low-Cost camping improvements will occur gradually over the coming years.

- **Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP)** - Developed and progressed the business case and completed tender process for an organisation-wide ERP system, supporting improved governance, strategic decision-making, and alignment with Council's goal of being a financially sustainable and well-managed organisation. A decision on the preferred supplier will be made during 2025/26.

I look forward to reporting on our Strategic Plan actions and how we're working together to achieve these goals.

I would like to thank our Elected Members for their support and a special thank you to our wonderful and hardworking staff. Council has delivered a number of successful projects and continued to roll out community programs that make a real difference in people's lives. From infrastructure upgrades to environmental initiatives and ongoing support for local events and services, it's been a busy and rewarding year.



*Darryl Whicker
Chief Executive
Officer*

CEO REPORT

FINANCIAL

An operating surplus of \$3.2 million was recorded during 2024-2025 from an operating income of \$21.7 million and operating expenses totalling \$18.5 million. The operating surplus was impacted by the forward payment of the Federal Government's Financial Assistance Grants in June 2025. An amount of \$1.1 million was received in advance of the 2025-2026 financial year, otherwise an operating surplus of \$2.1 million would have occurred without this distortion.

Capital expenditure of \$6.9 million was spent on the following major items, Road Infrastructure projects (\$3.4 million), Plant & Equipment renewals (\$1.8 million), Airport Projects including the Taxiway upgrade and extension, and the replacement of the Fire Tanks (\$0.7 million), Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Sheep eID Infrastructure (\$0.5 million). The remaining capital expenditure funds (\$0.5 million) were spent on various Council Buildings, Other Structures, ICT Equipment and Community Wastewater Management System assets.

No new loan borrowings were required to fund Council's activities for the financial year with \$1.7 million owed as of 30 June 2025. Council remains solvent and is financially sustainable with sufficient resources to meet future obligations as and when they fall due.

Local Government of SA Board Tour of the District.



COUNCIL PROFILE

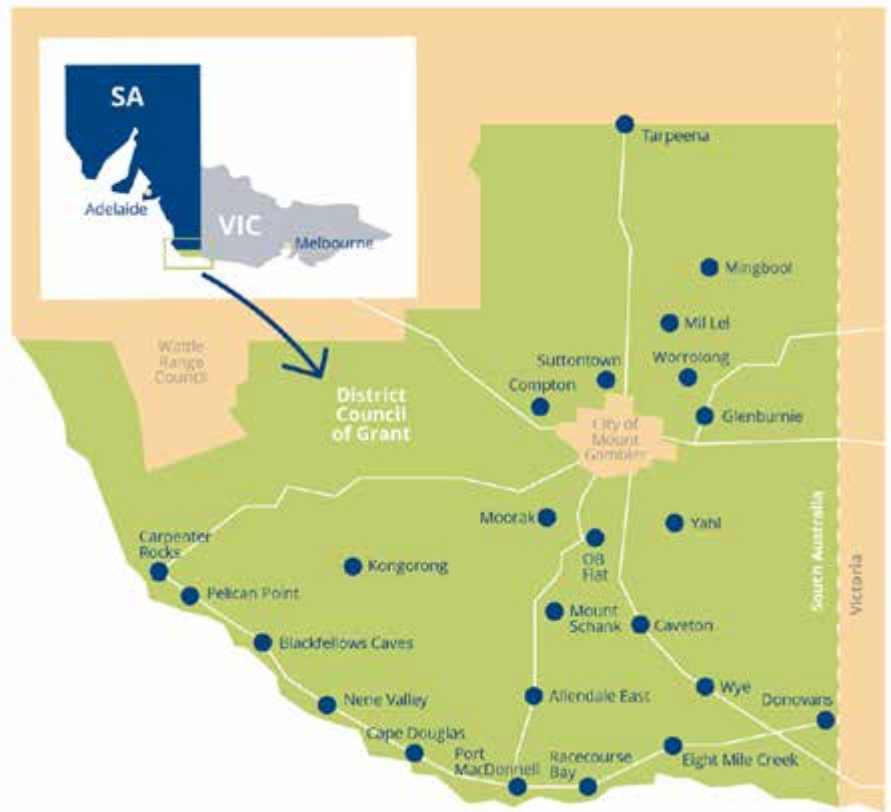
The District Council of Grant is the most southern local government area in South Australia.

Situated on the south east coast corner of the Limestone Coast, it is bounded to the south and southwest by the Southern Ocean, the Victorian Border to the east and the Wattle Range Council to the north and northwest.

The Council encircles the local government area of the City of Mount Gambier. The Council is predominantly rural with a number of small townships, serving an estimated population of 9,140 (as at 30 June 2024). Our population was 8,636 (as at 2021 census) and covers an area of 1,898 square kilometres.

The area contains some of the richest and most productive agricultural land in South Australia. Dairying, beef and sheep production, horticulture, wool, seed and grain production are the predominant agricultural activities. The fishing industry, in particular the southern rock lobster industry is a significant factor in the economy of the area. Port MacDonnell is acknowledged as the "Southern Rock Lobster Capital of Australia". Forestry production and related secondary industries of logging and milling are major economic and employment generating activities.

The District Council of Grant is home to the Mount Gambier Wine Region producing quality cool climate wines and featuring multiple vineyards and cellar door outlets.



Features such as the spectacular coastline and the natural and built heritage, including Mount Schank State Heritage area, Canunda National Park, Lake Bonney, Piccaninnie Ponds and Ewens Ponds with exceptional cave diving opportunities, make the area a popular and growing tourist destination and a recreational playground for local, national and international visitors.

The District Council of Grant is a diverse collection of townships and communities and we value the different approaches, opinions, and expectations from residents and visitors.

The Council provides a range of works, amenity and development services as well as administrative and regulatory functions to improve the quality of life for all people who live, work, do business, enjoy leisure and visit the community and its environs.

Kilsby Sinkhole.

COUNCIL PROFILE

ECONOMIC DRIVER PROFILE¹

¹ Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) ©2024. Year 2023/24. Compiled and presented in economy.id by .id (informed decisions). NIEIR-ID data are adjusted each year, each release may change previous years' figures.

GROSS
REGIONAL
PRODUCT
\$692M

TOTAL OUTPUT
\$1.325B

TOP 3 INDUSTRIES BY OUTPUT



01. AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FISHING
\$641 MILLION (48.4%)



02. MANUFACTURING
\$329.7 MILLION (24.9%)



03. CONSTRUCTION
\$142 MILLION (10.7%)

VALUE ADDED BY INDUSTRY



01. AGRICULTURE,
FORESTRY AND FISHING
\$316.3 MILLION (53.1%)



02. MANUFACTURING
\$126 MILLION (21.2%)



03. CONSTRUCTION
\$35.1 MILLION (5.9%)

04. WHOLESALE TRADE
\$29.5 MILLION (5%)

TOTAL VALUE
ADDED -
ALL INDUSTRIES
\$595.3M



TOTAL
EXPORTS **\$841.9M**

(BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL)

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING **\$498.7M (59.2%)** MANUFACTURING **\$280.9M (33.4%)**

LOCAL
BUSINESSES
1,129

EST. NUMBER
OF LOCAL JOBS
3,642

35.3% EMPLOYED IN FORESTRY,
AGRICULTURE AND FISHING
25.4% EMPLOYED IN
MANUFACTURING

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034

Under legislation Council has to review its Strategic Plan within two years of an election. As a result Council unveiled the Strategic Plan 2024-2034 in August 2024 after significant community consultation and input from our Citizen's Jury.

This Strategic Plan is our visioning document, which sets out the aspirations, goals and activities which will prioritise Council's actions over the coming 4-10 years.

The project timeline ran from August 2023 to August 2024, with a brief chronology listed below:

AUGUST 2023

- Project scoping, request for quote and appointment of consultant

SEPTEMBER 2023

- Project commencement – setting timelines, targets, methodology and conducting project risk assessments.

OCTOBER 2023

- Conducting preliminary research into data trends, relevant legislation as well as state and regional policies and priorities.
- Formation of targeted consultation groups (Citizen's Jury, Elected Members and Leadership Team).
- Review of existing Strategic Management Plan 2020 – 2030 alongside actioned items, assessment of progress against targets, and ongoing relevance of plan.

NOVEMBER 2023

- Targeted engagement session 1 – conduct high level strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis with Citizen's Jury, Elected Members

and Leadership Team, as well as visioning of the next 12 months, 5 years, and 20 years.

FEBRUARY 2024

- Utilising the information from the first round of targeted engagement, develop strategic Goals, using the emerging key themes / priorities.

MARCH 2024

- Targeted engagement session 2 – testing the Strategic Goals, determining action required by Council to achieve them (short-term, long-term and advocacy), what success would look like at staged intervals, the priority big ideas for the future, and visioning exercise.

APRIL 2024

- Using the information from data trend analysis, legislation, policy priorities regionally, and engagement feedback – draft a Strategic Plan
- Broader staff engagement on Strategic Goals to test alignment and embeddedness.

MAY 2024

- Project team review of draft Strategic Plan, including consideration of staff engagement, revision of first draft with URPS.

- Elected Member workshop to present draft Strategic Plan.
- Revision of draft Strategic Plan based on Elected Member feedback.

JUNE 2024

- Presentation of draft Strategic Plan to Citizen's Jury.
- Endorsement of draft Strategic Plan for broader community consultation.

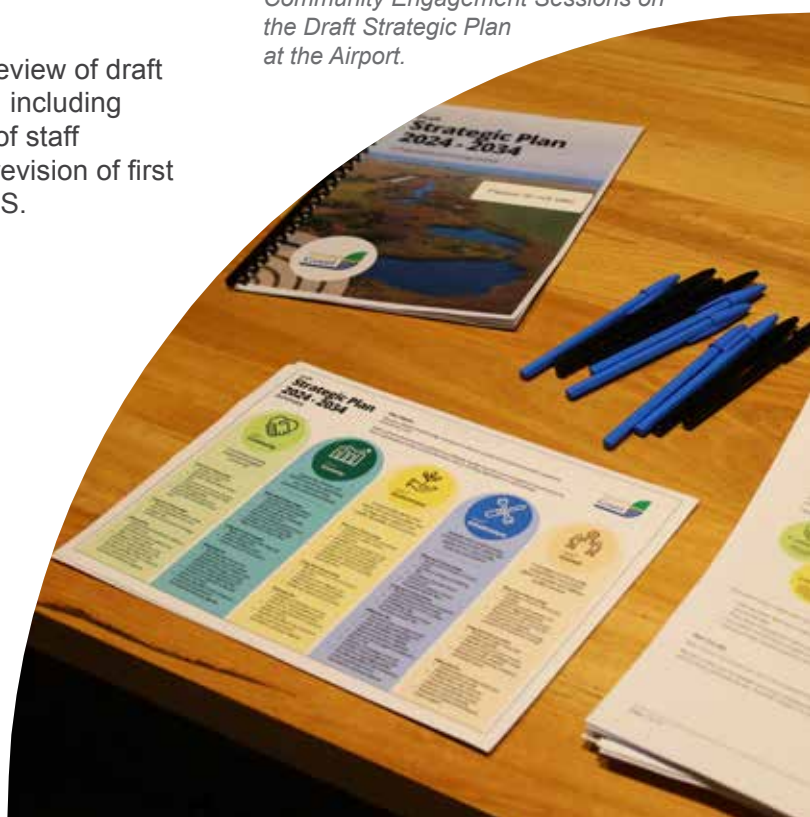
JULY 2024

- Broader community consultation including: YourSay page, online survey, community drop-in sessions at the Community Complex in Port MacDonnell and the Airport, media release, Newspaper adverts, and hard copy drafts available at Council office.

AUGUST 2024

- Consideration of community feedback, revision of draft and adoption of final Strategic Plan

Community Engagement Sessions on the Draft Strategic Plan at the Airport.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034

TARGETED ENGAGEMENT

Targeted engagement was undertaken with key stakeholders, including a group of community members (a Citizen's Jury) formed with representatives from a variety of community groups, local businesses and key industries with a deep passion and a diversity of lived experience in our district, as well as our Elected Members (Council) and our leadership team (staff).

Across two workshop sessions, each group undertook a SWOT analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to our council; followed by consideration of our vision, what was required to get there (including short-term actions, long-term actions and advocacy issues), what success would look like at staged intervals, and our key big ideas for the future.

The Citizen's Jury identified key opportunities for our region, and what they wanted to see from our council into the future. The Elected Members expanded on this information to identify priorities and set goals for the council to drive us forward. Our leadership team contributed the final piece of the puzzle – setting clear, actionable targets to achieve those goals, and developing project concepts for delivering the key priorities for our community.

Our vision statement was brought to life with words that our target groups used to describe the things they loved about living in, working in and sharing our district with visitors - what they were proud of, and hoped to strengthen into the future.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK & MEASURING SUCCESS

Some of the key priorities worthwhile noting for this project were:

1. That this Strategic Plan (the plan) truly reflected the vision and priorities of our community, our Elected Members and our staff (and that all relevant stakeholders felt connected to the plan – seeing their role in it),
2. That the plan was user-friendly, easy to read and understand for anyone who picked it up – we could see a clear story for our Council, a clear vision,
3. That the plan had clarity around how we would deliver those goals, developing specific projects using actionable targets, that we could confidently say we had achieved in 4-10 years' time.

This plan is supported by our strategic framework, which includes Council's suite of corporate and strategic plans, that each set out how we will achieve our specific goals. Council has also identified a range of future plans that warrant consideration or development, which are indicated in the document.

This plan sets out Council's key identified projects where it will focus resourcing in the coming four years, and in turn inform our Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans.

The plan will be delivered via our suite of specific corporate plans, supported by the Annual Business Plan and Budget. Council will report our progress against these targets each year in the Annual Report, as well as continuing our quarterly progress reports via ordinary meetings.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Pursuant to section 122(6) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act),

A council must adopt a process or processes to ensure that members of the public are given a reasonable opportunity to be involved in the development and review of its strategic management plans.

The consultation strategy which was undertaken was compliant the requirements under the Act:

- Consultation for a period not less than twenty-one (21) days,
- YourSay dedicated website page,
- Emails to relevant stakeholders,
- Notice boards at Councils sites,
- Council controlled social media promotion,
- Notice in local newspaper,
- Community drop-in sessions,
- Submission brought to the August Council meeting for consideration.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK RECEIVED

Community consultation was open for the period 18 June – 24 July 2024, and during that time 476 people visited the dedicated YourSay page, 133 people downloaded the draft Strategic Plan 2024-2034 document, and fifteen (15) people submitted formal feedback, being the sum of ten (10) YourSay survey responses (including one hardcopy submission), four (4) written (correspondence) responses, and one (1) internal (document review) response. The internal document review submission has not been included in the consultation feedback report and submissions, as it does not fall within the ambit of community consultation for the purpose of this project.

A diverse range of respondents participated in the consultation, including:

- Business owners
- Community groups / sporting clubs
- Employees working in the region
- Lived experience of disability
- Seniors
- Parents
- Ratepayers
- Residents
- Visitors

It was positively noted that 86% of respondents supported the strategic goals identified by Council and agreed that they were a priority for the community, 10% were unsure or neutral and 4% disagreed. Responses indicated that 67% of respondents considered that the short term, long term and advocacy focus areas identified would positively contribute to Council achieving the strategic goals, 31% were neutral or unsure and 2% did not.

When feedback responses were reviewed against the draft Strategic Plan, many of the key themes were already captured in some form, and merely required strengthening or clarification.

Council formally adopted its Strategic Plan 2024 – 2034 at its Ordinary Meeting of 19 August, 2024.

Community Engagement Sessions on the Draft Strategic Plan at Port MacDonnell.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034

The Strategic Plan 2024-2034 guides Council's direction and actions. The Strategic Plan is available from Council's website and offices.



GOAL 1: Community

A connected,
inclusive, resilient and
engaged community

Short term focus areas:

- Develop a Community Development Plan
- Explore the viability of a shared use space at Port MacDonnell
- Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan
- Work with community to improve management of community halls and sporting facilities
- Review Disability Access and Inclusion Plan and deliver 'quick wins'

Long term focus areas:

- Implement Reconciliation Action Plan
- Implement the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Develop a Shared Spaces Strategy

Advocate for:

- Improved local healthcare, childcare and aged care
- Improved education options that align to industry needs
- Adoption of Strategic Land Use Priorities Project positions in the Limestone Coast Regional Plan
- Priorities identified in the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Advocacy Agenda



GOAL 2: Economy

A growing and vibrant
economy, optimising
our diverse primary
industries and unique
natural assets

Short term focus areas:

- Funding to deliver the Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Transformation Project
- Develop a plan for sustainable growth and tourism
- Improve camping experience and management on Council land
- Develop a new Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan

Long term focus areas:

- Deliver the Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan
- Provide enabling tourism infrastructure on Council land

Advocate for:

- Boosting regional tourism and better managed eco-tourism and tourism in natural assets
- Development of an industrial park (zone) in Glenburnie
- Adoption of Strategic Land Use Priorities Project positions in the Limestone Coast Regional Plan
- Attraction of migrants to live and work in our area
- Priorities identified in the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Advocacy Agenda

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034



GOAL 3: Environment

A sustainable district that values the natural qualities and heritage that underpin our health, liveability and economy

Short term focus areas:

- Participate in Net Zero Accelerate Program to reduce carbon emissions
- Facilitate a Local Heritage Survey
- Prepare a plan to assess risks of coastal erosion and inundation
- Review Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS)
- Assess green waste and recycling improvements
- Develop a Waste Management Strategy for waste reuse or recycling and hard waste collection

Long term focus areas:

- Identify actions to move beyond 'Net Zero'
- Implement risk mitigation for coastal erosion and inundation
- Deliver CWMS improvements
- Deliver a Waste Management Strategy

Advocate for:

- Adoption of Strategic Land Use Priorities Project positions in the Limestone Coast Regional Plan
- Support preparedness for extreme weather events
- Priorities identified in the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Advocacy Agenda



GOAL 4: Infrastructure

Reliable and contemporary infrastructure that meets the needs of our community, industry and visitors

Short term focus areas:

- Review service levels of Council roads
- Develop a Cycling and Walking Plan
- Complete Carpenter Rocks shared path
- Commence delivery of Inner Townships Master Plan

Long term focus areas:

- Implement findings from review of service levels of Council roads
- Implement actions from Cycling and Walking Plan
- Continue to implement Inner Townships Master Plan

Advocate for:

- Improved state managed roads
- Improved regional energy and water distribution networks
- Improved access to reliable telecommunications networks
- Better access to region via state bus lines or rail
- Adoption of Strategic Land Use Priorities Project positions in the Limestone Coast Regional Plan
- Priorities identified in the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Advocacy Agenda
- A Mount Gambier bypass for freight and industrial travel

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034



GOAL 5: Council

A strategic and financially sustainable Council that values its people and delivers quality services

Short term focus areas:

- Develop a Human Resourcing Strategy
- Update Council's website and explore digital application processes for customer service
- Review process for community and business enquiries
- Provide opportunities for young people to be involved in Council
- Review Council's procurement policy

Long term focus areas:

- Undertake major corporate software update
- Maintain focus on core Council business (roads, buildings, waste and community services)
- Maintain good working conditions and safety culture

Advocate for:

- Opportunities to share resources between local Councils
- Collaboration with Victorian Councils and government to support cross-border access, economy and community
- Attraction of external funding for major projects

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2034

DELIVERING ON OUR STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The Strategic Plan 2024-2034 outlines the vision, mission and strategies for our district, our communities and our people for the period 2024 - 2034. It is the primary reference point from which Council's functions, actions and priorities along with an allocation of resources stem.

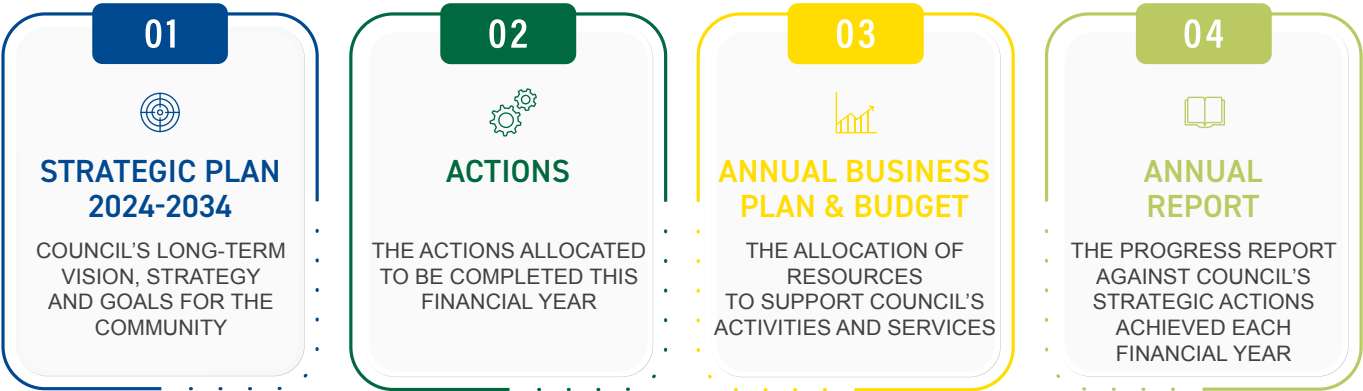
The Strategic Plan contains five (5) goals, with each goal directly supporting the achievement of Council's vision:

- **Goal 1: Community**
A connected, inclusive, resilient and engaged community.

- **Goal 2: Economy**
A growing and vibrant economy, optimising our diverse primary industries and unique natural assets.
- **Goal 3: Environment**
A sustainable district that values the natural qualities and heritage that underpin our health, liveability and economy.
- **Goal 4: Infrastructure**
Reliable and contemporary infrastructure that meets the needs of our community, industry and visitors.
- **Goal 5: Council**
A strategic and financially sustainable Council that values its people and delivers quality services.

Each year Council develops actions which fulfil the success criteria for its strategic goals. These actions are assigned to relevant departments, and aligned to Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget. The progress against these actions is reported on quarterly to Council Members to ensure that our targets are met each year, and Council ultimately achieves its goals.

This Annual Report identifies Council's progress towards achieving its goals outlined in the 2024/2025 Annual Business Plan and Budget. It reports on the services and projects completed throughout the year, and highlights the key achievements.



OUR VISION, PURPOSE & ROLE

OUR VISION

We are a district of welcoming, inclusive and vibrant coastal and rural communities within the Limestone Coast.

With a pristine environment, relaxed rural lifestyle, quality services and a prosperous local economy, this is a great place to live, conduct business and a welcoming destination to visit and stay.

OUR PURPOSE

We provide the space, infrastructure and social fabric to support our community live their best lives. To provide a range of services and infrastructure which meet the needs and expectations of our community. To plan for change to ensure that the long-term liveability and sustainability of our area is maintained and improved. To speak up for the interests of our community.

OUR ROLE

What our district is like now and in the future depends on what we do as a Council, but also the efforts of other tiers of government, government agencies, local businesses, organisations and people in our community. In developing and delivering Council’s Strategic Plan, we have highlighted our role as a local government agency, and the impact we can have for our community.



Community



Economy



Environment



Infrastructure



Council

TAGLINE

A Progressive and Caring Council.

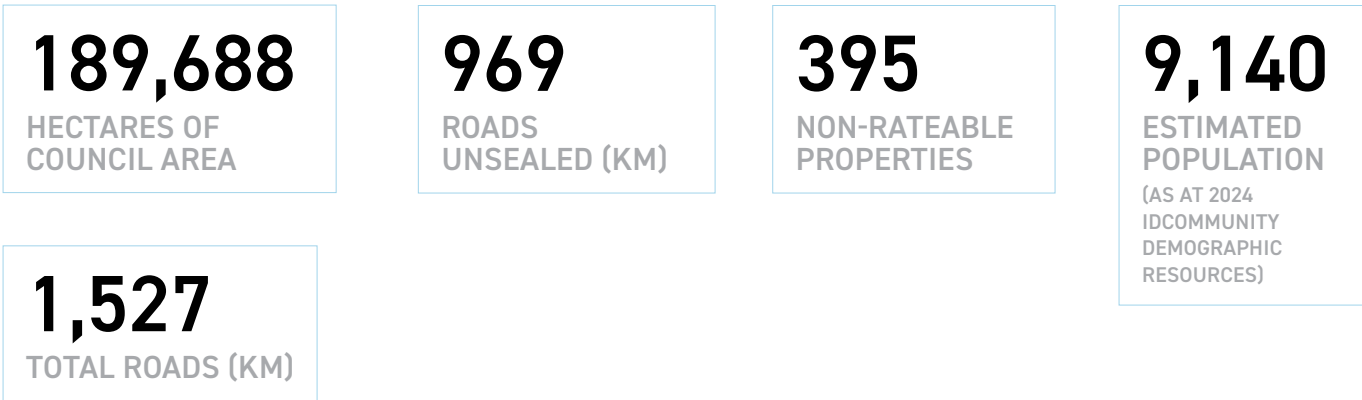
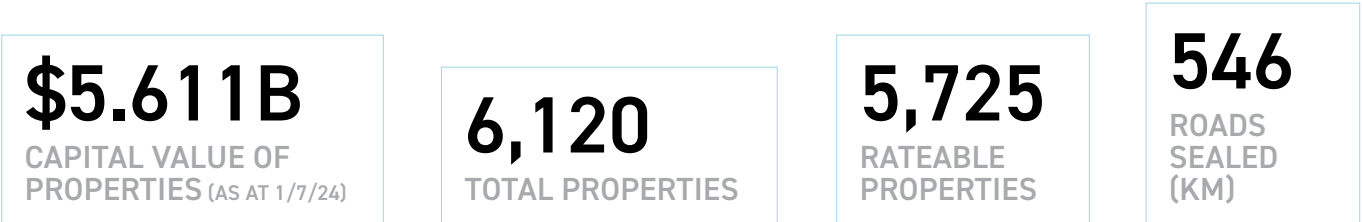
INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

EVERY \$100 OF RATES IS SPENT ON...



INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

GENERAL INFORMATION



OUR COUNCIL



Left to right (back) - Cr Bruce Bain, Cr Peter Duncan, Cr Gavin Clarke, Cr Barry Kuhl, Cr Rodney Virgo.
Left to right (front) - Cr Brad Mann, Cr Megan Dukalskis, Mayor Kylie Boston, Cr Katherine Greene, Cr Karen Turnbull.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND MEETING ATTENDANCE

The Elected Members are part of the Council and attend Ordinary Council Meetings. In addition, nominated Elected Members

are members of Council’s key strategic committees which are formed under the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Information on the Terms of Reference of the committees are

available on Council’s website or can be obtained on request from Council.

MEETINGS HELD BETWEEN JULY 2024 AND JUNE 2025

Council Meetings (12 Ordinary Meetings and 2 Special Meetings)	14
Audit and Risk Committee Meetings	4
Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Strategy Committee Meetings	4
Building Fire Safety Committee Meetings	2
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meetings	1
District Council of Grant Awards Advisory Group Meetings	3
Mount Gambier Regional Airport Security Committee	2
District Council of Grant Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel	4
Elected Member Briefings	28

OUR COUNCIL



MAYOR KYLIE BOSTON
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 2 Special Meetings	13
Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Strategy Committee	3
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee	1
Awards Advisory Group Meetings (new Elected Members appointed to Group 21 October 2025)	2
Elected Member Briefings	28



CR BRUCE BAIN*
COMMITTEE/COUNCIL
MEETINGS ATTENDED:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	9
Awards Advisory Group Meetings (new Elected Members appointed to Group 21 October 2025)	1
Elected Member Briefings	19



CR GAVIN CLARKE
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	8
Awards Advisory Group Meetings (new Elected Members appointed to Group 21 October 2025)	0
Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel (resigned from Panel February 2025)	0
Elected Member Briefings	15



CR MEGAN DUKALSKIS
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 2 Special Meetings	12
Audit and Risk Committee	4
Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Strategy Committee	4
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meetings	1
Elected Member Briefings	24



CR PETER DUNCAN
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	10
Elected Member Briefings	18



CR KATHERINE GREENE
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	10
Awards Advisory Group Meetings	2
Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel	3
Elected Member Briefings	25

OUR COUNCIL



CR BARRY KUHL*
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 2 Special Meetings	13
Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Strategy Committee	4
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee	1
Elected Member Briefings	24



CR RODNEY VIRGO
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 2 Special Meeting	14
Building Fire Safety Committee	2
Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel	4
Elected Member Briefings	17



CR BRAD MANN*
*APPOINTED DEPUTY MAYOR
FOR ONE YEAR ON 20/01/2025*

Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	12
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meetings	1
Mount Gambier Regional Airport Security Committee	2
Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel (appointed in March 2025)	0
Elected Member Briefings	21

* Reduced number of meetings due to approved leave of absence.



CR KAREN TURNBULL
Committee/Council
meetings attended:

Council Meetings including 1 Special Meeting	12
Audit and Risk Committee	4
Awards Advisory Group Meetings	1
Elected Member Briefings	26



Cr Dukalskis, Cr Virgo and Mayor Boston at the Anzac Day Dawn Service in Port MacDonnell

OUR COUNCIL

ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Council recognises the importance of providing useful, relevant, accessible and effective training opportunities for all Elected Members and supports the continual development of Elected Members through all mediums, including online training, short courses and conferences and in-house workshops/briefings and information sessions. The following subject matter was covered during 2024-2025.

- Limestone Coast Substance Misuse
- Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia Limited event
- Representation Review Options Paper
- Coastal Adaptation Project
- Representation Review
- Financial Management Refresher Module x 2
- Airport Masterplan Update
- Strategic Risk Overview
- Legal Refresher Module
- Elected Member Council Meetings and Procedures Refresher Module
- Leadership Workshop - Refresher Module
- Regional Development Presentation
- Borderline Speedway Presentation
- Sheep eID
- Budget 2025/2026 Introduction process
- Software Project
- Mid Term Township Community Meetings and Community Engagement Framework

- 2025/26 Budget Briefing 3
- Budget 2025/26
- Strategic and Policy Planning, Regional Plans Update and Code Amendments
- Saleyards Transformation Project
- Regional Plan
- Budget Workshop
- LGA Strategic Plan
- BESS Provider (Potentia Energy)
- Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association Presentation
- Limestone Coast Local Government Association Meetings
- Deputy Mayors Forum

Mayoral Training

- Mayor and CEO Forum
- Navigating Behavioural Complaints – The Role of the Responsible Person
- Mayors Forum

Mayor Kylie Boston with her Excellency the Governor General, Sam Mostyn.





Mayor Kylie Boston at Timberlink.

District Council of Grant hosting the Local Government Association and the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils Board Members.



Mayor Boston with Coral from the Pine City Twirlers.



Mayor Kylie Boston and Deputy Mayor Brad Mann at the 2025 LGA OGM.



Mayor Boston at the Firefighters Memorial.



Lauren, CEO Regional Development Australia and Mayor Kylie Boston.



Mayor Boston speaking at the Multi Cultural Service



Mayor Kylie Boston and Chamber of Commerce President Candice Fennell.



