

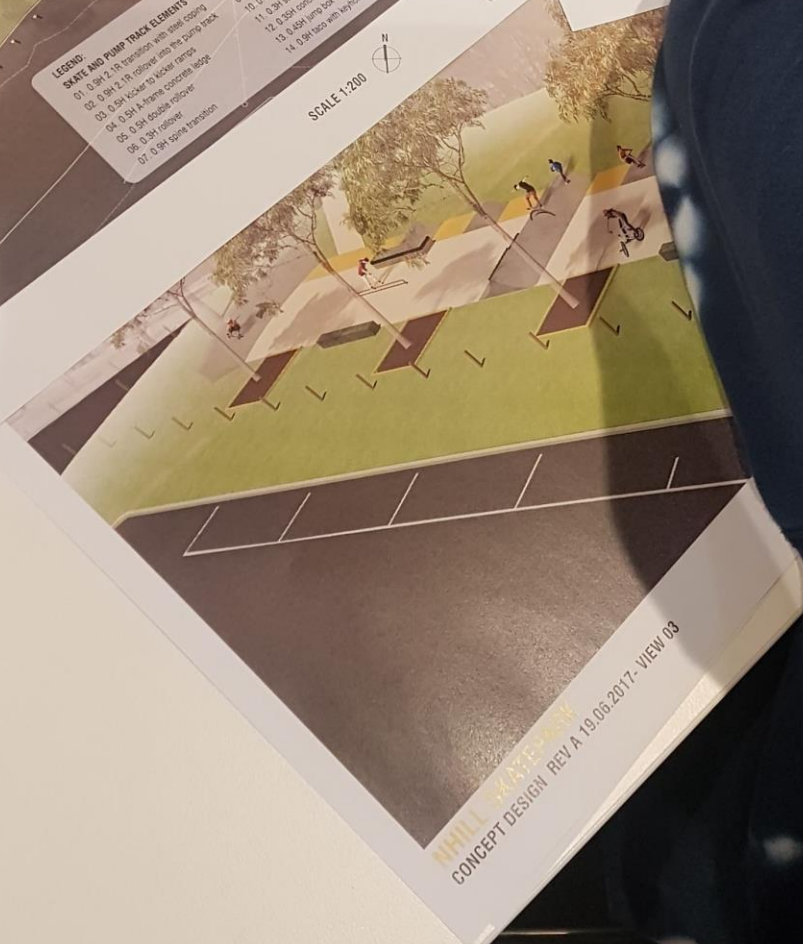
# ANNUAL REPORT

# HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018







Above:  
Nhill Skate Park concept designs

Front Cover:  
Official opening of the Rainbow Skate Park



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## Introduction

### Welcome to the 2017/2018 Report of Operations

The *Victorian Local Government Act 1989* requires all Councils to present an Annual Report to the Minister for Local Government by 30 September each year.

Council's Annual Report details the achievements and performance of Hindmarsh Shire Council during the 2017/18 financial year. Council is committed to transparent reporting and accountability to the community and the report of operations provides a transparent record of Council's operations and performance during the financial year.

### Snapshot of our Council

-  Hindmarsh Shire Council is located in the Wimmera region in Western Victoria, covering an area of 7,527 km<sup>2</sup>.
-  We are bound by two National Parks, the Little Desert in the South and Wyperfeld in the North.
-  Hindmarsh Shire is based in or around the Shire's four main towns of Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.
-  We are a closely linked community of 5,721 people, with a median age of 50 years.
-  Hindmarsh Shire is rich in natural beauty like the Wimmera River and Lake Hindmarsh, Pink Lake and Lake Albacutya.
-  Economy is largely dependent on agriculture (primary and secondary), health services, manufacturing and retail.
-  58.3% of people work full time, 30.6% of people work part time, 5.1% of people were unemployed and 6.0% of people were away from work according to the 2016 Census.
-  83.5% of people were born in Australia, with English the only language spoken in 88.0% of homes. Our most significant group of migrants are Karen refugees from Burma (Myanmar), with approximately 180 Karen people calling Nhill home.



**OUR VISION**  
 A CARING, ACTIVE  
 COMMUNITY ENHANCED BY  
 ITS LIVEABILITY,  
 ENVIRONMENT AND  
 ECONOMY

**OUR MISSION**  
 \* TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TO  
 ENABLE THE COMMUNITY TO BE HEALTHY,  
 ACTIVE & ENGAGED  
 \* TO PROVIDE INFRASTRUCTURE ESSENTIAL  
 TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY  
 \* TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE OUR NATURAL  
 ENVIRONMENT  
 \* TO FOSTER A THRIVING AND DIVERSIFIED  
 LOCAL ECONOMY WHERE ECONOMIC  
 GROWTH IS ENCOURAGED & SUPPORTED  
 \* TO REALISE THE EXCELLENCE IN OUR  
 PEOPLE, PROCESSES AND SYSTEMS.



**VALUES**  
 1. LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION  
 2. TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY  
 3. HONESTY & INTEGRITY  
 4. TRUST & RESPECT  
 5. DIVERSITY & EQUALITY  
 6. JUSTICE & FAIRNESS  
 7. SUSTAINABILITY  
 8. ASPIRATION



## FAST FACTS

**419.22**

tonnes of recycling collected from kerbside pick ups throughout Hindmarsh Shire

**11,150**

hours of services provided to residents by 16 staff.

**1,006**

children participated in Council run school holiday activities.

**10,490**

stayed at Dimboola, Jeparit & Rainbow Caravan Parks during 2017/18.

**600**

people attended the two seniors concerts held during 2017/18

**132,900**

metres square of roads were resealed during 2017/18

**5,566**

meals on wheels services provided

**12,428**

people telephoned or visited a Hindmarsh Shire Customer Service Centre in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill or Rainbow during 2017/18

## The year in review

### Mayor & CEO's Message

On behalf of Hindmarsh Shire Council it is a great pleasure to present Council's 2017/18 Annual Report. Through our partnerships with our community, businesses, and other stakeholders including the state and federal governments we have been able to achieve many successes over the past twelve months.

### **Community Planning:**

Council has undertaken extensive community consultation over the past twelve months. During March 2018 eight community conversation meetings were held throughout the Shire updating our community on items contained in our 17/18 budget, priorities for the 18/19 budget, capital works projects undertaken in 17/18 and proposed capital works projects for 18/19.

We have also undertaken consultation to inform our Street and Reserve Tree Strategy, Planning Scheme Review, and Rural Roadside Vegetation Management Plan.



Council engaged a consultant to undertake a review of the Rainbow Recreation Reserve, incorporating the Rainbow Caravan Park, to assist in the development of a master plan that will guide future development.

Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan review commenced with a specialist aviation planning consultant appointed to review and update the current master plan. Ensuring the plan accurately reflects current usage and provides guidance for future use and development, Council is working in partnership with the Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan Advisory Committee to develop a revised plan that:

- ✚ Promotes the orderly future planning for the aerodrome site for the next 10 years.
- ✚ Provides a vehicle for all interested parties to document, prioritise and implement their respective objectives for the development of the site.
- ✚ Provides a timeframe, cost estimate and responsibility for key activities identified through the plan.
- ✚ Ensures the master plan for the aerodrome has due consideration to regulatory requirements.
- ✚ Promotes the aerodrome as an important transport facility in the Hindmarsh Shire and its relationship to the region.
- ✚ Provides for aviation based recreational pursuits including hangars.
- ✚ Explores tourism opportunities.
- ✚ Encourages light industry.

Council established a Wimmera River Stakeholders Advisory Group comprising a number of representatives from:

- ✚ Barengi Gadjin Land Council.
- ✚ Wimmera Catchment Management Authority.
- ✚ Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- ✚ Parks Victoria.
- ✚ Environmental Protection Authority.
- ✚ License holders of stock and domestic water rights.
- ✚ Dimboola Historical Society.

-  Dimboola Ski Club.
-  Dimboola Rowing Club.

The aim of the group is to ensure the Wimmera River within the Dimboola locality is appropriately managed for the benefit of the environment, community, recreational users, traditional and abutting landowners.

### **Grant Funding:**

Grants are an important funding source for Council. Grants allow Council to deliver projects big and small to our community.

In 2017/18 Council received a grant to undertake upgrade works to the Dimboola Walking Track within the Recreation Reserve. The track allows walkers to enjoy the natural beauty of the area including the many bird life that populate the trees and river.

Council were successful in receiving a grant to install a Skatepark in Nhill. Plans are underway and the Skatepark will be constructed during 2018/19 further improving activities for youth within our Shire.

Council were also successful in receiving a grant to install a fishing pontoon at the Nhill Lake during 2018/19, this is in addition to the pontoons that have been installed in Dimboola and Jeparit.

Funding provided by the Victorian Government – Community Crime Prevention Program allowed Council to install 18 new streetlights in Nhill. This project improves the pedestrian visibility to a number of high use areas.

Grant funding from VicRoads under the Building Our Regions program allowed Council to construct a pedestrian crossing on the Western Highway outside West Wimmera Health Service in Nhill to improve pedestrian safety. The grant was also used to install an electronic speed warning sign and bollards at the corner of Nelson and Victoria Streets Nhill.

Each year Council receives funding for small projects, these assist with improving our liveability, visitor amenities or supporting events within our Community. During 2017/18 Council received funding for the Rainbow Desert Enduro, FreeZa activities, facilitated playgroup coordinator, Walk to School, Upper Regions Cemetery maintenance, Karen New Year, and variable message sign.

Council's Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants programs were again successful with Council providing funding to enable 31 community groups and businesses within our Shire to undertake projects. These programs will continue to support our community during 2018/19 to undertake projects to support and enhance our community.

### **Events:**

Community groups have worked tirelessly over the past 12 months assisting Council to ensure that Hindmarsh Shire continues to be a great place to live.

Some of the events held during the past twelve months include the Rainbow Desert Enduro, Dimboola Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) demonstration event, Nhill Pony

express, New residents BBQs, Dimboola swap meet, Dimboola Rowing Regatta, Hindmarsh Shire Migrant open weekend, Dimboola fishing competition, Agricultural and Pastoral Society Show, International day of people with disabilities, Town Committee Christmas events, Nhill Lake February Fiestas, Nhill Park Run launch, Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum vintage rally, Wheels for Wirraway, Jeparit Easter fishing competition, Rainbow & Dimboola Skatepark official openings and Easter Eggstravaganza, markets, funs runs and horse races.

We thank all of the hardworking volunteers involved in delivering a busy schedule of events across our Shire.

### **Volunteers:**

The contribution of our volunteers should not go unrecognised, and we thank the many volunteers that support our operations around the Shire.

Council has 15 Section 86 committees, set up as delegates of Council under the *Local Government Act 1989*. These committees vary from our four town committees, who undertake an extraordinary amount of work within our towns and perform a valuable role as Council's conduit to our community, through to hall and other facility managers. The contributions that these committees make to our Shire is significant and Council is very grateful for their support.

### **Community Satisfaction:**







Our Community Satisfaction survey results remain consistent with improvements in advocacy, making community decisions and customer service. Council scores higher than the average of small rural shires in 6 out of 7 key areas.

Performance Measures	Hindmarsh 2014	Hindmarsh 2015	Hindmarsh 2016	Hindmarsh 2017	Hindmarsh 2018	Small Rural Shires 2018
<b>Overall Performance</b>	63	64	62	63	60	56
<b>Community Consultation</b> (community consultation & engagement)	62	59	60	59	60	54
<b>Advocacy</b> (lobbying on behalf of the community)	60	59	59	60	62	53
<b>Making community decisions</b> (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	59	60	57	58	60	52
<b>Sealed Local Roads</b> (Condition of sealed local roads)	47	47	45	52	48	49
<b>Customer Service</b>	73	71	73	71	72	69
<b>Overall Council Direction</b>	62	61	57	66	51	50



### **Capital Works:**

During 2017/18 Council completed the following capital works:

-  4 shoulder resheets totalling \$276k.
-  17 road sealing projects totalling \$668k.
-  4 footpath projects totalling \$189k.
-  2 sealed road construction projects totalling \$825k.
-  7 unsealed road construction projects totalling \$445k.
-  3 kerb and channel projects totalling \$291k.

Council continued its ongoing commitment to improve the east-west freight corridor through the reconstruction of a further 5 kilometres of the Lorquon East Road.

These works are in addition to the significant amount of maintenance work Council undertakes on its road network and town amenity projects such as work to maintain and improve playgrounds, parks and sporting facilities.

Council is responsible for 3,200 kilometres of local road network. One of the main focuses for Council's capital works program is Asset Renewal. Council faces significant challenges into the future primarily due to the responsibility for a large local road network.

Council will continue to lobby the State and Federal governments for more appropriate funding in recognition of the size of this challenge and the importance of our road network to our economy.

### **Summary**

Council has a team of staff members who are committed to our community. We look forward to delivering a significant number of projects in 2018/19, continuing to make our community liveable for our residents.

During 2018/19 work will commence on the Dimboola Library project, construction of the Nhill Skatepark will be undertaken, and the new fishing pontoon will be installed at Nhill Lake.

Council will undertake significant maintenance works on the Jeparit weir, undertake the Yurunga Homestead recreation project, and renew four footpaths throughout the Shire during 2018/19.

Council will continue to advocate for the Ross Lakes project, and continue the conversations to increase funding to our rural road networks.



Cr Ron Ismay  
**Mayor**



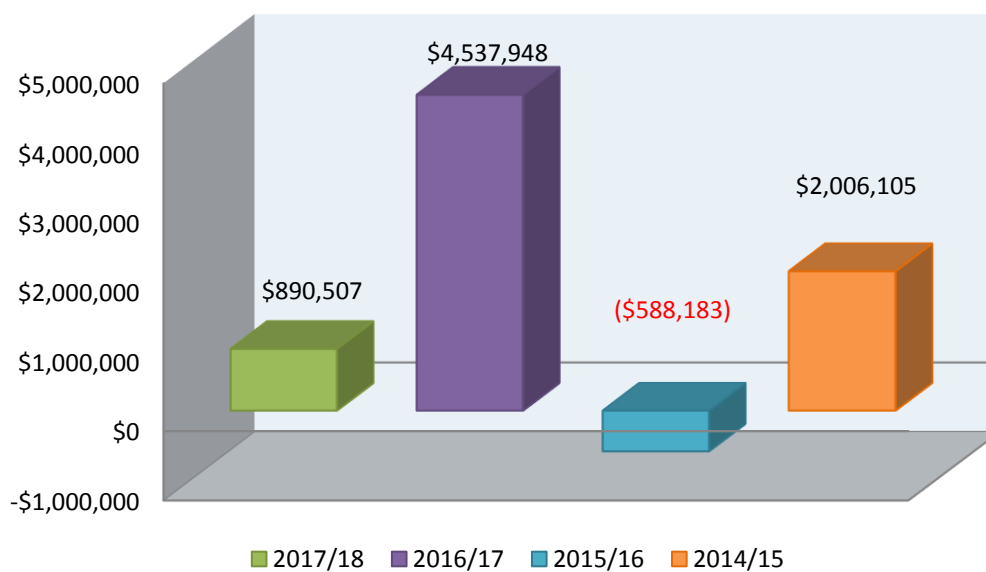
Greg Wood  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Financial Summary

Council’s financial position continues to remain sound. A summary of our performance is outlined below. Detailed information relating to council’s financial performance is included within the Financial Statements and Performance Statement sections of this report.

### Operating Position

Council reported a surplus of \$0.891 million in 2017/18. As per the Comprehensive Income Statement in the Financial Report, the favourable variance is due mainly to the early payment of \$2.22 million from the Financial Assistance grants received in June 2018 for the 2018/19 financial year.

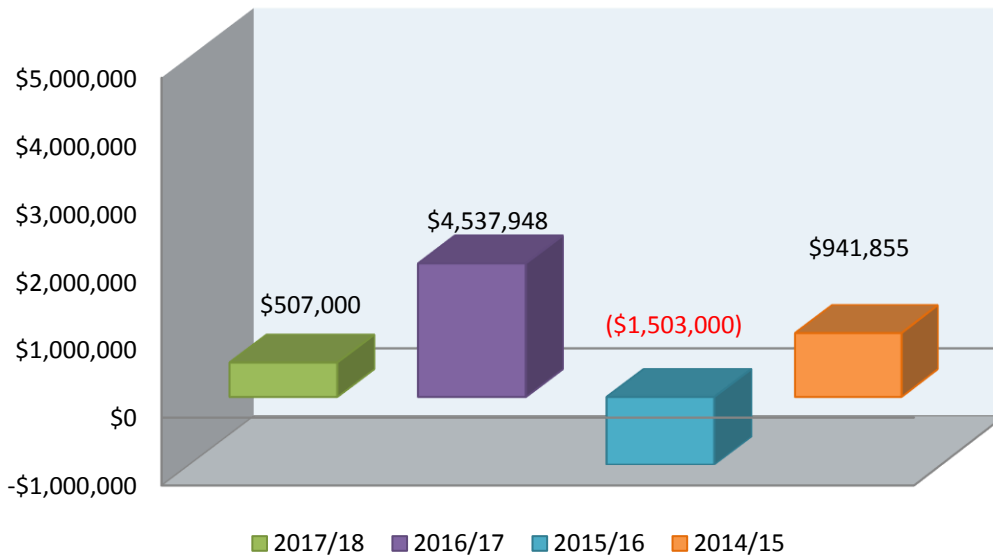


Surplus / (deficit) for the year

Council received additional grants that were not budgeted for. These included grants for a Facilitated Playgroup Coordinator, Community Safety, National Youth Week, Public Safety Infrastructure, Building Our Regions, Stronger Communities Walking Track, National Livestock Identification Scheme and Variable Message sign.

Employee costs were under budget due to a number of vacant positions throughout 2017/18. Materials and services were slightly over budget, while depreciation and other expenses show a favourable variance.

Council’s adjusted underlying result, that is, the result after removing non-recurrent capital grants, cash capital contributions and non-monetary capital contributions, is a surplus of \$0.507 million.

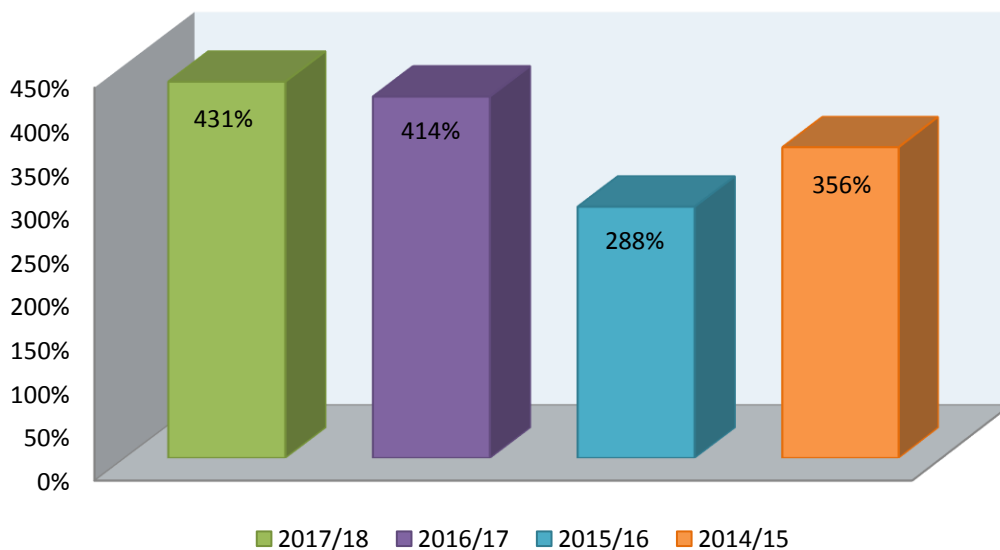


Adjusted Underlying Surplus / (deficit) for the year

**Liquidity**

Cash increased by \$1.534 million from the previous financial year due to a number of large capital works projects not being completed during 2017/18, these include Albacutya Bridge, Dimboola Library incorporating Civic Hub and Dimboola Drainage project.

The working capital ratio which assesses Council’s ability to meet its current commitments is calculated by measuring Council’s current assets as a percentage of current liabilities. Council’s result of 431% is an indicator of Council’s strong financial position and well within the band of 150% or more for the Victorian Auditor General’s Offices (VAGO) assessment as ‘low risk’.



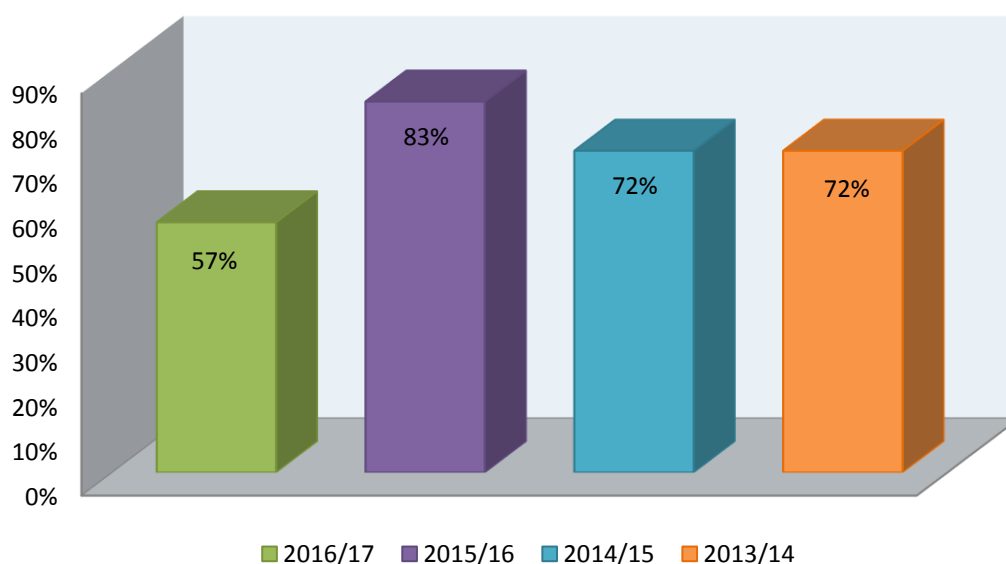
Working capital ratio %

**Obligations**



Council aims to ensure that it is able to maintain its infrastructure assets at the expected levels, while at the same time continuing to deliver the services needed by its community.

