



Hindmarsh
Shire Council

ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022

Acknowledgement of Country

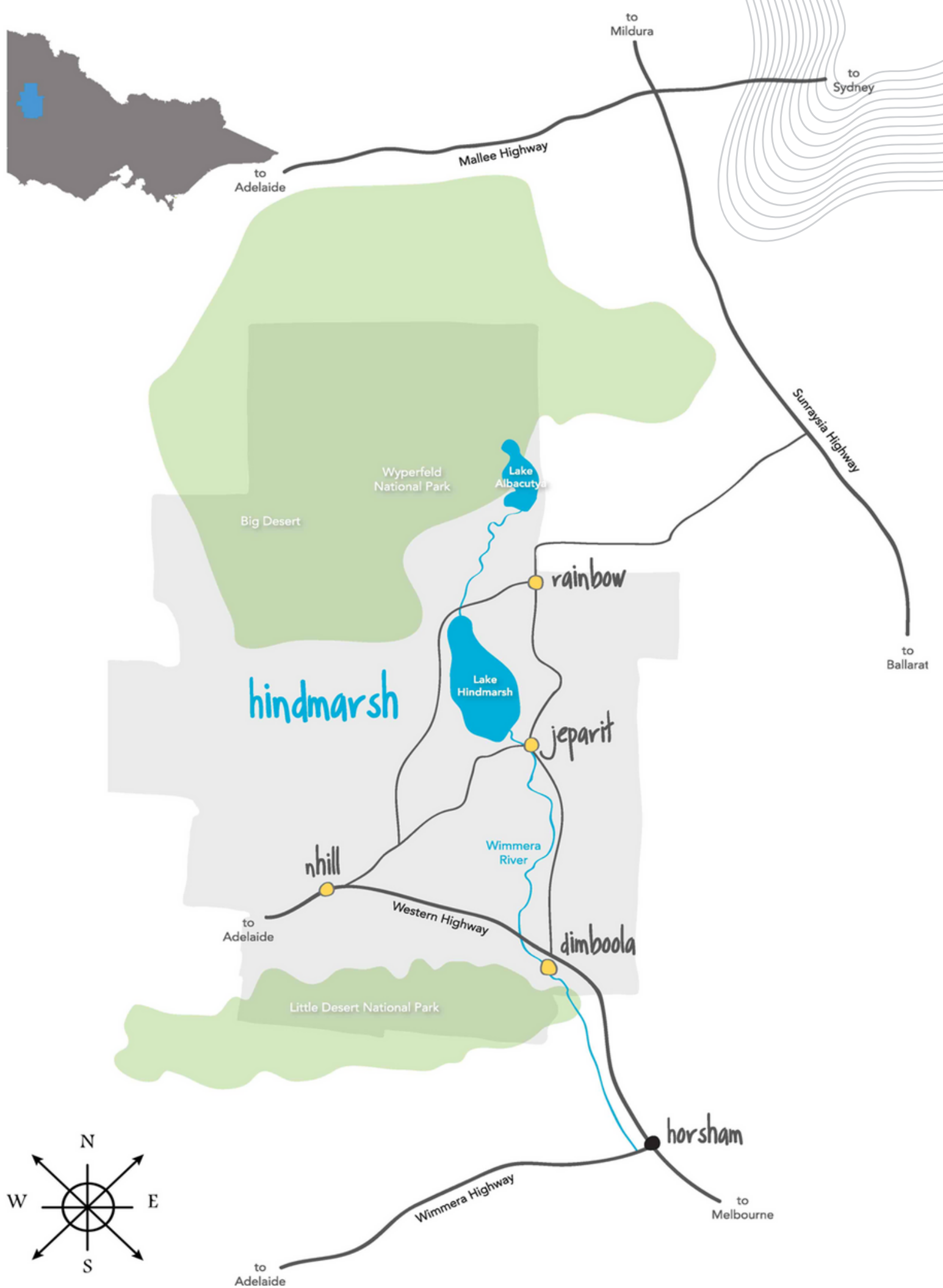


Hindmarsh Shire Council
acknowledges the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa,
Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk
Nations as Traditional Owners of
Country.

We recognise the important ongoing
role that Indigenous people have in our
community and pay our respects to
their Elders, past and present.

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Introduction

Welcome to the 2021/22 Report of Operations

The *Victorian Local Government Act 2020* requires all Councils to prepare an Annual Report and present the report at a public Council meeting within four months of the end of the financial year.

Council's Annual Report details the achievements and performance of Hindmarsh Shire Council during the 2021/2022 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 km². 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 approximately 5,698 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. The economy is largely dependent on agriculture (primary and secondary), health services, manufacturing and retail.

The median average weekly household income is \$1,159 with the median monthly mortgage repayments being \$750 and median rent \$180 per week. 50.1% of the populations are Male and 49.9% are female. 82.6% of people were born in Australia, with English the only language spoken in 86.0% of homes.

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 213 people speaking Karen language at 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 and 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 and supported.
 - To realise the excellence in our people, processes and systems.

OUR VALUES

Respect | Integrity | Leadership
Surpassing Expectations | Enthusiasm

At the heart of our values is our commitment to our community.

Our values help build our culture and guide us in all our decisions, actions and interactions.

Facts and Figures

Planning and Development:

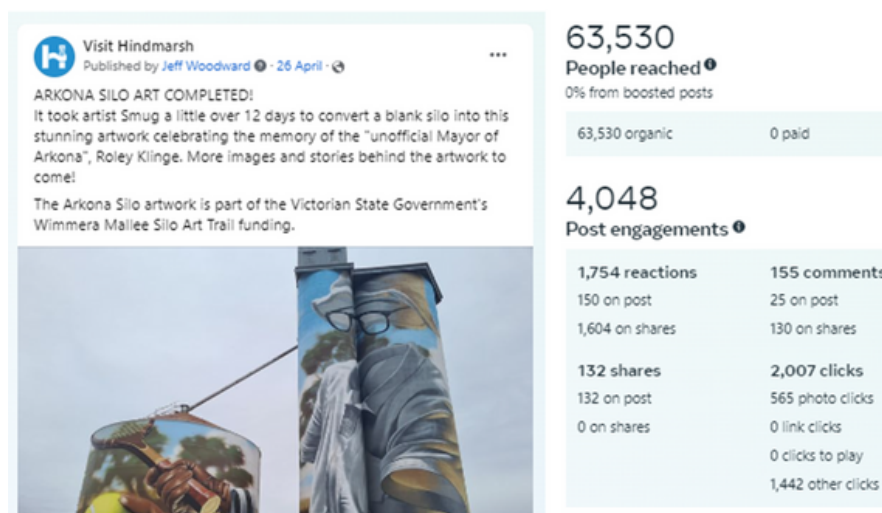
- 62 decisions were made over the 2021/2022 year.
- 57 new planning applications were received over the same period.

Some of the type of approvals are listed below:

No	Type of Approval
8	Development of sheds in the Farming Zone
6	Liquor Licences
6	Rural Subdivisions
5	Urban Subdivision & development of dwellings
3	Urban Subdivision
4	Place of Assembly – For events
4	Use and Development of dwellings in the Farming Zone
3	Development of sheds in the General Residential Zone
2	Replacement signage (re-branding)
2	External painting in a Heritage Overlay

Other applications sought approval for:

- Use and development of land for harvesting salt
- Change of Use to an Informal Outdoor Recreation area
- Use and development of an Emergency Services Facility (Dimboola CFA)



Tourism and Social Media:

When Albacutya silo was first painted it was attracting an average of 20 vehicles per day.

Facebook posts about Arkona Silo Art posted in April-May 2022 have reach 178,140 people! With one post alone (featuring the completed artwork) reaching 63,530!

Facts and Figures

Library Fun Facts:

- Hindmarsh Shire Libraries have 14,987 items on their shelves – you're sure to find something you're looking for!
- So far this year we have lent 856 items from our collections.
- Borrowers have placed more than 300 holds on items from across Victoria.
- Hindmarsh Shire Libraries have entertained 176 children at Story Time by reading over 100 books and singing over 135 songs!



Capital Works:

For the financial year 2021-22:

- 160,904m² – Reseals
- Approximately 8km – Sealed Reconstruction

Transfer Stations:

In the 2021-2022 financial year, 1,682 nett tonnes were delivered to Doon Landfill, 1,271 from kerbside waste bins, 411 tonnes from transfer station skips, and Kerbside Recycling Collection amounted to 390 tonnes.

Council Fortnightly E-Newsletters:

Council started circulating fortnightly e-newsletters in March 2021. In the 2021/22 financial year, Council staff prepared and circulated **25 e-newsletters**. This is on top of the monthly newsletters that Council already prepare each month.



Year in Review

Mayor & CEO's Message



On behalf of Hindmarsh Shire Council it is a great pleasure to present Council's 2021/2022 Annual Report.

During the past twelve months we have worked tirelessly through the constant restrictions and lockdowns as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic while proudly maintaining services to our community.

COVID-19 Pandemic:

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to provide many challenges for our community, businesses and Council alike with continual changes in restrictions and lockdowns.

Council provided support to community members through outreach services including delivering food parcels, delivering quarantine packs for families with children in isolation, and continued outreach support for vulnerable community members.

As we navigate the new normal, we will continue to adapt to the needs of our communities and ensure vulnerable community members feel connected.

Website:

During 2021/2022 Council were excited to release a new easy to navigate website. The new website incorporates both Hindmarsh Shire Council and Visit Hindmarsh on the one platform.

The website has been designed for ease of use by community members, and includes a section on events in Hindmarsh where community groups and organisations can promote upcoming events.

Lobbying:

Following years of lobbying to both the State and Federal Government, it was pleasing that the upgrade of the Albacutya Bridge was completed. The new dual lane bridge replaces the old single lane bridge that was no longer fit for purpose.

Council continued to lobby to the State Government at every opportunity for passenger rail services from Nhill to Ararat. A shuttle service is required to enable Hindmarsh resident's access to the rail service currently running between Ararat and Melbourne.