Mayor Kylie Boston at the Anzac Accolade.



COMMUNITY

A connected, inclusive,
resilient and engaged
community

COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement describes the range of activities aimed at increasing community awareness and participation and ensuring that the voices of residents are considered in Council's decision-making processes. This is a process which sits at the heart of democratic processes in local government.

The District Council of Grant recognises the community's right to be informed, consulted and involved in projects and activities that impact their lives. Council's endorsed *Community Engagement Framework* guides its approach, ensuring that engagement activities are inclusive, accessible and meaningful.

During the 2024/2025 reporting period, Council undertook consultation on a number of significant projects and initiatives, including:

- Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan
- Food Organics and Garden Organics kerbside collection service
- Elector Representation Review
- Coastal Adaptation Strategy
- Local Heritage Survey Project
- Annual Business Plan and Budget

Engagement opportunities were offered through a mix of face-to-face and online methods, including Council's Your Say DCG platform and community drop-in sessions with the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The District Council of Grant manages a suit of social media platforms to inform, engage and connect with the community.

Council's primary Facebook page is used to communicate key information on services, programs, events, community consultation opportunities, strategic documents and employment vacancies. The page also shares other content which amplifies broader community messaging from organisations such as SA Health, Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast and Emergency Services.

While engagement on social media is welcome, comments on posts related to community consultations are not considered formal feedback. Instead, staff endeavour to provide direction to appropriate engagement platforms to ensure input is captured through official processes.

In addition, Council manages three specialised Facebook pages:

- The Mount Gambier & District Saleyards page which promotes store sale information, project updates and facility insights.
- The Mount Gambier Regional Airport page share updates on airport operations, upgrade developments and visual images of visiting aircraft.
- The Port MacDonnell Community Complex page provides the community with information relating to events, library and tourism news, facility updates and visual content promoting the local area.

Council also maintains an active presence on Instagram focusing on sharing visual content to showcase events, programs, community consultations and the district. On LinkedIn, Council shares highlights of professional achievements, employment opportunities, media reports, major project announcements and visits from dignitaries.

OTHER MEDIA

Council's Community Newsletter is issued monthly and provides our community with updates on Council projects, programs, events and news from around our district. The newsletter is available online and distributed through an email subscription listing. Hard copies are also made available at key locations including Council's Principal Office, Port MacDonnell Community Complex, Carpenter Rocks Shop and Pines Hotel in Tarpeena. Community members can subscribe by visiting www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au/council/newsletters or by emailing info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au.

The District Council of Grant issued 27 media releases for the 2024/2025 period. These releases provided timely and transparent updates to the community and media outlets on a range of Council initiatives, decisions and events. Key topics covered included:

- A hearing loop solution installed for locals and visitors at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex
- Endorsement of Council's Strategic Plan 2024 – 2034
- Announcement of rubbish and recycling bin expansions across the district

COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- District Council of Grant and Chamber of Commerce partnership for bookable bus tours
- Expression of Interest for Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel members
- Endorsement of the new Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan for 2025 - 2035
- Food Organics and Garden Organics kerbside collection service consultation and outcome
- Art-Ability Exhibition call for artists

All media releases are uploaded to Council's website to ensure transparency and easy community access.

In addition to formal media releases, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer contributed regular content to local media outlets, further supporting open communication and reinforcing Council's commitment to keeping the community informed on key issues and initiatives.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Council have awarded the 2025 round of academic scholarships to eligible students who reside in the Council area.

Operating since 2010, the program gifts \$500 academic scholarships to year 10 to 12 students who reside in the Council area. In 2024 the scholarship amount was increased to \$750 per student. Over the past 15 years 77 scholarships have been awarded helping out local students with purchasing books, equipment and resources to support their education.



Mount Gambier High School Academic Scholarship Winner - Peta Polgreen.

Successful recipients demonstrate high level academic achievement, commitment and attitude and have an exemplary attendance record. Students adhere to the school's code of conduct and the school's vision and values; with a commitment to school activities including extra-curricular activities. Students should also aspire to completing the South Australian Certificate of Education, and further education.

The 2025 academic scholarship recipients are:

- Chelsea Job - St Martins Lutheran College,
- Brad Walkom - Grant High School,
- Emily Bowman - Allendale East Area School,
- Cedar Scott - Tenison Woods College, and
- Peta Polgreen, Mount Gambier High School.

Citizenship Recipients Ryan and Dale.

CITIZENSHIP

During the 2024/2025 year Council held a total of 2 Citizenship Ceremonies with 8 conferees receiving Australian Citizenship.

Our Community welcomed new Citizens from New Zealand, the Philippines, Kenya and South Africa.



COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at the District Council of Grant Council Chamber, 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier, commencing at 5.30pm. If a scheduled meeting falls on a public holiday, the Council meeting will be held on the following Wednesday unless resolved otherwise by the Council.

The public are welcome to attend however the public may be excluded while business of a kind classified by the regulations as confidential is being considered.

The Agenda for each meeting is placed on the Council website 3 clear days before the meeting.

For the 2024/2025 period a total of 4 deputations/presentations were made to Elected Members at the Council meeting by organisations and residents.

LIMESTONE COAST PLANET YOUTH NETWORK

The District Council of Grant were actively involved with the Limestone Coast Planet Youth Network, led by Substance Misuse Limestone Coast. The network is modelled on the Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis' Planet Youth Program developed to improve health and life for young people. The program aims to reduce substance use rates amongst adolescents and enhance social environments.

While the Planet Youth initiative has now formally concluded, the work continues through the Local Drug Action Team (LDAT), which retains many of the same members and objectives. Council remains engaged with the LDAT to

support community-led strategies that promote positive outcomes for young people across the district.

JUNIOR SPORTS ASSISTANCE FUND

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

The fund, which is administered by the City of Mount Gambier, provides financial support for junior sports people who have achieved state selection. The District Council of Grant has one Elected Member on the Junior Sports Assistance Fund Committee which is Cr Megan Dukalskis.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Council has sponsored Youth Opportunities since 2019 to allow for Youth Programs to be run in our area. These programs create opportunities for school aged participants to learn, amongst other things, personal leadership skills.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK

Council welcomes feedback and comments from all members of our community. The easiest way is in person at Council's Principal Office at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier or at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex at 5 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell. Community members are also encouraged to email feedback at info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au or through Council's dedicated online community engagement platform, Your Say DCG, at yoursaydcg.com.au.

DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN

Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) (2020–2024), was developed and implemented following extensive community consultation. The DAIP was prepared pursuant to the provisions of the *Disability Inclusion Act 2018* including action lists which are allocated to Council staff under various themes.

These themes are aligned with Council's Strategic Management Plan, Council Asset Management Plans, and includes:

- Information and Communication;
- Built Environments and Facilities;
- Employment; and,
- Programs and Services.

The District Council of Grant Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel (AIAP) was formed during 2022 to provide additional lived experience perspective and to provide recommendations to Council when planning and carrying out works. The Panel is made up of a mix of Council Members, industry representatives, and includes six members who have lived experience.

From the first meeting of the AIAP, the panel has made numerous practical recommendations to Council, regarding disability access and inclusion matters.

In August 2024 recruitment started for new Panel Members and as at June 30, 2025 the AIAP membership status is:

- Katherine Greene (Chair) - Councillor



Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel Members with Mayor Kylie Boston on a bus tour of our district.

- Rodney Virgo - Councillor
- Brad Mann - Councillor
- Karren Owen – Organisational Member
- Jenny Brown - Organisational Member
- Leeshier Schultz – Lived Experience Member
- Belinda Anderson - Lived Experience Member
- Paul Manfrin - Lived Experience Member
- Marie Matter - Lived Experience Member
- Helen Taylor - Lived Experience Member
- Tessa Deak - Lived Experience Member

On the 22nd of January 2025 an AIAP Bus Tour of the District Council of Grant was undertaken, with successes, opportunities and challenges discussed.

This year Council has received and implemented recommendations from the AIAP including:

- Upgrades to Donovans Landing precinct
- An ArtAbility Art Show at the Hangar Gallery to highlight International Day of People with Disability. The Art show will be held 8 September 2025
- Purchase of a beach wheelchair and walking frame available for public use
- Investigation of Mount Gambier and District Saleyards accessibility
- The AIAP will continue to provide significant input into the new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan which will be legislated by the State Government August 2025.

EVENTS

2025 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The 2025 District Council of Grant Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards Ceremony and luncheon was held at the Barn, OB Flat on Sunday 26th January 2025. This special event honoured 19 outstanding individuals and groups, reflecting the outstanding contributions made within our community.

The occasion provided a meaningful opportunity for Council to celebrate and recognise those who continue to make our community a better place. Distinguished guests included the Hon. Clare Scriven MLC, Mr Tony Pasin MP, the Hon. Ben Hood MLC along with Elected Members and 2024 Citizen of the Year recipient, Liza Kirby who joined in congratulating the Award nominees and winners.

Council congratulates all nominees and appreciates the role of all volunteers in our community. Awards were presented as follows:

- Citizen of the Year, **Jacqui Doloughan**, a dedicated volunteer in the Kongorong community, serving as the Secretary of the Kongorong Sportsmen's Club, and as a Committee Member and Canteen Manager for the South East Field and Game Association.
- Young Citizen of the Year, **Jazmin Bingham**, recognised for her advocacy for the preservation of the natural environment and her commitment to understanding local concerns of the community.



Mayor Boston with Jacqui Doloughan, Citizen of the Year winner.

- Community Event of the Year, **Donovan's Easter Market**, hosted for 27 years by the Donovans Recreational Advisory Committee offering a family-friendly day filled with entertainment for all ages.
- Active Citizenship Award, **Southern Coast Ocean Care Committee**, for their passionate advocacy in opposing the Federal Government's offshore wind turbine proposal, in the effort to protect the district's pristine coastline, marine life, fishing industry, and tourism.



Australia Day Citizen of the Year Nominees and Winners.

The Awards celebration also featured a heartfelt presentation by Australia Day Ambassador, Nicky Brunton, who shared her lived experiences and advocacy for families and teens navigating childhood trauma and parenting challenges.

Guests were warmly welcomed by local musicians and volunteers from the Glenburnie Memorial Hall Committee who also assisted with table preparations and signage. Representatives from Council's community sporting groups, including tennis, calisthenics and more, joined dignitaries, families and friends in the celebration.

The official proceedings were livestreamed via the District Council of Grant Facebook page with closed captions for accessibility for community members unable to attend in person.

The event livestream attracted 389 views, while a Facebook post featuring images from the Ceremony reached a further 1,941 views.

EVENTS

GENERATIONS IN JAZZ

Council provides ongoing support towards the running of Generations In Jazz (GIJ) festival. In 2025 Council's financial contribution was around \$22,348.80 of in kind support (exc. GST).

More than 4,300 students from across Australia attended the event in May 2025. The attending schools and aspiring students put in many hours of study and practice in the lead up to GIJ with a large contingent of volunteers making sure the weekend ran smoothly, it was a wonderful world class event.

The GIJ Committee secured as their major acts the Gordan Godwin's Big Phat Band, Darren Percival, Michelle Nicolle and the US Little Phat Band featuring Vangie Gun Godwin. The crowds in the big tent sang, danced and cheered to show their appreciation of these amazing artists.

On Sunday the entire concert and awards were live streamed at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport Terminal for the students from the Chatswood High School to witness the awarding of the Division 2.1 winner's prize to their school before they flew home to Sydney. A camera feed from the Airport was also on display at the GIJ big top to show the Chatswood High School students reaction when they were announced as winners.

The District Council of Grant is proud to have committed to sponsoring Generations in Jazz in 2025 and 2026.



Chatswood High School students winning the Division 2 Generations in Jazz prize.

EVENTS

COMMUNITY DRIVEN EVENTS

The District Council of Grant proudly sponsors community led events of various sizes with cash contributions and in-kind support. The in-kind support includes mainly traffic management and use of Council equipment.

Some of the events include:

Bay Festival Sponsorship	\$10,000
Mount Gambier Community Events - New Years Eve	\$4,000
Mount Gambier Racing Club Inc. - Gold Cup	\$2,750
South East Art Society Incorporated - provision of financial support to host Open Art Awards	\$1,000
SE Primary School's Music Festival	\$500
Mount Gambier Cycling Club Inc. - Sponsorship 100 Mile Classic	\$500
Mount Gambier Pistol Club	\$500
Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce - Bookable Experience Tours	\$10,000
Mount Gambier Showjumping Club Inc. - Junior and Young Rider Sponsorship and Easter Show Jumping Festival	\$1,000
Backstage Inc. Eisteddfod - sponsorship and music sponsorship	\$1,000
Port MacDonnell Offshore Angling Club - Tuna Fishing Competition	\$1,000
South Eastern National Dancing Assoc. Inc. - Southern States Championship Sponsorship	\$500
Port MacDonnell Pistol & Shooting Club Inc. - Sponsorship for Club Championship Series	\$500
South Eastern Automobile Club of SA Inc	\$500

In kind support includes:

- Multiple Motorkhana events run at the Saleyards in the last 12 months.
- Port MacDonnell Anzac Day Service road closures.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024/2025

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Council was pleased to deliver a diverse range of community programs throughout the year, fostering inclusion, learning and celebration across the district.

Celebrations for South Australia's Week of Ageing Well were a standout, with 168 guests enjoying events across the district. The program began with a community lunch held in Port MacDonnell where guests were treated to the 'Arleyukes', a local group of ukelele players. Events continued with community luncheons held in Tarpeena, Carpenter Rocks and Mount Schank with BINGO and a best hat competition. Each year, the Council proudly presents Positive Ageing events to recognise and celebrate the valuable contributions of older community members.

Building on this spirit of community appreciation, Volunteers Week provided the opportunity for Council to acknowledge the dedication of local volunteers. A morning tea was held, offering a chance for volunteers to connect and speak about their organisations.

In October, Council supported Mental Health month with a series of mindfulness activities to support wellbeing and awareness. These included mindfulness colouring in a calming marquee space, a collaborative community puzzle, and a well-received introduction to Tai Chi session. The initiative provided a peaceful and engaging environment for participants to connect and reflect.

Also in October, Council staff hosted a 'Safe Banking Online' information session at the Carpenter Rocks Community Hall where attendees received practical advice on secure internet banking practices, including verifying invoice sources and using banking apps for improved security. Through funding received from the Australian Government 'Be Connected Program'. A 'Protect Yourself Against Scams' and 'Safer Shopping Online' sessions were also held.

The reimagining of an unused space at the Mount Gambier and Regional Airport led to the soft launch of the Hangar

One of Council's Positive Ageing lunches held at Carpenter Rocks.



Volunteers Morning Tea.



Skate and Scoot workshop.

Gallery, a new District Council of Grant art gallery in November. The expansive walls, together with newly added lighting and extended picture railing made this space ideal for showcasing artworks. In an exciting collaboration with the City of Mount Gambier, the first exhibition 'Flight Mode' was curated from the collection of the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre.

Youth engagement was also a focus, with around 20 children and young people participating in Youth Week's Learn to Skate event, at the Tarpeena and Port MacDonnell skate parks. Led by experienced facilitators, the workshops focused on building confidence and foundational skateboarding skills in a supportive environment. The event was well attended by families and community members, with Council providing healthy refreshments to keep participants energised.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024/2025

PORT MACDONNELL COMMUNITY COMPLEX

The Council continues to take pride in its Community Complex at Port MacDonnell, which offers high-quality facilities supporting both social and business activities for the community and visitors. The complex provides general Council services such as customer assistance, rates payments, boat ramp permits, animal registrations, and waste transfer station passes. It also hosts government services including EZY Reg, Service SA (with Leaner Driver and Boat Operator theory tests), and a Services Australia kiosk. The Services Australia Mobile Centre visits each year assisting the community with questions. Additional services at the complex include EFTPOS cash-out, banking services and access to a Justice of the Peace.

Enhancements to the Complex this year included the installation of a hearing loop and supporting systems, improving accessibility and clarity for those attending author events, community events, gallery openings and for counter enquiries. Another welcome addition was the Sandcruiser Wheelchair, available for free use to support people with disability in accessing the beach and shallow water.

The Complex also serves as a vibrant cultural hub, with varied gallery exhibitions presented through the the year. Highlights included the Mount Gambier Gem Club's celebration of 50 years of lapidary excellence, "Imagination Unleashed" featuring with upcycled hand painted furniture, and "Rust" a unique collection of

artworks in conjunction with the Mount Gambier Floral Art Club.

The library within the Complex remains well frequented by both locals and visitors. As part of the "One Card" network it offers free Wi-Fi, public use computers and a wide selection of books, newly introduced Vox Books, DVD's and access to digital applications for members of the One Card network. Author events were a highlight, including, "An afternoon with Leonie Kelsall" which attracted over 20 guests and a well received evening with local author Cindy Bunt, who shared insights from her book 'Fall in Love with Baking'.

Tourism services also remain a key feature of the Complex. The visitor information outlet is popular and well utilised, offering a wide range of brochures, souvenirs and local advice. Staff are available to assist with enquiries particularly during peak periods such as spring through to Easter, and during major events like the Campervan and Motorhome Club Australia Rally, which was supported by Council.

Dedicated spaces within the Complex cater to both young children and youth. The youth area includes comfortable seating, a pool table, Wii console, a PlayStation 4 and a Virtual Reality headset.

Weekly children's StoryTime programming incorporates the Words Grow Minds program and continues to be a highlight, drawing strong attendance and enthusiastic participation. Each session features a short story complimented by music, dancing and themed craft activities that foster creativity and early literacy.



Christmas at the Community Complex.



Light up the Bay Lighthouse Art Competition.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024/2025

Book week was celebrated with children dressing as characters such as “Emma Wiggle”, a fairy and a tradie. A special Auslan StoryTime was also held to mark the International Day of Living with a Disability, featuring signed storytelling, dancing and Auslan alphabet learning.

School holiday programs remain a favourite, offering hands-on activities such as button badge and kaleidoscope making, yarn painting and crafting bracelets. A lighthouse decorating competition was extremely popular with entries displayed through the holidays.

The Complex’s Community meeting room and spaces are well utilised by the public, community groups, associations and government agencies. Activities included adult craft programs, weekly cards, craft, and Tai Chi groups and events by the Holdfast Limestone Coast group and the Chamber of Commerce, such as Botanical Drawing Workshop, and Get IT Done sessions. The Limestone Coast Youth Environmental Council also made use of the space for its programming.

Finally, the volunteer operated Maritime Museum continues to be a valued feature of the Complex. It showcases exhibitions rich in local history and artefacts, telling the story of Port MacDonnell as a historic trading port. The museum remains a popular destination for large groups and bus tours. This year, volunteers commemorated the 165th Anniversary of the sinking of the SS Admella with a video and foyer display.

Visitor numbers to the Port

MacDonnell Community Complex for 2024-2025

	2024-25
District Council of Grant and Mount Gambier	22,660
South Australia	3525
Interstate	6167
Overseas	268
Total	32,620



School Visit to the Maritime Museum.

YOUTH ON WHEELS

Council resolved to fund up to two professional driving lessons for disadvantaged youth who reside in the District Council of Grant in light of the wind-up of the volunteer-based Youth on Wheels program on 31 August 2024 and subsequent sale of the program’s vehicle.

Council has seen around 105 young people take up the driving opportunity and over 3,000 volunteer hours dedicated to helping disadvantaged youth gain

the skills and hours they needed to obtain their provisional driver’s license.

The success of the program was largely due to the generosity of a small but dedicated team of volunteers and Council staff who coordinate the bookings and provide administrative support to the volunteers. Without the assistance from these volunteers and staff it would not have been possible to offer the Youth on Wheels program in the format that has been provided.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2024/2025

DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Council is proud to support the many programs and events that are on offer in the district and the Limestone Coast region and provided \$113,917.65 in funding to support these community and philanthropic activities.

Amongst the donations and sponsorships for 2024/25 were contributions to:

Grant High School Presentation - Donation end of year awards	\$100
Milla Prowse for the Young Diplomats Tour touring Europe in January 2025 through UN Youth Australia	\$1,000
University of SA Prize for Excellence	\$2,000
Lakes Rotary Club for the 2025 Science and Engineering Challenge	\$750
Youth Opportunities' Personal Leadership Programs	\$3,000
In Home Hospice Care Seed funding	\$2,000

COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

Council ran a successful round of the Community Grant Scheme approving \$14,979 towards \$26,837 worth of fantastic and practical projects being completed by local community groups. Projects completed under the categories of Community and Sport included the purchase of new equipment, building and grounds upgrades. Congratulations to all successful projects over the year.

Amongst the Community Grants for 2024/25 were contributions to:

Mount Gambier Karting Club – Purchase of rainwater tank and pump	\$3,000
Port MacDonnell & District Bowling Club – Purchase of dishwasher and BBQ	\$3,161
Port MacDonnell Community Hall – Purchase of turf and soil for community garden	\$2,265
Yahl CFS – Purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator	\$1,553.32
Glenburnie Memorial Hall – Painting of hall exterior	\$5,000

PROGRESS OF GOAL 1: COMMUNITY

People love living in our rural and coastal communities. They love the climate and the relaxed, peaceful atmosphere and lifestyle the area provides. They love the distinct character and spirit of their communities.

Into the future, people want the area to be a welcoming and inclusive place where people of all abilities choose to live or visit. However, they want to maintain the rural look and feel and for housing to be well located to protect rural and natural areas.

We heard that our community wants support to improve the amenity and availability of facilities across our townships.

People would like Council to engage genuinely with the community, in particular with young people. They would like Council to advocate for improving local access to education, health care and childcare.

Short Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Develop a contemporary Community Development Plan to support our community to thrive	Planning	Information being gathered for project
Explore the viability of a shared use space at Port MacDonnell for community groups, students and outreach services	Planning	Concept plan being developed
Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan in partnership with First Nations people to acknowledge Boandik heritage and advance reconciliation	Planning	Report being prepared for Council
Work with the community to identify actions to improve the management and quality of community halls and sport facilities	Deferred	resources allocated to other projects
Review Council’s Disability Access and Inclusion Plan to identify priorities and deliver ‘quick wins’ to support people of all abilities to meaningfully participate in community life	Planning	Awaiting release of the State Government Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

Long Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Implement the Reconciliation Action Plan	Planning	Report being prepared for Council
Implement the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan	Planning	Pending the release of the State Government Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
Develop a Shared Spaces Strategy which considers open space, community facilities and playgrounds	Planning	design work underway, concept being prepared for Council

Status	Comments
Not Started	Action not started as yet
Planning	Working with internal stakeholders to define, scope and resource the action
Commenced	Undertaking action
Complete	Action is complete
Deferred	Due to other factors this project is deferred



ECONOMY

**A growing and vibrant
economy, optimising our
diverse primary industries
and unique natural
assets**

MOUNT GAMBIER AND DISTRICT SALEYARDS

The Mount Gambier and District Saleyards is located on the Princes Highway, Glenburnie, operating a Stock Sale every Wednesday commencing at 9.00am, with Store Sales held on the second Friday of each month, commencing at 10.00am.

The Saleyards has five selling agents and is European Union eligible meeting annual auditing of processes and infrastructure standards by Aus-Meat for the National Saleyards Quality assurance certification.

Stock data for the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards for financial year 2024/25

Cattle (not including calves)	76,452
Sheep and lambs	50,049

The Saleyards has retained its reputation as one of the premier livestock selling centres in the Southeast of South Australia. At the end of the financial year Cattle numbers were at 109% of budget.

Monthly Store Sale cattle numbers totalled 46% of the cattle through the yards for the financial year. This was slightly up on last year. Cattle numbers stayed similar to the 2023-2024 numbers during 2024-2025 financial year with stock values increasing as the year progressed during the year from \$1,266 to \$1392 average per head. For the 2024-2025 financial year a total of 65 sales were held with over 76,452 head of cattle and 50,049 sheep being sold, grossing more than \$119,268,354 million in sales.

Indirectly the Saleyards assists five agents, many local livestock transporters and over one



Cr Barry Kuhl, Mayor Kylie Boston and Darryl Whicker at the Saleyards with Combined Agents.

hundred producers as a central selling centre. Many other businesses and industries within the Limestone Coast indirectly benefit from the Saleyards with further value-adding and the money multiplier effect of the income spend by producers.

Aligning with the Saleyards Master Plan which includes providing a best practice facility with animal welfare being at the forefront, Council is focusing on securing federal funding for the once in a generation Mount Gambier Districts Livestock

Exchange 2030 Transformation Project. This project will be Council's largest ever project and Council has partnered with Mossop Construction + Interiors to complete the detailed design work.

This project includes but not limited to yard reconfiguration with more selling pens, soft flooring, roofing, water harvesting, dust suppression, loading ramp upgrade, installation of stock holding crush and solar panels, lighting, security, and connectivity upgrades.

MOUNT GAMBIER AND DISTRICT SALEYARDS

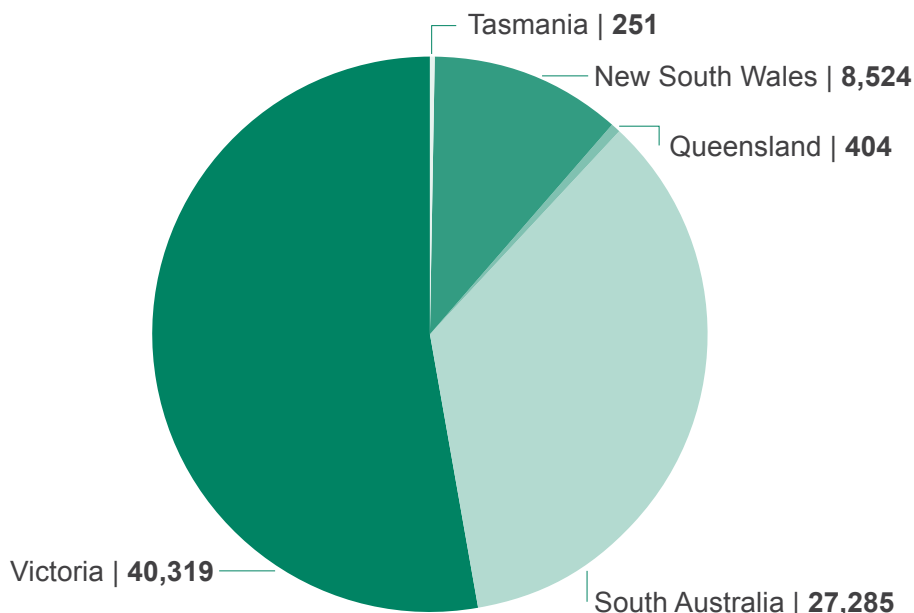
Partial funding for this project has been secured with the State Government committing \$2.7M as an election commitment and the District Council of Grant committing a maximum amount of \$7.5 million. Further funding is being sought from the Commonwealth Growing Regions Program with Council set to lodge an expression of interest in this program when it is open.

Focusing on core strategies, the Saleyards continues developing, reviewing, and implementing the Mount Gambier Saleyards Master Plan and Asset Management Plan; forming a retention and attraction of business to the Saleyards; and pursuing funding partnerships for infrastructure improvements.

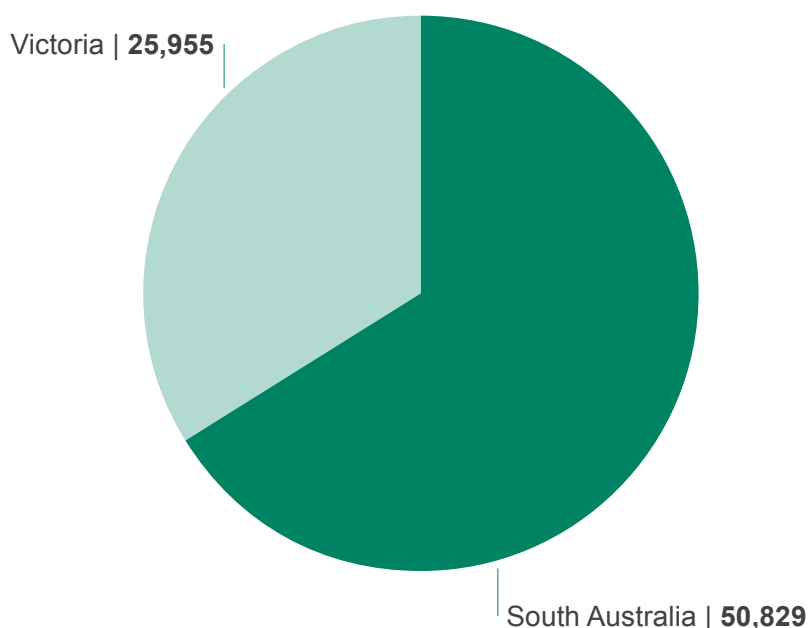
The Saleyards continues to focus on listening and working cooperatively with all stakeholders of the facility to ensure that everyone prospers, the Saleyards Strategy Committee has representation of Elected Members, combined agents, community representatives and staff.

The Saleyards reputation and image is known, trusted, respected and valued by all as the place to sell livestock in the Limestone Coast as well as Western Victoria with buyers coming from Tasmania, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria.

Location of Cattle Buyers



Location of Cattle Sellers



MOUNT GAMBIER REGIONAL AIRPORT

The Mount Gambier Regional Airport has consistently supported the Country Fire Service which benefits our whole community. During the fire season there were three AT 802 water bombing aircraft, one Blackhawk helicopter and two AS 350 helicopters based at the Airport. There is infrastructure in place to support an increase in those asset numbers to scale up emerging capability as the need arises.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service continues to service to the Limestone Coast with many flights via the Patient Transfer Centre. During the 24/25 period the Flying Doctor Aircraft visited the Airport more than 600 times making the Airport a vital link in the RFDS network.

Other essential services utilising Mount Gambier Regional Airport during the last twelve-month period include the Royal Australian Air Force, South

Australian Police, both fixed wing and helicopter search and rescue, Victorian Air Ambulance, other regular operators, freight contractors, a wide range of itinerant charter and general aviation aircraft. The Mount Gambier Regional Airport is a facility that operates 24 hours a day 365 days of the year.

2024/2025 has seen continual utilisation of the airport heavy apron allowing for the flexibility, Handling and parking of very large and heavy jets avoiding the previous problems of congestions on the RPT apron. The availability of 24/7 Jet fuel in a mobile tanker and the infrastructure to handle larger aircraft is a great attraction for military and larger jets, particularly the availability for fuel for the RFDS 24 hours a day.

Mount Gambier Airport serves multiple purposes beyond its primary function as a regional transport hub. In addition to

facilitating air travel, the airport also acts as a dynamic community space. It features the Hangar Art Gallery that showcases local talent, enhancing the cultural experience for visitors. The terminal is used for commercial advertising, with businesses displaying vehicles to engage the public and promote local enterprise. Furthermore, the airport regularly hosts a range of meetings and conferences, making it a versatile venue that supports both business and community engagement in the Limestone Coast region.