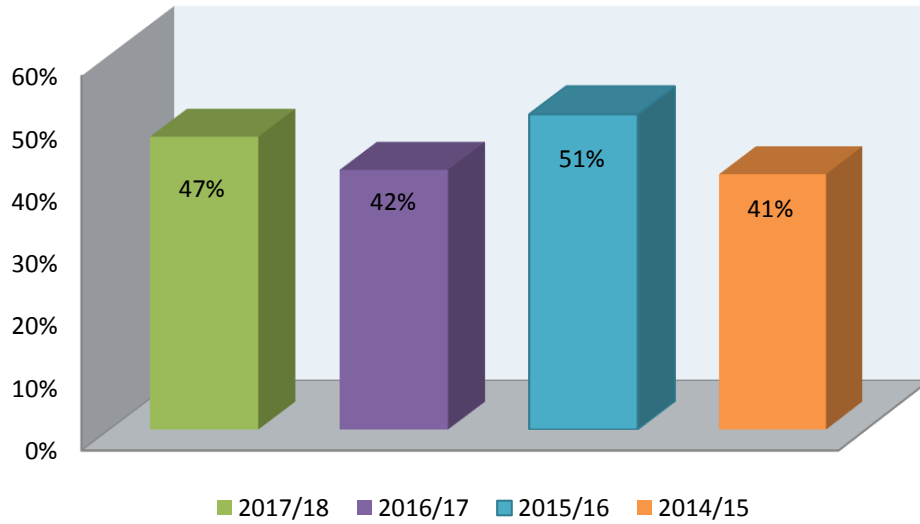
With land, building and infrastructure assets valued at more than \$125 million, it is a challenge to maintain them with an income of just \$18.19 million. Assets deteriorating faster than their maintenance and renewal can be funded creates an ‘infrastructure renewal gap’. To bridge this gap, Council invested \$2.76 million in infrastructure renewal works during the 2017/18 year. Council’s asset renewal ratio which is measured by comparing asset renewal expenditure to depreciation (the reduction in the value of our assets over time, due in particular to wear and tear) was 57%. While this percentage sits within VAGO’s range of medium risk rather than the low risk spectrum, the impact on the lower renewal expenditure remains a concern, therefore future budgets need to focus on renewal expenditure as a priority.



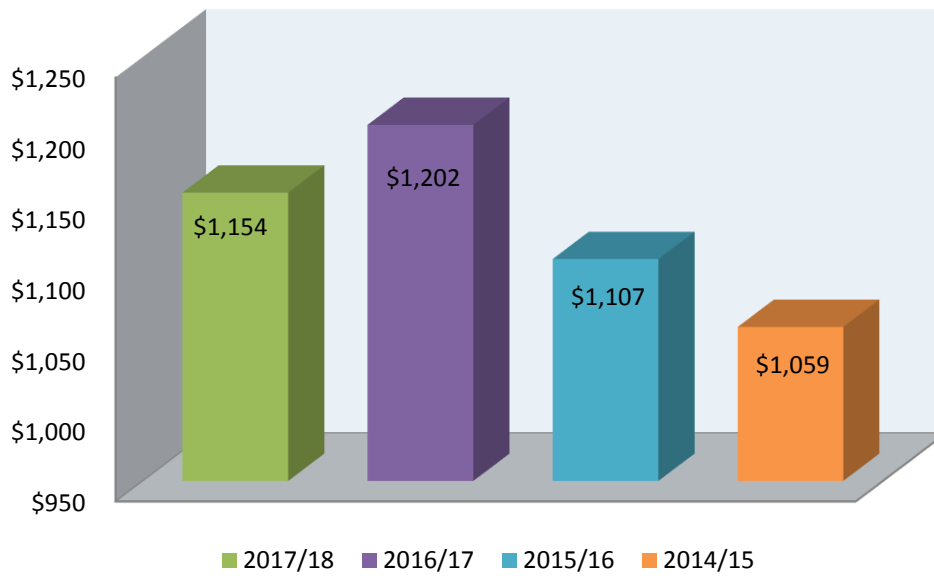
Asset renewal ratio %

**Stability and efficiency**

Council raises a wide range of revenues including rates, user fees, fines, grants and contributions. Despite this, Council’s rates concentration which compares rate revenue to adjusted underlying revenue was 46.9% for the 2017/18 year which is at the lower end of the expected target band of 40% - 80%. Council continue to advocate for additional grants, including the reinstatement of funding for rural roads. Average residential rates per residential assessment for 2017/18 was \$1,154 which compares favourably to similar small rural councils.



Rates concentration ratio %



Rates per residential assessment

## Description of Operations

Hindmarsh Shire Council is responsible for more than 120 services, ranging from services for children to those for older adults, from open space to community buildings, waste management and infrastructure to matters concerning business development, planning for appropriate development and ensuring accountability for Council's budget. This broad range of services and facilities are described in our Council Plan 2017-2021 and the associated budget 2017/18 and reported upon in this document. More information about Council services is contained in the section on Our Performance.

The delivery of services, facilities, support and advocacy to achieve the Strategic Objectives is measured by a set of service performance indicators and measures. Council also has a wide range of responsibilities under Victorian and federal legislation.

### ***Economic or other factors***

Uncertainty around federal and state government roads funding has led to difficulties in the preparation of forecasts and future budgets. The discontinuation of the state government's Roads and Bridges funding continues to have an impact on Council's ability to undertake road related projects in 2017/18, mitigated to some extent for 2017/18 by an increase in the federal government's Roads to Recovery program. The Roads to Recovery program will reduce to normal funding levels from 2018/19.

Council remains debt free, with a capacity to meet short term unforeseen economic challenges due to managing its financial position prudently.

### ***Major Capital Works***

During 2017/18 major capital works undertaken included:

#### ***Nhill Lighting project***

With funding under the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program, Council installed 18 new streetlights in Nhill, improving pedestrian visibility to a number of high use facilities including Davis and Jaypex Parks.

#### ***Safety improvements***

With funding of \$75k from VicRoads under the Building Our Regions Program, Council constructed pedestrian crossing facilities on the Western Highway servicing the West Wimmera Health Service in Nhill, and installed an electronic speed warning sign and energy absorbing bollards at the corner of Nelson and Victoria Streets in Nhill, further increasing pedestrian and motorist safety.

#### ***Dimboola and Rainbow Skateparks***

Local youth are enjoying being more active and engaged with new Skateparks in both Dimboola and Rainbow opened for action in April 2018.

Council and Sport and Recreation Victoria funded the new parks, recognising the need for new facilities after extensive consultation with youth in the local community.







The Skateparks were designed by industry specialist Enlocus, with construction completed by Trinity Skateparks from Maroochydore. The Skateparks were opened on consecutive days by Hindmarsh Shire Mayor Cr Ron Ismay at events hosted by the Youth Council which included skateboard demonstrations, coaching and competitions, along with a free BBQ to feed those in attendance for each opening. The Skateparks remain the biggest attraction for youth in each town with daily engagement at each site very high.

### ***National Livestock identification scheme***

Electronic Identification Devices and scanning is compulsory in saleyards for lambs born after 1 January 2017. Hindmarsh Shire applied for funding from the Victorian Government for equipment for the Nhill Saleyards. The application for portable walk through scanners and 1 hand held scanner was successful. Having this equipment will enable stock agents to do the scanning and upload to the database on behalf of the Shire as a legislative requirement. It will also encourage local producers to sell their store stock at Nhill and not have to pay contractors to do scanning.



### ***Yurunga Homestead Restoration Works***

In an effort to save the historic Coach House at the rear of Yurunga Homestead, contractors have completed stage one of a very involved project to restore the Coach House to its former glory.

Many years ago a partial collapse had seen some walls replaced with zincalume cladding however the remaining stone walls had also experienced foundation failure and were at risk of falling down and bringing the roof along as well.

An engineering firm with experience working on historical buildings were engaged to design a new foundation for the damaged areas of the building which also involved providing temporary support for the roof and deconstructing the walls in danger of falling down.

Although the result leaves the building looking partially complete, the works were essential in order to secure the future of the building until sufficient funding is raised to complete the project.



### ***Riverside Holiday Park Bikes***

Dimboola's Riverside Holiday Park received their new pedal-carts in early 2018. The pedal-carts are an added attraction to the family friendly Riverside Holiday Park. The pedal-carts, designed and manufactured by BERG in Germany, are specifically designed for commercial hire with robust construction, durable puncture resistant off-road tyres and added safety features such as seatbelts for

front seats designed for smaller children. BERG have established themselves as industry leaders in commercial hire carts of this type. The park has two single seat carts and two 4-seat carts.

The bikes have added to the Riverside Holiday Park visitor experience and helped strengthen it as a popular holiday destination. Adding activity options is a logic step following the recent redevelopment and cabins projects. Activities located within the park will assist in increasing visitor nights with young families.

### ***Emergency water supply point tanks***

Council obtained a grant to install an emergency water supply point tanks at Diapur. The tanks ensure the supply of water is available to CFA tankers and volunteer fire fighters to quick fill their trucks during emergencies. The tanks also ensure a water source for Council when undertaking road construction in the Diapur area.

### ***Footpath Construction***




Council constructed approximately \$200k in footpaths during 2017/18 including new footpath connections in Charles Street Jeparit, Hindmarsh Street Dimboola, Bow Street Rainbow, and new pedestrian crossing ramps in Nhill.






## Highlights of the Year




### July 2017

-  Cross-council meeting with Yarriambiack, Buloke and West Wimmera Shires to discuss plans to extend the *Silo Art Trail* across the Wimmera Mallee Tourism region.
-  Work begins on the collaborative *Silo Art Trail: Stage 2* project.
-  *Grampians RDV Region Cycling and Trails Infrastructure Business and Masterplan* – Background Report delivered.



### August 2017

-  Rainbow Desert Enduro.
-  Dimboola HPV Expo.
-  Shane Power appointed to the role of Director Infrastructure Services.



### September 2017

-  Work begins on “Hindmarsh Shire Tourism Guide For Families” in collaboration with Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council.



### October 2017

-  Discussion re-initiated with Parks Victoria, Vicroads and Barengi Gadjin Land Council to develop interpretive signage for Pink Lake (currently in the hands of Parks and BGLC).
-  MacPherson Street Footpath and Commercial Lane crossovers in Nhill were renewed.

### November 2017

-  Cr Ron Ismay elected Hindmarsh Shire Council mayor for the coming twelve months.
-  Cr Ron Lowe re-elected Hindmarsh Shire Council deputy mayor for the coming twelve months.





-  Council recognised 4 employees for 10 years of services, 3 employees for 15 years of service, 2 employees for 20 years of service, 1 employee for 25 years of service and 1 employee for 35 years of service at the Statutory meeting on 1 November 2017.
-  Hindmarsh Street, Dimboola footpath leading to Dimboola Primary School completed, including eight concrete driveway crossings and nature strip tree planting to beautify the area.









#### December 2017

-  Hindmarsh Shire Tourism Guide for Families” completed.
-  Monica Revell appointed to the role of Director Corporate & Community Services.







#### January 2018

-  Karen Community Plan 2017- 2021 launched.
-  Karen New Year activities held at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre attracting over 500 people.





#### February 2018

-  “Tourism is Everybody’s Business” tourism information forums in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow. Nhill tourism group meeting monthly following these.
-  *Wimmera Southern Mallee Tourism Collaboration and Destination Marketing Plan* projects begin.
-  “Hindmarsh Shire Tourism Guide for Families” launched.
-  Nhill “Parkrun” launched on 10 February 2018 with the support from a Hindmarsh Shire Community Action Grant.
-  Langford Street, Nhill kerb and channel renewal project completed.
-  Lorquon East Road reconstruction project completed, strengthening, widening and sealing approximately 5kms of road further improving the major east-west connector road.
-  Nhill Early Years Hub officially opened on Tuesday 20 February 2018.
-  Dimboola Skate Park construction completed with funding assistance from the Victorian Governments Community Sports Infrastructure Fund and Hindmarsh Shire Council funding.






#### March 2018

-  Grant funding received for the 2018 Dimboola Human Powered Vehicle Expo from Victorian State Government’s *Regional Events Fund*.
-  The 2018 Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council was launched.
-  ‘Phil the Bucket’, GWM Water mascot, attended Nhill Community Playgroup and Butterfly Playgroup.
-  Asphalt works were completed in Commercial Lane, Nhill, increasing the functionality for businesses receiving and dispatching goods.
-  Underground drainage and kerb & channel works completed in Ellerman Street, Dimboola from Dimboola Memorial Secondary College to Wimmera Street, reducing the quantity of silt making its way to the Wimmera River.
-  Community Conversations held at eight locations throughout the Shire.

### April 2018

-  Wimmera Mallee Tourism promotional stand installed at Halls Gap Visitor Centre through Easter and April.
-  Council participated and promoted “Active April”.
-  Yurunga Homestead renewal projects were completed, with funding provided from Heritage Victoria.
-  Dimboola & Rainbow Skate Parks officially opened on 9 and 10 April 2018.

### May 2018

-  *Wimmera Southern Mallee Tourism Collaboration and Destination Marketing* consultations session held in Nhill.
-  4-seat and single-seat pedal carts arrive and available for hire at *Riverside Holiday Park* in Dimboola.
-  Community Conversations held in four towns regarding Council’s Tree Strategy.
-  Community Workshops commenced in relation to Council’s Planning Scheme review.
-  Funding obtained for two safety projects including the installation of a ‘flashing slow-down’ sign and safety bollards at the notorious 90 degree bend in Nhill and installation of an unsigned pedestrian crossing between the Nhill Hospital and public car park.

### June 2018

-  Grampians RDV Region Cycling and Trails Infrastructure Business and Masterplan – final draft presented.
-  WMPM Annual Rally event.
-  Council 2018/19 budget adopted on 27 June 2018.
-  Condition assessments conducted on Council bridges and major structures to prioritise maintenance and capital works required.
-  132,900m<sup>2</sup> of resealing works completed on Council’s road network
-  18 new street lights were installed around the Nhill Township to improve the safety of residents.
-  Liddle Lane and Albrecht Road upgrades completed as part of Councils \$450,000 gravel resheeting program for 2017/18.
-  Charles Street, Jeparit footpath constructed between John Street and Sands Avenue.

## **Major Achievements**

During 2017/18 the major achievements included the following:

### **Dimboola HPV Event**

On Sunday 16 July 2017, eight teams from as far as Mt. Gambier, Millicent and Ballarat converged on the Dimboola Recreation Reserve for the inaugural “Dimboola Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) Expo” for what was the first event of this type in Western Victoria.

More than 150 participants, riders and support teams, saw 17 vehicles competing in a six hour demonstration race which commenced with a rolling start at 10.00am. The event saw HPVs and the battery assisted Energy Efficient Vehicles (EEVs) lapping the 1.2km circuit at up to 55kph, whilst negotiating tricky corners and adventurous passing manoeuvres. The event concluded with Hindmarsh Shire Mayor Debra Nelson waving the chequered flag before addressing the crowd and thanking all the teams for their support of the event.



Feedback from teams has been overwhelmingly positive with team managers speaking highly of the Dimboola Recreation Reserve as a suitable site for HPV/EEV racing. Recommendations offered by the team managers will assist Hindmarsh Shire Council in preparing for future events.

HPVs, and the battery assisted Energy Efficient Vehicles (EEV) are recumbent bicycles specifically modified for race events. Organised race events began in Australia in the mid-1980's and there are currently eleven races held annually across Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria. Well established races, attract around 2,000 people, and Australia's largest HPV event at Murray Bridge generated \$1.1M into the local economy through their 2016 race event.

### **Rainbow Desert Enduro**

Australia's fastest Off Road Racers gathered in Hindmarsh Shire on 4 - 6 August 2017 for the inaugural running of the Rainbow Desert Enduro, the final round of the BF Goodrich CAMS Australian Off Road Championship. Competitors travelled from all over Australia to tackle the challenging Rainbow Enduro track, a 75km mix of gravel roads, mud and sand between Rainbow and the Big Desert.

More than 50 teams with state of the art off road race vehicles arrived in Rainbow on the Friday afternoon for competitor registration and vehicle scrutineering, Held in Federal St, this presented the perfect opportunity for race fans to take a closer look at the cars and meet the drivers ahead of the weekend's racing activities.

Race qualifying, a Top 10 Shootout and Stage One of the main race (2 laps) were held on Saturday with many competitors experiencing issues as a result of the challenging track and wet conditions. After a break Saturday night, weary competitors lined up again on Sunday morning to complete a further 5 laps of the gruelling 75km course, with the weather again a factor. The conclusion of the race saw a new outright Australian Off Road Champion crowned, as well as winners across several different classes.

More than 1000 people descended on Rainbow for the weekend with local businesses, community organisations and sporting groups benefitting from the opportunity to cater for the influx of visitors.



### ***Nhill Early Years Centre Official Opening***

Hindmarsh Shire Council welcomed a new era of service provision with the opening of the new Nhill Early Years Centre in February 2018. The new centre provides separate learning spaces for 3 and 4 year old kindergarten, under and over 3 year childcare along with large separate outdoor play spaces. Maternal Child Health Services are also integrated into the building with the Maternal Child Health Nurse utilising a consulting room at the centre. Early Years staff are also benefitting from improved support facilities with a dedicated office space, lunchroom and laundry included in the layout.



Hindmarsh Shire Mayor Cr Ron Ismay opened the new centre in front of a large audience, supported by Federal Member for Mallee Mr Andrew Broad. Cr Ismay acknowledged the support of both the Federal and Victorian Governments who along



with Council provided much of the funding for the project. Cr Ismay also thanked the local Early Years Centre Fundraising Committee for their efforts in raising significant funds which were essential to the successful completion of the Centre.

Feedback from parents and the wider community was very positive, with parents pleased so much effort had gone in to the development of a new Early Years Centre for Nhill.

### ***Supported Playgroup***

Shire families in need of additional support can now access the help they need with parenting via Hindmarsh Shire Council's Supported Playgroup Program. A specialist Facilitator has been engaged by Council to deliver the 'smalltalk' program which seeks to support parents in interactions with their children.

The Facilitator will deliver a mix of in home visits and supported playgroups for families across the Shire, helping parents who feel they need some guidance supporting their child's development. This program has been funded by the Department of Education in an effort to better prepare children for school.

### ***Advocacy***


One of Council's key roles is to advocate on behalf of our community. Council's advocacy efforts in 2017/18 continued to be successful, lobbying the State Government to reinstate funding to rural roads.


### ***Community Conversations***


In April 2018, Council held eight Community Conversation meetings within the Shire. The meetings involved approximately 70 people who provided Council with feedback on issues important in their communities.

### ***Community Engagement***


During 2017/18 Council undertook a range of community meetings.

 Tree Strategy - Community conversations were held in each of the four towns and attended by over thirty community members. The discussions inform the content of a Street and Reserve Tree Strategy to be adopted by Council in 2018.

 Planning Scheme – Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). Community Workshops were held over four weeks in each of the four towns to explain to residents the purpose of reviewing the MSS and to seek their vision for future development.

 Farmer Consultations – Community conversations were held at various locations with a number of farmers in relation to developing a Rural Roadside Vegetation Management Plan.



-  Dimboola Lane Way – A community meeting was held in Dimboola in relation to residents' concerns regarding the proposed lane way closure in Dimboola.

### **Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants**

During 2017/18 Council's Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants schemes awarded \$42,825 to 31 community group and businesses across our Shire.

Community Action Grant recipients included:

-  Nhill Bowling Club
-  Nhill Fire Brigade
-  1<sup>st</sup> Rainbow Scout Group
-  Woorak Community and Land Management Group
-  Sing Australia Nhill
-  Wurega Aboriginal Corporation
-  Nhill Lion's Club
-  Yanac Public Hall and Recreation Reserve
-  Dimboola VRI
-  Dimboola Kindergarten Advisory Committee
-  Dimboola Bowling Club
-  Rainbow Golf Club
-  Nhill Dimboola Band
-  Rainbow and District Landcare Group
-  Little Desert Rodders, Rockers and Collectors Inc.
-  Nhill Town Committee – February Fiestas
-  West Wimmera Health Service
-  Jeparit Town Committee
-  Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre
-  Jeparit Anglers Club
-  Dimboola Town Committee.

Business Assistances Grant recipients included:

-  Ambers Sweet Bliss
-  Rainbow 50's Café
-  Wendy's Retreat Nhill
-  A Kube Aviation
-  Bruce Miller Plumbing
-  The Gateway Shop
-  2Js Furniture and Gifts
-  Clugston Butchers
-  Halfway Motors
-  Rainbow Learning Group.

### **Major Changes**

At the Annual Statutory Meeting held on Wednesday 1 November 2017 Councillor Ron Ismay was elected to the position of mayor and Councillor Ron Lowe was elected as Deputy Mayor. Councillor Ismay replaced Councillor Debra Nelson who was Council's mayor for two years.

In August 2017 Shane Power commenced in the position of Director Infrastructure Services. Ms Anne Champness, Director Corporate and Community Services, resigned from Council on 10 November 2017 to take up the position of Chief Executive Officer at Tatiara District Council in South Australia. In December 2017, Monica Revell was appointed as the Director Corporate and Community Services.

### **Challenges**

Council's need to maintain our existing infrastructure, particularly our extensive road network, whilst funding new projects that improve liveability within our Shire and build a strong future remains a challenge. The introduction of Rates Capping in 2016 has reduced Council's ability to increase rates to meet service requirements. Council is taking a three-pronged approach to address this substantial challenge through continually creating efficiencies and savings within our business, continuing to seek additional funding from the state and federal governments, and successfully pursued a variation of the rate cap in 2017/18.

Albacutya Bridge, a single lane, 55m long, reinforced concrete T-beam bridge at the terminal of Outlet Creek, built in 1919/1920, created another challenge during the financial year and for years ahead. The bridge was designed for Class A heavy vehicles or 15 to 20 tonnes. Today's B-Double trucks can weigh up to 68 tonnes. Council has progressively introduced weight limits on the bridge to ensure it remains serviceable until a replacement bridge can be funded. In April 2016, Council resolved to commence the design process for a new dual lane bridge that will cross outlet creek at Albacutya. The cost of this development is expected to be approximately \$3.3 million, a major challenge to fund with Council's limited revenue. Council have not been successful in obtaining sufficient funding to date.





## Our Council

### ***Council Profile***

Hindmarsh Shire is located in the Wimmera region in western Victoria and covers an area of 7,527 km<sup>2</sup>. Situated on the Western Highway, 375km west of Melbourne and 350km east of Adelaide, Hindmarsh Shire is alive with business opportunities as it lies on the second-busiest freight corridor in Australia.

Our Shire is bound by two National Parks, the Little Desert in the South and Wyperfeld in the North. Other distinct natural features include the Big Desert Wilderness Area to the West, as well as the Wimmera River and Lakes Hindmarsh and Albacutya. The central part of the Shire is utilised primarily for broad acre cropping and grazing.

The first Australians in the Hindmarsh area were the Wotjobaluk people. Communities were located near the Nhill Swamp, the Wimmera River at Dimboola, Lake Hindmarsh near Jeparit and Lake Albacutya near Rainbow, while the majority made their home along the Red Gum lined banks of the Wimmera River and Nine Creeks area in Dimboola.

Hindmarsh Shire's four main towns are Nhill, Dimboola, Jeparit and Rainbow. Each community has its own spirit and identity, but all town's offer spacious rural living, inclusive small communities and wonderful natural amenities.

Today, 5,721 people live in Hindmarsh Shire (2016 census data), with a median age of 50 years. 83% of people in Hindmarsh Shire were born in Australia; with English the only language spoken in 88% of homes. Our most significant group of migrants are Karen refugees from Burma (Myanmar), with approximately 180 Karen people calling Nhill home.