Lobbying for funding for road upgrades to both Hindmarsh managed roads and VicRoads managed roads, also continues to be a Council priority.

Advocacy also focused on the state of mobile phone coverage across the Shire, and the need to improve low connectivity areas or eliminate black spots.

Council will continue to advocate for increased funding to support small rural shires, both with operational funding and capital projects based on grants commission model.

Community Consultation:

To assist the community to stay in touch with Council, live streaming of Council meetings continued, with community members able to send their questions to Council for answering during the Council meeting and tune in via Council's Facebook Page. A recording of the Council meetings are available on Council's Facebook page and a link to the meetings is also available on the Hindmarsh Shire website.

The new fortnightly e-newsletter remains positively received, providing subscribers with relevant information on Council projects, activities and events, as well as sharing important information from organisations and government. A hard copy monthly newsletter is also available at each of Council's Customer Service Centres and Libraries, and at various businesses across each of the four towns.

Council sought community feedback on a number of proposed plans, policies and projects. Community members were given the opportunity to have their say on Water Fluoridation, B-Double changes to road use, Road Management Plan, Library Satisfaction Survey, Council Plan 2021-2025 and Council Vision 2040, Domestic Animal Management Plan, Long Term Financial Plan 2021-2031, Youth Strategy 2021-2025, Human Rights Policy, Budget 2022/2023, Arkona Silo Art design, Victoria Street Nhill single lane proposal, draft Asset Management Plan and the Council Plan Action Plan 2022/2023.

During March 2022 four community consultation meetings were held throughout the Shire. The meetings were well attended and allowed our community to discuss and put forward ideas and concerns around the Council Plan Action Plan 2022/2023 and Budget 2022/2023. The Nhill consultation session was live-streamed, giving the opportunity to those who could not attend the meetings to contribute to the consultation.

Each month representatives from Council attend the Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow Town Committee meetings. Town Committees provide a link between their respective communities and Council.



Grant Funding:

Grants are an important funding source for Council which was again extremely successful in the amount of grant funding received during the financial year. Grants allow Council to deliver projects big and small to our community that could not be funded from our small budget.

Council received funding through the Victorian Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund Round 2, to assist with the development of the Rainbow Rises Events Centre. Infrastructure improvements will include the construction of all-weather access road for participants and spectators and an all-weather pit and crew area. Other improvements will include the construction of amenities and facilities including toilets, canteens, storage, repair shop space, meetings, de-briefing etc for officials, participants, volunteers and spectators.

Funding was also provided by the Victorian State Government for COVID assistance including funding to support food parcels for isolating community members, funding to further increase outdoor activation throughout the four towns and promotion of the COVID-19 vaccination.



Council was awarded funding through the Living Heritage Grants Program for conservation works to various features at Yurunga. The scope of funded works includes stabilisation of the rear walls, repairs and alterations to drainage, rainwater good and galvanised water tank, repairs to the sub-floor timbers in the school room and laundry, and repainting of the timber fascia and interior walls of the laundry, pantry, kitchen and vestibule.

Council received funding through the Victorian Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund to assist with increasing accommodation capacity in the shire's caravan parks. Funding has enabled two x two bedroom cabins to be installed in Dimboola and one in Nhill and two bedroom all-abilities cabins to be installed in Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow. These cabins will increase visitor accommodation options across the shire.



Funding was received from the Federal Government for Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program. Round two funding was allocated towards Davis Park designs, Rainbow Library Landscaping, Rainbow Lake, Nhill Tennis Clubrooms, Jeparit Swimming Hole Retaining Wall and Decking, and Jeparit Camp Kitchen.

Other grants received during 2021/2022 for small projects to assist with improving our liveability, visitor amenities or supporting events include FReeZA and Engage funding for youth events, Children's week, Australia Day, Nhill Library upgrades, Community Care Services, the Premiers Reading Challenge and reconnecting communities through small events in Hindmarsh Shire.

Council's Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants programs were again successful with Council providing funding to enable 28 community groups and 15 businesses within our Shire.

Events:

Hindmarsh Shire continues to be a great place to live. This is attributable to the many community groups who work tirelessly assisting Council to host events and activities. While COVID-19 restrictions meant the cancellation or postponing of a number of events, Hindmarsh still showcased some amazing events during the year.

Some of the events held in the last 12 months include the Dimboola Ski and Boat Club Barefoot Skiing competition; Wimmera Steampunk Festival; The Oasis Rainbow's Big Sky Festival, Nhill Town Committee's Christmas Carols and Jeparit Town Committee movie night on the weekend of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Vintage Rally.



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

Volunteers:

The contribution of our volunteers is greatly appreciated, and we thank the many volunteers that support our operations around the Shire. They contribute in many ways to make Hindmarsh a great place to live.



Council has 10 Community Asset Management Committees established under the Local Government Act 2020 to manage Council owned community assets. Committees range from Hall Committees to larger assets such as the Yurunga Homestead Committee of Management and the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum.



Council also has 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. The contributions that these committees make to our Shire is significant and Council is very grateful for their support.



Community Satisfaction:

2021/2022 was the first year our community satisfaction survey was undertaken quarterly. It is noted that two of the survey periods were during COVID-19 lockdowns.

Performance Measures	Hindmarsh 2018	Hindmarsh 2019	Hindmarsh 2020	Hindmarsh 2021	Hindmarsh 2022	Small Rural Shires 2022
Overall Performance	60	65	61	61	58	58
Community Consultation (community consultation & engagement)	60	60	59	56	52	54
Advocacy (lobbying on behalf of the community)	62	61	61	59	55	54
Making Community Decisions (decisions made in the interest of the community)	60	61	59	59	55	50
Sealed Local Roads (condition of sealed local roads)	48	54	50	53	55	50
Customer Service	72	70	72	69	69	67
Overall Council Direction	51	53	52	48	48	67

Capital Works:

During 2021/2022 Council undertook the following capital works:

30 Reseal/Final Seals	\$ 807,415.29
10 Resheets	\$ 432,434.36
10 Sealed Reconstructions	\$ 1,785,757.87
4 Footpaths	\$ 147,503.91
1 Shoulder Resheet	\$ 4,715.93
6 Kerb and Channel	\$ 487,183.33
1 Bridge	\$ 3,076,125.87

During 2021/2022 Council's construction team completed a large number of infrastructure projects, including roads, footpaths and kerb and channel works. Some of these projects are listed below.

Major sealed road construction projects completed included Albacutya Rd, Winiam East Rd, Antwerp-Woorak Rd, Kiata North Rd, Tarranyurk West Rd, Woorak-Ni Ni- Lorquon Rd and Netherby Baker Rd. There are also sealed road construction projects that were started including further works on Albacutya Rd and Horsham Service Lane. Several reseals were also undertaken throughout the shire.

The construction team completed several gravel resheets, some include Lorquon Cemetery Road, Arkona Katyil Road, Antwerp-Katyil Road and Propodollah Road. The projects involved installation of new gravel pavement and formation works to maintain all-weather access.

Footpaths were constructed in Wimmera St Dimboola, Queen St Nhill and Hindmarsh St Dimboola. The footpath projects have increased safe pedestrian movement in these locations.

Major drainage projects were undertaken in Scott Street Jeparit, Anderson St Dimboola, Elgin Lane Nhill, and commenced in Park St Nhill. Old kerbing and underground drainage and roadway in some cases were replaced, as well as improving the aesthetics of the street.

The 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 is proud of the extremely skilled and hardworking team of staff members who are committed to the Hindmarsh community. We look forward to delivering a significant number of projects in 2022/2023, continuing to make our community liveable for our residents.

Cr Melanie Albrecht
Mayor

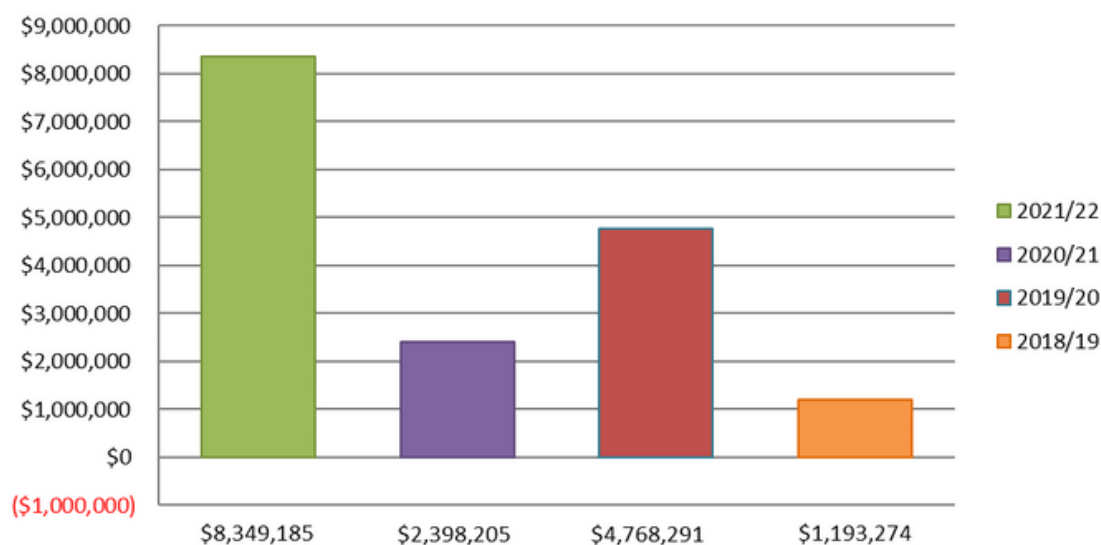
Greg Wood
Chief Executive Officer

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.