The District Council of Grant commenced engaging with aviation specialists and community members to review the Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan in May 2024 which is our roadmap designed to ensure the continual improvement, sustainability, accountability and growth of the Airport and



MOUNT GAMBIER REGIONAL AIRPORT

regional aviation. Representatives from a variety of aviation fields, businesses and the general community formed an Aviator's Jury to consider the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the Mount Gambier Regional Airport, and consider the future projects and direction of the Airport. The District Council of Grant adopted the Mount Gambier Regional Airports Master Plan for 2025-2035 on 20th of December 2024.

The Airport is not just to provide air services, but to be a destination in its own right.

The first Qantas Link Bombardier Dash 8-Q400 was welcomed at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport on Monday 17 February 2025 with a water salute from the SA Country Fire Service. District Council of Grant Mayor Kylie Boston and Qantas Link Chief Operations Officer Nick Collie were among passengers arriving off the new faster and larger 74-seater aircraft. The aircraft will be servicing the route between Mount Gambier and Adelaide and is expected to bring more than 9,000 additional seats annually to the Mount Gambier-Adelaide route.

The Airport continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence and user-focused enhancements. Through a series of thoughtful upgrades - ranging from aesthetic improvements like timber-clad bench seating and bins that harmonise with the terminal design, to critical infrastructure developments - the Airport has shown its dedication to both form and function.

Key continuous improvement outcomes include:

- User-driven design enhancements based on terminal feedback, improving comfort and visual appeal.
- Accessibility upgrades, including the installation of three new ramps to ensure inclusive access for all passengers.
- Operational capacity expansion, highlighted by the significant upgrade to accommodate Q400 aircraft, involving taxiway widening and RPT apron extension—boosting efficiency and readiness for larger aircraft operations.

These initiatives reflect a proactive approach to maintaining high-quality facilities while continuously evolving to meet the needs of passengers and operational demands.

Between the 8th and 12th of May 2025, two charter aircraft, a Q400 and an E145 arrived at Mount Gambier Regional Airport. The flights brought in approximately 75 passengers with travellers from various countries around the world including the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada, the Netherlands, Argentina, and France. In total the airport team handled over two tonnes of luggage during the arrivals and checking in of each passenger.

The Mount Gambier Regional Airport received positive feedback; "The airport staff were welcoming, outstanding, efficient and professional – and are a credit to Council. When departing, many visitors commented on what a beautiful place the region is having visited sinkholes, Glenelg River and Port MacDonnell".



Qantaslink Chief Operating Officer Nick Collie with Mayor Kylie Boston at the arrival of the Q400 aircraft.



Nick Collie, Mayor Kylie Boston, Cr Gavin Clarke and Cr Megan Dukalskis at the Q400 arrival.

PROJECTS AND PLANS

CAMPING PROJECT

Arrangements for Council's designated free camping continue to evolve. The use of an online booking system for the Eight Mile Creek sites has drastically improved traceability and accountability of campers. However, it has also led to higher expectations and some disagreement on the self-containment definition. A review of all sites and management strategies for unapproved camping activity on other local government land is set to occur in the near future.

LIMESTONE COAST REGIONAL PLAN

Regional Plans play a significant role in identifying land use and long-term infrastructure needs to support sustainable growth within the regions of South Australia. The Limestone Coast Regional Plan project has been undertaken by the State Planning Commission, and involves consultation with the seven Councils within the Limestone Coast Region. The Limestone Coast Regional Plan

sets the strategic vision of the State Government and articulates how important planning and development changes can be accommodated over a 15 to 30 year period, by investigating and guiding such areas as:

- where housing and employment land will be located;
- how housing and population growth will be serviced;
- what infrastructure is needed and how it will be provided; and,
- different growth scenarios (and implications for these scenarios).

The last Regional Plan review was completed in 2011, which was then followed by the establishment of the new and current planning system. The creation of the new Regional Plan was proposed in 4 stages:

- Stage 1 – prepare engagement plan (completed)
- Stage 2 - early engagement (completed)
- Stage 3 - consultation on the draft plan (25 March 2025 to 17 June 2025)

- Stage 4 - communicating the final plan (late 2025)

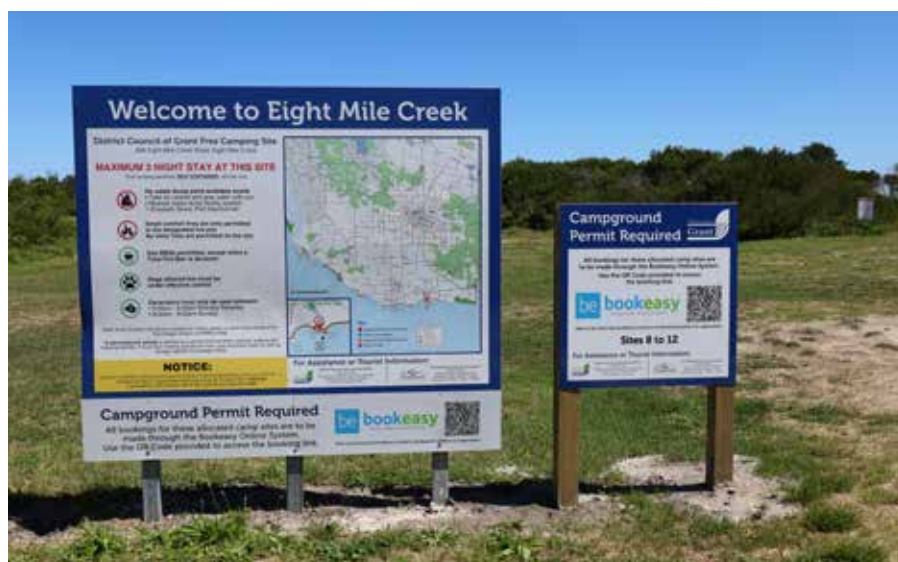
Community Consultation on the draft Limestone Coast Regional Plan took place over a 3 month period, from 25 March 2025 to 17 June 2025.

Council made a submission on the draft Limestone Coast Regional Plan in June 2025. The Council's submission referred to significant strategic planning work undertaken by Council over recent years, which included the Strategic Land Use Priorities Project, the Inner Townships Master Plan and other previous Master Plans, other relevant strategic planning matters, future growth and development issues, and required future Code Amendments.

Further information on the Limestone Coast Regional Plan is available on the SA Planning Portal.

STRATEGIC LAND USE PRIORITIES PROJECT

The Strategic Land Use Priorities Project commenced during 2022-2023 and was completed in October 2024. The purpose of the Plan is to evaluate development growth rate scenarios for Commercial, Industrial, Rural and Residential areas, and to identify possible land use zoning changes that could be incorporated in future amendments of the Planning and Design Code. The finalised Strategic Land Use Priorities Project has been used by Council in its submission on the draft Limestone Coast Regional Plan to strategically influence the final version of the Regional Plan.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

The 2024–25 financial year marked a period of strategic growth, advocacy, and community engagement for economic development and tourism initiatives and issues. Key initiatives and outcomes included:

Completion of the Strategic Land Use Priorities Project, guiding future residential and industrial growth while preserving township character and agricultural land. The completion of this project facilitated active advocacy for zoning decisions and infrastructure investment through meetings with State Ministers and developers.

Council submitted an application for infrastructure grant funding with a Growing Regions Round 2 grant application to deliver the transformation of the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards, and the existing commitment of \$2.7 million in State Government funding reconfirmed. Ultimately this application was unsuccessful, with a revised funding approach considered. In this year, Council also completed the acquittal of the State Bicycle Funds granted by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to deliver a project, which provided a shared use bike path to enhance active transport infrastructure for students in Mil-Lel.

External commercial operations of Council were supported with policy and advocacy, including, successful motions submitted for the National General Assembly (Australian Local Government Association) to advocate regarding federal funding for regional airport infrastructure and security screening; and fairer

airline pricing and sustainable regional aviation.

Council's response to State Government engagement regarding the SA Government's Transport Strategy, highlighted the need for improved freight corridors, regional connectivity, and public transport options. Council also provided feedback through consultations under the Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act, (including feedback on the Blanche BESS project), and advocated for community consultation in renewable energy development processes and facilitated local supplier engagement.

Council provided continued support for unsolicited proposals, local business growth, and regional partnerships, and initiated an updated Growth, Investment and Visitor Economy Framework, to be informed by targeted stakeholder engagement and aligned with Council's strategic goals. Throughout the year economic development and tourism initiatives have been underpinned by active participation in regional forums, industry briefings, and national conferences alongside ongoing collaboration with neighbouring councils, government agencies, and industry groups to advance shared economic and tourism objectives.

TOURISM

The District Council of Grant features many places of unique geological significance and natural beauty, such as Mount Schank, Piccaninnie Ponds, Ewens Ponds, Kilsby Sinkhole, the Little Blue Lake, and the southernmost coastal areas of South Australia. The area presents a unique blend of opportunities for water-based, underground, and land-based tourism activities such as: recreational fishing, surfing, cave-diving, snorkeling, hiking, bike-riding, bird watching, and camping. Accommodation and hospitality options range from fish and chips near the beach and caravan park accommodation, through to recreational vehicle free-camping, or Bed & Breakfast, luxury apartment and hotel stays with locally sourced seafood produce and gourmet dining.

COUNCIL-OWNED TOURIST FACILITIES AND INFORMATION

Council provides a range of tourism infrastructure and services including owning and operating the Mount Gambier Regional Airport. It maintains and monitors free camping sites for self-contained recreational vehicles, and conveniently located public recreational vehicle dump points. It also owns the Port MacDonnell Caravan Park and provides bins, waste collection and public toilets in key tourist areas such as the Port MacDonnell foreshore, at Brown Bay car park, at the base of state-heritage listed Mount Schank, and at Donovans Landing (which now also includes showers) among others.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Council promotes local tourism attractions through its Visitor Information Outlet at Port MacDonnell Community Complex, and via directional signage throughout the district. Port MacDonnell is famous for its lobsters, having the largest lobster fishing fleet in Australia and attracts many visitors from intrastate, interstate and overseas to sample the local delicacy. The Visitor Information Outlet is open to the public seven days a week and serviced by friendly staff with local knowledge to advise visitors with a range of tourism pamphlets, brochures, and souvenirs available.

The Complex also incorporates the Art Gallery which is coordinated by staff, and the Port MacDonnell and District Maritime Museum which is maintained by an active group of volunteers. The Gallery hosts exhibitions throughout the year, with sculptures, paintings, photographs, and other displays available for visitors to view free of charge. Access to the Museum and its comprehensive record of maritime history and coastal shipwrecks, is granted for a small cover charge.

LIMESTONE COAST COORDINATED REGIONAL TOURISM

The Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) coordinates support for strategic Local Government tourism activities across the councils in the Limestone Coast in liaison with Tourism SA. The LCLGA Limestone Coast Destination Development Strategy 2020-2025 includes marketing, visitor



Penguins at Port MacDonnell .

servicing, events, experience development, governance and collaboration, industry capability and promotes the value of tourism. Council management and staff participate in the Limestone Coast Local Government Tourism networking meetings throughout the year with staff and management from LC LGA and colleagues from neighbouring Limestone Coast councils.

A successful collaboration between Council, the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce and local businesses delivered the Experience Mount Gambier Tours engaging over 200 participants to benefit 29 local hospitality-aligned businesses in the district. The pilot project assisted local visitor attractions and hospitality venues to collaborate on package bus tours which were promoted to attendees at the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA), encouraging visitor dispersal from the central Mount Gambier location into the District Council of Grant.

Council also provided support for the return of the Port MacDonnell Bay Festival and promoted regional tourism through strategic partnerships and was introduced to the SA Tourism Commission's "Simple Pleasures" campaign.

Artwork by Annette Cassidy at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex from the Echos of Memories exhibition.



PROGRESS OF GOAL 2: ECONOMY

People recognise that our rural and natural environments are the cornerstone of the local economy.

They would like to see a regional approach to strengthening tourism offerings based on our area’s unique natural assets, in particular the caves, sinkholes, forests and coastlines. There is potential opportunity to optimise the extension of the Great Ocean Road through our district.

People would like our valuable primary production land and waters protected from development and to support our important agriculture, forestry and fisheries industries. There is interest in establishing industry hubs to value add to primary production outputs.

Availability of skilled workers is a challenge. People suggested attracting skilled migrants and advocating for better local training options.

Our Airport and Saleyards are key economic drivers and upgrading or expanding these facilities were identified as a way of supporting local industry.

Short Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Seek funding to deliver the Mount Gambier & Districts Livestock Exchange 2030 Transformation Project to unlock the economic potential of the saleyards	Planning	Ongoing advocacy for Federal Government funding
Develop a plan for sustainable growth and tourism to clarify Council’s approach supporting the local economy	Planning	Budgeted for 2025/26
Deliver a camping initiative that provides infrastructure and systems for camping on Council land to boost tourism while protecting our natural assets	Planning	Gathering information to inform Council’s position
Develop a Mount Gambier Regional Airport Master Plan to identify opportunities for economic growth, advocacy and resilient infrastructure	Complete	Adopted 16 December 2024

Long Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Deliver the Mount Gambier Airport Master Plan	Commenced	Adopted 16 December 2024
Provide enabling tourism elements, such as signage or picnic tables, at tourist destinations on Council land	Planning	Inner Townships Masterplan adopted, Growth, Investment and Visitor Economy Strategy underway, Advocacy Agenda and Asset Management Plans underway

Status	Comments
Not Started	Action not started as yet
Planning	Working with internal stakeholders to define, scope and resource the action
Commenced	Undertaking action
Complete	Action is complete
Deferred	Due to other factors this project is deferred



ENVIRONMENT

A sustainable district that values the natural qualities and heritage that underpin our health, liveability and economy

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

COMMUNITY RANGERS

The Community Rangers are responsible for supporting community safety through regulatory functions such as animal management, fire prevention, local nuisance, abandoned vehicles, monitoring boat ramp use, free camping, and litter control. They also manage the drumMUSTER Agsafe program.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Dogs & Cats Online (DACO), a portal managed by the Dog and Cat Management Board captures registration details of all dogs and cats in South Australia.

The dog registration numbers for the district have risen slightly. In any given year, there are a small proportion of unrenewed animals to follow up. Instances of wandering at large, dog attacks, and barking noise complaints are common examples needing Council intervention, education and compliance. Dog attacks and wandering at large incidents are responded to as expediently as resources allow. Breaches of the Dog and Cat Management Act can result in the issuing of expiations, the application of control orders, and in some cases requiring dogs to be euthanised.

Statistics pertaining to the area of dog and cat management are outlined in the table.

Number of registered dogs	3028
Number of wandering dog reports	46
Number of barking dog reports	14
Number of dogs impounded	20
Number of dogs returned to owner	6
Number of dogs re-homed (usually involving third party transfer)	8
Number of dog attacks on humans / harassments	7
Number of dog attacks on animals / harassments	17

A total of 827 cats were registered in the Council area through DACO for 2024-2025.

Council’s work in this field is governed by the relevant legislation, the requirements of the Dog and Cat Management Board, Council’s Animal Management Plan, and Council by-laws.

FIRE PREVENTION

Local government entities in the region actively participate in the fire prevention space through engagement in the Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Committee. Recent projects have been to simplify the fire permit process and explore potential cultural burning activities that could be facilitated by the

Burrandies Aboriginal Corporation. Council’s Fire Prevention Officers also routinely liaise with the Country Fire Service (CFS) in relation to curing data, permit issuing, and the regulation of fire prevention activities on private landholdings.

WANDERING STOCK

The Community Rangers and relief Works staff have responded to numerous reports of wandering stock throughout the district. The importance of paddock fencing maintenance is regularly communicated in person and Council’s communication platforms. Often stock complaints are reported through the after-hours Call Centre or SAPOL.

	Number of complaints	Expiations	Notices/ Orders	Prosecutions	Further Comments
Local nuisance	Noise – 17 Dust – 14 Odour - 2		1		Some complaints involved EPA licensed sites and were either referred or involved liaising with their authorised officers.
Litter control	71	2	1 (multiple reports linked to a court order)		

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

DrumMUSTER

The highly valued and specialised DrumMUSTER program continues to be offered, mainly servicing the agricultural and forestry sectors. More than 6000 eligible containers were accepted, processed and recycled for the year.

UNSIGHTLY PROPERTIES

Compliance action relating to illegal land uses and unsightly properties is ongoing. This involves thorough investigation, collaboration with other regulatory bodies, and various enforcement actions. The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act, Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act, and South Australian Public Health Act provide the legislative tools for Council to work through these matters.

FOOD SAFETY ACTIVITIES

Principally, enquiries from food businesses have concerned the recently introduced Standard pertaining to food safety supervisor requirements and a greater need for documentation of food safety skills and knowledge.

Existing cross-council delegations between Wattle Range Council, the City of Mount Gambier and District Council of Grant enabled environmental health staff to provide urgent assistance/advice when required.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Expansion of Council's kerbside collection zone for refuse and recycling services was relatively modest for the year. Small pockets of properties on the fringe were added to the existing routes and a section near the Glenburnie Racecourse.

Greater attention was given to the introduction of an Opt-In Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service through the previously trialed areas of Nene Valley, Port MacDonnell and a rural living area stretching from Crafter Road, Compton to Kilsby Road, OB Flat.

The trial had been conducted over a 3-month period between 1 December 2024 and 28 February 2025, with an interim service continuing through the Annual Business Plan consultation period, before the paid Opt-In service commenced in July 2025.

Council also endorsed a second free FOGO trial in Yahl, Tarpeena, Allendale East, Racecourse Bay and Kongorong after receiving sufficient interest in the service during the community consultation period. Eligible households will receive information on how to participate in the second trial, what to expect from the service and how to opt-in and out of the newly endorsed FOGO kerbside collection service.

In relation to activity at EPA licensed waste management sites, over 475 tonnes of general waste, E-waste, cardboard and co-mingled recyclable materials have been collected through the four Waste Transfer Stations. In addition, significant volumes of scrap metal and green waste have also been received with scrap metal being sold for further processing. Greenwaste is used for Council purposes if not contaminated, and if contaminated is disposed of by a third party.

COASTAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY

It has been identified that the coastline along the Limestone Coast has experienced coastal erosion and inundation, and it is expected that this is likely to increase in future years. The District Council of Grant acknowledges these hazards and has commenced a joint project, with the District Council of Robe, District Council of Kingston and Wattle Range Council, to develop strategies to reduce the risk of erosion and inundation.



Coastal Adaptation Workshops

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Council hosted a series of workshops facilitated by its Coastal Management consultant FSC Range in Port MacDonnell, Carpenter Rocks, and Donovans to allow community members to understand and ask questions about the potential impacts of coastal erosion and flooding in the district. Community participation was paramount to ensuring community led input on adaptation options for Council.

Council has agreed to establish a Pelican Point Working Group. In addition, given the interest in this Project, Council extended the consultation period for community feedback.

Preparation for a Council grant application through the South Australian Coast Protection Board is also underway. Council is seeking funding for the development of a Coast Protection Strategy for Pelican Point.

Council's consultant FSC Range is assisting staff in preparing the submission, drawing from the active Limestone Coast Coastal Adaptation Strategy project work.

The rationale for the specific Pelican Point strategy was framed in the following manner:

“This project is underpinned by a robust foundation of technical assessment, strategic planning, and community consultation. A comprehensive Coastal Hazard Assessment has been completed, identifying areas along the coastline that are vulnerable to erosion, inundation, and the long-term impacts of sea-level rise. This work has defined the extent and severity of risks to both public and private land, community infrastructure, and natural coastal systems.

Building on this, a detailed Adaptation Plan was developed to outline appropriate, place-based responses to these hazards. The plan considers a range of adaptation pathways and prioritises long-term sustainability, environmental resilience, and risk reduction. For Pelican Point, the need for a coordinated coastal protection and flooding strategy was clearly identified in the Multi-Criteria Assessment of that project.

Extensive community engagement has also been undertaken to ensure that local values, knowledge, and expectations are embedded in the project's direction. Feedback from residents, landowners, and stakeholders has informed the identification of key issues and helped shape the preferred approach in the adaptation plan.

Previous design concepts have been explored (a seawall). These past investigations provide valuable insight into technical feasibility, environmental constraints, and community preferences. However, this design does not necessarily align with existing best practice or provide a sustainable long-term solution for this location.

Together, these efforts form a strong rationale for proceeding with an integrated and well supported coastal management project that is technically sound, environmentally appropriate, and socially endorsed.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

All South Australian councils with a coastline are eligible to apply for the grants. The funding is intended to support responses to issues that have arisen due to environmental changes, or previous development decisions made without adequate understanding of coastal processes, such as erosion, tidal movement, or sediment transport.”

GLENELG RIVER SHACKS WASTEWATER PROJECT

Several meetings of the Glenelg River Shacks Wastewater Project Group have occurred in recent years, involving reviews of the concept design work performed by HDS Australia Pty Ltd on CWMS connections for the Donovans, Reed Bed and Dry Creek locations. Regulatory agencies including the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), SA Health, and the department principally responsible for the shacks being the Department for Environment and Water (DEW), were also invited and present at one of the meetings. Complexities associated with potential installations were covered, as well as navigating the next steps.

Procurement for the Detailed Design involved formally approaching the Local Government Association (LGA) for assistance in handling the tender process. Council also applied for funding through the LGA's Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS) Management Committee meeting to undertake the design work.

The funding application for the Glenelg River Shacks Wastewater Project was initially tabled at the February 2025 Committee



meeting, with Council's Director of Environmental Services and Manager of Environmental Health and Regulatory Services representing Council and speaking to the application. A representative from the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) also assisted in responding to lease related questions.

Following endorsement by the LGA Board meeting in late March 2025, Council commenced preparation for the Detailed Design tender. The procurement process was underway by the conclusion of the financial year.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - HERITAGE

LIMESTONE COAST HERITAGE ADVISORY SERVICE

Council has continued to support the Limestone Coast Heritage Advisory Service, which is provided through the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA). The Heritage Adviser is a Heritage Architect who is available to assist Council and/or owners of places of both State and Local Heritage significance in relation to such things as restoration and development works. Appointments with the Heritage Adviser can be made by contacting Council.

As of the 30 June 2025 the current LCLGA Heritage Advisory service will cease, with Council engaging a Heritage Architect on an ad hoc basis.

LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY

Within the 2023/2024 financial year, Council commenced a Local Heritage Survey Project, that will consider appropriate identification of heritage across the whole Council. The project will be carried out in four (4) Stages, that includes the following stages:

Stage 1 - Thematic Heritage Framework Study (completed December 2024)

This part of the project undertook a review of all past heritage studies. It should be noted that during the mid-1980's the state government undertook a heritage study of the former Port MacDonnell District Council and the District Council of Mount Gambier, where 76 properties were identified as having potential for further investigation within our current Council. Stage 1 also outlined a history of the area and

identified themes and subthemes. These themes could be used for identification and alignment of potential heritage subject in stage 3 of the project.

Stage 2 - Identification Survey and Recommendations (completion due in late 2025)

During this stage, a desktop study utilising a Geographic Information System is used to add to a list of potential heritage items. This list would be used as the starting point for further investigation and visual inspection of properties. From the raw data collected from past heritage studies 1980's, desktop study and visual inspection, a Heritage Assessment Report (Heritage Datasheet) will be produced for each property. At this stage, each data sheet will only contain basic information and not detailed heritage analysis, however a rating system will be applied indicating whether to proceed or not to proceed with a detailed analysis of the building (this will occur in Stage 3).

Stage 3 - Detailed Item Assessment (commencing late 2025, proposed completion mid 2026)

A detailed analysis of the best examples of heritage and character buildings and natural features will be undertaken, with a final report being presented to the Council for consideration. After Council consideration of the report, a period of consultation will be undertaken with the broader community, local history groups, the State Heritage Branch and

affected property owners. All representation received during this consultation will be used to make any final changes to the Report and Heritage Datasheets, before Council signoff to start stage 4 of the project.

Stage 4 - Code Amendment (2026/27)

A Heritage Code Amendment is the formal listing process, where the Minister for Planning approves a course of action to be undertaken by Council. Council must undertake extensive public consultation and provide a detailed Heritage Assessment Report for each of the proposed heritage listings. Consultation is undertaken in accordance with the Community Engagement Charter. During the Code Amendment affected owners have a right of appeal in accordance with Section 202 (1)(a) of the PDI Act.

For further information please go to our consultation page: <https://yoursaydcg.com.au/local-heritage>

PROGRESS OF GOAL 3: ENVIRONMENT

People cherish the natural, rural landscapes and waters of the area and it is a priority for them to be protected from development. They would like to see tourism in natural areas but would like it managed sustainably. The risk to coastal areas from inundation and erosion needs to be considered and managed appropriately.

People want water to be managed sustainably and some Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS) need review.

Innovative sustainable industry schemes, such as waste to resource, are desired along with improvements to the regional infrastructure needed to support them, such as an improved energy distribution network. Enhancing recycling services, particularly food organics, is seen as an opportunity.

Short Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Participate in the Local Government Association of SA (LGA) Net Zero Accelerate Program to reduce Council's carbon emissions	Complete	Council's project team worked with LGA to produce an action plan.
Facilitate a Local Heritage Survey Project to identify our local heritage places	Stage 1 Complete	Stage 1 one is complete. Stage 2 is progressing well. Stage 3 will commence in December 2025.
Prepare a plan with input from key stakeholders to understand the risk to the community and environment from coastal erosion and inundation	Commenced	Community consultation undertaken in May 2025.
Review Council Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS) to ensure they meet community and industry needs, including tenure for Glenelg River Shacks	Commenced	LGA funding application being lodged
Assess options or pilot expanded Council green waste recycling services to support community waste reduction	Pilot 1 Complete	Pilot 1 complete, and well received. Pilot 2 due to commence December 2025.
Develop a waste management strategy to identify ways to increase waste reuse or recycling from Council operations and waste services including hard waste collections	Deferred	Resourcing green waste projects first.

PROGRESS OF GOAL 3: ENVIRONMENT

Long Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Build on LGA Net Zero programs to transition Council's operations to Net Zero emissions	Not Started	Plan actions not yet budgeted.
Identify actions to move beyond 'Net Zero' Council emissions	Planning	Inner Townships Masterplan adopted, Growth, Investment and Visitor Economy Strategy underway, Advocacy Agenda and Asset Management Plans underway
	Not Started	Awaiting delivery of coastal erosion and inundation plan.
Implement risk mitigation responses that support adaptation to coastal erosion and inundation	Not Started	Awaiting finalisation of plan.
Deliver improvements to Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS)	Commenced	Initial projects scoped and budgeted for 2025-26.
Deliver waste management strategy including improvements to green and hard waste recycling services	Commenced	Greenwaste pilot 1 complete, pilot 2 scheduled.

Status	Comments
Not Started	Action not started as yet
Planning	Working with internal stakeholders to define, scope and resource the action
Commenced	Undertaking action
Complete	Action is complete
Deferred	Due to other factors this project is deferred



INFRASTRUCTURE

**Reliable and contemporary
infrastructure that meets
the needs of our community,
industry and visitors**

WORKS AROUND THE DISTRICT

Special Local Roads Funding (SLRP) of \$260,000 was received towards Stage 2 of the reconstruction of a 1.8km section of Wandilo Forest Road which was completed in March 2025 at a cost of \$520,000.

The road reconstruction and seal program included Airport Road 1500m, Barrows Road 900m, Hollis Road 600m, Rabbiter Road 1,600m, Stafford Road 600m, Wandilo Forest Road 1,800m and Woodlands Road 1,600m, totaling 8.6 kilometres.

As part of the Council's commitment to maintenance of the unsealed road network a combination of resheeting and rip/relay construction took place on 17 roads throughout the district to bring back shape and life to 40 kilometres of the unsealed road network. These roads included; Cafpirco Road, Cape Banks Lighthouse Road, Concannon Road, Earls Cave Road, Glynn's Road, Hinton Road, Hutt Bay Road, Jess Road, Kieselbach Road, Lithgows Road, Littles Road, Medhurst Road, Racketts Road, Rust Road, Schinkels Road, Spehrs Road and Trevor Clarke Drive.

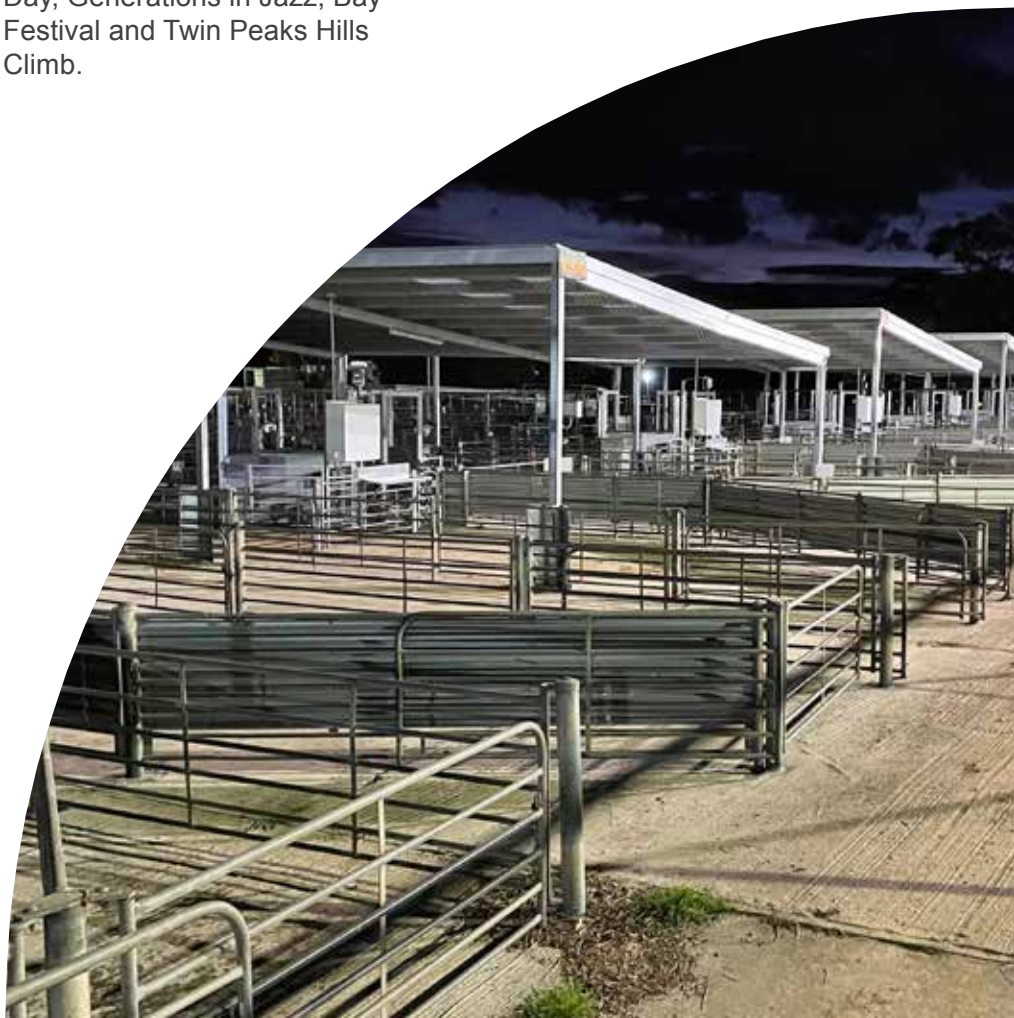
Additional maintenance of unsealed roads includes district wide patrol grading of 750km of unsealed roads twice over during the winter period, with continued potholing of the unsealed roads during dryer summer months to maintain to the service levels expected by our road users.