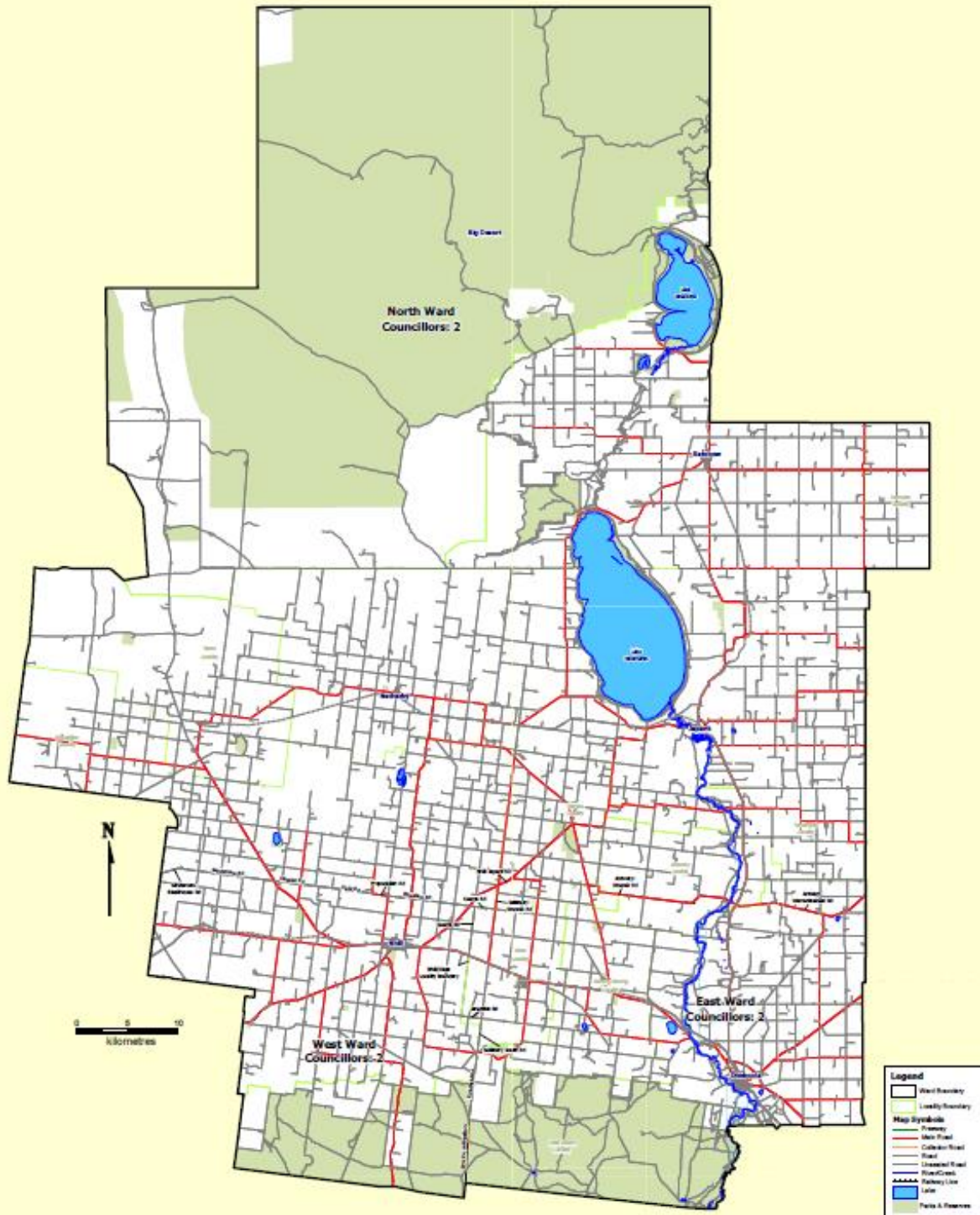
The median weekly household income is \$907, and most people own their homes outright. Most people are employed in farming, with employment in health care coming a close second, followed by retail, manufacturing, education and transport. Hindmarsh has a very high rate of volunteering, 18% higher than the national average.





**Local Government Act 1989  
ELECTORAL STRUCTURE OF HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL**

NOTE: By Order in Council made under Section 220Q (k), (l), (m) and (n) of the Local Government Act 1989, the boundaries of the wards, the names of the wards and the number of councillors assigned to each ward of the Hindmarsh Shire Council are fixed as described in this plan.



not present in the electoral division boundaries  
 where you can find the location of the electoral  
 division boundaries and the location of the  
 electoral division boundaries  
 include the name of the electoral division and the number of councillors assigned to each ward  
 the number of councillors assigned to each ward is shown in the electoral plan.

I hereby certify that the electoral boundaries shown on this map are as presented in the  
 Electoral Representation System Plan Report for Hindmarsh Shire Council, submitted to  
 the Minister for Local Government on 21 February 2008.

Steven Tully, Electoral Commissioner

Electoral Structure of  
 Hindmarsh Shire Council  
 LEGL./04-191

## Council Offices

### Nhill Office

92 Nelson Street  
NHILL VIC 3418  
Phone: 03 5391 4444  
Fax: 03 5391 1376

### Jeparit Office

10 Roy Street  
JEPARIT VIC 3423  
Phone: 03 5391 445  
Fax: 03 5397 2263

Postal address:

PO Box 250  
NHILL VIC 3418

Email: [info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)

### Dimboola Office

101 Lloyd Street  
DIMBOOLA VIC 3414  
Phone: 03 5361 4452  
Fax: 03 5389 1734

### Rainbow Office

15 Federal Street  
RAINBOW VIC 3424  
Phone: 03 5391 4451  
Fax: 03 5395 1436

Website: [www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil>

## Councillors

On 22 October 2016, the Hindmarsh Shire community elected its Council for a four year term to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and the local community. The municipality is divided into three wards, represented by two Councillors in each ward. The Councillors are the elected representatives of residents and ratepayers and have the responsibility for setting the strategic direction for the municipality, policy development, identifying service standards and monitoring performance across the organisation. The Councillors are listed below.

### Cr Ron Ismay Mayor

North Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016  
E: [rismay@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:rismay@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0429 951 094



### Cr Ron Lowe Deputy Mayor

North Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016  
E: [rlowe@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:rlowe@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0427 318 067



### Cr David Colbert

West Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016

E: [dcolbert@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:dcolbert@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0459 034 233



### Cr Rob Gersch

West Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016

E: [rgersch@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:rgersch@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0427 600 122



### Cr Debra Nelson

East Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016

E: [dnelson@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:dnelson@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0459 021 802



### Cr Tony Schneider

East Ward  
Date elected: 22 October 2016

E: [tschneider@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:tschneider@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)  
M: 0459 035 917



## ***Our People***

Council is the governing body that appoints a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO has responsibility for the day to day management of operations in accordance with the strategic directions of the Council Plan. Two Directors and the CEO form the Senior Management Team (SMT) and lead the organisation. Details of the CEO and senior officers reporting directly to the CEO are set out below.



### **Greg Wood**

Chief Executive Officer

Greg Wood was appointed to the Chief Executive Officer of Hindmarsh Shire Council in September 2016. Greg provides strategic guidance for all management and operations of Council and is responsible for the overall operations of Council.



### **Monica Revell**

Director Corporate & Community Services

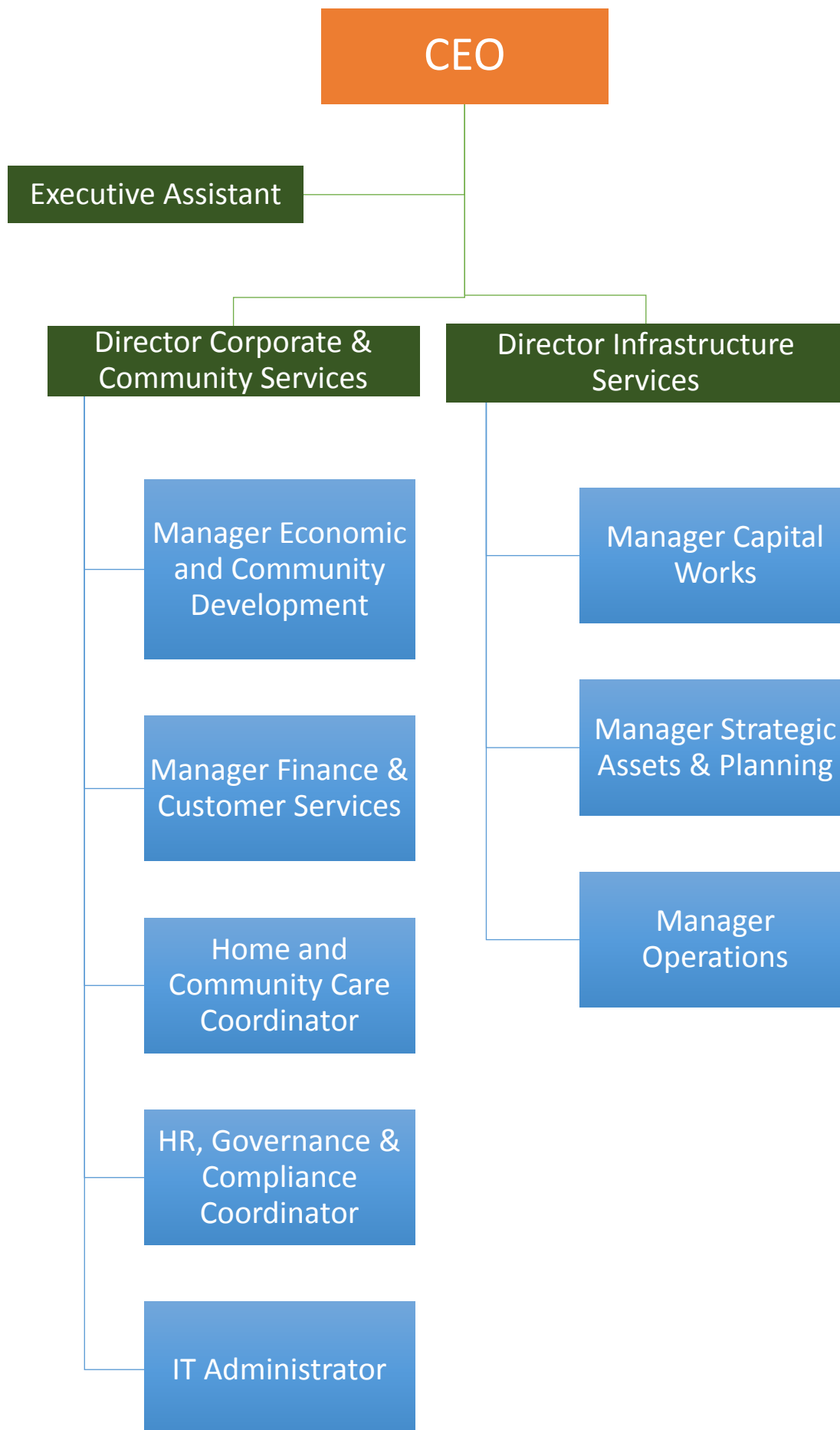
Monica Revell was appointed to the role of Director Corporate and Community Services of Hindmarsh Shire Council in December 2017. Monica is responsible for Finance, Governance, Local Laws, Information Technology, Business Development, Family, Youth and Leisure, Aged and Disability, and Economic Development.



### **Shane Power**

Director Infrastructure Services

Shane Power was appointed to the role of Director Infrastructure Services of Hindmarsh Shire Council in August 2017. Shane is responsible for Asset planning, Engineering and Traffic, Environment and Sustainability, Infrastructure, Parks and Gardens, Building, Planning and Development.





### Council Staff

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) council staff by organisational structure, employment type and gender is set out below.

Employee type/gender	Our People Our Processes	Built and Natural Environment	Competitive and Innovative Economy	Community Liveability	Total FTE
Permanent FT –F	7.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	12
Permanent FT –M	4.00	40.00	2.00	3.00	50
Permanent PT –F	3.56	0.63	0.63	11.62	16.44
Permanent PT –M	0.25	0.00	0.65	0.00	0.90
Casual – F	0.64	0.00	1.14	0.98	2.76
Casual - M	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SEO FT – F	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.20	1
SEO FT – M	1.30	0.50	0.20	0.00	2

FT-Full time PT-Part time F-Female M-Male SEO-Senior Executive Officer

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff categorised by employment classification and gender is set out below.

Structure	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 8	All other	Total
Classification	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Permanent Full Time - Female	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	5.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	13.0
Permanent Full Time - Male	0.0	6.0	25.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	4.0	2.0	52
Permanent Part Time - Female	1.9	5.0	0.0	4.0	4.6	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	16.4
Permanent Part Time - Male	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Casual - Female	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8
Casual - Male	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>85.1</b>

### Equal Employment Opportunity Program

Council is committed to the principles of equal opportunity. In all policies and practices of the Council, there shall be no discrimination relating to sex, marital status, parenthood, race, colour, national origin, physical or mental impairment, or religious or political affiliation. Selection of individuals for employment, promotion or advancement, training and staff development will be on the basis of personal merit in fair and open competition according to the skills, qualifications, knowledge and efficiency relevant to the position involved. Council's policy on equal opportunity reflects our desire to enjoy a workplace free of discrimination where each person has the opportunity to progress to the extent of their ability.

### **Act @ Work**

Hindmarsh Shire Council is participating in a program called Act@Work. The organisation-wide program developed by Women's Health Grampians provides intensive support to organisations in planning and implementing an Action Plan. Staff throughout the organisation have undertaken training on Act@Work.

### **Health & Safety**

Hindmarsh Shire Council is committed to the provision of the highest levels of Occupational Health and Safety. Council's aim is to maintain a safety culture that supports and incident and injury-free workplace for all employees, councillors, contractors, visitors and the public.



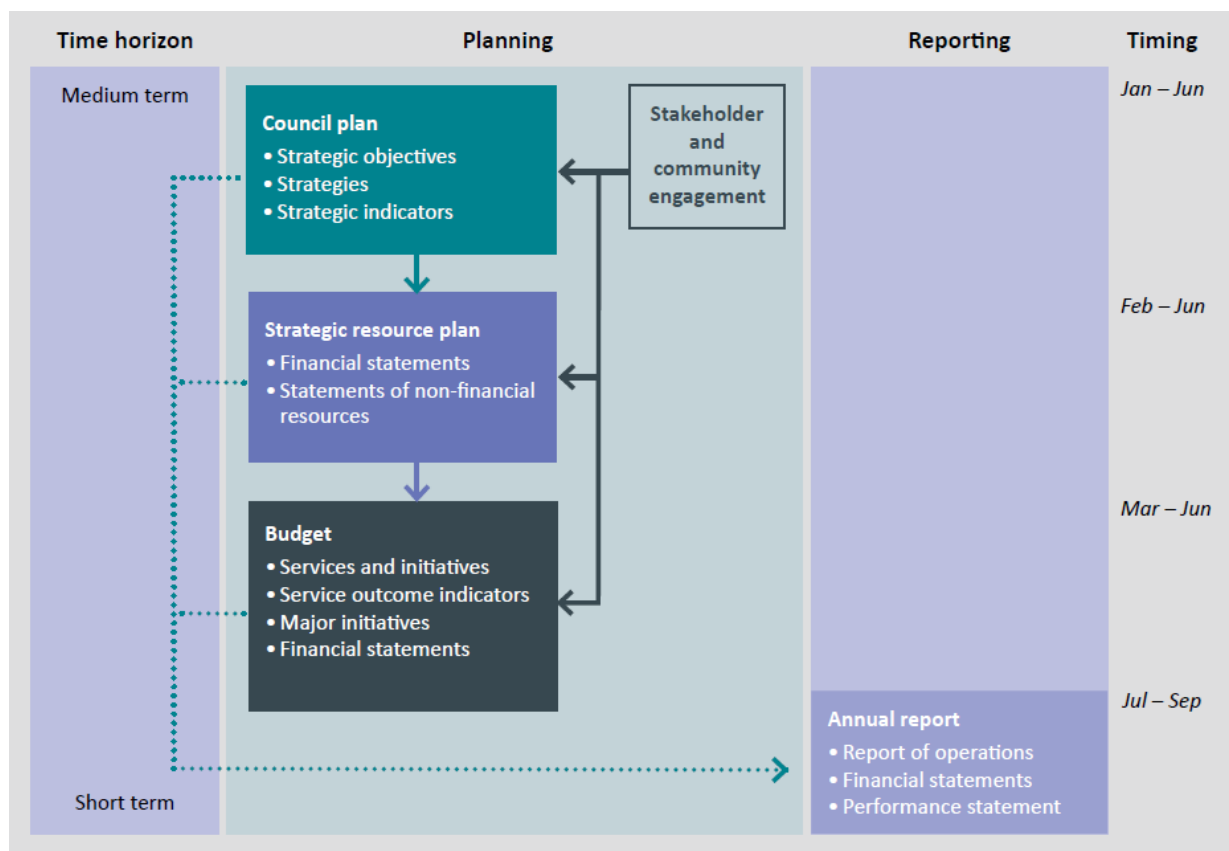
## Our Performance

### Planning and accountability framework

The Planning and Accountability Framework is found in part 6 of the Local Government Act. The Act requires councils to prepare the following planning and reporting documents:

- A council plan within the six months after each general election or by 30 June, whichever is later.
- A strategic resource plan for a period of at least four years and include this in the council plan.
- A road management plan within the first six months after each general election or by 30 June, whichever is later.
- A budget for each financial year.
- An annual report in respect of each financial year.

The following diagram shows the relationships between the key planning and reporting documents that make up the planning and accountability framework for local government. It also shows that there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input and feedback at each stage of the planning and reporting cycle.







## Council Plan

The Council Plan 2017-2021 includes strategic objectives, strategies for achieving these for the four year period, strategic indicators for monitoring achievement of the strategic objectives and a strategic resource plan. The following are the four strategic objectives as detailed in the Council Plan.

<b>1. Community Liveability</b>		1.1 An actively engaged community. 1.2 A range of effective and accessible services to support the health and wellbeing of our community. 1.3 A community that is physically active with access to a wide range of leisure, sporting and recreation facilities.
<b>2. Built and Natural Environment</b>		2.1 Well-maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs. 2.2 A community that reduces its reliance on water and manages this resource wisely. 2.3 A healthy natural environment. 2.4 A community living more sustainably.
<b>3. Competitive and Innovative Economy</b>		3.1 A strong rural economy and thriving towns. 3.2 A thriving tourism industry. 3.3 Modern and affordable information and communication technology throughout the municipality. 3.4 Transport solutions that support the needs of our communities and businesses.
<b>4. Our people our processes</b>		4.1 Long-term financial sustainability. 4.2 Quality customer services. 4.3 An engaged, skilled Council and workforce capable of meeting community needs. 4.4 Efficient and effective information communications technology. 4.5 Support for the community in the areas of emergency preparedness, response and recovery. 4.6 An organisation that takes its risk management responsibilities seriously and embeds a culture of risk management throughout the organisation.

## Performance

Council's performance for the 2017/18 year has been reported against each strategic objective to demonstrate how council is performing in achieving the 2017-2021 council plan. Performance has been measured as follows:

-  Results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators in the Council Plan.
-  Progress in relation to the major initiatives identified in the budget.
-  Services funded in the budget and the persons or sections of the community who are providing those services.
-  Results against the prescribed service performance indicators and measures.



## Strategic Objective 1: Community Liveability



The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators included in the Council Plan.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
1.1.1 Establish stronger links with the indigenous community through the Barengi Gadjin Land Council, Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative and Wurega Aboriginal Corporation.	Reconciliation Action Plan to be developed	Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer has established links with the indigenous community. A reconciliation action plan will be developed through consultation with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council, Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative and Wurega Aboriginal Corporation.
1.1.2 Maintain Community Action Plans for Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow. Follow up on Community Action Plans and their working group projects.	Community Action Plans reviewed.	Community Action Plans have been reviewed in late 2017. Dimboola Community Precinct Plan was amended in October/November 2017. Both Dimboola and Nhill's plans are reviewed on a regular basis.
1.1.3 Support integration of migrants into the community	Cultural event and information sessions held.  Community Plan reviewed.	A Hindmarsh Open weekend was held in late 2017 for a group of Karen migrants from Werribee and Melbourne with some gaining employment and relocating to the Shire.  The 2018 Karen New Year celebration was held in January 2018 with more than 500 people attending. The 2014 Karen Community Plan has been reviewed and a new 2017-2021 Plan has been established and was launched at the Karen New Year Celebrations in January 2018.
1.1.4 Support and celebrate volunteering and work collaboratively with volunteer groups.	Volunteering events supported.	Council staff have supported numerous events as volunteers throughout the year including the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Vintage Rally, the Rainbow Desert Enduro, Jeparit Fishing Contest, Nhill Lake Fiesta, Dimboola Town Committee Easter Eggstravaganza and numerous community based working bees including Clean Up Australia Day. Volunteers recognised in June with Coffee and Cake Vouchers available to thank our wonderful volunteers.
1.1.5 Hold Council-Community Conversations in the four towns to provide an alternative avenue of engagement, consultation and promotion.	Community Conversations held.	Community Conversations were held during March 2018 in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill, Rainbow, Antwerp, Broughton, Winiam and Woorak. Community Conversations were well supported with local residents appreciating the opportunity to have input into the development of the 2018/19 budget.
1.1.6 Continue to engage with our farming community on road and road related infrastructure maintenance and improvements.	Farmer consultation meetings held.	Farmer consultations to identify key transport routes impacted by roadside vegetation were conducted in 2017/18.
1.1.7 Promote and support the development of a Dimboola Indigenous Keeping Place	Consultation meetings held	Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer regularly discusses the Dimboola Indigenous Keeping Place project with Barengi Gadjin Land Council and will continue to advocate for funding.