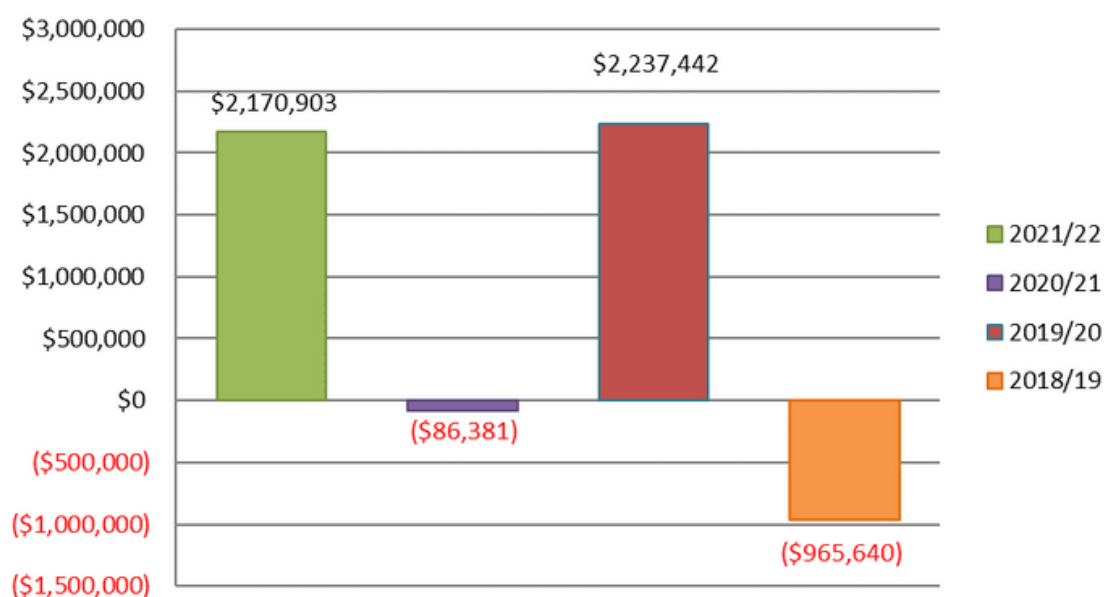
Operating Position:

Council reported a surplus of \$8.35 million in 2021/2022. As per the Comprehensive Income Statement in the Financial Report, the favourable variance is due mainly to the early payment of \$3.836 million from the Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance grants received in April 2022 for the 2022/2023 financial year.



Surplus / (deficit) for the year

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 \$2.17 million.

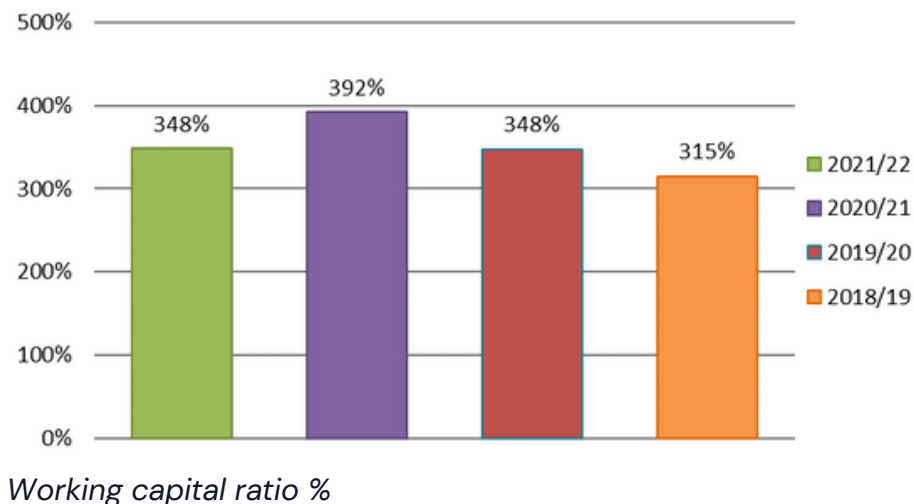


Adjusted Underlying Surplus / (deficit) for the year

Liquidity:

Cash decreased by \$2.339 million from the previous financial year. A significant number of capital works projects that were paid during 2020/2021 were completed during 2021/2022 including the Albacutya Bridge.

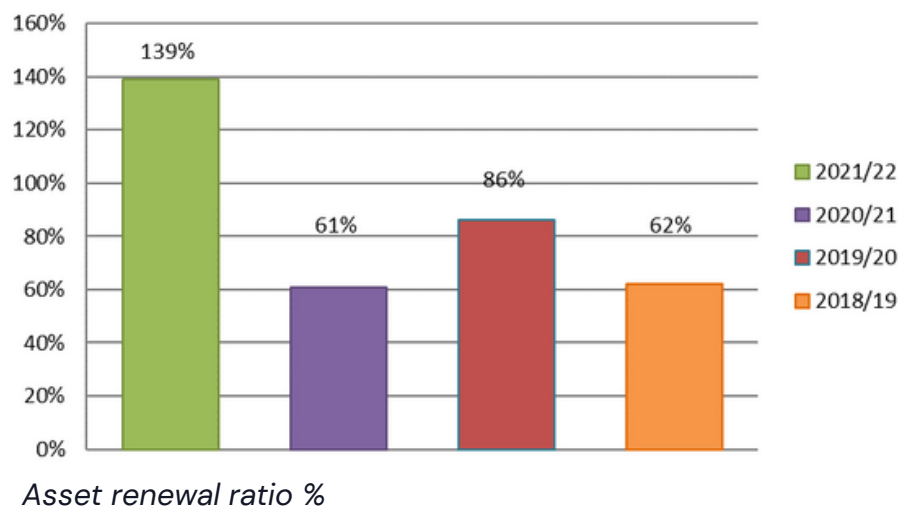
The working capital ratio which assesses Council's ability to meet its current commitments is calculated by measuring Council's current assets as a percentage of current liabilities. Council's result of 348% is an indicator of Council's strong financial position and well within the band of 150% or more for the Victorian Auditor Generals Office (VAGO) assessment as 'low risk'.



Obligations:

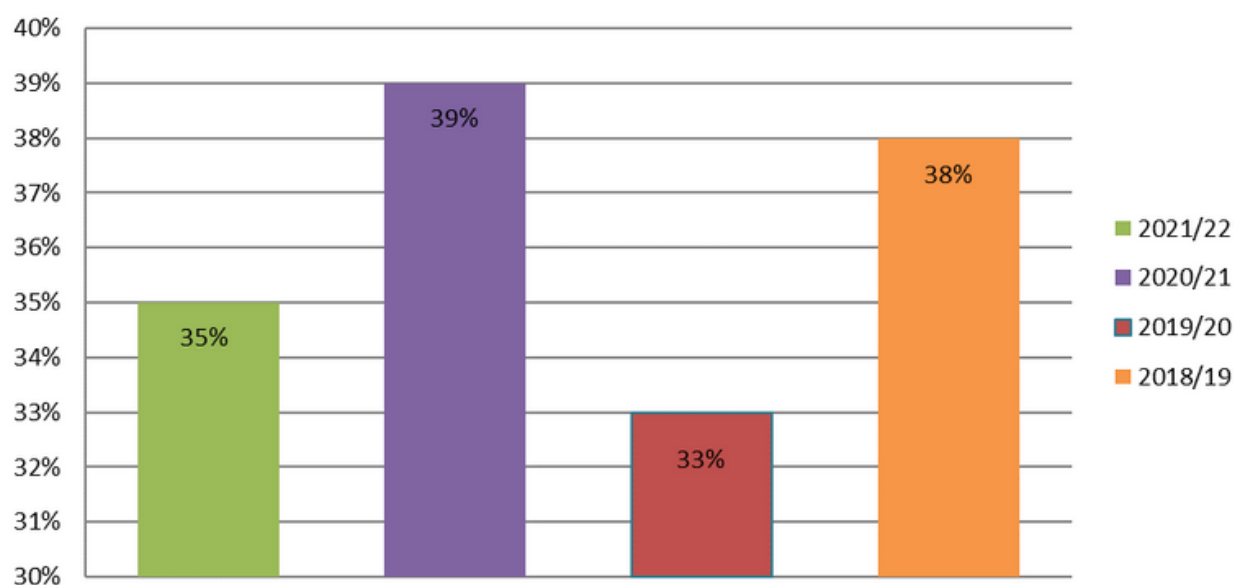
Council aims to ensure that it is able to maintain its infrastructure assets at the expected levels, while at the same time continuing to deliver the services needed by its community.

With land, building and infrastructure assets valued at more than \$150 million, it is a challenge to maintain them with an income of just \$26.57 million. Assets deteriorating faster than their maintenance and renewal can be funded creates an 'infrastructure renewal gap'. To bridge this gap, Council invested \$6.29 million in infrastructure renewal works during the 2021/2022 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 139%. Council's budget is focused on renewal expenditure as a priority and utilises grants for new assets and upgrades to assets.

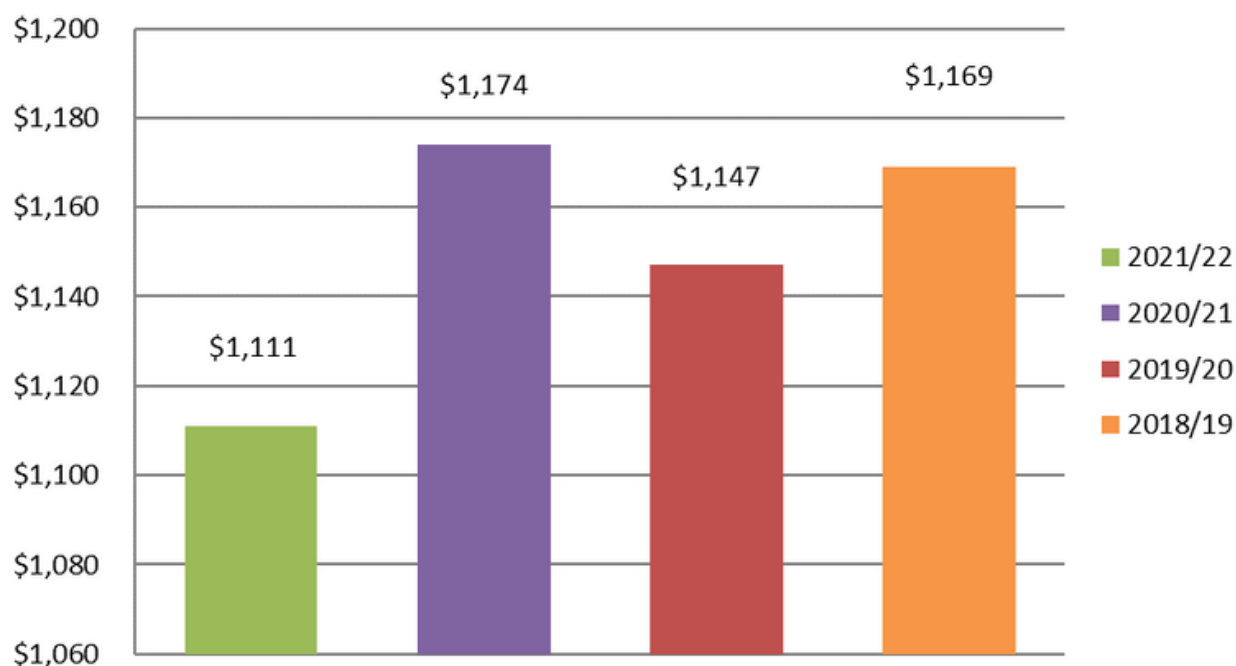


Stability and efficiency:

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 total revenue was 34% for the 2021/2022 year which is below the expected target band of 40% – 80%. Council continues to advocate for additional grants and appreciates the State Government's COVID recovery grants and increase in the Victorian Grants Commission Grant payment, as well as the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grants. Average residential rates per residential assessment for 2021/2022 was \$1,111 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 2021-2025 and the associated budget 2021/2022 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:

Council received significant grants during 2021/2022 to undertake a number of projects including the construction of the new dual lane Albacutya bridge and associated road works. Without funding assistance from both the State and Federal Government's Council would be unable to undertake this high priority project.

Projects underway thanks to grant funding include the Llew Schilling Silo Art project, Rainbow Female Friendly Changerooms, Nhill Tennis Club, Jeparit Camp Kitchen, installation of six new cabins in caravan parks in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow, Rainbow Library construction and Rainbow Library landscaping.

Additional grants have assisted Council to support our community during COVID with funding for activities and events, food parcels, and increased seating for outdoor dining spaces throughout the Shire. Council remains debt free, with a capacity to meet short term unforeseen economic challenges due to managing its financial position prudently.



Major Achievements

During 2021/22 major achievements included:

Wimmera River Discovery Trail:

Council has continued to make progress on the Wimmera River Discovery Trail behind the scenes throughout the year. The development of two Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMP) for the entire length (63km) of the WRDT has been impacted by the COVID pandemic, however one of the CHMP's has been endorsed by Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) and the second is nearing completion for subsequent review and endorsement by BGLC.

Some of the works to be rolled out include:

- Construction of pedestrian bridges to enable the safe crossing of creeks at Dimboola.
- Installation of trail markers / bollards.
- Installation of wayfinding and interpretative signage.
- Installation of traffic management and control devices.
- Improvements to the surface of the trail at various sections.
- Construction of the Jeparit Visitor Node at the Jeparit swimming hole precinct.
- Planning to determine the river crossing at Jeparit is continuing and a separate CHMP being prepared for this section of the river environment.

For more information on the Wimmera River Discovery Trail and to view the masterplan, visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/plans-and-strategies.

Albacutya Bridge Rebuild:

After years of lobbying for funding, the Albacutya Bridge was rebuilt to allow for a dual lane carriage way to support heavy vehicles. The old bridge was demolished in November 2021 following the bridge closing after been deemed unsafe. Construction of the new bridge commenced in February 2022 and was opened to traffic on 23 May 2022.

The project ended up running under budget which allowed Council to extend the road approaches. This project was funded by the State Government, Federal Government and Hindmarsh Shire Council.



New Rainbow Library and Customer Service Centre:

An all-new Rainbow Library and Customer Service Centre was built during 2021/22. Prior to this, Rainbow only had a small Council Customer Service Centre with limited library services. With the new combined space, residents of Rainbow can now visit their local library during business hours to borrow from a variety of books, relax, access free WI-FI and public PC's and much more.

Following the completion of the new Rainbow Library and Customer Service Centre, Council has introduced weekly cuppa connections which allows members of the community to come together each week into a comfortable and welcoming space to chat, have a cuppa and meet new friends.

Council has also installed two new flag poles out the front so that we can now fly the Aboriginal Flag every day, as well as the Rainbow Pride Flag on days of significance.

This project has been made possible by funding from the State Government's Living Libraries program and Hindmarsh Shire Council.



Woorak-Ni Ni-Lorquon Road:

Council reconstructed approximately 3km of Woorak Ni-Ni Lorquon Road (from Ni Ni Well Road to R Lowes Road). This included an upgrade in the sealed width from approximately 4 metres to 8 metres to allow a safer section for all road users, particularly truck drivers. The project was funded by the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant from the Federal Government.

Council continues to lobby for additional funding to reconstruct the remaining sections of Woorak Ni-Ni Lorquon Road.

Anderson Street Dimboola Kerb and Channel Works:

Anderson Street Dimboola was fully reconstructed from Lloyd Street to the western end. The reconstruction included new kerbing, underground drainage and roadway. This project was funded through the Roads to Recovery funding program.



Hindmarsh Shire Libraries:

Our almost first full year of operating since 2020 thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year has seen Hindmarsh Shire Libraries grow into our own unique and independent rural library service.

Our goal has always been to not only meet the needs of our community, but to exceed upon their expectations. Our regular services such as free interlibrary loans, home delivery services, Mums and Bubs groups, and Storytelling sessions continued to prove popular. This year we have built upon our proven successes with a series of uniquely Hindmarsh Shire Library events. We have our first Jigsaw Club at Nhill Library; Book Chat at Dimboola Library; we have continued to assist ageing community with their Digital COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates as well as online applications for \$250 Power Saving Bonus. Members of our library community were also able to participate in PLV Summer Reads program and our Winter Reads program which have proven popular with our readers.

During Women's History Month, Dimboola Library hosted Herstory – An evening with Tracey Rigney. Tracey is a proud Wotjobaluk and Ngarrindjeri woman and a local storyteller, play wright and Director. Local author, Maryanne Plazzer, who features in the collection of stories – Growing up in Country Australia, by Rick Morton, was generous enough to assist us with our inaugural Growing up in Hindmarsh Story Competition. This has led to the creation of our first and very enthusiastic Jeparit Writers Club, with room to develop further and include groups in our other three towns.

Dimboola Library continues to attract visitors from far and wide with its beautiful, natural surrounds and architecturally designed building. People are opting to utilise our facilities for office space, meeting rooms, and social spaces to catch up with friends, meet new people, and celebrate festivities such as Christmas and the inaugural Wimmera SteamPunk Festival. We have also been lucky enough, thanks to the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program to have completed our newly opened Rainbow Library, and refurbishments to Nhill Library.

Hindmarsh Shire Libraries continues to develop relationships within our communities that allow our libraries to become centralised spaces for education, culture and information. Our small, independent, rural library service offers dynamic community spaces for building on imagination, social inclusion and connection.



Council Projects & Events

Major Capital Works

During 2021/22 major capital works undertaken included:

Salisbury–Woorak Road:

Approximately 400m of road through the Salisbury Swamp was upgraded during 2021/2022. This included improvements to the shoulders, with the steep batters lessened and pavement renewed with an 8m seal. This project was funded through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grant program.



Wimmera Street Dimboola Kerb and Channel Works:

New kerb and channel were installed on Wimmera Street Dimboola from the GWM Water shed through to the Caravan Park entrance to improve drainage and amenity for road users.

Winiam East Road Reconstruction:

This project included reconstruction of approximately 1.05km of old failed pavement on Winiam East Road at the bend starting at Winiam Road intersection. This included an 8m width seal and improved the drainage and poor formation. This project was funded by the Agrilinks State Government Grant.



Kiata North Road Construction:

An old, narrow and severely failed section of Kiata North Road, north of the Western Highway, was renewed to two lanes, allowing for safer heavy vehicle usage. The reconstruction was broken into two projects over a couple of financial years using both state and federal Government grants.

Antwerp–Woorak Road Reconstruction:

Council upgraded a 1.8km section of unsealed road on Antwerp–Woorak Road to a dual lane sealed road, extending the eastern end of the sealed section. This has improved access and safety for all users.



Major Community Development Projects

During 2021/22 major community development projects undertaken included:

Arkona Silo Art Project:

Hindmarsh's most recent addition to the Mallee Silo Art Trail, the Arkona Silo, is situated ten kilometres north of Dimboola along the Dimboola–Rainbow Road. It was painted early 2022 by internationally renowned street artist Smug. The artwork acknowledges the importance of country tennis to Arkona, and more broadly all small regional communities. Country tennis competitions formed the major social gatherings through the summer months, bringing the neighboring farming communities together.

Local identity and keen tennis advocate Roley Klinge was suggested by the local community as a fitting subject for the theme. Sadly, Roley passed in 1991. Painting a photorealistic portrait on the scale of a grain silo of someone the artist could not meet, and photograph created a challenge.



Smug developed the idea of painting a unique artwork reflecting Roley's passion for tennis and iconic terry-towelling hat and glasses but making his face and body invisible. This created an intriguing image, unique amongst the Silo Art Trail, which highlighted the artist's incredible style and technique.

This project was funded by the Victorian State Government through the Mallee Silo Art Trail Program.

Nhill Library Upgrade:

During early 2022, the Nhill Library underwent renovations to improve the overall look and function of the space. The renovations included opening the doorway between the foyer area and main room to a 3-metre-wide doorway, relocation of the customer service circulation desk, all new furniture and shelving installed, fresh paint, new lighting and a new dedicated children's space was added.