In addition to maintenance commitments for unsealed roads has been the resealing of 11 existing sealed road segments throughout the district to extend their useful life totaling 10 kilometres including; Alexander Street, Attamurra Road, Green Point Road, Loudon Hill Road, Milroy Road, Pearson Street, Rossell Street, Sisters Road, Shepherds Lane, Sturm Road and Woodlands Road.

Other works completed throughout the district included treatments to improve road safety including intersection re-alignment at Hollis Road / Stafford Road and guard rail installation on Rabbiter Road and Attamurra Road.

Other activities undertaken by the Works department include event site preparation, setup and road closures for the events of Anzac Day, Generations in Jazz, Bay Festival and Twin Peaks Hills Climb.

Due to public demand and the popularity of the Little Blue Lake, a portable all-abilities toilet cubicle was installed during the busier summer period to enhance convenience for visitors to the Little Blue.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

STATISTICS FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Council's Environmental Services team provide development information and guidance in the areas of planning, building and environmental health. Development within the Council area may be in relation to building work; a change in use of land; land division; some types of earthworks; works on wastewater treatment systems; and activities in relation to State and Local Heritage places.

The South Australian planning system has undertaken significant changes in recent years, which affects the way assessment of Development Applications occurs.

The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (PDI Act) heralded the start of an ePlanning system, and a statewide Planning and Design Code has replaced the individual Council Development Plan. The ePlanning system is accessible through the PlanSA website, <https://plan.sa.gov.au/> and allows all development applications to be lodged and managed centrally.

The Planning and Design Code sets out the relevant planning rules, based on the proposed development location and type, and is accessible via the PlanSA website at, <https://code.plan.sa.gov.au/>

The following information shows the number and value of Development Applications during 2024-2025.



\$ VALUE OF
DEVELOPMENT
APPLICATIONS

\$23,470,000

NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENT
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

179

48 NEW DWELLINGS



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

LIMESTONE COAST SOUTHERN REGIONAL ASSESSMENT PANEL (LCSRAP)

The Limestone Coast Southern Regional Assessment Panel (RAP) commenced operation on 1 July 2022, taking over from the long running Council Assessment Panel.

The RAP was created in collaboration with the City of Mount Gambier, the Wattle Range Council, and the District Council of Robe. The RAP is the relevant authority for Development Applications that require public consultation where a Statement of Representation has been received. The membership of the RAP, is made up of one Independent Presiding Member / Chairperson, and four Independent Members, all of whom are Accredited Professionals, with planning related professional knowledge.

On behalf of the District Council of Grant the RAP has considered 9 Development Applications in 2024-2025, which is 2.1% of the total Development Applications determined by the District Council of Grant.

DEVELOPMENT COMPLIANCE

The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (PDI Act), sets out the legal parameters used to determine what constitutes development, building work and a change in land use. The PDI Act also sets out penalties and remedies for breaching the PDI Act. An Enforcement Notice pursuant to Section 213 of the PDI Act, can be used to regulate enforcement actions in relation to development breaches. In accordance with Councils Enforcement Policy, staff undertook investigations into 42 alleged breaches of the PDI Act and acted in a variety of formal and informal ways to remedy identified breaches.

Council staff have worked on a variety of property related compliance issues in the development legislative field. Common examples of issues which Council Officers have been dealing with include:

- Undertaking development or building work without obtaining consent.
- Undertaking a change in land use without obtaining consent.
- Undertaking building work that does not conform with the approved plans.

PORT MACDONNELL MEMORIAL WALL AND SHIPWRECK WALK PROJECTS

Council has been in collaboration with the Port MacDonnell and District Maritime Museum Committee over several years regarding the development of a Memorial Wall Precinct and Shipwreck Walk along the western end of Sea Parade at Port MacDonnell. Final feedback from the Committee was received in October 2023 and reported to Council in January 2024. Council subsequently endorsed and proceeded with a Community Engagement Plan and process in relation to the projects. The community consultation was undertaken in early 2024, with a total of 26 submissions being received by Council. Overall, there was general community support for both projects. Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel (AIAP) also had an opportunity to review and submit feedback on the proposals after the conclusion of the community consultation period.

In March 2024 Council resolved to proceed to finalise the design/building plans required for the projects, and finalise the costings associated with undertaking these projects, for inclusion in the 2024/2025 Council Budget.

The Port MacDonnell and District Maritime Museum Committee is also assisting Council to fund these projects.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Shipwreck Walk was undertaken by Council in late 2024 and commences near the Jetty and runs along the existing walking and bike path along Sea Parade through to the proposed Memorial Wall Precinct near the boat ramp area. The Shipwreck Walk features attractive bollards and historical details for each shipwreck which has occurred along the Port MacDonnell coastline.

The construction of the Memorial Wall Precinct has been delayed due to further clarification being required in relation to Native Title and unparcellated 'adjacent land' and engaging a builder to undertake the work. The Memorial Wall Precinct will feature the Memorial Wall where plaques can be placed for all persons who have lost their lives at sea along the Port MacDonnell coastline, together with other artefacts associated with Port MacDonnell's maritime history, two (2) shelters, seating, garden beds and associated landscaping. It is also proposed to 'softly' floodlight the Precinct at night.

The design concepts have undergone thorough review, with multiple design options presented and feedback actively sought. Council has endorsed a final design following a public consultation process. The Memorial Wall Precinct is to be constructed at the earliest opportunity.

INNER TOWNSHIPS MASTER PLAN

The Inner Townships Master Plan has been finalised forecasting population growth and reflects amenity aspirations that are important to each inner community including proposed future landscaping, shared use paths, signage, play spaces and lighting. The Plan aims to create places and spaces that are accessible, connected, inviting and attractive, whilst also reflecting the diverse character of each township, considering both short and long-term aspirations. The Master Plan considered both public and private land and involved consultation with the community and all relevant stakeholders. The Plan envisages growth and should be read in conjunction with the Strategic Land Use Priorities Project which aims to identify land use zoning changes relevant to the Master Plan. The project is completed and can be found at the following web page, <https://www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au/council/policies-by-laws-and-documents/strategiesplans>

Council has now used the Master Plan to identify key projects to be undertaken during 2025/2026. Some of these projects are in the townships of Tarpeena, Allendale East and Yahl.

Reference to the Inner Townships Master Plan was also made in Council's submission on the draft Limestone Coast Regional Plan.



PROGRESS OF GOAL 4: INFRASTRUCTURE

People want Council assets to be well maintained. They also want us be sensible with our infrastructure strategy and advocacy to ensure that there is adequate infrastructure to support future growth. It is also a priority to respond to climate change, including the use of smart technology.

Roads need to be safe and adequate to support increasing population, freight vehicle size and volumes. They need to be in the right places to enable movement of goods and people.

Transport hubs for industry were also suggested.

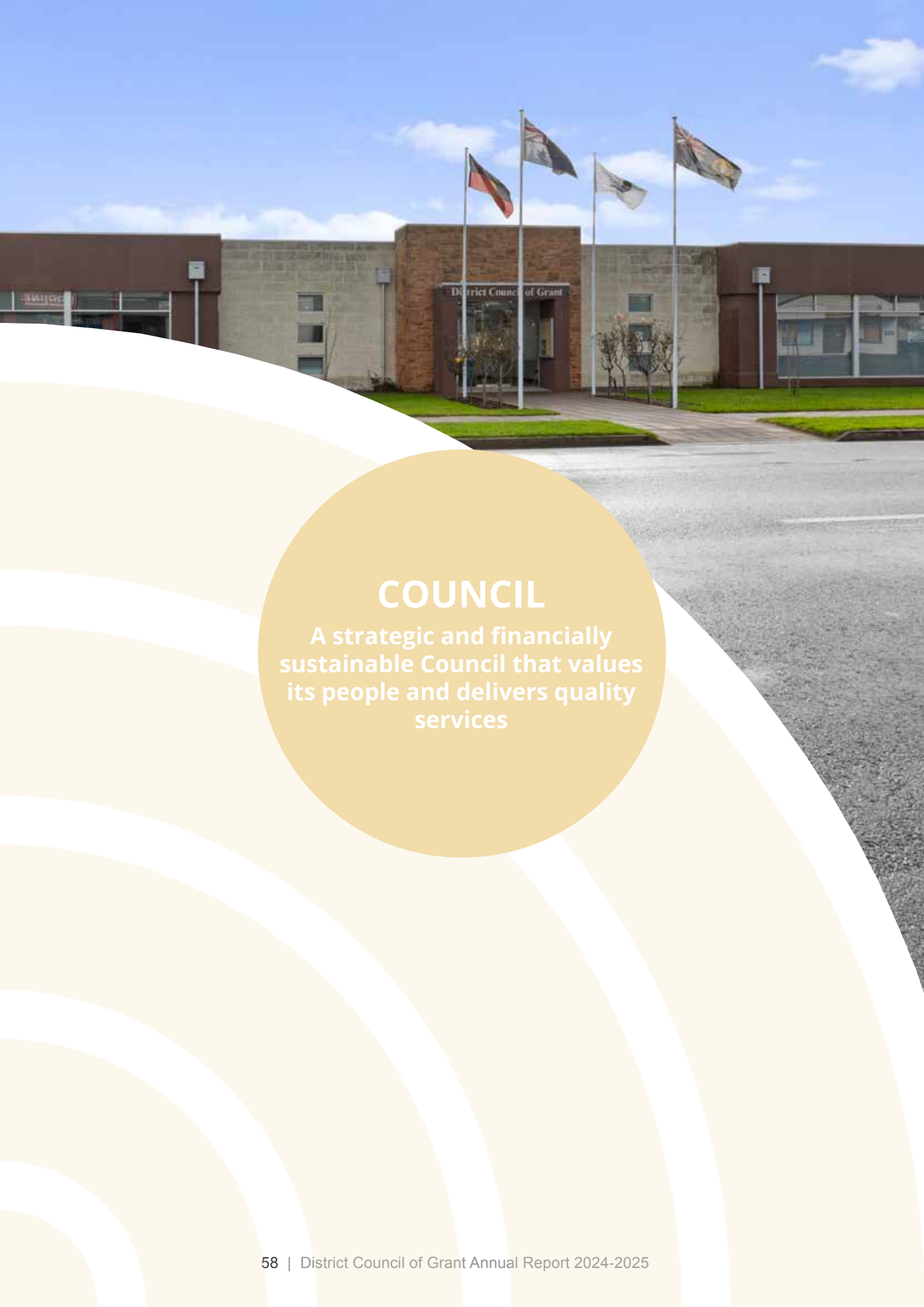
People would like to see improvements to the cycle and pedestrian networks between and within towns and tourist destinations and ensure they are accessible.

Vastly improved internet and phone connectivity and speeds are desired.

Short Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Review the service levels of Council roads to direct investment where most effective	Planning	Internal working group formed.
Develop a plan that identifies a cycling and walking network improvements to support community and tourist use	Planning	Internal planning for scope documents.
Complete the Pelican Point shared path from Carpenter Rocks Tavern to the foreshore to support accessibility and tourism	Complete	Shared path was constructed.
Commence delivery of the Inner Townships Master Plan with community and business to improve the standard, amenity, greening, access and activation of our towns	Delivering	Initial prioritised projects scheduled.

Long Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Implement the findings of the Council road service level review	Commenced	Adopted 16 December 2024
Implement the Cycling and Walking Trails Master Plan	Not Started	Awaiting finalisation of review.
Continue to implement the Inner Townships Master Plan	Delivering	Activities prioritised for annual budget.

Status	Comments
Not Started	Action not started as yet
Planning	Working with internal stakeholders to define, scope and resource the action
Commenced	Undertaking action
Complete	Action is complete
Deferred	Due to other factors this project is deferred



COUNCIL

A strategic and financially sustainable Council that values its people and delivers quality services

OUR WORKFORCE

The District Council of Grant is committed to supporting and empowering our people through a unified 'One Team' approach guided by our core values of Care, Happiness, Honesty, Unity, and Support. These values, developed collaboratively with staff, are central to everything we do, along with our strong focus on workplace safety and wellbeing. Our employee led Cultural Team, HUSCH, continues to play a key role developing initiatives that promote and reinforce these values across our organisation.

Attracting and retaining high quality Council staff is a priority. Council strives to be an 'employer of choice', to offer workplace flexibility and recognition, and to provide training and leadership opportunities to support Council staff to be the best they can be.

We remain dedicated to building the skills and capabilities of our team to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality services to our community.

WORKFORCE AT A GLANCE

79 TOTAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE
EMPLOYED BY
COUNCIL

50:29 MALE:
FEMALE
RATIO

30 NUMBER OF STAFF WHO HAVE
BEEN WITH COUNCIL OVER 10
YEARS

AVERAGE AGE
OF COUNCIL
EMPLOYEES

47.96

9.75

67.98 NUMBER OF FULL
TIME EQUIVALENTS
(FTE)

AVERAGE YEARS
OF SERVICE



Above: Works Manager Mathew Little (left), CEO Darryl Whicker and Director Works and Infrastructure Tony Jordan (right) with Jeremy, acknowledging 25 years service to Council.



Left: Maceo (centre) at the Emerging Leaders Graduation with Minister Clare Scriven and Lauren Oxlade, CEO Limestone Coast RDA.



Above: Martin (centre) at the Emerging Leaders Graduation with Minister Clare Scriven and Lauren Oxlade, CEO Limestone Coast RDA.

Right: CEO Darryl Whicker (left) with Director Environmental Services Leith McEvoy, Trudy and Emma from the Planning Team.



GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

COUNCIL DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier, on the third Monday of each month at 5.30pm. If the Monday is a public holiday, the Council meeting is held on the Wednesday of that week.

Meetings are open to the public and Council encourages attendance. Pursuant to Regulation 11 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013* and Council's *Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures (GOVPOL 03)*, any individual wishing to bring a matter before Council is required to put the request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer a minimum of seven working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

For the period of 2024/2025 there were 4 presentation/deputations.

ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW

The *Local Government Act 1999* prescribes that a review must be undertaken by the Council in accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2013* as gazetted by the Minister. Section 12(4) of the *Local Government Act 1999* outlines that a review of this nature must entail a comprehensive review of "... all aspects of the composition of the council, and the issue of the division, or potential division, of the area of the council into wards ...".

District Council of Grant was required, by a notice published in the Government Gazette, to undertake an Elector Representation review between April 2024 and April 2025. Elected Member Workshops were held on 22 April 2024, 12 August 2024 and 20 August 2024. On 3 September 2024 the Council resolved:

- the Council area will not be divided into wards; and
- Council will comprise of an elected Mayor and nine (9) area councillors, all of whom shall be elected by the community to represent the whole of the council area.

Community consultation was undertaken on the report as prepared based on this resolution between 24 September 2024 - 22 October 2024. 25 submissions were received and reviewed before the Council

resolved to proceed with the above recommendations at the November Ordinary Council meeting.

The Representation Report was submitted to the Electoral Commission SA on 2 April 2025, certified on 10 April 2025, and gazetted on 17 April 2025.

Representation reviews are generally required once every 8 years, however the responsible Minister has not yet set the dates for District Council of Grant's next review.

The table below shows a comparison of the elected representation quota for the District Council of Grant compared with similar size and type of Councils in South Australia for the year 2024-2025.

Council	Electors	Elected Members (including Mayor)	Representation Quota
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	7,072	10	707
Coorong	4,026	8	503
Grant	5,917	10	591
Adelaide Plains	7,984	10	798
Mid Murray	7,317	9	813
Naracoorte-Lucindale	5,927	11	538
Northern Areas	3,649	9	405
Renmark Paringa	6,957	9	773
Tatiara	4,537	10	453
Wakefield	5,119	10	511

Source: Electoral Commission SA

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

ANNUAL ALLOWANCES

Council Member Annual Allowances are independently set by the Remuneration Tribunal. Council Members are entitled to receive the following annual allowance as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal pursuant to Section 76 of the Local Government Act (amended each year with any CPI change) for performing and discharging their official functions and duties.

- Mayor
\$47,892 per annum paid quarterly in arrears
- Deputy Mayor
\$14,966.24 per annum paid quarterly in arrears
- Other Elected Members
\$11,973.00 per annum paid quarterly in arrears

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Council makes available to Elected Members the following facilities and support to assist them in fulfilling their official functions and duties:

- An iPad issued to Elected Members on the understanding that all equipment remains the property of Council. iPad's have SIM cards installed that are on a \$15/5GB monthly plan with no excess charges if the data limit is exceeded, these services are paid by Council.
- Council provides Elected Members with an allowance of \$210 per quarter for telephone rental and call costs.

Council make available to the Mayor the following facilities and support as per the Elected Members Allowances and Support Policy:

- Council provide a vehicle (full private use) for the Mayor, with the vehicle to remain the property of Council, and with Council meeting all operational and replacement costs including costs of insurance, registration, servicing, tyres and minor expenses for the vehicle.
- Council are responsible for all fuel costs for the vehicle subject to the following:
 - The Mayor to maintain a log book that will document all travel that is not related to the Mayor's role, functions and duties.

The Mayor has a corporate fuel card for fuel purchases for the Council owned vehicle, with the Mayor providing all fuel dockets/ receipts on at least a monthly basis.

Council provide the Mayor with a mobile phone for business use.

It is recognised that the Mayor's role requires her to meet with various government agencies, and businesses. The Mayor may seek reimbursement of entertainment expenses subject to the event being in her calendar and approved by Council.

LIMESTONE COAST SOUTHERN REGIONAL ASSESSMENT PANEL

The Limestone Coast Southern Regional Assessment Panel (RAP) commenced operation as at 1 July 2022. The RAP has been created for the combined areas of the Wattle Range Council, District Council of Grant, District Council of Robe and City of Mount Gambier.

The RAP works on a 'user pays' system, the individual Council paying only for the items discussed that are relevant to their Council area. Council is invoiced by the City of Mount Gambier who provide administration and the Assessment Manager for the RAP.

For the period of 2024-25 The District Council of Grant paid \$4,554.47 to administer items in its Council area ex GST.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ALLOWANCE

Independent Members - \$350 per meeting.

A sitting fee is payable to Presiding Member Cr Megan Dukalskis of 1.25 times the Elected Members allowance for a prescribed committee.

Elected Members, unless they are the Presiding Member do not receive an allowance for prescribed meetings but are entitled to receive reimbursement for travel within the area of Council, and dependent care expenses associated with attendance at Council and Committee meetings.

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

ACCESS AND INCLUSION PANEL ALLOWANCE

Independent Members - \$200 per meeting.

PROCUREMENT

Council's procurement activities aim to achieve advantageous outcomes by:

- Advancing and/or working within Council's economic, industrial, social and environmental policies and/or Agreements in accord with Councils Strategic Management Plan;
- Enhancing value for money by encouraging competition by ensuring non-discrimination in procurement and using competitive procurement processes;
- Promoting the use of resources in an efficient, effective and ethical manner;
- Making decisions with probity, accountability and transparency.
- Providing reasonable opportunity for competitive local businesses to supply to Council;
- Considering the impact of the service delivery approach on local businesses, observing National Competition Policy guidelines and associated legislation
Council had nothing to report with regards to National Competition Policy;
- Appropriately managing risk;
- Promoting compliance with all relevant legislation; and
- Advancing opportunities for creating or maintaining economic development and growth in the region and other opportunities to participate with other spheres of

government, community groups and the private sector in service delivery

APPLYING PROBITY IN PROCUREMENT

- Enter discussions with the intent to promote genuine engagement, including assisting the potential supplier to understand the procurement outcomes. Where a potential supplier is provided clarification, this can assist the entity achieving better value for money outcomes.
- Make potential suppliers aware that where topics are discussed, this may be suitably de-identified and made available to other potential suppliers. Probity arrangements should not always automatically require that any questions raised in a tender process must be published for all potential tenderers. While questions of a generic nature should be provided to all tenderers, questions that may disclose a tenderer's Intellectual Property should be handled appropriately (for example, by generalising the query), while maintaining the need to treat all tenderers equitably.
- Not feel pressured into providing information that they consider might be sensitive, provides an unfair advantage or concerns another potential suppliers bid. If unsure, it is appropriate to take the request on notice and to respond after suitable consideration.
- Retain appropriate records - for low risk procurements this may be as simple as a file note indicating who the discussion was held with, and key discussion points.

Higher risk decisions requiring the appropriate formal documentation as per the Procurement Policy.

- Design clear and concise scope of works and supply information relevant to tender evaluation and safety.
- Manage tenders and requests for information in a consistent manner including post tender clarification;
- Robust evaluation and provision of feedback.

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

Council held 12 Ordinary meetings and 2 special meetings for the financial year 2024-2025 with a total of 214 resolutions made at these meetings.

During 2024-2025, Section 90(3) provisions of the *Local Government Act 1999*, which enables the exclusion of the public from Council meetings, were invoked on 11 occasions, resulting in 11 resolutions being made in confidence (5% of the total number of resolutions made). Section 91(7) provisions, which keep minutes confidential, were invoked on 9 occasions.

The total number of confidential orders released from confidence was 5, with 32 still in place at the end of the financial year (however 25 of those were carried over from previous financial years). In addition, of the 32 items still held in confidence, 1 has been partially released (to the extent that they are able to be).

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS CONTINUED

2024-2025	Description	Nature of Confidentiality	Held in Confidence
15/07/2024	Public Lighting Dispute Update - Item 14.1	90(3)(i)	Held
15/07/2024	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Wednesday 26 June 2024 - Item 14.2	90(3)(a)	Held
19/08/2024	Rates Overdue – Greater Than Three Years Report	90(3)(a)	Released
16/12/2024	Awards Advisory Group Meeting Notes – 25 November 2024 – Item 14.1	90(3)(o)	Released
16/12/2024	Rates Overdue - Greater Than Three Years Report - Item 14.2	90(3)(a)	Held
16/12/2024	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Friday 1 November 2024 - Item 14.3	90(3)(a)	Held
20/01/2025	Future Proofing the Limestone Coast Local Government Association - Item 14.1	90(3)(a), 90(3)(j)(i), 90(3)(j)(ii)	Minutes only released
17/03/2025	Mount Gambier and District Saleyards - Item 14.1	90(3) (b)(i) and (c)	Held
17/03/2025	Future Proofing the Limestone Coast Local Government Association - Item 14.2	90(3) (a), (j)(i) and (j)(ii)	Held
3/04/2025	Land Acquisition / Site and Future Vision Plan of Commercial Street West Council Facility - Item 1.1	90(3) (b)(i) and (d)(i)	Released
16/06/2025	Code Amendments - Compton and Mil Lel - Item 14.1	90(3) (m)	Held

Pre 2024-2025 (carried over)	Description	Nature of Confidentiality	Held in Confidence
17/12/2018	Sandyridge Holdings [5.89.1/1] - Item 16.1.1	90(3)(h)	Held
15/04/2019	Internal Affairs [9.33.3/23 & 9.33.3/11] - Item 16.3.1	90(3)(j)	Held
15/04/2020	Regional Express Airlines [16.85.1/10] - Item 4.1	90(3)(d)	Held
18/05/2020	Operational Savings [11.71.2/10] - Item 16.1	90(3)(a)	Held
22/12/2020	Operational Matters [12.29.5/4 & 110.62.199] - Item 4.1	90(3)(a)	Held
22/04/2021	Operational matters [9.14.1/10] - Item 5.1	90(3)(a)	Held

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS CONTINUED

Pre 2024-2025 (carried over)	Description	Nature of Confidentiality	Held in Confidence
21/06/2021	Public Lighting Dispute [14.71.3/2] - Item 16.1	90(3)(i)	Held
5/07/2021	Public Lighting Dispute [14.71.3/2] - Item 13.1	90(3)(i)	Held
18/10/2021	Public Lighting Dispute [14.71.3//2] Item 15.1.1	90(3)(i)	Held
27/01/2022	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Monday 17 January 2022 [9.14.1/10] - Item 5.1	90(3)(a)	Held
23/05/2022	CEO Contract and Key Performance Indicators [9.14.1/10] - Item 9.1	90(3)(a)	Held
6/06/2022	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Monday 23 May 2022 [9.14.1/10] - Item 15.1	90(3)(a)	Held
5/09/2022	Development Proposal [16.64.1/7] – Item 15.1	90(3)(b)	Held
25/10/2022	CEO Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee - Review Process [9.14.1/10] – item 9.1	90(3)(a)	Held
7/12/2022	CEO Performance Review - 360 Degree Performance Appraisal and KPI setting - December 2022 [9.14.1/10] - Item 9.1	90(3)(a)	Held
19/12/2022	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Tuesday 25 October 2022 [9.14.1/10] – Item 15.4	90(3)(a)	Held
19/12/2022	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Wednesday 7 December 2022 [9.14.1/10] – Item 15.5	90(3)(a)	Held
16/01/2023	Saleyards Transformation Project Procurement Update [14.65.1/12] – Item 15.2	90(3)(k)	Held
20/03/2023	Mount Gambier and District Saleyards – Prudential Report [14.65.1/23] – Item 15.2	90(3)(b)	Held
17/04/2023	Public Lighting Dispute Update [14.71.3/2] – Item 15.1	90(3)(i)	Held
16/10/2023	Public Lighting Dispute Update [14.71.3/2] - Item 15.1	90(3)(i)	Held
14/11/2023	CEO Performance Review - CEO 360 Degree Model Review, Remuneration and KPI Discussion	90(3)(a)	Held

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS CONTINUED

Pre 2024-2025 (carried over)	Description	Nature of Confidentiality	Held in Confidence
20/11/2023	Confidential Chief Executive Officer Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meeting Minutes of Tuesday 14 November 2023 [19.14.1/10] - Item 15.1	90(3)(a)	Held
18/12/2023	Rates Overdue – Greater Than Three Years Report (1.71.3/1) – Item 15.1	90(3)(a)	Released
18/12/2023	Chief Executive Officer KPI's [16.14.1/3] – Item 15.3	90(3)(a)	Held
18/03/2024	Local Heritage Survey – Stage 1 – Thematic Heritage Framework study (10.3.2/7) – Item 15.1	90(3)(d)	Released
18/03/2024	Saleyards Transformation Project Procurement Process [14.65.1/23] – Item 15.2	90(3)(k)	Held

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Confidential Orders Made	30	30	28	18	9	11
Confidential Orders Carried Forward	13	7	12	14	25	32
Number of Subjects Considered	17	23	15	15	27	32

Council Committees	Number of Meetings	Number of Items	Items considered 'in confidence'
Audit Committee	4	37	0
* Mount Gambier Regional Airport Security Committee <i>Aviation Transport Security Act 2004 and Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2005.</i>	1	3	0
Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Strategy Committee	4	13	0
* Building Fire Safety Committee <i>Section 157(17) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016</i>	2	5	0
Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Performance and Remuneration Review Committee Meetings	1	4	4

* Committees not under the Local Government Act 1999.

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

INTERNAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council is committed to open decision-making processes and to providing access to a fair and objective procedure for the hearing and review of decisions. Council's Procedure for Review of Decisions has been adopted in accordance with Section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and applies to matters that are not resolved satisfactorily. A formal application or request for review of a decision will therefore initiate the internal review. The procedure applies to all formal requests for review of decisions under the *Local Government Act*, but not to requests for reviews made under other legislation (for example the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* or *Freedom of Information Act 1991*) where separate specific procedures are already prescribed by that legislation.

In the 2024/2025 financial year, Council received one (1) request for internal review of a Council decision pursuant to section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Upon review of the details of the request, the applicant was seeking the exclusion of their property from any future heritage register which is a decision that has not yet been made. As Council had not yet made a decision with regard to heritage listing the property, a section 270 review under the *Local Government Act* does not apply.

In 2024-2025 Council received no formal requests for internal review of a Council decisions pursuant to Section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and no requests were carried over from the 2023-2024 financial year.

COMMUNITY LAND

Council currently has thirty-four (34) Community Land Management Plans, which were adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting of 19 June 2023 following a period of public consultation. These consist of twelve (12) generic plans covering community wastewater management systems (CWMS), parkland and community facilities, coastal reserve and beach access, reserves (vacant land), river reserve, boundary reserve, quarry reserve, drainage reserve, boat ramps, emergency services (CFS Depots) camping sites and sinkholes and twenty-two (22) individual plans adopted specifically for a particular parcel of land.

REGISTERS, CODES AND PRACTICES

The *Local Government Act 1999* or the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* requires Council to keep the following Registers, Codes of Conduct/ Practice and Policies.

Registers

- Register of Interests (Members) – Section 68
- Register of gifts and benefits (Members) – Section 72A
- Register of allowances and benefits (Members) – Section 79
- Register relating to training and development (Members) – Section 80A (2h)
- Register of remuneration, salaries and benefits (Employees) – Section 105
- Register of Interests (Employees) – Sections 116
- Register of gifts and benefits (Employees) – Section 119A
- Register of Community Land – Section 207
- Register of public roads – Section 231
- Register of by-laws – Section 252
- Register of building upgrade agreements – Schedule 1B Section 13

Codes

- Code of Practice (Access to Council Meetings, Committees and Documents) – Section 92
- Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures – Regulation 6(1)

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

POLICIES

The following are policies that are required by the *Local Government Act 1999*, to be available on Council's website, as well as a hard copy for purchase on payment of a fixed fee (if any). Council also has a number of policies which are developed to assist Council with its work, however these policies are not legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 1999*.