<b>Strategic Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.2.1 Broaden the engagement of young people in the Shire and continue to facilitate the Hindmarsh Youth Council.	2018 Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council established.	<p>Activities include the continuation of FReeZA Programs and the facilitation of the Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council. We have run school holiday programs as well as a variety of FReeZA events. Council has increased its reach and engagement of young people substantially over the last 12 months and exceeded its funding targets.</p> <p>The 2018 Youth Council was officially launched in March 2018. The “new” Youth Councillors have attended a leadership retreat with Y Lead as well as held a couple of Youth Council meetings, and busy planning activities.</p>
1.2.2 Review the actions in Council's Positive Ageing and Inclusion Plan.	To be reviewed in 2018/19.	Review of the plan has been delayed due to staff absences. The review will be conducted in 2018/19.
1.2.3 Review the provision of aged and health services in the Shire and Council's role in the growing sector.	To be reviewed in 2018/19.	Review of the plan has been delayed due to staff absences. The review will be conducted in 2018/19.
1.2.4 Advocate for enhanced services in community and mental health.	Mental Health training undertaken.	<p>Council's Youth and Early Years Officer has been facilitating mental health workshops through the Understanding Reality program which has attracted more than 100 participants.</p> <p>Council along with Health Services and Neighbouring Councils has been involved in discussions regarding funding to provide a community mental health position.</p>
1.2.5 Review and implement Municipal Early Years Plan.	Review commenced	<p>A review of the Municipal Early Years Plan has commenced with an amended version expected to be completed during 2018/19.</p> <p>Assistance with the implementation will be provided by Council's Support Playgroup Facilitator and Early Years provider.</p>
1.2.6 Develop Dimboola Community, Civic and Business Hub (subject to funding).	Funding secured through the State Governments Living Libraries.	<p>Funding of \$600,000 has been secured from the State Government for this project.</p> <p>Project is expected to be completed late 2019.</p>
1.2.7 Continually review public safety, and security of assets and infrastructure in the CBDs of our towns.	Safety work (lighting) completed.	<p>Applications for funding to improve lighting in Nhill and Dimboola was successful and implementation completed.</p> <p>Installation of additional lighting under verandas of shops along Lloyd Street, Dimboola and various locations around Nhill is underway.</p>
1.2.8 Promote the 'traffic light' approach to health food choices in community facilities, sporting clubs and events.	Guidance material promoted.	Council promoted and encouraged schools within our shire to participate in a training session hosted by West Wimmera Health Services on the Victorian Government's Healthy Choices guidelines in March 2018.
<b>Strategic Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Comments</b>

1.2.9 Promote positive, equal and respectful relationships between and among women and men, girls and boys.	Act@ Work training completed.	The Act@Work Plan has been adopted. Interview panels now have a gender balance, further tasks from the action plan will be implemented on an ongoing basis.
1.3.1 Develop Skate Parks in Dimboola, Rainbow and Nhill.	Skate parks constructed in Dimboola and Rainbow.	Dimboola and Rainbow Skate Parks constructed and official openings held on 9 and 10 April 2018 respectively. Planning is underway for the construction of the Nhill Skate Park after Council was successful with a grant application.
1.3.2 Develop and promote a public art/street art policy.	Delayed.	The development of the policy was delayed and expected to be completed during 2018/19.
1.3.3 Complete detailed Recreation Reserve Master Plans.	Davis Park Nhill master plan developed.	Davis Park, Nhill Master Plan has been developed.  A consultant has been appointed for the master plan development of the Rainbow Recreation Reserve incorporating the Rainbow Caravan Park.
1.3.4 Undertake a feasibility assessment for the development of new library hub, combining other visitor information and other services.	On hold.	Project is on hold until review completed on the operation of the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation.
1.3.5 Advocate for the continued and expanded provision of Neighbourhood House activities / services.	Meetings held.	Rainbow Neighbourhood house is providing limited programs to Jeparit. Meetings have been held between Nhill Neighbourhood House and Dimboola Community Centre committee of management.
1.3.6 Redevelop Rainbow Recreation Reserve Change Rooms (subject to funding).	Funding not supported.	Original funding application was not supported. Another application has been submitted.
1.3.7 Ongoing exploration and assessment of options and opportunities for the development of walking and cycling tracks within the main townships, to support recreational participation, health and wellbeing.	Funding obtained for development of walking track in Dimboola.	Funding for the development of a walking track within the Dimboola Recreation Reserve has been obtained.  Council supported the establishment of Nhill Parkrun.

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2017/18 budget for the year.

<b>Major Initiatives</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Construction of the Civic Hub in Dimboola, incorporating the Library.	Concept designs completed and funding successfully obtained from the State Governments Living Libraries program.  Works will commence in 2018/19 on the \$1.2m project.



The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2017/18 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual Budget Variance \$</b>
<b>Community Development</b>	Work with community groups, organisations and individuals to assist communities reach their aspirations and be healthy, active and engaged.	122,958 <u>139,992</u> (17,034)
<b>Maternal Child Health Centres</b>	Maintain the maternal and child health centres in Dimboola and Nhill and provide support to child service providers through the Municipal Early Years Plan. (Council does not provide maternal and child health services. This service is provided by West Wimmera Health Service.)	13,483 <u>18,093</u> (4,610)
<b>Kindergarten Services</b>	Provision of Kindergarten services in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow under contract with Wimmera Uniting Care. (Council does not directly deliver Kindergarten Services)	236,274 <u>189,434</u> 46,840
<b>Youth Services</b>	Improve the wellbeing and opportunities for youth within the Shire.	52,028 <u>69,464</u> (17,436)
<b>Aged and Disability Services</b>	Home and Community Care Services aim to support people in their own homes and communities by providing services that promote and maintain independence. Deliver the full range of services provided by Council's Home and Community Care Department including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessments</li> <li>• Delivered Meals and Centre Based Meals</li> <li>• Personal Care</li> <li>• Respite Care services</li> <li>• Home care / Domestic Assistance services</li> <li>• Property Maintenance and minor modifications.</li> </ul>	13,157 <u>(40,080)</u> 53,237
<b>Health Promotions</b>	To protect and enhance the health of the community.	80,530 <u>89,044</u> (8,514)
<b>Libraries</b>	Provision of permanent library services in Dimboola and Nhill and mobile library services in Jeparit and Rainbow.	107,992 <u>376,851</u> (268,859)
<b>Arts, Culture and Community Events</b>	Promote and support activities relating to arts, culture and community events throughout the Shire.	79,947 <u>105,795</u> (25,848)
<b>Recreation Programs</b>	Providing a range of recreation programs that encourage an active and healthy life.	11,938 <u>11,386</u> 552
<b>Public Order and Safety</b>	Educate the community about public order and safety and enforce compliance with the local laws when required. Maintain and operate school crossings for Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow. The school crossing on the Western Highway in Nhill is the only staffed crossing in the Shire. Other crossings on local roads are manned by volunteers or school teachers.	91,104 <u>63,657</u> 27,447
<b>Early Years</b>	Lead a joint effort that will give Hindmarsh children the best start in life, working collaboratively with community and early years providers.	33,042 <u>36,473</u> (3,431)

The following statement provides the results of the prescribed service performance indicators and measures including explanation of material variations.

<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result 2018</b>	<b>Result 2017</b>	<b>Result 2016</b>	<b>Result 2015</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Maternal and Child Health (MCH)</b>					
<b>Satisfaction</b>					
<i>Participation in first MCH home visit</i> [Number of first MCH home visits / Number of birth notifications received] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
<b>Service standard</b>					
<i>Infant enrolments in the MCH service</i> [Number of infants enrolled in the MCH service (from birth notifications received) / Number of birth notifications received] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
<b>Participation</b>					
<i>Participation in the MCH service</i> [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
<i>Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children</i> [Number of aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
<b>Home and Community Care</b>					
<b>Timeliness</b>					
<i>Time taken to commence the HACC services</i> [Number of days between the referral of a new client and the commencement of HACC service/Number of new clients who have received a HACC service]	n/a	n/a	6.64	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Service standard</b>					
<i>Compliance with Community Care Common Standards</i> [Number of Community Care Common Standards expected outcomes met / Number of expected outcomes under the Community Care Common Standards] x100	n/a	n/a	100.00%	100.00%	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of domestic care service</i> [Cost of the domestic care services/Hours of domestic care service provided]	n/a	n/a	\$46.40	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016.
<i>Cost of personal care service</i> [Cost of the personal care services/Hours of personal care service provided]	n/a	n/a	\$42.77	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016

<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result 2018</b>	<b>Result 2017</b>	<b>Result 2016</b>	<b>Result 2015</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Service cost</b>					
<b>Cost of respite care service</b> <i>[Cost of the respite care services / Hours of respite care service provided]</i>	n/a	n/a	\$45.47	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Participation</b>					
<b>Participation in HACC service</b> <i>[Number of people that received a HACC service / Municipal target population for HACC services] x100</i>	n/a	n/a	60.85%	30.09%	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Participation in HACC service by CALD people</b> <i>[Number of CALD people who receive a HACC service / Municipal target population in relation to CALD people for HACC services] x100</i>	n/a	n/a	60.53%	30.77%	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Food Safety</b>					
<b>Timeliness</b>					
<b>Time taken to action food complaints</b> <i>[Number of days between receipt and first response action for all food complaints / Number of food complaints]</i>	1.0	5.25	1.40	0.67	Council employed a full time Environmental Health Officer resulting in food complaints being actioned within 1 business day.
<b>Service standard</b>					
<b>Food safety assessments</b> <i>[Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that receive an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984 / Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that require an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984] x100</i>	88.24%	77.92%	75.64%	50.85%	Council spent considerable time ensuring food assessments for class 1 and class 2 premises were completed during 2017/18.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<b>Cost of food safety service</b> <i>[Direct cost of the food safety service / Number of food premises registered or notified in accordance with the Food Act 1984]</i>	\$900.07	\$750.82	\$740.23	\$701.85	Employment of a full Time Environmental Health Officer has increased councils food safety costs.
<b>Health and safety</b>					
<b>Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications</b> <i>[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises] x100</i>	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	Council did not receive any notifications of non-compliance during 2017/18.
<b>Libraries</b>					
<b>Utilisation</b>					
<b>Library collection usage</b> <i>[Number of library collection item loans / Number of library collection items]</i>	1.21	1.23	1.39	1.28	No material variation.

Service/Indicator/measure	Result 2018	Result 2017	Result 2016	Result 2015	Material Variations
<b>Libraries</b>					
<b>Resource standard</b>					
<b>Standard of library collection</b> [Number of library collection items purchased in the last 5 years / Number of library collection items] x100	37.71%	39.35%	41.75%	41.95%	The overall size of the collection has decreased slightly from 2016/17 to 2017/18.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<b>Cost of library service</b> [Direct cost of the library service / Number of visits]	\$11.28	\$7.14	\$5.47	\$5.14	A reduction in the number of Library visits has meant the cost of delivering the services has increased per visit.
<b>Participation</b>					
<b>Active library members</b> [Number of active library members / Municipal population] x100	9.11%	10.03%	10.64%	14.30%	Because our rural location means our membership base is small, even a small reduction in membership will show as a material variation.
<b>Animal Management</b>					
<b>Timeliness</b>					
<b>Time taken to action animal management requests</b> [Number of days between receipt and first response action for all animal management requests / Number of animal management requests]	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	Animal Management requests are responded to within 1 business day.
<b>Service standard</b>					
<b>Animals reclaimed</b> [Number of animals reclaimed / Number of animals collected]	36.09%	36.69%	41.99%	52.08%	In 2015/2016 and 2016/17, Council dealt with a large amount of feral cats, this was the result of a campaign encouraging rate payers to notify Council of feral cat populations.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<b>Cost of animal management service</b> [Direct cost of the animal management service / Number of registered animals]	\$92.33	\$97.52	\$74.42	\$50.00	At 30 June 2017, the number of animals registered was higher than in the previous year. The increase in animals along with a slight decrease in service costs results in a lower cost of service.
<b>Health and safety</b>					
<b>Animal management prosecutions</b> [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	No animal matters required prosecution during 2017/18.



## Strategic Objective 2: Build and Natural Environment



The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators included in the Council Plan.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
2.1.1 Re-develop and maintain attractive streetscapes, open spaces and public places.	Streetscape projects planned.	Planning underway for the Lloyd Street, Dimboola streetscape renewal works to be undertaken in 2018/19.
2.1.2 Encourage and support residents and ratepayers to maintain the cleanliness and good order of the properties for which they are responsible.	One free green waste collection month held.	Green waste month successfully completed in October 2017. Council received approximately 785 loads of green waste throughout the Shire which is 545% greater than the average monthly intake.
2.1.3 Develop and prioritise detailed plans relating to new infrastructure, infrastructure upgrade and renewal (including roads, bridges, drains, footpaths and buildings) for each town.	Footpath asset management plan adopted.	Council adopted a footpath asset management plan. As part of the 2017/18 budget process council adopted a 10 year capital expenditure plan for capital works.
2.1.4 Enhance river and lakes environment to support informal recreation and social interaction (subject to funding).	Ross Lakes study commissioned.	A study into the use of Ross Lake at Rainbow has been commissioned and distributed to stakeholders. The report provides a positive overview of the proposal. Fishing and boating pontoons have been installed at Dimboola while a fishing pontoon has been installed at Jeparit.
2.1.5 Continue to implement the Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan.	Nhill Aerodrome amenities upgraded.	Amenities at the Nhill Aerodrome have been upgraded. A consultant has been engaged to update the Nhill Aerodrome Master Plan.
2.1.6 In partnership with other agencies implement recommendations from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority's Flood Plain Management Strategy.	Strategy completed.	Council has representation on the Wimmera Floodplain Management Strategy Implementation Committee.
2.1.7 Advocate for the construction of emergency services facilities in Dimboola.	Advocacy undertaken.	Council continues to advocate for the relocated emergency services in Dimboola. CFA have purchase property in High Street, Dimboola.
2.1.8 Explore alternative road base treatments that reduce long term maintenance cost.	To be completed in 2018/19.	During 2018/19 Council will look to incorporate the use of recycled materials in road specifications.

<b>Strategic Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2.2.1 Explore options for rainwater / stormwater harvesting to supplement the water supply for community assets.	To be completed in 2018/19.	Council were successful in obtaining funding to replace drought relief and fire suppressions water tanks on Rainbow-Nhill Road, Lake Hindmarsh. Drought relief tanks have been installed at Diapur with the tank charged from underground aquifers.
2.2.2 Replace appliances in Council facilities with water efficient appliances if and when redevelopment occurs	Ongoing.	Water efficient appliances are being installed on an ongoing basis when redevelopment occurs.
2.3.1 Continue to work with local Landcare groups.	Memorandum of Understanding with Hindmarsh Landcare Network.	A new Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Hindmarsh Landcare Network was signed in 2017.
2.3.2 Continue to implement actions from Roadside Pest Plan and Animals Plan (subject to funding).	Rural roadsides treated for weeds.	All Hindmarsh Shire rural roadsides have been treated with weed eradication applications.
2.3.3 Implement Planting Program to improve tree coverage and shade cover in high traffic urban areas.	Consultant engaged to develop Street and Reserve Tree Strategy.	Council appointed a consultant to undertake a survey of trees within the Shire and develop a Street and Reserve Tree Strategy.
2.4.1 Advocate for distributed energy generation for Shire towns using solar, waste and biomass, wind and geothermal sources, subject to funding.	Renewable energy development underway.	Kiata Windfarm project completed by private developer. Council submitted a letter of support to DELWP as part of planning consultation for the proposed Nhill Windfarm. Council participated in the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Planning and Energy Workshop.
2.4.2 Advocate for upgrades to the main electricity grid servicing Hindmarsh Shire to support alternative electricity generation.	Ongoing.	Where opportunities arise Council officers and Councillors advocate with Ministers for upgrades to the main electricity grid.
2.4.3 Explore innovative waste management options for green waste.	Ongoing.	Council are working with the regional waste management group on initiatives for management of organics.
2.4.4 Continue to support Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance.	Ongoing.	Membership with the Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance renewed for 2017/18.

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2017/18 budget for the year.

<b>Major Initiatives</b>	<b>Progress</b>
3 large reconstruction projects: sections along the Lorquon East Road, Yanac South Road and Netherby Baker Road.	Works on Lorquon East Road was completed during 2017/18. Works on Yanac South Road and Netherby Baker Road were delayed.
Construction of skate parks at both Dimboola and Rainbow.	Dimboola and Rainbow skate park construction was completed in early 2018. Official openings were held on 9 and 10 April 2018.

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2017/18 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual <u>Budget</u> Variance \$</b>
<b>Local Roads and Bridges</b>	The aim of Council's road and bridges program is to provide safe, all weather access to residences and allow for efficient transport of goods to and from the Shire.	6,085,474 <u>6,921,931</u> (836,457)
<b>Drainage Management</b>	The aim of this program is to have well maintained, fit for purpose drainage systems within townships.	624,679 <u>758,740</u> (134,061)
<b>Paths and Trails</b>	The aim of Council's paths and trails program is to provide well maintained pedestrian, including disabled, access to critical and popular destinations around our townships.	394,200 <u>403,571</u> (9,371)
<b>Tree Management</b>	The aim of Council's Tree Management program is to conduct maintenance, inspections and replanting works on Council road reserves, parks and gardens and recreation reserves.	284,886 <u>293,577</u> (8,691)
<b>Town Beautification</b>	The aim of Council's Town Beautification program is to maintain and redevelop public open spaces in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.	798,622 <u>765,627</u> 32,995
<b>Community Centres and Public Halls</b>	Maintenance, renewal and upgrade of Council-owned and controlled community centres and halls, and supporting communities that undertake these activities on behalf of Council.	292,160 <u>306,593</u> (14,433)
<b>Recreation Facilities</b>	Maintenance, renewal and upgrade of Council owned and controlled recreational land, buildings and facilities. Council also supports groups that undertake these activities on behalf of Council.	1,255,749 <u>894,941</u> 360,808
<b>Waste Management</b>	Management of Council's transfer stations and collection and disposal of domestic waste and recyclables across the Shire.	(75,141) <u>(37,748)</u> (37,393)
<b>Quarry Operations</b>	Management of Council-owned and controlled quarries and gravel pits for extraction of gravel for road making.	(87,212) <u>(159,912)</u> 72,700
<b>Waterway Management</b>	Management of Council-controlled waterways including weir pools and lakes.	70,169 <u>62,399</u> 7,770
<b>Environment Management</b>	Manage, protect and enhance Council's natural assets in conjunction with Government departments and environmental groups.	(1,622) <u>72,816</u> (74,438)
<b>Fire Protection</b>	To identify potential fire hazards and to prevent loss to life and property caused by fire.	51,166 <u>62,499</u> (11,333)



The following statement provides the results of the prescribed service performance indicators and measures including explanation of material variations.

<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result 2018</b>	<b>Result 2017</b>	<b>Result 2016</b>	<b>Result 2015</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Roads</b>					
<b>Satisfaction of use</b>					
<i>Sealed local road requests</i> [Number of sealed local road requests / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100	11.69	26.53	27.72	4.91	Council received 64 fewer sealed local road requests in 2017/18.
<b>Condition</b>					
<i>Sealed local roads below the intervention level</i> [Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100	99.83%	99.91%	97.72%	97.72%	No material variations.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of sealed local road reconstruction</i> [Direct cost of sealed local road reconstruction / Square metres of sealed local roads reconstructed]	\$24.05	\$34.95	\$29.36	\$18.74	A decrease in urban works during 2017/18 has resulted in a lower cost for local road reconstruction.
<i>Cost of sealed local road resealing</i> [Direct cost of sealed local road resealing / Square metres of sealed local roads resealed]	\$4.78	\$4.79	\$4.32	\$5.61	No material variations.
<b>Satisfaction</b>					
<i>Satisfaction with sealed local roads</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	48	52	45	47	No material variations.
<b>Aquatic Facilities</b>					
<b>Service standard</b>					
<i>Health inspections of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of authorised officer inspections of Council aquatic facilities / Number of Council aquatic facilities]	0.75	0.50	0.00	1.75	Council undertook inspections at three aquatic facilities during the opening periods.
<b>Health and Safety</b>					
<i>Reportable safety incidents at aquatic facilities</i> [Number of Worksafe reportable aquatic facility safety incidents]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	No material variations.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of indoor aquatic facilities</i> [Direct cost of indoor aquatic facilities less income received / Number of visits to indoor aquatic facilities]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Council does not operate indoor aquatic facilities.
<i>Cost of outdoor aquatic facilities</i> [Direct cost of outdoor aquatic facilities less income received / Number of visits to outdoor aquatic facilities]	\$17.42	\$17.68	\$18.14	\$17.48	No material variations.
<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>

	2018	2017	2016	2015	
<b>Aquatic Facilities</b>					
<b>Utilisation</b>					
<i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i>					
[Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	3.40	3.47	3.31	3.01	There was a larger utilisation of aquatic facilities in January and March than in the previous year due to warmer weather conditions.
<b>Waste Collection</b>					
<b>Satisfaction</b>					
<i>Kerbside bin collection requests</i>					
[Number of kerbside garbage and recycling bin collection requests / Number of kerbside bin collection households] x1,000	10.63	11.47	10.17	5.96	Due to Council's small rate base, even a small increase or decrease of requests will result in a material variation. Council received 24 requests in 2015/16 compared to 27 requests in 2016/17 and 25 requests in 2017/18.
<b>Service standard</b>					
<i>Kerbside collection bins missed</i>					
[Number of kerbside garbage and recycling collection bins missed / Number of scheduled kerbside garbage and recycling collection bin lifts] x10,000	1.91	3.26	2.11	3.25	During 2017/18 only 40 bins were missed, this is a reduction on the 68 bins missed in 2016/17.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of kerbside garbage collection service</i>					
[Direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service / Number of kerbside garbage collection bins]	\$168.37	\$165.77	\$164.20	\$171.06	Council contracts out Waste and Recycling collection. The service costs reflect costs invoiced to Council by the contractor.
<i>Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service</i>					
[Direct cost of the kerbside recyclables bin collection service / Number of kerbside recyclables collection bins]	\$84.65	\$80.78	\$78.05	\$70.61	Council contracts out Waste and Recycling collection. The increase in kerbside recycling collection reflects an increase in contractor fees.
<b>Waste Diversion</b>					
<i>Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill</i>					
[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	34.91%	23.29%	21.88%	23.85%	During 2017/18 the amount of garbage collected from kerbside collection reduced from 2016/17. Recycling collection tonnage has remained similar to 2016/17.

### Strategic Objective 3: Competitive and Innovative Economy



The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators included in the Council Plan.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
3.1.1 Market the Shire's liveability, its stunning environment, relaxed country living and unique business opportunities.	Ongoing.	Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council prepared a tourism guide for families which has been printed and distributed. Migrant open weekends have been held promoting the Shire's liveability.
3.1.2 Prepare designs and prospectus for Dimboola Industrial Estate.	Subject to funding.	This project will be completed subject to funding being available.
3.1.3 Support and promote work experience, apprenticeships and cadetships.	Work experience students engaged.	We continue our partnership with the Wimmera Development Association's internship program and in February 2018 we again employed an engineering cadet.
3.1.4 Facilitate business and social enterprise incubators, workshops and training.	Business workshops held throughout the Shire.	A range of small business workshops were held across the Shire in 2017 on a range of different topics. Council continues to promote the Business Assistance Grants program, providing funding to a range of businesses within the Shire.
3.1.5 Support Emerging Entrepreneurs Program in partnership with Rural Councils Victoria	To be completed during 2018/19.	To be completed during 2018/19.
3.1.6 Encourage investment in housing stock to address housing shortages	To be completed during 2018/19.	To be completed during 2018/19.
3.1.7 Active involvement in Rural Councils Victoria (RCV) and Wimmera Development Association (WDA).	Continued support/membership of Rural Councils Victoria and Wimmera Development Association.	Membership and active involvement with RCV and WDA is continuing and an ongoing basis.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
3.1.8 Work regionally / collaboratively with other organisations.	Continued support / membership of other organisations.	Council continues to support / be members of the Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly, Western Highway Action Groups, Wimmera Regional Transport Group, Wimmera Regional Library Corporation, and Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Group.
3.1.9 Review Hindmarsh Planning Scheme, including Municipal Strategic Statement, with a focus on industrial and residential development.	Consultant appointed to undertake review.	Council has engaged a consultant to undertake a review of the Municipal Strategic Statement, with the review expected to be completed during 2018/19.
3.2.1 Implement recommendations from the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Master Plan.	Not achieved.	Council's Tourism & Economic Development Officer attends monthly Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee of Management meetings and is attempting to implement recommendations from the Master Plan. Funding is required to implement recommendations, funding is yet to be obtained.
3.2.2 Promote and continue to develop our tourism facilities	Ongoing.	Strategic Signage Plan has been development. Hindmarsh Heritage Drive brochures have been developed and distributed. Recreational Bikes for the Riverside Holiday Park, Dimboola have been purchased.
3.2.3 Develop a trail along the Wimmera River and Lake Hindmarsh (subject to funding).	Trail identified as a priority project.	The Wimmera River Discovery Trail has been identified as a priority in the draft Grampians Regional Cycling and Trails master plan and is gaining support from a range of organisations and sources.
3.2.4 Support innovative community-driven events and festivals that stimulate tourism growth and the region.	Events supported.	Council has provided support for the Nhill Lake Fiesta, Jeparit Fishing Competition, Dimboola Rowing Regatta and Fishing Classic, Rainbow Desert Enduro, Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Vintage Rally, ParkRun in Nhill and NAHC Vintage Military Vehicle rendezvous amount others.
3.2.5 Facilitate links between contemporary local and regional events, tourism product and businesses to maximise economic outcomes across the Shire.	Calendar of events hosted and promoted on Visit Hindmarsh & Facebook.	Council events listed on the new Council website, Council/community events are also listed on Visit Hindmarsh website and promoted on Council's Facebook page. Tourism brochures were distributed at the Rainbow Desert Enduro.