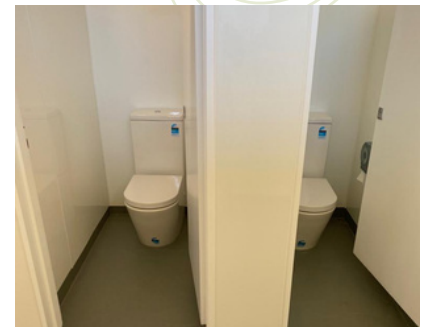
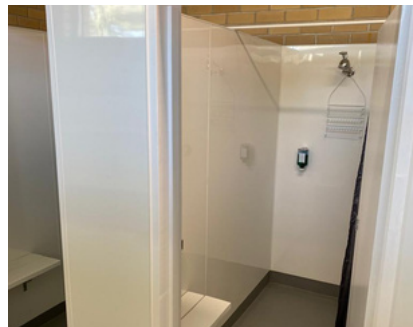


The new shelves installed have lockable wheels making it easier for library staff to move shelving allowing for a larger space to be utilised for events and activities when needed.

This project was funded through the State Government's Living Libraries Program and Hindmarsh Shire Council.

Nhill Caravan Park Amenities Block Refurbishment:

During late 2021, both of the female and male amenities blocks at the Nhill Caravan Park were refurbished. This included new toilet and shower facilities, flooring, wall panelling and ceilings installed to provide visitors to the park a better experience.



Dimboola and Jeparit Electric Vehicle Charging Stations:

A new electric vehicle charging station was installed in Dimboola at the rear of the library in September 2021 and in Jeparit near Menzies Square. The charging stations added to the existing stations that were already installed in Nhill and Rainbow.

All charging stations have been free of charge since being installed. It's been great to see travellers pulling up in our towns to charge their vehicles and then utilising our facilities as well as supporting local businesses.



New Caravan Park Cabins Funding:

Council received funding of \$650,000 through the State Governments Regional Infrastructure Fund to install and fit out six new two-bedroom accommodation units across Hindmarsh Caravan Parks. Three of the cabins were all-abilities and DDA compliant.

By the end of June 2022, all six two-bedroom cabins had been delivered on site and works had commenced on completing the installation and connection of services to each of them. Jeparit Caravan Park received one all-abilities two-bedroom cabin, the Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola received two standard two-bedroom cabins, Nhill Caravan Park received one all-abilities two-bedroom cabin and a standard two-bedroom cabin, and the Rainbow Caravan Park received one all-abilities two-bedroom cabin.



Dimboola Laneway Mural:

Before leaving town after completing the Arkona Silo Art, internationally renowned street artist Smug painted a beautiful 20-metre-long Wimmera Mallee panorama along the laneway from Lochiel Street, Dimboola through to the toilets at the rear of the Dimboola Library. Smug started the mural on Wednesday 27 April and completed it around mid-day on Thursday 28 April.



Official Library Openings for Nhill, Rainbow and Jeparit:

The Honourable Shaun Leane, former Minister for Local Government, and representatives from the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions joined Hindmarsh Shire Council on Thursday 2 June 2022 in Rainbow and Jeparit to officially open the newly constructed Rainbow Library and improved Jeparit and Nhill Libraries.



New Lighting at Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum:

New flood lighting illuminating the Albacutya Homestead was installed at the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum, Jeparit as part of the Brightening our Heritage project.

The installation of the Albacutya Homestead floodlighting followed the previous installation of other security lighting throughout the Museum.



Funding for the lighting at the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum was made possible through the Victorian Government's Community Safety Fund, Hindmarsh Shire Council and the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee of Management.

Rainbow Rises Events Centre Funding Boost:

It was announced in March 2022 that Council will receive funding of \$500,000 to improve infrastructure and services at the Rainbow Rises Events Centre.

Member for Western Victoria, the Hon Jaala Pulford MLC announced the funding being delivered through the Victorian Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund – Round 2.

In addition to the \$500,000 contribution from the Victorian Government, Hindmarsh Shire Council through the Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Fund phase 3 will contribute \$125,000 towards infrastructure improvements to the site.

Although there are hugely successful off-road racing events held at the site already, the proposed improvements made through the \$625,000 will significantly enhance the reputation of the Rainbow Rises Events Centre.

Out and About

Other projects and updates from 2021/22:

New Town Entry Signs:

Council's maintenance teams installed new town entry and shire boundary signs through Hindmarsh replacing the previously faded signs.



New Street Furniture in Jeparit:

In conjunction with the Jeparit Town Committee, Hindmarsh Shire Council installed new street furniture throughout Jeparit.

The street furniture replacement was a continuation of a program to replace outdated concrete and timber seating across the Hindmarsh Shire with the new seats constructed of powder coated steel frame and fitted with modwood (composite plastic and timber) slats.

New Pod Seating Installed:

Additional pod seating was installed throughout the shire with a new pod installed at Bicentennial community park in Dimboola and in the gardens on the west end of Federal Street, Rainbow.

Also pictured is a new pod located near the EV charging station in Nhill. Two more pod seats are to be installed at the swimming hole in Jeparit. Funding for the Pods was received through the State Government's Outdoor Activation Program.



Jaypex Park Nhill Seating Upgrades:

Council's outdoor team installed new outdoor seating with concrete slabs under the existing sheltered areas located in Jaypex Park. This allowed park users to utilise the sheltered area that previously didn't have any seating.

This was funded by the State Government's Outdoor Activation Program.



New Signage in Dimboola:

Ten new pedestrian signs were installed in Dimboola to help guide visitors to the new garden and public toilets located at the rear of the Dimboola Library. They were constructed utilising reclaimed timbers from the old Wimmera Bridge and carry on the rusted steel frame theme established in the street art in Lochiel Street as well as the more recently erected 'tower' at the old Dimboola Hotel site.



School Holiday Programs

Council held a variety of fun and free activities through the school holidays during 2021/22.

June / July 2021:

Baby Rhyme Time, Cam's Marvellous Experiments, Uniting Level-Up Gaming event, Storytime, Crafty Art with Danelle, Jeparit Movie Night, Smartphone Photography Tour, Sukha Pilates with Janelle, Casey Kosch First Aid Training, Harry Potter Double Feature Costume Party.





September 2021:

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place during these school holidays, Council staff prepared 140 FREE School Holiday Take Home Packs that were available for collection from all libraries. These packs included a variety of activities such as scavenger hunts, science experiments, reading adventures and creative projects.

April 2022:

Youth Council Games Night, Folky Dokey Musical Puppet Show, Nature Walk, Talk and Find with Landcare, Cam's Experiments, CMY's Gariwerd (Grampians) Adventure Day Out, Crafty Art with Danelle, Jeparit Movie Night, Petting Zoo Animal Experience, Nhill Cinema Double Movie Feature, Uniting Level-Up Gaming Event and Smartphone Photography Shire Tour.



June / July 2022:

Kids in the Kitchen with Sharon, Crafty Art with Danelle, Ice Age Movie Screening, Journey 2: The Mysterious Island Movie screening (and then from 1 July we had Night at the Museum Movie Screening, NAIDOC Storytime sessions and Science with Cam)



Nhill Cinema

Nhill Cinema screened a number of movies during 2021/2022. A few movies were cancelled or postponed due to lockdowns:

- To Kill a Mockingbird – 21 September 2021
- On a Golden Pond – 23 November 2021
- Jedda Re-screening – 7 December 2021
- The Philadelphia Story – 22 February 2022
- The Egg and I – 15 March 2022
- Uncharted – 7 April 2022
- Twelve Angry Men – 19 April 2022
- Some Like It Hot – 17 May 2022
- Ma and Pa Kettle – 21 June 2022



Awards and Australian Citizenship Ceremonies

Awards and Australian Citizenship Ceremonies held throughout 2021/22 included:

Rae Kean Scholarships and Awards Recipients:

- Kaitlyn Beeton – Dimboola Memorial Secondary College
- Jasper Croot – Nhill College
- Lachlan Staples – Rainbow P-12 College
- Gracie Hurlstone – Rainbow P-12 College



Australia Day Hindmarsh Award Recipients:

- Caleb Zanker – Young Citizen of the Year
- Mervyn Schneider, OAM – Citizen of the Year



Australian Citizenship Ceremonies:

August 2021:

- Radmila Lindner
- Katerina Blahova
- Gagandeep (Shelly) Kaur



November 2021:

- Alicia Hutchinson
- Michelle Marsh
- Mang Thi Ohn
- Agostinho Pereira
- Hser Nay Moo
- Marina



February 2022:

- Armand Von Benecke
- Ruzica Savicin

June 2022:

- Kristina Koop
- Athina Diamantopoulos
- Nikolaos Diamantopoulos
- Chit Htay Win
- JURINA
- KYAW OO KYI
- Sandra Benny
- SHEE KHU REENA MU
- TAW NER MOO
- Tawlawmaw Htoo



Congratulations Australian Citizens. It was an honour to be a part of your special day!

Highlights of the Year

July 2021

- Official opening for the refurbishment of the Old Shire Hall in Dimboola with Dr Anne Webster MP, Federal Member for Mallee.