- Behavioural Management Policy (relating to Elected Member Behaviour)
- Caretaker Policy
- Complaint Handling Policy / Complaint Handling Procedure
- Disposal of Land & Assets Policy
- Elected Members Allowances and Support Policy
- Elected Member Complaint Handling Policy (under Council Member Code of Conduct)
- Elected Members Training and Development Policy
- Internal Control Policy
- Internal Review of Council Decisions (Grievance Procedures)
- Order Making Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Public Consultation Policy
- Public Interest Disclosure Policy & Procedure
- Request for Service Procedure
- Selection of Road Names Policy

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

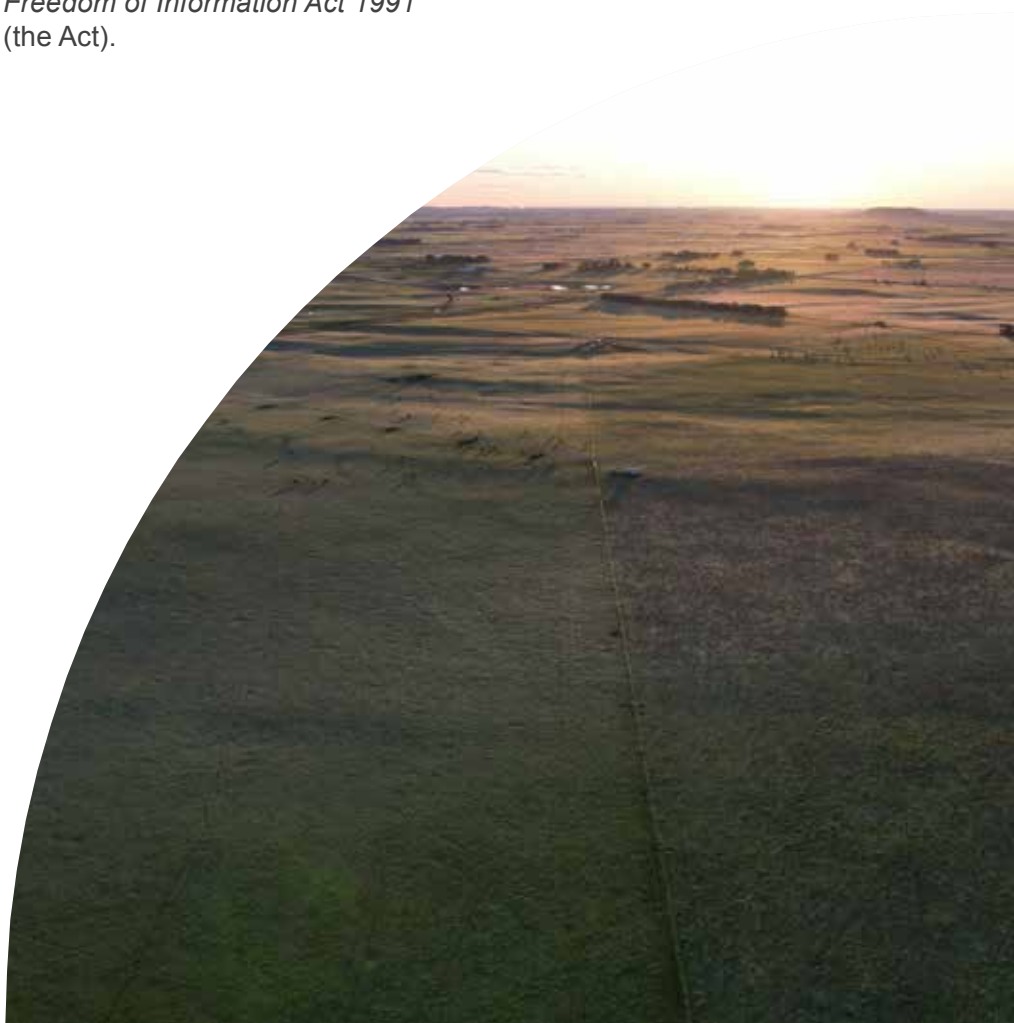
Council publishes an updated Freedom of Information Statement on its website, in accordance with requirements of Section 9(1a) of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*. Council is pleased to comply with the legislation and welcomes enquiries.

The District Council of Grant processed two (2) Freedom of Information applications during 2024/2025 (compared to seven (7) in 2023/2024).

One (1) applicant was granted full access to the documents that were requested, one (1) applicant was granted a combination of full and partial access to the documents that were requested, with minor information redacted under exemption clause 6 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act).

LEGAL EXPENSES

Council paid approximately \$30,518.00 in legal expenses.



GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

The District Council of Grant is required to provide a summary of details of any gifts above the value of \$50 provided to Elected Members and staff.

Council Officer	Contributor	Gift Description	Est. Value	Purpose	Date
Mayor Kylie Boston	Rotary Club of Mount Gambier	Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes: Change Over Dinner	\$60	Networking	8 July 2024
Darryl Whicker	McArthur	Dinner with SA CEO's and Mayors	\$150	Networking	2 July 2024
Rebecca Perkin	Coonawarra Vignerons Spring Tourism	Bowen Estate 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon	\$33	Networking	11 September 2024
Aaron Price	Environmental Health Australia SA Branch	Georg Jensen Wine	\$30	Networking	20 September 2024
Mayor Kylie Boston	Alpha Company	2 Tickets 10/27 RSAR 2024 Mount Gambier Cabaret	\$100	Networking	12 October 2024
Mayor Kylie Boston	South East Primary School	1 Ticket to South East Primary Schools Music Festival	\$25	Networking	23 October 2024
Mayor Kylie Boston	Pine City Twirlers	41st Birthday for the Pine City Twirlers gift	\$30	Networking	2 November 2024
Gary Button	Port MacDonnell and District Men's Shed Inc	Homemade pen with box	\$30 - \$40	Appreciation	8 November 2024
Mayor Kylie Boston	The Honourable Peter Malinauskas MP, Premier of SA	2 Tickets to VAILO Adelaide 500	\$300	Networking	15 November 2024
Rebecca Perkin, Leith McEvoy and Darryl Whicker	Michael Richardson, Director of MasterPlan	X3 PIA Awards Tickets	\$555 - \$740 collective	Recognition of being nominated for an award	27 November 2024
Kelli Winterfield	GTE	Majella The Musician Wine	\$25	Appreciation	4 December 2024

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

Council Officer	Contributor	Gift Description	Est. Value	Purpose	Date
Mayor Kylie Boston	Mondelez International	Sample of snacks	\$50	Appreciation	16 December 2024
Community Complex Team	Mayor Boston and Elected Members	Gift Basket	\$50	Appreciation	17 December 2024
Mayor Kylie Boston	Tennis SA	Two tickets to the Adelaide Tennis International	\$150	Promotion of event	7 January 2025
Works Department	John Deere	4x 12 pack Corona Beer Hats and Clothing	\$250	Promotion material following delivery of new Grader	22 January 2025
Trudy Glynn	Laura Wright	2019 Wendouree Muscat of Alexandria	Approx. \$60	A token of appreciation for the time given for work experience	24 January 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Alan Sommerville, QANTAS	Day pass to the QANTAS Lounge in Adelaide Airport.	\$75	Participation in air service launch event.	18 February 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Mount Gambier Racing Club	2x entry and lunch to the Mount Gambier Gold Cup.	\$230	Promotion of event	21 March 2025
Darryl Whicker	Mount Gambier Racing Club	1x entry and lunch to the Mount Gambier Gold Cup.	\$115	Promotion of event	21 March 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Mount Gambier Lions Club	Lunch, gift basket and pen.	\$50	Lions Club State Youth of the Year Judging panel.	6 April 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Hype Dance Club	Two tickets to the Hype May Deb Ball including Meal	\$120	Local dignitaries invited	9 May 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Lord Mayor of Adelaide	Dinner	\$70	Mayors only dinner event	22 May 2025
Cr Gavin Clarke	GIJ Committee	1x entry (weekend pass)	\$220	Entry to Generations in Jazz	24 May 2025

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

Council Officer	Contributor	Gift Description	Est. Value	Purpose	Date
Maceo McNamara and Martin Brown	Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast	1 bottle of red wine	\$50	Participation in RDA Emerging Leaders Program	5 June 2025
Darryl Whicker	Telstra	Lunch for Leith, Darryl and John Best	\$115	Telstra Partnership/ Networking for Telstra Towers	12 June 2025
Mayor Kylie Boston	Lions Club	Two dinners at the Lions Club Changeover	\$100	Local dignitaries invited	14 June 2025

CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

The District Council of Grant has a corporate card facility provided by Commonwealth Bank & BankSA with an overall purchasing limit approved of \$30,000. No cards are issued to Elected Members and there are six employees with allocated limits within the corporate facility.

For the financial period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, the total amount of expenditure incurred by employees of Council using credit cards, totalled \$39,719.44

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The District Council of Grant Annual Financial Statements for 2024/2025 were audited by Galpins Accountants Auditors and Business Consultants who were appointed as external auditors in December 2020 for a five-year term pursuant to Section 128 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Remuneration paid or payable during 2024/2025 to the auditors for work performed for the annual audit of Council’s financial statements pursuant to Section 128 of the Act was \$18,258.00 ex GST.

Council’s Audit and Risk Committee held four meetings in 2024/2025, two of which were attended by Galpins’ audit partner.

The Audit and Risk Committee established an annual works program including the review of:

- External Audit - interim review and management letter/statutory external audit and report on financial results/external auditors’ performance and overall effectiveness;
- Implementation of External Audit recommendations;
- Annual Financial Statements;
- Terms of Reference;
- Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems;
- Long Term Financial Plan;
- Annual Business Plan and Budget;
- Review Employee Leave Balances;
- Review Finance Policies; and
- Review Loans and Investments.

Council commenced a risk maturity model of self-assessment and identified improvements with the support of LGRS in January 2023, and has made significant progress towards improving the organisation’s risk maturity, including:

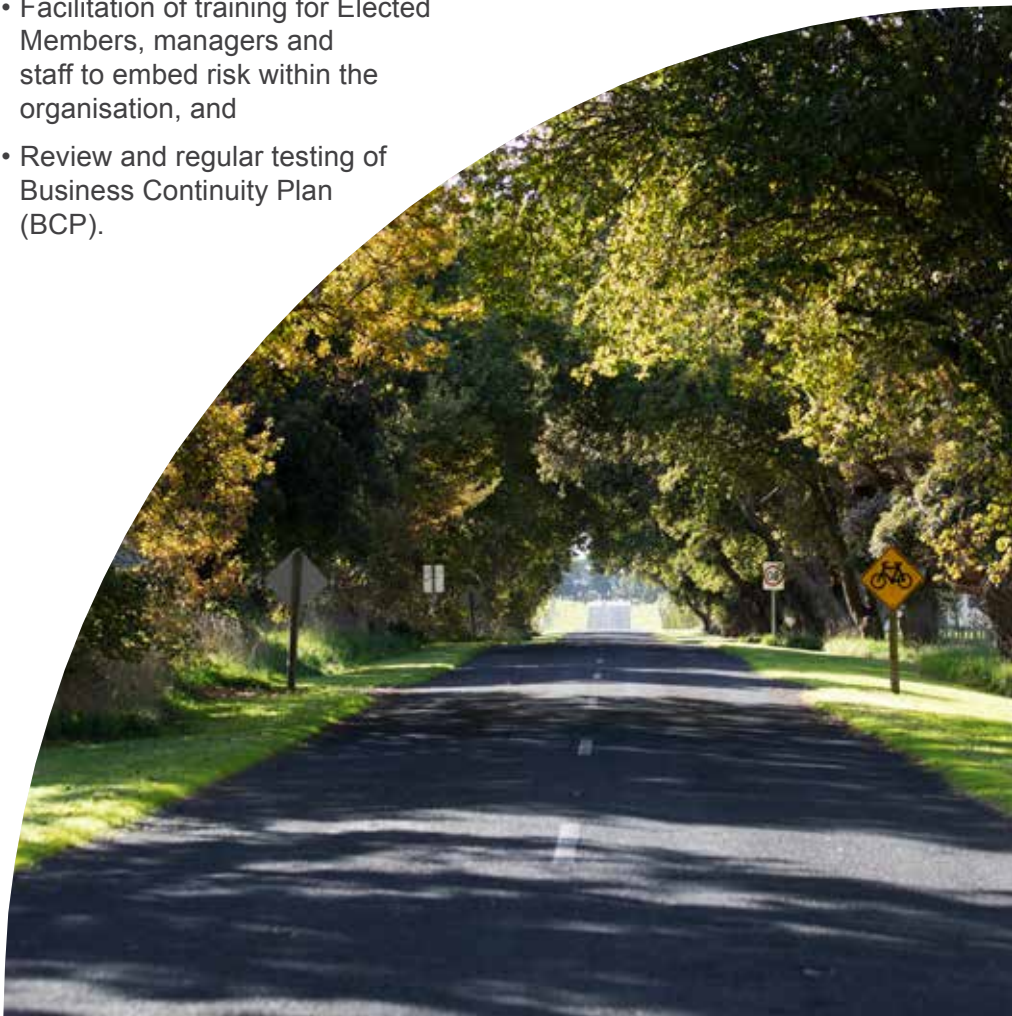
- Development of a Risk Management Policy & Framework,
- Determination of risk appetite and tolerances,
- Establishment of a Strategic Risk Register,
- Establishment of an Operational Risk Register,
- Commencement of regular risk reviews with Elected Members and Managers and subsequent reporting,
- Facilitation of training for Elected Members, managers and staff to embed risk within the organisation, and
- Review and regular testing of Business Continuity Plan (BCP).

The Strategy and Governance team continue to work towards reviewing, assessing and improving the risk management systems currently in place.

Audit and Risk Committee member attendance was as follows:

Committee member attendance	
Cr M Dukalskis	4/4
Cr K Turnbull	3/4
Ms K Creek	4/4
Ms H Neumann	4/4
Ms C Burns	3/4

Information regarding sitting fees for the Audit Committee can be found under ‘Members Allowances and Reimbursements’ on page 62.



GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

INTERSTATE TRAVEL: ELECTED MEMBERS

Month/Year	Location	Reason for travel	Cost
JUNE 2025 MAYOR KYLIE BOSTON	Canberra	Mayor Kylie Boston and CEO Darryl Whicker attended the Australian Local Government Association - National General Assembly, Canberra to advocate for Council's Saleyards Transformation Project and the Mount Gambier Regional Airport. Meetings were held with • Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm, Assistant Minister for Regional Development, Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Minister for Resources to advocate for Federal Funding for our Saleyards project. • Meeting with the Cross Border Commissioner to advocate for our Community. • Meeting with the Hon Kristy McBain, Minister for Emergency Management, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories. All other SA Councils attending the National General Assembly also attended this meeting.	\$1,203.43 (fuel & accomm)
Total			\$1,203.43

INTERSTATE TRAVEL: STAFF

Month/Year	Location	Reason for travel	Cost
JUNE 2025 DARRYL WHICKER	Canberra	Australian Local Government Association - National General Assembly.	\$1,621.72 (fuel & accomm)
Total			\$1,621.72

No international travel was undertaken by Elected Members or staff.

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

SENIOR EXECUTIVE INFORMATION

Information on the Number of Senior Executives and Information on the kinds of allowances, bonuses and benefits that are made available to those officers as part of a salary package.

Details of Council staff salaries can be found on Council's website.

Title of Position	Level	Other Allowance & Benefits
Chief Executive Officer	Contract	1 3 4 5 6
Director of Environmental Services	Manager Contract	1 3 4 5 6
Director Works and Infrastructure <i>to February 2025</i>	Manager Contract	1 4 5 6
Director Works and Infrastructure <i>from January 2025</i>	Contract	1 4 5 6
Director Corporate and Community	Contract	1 4 5 6
Manager Strategy and Growth	Contract	1 4 5 6
Manager HR and Community	Manager Contract	1 3 4 5 6
Airport Manager	Contract	1 4 5 6 9 12
Saleyards Manager	Contract	1 4 5 6 15
Manager Finance and Customer Service	Contract	1 4 5 6
Manager Development Services	EBA	1 4 5 6 7
Manager Environmental Health and Regulatory Services	EBA	1 4 5 6 7
Works Manager	EBA	1 4 5 6 7 12

Legend:

Contract means Fixed Term Contract.

Manager Contract means separate employment conditions.

Key:

Table of Allowance & Benefits Codes (as part of a salary remuneration package or Appendices)

1 Vehicle - Private Use

2 Vehicle - Commuter Use

3 Additional Annual Leave

4 Professional Membership

5 Mobile Phone (in accordance with Council's electronic devices policy) or allowance

6 Tablet / Laptop (in accordance with Council's electronic devices policy)

7 Award and Enterprise Allowances

8 Over Award payment

9 Runway Inspection Allowance

10 Airport Re-fuelling allowance

11 Historical Payment allowance

12 First Aid Allowance

13 CWMS Allowance

14 Corporate Wardrobe Allowance

15 AWU EB Bonus

GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMPLIANCE AUDIT

An Environmental Services Compliance Audit (audit) for the District Council of Grant, is currently being undertaken by Wallmans Lawyers. The audit was funded in the Council Budget. The purpose of the audit is to identify areas that Council's service delivery to our community can be improved.

The audit is being carried out on the following statutory functions of the Environmental Services Department:

- PDI Act - Development Assessment;
- PDI Act – Compliance;
- Wastewater Works Applications;
- Animal Management – Dog Attacks;
- Local Nuisance and Litter Control;
- Abandoned Vehicles; and,
- General Inspectorate.

The first work element of the project is a Desktop Audit of files relating to the above areas, followed by online Staff interviews. After the Desktop review and staff interviews, Wallmans Lawyers will complete a report for the Council, which will be referred to the Audit and Risk Committee. The audit report will contain a comprehensive and detailed assessment of Council's compliance with applicable legislation, regulations, standards, Council policies and procedures. The audit report will also make recommendations for better practices and process improvements.



PROGRESS OF GOAL 5: COUNCIL

People would like Council to focus on the core business of roads, buildings, waste and community services. They would like to maintain Council's sustainable financial position. To be efficient, people would like Council to use resources effectively, and set and achieve clear goals that meet current and generational needs. They would like Council to collaborate with other Councils to support planning and service delivery.

They would like Council to 'reduce red tape' wherever possible and appropriate.

People would like Council to use 'cloud based' software and applications and to update the Council website. Council must be mindful that its services and information are still accessible for those who do not use the internet.

Attracting and retaining high quality Council staff is a priority. They want Council to be an 'employer of choice', to offer workplace flexibility and recognition, and to provide training and leadership opportunities to support Council staff to be the best they can be.

They want young people to be supported to grow and stay in the area. They suggested Council provide work experience and traineeships, leadership opportunities and educational experiences about career opportunities in Council.

Short Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Develop a Human Resource Strategy to enable staff development, job satisfaction, flexible working conditions, rapid recruitment, transition to retirement and corporate health programs	Planning	Gathering information.
Deliver an update to Council's website and explore digital transactions or applications to improve communication and customer service	Deferred	Funding not allocated 25/26
Review Council processes to provide a streamlined experience for community and business enquiries and applications	Planning	Built into new software scope.
Provide work experience, traineeships, civic education and leadership opportunities to encourage our young people to be involved in Council	Commenced	Four trainees appointed.
Review Council's procurement policy to support local business and sustainable procurement choices	Commenced	Gathering information.
Review Council's Operational Risk Register to ensure risks are appropriately managed.	Commenced	Review being undertaken.
Long Term Focus Area	Item Status	Comments
Undertake a major corporate software upgrade to improve workplace efficiency, collaboration, flexibility and data security	Commenced	Tender released.
Maintain focus on core Council business such as roads, buildings, waste and community services	Commenced	Ongoing
Maintain good working conditions and safety culture	Commenced	Ongoing
Status	Comments	
Not Started	Action not started as yet	
Planning	Working with internal stakeholders to define, scope and resource the action	
Commenced	Undertaking action	
Complete	Action is complete	
Deferred	Due to other factors this project is deferred	

**ANNUAL
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
2024-2025**

General Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

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General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Certification of Financial Statements

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

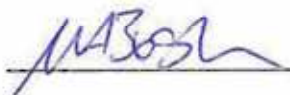
In our opinion:

- 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 2025 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.



Darryl Whicker
Chief Executive Officer

Dated 15 September 2025



Kylie Boston
Mayor

Dated 15 September 2025

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2025

\$ '000	Notes	2025	2024
Income			
Rates	2a	13,483	12,716
Statutory charges	2b	458	369
User charges	2c	2,457	2,445
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	2g	601	341
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	2g	3,633	457
Investment income	2d	492	406
Reimbursements	2e	86	100
Other income	2f	456	321
Total income		21,666	17,155
Expenses			
Employee costs	3a	7,253	6,931
Materials, contracts and other expenses	3b	6,495	5,602
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3c	4,690	5,201
Finance costs	3d	69	90
Total expenses		18,507	17,824
Operating surplus / (deficit)		3,159	(669)
Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	4	(988)	(700)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2g	1,646	717
Net surplus / (deficit)		3,817	(652)
Other comprehensive income			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result			
Changes in revaluation surplus - I,PP&E	9a	(20,047)	28,019
Total amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result		(20,047)	28,019
Total other comprehensive income		(20,047)	28,019
Total comprehensive income		(16,230)	27,367

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2025

\$ '000	Notes	2025	2024
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalent assets	5a	11,103	8,541
Trade and other receivables	5b	1,405	927
Inventories	5c	176	178
Total current assets		12,684	9,646
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	6	60	91
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	7	161,294	180,899
Total non-current assets		161,354	180,990
TOTAL ASSETS		174,038	190,636
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8a	1,736	1,730
Borrowings	8b	328	378
Provisions	8c	1,026	1,068
Total current liabilities		3,090	3,176
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	8b	835	1,164
Provisions	8c	181	134
Total non-current liabilities		1,016	1,298
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,106	4,474
Net assets		169,932	186,162
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		51,735	48,030
Asset revaluation reserves	9a	116,758	136,805
Other reserves	9b	1,439	1,327
Total equity		169,932	186,162

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2025

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves	Total equity
2025					
Balance as at 1 July		48,030	136,805	1,327	186,162
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		3,817	—	—	3,817
Other comprehensive income					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	7a	—	(20,047)	—	(20,047)
Other comprehensive income		—	(20,047)	—	(20,047)
Total comprehensive income		3,817	(20,047)	—	(16,230)
Transfers between reserves		(112)	—	112	—
Balance at the end of period		51,735	116,758	1,439	169,932
2024					
Balance as at 1 July		48,729	108,770	1,296	158,795
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		(652)	—	—	(652)
Other comprehensive income					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	7a	—	28,019	—	28,019
Other comprehensive income		—	28,019	—	28,019
Total comprehensive income		(652)	28,019	—	27,367
Transfers between reserves		(47)	16	31	—
Balance at the end of period		48,030	136,805	1,327	186,162

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2025

\$ '000	Notes	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates receipts		13,546	12,651
Statutory charges		458	369
User charges		2,837	2,445
Grants, subsidies and contributions		3,633	837
Investment receipts		491	406
Reimbursements		86	100
Other receipts		1,275	276
<u>Payments</u>			
Payments to employees		(7,457)	(6,701)
Payments for materials, contracts and other expenses		(7,064)	(6,181)
Finance payments		(75)	(97)
Net cash provided by (or used in) operating activities	10b	<u>7,730</u>	<u>4,105</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Grants utilised for capital purposes		601	341
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		643	717
Sale of replaced assets		684	464
Repayments of loans by community groups		39	22
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(4,548)	(3,946)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(2,256)	(1,081)
Loans made to community groups		—	(8)
Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities		<u>(4,837)</u>	<u>(3,491)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from bonds and deposits		60	—
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of loans		(379)	(421)
Repayment of bonds and deposits		(12)	(5)
Net cash provided by (or used in) financing activities		<u>(331)</u>	<u>(426)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		2,562	188
plus: cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		8,541	8,353
Cash and cash equivalents held at end of period	10a	<u>11,103</u>	<u>8,541</u>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Contents of the Notes accompanying the General Purpose Financial Statements

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by Council in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

(1) Basis of preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

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

1.2 Historical cost convention

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

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of these Notes.

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

(2) The local government reporting entity

District Council of Grant is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier. These consolidated financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

(3) Income recognition

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

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

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

In recent years the payment of untied grants (General Purpose Grant (GPG), Roads Formula Funding (ILRG) and Supplementary Local Road Funding (Formula Funding)) has varied from the annual allocation as shown in the table below

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference	Net timing Adjustments
2021/22	\$2,811,478	\$1,991,580	\$819,898	\$650,706
2022/23	\$2,686,855	\$2,100,738	\$586,117	\$483,894
2023/24	\$347,339	\$2,383,313	(\$2,035,974)	(\$2,144,954)
2024/25	\$3,500,970	\$2,369,003	\$1,131,967	\$1,112,618

The net timing adjustment is calculated by the sum of Advance payment received less advance payment received prior financial year.

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 amount of the distortion for 2024/25 is \$1,112,618 (2023/24: (\$2,144,954))

The Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 12 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

(4) Cash, cash equivalents and other financial instruments

Cash assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 11.

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

(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 and equipment

6.1 Initial recognition

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

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and other overhead cost directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner by management.

6.2 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life.

Examples of capitalisation thresholds applied during the year are given in Note 7. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

6.3 Subsequent recognition

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

6.4 Depreciation of non-current assets

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

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

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

6.5 Impairment

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

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

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

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

(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

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

Borrowings are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of "Payables". Interest free loans are initially recognised at fair value with any difference between fair value and proceeds recognised in the profit and loss. The loan is subsequently measured at amortised cost with interest being recognised using the effective interest rate method.

(9) 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 on costs) measured in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*.

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

Weighted avg. discount rate 3.93% (2024, 3.96%)

Weighted avg. settlement period 1 year (2024, 1 year)

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

9.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Statewide Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 14.

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

(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) New accounting standards and UIG interpretations

Council applied for the first time certain new standards and amendments to existing standards, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024. Council has not early adopted any other standard, interpretation or amendment that has been issued but is not yet effective.

AASB 2020-1: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current

AASB 2020-1 amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current. It also clarifies the meaning of ‘settlement of a liability’.

AASB 2022-6: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Non-current liabilities with Covenants

AASB 2022-6 amends AASB 101 to improve the information an entity provides in its financial statements about liabilities from loan arrangements for which the entity’s right to defer settlement of those liabilities for at least 12 months after the reporting period is subject to the entity complying with conditions specified in the loan agreement.

AASB 2022-10: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.

AASB 2022-10 amends AASB 13 – Fair Value Measurement for the fair value measurements of non-financial assets of not-for-profit public sector entities not held primarily to generate net cash inflows.

Council has adopted all amendments mentioned above required for the year ended 30 June 2025. The adoption of these amendments did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

Standards issued by the AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued new and amended Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that are not effective as of 30 June 2025. These standards have not yet been adopted by Council and will be incorporated into the financial statements upon their effective dates. The following list identifies all applicable new and amended Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that were issued but are not yet effective as of 30 June 2025.

AASB 2024-2: Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments

AASB 2024-2 amends AASB 9 Financial Instruments and AASB 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures to clarify how the contractual cash flows from financial assets should be assessed when determining their classification. The amendment also clarifies the derecognition requirements of financial liabilities that are settled through electronic payment systems.

This standard is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026.

The amendment is not expected to have a material impact on the financial statements once adopted.

AASB 18: Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements.

AASB 18 replaces AASB 101 as the standard describing the primary financial statements and sets out requirements for the presentation and disclosure of information in AASB-compliant financial statements. Amongst other changes, it introduces the concept of the ‘management-defined performance measures’ to financial statements and requires the classification of transactions presented within the statement of profit or loss within one of the five categories – operating, investing, financing, income taxes and discontinued operations. It also provides enhanced requirements for the aggregation and disaggregation of information.

This standard is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2028.

Council is currently assessing the impact the amendment will have on the financial statements once adopted.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 2. Income

\$ '000	2025	2024
(a) Rates		
General rates		
General rates	10,872	10,269
Less: mandatory rebates	(9)	(9)
Less: discretionary rebates, remissions and write-offs	(35)	(37)
Total general rates	10,828	10,223
Other rates (including service charges)		
Landscape levy	706	684
Waste collection	1,092	996
Community wastewater management systems	860	818
Less: discretionary rebates, remissions and write-offs	(55)	(53)
Total other rates (including service charges)	2,603	2,445
Other charges		
Penalties for late payment	52	48
Total other charges	52	48
Total rates	13,483	12,716
(b) Statutory charges		
Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act fees	150	149
Town planning fees	178	97
Animal registration fees and fines	127	121
Parking fines / expiation fees	3	2
Total statutory charges	458	369
(c) User charges		
Cemetery/crematoria fees	12	20
Airport	955	879
Saleyards	1,362	1,428
Sanitary Garbage	8	11
Rural Transaction Centre	42	38
Sundry	78	69
Total user charges	2,457	2,445
(d) Investment income		
Interest on investments		
Local Government Finance Authority	468	403
- Banks and other	22	—
Loans to Community Groups	2	3
Total investment income	492	406

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2025	2024
(e) Reimbursements		
Roadworks	10	44
Private works	36	39
Other	40	17
<u>Total reimbursements</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>100</u>
(f) Other income		
Insurance and other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	132	58
Sundry	324	263
<u>Total other income</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>321</u>
(g) Grants, subsidies and contributions		
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	1,646	717
<u>Total amounts received for new or upgraded assets</u>	<u>1,646</u>	<u>717</u>
Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital		
Roads to Recovery	601	341
<u>Total Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>341</u>
Operating grants, subsidies and contributions		
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	3,501	144
Fuel Rebate	42	41
Library and communications	40	34
Sundry	50	238
<u>Other grants, subsidies and contributions - operating</u>	<u>3,633</u>	<u>457</u>
<u>Total grants, subsidies and contributions</u>	<u>5,880</u>	<u>1,515</u>
(i) Sources of grants		
Commonwealth Government	5,037	1,235
State Government	788	273
Other	55	7
<u>Total</u>	<u>5,880</u>	<u>1,515</u>

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 3. Expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2025	2024
(a) Employee costs			
Salaries and wages		5,918	5,679
Employee leave expense		718	715
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	14	553	499
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	14	126	131
Workers' compensation insurance		297	306
Less: capitalised and distributed costs		(359)	(399)
Total operating employee costs		7,253	6,931
Total number of employees (full time equivalent at end of reporting period)		69	69
(b) Materials, contracts and other expenses			
(i) Prescribed expenses			
Auditor's remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		27	18
Elected members' expenses		184	179
Election expenses		3	3
Subtotal - prescribed expenses		214	200
(ii) Other materials, contracts and expenses			
Contractors		962	873
Energy		315	304
Maintenance		548	406
Legal expenses		33	90
Levies Paid to Government - RL levy		706	686
Sundry		885	552
Garbage Costs		1,558	1,259
Emergency Services Levy		12	12
Materials		284	318
Fuel		424	451
Insurance		375	359
Donations and Grants		179	92
Subtotal - Other material, contracts and expenses		6,281	5,402
Total materials, contracts and other expenses		6,495	5,602

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 3. Expenses (continued)

\$ '000	2025	2024
(c) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		
(i) Depreciation and amortisation		
Infrastructure		
Stormwater Drainage	16	14
CWMS	248	281
Playgrounds	78	65
Roads and Kerbs	2,877	2,871
Bridges	3	1
Footways	72	51
Airport	4	–
Saleyards	78	–
Plant and equipment	500	539
Buildings	614	875
Other Structures	192	261
IT and Office Fittings	8	106
Marine and River	–	61
Open Space	–	76
Subtotal	4,690	5,201
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment	4,690	5,201
(d) Finance costs		
Interest on loans	69	90
Total finance costs	69	90

Note 4. Asset disposal and fair value adjustments

\$ '000	2025	2024
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		
Assets Renewed or Directly Replaced		
Proceeds from disposal	684	464
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(1,672)	(1,164)
Gain (loss) on disposal	(988)	(700)
Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets	(988)	(700)

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 5. Current assets

\$ '000	2025	2024
(a) Cash and cash equivalent assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	91	245
Deposits at call	11,012	8,296
<u>Total cash and cash equivalent assets</u>	<u>11,103</u>	<u>8,541</u>

(b) Trade and other receivables

Rates - general and other	330	397
Accrued revenues	663	79
Debtors - general	459	476
GST recoupment	126	84
Loans to community organisations	24	32
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>1,602</u>	<u>1,068</u>
Less: provision for expected credit losses	(197)	(141)
<u>Total trade and other receivables</u>	<u>1,405</u>	<u>927</u>

(c) Inventories

Stores and materials	176	178
<u>Total inventories</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>178</u>

Amounts included in inventories that are not expected to be received within 12 months of reporting date.