<b>Strategic Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Comments</b>
3.2.6 Review the management of Council's caravan and camping accommodation.	Report presented to Council.	A report was present to Council with suggested management options for consideration.
3.2.7 Facilitate "Tourism is everyone's business" forums.	Forums held.	Successful Tourism forums were held in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow during February 2018.
3.2.8 Promote and support local historic assets and heritage groups.	Brochures developed and distributed.	Heritage Drive brochure has been developed and distributed. Hindmarsh Shire Youth Councillors developed a tourism brochure – A tourism guide for families, which has been distributed.
3.2.9 Work collaboratively with the Wimmera Mallee region's Indigenous Tourism Group	Active participation in regional tourism group.	Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer is a very active participant in the Wimmera Mallee Tourism Association and is developing substantial links with the BGLC.
3.3.1 Advocate for appropriate NBN coverage.	Ongoing.	Council continues to advocate for NBN coverage within our community.
3.3.2 Promote the use of latest technology to advance business practices.	Ongoing.	Promotion is ongoing.
3.3.3 Advocate for improved mobile phone coverage, including telecommunications tower at Yanac.	Ongoing.	Council continues to advocate for improved mobile phone coverage within our community.
3.3.4 Advocate strongly for installation of a television repeater tower at Rainbow.	Ongoing	Council continues to advocate for improved television coverage in Rainbow.
3.4.1 Advocate for flexible and responsive public and freight transport.	Active involvement in Western Highway Action Committee and Wimmera Regional Transport Group.	Council's membership with WHAC and WRTG continues. Road transport and bulk grain handling featured heavily in the Economic Development Strategy discussions. Participating in a freight logistics study as part of State Government project.
3.4.2 Investigate innovative transport solutions and facility upgrades.	To be completed during 2018/19.	Redevelopment of the Dimboola Bus Stop is proposed as part of the redevelopment of the Dimboola Library.

The following statements provide information in relation to the services funded in the 2017/18 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual Budget Variance \$</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>	To encourage Economic Development throughout the municipality.	171,173 <u>414,079</u> (242,906)
<b>Tourism</b>	To develop a thriving Wimmera Mallee Tourism industry predominantly based on, but not limited to, the Shire's heritage and environmental assets.	316,521 <u>236,942</u> 79,579
<b>Private Works</b>	Provision of private civil works services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide quotations for private works undertaken by the Council works department to residents, contractors and other authorities.</li> <li>• Potential private works include grading of farm driveways, grading of fence lines, construction of driveway cross-overs, and supply of labour, plant and materials.</li> <li>▪ Private works also include repair to Council's infrastructure caused by repair to third party assets.</li> </ul>	27,811 <u>(4,018)</u> 31,829
<b>Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds</b>	Maintenance, renewal and upgrade of Council Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds.	22,444 <u>135,443</u> (112,999)
<b>Land Use Planning</b>	To ensure that any development that occurs in Hindmarsh Shire is carried out in accordance with relevant planning policies, principles and controls. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide customers with advice on planning scheme requirements.</li> <li>• Prepare and assess planning scheme amendments and consider planning permit applications.</li> <li>• Represent Council at Panel Hearings and at Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.</li> <li>• Undertake planning scheme compliance checks when necessary.</li> <li>• Process subdivisions and planning certificates.</li> <li>• Implement actions from the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Growth Plan.</li> </ul>	118,643 <u>168,335</u> (49,692)
<b>Building Control</b>	To provide statutory and private building services to the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To carry out Council's statutory private building requirements.</li> <li>• Issuing of building permits and certificates.</li> <li>• Receipt and recording of building permits undertaken by private building surveyors.</li> <li>• Undertake building enforcement and compliance checks.</li> <li>• Provision of reports to the Building Control Commission.</li> </ul>	112,955 <u>125,447</u> (12,492)
<b>Aerodrome</b>	Manage and maintain the Nhill Aerodrome.	59,813 <u>72,227</u> (12,414)

The following statement provides the results of the prescribed service performance indicators and measures including explanation of material variations.

<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result 2018</b>	<b>Result 2017</b>	<b>Result 2016</b>	<b>Result 2015</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Statutory Planning</b>					
<b>Timeliness</b>					
<i>Time taken to decide planning applications</i> [The median number of days between receipt of a planning application and a decision on the application]	58	37	31	35	Decision timeframes were impacted by errors in administrative processes.
<b>Service standard</b>					
<i>Planning applications decided within 60 days</i> [Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days / Number of planning application decisions made] x100	68.97%	86.67%	97.22%	94.29%	Council actioned 5 out of 6 VicSmart applications within 10 days, and 15 out of 24 planning applications within 60 days during 2017/18.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of statutory planning service</i> [Direct cost of statutory planning service / Number of planning applications received]	\$4,454	\$5,350	\$4,366	\$4,092	Council received 33 planning applications during 2017/18; 30 applications were received during 2016/17.
<b>Decision making</b>					
<i>Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT</i> [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside Council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	50%	0.00%	100%	0.00%	Two planning decision were taken to VCAT during 2017/18, one was upheld.

## Strategic Objective 4: Our people, our processes



The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the strategic indicators included in the Council Plan.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
4.1.1 An equitable, efficient and transparent rating strategy.	Annual review conducted.	We reviewed the rating strategy for Council's 2018/19 Budget.
4.1.2 Further develop 10 year financial plan.	Ten Year Plan updated annually.	We have developed a Long Term Financial Plan, which has been reviewed by our internal auditors and is updated annually as part of the Budget process.
4.1.3 Advocate to State and Federal Governments for a sustainable funding model for small rural councils.	Advocacy on various levels.	Deputations to Canberra were undertaken in early 2018. We will continue to advocate with Federal and State members. Actively supports Rural Council's Victoria lobbying to Minister for Local Government and the Treasurer on behalf of Council.
4.1.4 Build strong relationships with upper and lower house representatives at a State and Federal level.	Close relationships formed with State and Federal ministers.	Close relationships have been developed with Andrew Broad MP and Emma Kealy MP.
4.1.5 Undertake service planning across Council's operations	Service reviews commenced.	Service reviews commenced during 2017/18 with a review of service levels for Council's infrastructure department undertaken.
4.2.1 Develop and implement a customer service strategy.	Adoption of Customer Service Charter.	Council adopted a new Customer Service Charter which clearly details Council's service strategy for customer service standards.
4.3.1 Implement a project management system, including training for key staff.	Project Management system being rolled out.	Implementation of a new project management system is underway. Training has been completed with key staff.
4.3.2 Provide professional development opportunities and training for staff and Councillors	Training and professional development undertaken.	Staff and Councillors are encouraged to undertake professional development. Sessions such as dispute resolution training have been held in Nhill for a number of staff. Staff training requirements are identified during annual performance reviews.

Strategic Indicator/measure	Result	Comments
4.3.3 Implement actions and initiatives from the Act@Work program.	A number of initiatives implemented.	<p>All staff have undertaken Act@Work training and appropriate action plan has been developed and approved by the Chief Executive Officer.</p> <p>Survey conducted post training measured attitudes, awareness and knowledge of the prevention of violence against women and made comparisons with an initial survey.</p> <p>Recent interview panels have ensured a gender balance.</p>
4.4.1 Review and implement Council's IT strategy.	To be completed during 2018/19.	Council's IT strategy will be reviewed during 2018/19.
4.5.1 Review Council's role in emergency management.	Report presented to Council.	A report was presented to Council on Phase 1 of Local Government Victoria's <i>Council in Emergencies</i> project and also the potential changes and impacts of the Emergency Management Bill.
4.5.2 Maintain the Jeparit levee bank.	Condition report.	A Jeparit Flood Levee Management Plan was developed in March 2014. The Wimmera Catchment Management Authority presented to Council in August on the draft Wimmera Flood Strategy.
4.6.1 Include risk management as a standing item on Audit Committee, Council and Senior Management Team agendas.	Audit Committee meetings have considered risk management items.	Risk management is included as a standing item on Audit committee agendas.
4.6.2 Develop a governance and compliance framework within Council.	Framework developed.	Council employed a Governance Advisor who developed and implemented a governance and compliance review framework.



The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2017/18 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual Budget Variance \$</b>
<b>Civic Leadership and Governance</b>	To ensure that Council provides effective leadership and that its decisions are transparent, inclusive and based on sound recommendations and advice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management support for the Mayor and Council.</li> <li>• Regular media releases and newsletters to inform the community of current issues.</li> <li>• Lobbying of politicians and government departments.</li> <li>• Advocacy on behalf of the community on key local government issues.</li> <li>• Memberships include Municipal Association of Victoria, Rural Council Victoria, North West Municipalities Association and Wimmera Development Corporation</li> <li>• Community Satisfaction Feedback Survey</li> </ul>	837,269 <u>840,600</u> (3,331)
<b>Customer Service Centres</b>	Operation and maintenance of customer service centres to provide facilities from which Council can efficiently deliver services to the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of professionally-focused Customer Service Centres in each township.</li> <li>• Seek improvement in the community satisfaction survey conducted annually.</li> <li>• Adherence to Council's Customer Services Charter.</li> <li>• Provide licensing and registration services on behalf of VicRoads.</li> <li>• Provision of information to ratepayers and the general public on a broad range of services provided by Council and other government agencies.</li> </ul>	535,787 <u>619,502</u> (83,715)
<b>Council Elections</b>	Efficient and effective running of Elections by the Victorian Electoral Commission on behalf of Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing maintenance of the voters' rolls.</li> </ul>	194 <u>0</u> 194
<b>Financial Management</b>	To ensure the efficient and effective allocation of resources through sound financial planning and management that secures the long term financial viability of the municipality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of the annual budget, including the capital works budget</li> <li>• Preparation of Council's Annual Report</li> <li>• Preparation of management reports to Council and Senior Managers.</li> <li>• Investment of surplus funds in accordance with Council's investment policy having regard to legislation and financial risk.</li> <li>• Support of the internal and external audit functions</li> <li>• Management of Council's taxation obligations</li> <li>• Continued lobbying of governments for additional funding and resources</li> </ul>	(4,308,811) <u>(1,893,506)</u> (2,415,305)

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual Budget Variance \$</b>
<b>Rating and Valuations</b>	Management of Council's rating system, including valuation of properties and the levying of rates and charges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of property and valuation records, including supplementary valuations.</li> <li>• Administering Pensioner rate concessions on behalf of the State Government.</li> <li>• Issue of quarterly Rates and Valuations notices.</li> <li>• Collection of rates and legal action where necessary.</li> <li>• Issue of Land Information Certificates.</li> </ul>	(7,318,186) <u>(7,299,694)</u> (18,492)
<b>Records Management</b>	Effective and efficient recording, storage, retrieval and disposal of records in line with the standards of the Public Records Office of Victoria. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with Privacy and Freedom of Information Legislation.</li> <li>• Ensure that Council records, stores and disposes of its records in accordance with statutory obligations.</li> </ul>	49,643 <u>59,633</u> (9,990)
<b>Information Technology</b>	Using Information Technology as a tool to connect with the community and provide efficient and effective services.	279,144 <u>330,430</u> (51,286)
<b>Risk Management</b>	Monitor and manage Council's risks in relation to operations, employment and infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and review the Risk Register.</li> <li>• Regular review of the risks and control measures by Senior Management.</li> <li>• Ensuring that Council's assets and interests are insured adequately against risk.</li> <li>• Management of WorkCover Authority insurance and work place injury claims.</li> <li>• Quarterly meetings of the Risk Management Committee.</li> <li>• Quarterly meetings of the Audit Committee.</li> <li>• Advise staff and contractors in relation to Workplace Health and Safety.</li> <li>• Ensure that Council is aware of, and complies with, all of its statutory obligations.</li> </ul>	359,678 <u>404,159</u> (44,481)
<b>Contract Management</b>	Preparation of contract specifications, administration of tender processes and management of Council's contracted services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tender preparation and specification development.</li> <li>• Supervision and management of contracted Council services.</li> <li>• Ensure that Council's tendering process (including letting of tenders and appointment of contractors) comply with Council purchasing policies and statutory obligations.</li> <li>• Ensure value for money and best products are achieved.</li> </ul>	122,083 <u>84,110</u> 37,973
<b>Payroll and Human Resources Services</b>	Provision of payroll services to Council employees and the provision of human resources services to management.	278,794 <u>228,308</u> 50,486
<b>Emergency Management</b>	Provide support to the community in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency response and emergency recovery.	90,596 <u>93,840</u> (3,244)

<b>Service</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Net Cost Actual Budget Variance \$</b>
<b>Depots and Workshops</b>	Operation of Council's depots and workshops including the provision of heavy plant and equipment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Securely house plant, equipment and materials.</li> <li>• Provide a base for the outdoor staff.</li> <li>• Provide a location to carry out maintenance and repairs of Council's plant and equipment.</li> <li>• Purchase and maintain plant and equipment to enable the delivery of works</li> </ul>	489,442 <u>762,168</u> (272,726)
<b>Asset Management</b>	Provision of skills, resources and systems to ensure the most efficient and effective management of Council's assets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that Council targets the correct level of asset expenditure to achieve and maintain the desired levels of service into the foreseeable future.</li> <li>• Ensure that Council's asset renewal expenditure targets the most critical assets.</li> <li>• Provide Council's asset valuations.</li> </ul>	197,389 <u>229,956</u> (32,567)
<b>Fleet Management</b>	Ensure that Council's vehicle fleet is managed, maintained and replaced in the most efficient and effective way possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timely maintenance of fleet vehicles.</li> <li>• Purchase and replacement of fleet vehicles in accordance with Council policy.</li> </ul>	441,617 <u>417,098</u> 24,519
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	Payment of invoices in an efficient and timely manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of secure payment systems and processes.</li> <li>• Payment of invoices in accordance with Councils payment terms (within 30 days).</li> <li>• All payments to be made via EFT or Direct Credit.</li> </ul>	52,425 <u>48,912</u> 3,513
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	Receival of payments from debtors in an efficient and timely manner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly invoicing of accounts.</li> <li>• Ensure Council's Outstanding Debtor Policy is adhered to.</li> <li>• Regular reports to management on outstanding debtors.</li> </ul>	22,442 <u>22,847</u> (405)






The following statement provides the results of the prescribed service performance indicators and measures including explanation of material variations.

<b>Service/Indicator/measure</b>	<b>Result 2018</b>	<b>Result 2017</b>	<b>Result 2016</b>	<b>Result 2015</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Governance</b>					
<b>Transparency</b>					
<i>Council resolutions at meetings closed to the public</i> [Number of council resolutions made at ordinary or special meetings of council, or at meetings of a special committee consisting only of councillors, closed to the public / Number of council resolutions made at ordinary or special meetings of council or at meetings of a special committee consisting only of councillors] x100	16.13%	15.00%	12.58%	17.00%	The majority of Council meetings closed to the public are closed for the consideration of contractual matters, that is, tenders to be awarded, and hardship applications.
<b>Consultation and engagement</b>					
<i>Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on community consultation and engagement]	60	59	59	59	No material variations.
<b>Attendance</b>					
<i>Council attendance at Council meetings</i> [The sum of the number of councillors who attended each ordinary and special council meeting / (Number of ordinary and special council meetings) x (Number of councillors elected at the last council general election)] x100	96.97%	99.33%	97.62%	97.10%	No material variations.
<b>Service cost</b>					
<i>Cost of governance</i> [Direct cost of the governance service / Number of councillors elected at the last council general election]	\$46,391	\$45,245	\$42,121	\$40,431	No material variations.
<b>Satisfaction</b>					
<i>Satisfaction with council decisions</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	60	58	57	60	No material variations.

## Governance, management and other information

### Governance

The Hindmarsh Shire Council is constituted under the *Local Government Act 1989* to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and the local community. Council has a number of roles including:



-  Taking into account the diverse needs of the local community in decision-making.
-  Providing leadership by establishing strategic objectives and monitoring achievements.
-  Ensuring that resources are managed in a responsible and accountable manner.
-  Advocating the interests of the local community to other communities and governments.
-  Fostering community cohesion and encouraging active participation in civic life.

Council is committed to effective and sustainable forms of democratic and corporate governance as the key to ensuring that Council and its administration meet the community's priorities. The community has many opportunities to provide input into Council's decision-making processes, including community consultation, public forums such as ward meetings and the ability to make submissions to Special Committees of Council.

Council's formal decision-making processes are conducted through Council meetings and Special Committees of Council. Council delegates the majority of its decision-making to Council staff. These delegations are exercised in accordance with adopted Council policies.

### Meetings of Council

Council conducts open public meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Members of the community are welcome to attend these meetings and observe from the gallery. Council meetings also provide the opportunity for community members to submit a question to the Council, make a submission or speak to an item. For the 2017/18 year, Council held the following meetings:

-  20 ordinary Council meetings.
-  2 special Council meetings.





The following table provides a summary of Councillor attendance at Council meetings and Special Council meetings for the 2017/18 financial year.

Councillors	Council Meeting	Special Council Meeting	Total
Cr Ron Ismay (Mayor)	19	2	21
Cr Ron Lowe	20	2	22
Cr Rob Gersch	20	2	22
Cr Deb Nelson	20	2	22
Cr Tony Schneider	18	2	20
Cr David Colbert	19	2	21
<b>Total meetings held</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>



### Special Committees

The *Local Government Act 1989* allows Council's to establish one or more special committees consisting of:

-  Councillors.
-  Council staff.
-  Other persons.
-  Any combination of the above.




The following table contains a list of all special committees established by Council and the purpose for which each committee was established.

Special Committee	Councillors	Officers	Other	Purpose
Nhill Town Committee	1	1	7	To represent the diverse members of the Nhill community, identify community needs and interests, and advocate on behalf of the community.
Dimboola Town Committee	1	1	13	To represent the diverse members of the Dimboola community, identify community needs and interests, and advocate on behalf of the community.
Jeparit Town Committee	1	1	8	To represent the diverse members of the Jeparit community, identify community needs and interests, and advocate on behalf of the community.
Rainbow Town Committee	1	1	12	To represent the diverse members of the Rainbow community, identify community needs and interests, and advocate on behalf of the community.
Antwerp Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	13	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Antwerp and district.
Diapur Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	12	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Diapur and district.
Gerang Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	6	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Gerang and district.
Jeparit Memorial Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	8	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Jeparit and district, and to manage/sub lease the Returned Service League Clubrooms and Senior Citizens Clubrooms.
Lorquon Memorial Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	8	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Lorquon and district.




Special Committee	Councillors	Officers	Other	Purpose
Rainbow Civic Centre Committee	1	No delegate	8	To promote, develop and maintain the premises for the benefit of the community and to satisfy the financial return to the
Yanac Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee	1	No delegate	11	To provide a public hall and recreation reserve for the use and benefit of the citizens of Yanac and district.
Dimboola Sports Stadium Committee (Committee revoked 25 October 2017)	No delegate	No delegate	7	To provide a multi-use sports stadium for the use and benefit of the citizens of Dimboola and district.
Rainbow Recreation Reserve Committee	1	No delegate	7	To provide a public hall and recreation reserve facilities for the use and benefit of the citizens of Rainbow and district.
Nhill Sun Moth Reserve Committee of Management	No delegate	No delegate	7	To coordinate, manage, develop, maintain and promote the area known as the Nhill Sun Moth Reserve, area for the conservation of rare, threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna found there and in particular, the nationally endangered Golden and Pale Sun Moths.
Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee	1	1	16	To manage the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum.
Yurunga Homestead Committee	1	1	7	To manage the Yurunga Homestead.

### **Code of Conduct**

The Local Government Act 1989 requires Council's to develop and approve a Councillor Code of Conduct within 12 months after each general election. On 1 February 2017, Council adopted a revised Councillor Code of Conduct which is designed to:

-  Assist Councillors to maintain the highest standards of conduct and behaviour as well as provide a means to deal with problems they may encounter;
-  Attract the highest level of confidence from Council's stakeholders;
-  Assist the Mayor and Councillors to discharge the responsibilities of their public office appropriately.

In addition to setting out the Councillors Conduct Principles, the Code also outlines:

-  Other conduct definitions under the Act, such as those relating to misuse of position, improper direction, breach of confidentiality and conflict of interest;
-  Roles and relationships;
-  Dispute resolution procedures.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Councillors are elected by residents and ratepayers to act in the best interest of the community. This is a position of trust that requires Councillors to act in the public interest.

When a Council delegates its powers to a Council officer or a committee, the committee or officer also needs to act in the public interest.

A conflict of interest occurs when a personal or private interest might compromise the ability to act in the public interest. A conflict of interest exists even if no improper act results from it. Council has a comprehensive procedure in place to accommodate the disclosure of a conflict of interest. Declaration of a conflict of interest is a standard agenda item for all Council and Committee meetings.

While the procedures vary depending on the particular role and circumstances, in general they involve disclosing the relevant interests in a specific way and then stepping aside from the relevant decision-making process or from the exercise of the public duty. A register is maintained to record all disclosed conflict of interests. During 2017/18, 11 conflicts of interest were declared at Council and Special Committee meetings.

### **Councillor Allowances**

In accordance with Section 74 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance while performing their duty as a Councillor. The Mayor is also entitled to receive a higher allowance.

The State Government sets the upper and lower limits for all allowances paid to Councillors and Mayors. Councils are divided into three categories based on the income and population of each Council. In this instance, Hindmarsh Shire Council is recognised as a category one council.