August 2021

- Camp kitchen amenities extension at the Riverside Holiday Park in Dimboola
- Hosted a night with Lucy Stephan to celebrate her gold medal at the Tokyo Olympic Games
- Wear It Purple Day – Staff wore purple to support the cause

September 2021

- Council provided free activity packs for the School Holidays since they were unable to hold activities due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Council waived fees and costs associated with building insurances for community groups and sporting clubs that utilise Council owned facilities
- Council committed to the Communities of Respect and Equality (CoRE) Strategy for 2021-2025
- Swimming Pool contracts awarded to YMCA
- Electronic Vehicle Charging station installed in Dimboola



October 2021

- Free Green Waste Month ran from 10 September to 10 October
- Electronic Vehicle Charging station installed in Jeparit
- Council endorsed to take on the role of Committee of Management for the old Lowan Shire Hall in Nhill
- Business Assistance Grants for round one awarded

November 2021

- Nhill Caravan Park Amenities upgrade completed
- Shredability Skate Workshops and Competition held throughout the shire
- Cr Melanie Albrecht elected Mayor at Annual Statutory Meeting and Cr Brett Ireland elected Deputy Mayor
- Hosted free by-stander training as part of the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence campaign
- Yurunga Homestead Mural completed



December 2021

- Council purchased the adjoining block of land to the Rainbow Caravan Park as part of stage one of the Rainbow Caravan Park redevelopment
- Nhill Level Up Gaming Event
- Event for International Day of People with Disability
- Community Action Grants for round one awarded
- Yurunga Homestead new external mural completed
- Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council end of year adventure trip



January 2022

- Australia Day Celebrations in Rainbow, Jeparit, Dimboola and Nhill with Australia Day Ambassador Wesa Chau

February 2022

- Welcomed the 2022 Youth Councillors with a certificate presentation: Alissa Trenery, Alexis Bone, Tarah Bond, Jandamurra Lauricella, Celie Fuller, Heidi Smith, Marcel Badua, Ethan Angel-Hands, Marrie Sellens and Jamie Clark
- Youth Council Leadership and Team Building Retreat
- Pool parties held at Hindmarsh Swimming Pools in each four towns
- Council hosted its first Hindmarsh Business Networking Forum in Nhill



March 2022

- Hindmarsh Seniors Concert featuring Creedence Clearwater Survival
- Business Assistance Grants for round two awarded
- Jeparit Level Up Gaming event
- Community Action Grants for round two awarded
- The Oasis Rainbow Big Sky Festival 2022
- New Council website went live
- Arkona Silo Art Drop-in Information Session
- Held Community Conversation sessions in all four towns (Nhill's session was livestreamed to Facebook)



April 2022

- Council hosted a Mallee Electorate Candidates Forum in Nhill
- Held a variety of free activities for the April school holidays
- Nhill Town Committee Easter Egg Hunt
- Wimmera Steampunk Festival and Recharge Sunday Concert events
- Jeparit Annual Fishing Competition
- Youth Council Games Night in Jeparit

May 2022

- Hosted free morning and afternoon teas in Nhill, Rainbow, Jeparit and Dimboola for National Volunteers Week
- Held a virtual talk session with Nevo Zisin for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)
- Newly constructed Albacutya Bridge opened to traffic
- Weekly Cuppa Connection sessions commenced in Hindmarsh Shire Libraries
- Hindmarsh Shire Youth Council Logo Redesign Competition



June 2022

- Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Vintage Rally weekend
- Official opening for the new Rainbow Library and refurbished Nhill and Rainbow Libraries with the Hon Minister Shaun Leane, Minister for Local Government
- Arkona Silo Art completed
- Hindmarsh Tourism Business Innovation Grants for round one
- Free school holiday program for June/July holidays kicked off



Advocacy & Council Grants

Advocacy:

One of Council's key roles is to advocate on behalf of our community. Council's advocacy efforts in 2021/2022 continued to be successful, with upgrades to the Nhill Rainbow Road and the Western Highway funded to cater for heavy vehicles turning.

Council will continue to advocate at every opportunity for additional roads funding and for upgrades to Regional Roads Victoria C Class roads, which provide major links between the towns in Hindmarsh Shire.

Council continually advocates for increased grant funding, including the Victorian Grants Commission payments, and increased grant funding for small rural shires.

During 2021/2022 Council continued to advocate for a shuttle rail service between Nhill and Ararat to connect Hindmarsh residents to the rail service through to Melbourne; mobile phone blackspot funding; and funding for Davis Park Upgrades.

Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants:

During 2021/22 Council's Community Action Grants and Business Assistance Grants schemes awarded \$25,559.66 to 28 community groups and \$36,836.20 to 15 businesses across our Shire, totalling \$62,395.86.

Community Action Grants recipients included:

- Hindmarsh Police Citizens Youth Club
- Nhill-Dimboola Band
- Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre
- Antwerp Hall Committee
- Dimboola Ski Club
- Dimboola Fire Brigade
- Dimboola Hockey Club
- Jeparit Bowling Club
- Jeparit Tennis Club
- Lowan Group CFA, Yanac
- Nhill Basketball Association
- Nhill Historical Society
- Nhill Silo Heritage Project
- Rainbow Fire Brigade
- Rainbow Historical Society
- RSL Nhill
- Dimboola Bowling Club
- Winiam Hall Inc.
- Gallery Central, Nhill
- Rainbow Rises Events Association Inc.
- St. John's Lutheran Church, Pella
- Nhill Urban Fire Brigade
- Rainbow Men's Shed
- Nhill Bowling Club
- Rainbow Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Rainbow Innovation Centre
- St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Rainbow
- Hindmarsh Ski Club, Jeparit



Business Assistance Grants recipients included:

- Dimboola Store, Dimboola
- Harris Mensland, Dimboola
- Mallee Magic, Rainbow
- Westmix Concrete, Nhill
- Dimboola Imaginarium, Dimboola
- Desert Breeze Honey, Dimboola
- Oasis Motel, Nhill
- Wimmera Bakery, Dimboola
- Wimmera Bakery, Nhill
- Clugston Butchers, Rainbow
- Mark Launer Plumbing, Dimboola
- Cambrelle's, Nhill
- Hooked On Classic's, Dimboola
- Andrew Bertuleit Photography
- BP Roadhouse, Nhill

Major Changes, Challenges & Opportunities

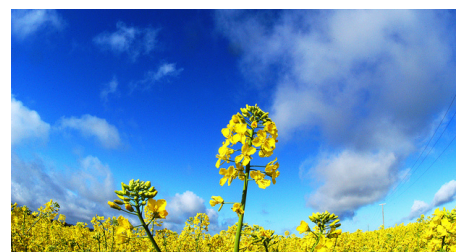
Like most small rural council's, Hindmarsh continues to face many changes. Farming enterprises are consolidating, creating larger farms, which decreases council's rate base. The requirement for Council to maintain existing infrastructure, particularly roads, while seeking funding for projects to improve liveability within our Shire remains a challenge.

The continuing COVID-19 pandemic has meant that Hindmarsh Shire Council and its community have had to regularly adapt to changing restrictions. Through the 2021/2022 Financial Year there were again closures of our Council's offices, buildings and libraries and community events were cancelled.

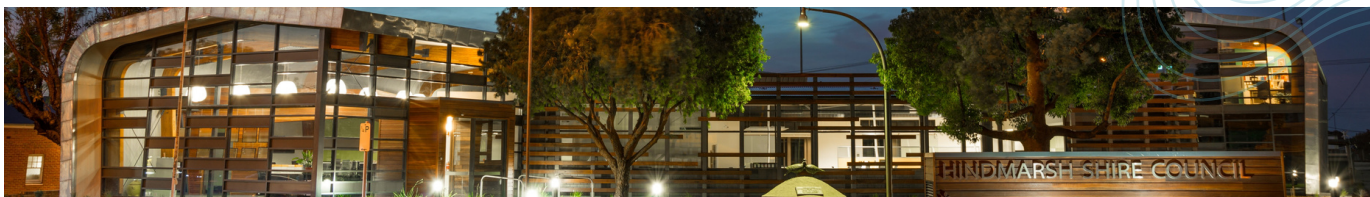
Increases in fuel, utilities, materials and other costs are being managed closely, with some projects needing to be rescoped to ensure they remain within budget.

Council continues to apply for and advocate to the State and Federal for funding to upgrade Davis Park facilities, after the 1950's build timber framed grandstand was demolished in early 2020 after being independently assessed as unfit for purpose.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also brought opportunities for Hindmarsh. With people unable to travel overseas they are exploring areas closer to home. With our natural and heritage attractions there is plenty to explore and see in Hindmarsh Shire.



Our Council



Council Profile:

Hindmarsh Shire is located in the Wimmera region in western Victoria and covers an area of 7,527 km². 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 towns offer spacious rural living, inclusive small communities and wonderful natural amenities.

Today, 5,698 people live in Hindmarsh Shire (2021 census data), with a median age of 50 years. 83.5% of people in Hindmarsh Shire 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 213 people speaking Karen language at home.

The median weekly household income is \$1,159, 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, with 28.7% undertaking voluntary work through an organisation or group.



Council Offices & Libraries



Nhill Office

92 Nelson Street
NHILL VIC 3418
P: 03 5391 4444



Dimboola Office & Library

101 Lloyd Street
DIMBOOLA VIC 3414
P: 03 5391 4452



Jeparit Office & Library

10 Roy Street
JEPARIT VIC 3423
P: 03 5391 4423



Rainbow Office & Library

49 Federal Street
RAINBOW VIC 3424
P: 03 5391 4451



Nhill Library

5 Clarence Street
NHILL VIC 318
P: 03 5391 4449

Postal address:

PO Box 250
NHILL VIC 3418
Email: info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Website: www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Facebook:

facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil

Councillors

On 24 October 2020, 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. Due to insufficient nominations for the East Ward, a by-election was held on 4 December 2020.

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 Melanie Albrecht
Mayor

West Ward

Election Day:
24 October 2020

E: malbrecht@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0437 927 785



Cr Brett Ireland
Deputy Mayor

North Ward

Election Day:
24 October 2020

E: bireland@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0431 755 625



Cr Debra Nelson
East Ward

Election Day:
24 October 2020

E: dnelson@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0459 021 802



Cr Robert Gersch
West Ward

Election Day:
24 October 2020

E: rgersch@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0427 600 122



Cr Wendy Bywaters
East Ward

Election Day:
5 December 2020

E: wbywaters@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0437 920 869



Cr Ron Ismay
North Ward

Election Day:
24 October 2020

E: rismay@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au
P: 0429 951 094

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

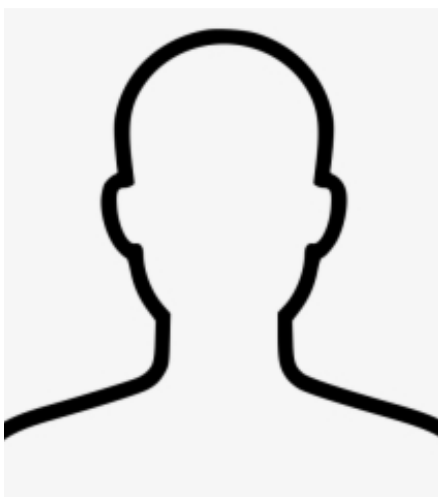
Greg Wood was appointed to the Chief Executive Officer of Hindmarsh Shire Council in September 2016. Greg provides strategic guidance for all management and operations of Council and is responsible for the overall operations of Council.