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

\$ '000	2025	2024
Trade and other receivables		
Receivables		
Loans to community organisations	17	48
<u>Total receivables</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>48</u>
Other Financial Assets		
Caveat	43	43
<u>Total Other Financial Assets</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>43</u>
<u>Total financial assets</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>91</u>

District Council of Grant

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Financial Statements 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	Fair Value Level	as at 30/06/24				Asset movements during the reporting period							as at 30/06/25			
		At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount	Asset Additions New / Upgrade	Asset Additions Renewals	WDV of Asset Disposals	Depreciation Expense (Note 3c)	WIP Transfers	Adjustments & Transfers	Revaluation Increments to Equity (AFR) (Note 9)	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount
Capital work in progress																
Land and	2	—	585	—	585	15	—	—	—	(124)	—	—	—	476	—	476
Land and	3	1,559	—	—	1,559	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,559	—	—	1,559
Buildings	2	18,725	—	—	18,725	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18,725	—	—	18,725
Buildings	3	8,091	172	(5,308)	2,955	—	125	(7)	(203)	—	4,714	(5,677)	11,819	125	(10,037)	1,907
Buildings	3	24,193	7,977	(16,079)	16,091	—	28	(8)	(411)	—	—	(9,313)	16,961	28	(10,602)	6,387
Other Structures	2	13,249	10	(3,224)	10,035	—	—	—	—	—	(10,035)	—	—	—	—	—
Other Structures	3	5,475	2,237	(2,942)	4,770	111	—	—	(192)	65	7,373	(6,552)	8,926	111	(3,462)	5,575
Playgrounds	3	974	1,374	(796)	1,552	—	11	—	(78)	—	—	(102)	2,192	11	(820)	1,383
Roads and Kerbs	3	133,688	—	(29,865)	103,803	504	2,438	(691)	(2,877)	5	—	—	131,868	2,942	(31,628)	103,182
Bridges	3	80	5	(30)	55	—	—	—	(3)	—	—	52	210	—	(106)	104
Footways	3	2,412	—	(724)	1,688	451	—	—	(72)	2	—	—	2,362	453	(746)	2,069
Airport	2	—	—	—	—	630	—	—	(4)	—	142	—	142	630	(4)	768
Saleyards	2	—	—	—	—	478	—	—	(78)	—	2,306	—	2,306	478	(78)	2,706
Stormwater Drainage	3	1,264	148	(556)	856	—	—	—	(16)	—	—	(98)	1,453	—	(711)	742
CWMS	3	13,397	1,322	(7,075)	7,644	—	100	(7)	(248)	52	—	1,643	15,273	100	(6,189)	9,184
Plant and equipment																
IT and Office Filings		—	9,463	(3,774)	5,689	65	1,814	(723)	(500)	—	—	—	—	9,717	(3,372)	6,345
IT and Office Filings		—	1,290	(898)	392	—	34	(236)	(8)	—	—	—	—	268	(86)	182
Marine and River		—	3,410	(691)	2,719	—	—	—	—	—	(2,719)	—	—	—	—	—
Open Space		—	2,650	(869)	1,781	—	—	—	—	—	(1,781)	—	—	—	—	—
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		223,087	30,643	(72,831)	180,899	2,254	4,550	(1,672)	(4,680)	—	—	(20,047)	213,796	15,339	(67,841)	161,294
Comparatives		188,528	43,660	(77,970)	154,218	1,081	3,955	(1,173)	(5,201)	—	—	28,019	223,087	30,643	(72,831)	180,899

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment (continued)

Valuation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment

Valuation of assets

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various Accounting Standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a "level" in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Refer to Note 7(a) for the disclosure of the Fair Value Levels of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment Assets.

Information on valuations

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 buildings, infrastructure and other assets. These assets are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

- The determination of the cost to construct the asset (or its modern engineering equivalent) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.
- The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques. Accordingly, formal sensitivity analysis does not provide useful information.

Transfers between fair value hierarchy levels

In the course of revaluing both Buildings and Other Structures, the nature of the inputs applied was reviewed in detail for each asset and where necessary, the asset reassigned to the appropriate fair value hierarchy level. Such transfers take effect as at the date of the revaluation.

As a result Airport and Saleyards Asset classes have been established.

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment (continued)

Other information

At 1 July 2004 upon the transition to AIFRS, Council elected pursuant to AASB 1.D5 to retain a previously established deemed cost under GAAP as its deemed cost. With subsequent addition at cost, this remains as the basis of recognition of non-material asset classes.

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

Highest and best use

All of Council's non financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

Highest and best use - For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the "highest and best use" recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land. Much of the land under Council's care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999. Other types of restrictions also exist.

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

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

Transition to AASB 13 - Fair Value Measurement

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

Capitalisation Thresholds

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

	\$
Plant and Equipment	3,000
IT Equipment and Furniture	1,000
Buildings	10,000
Road construction & reconstruction	10,000
Bridges, Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	10,000
Stormwater Drainage	3,000
Other Assets	3,000

continued on next page ...

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment (continued)

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

ICT Equipment	3 to 5 years
Office Furniture	10 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equipment	3 to 20 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years

Building & Other Structures

Buildings (componentised)	25 to 80 years
Playground Equipment	20 to 60 years

Infrastructure

Sealed Roads - Surface	25 to 35 years
Sealed Roads - Base	100 to 400 years
Unsealed Roads	25 years
Bridges	40 to 100 years
Kerb & Gutter	80 years
Footways	15 to 50 years
Stormwater Drainage	100 years
CWMS	3 to 200 years

Council's data is reviewed on an ongoing basis and adjustments are made to correct any errors identified. With regard to capital renewal expenditure, the useful life is reviewed in line with the new condition rating and the carrying amount is adjusted following the writing back of accumulated depreciation for each asset. Council's data is reviewed on an ongoing basis and adjustments are made to correct any errors identified. With regard to capital renewal expenditure, the useful life is reviewed in line with the new condition rating and the carrying amount is adjusted following the writing back of accumulated depreciation for each asset.

Land & Land Improvements

Date of Valuation: 01/07/2023

Valuer: Valuer Generals Department

Basis of valuation: current market value less any adjustments for any restrictions on use or disposal where they apply.

Buildings & Other Structures

Date of Valuation: 1/7/2024

Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants

Basis of valuation: Depreciated Replacement Cost - for buildings where there is no active market due to specialised nature of the assets and the service they provide.

Infrastructure

Sealed Roads, Unsealed Roads & Kerbing

Date of valuation: 30/6/2024

Valuer: John Olson of HDS Australia.

Basis of valuation: Depreciated Replacement Cost - comprised by gross replacement cost (based on estimated unit costs for which a substitute asset with similar service potential, physical characteristics, dimensions, depth and environmental parameters could be constructed) and accumulated depreciation (estimated total and remaining useful lives informed by the condition assessment of the asset, and the planned asset management strategy applicable to the asset).

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment (continued)

Footways

Date of valuation: 30/6/2024

Valuer: John Olson of HDS Australia

Basis of valuation: . Depreciated Replacement Cost - comprised by gross replacement cost (based on estimated unit costs for which a substitute asset with similar service potential, physical characteristics, dimensions, depth and environmental parameters could be constructed) and accumulated depreciation (estimated total and remaining useful lives informed by the condition assessment of the asset, and the planned asset management strategy applicable to the asset).

Stormwater Drainage

Date of valuation: 01/07/2024

Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants

Basis of valuation: Depreciated Replacement Cost - comprised by gross replacement cost (based on estimated unit costs for which a substitute asset with similar service potential, physical characteristics, dimensions, depth and environmental parameters could be constructed) and accumulated depreciation (estimated total and remaining useful lives informed by the condition assessment of the asset, and the planned asset management strategy applicable to the asset).

Community Wastewater Management System

Date of valuation: 01/07/2024

Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants

Basis of valuation: Depreciated Replacement Cost - comprised by gross replacement cost (based on estimated unit costs for which a substitute asset with similar service potential, physical characteristics, dimensions, depth and environmental parameters could be constructed) and accumulated depreciation (estimated total and remaining useful lives informed by the condition assessment of the asset, and the planned asset management strategy applicable to the asset).

Bridges

Date of valuation: 01/07/2024

Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants

Basis of valuation: Depreciated Replacement Cost - comprised by gross replacement cost (based on estimated unit costs for which a substitute asset with similar service potential, physical characteristics, dimensions, depth and environmental parameters could be constructed) and accumulated depreciation (estimated total and remaining useful lives informed by the condition assessment of the asset, and the planned asset management strategy applicable to the asset).

Airport

Date of valuation: 01/07/2024

Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants

Basis of Valuation: Market - based fair value

During the reporting period, Council undertook a review of the valuation methodology applied to assets that operate on a commercial basis. In prior years, these assets were measured using the cost method (historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment).

From 1 July 2024, Council has adopted the market value approach as the most appropriate basis of measurement for these assets, consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and prevailing valuation practices. The change reflects that the airport operates as business undertakings distinct from Council's core service delivery functions, and therefore their value is more appropriately determined with reference to observable market evidence.

The change in valuation methodology has resulted in a downward revaluation of Buildings and Other Structures before being transferred to its own asset class. This adjustment is a non-cash accounting item and has been recognised as a revaluation decrement through the Statement of Comprehensive Income, resulting in a significant reported deficit for the year.

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment (continued)

Saleyards

Date of valuation: 01/07/2024
Valuer: Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants
Basis of Valuation: Market - based fair value

During the reporting period, Council undertook a review of the valuation methodology applied to assets that operate on a commercial basis. In prior years, these assets were measured using the cost method (historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment).

From 1 July 2024, Council has adopted the market value approach as the most appropriate basis of measurement for these assets, consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and prevailing valuation practices. The change reflects that the saleyards operates as business undertakings distinct from Council's core service delivery functions, and therefore their value is more appropriately determined with reference to observable market evidence.

The change in valuation methodology has resulted in a downward revaluation of of Buildings and Other Structures before being transferred to its own asset class. This adjustment is a non-cash accounting item and has been recognised as a revaluation decrement through the Statement of Comprehensive Income, resulting in a significant reported deficit for the year.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

All other assets

These assets are recognised on the cost basis in accordance with our asset accounting policy.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 8. Liabilities

\$ '000	2025 Current	2025 Non Current	2024 Current	2024 Non Current
(a) Trade and other payables				
Goods and services	1,232	—	845	—
Payments received in advance	154	—	548	—
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	89	—	293	—
Accrued expenses - finance costs	20	—	26	—
Accrued expenses - other	171	—	5	—
Deposits, retentions and bonds	70	—	11	—
Other	—	—	2	—
<u>Total trade and other payables</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,730</u>	<u>—</u>

(b) Borrowings

Loans	328	835	378	1,164
<u>Total Borrowings</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>835</u>	<u>378</u>	<u>1,164</u>

All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council

(c) Provisions

AL Employee Entitlements (including oncosts)	556	—	579	—
LSL Employee Entitlements (including oncosts)	470	181	489	134
<u>Total provisions</u>	<u>1,026</u>	<u>181</u>	<u>1,068</u>	<u>134</u>

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 9. Reserves

	as at 30/06/24				as at 30/06/25
\$ '000	Opening Balance	Increments (Decrements)	Transfers	Impairments	Closing Balance
(a) Asset revaluation reserve					
Land	18,090	—	—	—	18,090
Stormwater Drainage	351	(98)	—	—	253
CWMS	3,023	1,643	—	—	4,666
Playgrounds	478	(102)	—	—	376
Roads and Kerbs	87,244	—	—	—	87,244
Bridges	11	52	—	—	63
Footways	1,461	—	—	—	1,461
Buildings	17,717	(14,990)	—	—	2,727
Other Structures	7,771	(6,552)	643	—	1,862
IT and Office Fittings	16	—	—	—	16
Marine and River	381	—	(381)	—	—
Open Space	262	—	(262)	—	—
Total asset revaluation reserve	136,805	(20,047)	—	—	116,758
Comparatives	108,786	28,019	—	—	136,805

	as at 30/06/24				as at 30/06/25
\$ '000	Opening Balance	Tfrs to Reserve	Tfrs from Reserve	Other Movements	Closing Balance
(b) Other reserves					
Disaster Relief	100	—	—	—	100
Grants Unexpended	2	—	—	—	2
Donovans CWMS Grant	125	9	—	—	134
Open Space Contributions	306	102	—	—	408
Community Development	113	—	—	—	113
Tarpeena Cancer Support Fundraising	12	4	(3)	—	13
Future Infrastructure	549	—	—	—	549
Marine Facilities	15	—	—	—	15
Waste Management	105	—	—	—	105
Total other reserves	1,327	115	(3)	—	1,439
Comparatives	1,296	31	—	—	1,327

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 9. Reserves (continued)

Purposes of reserves

Asset revaluation reserves

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

Other reserves

Disaster Relief

Holding account for profits received from sale of properties, which were donated by the Bond group for housing assistance - Ash Wednesday Fires. Monies to be kept in trust and used for the purpose of relief from the effects, or prevention, of bushfires or other disasters as per the Confirmatory Declaration of Trust Deed.

Unspent Grants Contributions

Holding Account for unspent grants and contributions relating to all functions of Council, excluding Road Infrastructure.

Donovans CWMS Grant

LGA funding for future CWMS works specific for Donovans that were recognised at acquittal of this initial project.

Open Space Contributions

Monies held from creation of sub-divisions to be used for future open space projects.

Community Development Reserve

Money received from Acciona for Allendale Windfarm development. Money held for Community Development Projects.

Tarpeena Cancer Support Fundraising

Accounting for monies held for community group with funds held for projects that will benefit this community.

Future Infrastructure Reserve

Monies from sale of assets, such as Sutton Court and disused road reserves. Money held for Future Infrastructure Projects.

Marine Facilities Reserve

Residual monies (income less expenses) from Port MacDonnell and Blackfellows Caves Boat Ramps and Permits. Funds for future marine development.

Waste Management Reserve

Residual monies (income less expenses) from activities relating to MGB collection (Sanitary & Garbage). Funds for future sanitary & garbage renewals.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 10. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows

\$ '000	Notes	2025	2024
---------	-------	------	------

(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 Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Total cash and equivalent assets	5	11,103	8,541
Balances per Statement of Cash Flows		11,103	8,541

(b) Reconciliation of Operating Result

Net surplus/(deficit)		3,817	(652)
Non-cash items in income statements			
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		4,690	5,201
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as investing activity		(2,247)	(1,058)
Net (gain)/loss on disposals		988	700
		7,248	4,191
Add (less): changes in net current assets			
Net (increase)/decrease in receivables		51	(202)
Change in allowances for under-recovery of receivables		56	141
Net (increase)/decrease in inventories		2	50
Net increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables		344	(125)
Net increase/(decrease) in other provisions		5	50
Net increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		24	—
Net cash provided by (or used in) operations		7,730	4,105

(c) Financing arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Corporate credit cards	21	13
------------------------	----	----

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 11. Financial instruments

Recognised financial instruments

Bank, deposits at call, short term deposits

Accounting Policy:

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost; interest is recognised when earned.

Terms & Conditions:

Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 4.15% and 4.65% (2024: 4.30% and 4.55%).

Carrying Amount:

Approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

Receivables - rates and associated charges (including legals and penalties for late payment)

Accounting Policy:

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

Terms & Conditions:

Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.7625% (2024: 0.754%). Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

Carrying Amount:

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - fees and other charges

Accounting policy:

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

Terms and conditions:

Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries.

Carrying amount:

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - other levels of government

Accounting policy:

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

Terms and conditions:

Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments.

Carrying amount:

Approximates fair value.

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

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 and conditions:

Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

Carrying amount:

Approximates fair value.

Liabilities - interest bearing borrowings

Accounting Policy:

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.

Terms & Conditions:

Secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable; interest is charged at fixed rates between 3.60% and 6.75% (2024: 3.60% and 6.75%).

Carrying Amount:

Approximates fair value.

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

\$ '000	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year and ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial assets and liabilities					
2025					
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	11,103	—	—	11,103	11,103
Receivables	1,477	18	—	1,495	1,619
Other financial assets	43	—	—	43	43
Total financial assets	12,623	18	—	12,641	12,765
Financial liabilities					
Payables	1,610	—	—	1,610	1,647
Current borrowings	383	—	—	383	328
Non-current borrowings	—	905	—	905	835
Total financial liabilities	1,993	905	—	2,898	2,810
Total financial assets and liabilities	14,616	923	—	15,539	15,575
2024					
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	8,541	—	—	8,541	8,541
Receivables	930	52	—	982	1,116
Other financial assets	43	—	—	43	43
Total financial assets	9,514	52	—	9,566	9,700
Financial liabilities					
Payables	889	—	—	889	1,437
Current borrowings	453	—	—	453	378
Non-current borrowings	—	1,198	94	1,292	1,164
Total financial liabilities	1,342	1,198	94	2,634	2,979
Total financial assets and liabilities	10,856	1,250	94	12,200	12,679

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

\$ '000	2025		2024	
	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Fixed interest rates	5.15%	1,163	5.24%	1,542
		1,163		1,542

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.

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

Risk exposures

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of Council's financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor **currency risk** apply.

Liquidity Risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. In accordance with the model Treasury Management Policy (LGA Information Paper 15), liabilities have a range of maturity dates. Council also has available a range of bank overdraft and standby borrowing facilities that it can access.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has a balance of both fixed and variable interest rate borrowings and investments. Cash flow fluctuations are managed holistically in seeking to minimise interest costs over the longer term in a risk averse manner.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 12. Financial indicators

\$ '000	Amounts 2025	Indicator 2025	Indicators 2024	Indicators 2023
Financial Indicators overview <i>These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia.</i>				
1. Operating Surplus Ratio				
Operating surplus	3,159	14.6%	(3.9)%	3.3%
Total operating income	21,666			
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>				
2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio				
Net financial liabilities	(8,462)	(39)%	(30)%	(24)%
Total operating income	21,666			
<i>Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses). These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>				
Adjustments to Ratios				
<i>In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. These Adjusted Ratios correct for the resulting distortion in key ratios for each year and provide a more accurate basis for comparison.</i>				
Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio				
Operating surplus	2,046	10.0%	7.6%	0.6%
Total operating income	20,553			
Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio				
Net financial liabilities	(7,349)	(36)%	(26)%	(22)%
Total operating income	20,553			
3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio				
Asset renewals	3,864	101%	102%	108%
Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan required expenditure	3,823			
<i>Asset renewals expenditure is defined as capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets relative to the optimal level planned, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.</i>				

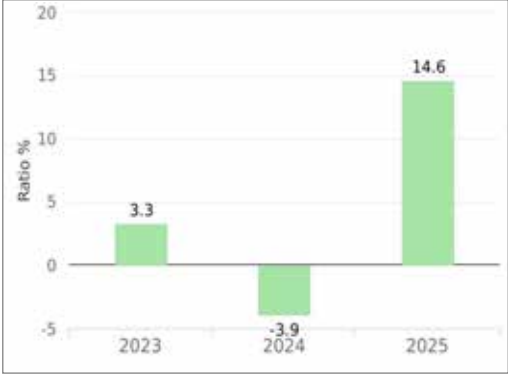
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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 12. Financial indicators (continued)

Financial indicators - graphs

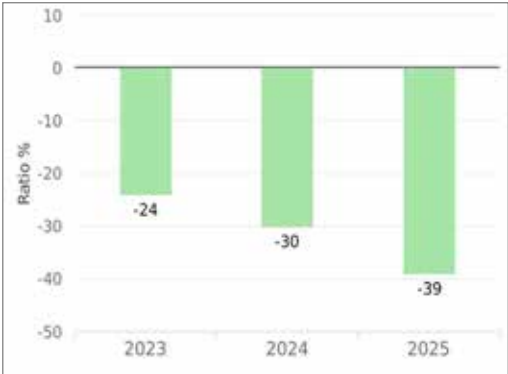
1. Operating Surplus Ratio



Purpose of operating surplus ratio
This indicator is to determine the percentage the operating revenue varies from operating expenditure

Commentary on 2024/25 result	
2024/25 ratio	14.6%
Council received 50% of its 25/26 Financial Assistance Grant in advance. Following revaluation of Council assets there was also a reduction in Depreciation of \$450K.	

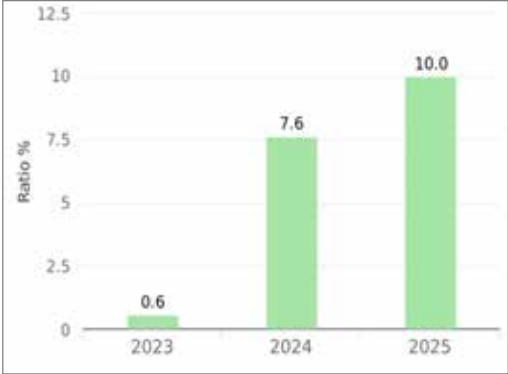
2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio



Purpose of net financial liabilities ratio
This indicator shows the significance of the net amount owed to others, compared to operating revenue

Commentary on 2024/25 result	
2024/25 ratio	(39)%
As a result of the 50% advance Financial Assistance Grant Payments Council had an additional \$1.1M in the bank at the 30th June 2025	

Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio



Purpose of adjusted operating surplus ratio
This indicator is to determine the percentage the operating revenue (adjusted for timing differences in the Financial Assistance Grant) varies from operating expenditure

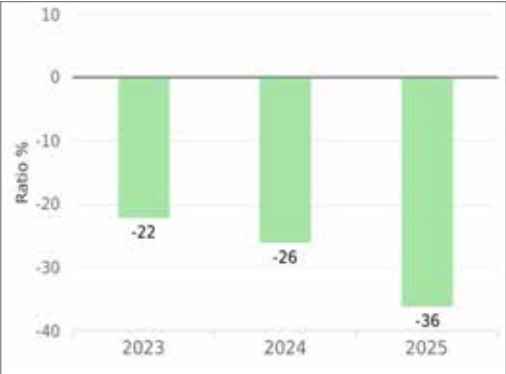
Commentary on 2024/25 result	
2024/25 ratio	10.0%
Following revaluation of Council assets there was a reduction in Depreciation of \$450K.	

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 12. Financial indicators (continued)

Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

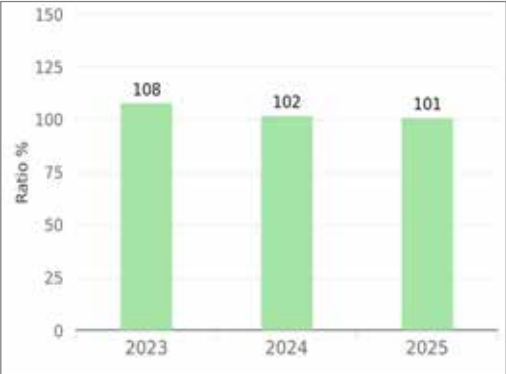


Purpose of adjusted net financial liabilities ratio

This indicator is to determine the percentage the operating revenue (adjusted for timing differences in the Financial Assistance Grant) varies from operating expenditure

Commentary on 2024/25 result	
2024/25 ratio	(36)%

3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio



Purpose of asset renewal funding ratio

This indicator aims to determine if assets are being renewed and replaced in an optimal way

Commentary on 2024/25 result	
2024/25 ratio	101%

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 13. Uniform presentation of finances

\$ '000	2025	2024
The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.		
All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.		
The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances.		
<u>Income</u>		
Rates	13,483	12,716
Statutory charges	458	369
User charges	2,457	2,445
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	601	341
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	3,633	457
Investment income	492	406
Reimbursements	86	100
Other income	456	321
Total Income	21,666	17,155
<u>Expenses</u>		
Employee costs	(7,253)	(6,931)
Materials, contracts and other expenses	(6,495)	(5,602)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(4,690)	(5,201)
Finance costs	(69)	(90)
Total Expenses	(18,507)	(17,824)
Operating surplus / (deficit)	3,159	(669)
Less: grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	(601)	(341)
Adjusted Operating surplus / (deficit)	2,558	(1,010)
Net outlays on existing assets		
Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets	(4,548)	(3,946)
Add back depreciation, amortisation and impairment	4,690	5,201
Add back proceeds from sale of replaced assets	684	464
	826	1,719
Net outlays on new and upgraded assets		
Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	(2,256)	(1,081)
Add back grants, subsidies and contributions - capital new/upgraded	601	341
Add back amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets	643	717
	(1,012)	(23)
Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus/(deficit))	2,372	686

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 14. Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to Hostplus (formerly Local Government Superannuation Scheme and Statewide Super). There are two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Permanent and contract employees of the South Australian Local Government sector with Salarylink benefits prior to 24 November 2009 have the option to contribute to the Accumulation section and/or Salarylink. All other employees (including casuals) have all contributions allocated to the Accumulation section.

Accumulation only members

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (11.50% in 2024/25; 11.00% in 2023/24). 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 2023/24) of "superannuation" salary.

In addition, Council makes a separate contribution of 3% of ordinary time earnings for Salarylink members to their Accumulation account. Employees also make member contributions to the Salarylink section of the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Salarylink section of the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Salarylink section is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Salarylink section's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by each employer, and employees may transfer to another employer within the local government sector and retain membership of the Fund, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.34(a), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, Louise Campbell, FIAA, of Willis Towers Watson as at 30 June 2023. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

Contributions to other superannuation schemes

Council also makes contributions to other superannuation schemes selected by employees under the "choice of fund" legislation. All such schemes are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 15. Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but knowledge is considered relevant to the users of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. Land under roads

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 1,527 km of road reserves of average width 10 metres.

2. Potential insurance losses

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to deductible "insurance excesses", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

3. Legal expenses

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Development Act 1993 (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal. It is normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had no notice of 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.

Note 16. Events after the balance sheet date

Events that occur after the reporting date of 30 June 2025, up to and including the date when the financial statements are "authorised for issue" have been taken into account in preparing these statements.

Council has adopted the date of receipt of the Auditors' Report as the appropriate "authorised for issue" date relating to these General Purpose Financial Statements.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 17. Related party transactions

Key management personnel

Transactions with key management personnel

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 25 persons were paid the following total compensation:

\$ '000	2025	2024
The compensation paid to key management personnel comprises:		
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,948	1,613
Post-employment benefits	189	150
Long-term benefits	32	32
Termination benefits	8	—
Total	2,177	1,795

Receipts from key management personnel comprise:

Other than amounts paid as ratepayers or residents (e.g. rates, swimming pool entry fees, etc.), Council received the following amounts in total:

Parties related to Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel or close family members (including related parties) did not lodge any planning and building applications during the year.

One KMP is a member of various organisations that received Council support in the year. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 , the elected members declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting when any matter affecting their organisation is discussed or voted on. During the year Council contributed \$20,000 towards these organisations via community grant applications, scholarship programs and inkind works.

District Council of Grant

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 18(a). Functions

	Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities. Details of these Functions/Activities are provided in Note 18(b).									
	OPERATING INCOME		OPERATING EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN OPERATING INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT)	
\$ '000	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Functions/Activities										
Administration	14,119	10,853	2,966	2,882	11,153	7,971	2,618	144	16,200	17,744
Public Order and Safety	132	123	408	397	(276)	(274)	—	—	520	570
Health	4	5	322	291	(318)	(286)	—	—	18	20
Social Security & Welfare	—	1	52	48	(52)	(47)	—	1	492	539
Housing & Community Amenities	2,907	2,657	4,638	4,218	(1,731)	(1,561)	31	21	11,909	13,044
Protection of the Environment	24	27	51	131	(27)	(104)	—	—	2,254	2,469
Sport & Recreation	129	106	1,242	1,055	(1,113)	(949)	59	38	11,231	12,303
Mining, Manufacturing & Construction	107	105	243	223	(136)	(118)	—	—	249	273
Transport & Communication	2,589	1,548	6,261	6,314	(3,672)	(4,766)	1,484	553	112,956	123,727
Economic Affairs	1,481	1,540	1,933	1,942	(452)	(402)	—	—	11,148	12,211
Other Purposes	174	190	391	323	(217)	(133)	42	41	7,061	7,736
Total Functions/Activities	21,666	17,155	18,507	17,824	3,159	(669)	4,234	798	174,038	190,636

Revenues and expenses exclude net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets, amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets and physical resources received free of charge.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 18(b). Components of functions

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Administration

General and office operations not attributable to another specific activity, rates and elected members expenses.

Public Order and Safety

Supervision of various by-laws, fire prevention, CFS and animal control.

Health

Food control, operation of community health programs and health centre.

Social Security and Welfare

Operation of Senior Citizen's centre, aged hostel, other voluntary services.

Housing and Community Amenities

Rubbish collection services, operation of a tip, effluent drainage, public toilets, street cleaning and lighting, town planning, stormwater drainage, land development, maintenance of cemeteries and aged housing complex.

Protection of the Environment NEC

Foreshore protection, flood prevention.

Sport and Recreation

Maintenance of halls, library operations, national estates, parks and gardens, recreation and sporting venues, museum.

Mining, Manufacturing and Construction

Building Act requirements, quarry operations.

Transport and Communications

Construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, footpaths, parking & signs and airport operations.

Economic Affairs NEC

Land development activities, Caravan Park operations, off-street parking, tourism, boat haven and saleyard operations.

Other Purposes NEC

Public debt transactions, plant and machinery operations, depot expenses, vandalism costs and private works.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of the District Council of Grant

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the District Council of Grant, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Council Certificate of the District Council of Grant.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2025, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, *Local Government Act 1999* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including independence standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

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 Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Council is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Council either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit of the financial report in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

17/09/2025



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Galpins Trading Pty Ltd
ABN: 89 656 702 886

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the District Council of Grant

Independent Assurance report on the Internal Controls of the District Council of Grant

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of the District Council of Grant with the requirements of Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

In our opinion, the District Council of Grant has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls established by the Council in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our engagement 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 2024 to 30 June 2025. ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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.

Our Independence and Quality Control

We have complied with the independence and other relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements, and apply Auditing Standard ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements* in undertaking this assurance engagement.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 Compliance Engagements, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls specified above for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of controls in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities, evaluating management's assessment of these controls, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and implementation of controls on a sample basis based on the assessed risks.

Limitations of Controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and operating effectively, the control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error, or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected.