For the period 1 July 2017 to 30 November 2017, the councillor annual allowance for a category 1 council (as defined by the *Local Government Act 1989*) was fixed at \$19,833 per annum and the allowance for the Mayor was \$59,257 per annum. The Minister for Local Government approved an annual adjustment of 2.0 per cent to take effect on 1 December 2017. The annual allowances were adjusted for the period 1 December 2017 to 30 June 2018 to \$20,230 per annum for the councillor allowance and \$60,442 per annum for the Mayoral allowance.

The following table contains a summary of the allowances paid to each councillor during the year.

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Allowance \$</b>
Cr Ron Ismay (Mayor)	\$51,254.05
Cr Ron Lowe	\$21,971.60
Cr Rob Gersch	\$21,971.60
Cr Deb Nelson	\$36,361.00
Cr Tony Schneider	\$21,971.60
Cr David Colbert	\$21,971.60

### **Councillors Expenses**

In accordance with Section 75 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council is required to reimburse a Councillor for expenses incurred whilst performing his or her duties as a Councillor. Council is also required to adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors. The policy provides guidance for the reimbursement of expenses and the provision of resources, facilities and other support to the Mayor and Councillors to enable them to discharge their duties. Council also publishes in its Annual Report the details of the expenses, including reimbursement of expenses for each Councillor and member of a Council Committee paid by the Council. The details of the expenses for the 2017/18 year are set out in the following table.

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>TR</b>	<b>CM</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>IC</b>	<b>CE</b>	<b>CT</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Cr Ron Ismay (Mayor)					1,342.62	1,610.67
Cr Ron Lowe		1,265.79			1,917.70	
Cr Rob Gersch					737.27	
Cr Deb Nelson		2,096.05			925.90	
Cr Tony Schneider					493.02	
Cr David Colbert					365.75	

Legend: TR-Travel CM-Car Mileage CC-Child Care IC-Information and CE-Communication expenses CT-Conferences and Training expenses.

Note: No expenses were paid by Council including reimbursements to members of Council committees during the year.

### **Management**

Council has implemented a number of statutory and better practice items to strengthen its management framework. Having a strong governance and management framework leads to better decision making by Council. The Act requires Council to undertake an assessment against the prescribed governance and management checklist and include this assessment in its report of operations. Council's Governance and Management Checklist results are set out in the section below. The following items have been highlighted as important components of the management framework.

### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee's role is to review, evaluate and recommend improvements to the system of procedures and internal controls established by the Council. As part of the audit planning process, the Internal Auditor assists Council in identifying and assessing the operational and financial risks to which it is exposed. The internal audit function monitors compliance to ensure that internal controls over financial and operational areas are effective. The Audit Committee consists of two independent members, Mr Darren Welsh (Chair), Mr Ashley Roberts, and two Councillors. The desired Audit Committee membership comprises two Councillors and up to four independent members and their term of membership coincides with the term of the Councillors of the Hindmarsh Shire Council. The members of the Audit Committee elect a Chairman to fill that role until the Committee resolves that a new Chairman should be elected.

The Audit Committee meets at least three times in each financial year. The Internal Auditor, Chief Executive Officer and Director Corporate & Community Services attend all Audit Committee meetings. Other management representatives attend as required to present reports. The external auditors generally attend the May and September Audit Committee meetings to present the annual audit plan and Independent Audit Report.

Recommendations from each Audit Committee meeting are subsequently reported to, and considered by Council.

### ***Internal Audit***

Council's internal audit function provides independent and objective assurance that the appropriate processes and controls are in place across Council. A risk based audit plan is prepared annually to ensure the audit resources remain focused on the appropriate areas. The review process considers Council's risk framework, the Council Plan, the impact of any change on operations, systems or the business environment; prior audit coverage and outcomes and management input.

The Internal Auditor attends each Audit Committee meeting to report on the status of the audit plan, comment on the implementation of audit recommendations and to present findings of completed reviews.

During 2017/18 no internal audits were completed due to the provision of internal audit services going out to tender.





### ***External Audit***

Council is externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General. For 2017/18, the annual external audit of Council's Financial Statements and Performance Statement was conducted by the Victorian Auditor-General's representative, Mr Richard Ainio of Crowe Horwath.

Crowe Horwath, VAGO's representative since the 2014/15 financial year, attended part of the September Audit Committee meeting via telephone to present the independent audit report for the 2016/17 financial year, and also attended part of the March and May 2018 meetings via telephone. The external audit management letter and responses are also provided to the Audit Committee.

### ***Risk Management***

In July 2013, Council adopted its Risk Management Policy, addressing items such as:

-  Risk management processes and procedures;
-  Communication and training;
-  Responsibilities of internal and external stakeholders;
-  Risk registers.



## Governance and Management Checklist

The following are the results in the prescribed form of Council's assessment against the prescribed governance and management checklist.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1. <b>Community engagement policy</b> (policy outlining council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest)	Community Engagement Framework was adopted by Council on 18 March 2015. It combines policy document and guidelines. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. <b>Community engagement guidelines</b> (guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community)	Community Engagement Framework was adopted by Council on 18 March 2015. It combines policy document and guidelines. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. <b>Strategic Resource Plan</b> (plan under section 126 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 4 financial years)	Adopted in accordance with section 126 of the Act. Date of adoption: 27 June 2018. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. <b>Annual budget</b> (plan under section 130 of the Act setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required)	Adopted in accordance with section 130 of the Act. Date of adoption: 27 June 2018. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. <b>Asset management plans</b> (plans that set out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for key infrastructure asset classes for at least the next 10 years)	Council adopted a new Asset Management Strategy on 17 June 2015. The Strategy guides the development and review of asset management plans that encompass fit-for-purpose services and facilities which are secure, reliable, technologically efficient, innovative, safe and meet customers' needs. An Asset Management Plan (general) and Asset Management Plan (paths) have been developed. Council currently have a draft Road Asset Management Plan to be adopted in 2018/19, with further plans being developed for buildings, drains and other assets. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. <b>Rating strategy</b> (strategy setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges)	Date of operation of current strategy: 27 June 2018. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. <b>Risk policy</b> (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations)	Date of operation of current policy: 1 June 2013 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8. <b>Fraud policy</b> (policy outlining council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud)	Date of operation of current policy: Theft and Fraud Policy 22 August 2008, Protected Disclosure 20 December 2017 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. <b>Municipal emergency management plan</b> (plan under section 20 of the <i>Emergency Management Act 1986</i> for emergency prevention, response and recovery)	Prepared and maintained in accordance with section 20 of the <i>Emergency Management Act 1986</i> Date of preparation: 01 July 2017 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. <b>Procurement policy</b> (policy under section 186A of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> outlining the matters, practices and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods, services and works)	Prepared and approved in accordance with section 186A of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> Date of approval: 07 February 2018. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
<b>11. Business continuity plan</b> (plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to ensure that key services continue to operate in the event of a disaster)	Council has in place a business continuity plan, updated 1 July 2014.
<b>12. Disaster recovery plan</b> (plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster)	Council has in place a disaster recovery plan, updated 1 July 2014.
<b>13. Risk management framework</b> (framework outlining council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations)	Date of operation of current Risk Management Strategy, 1 July 2013
<b>14. Audit Committee</b> (advisory committee of council under section 139 of the Act whose role is to oversee the integrity of a council's financial reporting, processes to manage risks to the council's operations and for compliance with applicable legal, ethical, and regulatory requirements)	Established in accordance with section 139 of the Act Date of establishment: 22 January 2003 Reviewed: 16 July 2014
<b>15. Internal audit</b> (independent accounting professionals engaged by the council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving council's governance, risk and management controls)	Date of engagement of current provider: 06 June 2018
<b>16. Performance reporting framework</b> (a set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the Act)	Date of operation of current framework: 1 July 2014
<b>17. Council Plan reporting</b> (report reviewing the performance of the council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year)	Quarterly reports on the performance against the Council Plan are presented to Council. Date reports presented: 21 February 2018 and 23 May 2018.
<b>18. Financial reporting</b> (quarterly statements to Council under section 138 of the Act comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure with actual revenue and expenditure)	Statements presented to Council in accordance with section 138(1) of the Act Date statements presented: 20 September 2017, 25 October 2017, 7 February 2018 and 18 April 2018.
<b>19. Risk reporting</b> (six-monthly reports of strategic risks to council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies)	Reports were presented to the Audit Committee meeting on 7 September 2017 and 8 March 2018.
<b>20. Performance reporting</b> (six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the Act)	Date of reports: 20 September 2017
<b>21. Annual report</b> (annual report under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the Act to the community containing a report of operations and audited financial and performance statements)	Considered at a meeting of Council in accordance with section 134 of the Act Annual report considered: 25 October 2017

Governance and Management Items	Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>22. Councillor Code of Conduct</b> (Code under section 76C of the Act setting out the conduct principles and the dispute resolution processes to be followed by Councillors)	Reviewed in accordance with section 76C of the Act Date reviewed: 1 February 2017 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>23. Delegations</b> (a document setting out the powers, duties and functions of council and the Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff)	Reviewed in accordance with section 98(6) of the Act Date of review: 21 February 2018 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>24. Meeting procedures</b> (a local law governing the conduct of meetings of council and special committees)	Meeting procedures local law made in accordance with section 91(1) of the Act Date local law made: 23 June 2014 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I certify that this information presents fairly the status of Council’s governance and management arrangements.



Cr Ron Ismay  
 Mayor  
 19 September 2018




















Greg Wood  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 19 September 2018

## Statutory Information

The following information is provided in accordance with legislative and other requirements applying to Council.

### ***Documents available for public inspection***

In accordance with Part 5 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2004, the following is a list of the prescribed documents that are available for inspection or copies of the documents can be obtained for the purposes of section 222 of the *Local Government Act 1989* at 92 Nelson Street, Nhill:




-  details of current allowances fixed for the Mayor and Councillors;
-  details of senior officers' total salary packages for the current financial year and the previous year;
-  details of overseas or interstate travel (with the exception of interstate travel by land for less than three days) undertaken in an official capacity by Councillors or any member of Council staff in the previous 12 months;
-  names of Council officers who were required to submit a return of interest during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted;
-  names of Councillors who submitted returns of interest during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted;
-  agendas for and minutes of ordinary and special meetings held in the previous 12 months, except if the minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public;
-  a list of all special committees established by Council and the purpose for which each committee was established;
-  a list of all special committees established by the Council which were abolished or ceased to function during the financial year;
-  minutes of meetings of special committees held in the previous 12 months except if the minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public;
-  a register of delegations;
-  submissions received in accordance with Section 223 of the Act during the previous 12 months;
-  agreements to establish regional libraries;
-  details of all property, finance and operating leases involving land, buildings, plant, computer equipment or vehicles entered into by the Council as lessor or lessee, including the name of the other party to the lease and the terms and the value of the lease;
-  a register of authorised officers;
-  a list of donations and grants made by the Council during the financial year;
-  a list of the names of the organisations of which the Council was a member during the financial year and details of all membership fees and other amounts and services provided during that year to each organisation by the Council;
-  a list of contracts valued at \$150,000 or more which the Council entered into during the financial year without first engaging in a competitive process.

### ***Best value***

In accordance with section 208B(f) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, at least once every year a Council must report to its community on what it has done to ensure that it has given effect to the Best Value Principles. Council incorporates Best Value Principles



through regular business planning and performance monitoring processes and through a commitment to continuous improvement and innovation. To further reflect Council's commitment to Best Value, Council has commenced the design and planning of a Service Planning Program which will be rolled out in stages across the whole organisation. This program will provide additional review and improvement mechanisms to ensure that Council's services achieve best practice standards in regards to service performance.

The following Best Value initiatives were undertaken during 2017/18:




-  Budget process – review of guidelines and processes for the preparation of the annual budget.
-  Long term financial planning – further evaluation and improvement of underlying assumptions.
-  Long term asset planning – four year capital works program developed with the aim to increase this to a ten year capital works program.

### **Carers Recognition**



In accordance with the *Carers Recognition Act 2012*, Council is required to report annually on its care measurement obligations under Section 11 of that Act. Council has taken all practicable measures to comply with its responsibilities outlined in the *Carers Recognition Act 2012*. Council has promoted the principles of that Act to people in care relationships who receive Council services, to people in care relationships, and to the wider community by:

-  Distributing printed material through relevant Council services.
-  Providing information at Council's customer service centres.

Council has taken all practicable measures to ensure staff, Council agents and volunteers working for Council are informed about the principles and obligations of the Act by including information on the care relationship in:

-  Council induction and training programs for staff working in Aged and Disability Services;
-  Council induction and training programs for staff working in front-line positions with the general community;
-  Induction and training programs for volunteers working directly with the community.

Council has taken all practicable measures to review and modify policies, procedures and supports to include recognition of the carer relationship and has provided the following additional activities and resources to recognise the care relationship:

-  Provision of respite services for carers;
-  Providing regular carer support in the form of Memory Lane Cafés.

### **Contracts**






During the 2017/18 financial year Council did not enter into any contracts valued at \$150,000 or more for services or \$200,000 or more for works without first engaging in a competitive process.

### **Disability Action Plan**



In accordance with section 38 of the *Disability Act 2006*, Council has prepared a Disability Action Plan – Positive Ageing and Inclusion in Hindmarsh Shire 2013-2018. Council must report on the implementation of the Disability Action Plan in its annual report.

Council has prepared a Disability Action Plan and implemented the following actions:

-  The creation of the Hindmarsh Shire Event Management Guide, through public safety and security indicates that events are All Access to ensure that events cater for all abilities.
-  Council continues to advocate for those with a disability by recognising training needs for staff to assist in giving those with a disability choice and control when it comes to accessing services through council.
-  Continued participation in Wimmera Disability Access Forum.
-  Continued partnerships with Wimmera service providers that provide Disability Advocacy.
-  Council continues to explore funding opportunities and partnerships to enhance integrated and specific programs for people with disabilities.

### ***Domestic Animal Management Plan***

In accordance with the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, Council is required to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan at four yearly intervals and evaluate its implementation in the annual report.

Council adopted its Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021 on 25 October 2017. The plan was developed through consultation with Council's Local Laws Team and consideration of input from other Council departments.

### ***Food Act Ministerial Directions***




In accordance with section 7E of the *Food Act 1984*, Council is required to publish a summary of any Ministerial Directions received during the financial year in its annual report.

No such Ministerial Directions were received by Council during the financial year.

### ***Freedom of Information***

In accordance with section 7(4AA)(a) and 7(4AA)(b) of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, Council is required to publish certain statements in its annual report or separately such as on its website, concerning its functions and information available. Council has chosen to publish the statements separately, however provides the following summary of the application and operation of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

Access to documents may be obtained through written request to the Freedom of Information Officer, as detailed in section 17 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and in summary as follows:

-  Requests should be in writing.
-  Requests should identify as clearly as possible what documents are being requested.
-  Requests should be accompanied by the appropriate application fee (the fee may be waived in certain circumstances).

Requests for documents in the possession of Council should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Officer. Requests can also be lodged by email.

Access charges may apply once documents have been processed and a decision on access is made (e.g. photocopying and search and retrieval charges).

Further information regarding Freedom of Information can be found at [www.foi.vic.gov.au](http://www.foi.vic.gov.au) and on our website [www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au).

### ***Protected Disclosure Procedures***

In accordance with section 69 of the *Protected Disclosure Act 2012*, a Council must include in its annual report information about how to access the procedures established by the Council under Part 9 of that Act. It is also required to provide certain information about the number and types of protected disclosures complaints investigated during the financial year.

The *Protected Disclosure Act 2012* aims to ensure openness and accountability in government by encouraging people to disclose improper conduct within the public sector and provide protection for people who make disclosures. Procedures on how to make a disclosure are publicly available on Council's website.

During the 2017/18 year no disclosures were notified to Council officers appointed to receive disclosures, or to the Independent Broad Based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC).

### ***Road Management Act Ministerial direction***

In accordance with section 22 of the *Road Management Act 2004*, a Council must publish a copy or summary of any Ministerial direction in its annual report. No such Ministerial Directions were received by Council during the financial year.

# HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL

## Performance Statement For the year ended 30 June 2018

### Our Municipality

Hindmarsh Shire is located in the Wimmera region in western Victoria and covers an area of 7,527km<sup>2</sup>. Situated on the Western Highway, 375km west of Melbourne and 350km east of Adelaide, Hindmarsh Shire is alive with business opportunities as it lies on the second-busiest freight corridor in Australia.

Our Shire is bound by two National Parks, the Little Desert in the South and Wyperfeld in the North. Other distinct natural features include the Big Desert Wilderness Area to the West, as well as the Wimmera River and Lakes Hindmarsh and Albacutya. The central part of the Shire is utilised primarily for broad acre cropping and grazing.

Hindmarsh Shire's four main towns are Nhill, Dimboola, Jeparit and Rainbow. Each community has its own spirit and identity, but all towns offer spacious rural living, inclusive small communities, and wonderful natural amenities.

The first Australians in the Hindmarsh area were the Wotjobaluk people. Communities were located near the Nhill Swamp, the Wimmera River at Dimboola, Lake Hindmarsh near Jeparit and Lake Albacutya near Rainbow, while the majority made their home along the Red Gum lined banks of the Wimmera River and Nine Creeks area in Dimboola.

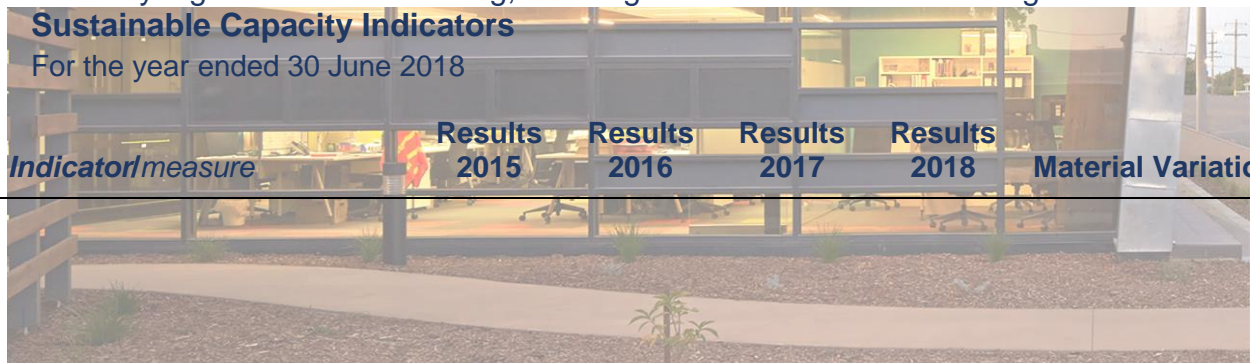
Today it is estimated, 5,677 people live in Hindmarsh Shire, with a median age of 50 years. 83% of people in Hindmarsh Shire were born in Australia, with English the only language spoken in 88% of homes. Our most significant group of migrants are Karen refugees from Burma (Myanmar), with approximately 190 calling Nhill home.

The median weekly household income is \$1,131, and most people own their homes outright. Most people are employed in farming, with employment in health care coming a close second, followed by retail, manufacturing, education and transport. Hindmarsh has a very high rate of volunteering, 18% higher than the national average.

### Sustainable Capacity Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2018

<i>Indicator/measure</i>	Results 2015	Results 2016	Results 2017	Results 2018	Material Variations
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<b>Own-source revenue</b>					
<i>Own-source revenue per head of municipal population</i> [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$1,661	\$1,811	\$1,880	\$1,891	No material variation
<b>Recurrent grants</b>					
<i>Recurrent grants per head of municipal population</i> [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$1,330	\$916	\$1,601	\$1,200	The variation is due to a reduction in commonwealth recurrent grants.
<b>Population</b>					
<i>Expenses per head of municipal population</i> [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$2,890	\$3,089	\$3,151	\$3,048	No material variations
<i>Infrastructure per head of municipal population</i> [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$18,805	\$19,938	\$28,647	\$27,273	A reduction in the municipal population, along with investment in Council Infrastructure and revaluation of assets alters the value of infrastructure per municipal population.
<i>Population density per length of road</i> [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	1.83	1.73	1.71	1.79	No material variations.
<b>Disadvantage</b>					
<i>Relative socio-economic disadvantage</i> [Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage by decile]	3	2	2	2	No material variations.

### Definitions

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than—

- (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
- (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above

"infrastructure" means non-current property, plant and equipment excluding land

"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the *Road Management Act 2004*

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

"own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)

"relative socio-economic disadvantage", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in

which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA

"SEIFA" means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet website

"unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.



## Service Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2018

<i>Service/indicator/measure</i>	<b>Results 2015</b>	<b>Results 2016</b>	<b>Results 2017</b>	<b>Results 2018</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Governance</b> <b>Satisfaction</b> <i>Satisfaction with council decisions</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	60	57	58	60	No material variations.
<b>Statutory Planning</b> <b>Decision making</b> <i>Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT</i> [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	n/a	100%	n/a	50%	2 planning matters were taken to VCAT during 2017/18. VCAT upheld 1 of Council's decisions.
<b>Roads</b> <b>Satisfaction</b> <i>Satisfaction with sealed local roads</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	47	45	52	48	No material variations.
<b>Libraries</b> <b>Participation</b> <i>Active library members</i> [Number of active library members / Municipal population] x100	14%	11%	10%	9%	No material variations.
<b>Waste Collection</b> <b>Waste diversion</b> <i>Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill</i> [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	24%	22%	23%	34%	A reduction in kerbside garbage collected in 2017/18 has resulted in the variation. Recycling collection tonnage in 2017/18 has remained similar to 2016/17.
<b>Aquatic facilities</b> <b>Utilisation</b> <i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	3	3	3	3	Aquatic facilities for the period November to March.

<b>Service/indicator/measure</b>	<b>Results 2015</b>	<b>Results 2016</b>	<b>Results 2017</b>	<b>Results 2018</b>	<b>Material Variations</b>
<b>Animal management</b> <b>Health and safety</b> <i>Animal management prosecutions</i> [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	No animal prosecutions during 2017/18.
<b>Food safety</b> <b>Health and safety</b> <i>Critical and major non-compliance notifications</i> [Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises] x100	100%	100%	n/a	n/a	Council did not receive any notifications of non-compliance during 2017/18.
<b>Home and community care</b> <b>Participation</b> <i>Participation in HACC service</i> [Number of people that received a HACC service / Municipal target population for HACC services] x100	30%	61%	n/a	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016.
<b>Participation</b> <i>Participation in HACC service by CALD people</i> [Number of CALD people who receive a HACC service / Municipal target population in relation to CALD people for HACC services] x100	31%	60%	n/a	n/a	Reporting ceased on 1 July 2016
<b>Maternal and child health</b> <b>Participation</b> <i>Participation in the MCH service</i> [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
<b>Participation</b> <i>Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children</i> [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.