Monica Revell

Director Corporate and 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, Libraries, Aged and Disability, and Economic Development.

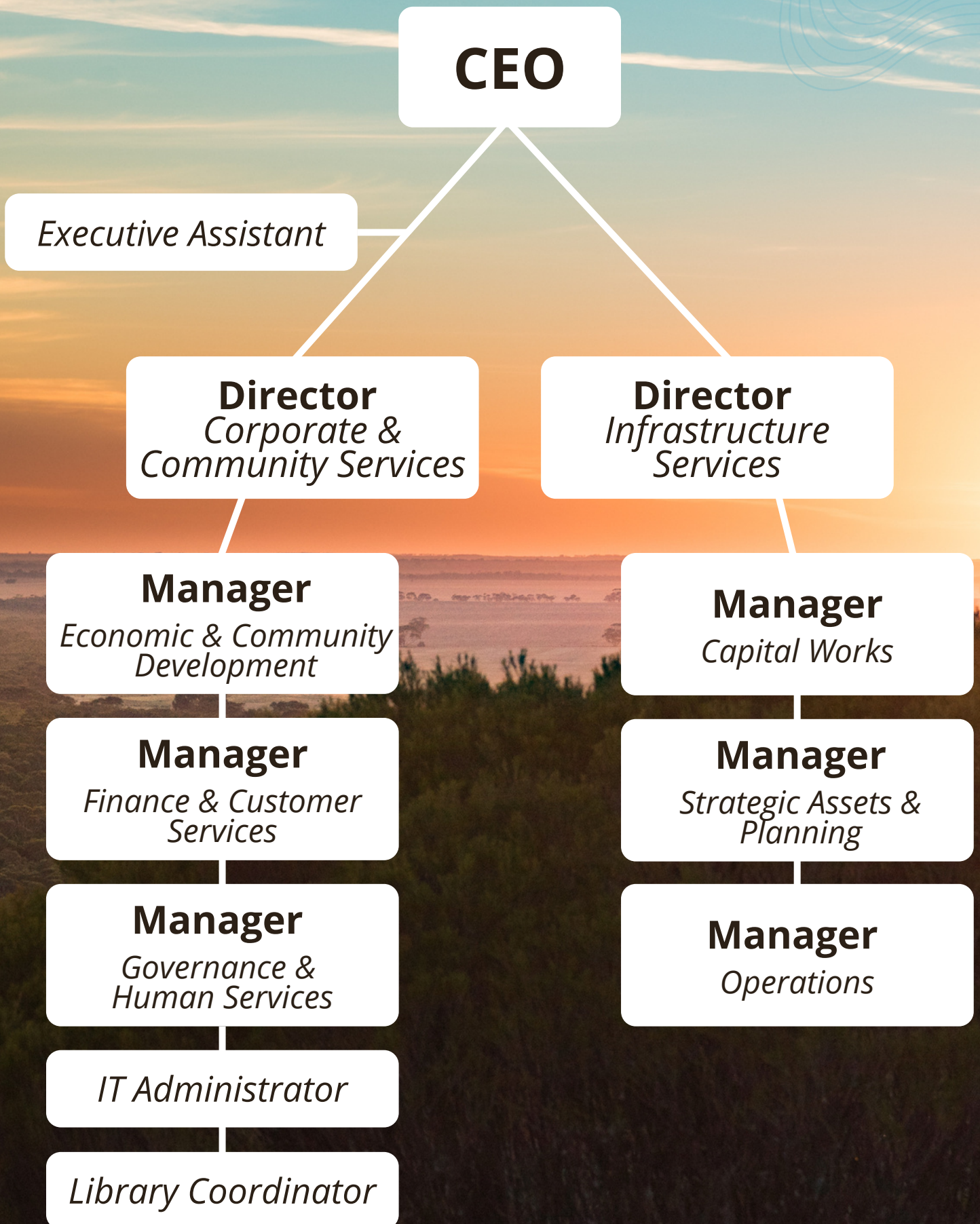


Vacant

Director Infrastructure Services

The role of Director Infrastructure Services was vacant at 30 June 2022. Monica Revell was acting in the role in the interim. The Director Infrastructure Services is responsible for Asset planning, Engineering and Traffic, Environment and Sustainability, Infrastructure, Parks and Gardens, Building, Planning and Development.

Organisational Structure



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	7.20	2.20	0.80	1.80	12.0
Permanent FT – M	1.00	50.00	1.00	5.00	57.0
Permanent FT – X	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Permanent PT – F	2.10	1.38	0.99	13.43	17.9
Permanent PT – M	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	1.5
Permanent PT – X	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Casual – F	0.00	0.00	0.57	0.93	1.5
Casual – M	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.1
Casual – X	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
SO FT – F	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.20	1.0
SO FT – M	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.0
Total	13.1	55.38	5.46	20.56	92.0

FT-Full time PT-Part time F-Female M-Male SO-Senior 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	3.0	4.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	13.0
Permanent Full Time – Male	0.0	7.0	27.0	10.0	3.0	5.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	58.0
Permanent Part Time – Female	1.9	7.7	0.0	3.9	2.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.9
Permanent Part Time – Male	0.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Casual – Female	0.2	0.6	0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Casual – Male	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
TOTAL	2.4	16.7	27.0	15.5	8.7	10.7	3.0	6.0	2.0	92.0

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 for ensuring a safe and respectful workplace. 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 an incident and injury-free workplace for all employees, councillors, contractors, visitors and the public.

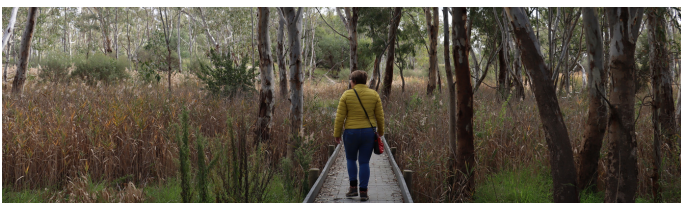
Enterprise Bargaining Agreement:

The Hindmarsh Shire Council Enterprise Agreement No 9 2019 remains in force until 29 July 2022. An Enterprise Bargaining Committee comprising representatives from management, staff, and workplace union delegates and union officers has been established to negotiate a new agreement for employees.

Gender Equality Action Plan:

Under the Gender Equality Act 2020, Hindmarsh Shire Council must deliver a Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) as well as implement Gender Impact Assessments in policy, service and community engagement processes. The GEAP is an organisational commitment to improving gender equality in the workplace. Workplace gender equality is achieved when people are able to access and enjoy the same rewards, resources and opportunities regardless of gender.

Hindmarsh Shire Council is committed to addressing how gender inequality can interact with other inequalities and strives to improve gender equality for all.



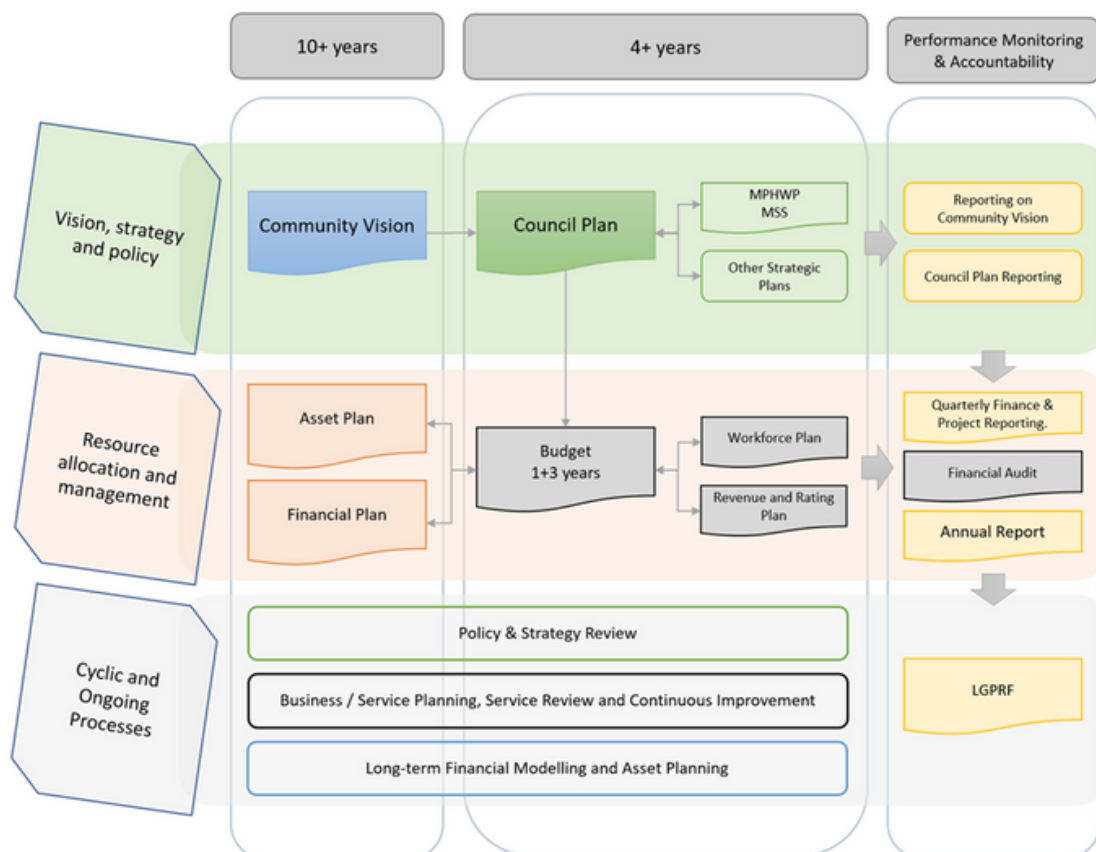
Our Performance

Planning and Accountability Framework:

The Planning and Accountability Framework is found in part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Act requires councils to prepare the following planning and reporting documents:

- A Council Vision with a scope of at least ten financial years by 31 October in the year following a general election.
- A Council Plan on or by 31 October in the year following a general election.
- A financial plan with a scope of at least 10 financial years by 31 October in the year following a general election.
- An Asset Plan with a scope of at least 10 financial years by 31 October in the year following a general election.
- A Revenue and Rating Plan by 30 June after a general election for a period of at least the next 4 financial years.
- 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 2021–2025 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.