An assurance engagement on controls is not designed to detect all instances of controls operating ineffectively as it is not performed continuously throughout the period and the tests performed are on a sample basis. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

Limitation of Use

This report has been prepared for the members of the Council in Accordance with Section 129 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to the Internal Controls Specified above. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the members of the Council, or for any purpose other than which it was prepared.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS**Tim Muhlhausler**

CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

17/09/2025

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Certification of Auditor Independence

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of District Council of Grant for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Council's Auditor, Galpins, Accountants, Auditors & Business Advisors 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*.



Darryl Whicker
Chief Executive Officer



Karen Turnbull
Acting Presiding Member

Date: 4 September 2025

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Auditor

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of District Council of Grant for the year ended 30 June 2025, 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*.



Timothy Muhlhausler

Galpins Accountants, Auditors and Business Consultants

Date: 17th September 2025

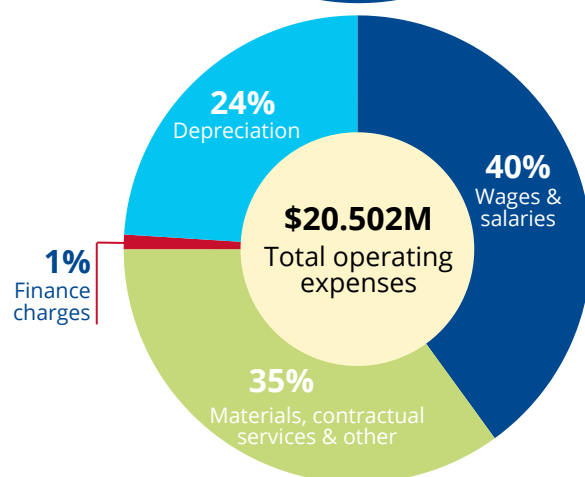
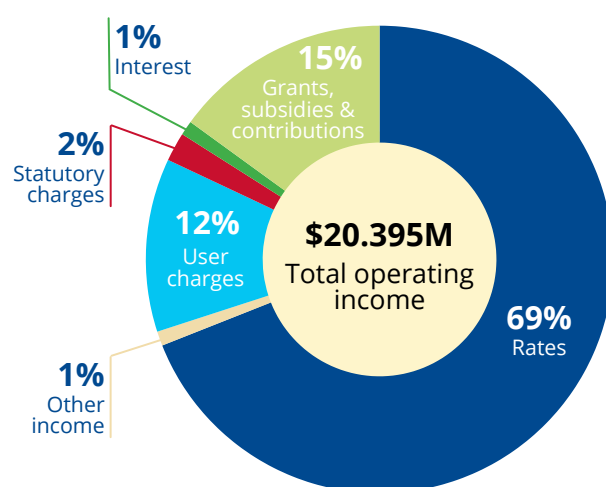
**ANNUAL
BUSINESS PLAN
AND BUDGET
SUMMARY
2025-2026**

Annual Business Plan & Budget Summary 2025-2026

The District Council of Grant Annual Business Plan and Budget 2025-2026 (the Plan) provides an overview of the services, programs and strategic projects that Council aims to deliver for the community over the next financial year.

The Plan also ensures the maintenance of appropriate levels of statutory and discretionary services to the community and allows strategic goals to be achieved in alignment with Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2034.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



HOW IS THE PLAN DEVELOPED?

Each year, Council reviews its projects and services to understand community needs and deliver them in the most cost-effective way.

Actions from Council's Strategic Plan are included in a Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget, which is considered at a Council Meeting. The Draft Plan is then shared with the community for feedback. Any new challenges, risks or opportunities raised are considered and included in the revised Draft Plan where possible.

Finally, Council approves the Plan at a Council Meeting so it is ready to roll out in July.

MAJOR SPEND



\$3,437,000

Roads: Construction and maintenance



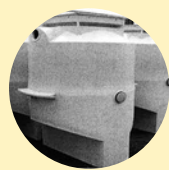
\$1,178,000

Plant: Equipment purchases and renewal



\$475,000

Community Building Improvements: Upgrades and renewal



\$65,000

Community Waste Management System: Upgrades to pumps

Read the full Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2025-2026 at Council's Principal Office, 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier or online at www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au.

RATES AND CHARGES

Differential Rates

Council uses capital value as assessed by the State Valuation Office as the basis of valuing land, which is considered the fairest method for distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers.

Regional Landscape Levy

Legislation requires Council to collect the Regional Landscape Levy. Please direct all enquiries to the Limestone Coast Landscape Board on (08) 8429 7550.

Due Dates for Payment of Rates

First instalment Friday 5 September 2025	Third instalment Friday 6 March 2026
Second instalment Friday 5 December 2025	Fourth instalment Friday 5 June 2026

If an instalment of rates is not paid on or before the last day of payment, fines and interest are payable on the arrears.

Community Wastewater Management Schemes

Council charges for the removal, treatment and appropriate disposal of domestic wastewater in a number of towns across the district.

Mobile Garbage Bin Collection

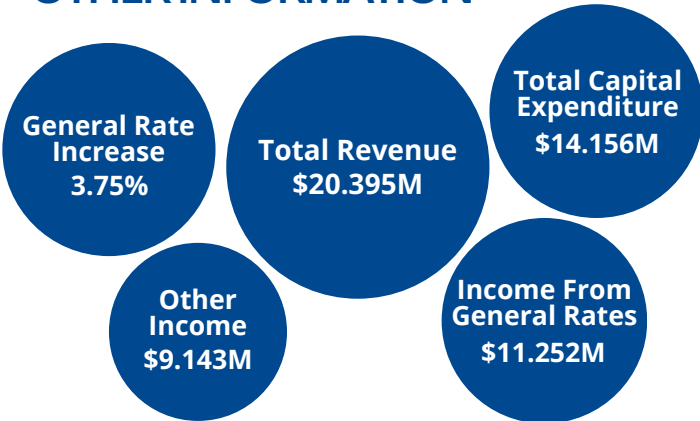
A three bin kerbside rubbish, recycling and Food Organics and Garden Organics collection service is provided by Council in defined collection areas.

Waste Transfer Station Vouchers

Each property within the district is eligible for one free Waste Transfer Station voucher at the beginning of each financial year. The voucher entitles residents and/or tenants to six visits to any Waste Transfer Station facility at Carpenter Rocks, Donovans, Tarpeena and Port MacDonnell.

Obtain a voucher by contacting Council via phone, email or in person.

OTHER INFORMATION



KEY PROJECTS



\$89,000
Mobile Phone Telstra Towers



\$88,000
Local Heritage Survey Stages 2 and 3



\$30,000
Community Development Strategy



\$100,000
Connective Coastal, River and Walking, Bike Trail Strategy



Scan the QR code to find out more financial information.

District Council of Grant
324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier
Phone: (08) 8721 0444
Email: info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
Website: www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au

**LIMESTONE
COAST LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
2024-25
INCLUDING
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Naracoorte Swimming Lake Naracoorte Lucindale Council



July 2025 marked the beginning of a new chapter for the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) following significant changes to our structure to realign with our core purpose. Charlotte Edmunds joins the LCLGA as Executive Officer to lead our collaborative advocacy agenda under the new model.

The LCLGA Board comprising Mayors Liz Goosens (Vice President), Kylie Boston, Jeff Pope, Patrick Ross, Lisa Ruffell and myself, look forward to working with Charlotte to deliver outcomes for the Limestone Coast region, its member councils and communities. As we continue work to define our strategic priorities under the new structure, the 2025/26 year will see a strong focus on tourism through the development of the new Limestone Coast Destination Management Plan, along with taking an active part in the South Australian Tourism Commission's Regional Tourism Review. Enabling infrastructure for growth and connecting communities within and to our region will also be a key focus.

We will continue to work with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast on the recently adopted Regional Growth Strategy and the Drought Resilience Plan.

As a result of the new LCLGA model, the delivery of some programs will change. The Limestone Coast Sporting Academy will transition into a standalone not-for-profit organization and the Connected and Active Communities Program will be auspiced through a member Council.

On behalf of the Board I thank Colin Byles for once again stepping into the role of Interim Executive Officer and for his guidance and commitment to transitioning the LCLGA to its new governance model.

I also acknowledge the LCLGA staff, who through the re-structuring process will no longer be employed by the organization and thank them for their dedication and commitment to the LCLGA during their tenure.

We acknowledge the productive working relationship we enjoy with Federal Member for Barker Mr Tony Pasin MP, Member for Mount Gambier Mr Troy Bell MP and Member for McKillop Mr Nick McBride MP.

The historic investment in mobile telecommunications infrastructure in the Limestone Coast as a result of a partnership between Telstra, the LCLGA, Federal and State Governments and industry will not only make the Limestone Coast the most connected region in South Australia, but it also serves as a reminder about the power of collaboration.

The LCLGA recognises that working with stakeholders, including the Local Government Association of South Australia, the South Australian Tourism Commission, Government Ministers and Departments Members of Parliament and our member Councils is paramount to ensuring the long-term social and economic sustainability of our region.

My thanks go to my fellow Mayors, Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers for their ongoing support and commitment to make the 'Limestone Coast Better Together' as we begin this new phase of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association.

On behalf of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association, I am pleased to present the 2024/25 Annual Report.

Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)

President LCLGA



This document is the Annual Report of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) Inc. for the period 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025 and was prepared pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999 to report to Constituent Councils on the work and operation of the Association for the preceding financial year.

This report details the activities of the Association to represent and serve the six Constituent Councils and to advance the Limestone Coast communities through effective advocacy, facilitation, project delivery and innovation.

Our Association

LCLGA was established as a regional body on 6th October 1885. LCLGA is a regional subsidiary representing its Constituent Councils and is established pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999 by the Constituent Councils.

The Association is comprised of the following Constituent Councils:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. City of Mount Gambier | 3. Kingston District Council | 5. District Council of Robe |
| 2. District Council of Grant | 4. Naracoorte Lucindale Council | 6. Tatiara District Council |

Under its Charter, LCLGA's objectives are to:

- › Work in Association with both the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA) and the Australian Local Government Association.
- › Undertake co-coordinating, advocacy and representational roles on behalf of its Constituent Councils at a regional level.
- › Facilitate and coordinate activities of local government at a regional level related to social, environmental and community development with the object of achieving improvement for the benefit of the communities of its Constituent Councils.
- › Develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and co-operation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government when dealing with other governments, private enterprise and the community.
- › Develop further co-operation between its Constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities of its region.
- › Develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in its region with the objective of securing the best outcomes for the communities of the region.
- › Undertake projects and activities that benefit its region and its communities.
- › Associate, collaborate and work in conjunction with other regional local government bodies for the advancement of matters of common interest.
- › Implement programs that seek to deliver local government services on a regional basis; and
- › To effectively liaise and work with the State and Commonwealth Government and instrumentalities on a regional basis for the general enhancement of the region.

THE LCLGA BOARD

The LCLGA Board as at 30 June 2025

The LCLGA Board comprises nominated representatives from each of the Constituent Councils and is chaired by the LCLGA President. Each Constituent Council can nominate up to two Deputy Board Members.

LCLGA Board Members

Council	Delegate	Deputy Board Member/s
City of Mount Gambier	President Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)	Deputy Mayor Josh Lynagh
Tatiara District Council	Vice President Mayor Liz Goossens	Deputy Mayor Lynton MacKenzie
District Council of Grant	Mayor Kylie Boston	Deputy Mayor Brad Mann
Kingston District Council	Mayor Jeff Pope	Deputy Mayor Jamie Parkins
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Partick Ross	Deputy Mayor Abigail Goodman
District Council of Robe	Mayor Lisa Ruffell	Deputy Mayor Nick Brown

The Board held six ordinary bi-monthly General Meetings, and The Annual General Meeting during 2024-25. Meetings are hosted by Constituent Councils on a rotational basis.



Office Bearers 2024-2025

In accordance with the LCLGA Charter, the positions of LCLGA President and Vice President are appointed at the Annual General Meeting, held in February.

At the Annual General Meeting in February 2025, Mayor Lynette Martin was elected as LCLGA President, to serve in the position for a period of 12 months. Mayor Liz Goossens was elected as LCLGA Vice President.

During 2024-2025, Deb Brokenshire was appointed Interim Executive Officer from 1st July 2024 to 12 September 2024. Colin Byles was appointed Interim Executive Officer from 13 September 2024 to 30 June 2024. Charlotte Edmunds was appointed Executive Officer from 23 June 2025 onwards.

Dean Newbery and Partners are the appointed Auditor.

LCLGA Staff

During 2024-2025, LCLGA engaged the following staff to deliver regional programs:

Position	Staff Member	Period
Interim Executive Officer	Deb Brokenshire	1 July 2024 - 12 September 2024
Connected & Active Communities Officer	Tony Elletson	30 June 2025
Destination Development Manager	Kate Napper	30 June 2025
Destination Development Co-ordinator	Emma Herring	30 June 2025
Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy Administrator	Rhiannon Zammit	30 June 2025
Corporate Services Officer	Paul Manfrin	19 September 2024
Interim Executive Officer	Colin Byles	13 September 2024 - 30 June 2025
Executive Officer	Charlotte Edmunds	23 June 2025- 30 June 2025

Delegates to the Local Government Association of South Australia

Under the Constitution of the LGASA, regions are represented via appointed members to serve on the LGA Board and the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC).

Representatives

	LCLGA Representative
SAROC	Mayor Lynette Martin OAM Mayor Liz Goossens (proxy)

SAROC is an important LGA committee for non-metropolitan Councils.

Membership is drawn from each of the six non-metropolitan Regional Local Government Associations with members meeting bi-monthly to discuss the key issues affecting non-metropolitan Councils.



Association Committees and Working Parties

To undertake specific projects or fulfil areas of operational responsibility, LCLGA convenes a number of committees and working parties. LCLGA acknowledges the work of all who have contributed to the following committees and working parties throughout 2024-2025.

Representatives as at 30th June 2025

LCLGA Roads and Transport Management Group

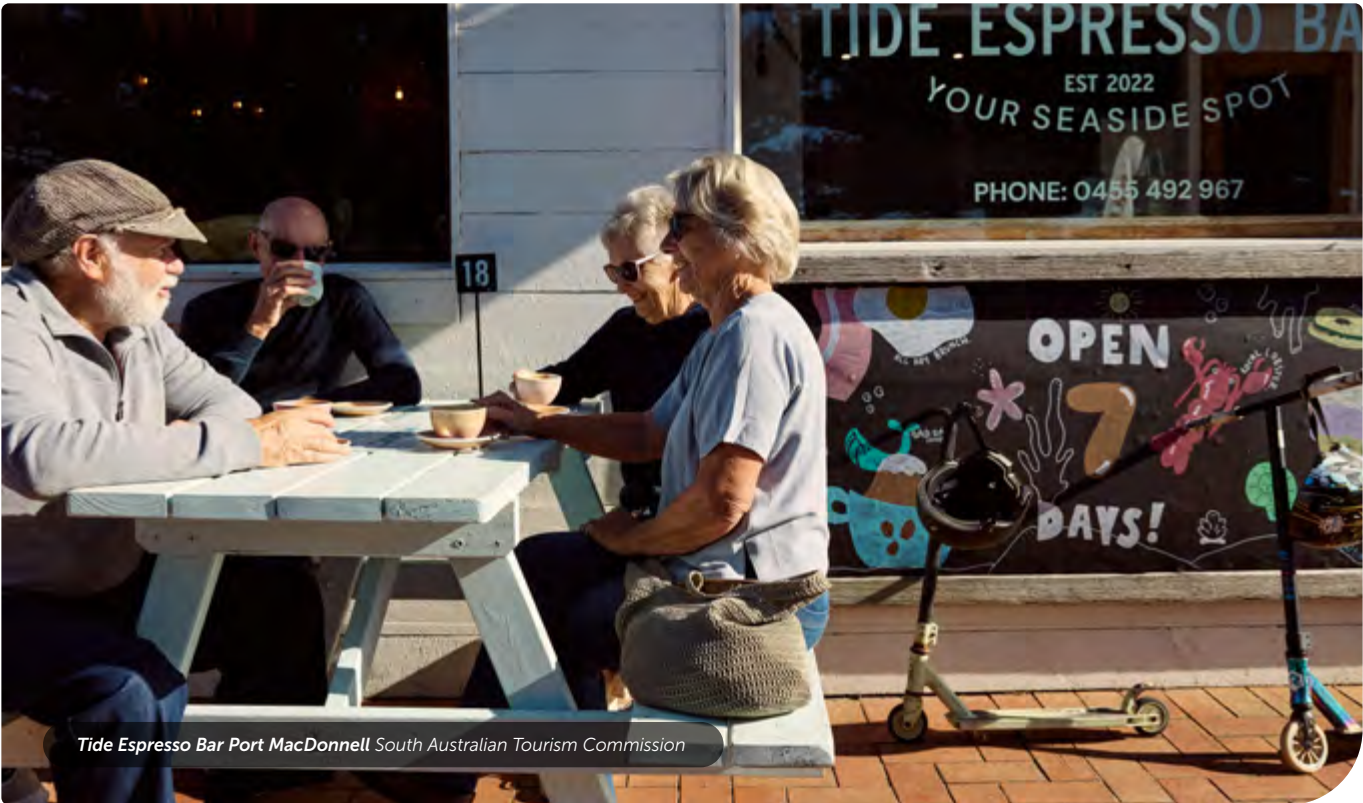
Current Appointment	Council
Mr Aaron Hillier	Tatiara District Council
Mr Abdulah Muhmud	City of Mount Gambier
Mr Daniel Willsmore	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Mr Dave Worthley	District Council of Robe
Mr Peter Halton	Wattle Range Council
Mr Tony Jordan	District Council of Grant
Mr Brett Holmes	Kingston District Council
Mr Colin Byles	Interim Executive Officer LCLGA

LCLGA Audit & Risk Committee

Current Appointment	Council
Mayor Lisa Ruffell	District Council of Robe
Mayor Jeff Pope	Kingston District Council
Anna Champness (CEO)	Tatiara District Council
Darryl Whicker (CEO)	District Council of Grant
Independent Member - vacant	

Tourism Management Group

Current Appointment	Council
Ms Amanda Stevens Ms Biddie Shearing	City of Mount Gambier
Ms Rebecca Perkin	District Council of Grant
Ms Tess Armfield	Kingston District Council
Ms Josie Collins	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Ms Camille Lehmann	District Council of Robe
Ms Kelly Hutchinson	Tatiara District Council
Ms Emma Clay Ms Nicole Croser	Wattle Range Council
Ms Kate Napper Ms Emma Herring Mr Colin Byles	LCLGA



Tide Espresso Bar Port MacDonnell South Australian Tourism Commission

Association Representation – Outside Organisations as at the 30 June 2025

LCLGA has numerous representatives on working parties, boards and committees including State Government boards, cross border bodies and regional boards and committees. This representation allows LCLGA to keep in touch with communities and contribute to new and existing initiatives.

During 2024-2025, LCLGA made or continued the following appointments to other organisations.

South Australian Coastal Councils Alliance (SACCA)

Current Appointment	Council
Mayor Kylie Boston	District Council of Grant
Mayor Lisa Ruffell (Proxy)	District Council of Robe

Green Triangle Freight Action Plan

Current Appointment	Council
Kylie Boston	District Council of Grant
Mr Colin Byles	Interim Executive Officer LCLGA



DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT



Destination Development continued as a strategic function of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) throughout the 2024–25 financial year, with a focus on building a sustainable and high-performing visitor economy for the region in partnership with constituent councils and the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC).

The Limestone Coast tourism region recorded \$662 million in visitor expenditure for the year ending December 2024; the highest of any South Australian region outside of Adelaide, and an increase of \$136M on the prior year. This is consistent with an upward trend in visitation and expenditure experienced over the past decade (with the exception of COVID-19 impacts). While influenced by many factors, these results underscore the relevance of the visitor economy to the region and the opportunities for continued growth.

The 2024-25 year saw the conclusion of Destination Development as a project undertaken and funded by the LCLGA, as we embark upon transition to a new tourism model in response to the recommendations of the South Australian Regional Tourism Review.

Furthermore, the refreshed South Australia Tourism Plan 2030, published by the State Government in June, outlines a strategy to grow regional tourism from \$4 billion to \$5.1 billion. The Limestone Coast stands in a strong position to contribute to this goal.



Lacepede Seafood South Australian Tourism Commission

Strategy in Action 2024-25

Throughout the year the LCLGA remained focused on delivering outcomes aligned with the Destination Development Strategy 2025 - a regional framework established to guide coordinated action across marketing, experience development, industry capability, advocacy, and collaboration.

Destination Development highlights delivered during the reporting year included:

Limestone Coast Marketing and Storytelling

- @limestonecoast Facebook and Instagram reached a combined organic audience of 2.86 million, with strong engagement and follower growth (+30% on Facebook, +5.3% on Instagram). This reach was further amplified through reposting by prominent accounts - including @southaustralia, Glam Adelaide, and South Aussie with Cosi - extending visibility to an audience of millions.
- The Limestone Coast Destination Website (visitlimestonecoast.com.au) attracted over 183,000 page views and more than 79,000 new users, with strong engagement driven by long-form blog content that highlights visitor experiences and supports trip planning. Blogs generated 56,632 views, with users spending an average of 52 seconds per post - nearly double the site-wide average. Top-performing topics included Sinkholes and Swimming Hotspots of the Limestone Coast and Fishing in the Limestone Coast.
- Maintained regular quarterly e-newsletters to prospective visitors, sharing seasonal inspiration and 'what's on' information - helping drive traffic to the website and increase blog engagement.
- The Website also delivered over 6,700 direct leads to Limestone Coast businesses via Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) listings.

Regional Representation & Advocacy

- Represented the Limestone Coast at state and national tourism forums, including Destination Australia, the national Regional Tourism Organisation Forum (March 2025), and the South Australian Tourism Conference (June 2025).
- Ongoing engagement with cross-border and state-level tourism partners to represent regional priorities and foster collaboration
- Supported a week-long digital content shoot in the region led by the SATC (March 2025), contributing to the Limestone Coast's presence in the new Simple Pleasures destination brand platform
- Assisted with the delivery of SATC-funded regional marketing initiatives, including South Aussie with Cosi and Hello SA TV campaigns

Tourism Insights & Communication

- Continued distribution of a bi-monthly Limestone Coast Tourism Industry Updates e-newsletter to industry contacts, and management of the regional tourism industry Facebook group with more than 670 members.
- Maintained investment in monthly tourism data snapshot reports (prepared by Localis Analytics) to provide up-to-date regional insights and performance comparisons with neighbouring regions such as the Great Ocean Road and Grampians.

Industry Development & Support

- Facilitated strong operator engagement in SATC's Experience Development Program and the Tourism for Good storytelling workshop co-hosted with TiCSA and The Tourism Collective in Mount Gambier
- Supported and strengthened regional input into the Gather Round Festival of Footy campaign and associated road trip promotions
- Coordinated a comprehensive content refresh of the Limestone Coast regional visitor guide
- Supported the delivery of two online ATDW workshops specifically for Limestone Coast businesses

Destination Management Planning

The next phase of regional tourism strategy commenced during the 2024–25 reporting period, with consultation on a new Limestone Coast Destination Management Plan (DMP) progressing across the region. The DMP is being developed in partnership between the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) and the South Australian Tourism Commission and is intended to provide a shared framework to guide regional tourism priorities and investment through to 2030.

The DMP also presents an opportunity to reaffirm regional needs and build on the strong foundations laid through the Destination Development function. Work on the DMP will continue into the latter half of 2025, progressing alongside a broader period of transition for regional tourism in South Australia - including a statewide review of how tourism is structured and funded. The DMP provides an important opportunity to reaffirm the Limestone Coast's regional priorities and will help inform the region's focus areas moving forward.

LCLGA remains the appointed Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) for the Limestone Coast, with coordination support provided through a part-time Regional Tourism Manager appointed through to 30 June 2026 funded by the South Australian Tourism Commission.



Tourism for Good storytelling workshop, co-hosted by TICSA and The Tourism Collective, Mount Gambier



Destination Development Manager represents Limestone Coast at Destination Australia 2025 and Regional Tourism Organisation Forum hosted by Tourism Australia pictured with fellow regional tourism managers from Barossa, Adelaide, Fleurieu Peninsula, and Kangaroo Island regions.



Limestone Coast Destination Management Plan consultation workshops, delivered in partnership by LCLGA and SATC, held in Robe and Mount Gambier

Destination Development 2020–2025: Reflections and Highlights

The conclusion of the Destination Development function on 30 June 2025 marks the end of a defined period of strategic, regionally coordinated tourism activity - shaped by sustained council and SATC investment, and guided by the Destination Development Strategy 2020–2025. With this transition, it is timely to reflect on the broader shifts and outcomes delivered throughout the life of the Strategy.

When the Strategy was adopted, 2018 tourism statistics were used to establish targets across core areas including visitor expenditure, visits, and nights. These benchmarks were set before the onset of COVID-19, which brought ongoing challenges throughout the Strategy's implementation.

Despite this, the Limestone Coast tourism region recorded several notable outcomes:

- › Visitor expenditure increased from \$337 million to \$662 million over the life of the Strategy - exceeding the 2025 target of \$479 million.
- › For the year ending December 2024, the Limestone Coast recorded the highest visitor expenditure and highest total visitor numbers of all South Australian regions outside of Adelaide.
- › Overnight visits rose from 617,000 to 807,000, and visitor nights from 2 million to 2.26 million - nearing target.

A regional legacy has also been created through sustained investment in digital storytelling, which has helped elevate the profile of the Limestone Coast and inspire visitation by promoting events, attractions, and experiences across the region.

This work spanned the introduction of Limestone Coast social media platforms, development of a regional destination website, and region-wide curated content creation.

Since their founding in 2020, and through to June 2025, the @limestonecoast Facebook and Instagram channels have collectively:

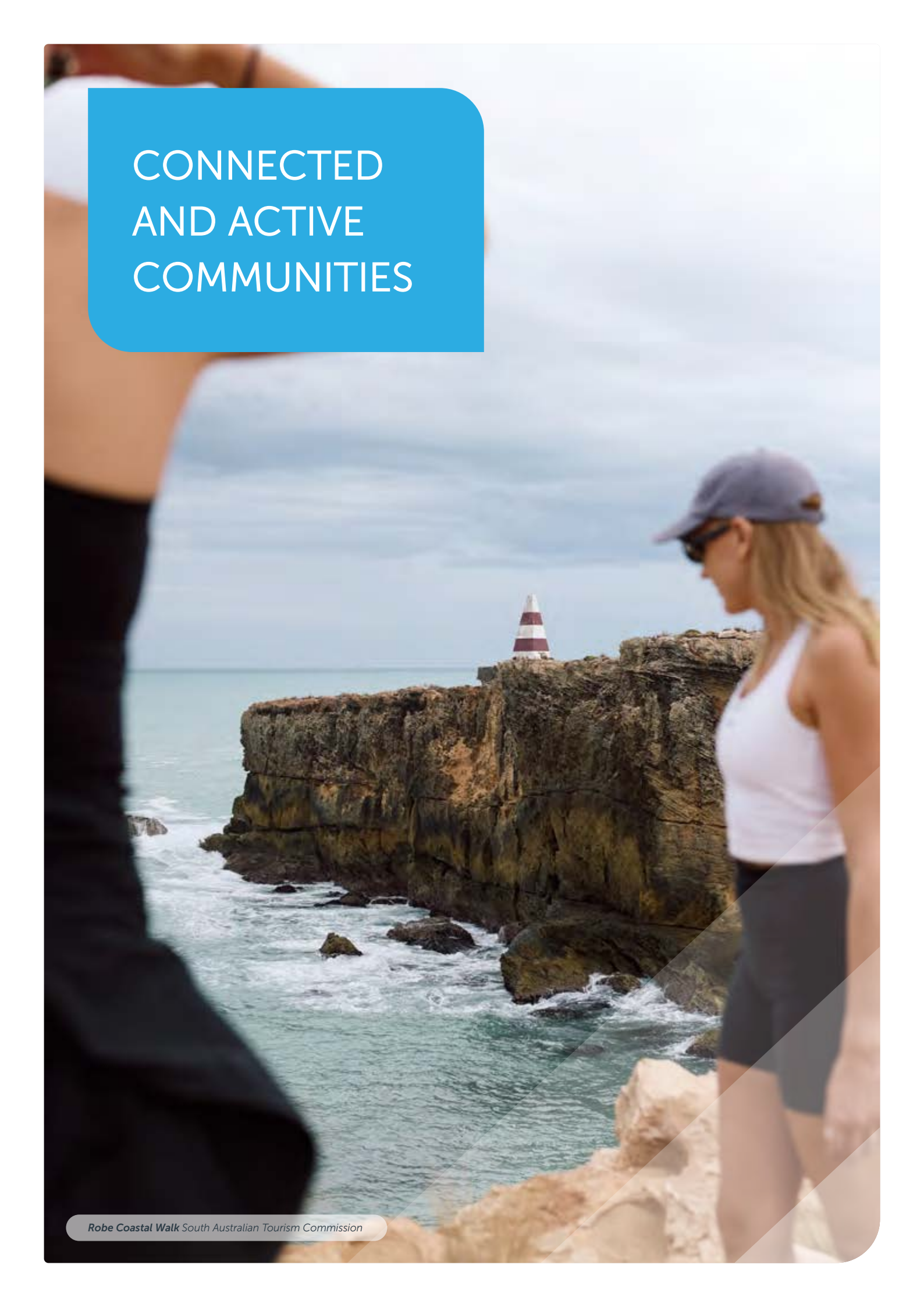
- › Reached a combined organic audience of over 7.5 million
- › Published 2,353 posts
- › Grown their follower base by 882% on Facebook and 2,715% on Instagram
- › Maintained high engagement rates - 6.2% on Facebook, 8.4% on Instagram
- › Been amplified by major media and tourism partners, including Tourism Australia, SATC, ABC, Glam Adelaide, Adelady, and South Aussie with Cosi

In just over three years (website analytics were first implemented in June 2022), the Limestone Coast Destination Website - visitlimestonecoast.com.au - has recorded:

- › More than 187,000 unique visitors
- › Over 397,000 total page views
- › An average of 11 direct leads per day to Limestone Coast businesses via ATDW listings - totalling over 12,000 leads.

This sustained focus on regional storytelling has played a valuable role in elevating the Limestone Coast's visibility and profile as a destination. In 2023, the region was named one of SATC's top-performing destinations on social media - a milestone that reflected the cumulative impact of consistent, high-quality content creation and digital coordination at a regional level. The @limestonecoast social channels have contributed to broader promotion by showcasing optimised, engaging content that aligns with state-wide destination marketing efforts and encourages further content creation and amplification.

More recently, the Limestone Coast was recognised as Australia's number one destination in Australian Traveller's Top 100 Greatest Getaways (May–July 2025 edition) - a reflection of the region's growing appeal and momentum, and a positive marker as the current strategy period draws to a close.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a grey baseball cap, sunglasses, and a white tank top, is looking out over a rocky coastline. In the background, a small lighthouse with red and white stripes sits atop a dark, craggy cliff. The ocean is a light blue-green color, and the sky is overcast. The foreground shows the back of a person's head and shoulder, suggesting they are also looking at the view.