## Definitions

"Aboriginal child" means a child who is an Aboriginal person

"Aboriginal person" has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

"active library member" means a member of a library who has borrowed a book from the library

"annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the Act

"class 1 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the *Food Act 1984*, that have been declared as class 1 food premises under section 19C of that Act

"class 2 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the *Food Act 1984*, that have been declared as class 2 food premises under section 19C of that Act

"Community Care Common Standards" means the Community Care Common Standards for the delivery of HACC services, published from time to time by the Commonwealth

"critical non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984*, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health

"food premises" has the same meaning as in the *Food Act 1984*

"HACC program" means the Home and Community Care program established under the Agreement entered into for the purpose of the Home and Community Care Act 1985 of the Commonwealth

"HACC service" means home help, personal care or community respite provided under the HACC program

"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the *Road Management Act 2004*

"major non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the *Food Act 1984*, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken

"MCH" means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

"target population" has the same meaning as in the Agreement entered into for the purposes of the Home and Community Care Act 1985 of the Commonwealth

"WorkSafe reportable aquatic facility safety incident" means an incident relating to a council aquatic facility that is required to be notified to the Victorian WorkCover Authority under Part 5 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*.

## Financial Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results	Results	Results	Results	Forecasts				Material Variations
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
<b>Operating position</b>									
<b>Adjusted underlying result</b>									
<i>Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	5.9%	-10.4%	10.8%	2.7%	-20.4%	-5.5%	-10.8%	-9.2%	The result for this measure is expected to decrease over the 4 years to 2022. The decreasing trend is mainly due to the introduction of rates capping.
<b>Liquidity</b>									
<b>Working capital</b>									
<i>Current assets compared to current liabilities</i> [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	356.1%	287.9%	414.1%	431.23%	130.0%	94.7%	35.5%	-10.2%	At 30 June 2018 Council held a higher cash balance due to the early payment of the Financial Assistance Grant and a number of capital works projects not commencing.
<b>Unrestricted cash</b>									
<i>Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities</i> [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	204.2%	94.3%	371.4%	393.96%	92.0%	42.0%	-16.1%	-64.0%	At 30 June 2018 Council held cash at bank of \$11.2m and current liabilities of \$2.8m; 2016/17 cash at bank \$9.6m and current liabilities \$2.6m.
<b>Obligations</b>									
<b>Loans and borrowings</b>									
<i>Loans and borrowings compared to rates</i> [Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	Council do not hold any loans or borrowings.
<b>Loans and borrowings</b>	n/a	n/a							

<b>Dimension/indicator/measure</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Forecasts</b>				<b>Material Variations</b>
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	
<b>Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates</b> [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100			n/a	n/a	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	Council do not hold any loans or borrowings.
<b>Indebtedness</b> <b>Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue</b> [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	1.2%	2.3%	2.8%	2.3%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	No material variations.
<b>Asset renewal</b> <b>Asset renewal compared to depreciation</b> [Asset renewal expenses / Asset depreciation] x100	50.8%	66.0%	55.6%	57.0%	110.3%	101.3%	86.3%	82.4%	Expenditure on Asset renewal remains a high priority for Council.
<b>Stability</b> <b>Rates concentration</b> <b>Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue</b> [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	40.9%	50.5%	41.6%	46.9%	57.3%	50.7%	50.8%	50.8%	The variation is due to the reduction in grants received during 2017/18.
<b>Rates effort</b> <b>Rates compared to property values</b> [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality ] x100	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	No material variations.
<b>Efficiency</b> <b>Expenditure level</b>									



<b>Dimension/indicator/measure</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Forecasts</b>				<b>Material Variations</b>
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	
<b>Expenses per property assessment</b> [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$3,286	\$3,076	\$3,331	\$3,362	\$3,527	\$3,549	\$3,784	\$3,786	No material variations.
<b>Revenue level</b> <b>Average residential rate per residential property assessment</b> [Residential rate revenue / Number of residential property assessments]	\$1,059	\$1,107	\$1,202	\$1,154	\$1,181	\$1,198	\$1,221	\$1,238	No material variations.
<b>Workforce turnover</b> <b>Resignations and terminations compared to average staff</b> [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	16%	13%	11%	18%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	Due to Council's small FTE staff, any small increase in resignations will result in a material variation.

## Definitions

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than—

- (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
- (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b)

"adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)" means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure

"asset renewal expenditure" means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability

"current assets" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"current liabilities" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"non-current assets" means all assets other than current assets

"non-current liabilities" means all liabilities other than current liabilities

“non-recurrent grant” means a grant obtained on the condition that it be expended in a specified manner and is not expected to be received again during the period covered by a council's Strategic Resource Plan

"own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants

"population "means the resident population estimated by council

“rate revenue” means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges

"recurrent grant "means a grant other than a non-recurrent grant

"residential rates" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges levied on residential properties

"restricted cash" means cash and cash equivalents, within the meaning of the AAS, that are not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year

"unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

## Other Information

For the year ended 30 June 2018

### 1. Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from Council information systems or from third parties (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by Council's strategic resource plan. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is conserved to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by Council in its strategic resource plan on 27 June 2018 which forms part of the council plan. The strategic resource plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The strategic resource plan can be obtained by contacting Council at its municipal offices at 92 Nelson Street Nhill, by email to [info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au) or phone 03 5391 4444.

## Certification of the performance statement

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.



Ms Monica Revell

**Director Corporate & Community Services**

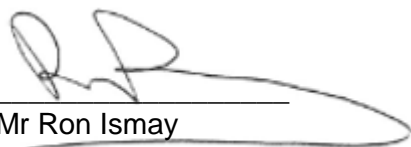
**Dated:** 19 September 2018

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Hindmarsh Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2018 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* to certify this performance statement in its final form.



Mr Ron Ismay

**Councillor**

**Dated:** 19 September 2018



Mr Ronald Lowe

**Councillor**

**Dated:** 19 September 2018



Mr Greg Wood

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Dated:** 19 September 2018

# Independent Auditor's Report

## To the Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council

<b>Opinion</b>	<p>I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Hindmarsh Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2018</li> <li>• sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2018</li> <li>• service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2018</li> <li>• financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2018</li> <li>• other information and</li> <li>• the certification of the performance statement.</li> </ul> <p>In my opinion, the performance statement of Hindmarsh Shire Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2018 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 6 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>.</p>
<b>Basis for Opinion</b>	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. I and my staff are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria and have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
<b>Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement</b>	<p>The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p>
<b>Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement</b>	<p>As required by the <i>Audit Act 1994</i>, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.</p>



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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 decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of performance statement, 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 my 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 council's internal control
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

---

MELBOURNE  
20 September 2018

  
Tim Loughnan  
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria





# **Hindmarsh Shire Council Annual Financial Report**

**For the Year Ended  
30 June 2018**



**Hindmarsh Shire Council  
Financial Report  
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## Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Mrs Monica Revell  
**Director Corporate &  
Community Services**

**Date :** 19-Sep-18

*Nhill*

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Hindmarsh Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2018 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Cr Ron Ismay  
**Councillor**

**Date :** 19-Sep-18

*Nhill*



Cr Ron Lowe  
**Councillor**

**Date :** 19-Sep-18

*Nhill*



Mr Greg Wood  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Date :** 19-Sep-18

*Nhill*

# Independent Auditor's Report

## To the Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council

**Opinion** I have audited the financial report of Hindmarsh Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:

- balance sheet as at 30 June 2018
- comprehensive income statement for the year then ended
- statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies
- certification of the financial statements.

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2018 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

**Basis for Opinion** I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I 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* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

**Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report** The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1989*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are 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 it is inappropriate to do so.



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**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' 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 I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my 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.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

---



Tim Loughnan

*as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria*

## Comprehensive Income Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>Income</b>			
Rates and charges	2.1	8,350	8,015
Statutory fees and fines	2.2	180	151
User fees	2.3	856	744
Grants - operating	2.4	5,515	7,140
Grants - capital	2.4	1,903	4,193
Contributions - monetary	2.5	41	127
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2.6	47	(36)
Share of net profits (or loss) of associates and joint ventures	5.2	29	(9)
Other income	2.7	1,273	1,375
<b>Total income</b>		<b>18,194</b>	<b>21,700</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee costs	3.1	(6,559)	(6,150)
Materials and services	3.2	(4,563)	(4,382)
Depreciation and amortisation	3.3	(4,836)	(5,289)
Other expenses	3.5	(1,345)	(1,341)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>(17,303)</b>	<b>(17,162)</b>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<b>891</b>	<b>4,538</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods</b>			
Net asset revaluation (decrement)/increment	5.1	(760)	44,863
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>131</b>	<b>49,401</b>

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 30 June 2018**

	Note	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4.1	11,228	9,694
Trade and other receivables	4.1	704	839
Inventories	4.2	292	201
Other assets	4.2	65	74
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>12,289</b>	<b>10,808</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	4.1	2	2
Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries	5.2	480	452
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	5.1	157,201	158,381
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>157,683</b>	<b>158,835</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>169,972</b>	<b>169,643</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	4.3	985	1,057
Trust funds and deposits	4.3	182	12
Provisions	4.4	1,682	1,543
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>2,849</b>	<b>2,612</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	4.4	253	292
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>253</b>	<b>292</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>3,102</b>	<b>2,904</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>166,870</b>	<b>166,739</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated surplus		64,218	63,327
Reserves	8.1	102,652	103,412
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>166,870</b>	<b>166,739</b>

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

### Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

2018	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	166,739	63,327	103,412
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	891	891	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	(760)	-	(760)
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>	<b>166,870</b>	<b>64,218</b>	<b>102,652</b>

2017	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	117,338	58,789	58,549
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	4,538	4,538	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	44,863	-	44,863
<b>Balance at end of the financial year</b>	<b>166,739</b>	<b>63,327</b>	<b>103,412</b>

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 2018

	Note	2018 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000	2017 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Rates and charges		8,433	8,095
Statutory fees and fines		10	15
User fees		1,022	936
Grants - operating		5,516	7,140
Grants - capital		1,903	4,193
Contributions - monetary		41	127
Interest received		167	216
Trust funds and deposits taken		175	(6)
Other receipts		1,169	1,177
Net GST refund/(payment)		52	47
Employee costs		(6,445)	(6,163)
Materials and services		(4,647)	(4,482)
Other payments		(1,494)	(1,331)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>		<b><u>5,902</u></b>	<b><u>9,964</u></b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	5.1	(4,537)	(6,976)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		169	93
Contribution in an Associate		-	18
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<b><u>(4,368)</u></b>	<b><u>(6,865)</u></b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,534	3,099
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		9,694	6,595
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>		<b><u>11,228</u></b>	<b><u>9,694</u></b>
Restrictions on cash assets	4.1		

The above statement of cash flow should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



**Statement of Capital Works  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>Property</b>		
Buildings	272	2,838
<b>Total property</b>	<u>272</u>	<u>2,838</u>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Plant, machinery and equipment	598	438
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	99	29
Computers and telecommunications	-	69
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<u>697</u>	<u>536</u>
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
Roads	2,352	2,972
Bridges	-	9
Footpaths and cycleways	223	182
Drainage	83	22
Kerb & Channel	236	126
Other infrastructure	674	290
<b>Total infrastructure</b>	<u>3,568</u>	<u>3,601</u>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	<u>4,537</u>	<u>6,975</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
New asset expenditure	1,063	2,529
Asset renewal expenditure	2,760	2,941
Asset upgrade expenditure	714	1,505
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	<u>4,537</u>	<u>6,975</u>

The above statement of capital works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## OVERVIEW

### Introduction

The Hindmarsh Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 20 January 1995 and is a body corporate.

The Council's main office is located at 92 Nelson Street, Nhill, Victoria.

### Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the Local Government Act 1989, and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

### Significant accounting policies

#### (a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 5.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 5.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 4.4)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 4.4)

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

**Note 1 Performance against budget**

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or \$100,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 23 August, 2017. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. Council sets guidelines and parameters for income and expense targets in this budget in order to meet Council's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

**1.1 Income and expenditure**

	Budget 2018 \$'000	Actual 2018 \$'000	Variance 2018 \$'000	Ref
<b>Income</b>				
Rates and charges	8,322	8,350	28	1
Statutory fees and fines	139	180	41	2
User fees	817	856	39	3
Grants - operating	2,973	5,515	2,542	4
Grants - capital	2,219	1,903	(316)	5
Contributions - monetary	5	41	36	6
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	128	47	(81)	
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures	-	29	29	
Other income	1,915	1,273	(642)	7
<b>Total income</b>	<u>16,518</u>	<u>18,194</u>	<u>1,676</u>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee costs	6,842	6,559	(283)	8
Materials and services	4,158	4,563	405	9
Depreciation and amortisation	5,034	4,836	(198)	10
Other expenses	1,876	1,345	(531)	11
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>17,910</u>	<u>17,303</u>	<u>(607)</u>	
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<u>(1,392)</u>	<u>891</u>	<u>2,283</u>	

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Rates & Charges	Rates & Charges are slightly higher than budget due to supplementary valuations being included, along with windfarm in lieu of rates.
2	Statutory fees and fines	Statutory fees and fines are higher than budgeted due to a large number of fines being issued.
3	User fees	User fees & Reimbursements are higher than budgeted due to Income received from the Caravan Parks being much higher than budgeted.
4	Grants - Operating	Recurrent operating grants are higher than budget due to the early payment of the 2018/19 Financial Assistance Grant. Non-recurrent operating grants are higher than budget due to Council receiving a number of grants that were not in the 2017/18 budget. These includes a grant for a Facilitated Playgroup Coordinator, Community Safety Grant, National Youth Week Grant, and Disaster Recovery Grant.
5	Grants - Capital	Non-recurrent capital grants is under budget due to the early payment of the Dimboola Civic Precinct Grant and Skate Park Grant in 2016/17 that was budgeted in 2017/18. Council received a number of grants that were not in the 2017/18 budget. This included Public Safety Infrastructure, Building Our Regions, Stronger Communities Walking Track - Dimboola, Final payment of the Recreational Fishing Grant, National Livestock Identification Scheme Grant and Variable Message Sign Grant.
6	Contributions - monetary	Contributions are higher than budgeted due to the recognition of the income raised by the Nhill Integrated Early Years Fundraising Committee.
7	Other Income	Other income is below budget due a reduction in Quarry Materials used on jobs and Plant recovery.
8	Employee Costs	Employee costs are currently under expenditure due to a number of vacant positions throughout 2017/18 not being filled for quite some time.
9	Materials & Services	Materials and Services are over budget due to a large number of areas with small over expenditure. There was increased expenditure in building and infrastructure maintenance, and the timing of crushing a supply of concrete for road maintenance works also contributed to the variance.
10	Depreciation	Depreciation is under budget due to a number of large projects either not being completed in 2017/18 or being completed late in the year.
11	Other Expenses	Other expenses are under budget due to a under expenditure in Advertising, Audit Fees, Council Contributions, Memberships and Subscriptions, and Postage.

Note 1 Performance against budget (cont'd)

1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2018 \$'000	Actual 2018 \$'000	Variance 2018 \$'000	Ref
<b>Property</b>				
Buildings	715	272	(443)	1
<b>Total Property</b>	<u>715</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>(443)</u>	
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>				
Plant, machinery and equipment	885	697	(188)	2
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>885</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>(188)</u>	
<b>Infrastructure</b>				
Roads	2,850	2,352	(498)	3
Bridges	325	-	(325)	4
Footpaths and cycleways	155	223	68	
Drainage	147	83	(64)	5
Kerb & Channel	387	236	(151)	6
Other infrastructure	368	674	306	7
<b>Total Infrastructure</b>	<u>4,232</u>	<u>3,568</u>	<u>(664)</u>	
<b>Total Capital Works Expenditure</b>	<u>5,832</u>	<u>4,537</u>	<u>(1,295)</u>	
<b>Represented by:</b>				
New asset expenditure	377	1,063	686	
Asset renewal expenditure	3,565	2,760	(805)	
Asset upgrade expenditure	1,890	714	(1,176)	
<b>Total Capital Works Expenditure</b>	<u>5,832</u>	<u>4,537</u>	<u>(1,295)</u>	

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Buildings	Expenditure on buildings during 2017/18 was carried forward from 2016/17 to complete the Nhill Early Years Centre and Riverside Holiday Park Cabins. Work on the Dimboola Library Incorporating the Civic Hub did not commence in 2017/18 and will be carried forward to 2018/19.
2	Plant, machinery and equipment	There were a couple of items of Plant that were not purchased in 2017/18. This includes, the woodchipper, two replacement trailers and the replacement Nhill Town truck which will be purchased in 2018/19.
3	Roads	Works on the Rainbow Nhill Road were delayed, but will be finalised in early 2018/19.
4	Bridges	Work on the Albacutya Bridge has not yet commenced.
5	Drainage	Work on the Dimboola Drainage project was delayed during 2017/18. This project will be completed in 2018/19
6	Kerb & Chanel	Work on Victoria Street Dimboola was not completed in 2017/18 and will be carried forward to 201/19
7	Other Infrastructure	Over expenditure in Other Infrastructure to date is a reflection of the final payments being made for the skate parks which exceeded budget as approved by council in October 2017.



<b>Note 2 Funding for the delivery of our services</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>2.1 Rates and charges</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>

Council uses capital improved value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV of a property is the value of the land and all of its improvements.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2017/18 was \$1,237.08 million (2016/17 \$1,230.92 million).

General Rates	6,710	6,453
Municipal charge	737	709
Waste management charge	874	853
Revenue in lieu of rates	29	-
<b>Total rates and charges</b>	<b>8,350</b>	<b>8,015</b>

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was January 2018, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July, 2018.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

## 2.2 Statutory fees and fines

Animal registration fees	71	66
Building fees	50	42
Infringements and costs	31	15
Town planning fees	28	28
<b>Total statutory fees and fines</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>151</b>

Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

## 2.3 User fees

Aged and health services	288	326
Private works	53	54
Caravan parks & camping fees	302	151
Transfer station fees	55	51
Commercial garbage collection fees	40	43
Film screenings and hall hire	32	42
Other fees and charges	86	77
<b>Total user fees</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>744</b>

User fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or council has otherwise earned the income.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>2.4 Funding from other levels of government</b>		
Grants were received in respect of the following :		
<b>Summary of grants</b>		
Commonwealth funded grants	6,409	8,326
State funded grants	1,009	3,007
<b>Total grants received</b>	<b>7,418</b>	<b>11,333</b>
<b>(a) Operating Grants</b>		
<b>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</b>		
Financial Assistance Grants	4,410	6,147
General home care	480	432
<b>Recurrent - State Government</b>		
Delivered meals	1	1
Home care services	82	131
Home maintenance	6	8
Senior citizens	19	17
School crossing supervisors	7	5
Libraries	104	102
Volunteer Week	-	6
Youth participation program	39	24
Roadside weeds and pest management	124	74
Other	21	25
<b>Total recurrent operating grants</b>	<b>5,293</b>	<b>6,972</b>
<b>Non-recurrent - State Government</b>		
Karen community capacity building & migration project	70	90
Community Safety Fund	10	4
Walk to school	11	10
Youth participation program	3	26
Mosquito management	2	22
Other	14	16
Facilitated Playgroup	41	-
Disaster Recovery	71	-
<b>Total non-recurrent operating grants</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Total operating grants</b>	<b>5,515</b>	<b>7,140</b>

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>(b) Capital Grants</b>		
<b><i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i></b>		
Roads to recovery	1,519	1,747
<b>Total recurrent capital grants</b>	<u>1,519</u>	<u>1,747</u>
<b><i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i></b>		
Nhill early years centre	22	780
Dimboola civic precinct	100	510
Dimboola caravan park	-	320
Disaster recovery	-	382
Menzies square redevelopment	-	16
Rainbow recreation reserve changerooms	-	180
Recreational fishing	10	14
Skate parks	90	180
Other	11	63
Public safety infrastructure	19	-
Building or regions	75	-
Stronger communities walking track	20	-
National Livestock Identification Scheme	19	-
Variable Message Sign	18	-
<b>Total non-recurrent capital grants</b>	<u>384</u>	<u>2,445</u>
<b>Total capital grants</b>	<u><u>1,903</u></u>	<u><u>4,192</u></u>
<b>(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner</b>		
Balance at start of year	1,125	626
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	321	820
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	443	321
Balance at year end	<u>1,003</u>	<u>1,125</u>

Grant income is recognised when Council obtains control of the contribution. Control is normally obtained upon receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>2.5 Contributions</b>		
Monetary	41	127
<b>Total contributions</b>	<u>41</u>	<u>127</u>

Monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

**2.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment**

Proceeds of sale	213	92
Written down value of assets disposed	(166)	(128)
<b>Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment</b>	<u>47</u>	<u>(36)</u>

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

**2.7 Other income**

Plant operations	596	620
Quarry operations	386	397
Interest	167	216
Recoupments	53	78
Fire services levy administration	41	40
Scrap metal and transfer station sales	26	21
Vicroads agency administration	3	2
Other	1	1
<b>Total other income</b>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>1,375</u>

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 3 The cost of delivering services</b>		
<b>3.1 Employee costs</b>		
Wages and salaries	4,981	4,830
WorkCover	159	114
Annual leave, sick leave and long service leave	616	411
Superannuation	556	540
Fringe benefits tax	87	83
Training	129	134
Other	31	38
<b>Total employee costs</b>	<b>6,559</b>	<b>6,150</b>

**(b) Superannuation**

Council made contributions to the following funds:

**Defined benefit fund**

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	74	129
	<b>74</b>	<b>129</b>
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	nil	nil

**Accumulation funds**

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	254	194
Employer contributions - other funds	228	216
	<b>482</b>	<b>410</b>
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	nil	nil

Refer to note 8.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

**3.2 Materials and services**

Contract payments	216	257
Building maintenance	100	180
Bushfire, drought and flood recovery expenditure	-	40
Depots and workshops	45	46
Electoral services	-	82
Emergency assistance and fire prevention	13	23
Health promotion	8	93
Home and community care	104	94
Community development, tourism and youth activities	254	202
Garbage and recycling collection and waste disposal	452	435
Utilities	316	258
Office administration	47	48
Information technology	310	258
Parks, reserves and aerodromes	104	99
Plant and fleet operations	951	821
Printing stationery and advertising	33	36
Quarry operations	240	225
Rating and valuation	74	75
Roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage management	665	443
Swimming pool maintenance and management	316	270
Town beautification	18	16
Consultants and labour hire	134	190
Other	163	191
<b>Total materials and services</b>	<b>4,563</b>	<b>4,382</b>

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>3.3 Depreciation</b>		
Property	424	363
Plant and equipment	794	766
Infrastructure	3,618	4,160
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>4,836</b>	<b>5,289</b>

Refer to note 5.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges.

### 3.4 Bad and doubtful debts

#### Movement in provisions for doubtful debts

Balance at the beginning of the year	17	17
New Provisions recognised during the year	-	-
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectible	-	-
Amounts provided for but recovered during the year	-	-
Balance at end of year	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>

Provision for doubtful debt is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has occurred. Bad debts are written off when identified.

### 3.5 Other expenses

Advertising	41	26
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	43	45
Auditors' remuneration - Internal	-	17
Bank charges	31	29
Community action grants	20	29
Council contributions - other	28	25
Councillors' allowances	174	164
Fire services levy	23	23
Hindmarsh landcare network contribution	-	10
Insurance	256	232
Kindergartens	87	22
Landfill charges	238	226
Legal costs	-	3
Postage	23	23
Regional library contribution	259	254
State emergency service contribution	-	12
Subscriptions	88	82
Telecommunications	24	69
Town committees	30	33
Others	(20)	17
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>1,341</b>



	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 4 Our financial position</b>		
<b>4.1 Financial assets</b>		
<b>(a) Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Cash at bank	7,228	5,694
Term deposits	4,000	4,000
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>11,228</b>	<b>9,694</b>

**Intended allocations**

Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:

- Cash held to fund carried forward capital works	1,788	723
- Grants unspent	1,003	820
Total funds subject to intended allocations	<b>2,791</b>	<b>1,543</b>

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>(b) Trade and other receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	445	528
Building permit debtors	7	6
Infringement debtors	73	52
GST receivable	97	149
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Other debtors	31	54
Sundry debtors	65	59
Street scheme debtors	2	7
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors	(16)	(16)
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>704</u>	<u>839</u>
<b>Non-current</b>		
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Street scheme debtors	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total non-current trade and other receivables	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>Total trade and other receivables</b>	<u><b>706</b></u>	<u><b>841</b></u>

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

**(a) Ageing of Receivables**

The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

Current (not yet due)	65	39
Past due by up to 30 days	8	2
Past due between 31 and 180 days	-	25
Past due between 181 and 365 days	3	8
Past due by more than 1 year	29	32
Total trade & other receivables	<u>105</u>	<u>106</u>

**(b) Ageing of individually impaired Receivables**

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$16,649 (2017: \$16,649) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$16,649 (2017: \$16,649). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.

The ageing of receivables that have been individually determined as impaired at reporting date was:

Current (not yet due)	-	-
Past due by up to 30 days	-	-
Past due between 31 and 180 days	-	-
Past due between 181 and 365 days	-	-
Past due by more than 1 year	16	16
Total trade & other receivables	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>

4.2 Non-financial assets	2018	2017
(a) Inventories	\$'000	\$'000
Inventories held for distribution	292	201
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>201</b>

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

**(b) Other assets**

Prepayments	64	9
Accrued income	1	65
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>74</b>

**4.3 Payables**

**(a) Trade and other payables**

Trade payables	666	749
Accrued expenses	319	308
<b>Total trade and other payables</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>1,057</b>

**(b) Trust funds and deposits**

Refundable deposits	12	12
Fire services levy	170	-
<b>Total trust funds and deposits</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>12</b>

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of forfeit.

*Purpose and nature of items*

Refundable deposits - Deposits are taken by council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to building works, tender deposits, contract deposits and the use of civic facilities.

Fire Service Levy - Council is the collection agent for fire services levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the state government in line with that process.

4.4 Provisions

	Employee	Landfill	Other	Total
	\$ '000	restoration \$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
<b>2018</b>				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,668	21	145	1,834
Additional provisions	623	-	-	623
Amounts used	(522)	-	-	(522)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<b>1,769</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>1,935</b>
<b>2017</b>				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,691	21	134	1,846
Additional provisions	373	-	11	384
Amounts used	(396)	-	-	(396)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<b>1,668</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>1,834</b>

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>(a) Employee provisions</b>		
<b>Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months</b>		
Annual leave and rostered day off	561	531
Long service leave	102	93
	<u>663</u>	<u>624</u>
<b>Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months</b>		
Annual leave	93	58
Long service leave	861	795
	<u>954</u>	<u>853</u>
Total current employee provisions	<u>1,617</u>	<u>1,477</u>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Long service leave	152	191
Annual leave	-	-
Total non-current employee provisions	<u>152</u>	<u>191</u>
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	1,617	1,477
Non-current	152	191
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	<u>1,769</u>	<u>1,668</u>

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

*Wages and salaries and annual leave*

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

*Long service leave*

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. LSL is measured at present value. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability.

Key assumptions:

- average discount rate	2.327%	2.224%
- inflation rate	3.875%	3.813%

**(b) Landfill restoration**

Current	21	21
Non-current	-	-
	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>

Key assumptions:

- estimated cost to rehabilitate	21	21
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Council is obligated to restore a number of landfill and quarry sites to a particular standard. The forecast life of the site is based on current estimates of remaining capacity and the forecast rate of infill. The provision for landfill restoration has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to reinstate the site to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

**(c) Quarry restoration**

Current	44	44
Non-current	101	101
	<u>145</u>	<u>145</u>

Key assumptions:

- estimated cost to rehabilitate	145	145
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**4.5 Financing arrangements**

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2018.

Credit card facilities	30	30
Total facilities	30	30
Used facilities	23	20
Unused facilities	7	10

**4.6 Commitments**

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
2018	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Operating</b>					
Building services	158	162	-	-	320
Kerbside recycling collection	260	260	260	-	780
Kerbside waste collection	197	197	197	-	591
Transport waste and recycling to Dooen	62	62	62	-	186
Swimming pool management	266	-	-	-	266
Meals for delivery	91	59	-	-	150
Internal audit services	49	49	98	-	196
Total	1,083	789	617	-	2,489

	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
2017	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Operating</b>					
Building services	25	-	-	-	25
Kerbside recycling collection	162	166	340	-	668
Kerbside waste collection	263	270	554	-	1,087
Transport waste and recycling to Dooen	55	57	116	-	228
Swimming pool management	249	254	-	-	503
Meals for delivery	23	-	-	-	23
Total	777	747	1,010	-	2,534



5.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	At Fair Value 30 June 2017	Additions	Revaluation	Depreciation	Disposal	Transfers	At Fair Value 30 June 2018
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	2,370	-	-	-	-	-	2,370
Buildings	21,477	33	-	(424)	(18)	520	21,588
Plant and equipment	5,483	694	-	(794)	(103)	37	5,317
Infrastructure	125,091	3,486	(760)	(3,618)	-	609	124,808
Work in progress	3,960	324	-	-	-	(1,166)	3,118
	158,381	4,537	(760)	(4,836)	(121)	-	157,201

Summary of Work in Progress

	Opening WIP	Additions	Transfers	Closing WIP
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Buildings	2,946	238	(520)	2,664
Plant and equipment	37	3	(37)	3
Infrastructure	978	82	(609)	451
Total	3,961	323	(1,166)	3,118

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods

	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit \$'000
Land & land improvements		
land	-	1
Buildings		
buildings	30 - 100 years	1
Plant and Equipment		
plant, machinery and equipment	2 - 20 years	1
fixtures, fittings and furniture	2 - 50 years	1
Infrastructure		
roads - unsealed pavements	15 - 40 years	1
roads - sealed surface	15 - 40 years	1
roads - sealed road pavements	70 - 110 years	1
roads - substructure	100 years	1
roads - kerb, channel and minor culverts and other	60 - 100 years	1
bridges	70 - 120 years	1
footpaths and cycleways	15 - 80 years	1
drainage	80 - 120 years	1
other infrastructure	5 - 100 years	1

(a) Property

	Land - specialised	Total Land & Land Improvements	Heritage buildings	Buildings - specialised	Total Buildings	Work In Progress	Total Property
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2017	2,370	2,370	215	24,494	24,709	2,946	30,025
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2017	-	-	(31)	(3,200)	(3,231)	-	(3,231)
	2,370	2,370	184	21,294	21,478	2,946	26,794
<b>Movements in fair value</b>							
Additions	-	-	-	33	33	238	271
Disposal	-	-	-	(18)	(18)	-	(18)
Transfers	-	-	-	520	520	(520)	-
	-	-	-	535	535	(282)	253
<b>Movements in accumulated depreciation</b>							
Depreciation	-	-	(9)	(415)	(424)	-	(424)
	-	-	(9)	(415)	(424)	-	(424)
At fair value 30 June 2018	2,370	2,370	215	25,029	25,244	2,664	30,278
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2018	-	-	(40)	(3,615)	(3,655)	-	(3,655)
	2,370	2,370	175	21,414	21,589	2,664	26,623

(b) Plant and Equipment

	Plant machinery and equipment	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Work in Progress	Total plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2017	9,404	993	37	10,434
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2017	(4,177)	(737)	-	(4,914)
	5,227	256	37	5,520
<b>Movements in fair value</b>				
Additions	598	96	3	697
Disposal	(457)	-	-	(457)
Transfers	-	37	(37)	-
	141	133	(34)	240
<b>Movements in accumulated depreciation</b>				
Depreciation	(700)	(94)	-	(794)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	354	-	-	354
	(346)	(94)	-	(440)
At fair value 30 June 2018	9,545	1,126	3	10,674
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2018	(4,523)	(831)	-	(5,354)
	5,022	295	3	5,320

(c) Infrastructure

	Roads	Bridges	Footpaths and cycleways	Drainage	Kerb & Channel	Other Infrastructure	Work In Progress	Total Infrastructure
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2017	120,281	6,546	6,475	6,220	18,802	9,883	978	169,185
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2017	(30,482)	(873)	(3,168)	(1,996)	(4,219)	(2,378)	-	(43,116)
	89,799	5,673	3,307	4,224	14,583	7,505	978	126,069
<b>Movements in fair value</b>								
Additions	2,339	-	223	75	217	632	82	3,568
Revaluation	-	523	-	-	-	-	-	523
Transfers	140	-	-	-	-	469	(609)	-
	2,479	523	223	75	217	1,101	(527)	4,091
<b>Movements in accumulated depreciation</b>								
Depreciation	(2,664)	(70)	(157)	(78)	(236)	(413)	-	(3,618)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result by reduction of the asset revaluation reserve	-	(1,283)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,283)
	(2,664)	(1,353)	(157)	(78)	(236)	(413)	-	(4,901)
At fair value 30 June 2018	122,760	7,069	6,698	6,295	19,019	10,984	451	173,276
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2018	(33,146)	(2,226)	(3,325)	(2,074)	(4,455)	(2,791)	-	(48,017)
	<b>89,614</b>	<b>4,843</b>	<b>3,373</b>	<b>4,221</b>	<b>14,564</b>	<b>8,193</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>125,259</b>

*Acquisition*

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

*Land under roads*

Council recognises land under roads it controls, acquired after 1 July 2008, at fair value.

*Depreciation and amortisation*

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed previously and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

*Finance leases*

Leases of assets where substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset are transferred to the Council are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised, recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the fair value of the asset and the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual value. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the interest expense. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives to the Council where it is likely that the Council will obtain ownership of the asset or over the term of the lease, whichever is the shorter. At balance date Council has no finance leases.

*Repairs and maintenance*

Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

*Leasehold improvements*

Leasehold improvements are recognised at cost and are amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvement, whichever is the shorter. At balance date Council has no leasehold improvements.

**Valuation of land and buildings**

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer, certified practicing valuer AAPI Registration 63163 from Preston Rowe Patterson Horsham & Wimmera Pty Ltd. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. A full revaluation of these assets will be conducted in 2018/19.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2018 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Date of Valuation
Land	-	2,370	-	Jun-15
Specialised land	-	-	-	Jun-15
Land Improvements	-	-	-	Jun-15
Heritage Buildings	-	-	197	Jun-15
Buildings	-	-	21,409	Jun-15
Building improvements	-	-	-	Jun-15
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>2,370</b>	<b>21,606</b>	

**Valuation of infrastructure**

Valuation of road and kerb and channel assets has been determined in accordance with an independent valuation undertaken by Talis Consultants Pty Ltd. An independent valuation of bridges has been undertaken, by Pitt & Sherry. The valuation of all other infrastructure assets has been determined by Mr Shane Power, Director of Infrastructure Services.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

The valuation is at fair value based on replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2018 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Date of Valuation
Roads	-	-	89,613	Jun-17
Bridges	-	-	4,841	Jun-18
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	3,373	Jun-18
Drainage	-	-	4,221	Jun-18
Kerb & Channel	-	-	14,565	Jun-17
Other infrastructure	-	-	8,193	Jun-18
Total	-	-	124,806	

**Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations**

**Specialised buildings** are valued using a depreciated replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs is calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$300 to \$2,600 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 5 years to 75 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

**Infrastructure assets** are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 10 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.



	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>5.2 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries</b>		
<b>(a) Investments in associates</b>		
Investments in associates accounted for by the equity method are:		
- Wimmera Regional Library Corporation	378	386
- Wimmera Development Association	102	65
<b>Wimmera Regional Library Corporation</b>		
<i>Background</i>		
Hindmarsh Shire Council, in conjunction with Horsham Rural City Council, Buloke Shire Council, Northern Grampians Shire Council, West Wimmera Shire Council and Yarriambiack Shire Council, have an interest in the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation		
Hindmarsh Shire has a 13.16% interest in equity (13.19% in 2016/17)		
<b>Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Regional Library Corporation</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>386</b>
<b>Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</b>		
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at start of year	159	172
Change in equity share apportionment	-	13
Reported surplus(deficit) for year	(8)	(25)
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	(1)
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at end of year	151	159
<b>Council's share of reserves</b>		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	227	208
Change in equity share apportionment	(1)	18
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	1
Council's share of reserves at end of year	226	227
<b>Movement in carrying value of specific investment</b>		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	387	385
Change in equity share apportionment	-	27
Share of surplus(deficit) for year	(9)	(25)
Carrying value of investment at end of year	<b>378</b>	<b>387</b>
<b>Wimmera Development Association</b>		
<i>Background</i>		
Hindmarsh Shire Council, in conjunction with Horsham Rural City Council, Northern Grampians Shire Council, West Wimmera Shire Council and Yarriambiack Shire Council, have an interest in the Wimmera Development Association		
Hindmarsh Shire has a 10.34% interest in equity (10.34% in 2016/17)		
<b>Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Development Association</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</b>		
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at start of year	41	34
Change in equity share apportionment	-	(2)
Reported surplus(deficit) for year	37	16
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	(7)
Council's share of accumulated surplus(deficit) at end of year	78	41
<b>Council's share of reserves</b>		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	23	14
Change in equity share apportionment	1	2
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	7
Council's share of reserves at end of year	24	23
<b>Movement in carrying value of specific investment</b>		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	64	48
Share of surplus(deficit) for year	38	16
Carrying value of investment at end of year	<b>102</b>	<b>64</b>

Associates are all entities over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Investments in associates are

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
<b>Note 6 People and relationships</b>		
<b>6.1 Council and key management remuneration</b>		
<b>(a) Related Parties</b>		
<i>Parent entity</i>		
Hindmarsh Shire Council is the parent entity.		
<i>Subsidiaries and Associates</i>		
Interests in subsidiaries and associates are detailed in Note 5.2.		
<b>(b) Key Management Personnel</b>		
Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of key management personnel at any time during the year are:		
<b>Councillors</b>		
Councillor D.Nelson (Mayor July-October 2017)		
Councillor R.Ismay (Mayor November-June 2018)		
Councillor R.Lowe (Deputy Mayor)		
Councillor R. Gersch		
Councillor T.Schneider		
Councillor D.Colbert		
<b>Total Number of Councillors</b>	6	7
<b>Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel</b>	4	3
<b>Total Key Management Personnel</b>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
<b>(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel</b>	<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>\$ '000</b>
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	716	625
Long-term benefits	-	14
Termination benefits	22	-
Total	<u>738</u>	<u>639</u>
The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:		
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
\$1 - \$9,999	-	1
\$10,000 - \$19,999	-	1
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	1	-
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	-
\$60,000 - \$69,999	-	1
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	-
\$130,000 - \$139,999	1	-
\$140,000 - \$149,999	-	-
\$150,000 - \$159,999	1	2
\$160,000 - \$169,999	-	1
\$170,000 - \$199,999	-	-
\$200,000 - \$229,999	-	-
\$230,000 - \$239,999	1	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

**6.2 Related party disclosure**

**(a) Transactions with related parties**

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties.

*Council entered into purchases of materials and services on normal commercial terms and arrangements with the following businesses:*

*T. Ismay & Co (a related party to Cr R. Ismay) - \$4,052 during the 2017/18 financial year (\$6,624 in 2016/17).*

*Jim's Butchery (a related party to Cr R. Gersch) - \$1,369 during the 2017/18 financial year (\$781 in 2016/17).*

**(b) Outstanding balances with related parties**

The following balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties

*There are no outstanding balances with related parties at 30 June 2018.*

**Note 7 Managing uncertainties**

**7.1 Contingent assets and liabilities**

**Operating lease receivables**

Council receives lease payments for telephone towers, small sections of land, and rooms within Council owned buildings. The receivable is incidental to the purpose for holding the property. The lease terms are between 1 and 10 years and include a CPI based revision annually.

Future minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	55	60
Later than one year and not later than five years	130	171
Later than five years	113	95
	298	326

**(b) Contingent liabilities**

**Superannuation**

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

*Future superannuation contributions*

In addition to the disclosed contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 during the 2017/18 year (2016/17 \$0 paid). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2018. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2019 are \$71,000.

**(c) Guarantees for loans to other entities**

Council holds financial guarantees totalling \$131,000 held with the National Australia Bank on behalf of the Minister for Energy and resources for the purpose of ensuring quarry sites are restored to an environmentally satisfactory condition. If Council fail to meet the conditions of these The amount disclosed for financial guarantee in this note is the nominal amount of the underlying loan that is guaranteed by the Council, not the fair value of the financial guarantee.

**7.2 Change in accounting standards**

The following new AAS's have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2018 reporting period. Council has assessed these pending standards and has identified the following potential impacts will flow from the application of these standards in future reporting periods.

*Financial Instruments - Disclosures (AASB 7) (applies 2018/19)*

This Standard requires entities to provide disclosures in their financial statements that enable users to evaluate: (a) the significance of financial instruments for the entity's financial position and performance; and (b) the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments to which the entity is exposed.

*Financial Instruments (AASB 9) (applies 2018/19)*

The key changes include the simplified requirements for the classification and measurement of financial assets, a new hedging accounting model and a revised impairment loss model to recognise impairment losses earlier, as opposed to the current approach that recognises impairment only when incurred.

*Revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15) (applies 2019/20 for LG sector)*

The standard shifts the focus from the transaction-level to a contract-based approach. Recognition is determined based on what the customer expects to be entitled to (rights and obligations), while measurement encompasses estimation by the entity of the amount expected to be entitled for performing under the contract. The full impact of this standard is not known however it is most likely to impact where contracts extend over time, where there are rights and obligations that may vary the timing or amount of the consideration, or where there are multiple performance elements. This has the potential to impact on the recognition of certain grant income.

*Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Deferral of AASB 15 for Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 2016-7) (applies 2019/20)*

This Standard defers the mandatory effective date of AASB 15 for not-for-profit entities from 1 January 2018 to 1 January 2019.

*Leases (AASB 16) (applies 2019/20)*

The classification of leases as either finance leases or operating leases is eliminated for lessees. Leases will be recognised in the Balance Sheet by capitalising the present value of the minimum lease payments and showing a 'right-of-use' asset, while future lease payments will be recognised as a financial liability. The nature of the expense recognised in the profit or loss will change. Rather than being shown as rent, or as leasing costs, it will be recognised as depreciation on the 'right-of-use' asset, and an interest charge on the lease liability. The interest charge will be calculated using the effective interest method, which will result in a gradual reduction of interest expense over the lease term.

*Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) (applies 2019/20)*

This standard replaces AASB 1004 Contributions and establishes revenue recognition principles for transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than fair value to enable to not-for-profit entity to further its objectives.

### 7.3 Financial instruments

#### (a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank borrowings. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the Notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

#### (b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of council financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

#### *Interest rate risk*

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 1989*. Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment; and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

#### (c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. To help manage this risk:

- council have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities Council deal with;
- council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- council only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in council's investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 7.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

**(d) Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of council's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 7.1(c), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

**(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis**

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of +2.0% and -1.0% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 2.4%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

**7.4 Fair value measurement**

*Fair value hierarchy*

Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 Fair value measurement, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

*Revaluation*

Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 3 to 4 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

*Impairment of assets*

At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

**7.5 Events occurring after balance date**

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

**Note 8 Other matters**

<b>8.1 Reserves</b>	<b>Balance at beginning of reporting period</b>	<b>Increment (decrement)</b>	<b>Balance at end of reporting period</b>
<b>(a) Asset revaluation reserves</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>2018</b>			
<b>Property</b>			
Land & land improvements	1,639	-	1,639
Buildings	9,827	-	9,827
	<u>11,466</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,466</u>
<b>Infrastructure</b>			
Roads	86,443	-	86,443
Bridges	978	(760)	218
Footpaths and cycleways	1,479	-	1,479
Drainage	2,416	-	2,416
Other infrastructure	602	-	602
Share of Asset Revaluation in Associates	28	-	28
	<u>91,946</u>	<u>(760)</u>	<u>91,186</u>
<b>Total asset revaluation reserves</b>	<b><u>103,412</u></b>	<b><u>(760)</u></b>	<b><u>102,652</u></b>
<b>2017</b>			
<b>Property</b>			
Land & land improvements	1,639	-	1,639
Buildings	9,827	-	9,827
	<u>11,466</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,466</u>
<b>Infrastructure</b>			
Roads	41,580	44,863	86,443
Bridges	978	-	978
Footpaths and cycleways	1,479	-	1,479
Drainage	2,416	-	2,416
Other infrastructure	602	-	602
Share of Asset Revaluation in Associates	28	-	28
	<u>47,083</u>	<u>44,863</u>	<u>91,946</u>
<b>Total asset revaluation reserves</b>	<b><u>58,549</u></b>	<b><u>44,863</u></b>	<b><u>103,412</u></b>

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.



	2018	2017
8.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)	\$'000	\$'000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	891	4,538
Depreciation/amortisation	4,836	5,288
Profit on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(48)	36
Other	(28)	9
<i>Change in assets and liabilities:</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	135	179
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(56)	(20)
Increase/(decrease) in accrued income	65	-
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(83)	(14)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(91)	(5)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	100	(11)
Increase/(Decrease) in trust funds and deposits	170	5
Increase/(Decrease) in accrued expenses	11	(41)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<b>5,902</b>	<b>9,964</b>

### 8.3 Superannuation

Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

#### Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation categories, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2018, this was 9.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation).

#### Defined Benefit

Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan.

There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

#### Funding arrangements

Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary.

As at 30 June 2017, a full triennial actuarial investigation was completed. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 103.1%. To determine the VBI, the Fund Actuary used the following long-term assumptions:

Net investment returns 6.5% pa  
Salary information 3.5% pa  
Price inflation (CPI) 2.5% pa.

Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at 30 June 2018 was 106.0%.

The VBI is to be used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

**Employer contributions**

**Regular contributions**

On the basis of the results of the 2017 triennial actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2018, this rate was 9.5% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2016/2017). This rate will increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate. In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

**Funding calls**

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall. Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up. If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers. In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

**2017 triennial actuarial investigation surplus amounts**

The Fund's triennial investigation as at 30 June 2017 identified the following in the defined benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

- A VBI surplus of \$69.8 million
- A total service liability surplus of \$193.5 million.
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus of \$228.8 million.

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed

**2018 interim actuarial investigation**

An interim actuarial investigation will be conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2018. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed in December 2018.