CONNECTED AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES

The Connected and Active Communities (CAC) Project is a place-based approach that aims to address poor levels of physical activity participation at a local level by investing in the strengths of our communities through a partnership approach.

Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) and The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) recognises that those living within our regional communities are the experts in their own lives, and through proactive engagement aim to work with and harness this expertise to inform, co-design and implement initiatives that have lasting impact.

By partnering with local communities, the CAC Project identifies opportunities to elevate the capacity of volunteers, decision makers and local leaders to create and deliver innovative and effective sport and recreation initiatives.

Harnessing diversity as a key strength of our region, the CAC Project connects and leverages traditional and non-traditional networks to bring communities together and positively impact physical activity participation rates through locally tailored solutions.

The CAC Project has delivered the following in the reporting period;

Young Leaders Program

11 students between the ages of 15 and 17 from across Limestone Coast have started the journey to participate in the inaugural Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and Duke of Edinburgh Awards Young Leaders Program. This is a fully subsidised program with no cost to the participant.

Key highlights of the Young Leaders Program include:

- › Learn Understand the inner workings of a sporting club, the issues affecting sport and how to make sporting clubs more accessible to the community.
- › Develop your communication skills, leadership and emotional intelligence and undertake sporting medical support training.
- › Experience - Get first-hand experience within a community sporting club and apply your skills & learning practically.

The course consists of –

- › **Physical Recreation** 6 months of Physical Activity (1 hour per week for 6 months)
- › **Voluntary Service** 3 months of volunteering at a community organisation/sporting club (1 hour per week for 3 months)
- › **Skill Development** - 5 workshops:
 - *How to increase participation in sport (delivered by ORSR)*
 - *How does a sporting club run (delivered by ORSR)*
 - *Improving your communication (delivered by TBC)*
 - *Developing your life skills and emotional intelligence (delivered by Global Community Sports)*
 - *Maintaining your members health (delivered by SA Sports Medicine Association)*
 - *Communication workshop, focussing on the following areas:*
 - *Confidence, running a meeting, Grant writing, Having difficult conversations, How to influence, Social media training.*

Young Leaders Program

Plus 1 of either:

- › Community Coaching Essential Skills (Delivered by Australian Sports Commission) Community Officiating Essential Skills (Delivered by Australian Sports Commission).
- › Adventurous Journey Overnight stay at AFL Max (TBC) Tour of new ORSR/SASI Cultural Awareness Training (delivered by Tjindu Foundation).

This program is free of costs to the participants, and they are able to gain a minimum of 10 SACE Points, by completing the program. We have at least 1 person from all 7 council areas in the program

Regional Workshops Delivered

The CAC Program delivered Child Safe Officer, Responsible Service of Alcohol, Grant Writing, Grant Readiness, Cultural Inclusivity and Food Safety Supervisor workshops across the region in the reporting period.

The Power of Her Sport Awards

The CAC Officer was apart of the selection Panel for the inaugural Power of Her Sport Awards and attended the Award Ceremony on the 12th March. The Naracoorte Little Athletics Club was successful in the Champion Local Club – Regional section and Chloe Mackenzie was a joint winner in the emerging leader category.

Chloe created the very first South-East junior girl's cricket group to assist in the development of junior girls as well as to give them an opportunity to play and train with only other girls. Previously, junior girls in the south-east were only able to play cricket in a mixed gender competition, so Chloe created a 'Girls only' group to support and encourage them early on in their cricket journey.

By conducting training sessions at various cricket grounds in the Limestone Coast region eg. Naracoorte, Penola and Mt Gambier, Chloe ensures 'girls only' cricket is inclusive and accessible at regional local cricket clubs. Sometimes she travels over 200kms after her working day just to conduct a 'girls only' training session.

Support for Community Clubs

- › The CAC Officer has worked with multiple clubs on a range of Funding Programs.
- › The CAC Officer worked with the EQUIPP Project through Uni SA on Co-designing an educational campaign for people living with chronic pain in the Limestone Coast and Western Victoria. The aim of this study, EQUIPP: Co-design Workshops, is to engage with locals to co-design a chronic pain-targeted educational intervention that is specific to your community.
- › For this study, we are running a workshop with people who live and/or work in the Limestone Coast. EQUIPP is a research project with a bold vision: to change the way Australians understand pain.
www.equipp.org.au

Sports Programs Supporting Migrants

Project based around soccer and migrants. We are supporting soccer in the Tatiara, with a focus on the migrant community's needs, by exploring ways in which the strengths of the community can be leveraged to create positive physical activity outcomes to establish active lives and connected communities.

There are currently multiple forms of informal Soccer participation occurring in the community. We have supported Senior Soccer with equipment and Governance support. This program has now expanded into having a Basketball component to it. This is proving to be very successful.



Tatiara Migrant Program



Tatiara Migrant Program

Paralympic and Disability Sport Initiatives

The CAC Officer worked with the South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) Paralympic section to activate Physical Activity opportunities for people in the Limestone Coast. SASI have agreed to come down for a 4-day initial visit to work with clubs, councils and schools to look at setting up sustainable and ongoing disability sport programs for young and old in the region.

These programs will be supported by and managed by the SASI Paralympic team and the CAC program. They will be grass root programs open to young and old. There will also be Talent Identification Testing run for young athletes with a disability with a hope to add a Paralympic section to our local Academy.

The Power of Her Event

The Limestone Coast Local Government Association (through the Connected and Active Communities Program), in partnership with the Office for Recreation Sport and Racing, The City of Mount Gambier and University of SA Mount Gambier Campus was proud to present 'The Power of Her' - an inspiring event dedicated to celebrating and empowering females in sport. The event was held at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre on Thursday 21st November.

The Power of Her brought together influential voices, thought leaders and change makers for an unforgettable day and night of connection, learning and growth.

The event was held in two parts.

The first, a Schools specific session, for female students, held in the morning that discussed topics relevant to those in attendance, not only in sport but in everyday life. Topics such as, Body Image, Leadership, what it takes to reach their goals and How to navigate life changes that happen to them as they grow.

The students then heard from Paris Olympic Bronze Medallist Caitlin Parker, in an inspiring talk about breaking down stereotypes and overcoming barriers. Then a keynote address from Former Australian Diamond Captain Natalie Von Bertouch and current Thunderbird Premiership Captain Hannah Petty, which engaged the crowd and involved them in the discussion.

Questions from the students were then forthcoming, and so engaged where the students, we ran out of time for all the questions. Students were able to approach the presenters for photos and to discuss things personally before they left.

The second session saw keynote addresses from Natalie Von Bertouch and Caitlin Parker, along with a panel discussion with Natalie, Caitlin, Nicola Jensen (Pelvic Pain Foundation), Holly Bailey (Play Like a Girl Foundation), Hannah Petty, Lorraine Pitman (The Embrace Collective) and former Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy member and current South Australian Sports Institute Cycling athlete Sarah Dally.

The event was packed with powerful ideas and insights, engaging presentations, lively conversations and personal stories. Not to mention highly practical tools to empower change in gender equality. Both sessions were superbly led by Limestone Coast born, Channel 9 News Presenter Alice Monfries as MC.

Never before have we seen such a collection of sporting legends and leaders in significant female focused areas come together on the Limestone Coast in one setting. Over 200 people came to both sessions.



Holly Bailey and Caitlin Parker



Caitlin Parker

Mental Health Support – Switch The Play Program

The CAC program worked with Feel Better (Mental Health Professionals) to develop and roll out the Switch The Play: A Grassroots Mental Health Program for Sporting Clubs.

Switch The Play is an innovative grassroots mental health program designed by FeelBetter Limestone Coast for implementation within sporting clubs. The program aims to provide ongoing, consistent, and accessible mental health and well-being support to club members and the broader community.

The program provides localised easily accessible mental health support for sporting clubs, with support being long term and ongoing in nature to avoid the gap often experienced with fly-in-fly-out mental health models which provide information however do not provide the tangible mental health support that clubs need at the times when it is needed.

Not having ongoing accessible support is viewed as a barrier to clubs embedding mental health and wellbeing as a natural part of their operations, as clubs are already normally overburdened with role responsibilities being managed mostly by volunteers.

Having access to accredited mental health social workers to support and guide designated club wellbeing support persons will enable reduction of the fear and responsibility likely associated with a person agreeing to take on a volunteer role of this kind.

Understanding that support will be readily available to the volunteer within the wellbeing role will we envisage make it much easier clubs to present the role to their club and for a club person to agree to being attached to the role.

Program Objectives:

1. Reduce stigma surrounding mental health support-seeking
2. Reach a wide demographic, particularly adult males and young men
3. Address high male suicide rates in rural and remote South Australia
4. Provide informal, less confronting support at a grassroots level
5. Normalise mental health discussions within sporting communities

Program Design:

- > Implementation within sporting clubs
- > Dedicated wellbeing role attached to each club
- > Access to accredited mental health social workers – FeelBetter Limestone Coast
- > Online group sessions for wellbeing club contact available
- > Individual consultations for wellbeing contact available
- > Website materials and resources on mental health topics available at any time
- > Critical incident support available provided by AMHSW FeelBetter Limestone Coast

Supporting At-Risk Youth

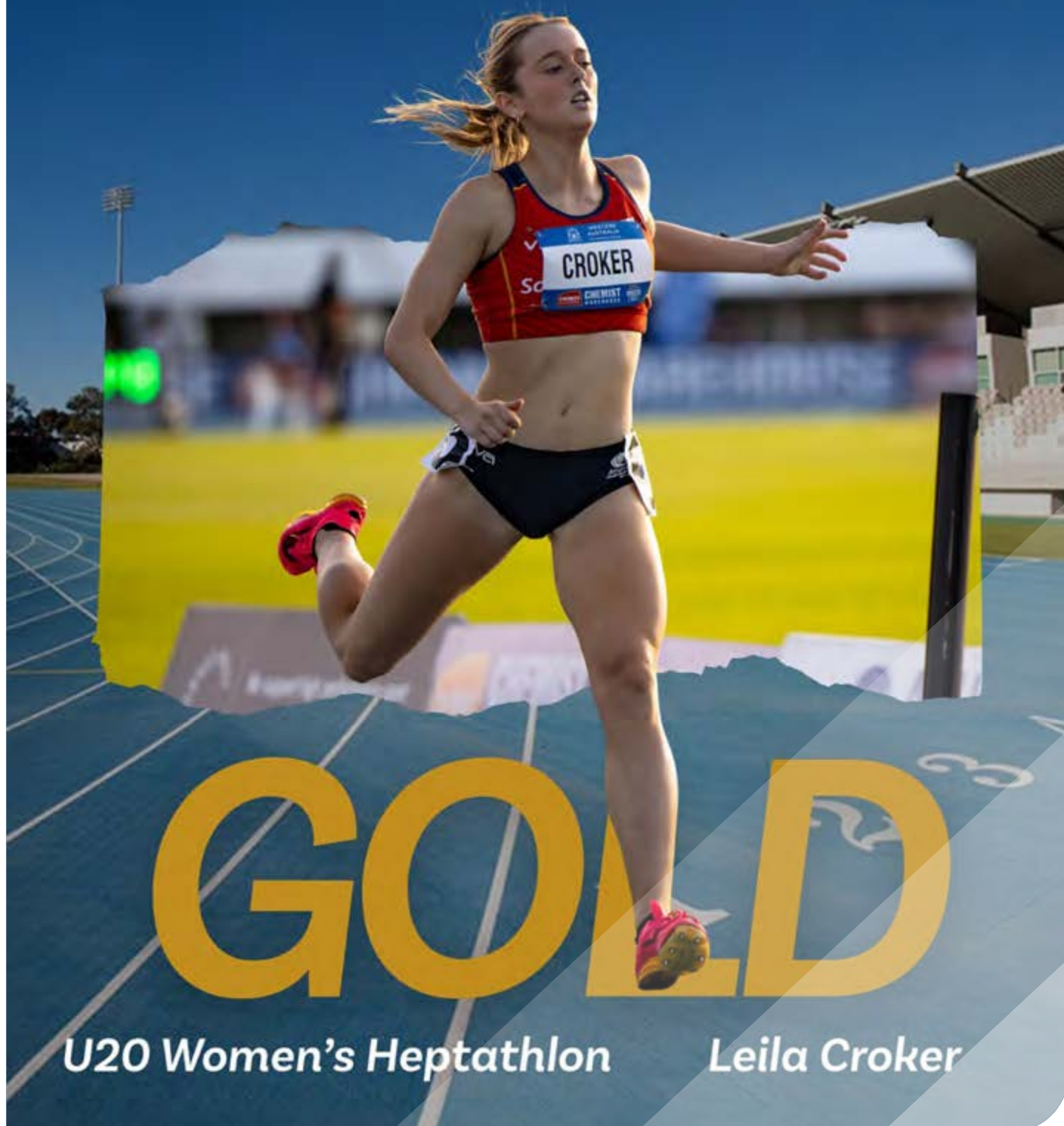
Partnered with Department of Child Protection and are in the early phase of running a project that will provide children at risk with opportunities to participate and benefit from sport they choose to be involved in. Children and Sports have been selected and are being supported through the CAC program to be able to attend trainings and games and to be able to do so safely.

Facility Planning and Governance Support

Delivered a Facility Analysis report which will provide valuable data in partnership with Naracoorte Lucindale Council about the viability and future of facilities in their council area.

The CAC Officer also continued to provide many clubs across the region with Governance and off field support, including, Constitution, Strategic Planning and Grant/Funding support.

LIMESTONE
COAST REGIONAL
SPORTING ACADEMY



U20 Women's Heptathlon

Leila Croker

In partnership with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and the LCLGA, the Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy (LCRSA) inducted its first Inductees in October 2017 and commenced working with these Athletes in November, as part of a Pilot Program.

Since then, the LCLGA have been successful in meeting certain requirements from the ORSR and have continued to obtain funding to run the program ongoing. Once again, the LCLGA partnered with the ORSR and the seventh year of the LCRSA was launched in October 2023. The program was also supported through the Local Government Research and Development Scheme funding program.

We were pleased to welcome back Hockey SA, Tennis SA, SASI Cycling, Swimming SA, Mount Gambier Pioneers, SA Country Basketball and Athletics SA as official partners of the Academy. We also welcomed for the first time Glenelg Football Club as a partner in a new AFLW Program.

We were able to offer skill-based sessions for athletes in these sports and coaching development for local coaches as well. We also continued to offer a Lonestar program for athletes from any sporting background.

The LCRSA inducted 82 athletes into the Academy for the 2024/25 iteration.

These athletes are provided with a 12-month Gym membership, a 12-month Elite Athlete Strength and Conditioning Program (2 sessions a week at the gym

and an at home program), Coaching, Educational Sessions (Sports Psychology, Media Training, Coping with Pressure, Sporting Routines and Sports Nutrition), and High-level testing at the University of SA's High Performance Centre in Adelaide.

We are also able to live stream our Education sessions to athletes across the region who are unable to attend due to travel.

The program has given the athletes the chance to understand the training and preparation requirements to become an elite athlete, as well as improve their performances at school as well as on the field or track.

We also continued our partnership with Uni SA, who provide us with the venue for our Education sessions and Testing. The LCRSA is extremely pleased to also be supported by the M & G Hotel Group, who have provided us with 30 nights of free accommodation for athletes and families, as well as a reduced rate for athletes and families on an ongoing basis.

The LCRSA has four main objectives



To identify regional sporting talent



To educate and develop youth in the region



To provide pathways to State and national representation



To develop the skills of regional coaches

Outside of these four main sporting objectives, our key goal is to help young people become leaders in our communities.

The Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy (LCRSA) has officially adopted an independent governance structure, marking its evolution from being managed by the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA). This pivotal development represents a major step forward for athlete development in South Australia, enhancing the support available to emerging sports talent across the region.

The LCRSA is set to become the first regional academy in South Australia to operate under an independent governance model. This transition has been carefully considered by the LCLGA, with thorough due diligence conducted to assess the benefits of independent operations. The Academy will now be managed and operated locally, with strategic and operational support from Regional Academies of Sport Ltd (RAS Ltd), its parent organisation, which provides expertise in governance, strategy and risk, finance, marketing and more.

The move to independence will allow the LCRSA to access a broader network of expertise, resources and support, while continuing to deliver tailored programs that reflect the region's sporting culture and aspirations.



With the Brisbane 2032 Olympics on the horizon, now is the time to invest in the next generation of regional talent. Programs delivered in the Limestone Coast, and those still to be developed, will not only nurture future sporting stars but also help shape a stronger, more resilient generation, equipped for life beyond the playing field. It's an incredibly exciting time to be an emerging athlete in South Australia.



LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL REPORTS

30 JUNE 2025

Farmers Leap Padthaway Sarah Cunningham

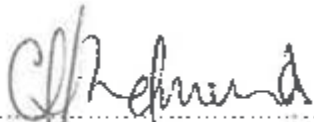


Limestone Coast Local Government Association
Annual Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

- the accompanying financial statements comply with the *Local Government Act 1999, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards.
- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Association's financial position at 30 June 2025 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls implemented by the Association provide a reasonable assurance that the Association's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Association's accounting and other records.


Charlotte Edmunds
Executive Officer


Mayor Lynette Martin
President

Date: 8/8/25

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
INCOME			
Local Government Council Contributions	2	915,891	874,335
Other Contributions	2	40,000	40,000
Other Income	2	80,997	114,681
Project Income	2	371,024	378,368
Total Income		1,407,912	1,407,384
EXPENSES			
Operating Expenses	3	187,053	201,624
Employee Costs	3	584,805	638,542
Project Expenditure	3	532,627	625,676
Total Expenses		1,304,484	1,465,842
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)			
transferred to Equity Statement		103,428	(58,458)
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		103,428	(58,458)

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

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	594,504	636,311
Trade and Other Receivables	4	7,178	9,201
Total Assets		601,682	645,512
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	5	239,415	70,923
Provisions	5	7,403	70,089
Other Liabilities	5	-	252,405
Total Current Liabilities		246,817	393,417
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	5	-	658
Total Non-current Liabilities		-	658
Total Liabilities		246,817	394,075
NET ASSETS		354,865	251,437
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		354,865	251,437
TOTAL EQUITY		354,865	251,437

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

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2025

		Accumulated Surplus	TOTAL EQUITY
2025	Notes	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		<u>251,437</u>	<u>251,437</u>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		103,428	103,428
Other Comprehensive Income		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at end of period		354,865	354,865
2024			
Balance at end of previous reporting period		309,895	309,895
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		(58,458)	(58,458)
Other Comprehensive Income		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at end of period		251,437	251,437

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

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS for the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Local Government Council Contributions		915,891	874,335
Other Contributions		40,000	40,000
Other Income		80,997	114,681
Project Income		120,642	240,332
Payments			
Operating Expenses		(151,508)	(173,162)
Employee Costs		(667,078)	(613,228)
Project Expenditure		(380,751)	(625,676)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	6	(41,807)	(142,718)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		-	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		-	-
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		(41,807)	(142,718)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		636,311	779,029
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	4	594,504	636,311

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

Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1 - MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

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

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Limestone Coast LGA's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note.

1.4 Rounding

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

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Limestone Coast Local Government Association (Association) is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at Level 1, 9 Bay Road, Mount Gambier, SA, 5290. These financial statements include Limestone Coast Local Government Associations direct operations and all entities through which Limestone Coast Local Government Association controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on Limestone Coast Local Government Association as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

3 Income recognition

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

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

Income from Local Government Council Contributions includes income for "pass-through" expenditure for Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast (RDALC), SA Coastal Councils Alliance (SACCA) and the provision of heritage services.

4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Limestone Coast Local Government Associations option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

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

Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 1 - MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (con't)

5 Payables

5.1 Goods & Services

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

5.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

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

6 Employee Benefits

6.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

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

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

Weighted average discount rate	3.927% (2024 3.929%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year (2024, 1 year)

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

7 GST Implications

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

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

8 Leases

At the inception of a contract, the Association assesses if the contract is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right of use assets and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Association where the Association is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

9 New Accounting Standards and UIG interpretations

The Association has assessed all the standards / interpretations which are not yet effective and have determined that there is no expected material impact on the reported financial position or performance.

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
NOTE 2: INCOME			
Local Government Council Contributions			
City of Mount Gambier		252,677	241,162
District Council of Grant		112,556	107,456
Wattle Range Council		191,873	183,140
Naracoorte Lucindale Council		129,504	123,628
District Council of Robe		60,867	58,140
Tatiara District Council		109,867	104,890
Kingston District Council		58,547	55,919
Total		915,891	874,335
Other Contributions			
LGA SA		40,000	40,000
Total		40,000	40,000
Other Income			
Interest		36,352	42,894
Participant Contribution		26,421	26,027
Other		18,225	45,760
Total		80,997	114,681
Project Income			
Tourism (Includes SA Tourism Commission payments)		80,840	52,198
Connective Active Communities (Office of Sport and Rec payments)		155,000	155,000
Sports Academy & Connective Active Communities (Office of Sport and Rec payments)		80,600	100,000
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		54,584	71,170
Total		371,024	378,368

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
NOTE 3: Expenditure			
Operating Expenses			
Audit Fees (2023/2024 & 2024/2025)		8,450	4,018
Accounting Fees		23,684	25,350
Computing and IT		15,641	27,108
Rent		24,735	20,824
Insurance		19,030	18,247
Vehicles		27,305	30,048
Chairperson Allowance		9,380	9,160
Travel, Accommodation and Meals		25,096	13,455
Relocation Costs		3,884	-
Other		29,847	53,415
Total		187,053	201,624
Employee Costs			
Salaries and Wages		549,128	540,561
Workcover		6,890	6,241
Superannuation		59,063	57,530
Leave Provision Movement		(38,835)	27,262
FBT		8,557	6,949
Total		584,805	638,542
Project Expenditure			
Tourism		105,781	102,126
Connective Active Communities		40,549	51,047
Sports Academy		95,926	158,063
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		73,450	79,577
Other		216,921	234,862
Total		532,627	625,676

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
NOTE 4: Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash at Bank		<u>594,504</u>	<u>636,311</u>
Total		594,504	636,311
Trade and Other Receivables			
Trade Debtors		5,040	10,220
Provision for Doubtful Debts		-	(2,980)
Accrued Interest		<u>2,138</u>	<u>1,961</u>
Total		7,178	9,201
NOTE 5: Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables			
Goods and Services		226,352	42,287
Accrued Expenses		7,231	26,159
Other		<u>5,831</u>	<u>2,476</u>
Total		239,415	70,923
Provisions - Current			
Employee Entitlements including On-Costs		<u>7,403</u>	<u>70,089</u>
Total		7,403	70,089
Provisions - Non-Current			
Employee Entitlements including On-Costs		-	658
Total		-	658
Other Liabilities			
LC Regional Sport Academy		-	100,000
Connected and Active Communities (CAC)		-	135,600
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		<u>-</u>	<u>16,805</u>
Total		-	252,405

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
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NOTE 6: Reconciliation of 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:

Total cash & equivalent assets	4	594,504	636,311
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		594,504	636,311

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)		103,427	(58,458)
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		(63,345)	25,314
		40,082	(33,144)
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		2,023	2,127
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		168,492	28,462
Net increase (decrease) in other liabilities		(252,404)	(140,164)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		(41,807)	(142,719)

(c) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Corporate Credit Cards	5,000	11,024
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LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

NOTE 7: Financial Instruments

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

Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits	Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, interest is recognised when earned Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning interest rates between 4.15% and 4.55% (2024: 4.30% and 4.55%). Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.
Receivables - Fees & other charges	Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although the association is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).
Receivables - other levels of government	Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method. Terms & conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments. Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals	Accounting Policy: Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Association. Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms. Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 7: Financial Instruments (Cont.)

Liquidity Analysis

2025	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	594,504	-	-	594,504	594,504
Receivables	7,178	-	-	7,178	7,178
Total	601,683	-	-	601,683	601,683
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	235,203	-	-	235,203	235,203
Total	235,203	-	-	235,203	235,203

2024	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year < 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	636,311	-	-	636,311	636,311
Receivables	9,201	-	-	9,201	9,201
Total	645,512	-	-	645,512	645,512
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	54,338	-	-	54,338	54,338
Total	54,338	-	-	54,338	54,338

The following interest rates were applicable to Limestone Coast LGA at balance date:

	30 June 2025		30 June 2024	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Carrying Value \$	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Carrying Value \$
At Call	4.15	594,504	4.55	636,311
Term Deposits		-		-
		594,504		636,311

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of Limestone Coast Local Government Association.

Risk Exposures:

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. Except as detailed in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Limestone Coast LGA boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of the Associations financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor currency risk apply.

Liquidity Risk is the risk that the Association will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. In accordance with the model Treasury Management Policy (LGA Information Paper 15), liabilities have a range of maturity dates.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Association has a balance of both fixed and variable interest rate investments.

LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

NOTE 8: Uniform Presentation of Financial Statements

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
INCOME			
Local Government Council Contributions		915,891	874,335
Other Contributions		40,000	40,000
Other Income		80,997	114,681
Project Income		371,024	378,368
EXPENSES			
Operating Expenses		(187,053)	(201,624)
Employee Costs		(584,805)	(638,542)
Project Expenditure		(532,627)	(625,676)
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Amounts		103,428	(58,458)
Less Net Outlays in Existing Assets			
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets		-	-
Add Back Depreciation Amortisation and Impairment		-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets		-	-
		-	-
Less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets			
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets		-	-
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets		-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets		-	-
		-	-
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year		103,428	(58,458)

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

Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2025, the Association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in the this financial report.

Note 10 – Capital Commitments

At 30 June 2025, the Association is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in the this financial report.

Note 11 – Events after the end of the reporting period

There were no events subsequent to 30 June 2025 that need to be disclosed in the financial statements.

Note 12 – Economic Dependence

Limestone Coast Local Government Association is dependent on the Local Councils within its jurisdiction and other funding bodies for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Board believe that the Local Councils and other bodies will continue to fund the Association.

Note 13 – Capital Management

The Board controls the capital of the entity to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund its programs and that returns from investments are maximised within tolerable risk parameters. The Board ensure that the overall risk management strategy is in line with this objective. The Board operates under policies approved by the board. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the Board on a regular basis. These include credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements. The entity's capital consists of financial liabilities supported by financial assets. There has been no changes to the strategy adopted by the Board to control the capital of the entity since the previous financial year.

Note 14 – Related Party Disclosure

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Board of Management and Executive Officer. In all, four people were paid the following total compensation:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Salaries, allowances & Other Short Term benefits	\$ 172,393	\$ 178,849
Post-Employment Benefits	\$ 905	\$ 15,875
TOTAL	\$ 173,298	\$ 194,724

The specific banding of key management personnel and Board of management from the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows;

\$	2025	2024
Under \$50,000	3	1
\$50,000 to \$100,000	0	2
\$100,001 to \$150,000	1	0
\$150,001 to \$200,000	0	0

Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Other related parties includes close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel individually or collectively with their close family members.

Note 14 – Related Party Disclosure (Cont.)

There were no transactions with other related parties.

Related Party Entity	Amounts received from Related Party during the Financial Year
	2025
	\$
City of Mount Gambier	278,944
District Council of Grant	123,812
Wattle Range Council	211,060
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	142,454
District Council of Robe	66,954
Tatiara District Council	120,854
Kingston District Council	64,402
TOTAL	1,008,480

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (the Authority), which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statements of Changes in Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and other explanatory information and the Certification of the Financial Statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Authority as at 30 June 2025, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and the Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described as in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibility of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*, and for such controls as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Management is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Authority or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that the audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

DEAN NEWBERY



SAMANTHA CRETEN
Director

19 August 2025

**Limestone Coast Local Government Association
Annual Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025**

CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of Limestone Coast Local Government Association for the year ended 30 June 2025, the Association's Auditor, Dean Newbery, has maintained its independence in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

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

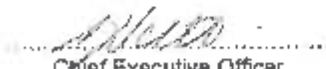

Executive Officer
LC Local Government Association


President
LC Local Government Association


Chief Executive Officer
District Council of Grant


Chief Executive Officer
City of Mount Gambier


Chief Executive Officer
Kingston District Council


Chief Executive Officer
Naracoorte Lucindale Council


Chief Executive Officer
District Council of Robe


Chief Executive Officer
Tatiara District Council

Date: 8/8/25

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Dean Newbery
ABN: 48 007 865 081

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 22 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 to the Limestone Coast Local Government Association

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association for the year ended 30 June 2025, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Part 4A, 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*.



SAMANTHA CRETEN
DIRECTOR

19 August 2025

The Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) extends its sincere appreciation to its constituent councils for their continuing support and collaboration.

We acknowledge the valuable contributions and guidance of all board Members over the 2024-25 year: President Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM) - City of Mount Gambier, Vice President Mayor Liz Goossens - Tatiara District Council, Mayor Kylie Boston - District Council of Grant, Mayor Jeff Pope - Kingston District Council, Mayor Patrick Ross - Naracoorte Lucindale Council and Mayor Lisa Ruffell - District Council of Robe.

The 2024-25 year has been one of significant change for the Association as we have embarked upon a shift towards an advocacy focused structure.

The transition period of the LCLGA during 2024-25 was led by highly experienced and capable leadership. Deb Brokenshire served as Interim Executive Officer from June 2024 for a three-month term whilst the strategic direction was established. Colin Byles then took over the interim position to lead the Association's structural transition including the recruitment of a new Executive Officer to lead the new advocacy-focused organisation going forward. We wholeheartedly thank Deb and Colin for their collective efforts over the past 12 months.

Equally, each of the LCLGA staff members have demonstrated integrity and professionalism of the highest regard during the transition period ensuring programs continued seamlessly throughout the various changes and challenges that comes with organisational restructure.

Immense appreciation and respect is extended to Tony Elletson, Connected & Active Communities Officer; Kate Napper, Destination Development Manager; Emma Herring, Destination Development Coordinator; Rhiannon Zammit, Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy Administrator; and Paul Manfrin, Corporate Services Officer.

The Australian Local Government Association, the Local Government Association of SA (including support via the Regional Capacity Building Program, which funded both regional tourism marketing activities and the Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy), and the five other regional local government associations in SA continue to provide guidance and support to the LCLGA, for which we extend our gratitude.

Our strong working relationship with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast board members and staff also remains an invaluable component in advancing the region's interests and strengthening our economic future. We look forward to continuing to partner with RDALC towards achieving our shared goals.

While the 2024-25 period has been one of transition, the founding principles have remained at the forefront of decision making and continue to guide us into the next chapter of our 140-year-old Association. While each council is unique in its circumstance and situation we are united in a shared responsibility and vision for the future of our region. We are committed to continued regional collaboration that crosses council boundaries to ensure effective solutions and shared burdens.

Our potential for growth is strengthened by local government cooperation to drive the social, environmental and community development goals, always ultimately advocating for the region's best asset - its people.

We look forward to the LCLGA continuing to play a vital role in shaping and supporting the future of our region as we have done since 1885.

Better Together.

Charlotte Edmunds

Executive Officer LCLGA





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