1. Our Community



We want to increase accessible services to enable the community to be healthy, active and engaged

2. Built & Natural Environment



We want to provide infrastructure essential to support the community; and to protect and enhance our natural environment

3. Competitive & Innovative Economy



We want to foster a sustainable and diversified local economy where economic growth is encouraged and supported.

4. Good Governance & Financial Sustainability



We want to promote user friendly services to ensure transparency, good governance and financial sustainability, and to advance gender equality, equity and inclusion for all.

Performance:

Council's performance for the 2021/2022 year has been reported against each strategic objective to demonstrate how council is performing in achieving the 2021–2025 council plan.

Performance has been measured as follows:

- Results achieved in relation to the 2021/2022 Action Plan 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.

Theme One:

Our Community

The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the 2021/2022 Actions included in the Council Plan.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Monthly and fortnightly e-newsletters distributed through emails and available on Council's website	ONGOING	Newsletters will continue to be distributed on an ongoing basis. Previous editions of Council's fortnightly e-newsletters and monthly newsletters are available on Council's website. To view previous newsletters please visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/newsletters .
Redevelopment of Council's website making it easier for our community to navigate	COMPLETED	The new Hindmarsh Shire Council Website has been implemented and will continue to be monitored and updated to ensure easy navigation.
Councillors and Council Officers attend advisory committees including Town Committees, Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum and Yurunga Homestead meetings	COMPLETED	Officers and Councillors will continue to represent Council on Town Committees, WMPM & Yurunga.
Partner with Wimmera Pride to ensure LGBTIQ+ barriers and views are considered	ONGOING	Online workshops were conducted and attended by Staff. IDAHOBIT day celebrations conducted from Dimboola library were streamed live via Council's Facebook page. Officers are working through the Rainbow Ready Roadmap for Local Government with the project being shared across governance, libraries and community development.
Develop the Hindmarsh Shire Youth Strategy	COMPLETED	Youth Strategy 2021-2025 adopted. The plan was translated into Karen. Implementation of the plan will be undertaken over the coming few years.
Upgrades to the Nhill Library to encourage use by our multicultural community, children and youth.	COMPLETED	Upgrades have been completed with new furniture, shelving and lighting installed. The entry way from the foyer into the main hall has been widened to allow for all abilities access.
Continue to support early years services in Hindmarsh Shire	ONGOING	Council continues to provide facilities for early years services, and subsidise kindergarten in Hindmarsh Shire. Upgrades were completed at Dimboola and Nhill Early Years Centre during 2021/2022 including the installation of new safety fencing at Nhill Early Years Centre.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Partner with Nhill Learning Centre to ensure barriers and views of the Karen and other multicultural communities are considered	ONGOING	Quarterly meetings scheduled and will continue between Library, Community Development, Youth departments and Rainbow and Nhill Learning Centres on potential collaboration and training.
Ensure the Municipal Emergency Management Committee includes membership from key stakeholders	COMPLETED	The MEMC committee includes membership from external stakeholders. Meetings are held 3 times per year, along with 1 combined meeting including Hindmarsh, Horsham, Yarriambiack and West Wimmera Shire
Support our ageing community through hosting seniors concert, social connection activities including movie matinees and morning teas, and delivery of community care services	ONGOING	Creedence Clearwater Survival played to an audience on Thursday 10 March 2022. For those unable to attend the concert was livestreamed through Council's Facebook page. Weekly cuppa connections are held in each Hindmarsh Shire library; Officers are providing social support to senior citizens to restart / reconnect and for those not yet comfortable going out social support and welfare calls are being undertaken. We continue to hold movie matinees monthly and delivered emergency food parcels to vulnerable members of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Support local community events including the Rainbow Desert Enduro, Great Victorian Bike Ride, Dimboola inaugural Steampunk Festival, Nhill Friday Fiestas in February, Peter Taylor Barefoot Tournament etc.	COMPLETED	Council supported the Wimmera Steampunk Festival and the Dimboola Ski and Boat Club BAREFOOT Skiing competition. Both were very successful events with good numbers of visitors to both events. As part of the Reconnecting Communities through Small Events program, Council also held a community concert on the Sunday following the Steampunk Festival which was also well attended. In addition The Oasis in Rainbow hosted the Big Sky Festival and the Jeparit Town Committee hosted a movie night and the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum held their annual Vintage Rally for the first time in a number of years because of COVID. Both events in Jeparit were held over the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend. Funds were also utilised to support the MOPOKE Christmas function, and Nhill's Christmas Carols
Celebrate volunteers week.	COMPLETED	Volunteer morning and afternoon teas were held to celebrate Hindmarsh volunteers and thank them for their service.
Construction of Rainbow Library	COMPLETED	Rainbow Library construction was completed and officially opened in June 2022

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Provide community action grants to support Hindmarsh community groups and organisations	COMPLETED	Community Action Grants supported 28 community groups and organisations during 2021/2022 with funding totaling \$25,559.66.
Continue to support the Rural Outreach Program	ONGOING	Council continues to support and promote the Rural Outreach Program providing information to those who contact Council.
Provide school holiday activities throughout Hindmarsh	ONGOING	School holiday programs were provided during the school holidays when restrictions eased. Planning has also commenced on the September 2022 school holiday program.
Support and coordinate the volunteer taxi service in Nhill	ONGOING	Council continues to support and coordinate the volunteer taxi service in Nhill. We encourage interested community members to volunteer to assist with this valuable service
Establish and maintain relationships with Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) and local indigenous groups	ONGOING	Officers are working closely with BGLC on projects such as the Wimmera River Discovery Trail. We continue to support BGLC and build our relationship with BGLC when and where we can.
Provide public computers and free Wi-Fi at Hindmarsh Shire Libraries	PARTIALLY COMPLETE	Public computers are available at all Hindmarsh Shire Libraries; due to shortage of materials public Wi-Fi has been delayed at Rainbow library. Dimboola, Jeparit & Nhill libraries all have free Wi-Fi available.

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2021/2022 budget for the year.

MAJOR INITIATIVES	PROGRESS
Upgrades to Nhill Library.	Upgrades have been completed with new furniture, shelving and lighting installed. The entry way from the foyer into the main hall has been widened to allow for all abilities access.



OUR PERFORMANCE - THEME ONE

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2021/2022 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service:

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL BUDGET VARIANCE \$
Community Development	Work with community groups, organisations and individuals to assist communities reach their aspirations and be healthy, active and engaged.	179,148 <u>191,506</u> (12,358)
Maternal Child Health Centres	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.)	8,003 <u>18,052</u> (10,049)
Kindergarten Services	Provision of Kindergarten services in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow under contract with Wimmera Uniting Care. (Council does not directly deliver Kindergarten Services)	68,526 <u>161,352</u> (92,826)
Youth Services	Improve the wellbeing and opportunities for youth within the Shire.	57,663 <u>79,333</u> (21,670)
Aged and Disability Services	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"> • Assessments • Delivered Meals and Centre Based Meals • Personal Care • Respite Care services • Home care / Domestic Assistance services • Property Maintenance and minor modifications. 	(43,798) <u>99,039</u> (142,837)
Health Promotions	To protect and enhance the health of the community.	236,994 <u>81,091</u> 155,903
Community Transport	Provision of community bus for community groups and organisations in Hindmarsh Shire	0 <u>3,750</u> (3,750)
Libraries	Provision of permanent library services in Dimboola and Nhill and mobile library services in Jeparit and Rainbow.	484,643 <u>356,698</u> 127,945

OUR PERFORMANCE - THEME ONE

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL BUDGET VARIANCE \$
Arts, Culture and Community Events	Promote and support activities relating to arts, culture and community events throughout the Shire.	102,133 <u>104,056</u> (1,923)
Recreation Programs	Providing a range of recreation programs that encourage an active and healthy life.	14,006 <u>14,049</u> (43)
Public Order and Safety	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.	171,263 <u>141,310</u> 29,953
Early Years	Lead a joint effort that will give Hindmarsh children the best start in life, working collaboratively with community and early years providers.	23,590 <u>36,230</u> (12,640)



Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)					
Satisfaction					
Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit [Number of 4-week key age and stage visits / Number of birth notifications received] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	New in 2020	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
Participation in first MCH home visit [Number of first MCH home visits / Number of birth notifications received] x100	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	n/a	Not applicable. Council has no operational control over MCH services.
Service standard					
Infant enrolments in the MCH service [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.
Participation					
Participation in the MCH service [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.
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [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.
Food Safety					
Timeliness					
Time taken to action food complaints [Number of days between receipt and first response action for all food complaints / Number of food complaints]	1.0	n/a	1.0	1.0	Council responds to food complaints within one business day.
Service standard					
Food safety assessments [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	73.25%	77.53%	84.09%	86.17%	Lockdowns and restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in Council being unable to inspect a number of registered premises during 2021/2022.
Service cost					
Cost of food safety service [Direct cost of the food safety service / Number of food premises registered or notified in accordance with the Food Act 1984]	\$762.91	\$884.78	\$984.15	\$772.82	The decrease in costs is due to a staff vacancy resulting in reduced salaries.

Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Food Safety					
Health and safety					
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications [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	n/a	n/a%	100%	100%	During 2021/2022 Council received no non-compliance notifications.
Libraries					
Utilisation					
Library collection usage [Number of library collection item loans / Number of library collection items]	0.61	0.30	0.75	1.11	The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in libraries being closed for a significant period during 2020/21 and part of 2021/2022.
Resource standard					
Standard of library collection [Number of library collection items purchased in the last 5 years / Number of library collection items] x100	25.16%	39.10%	38.37%	37.46%	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there were delays in items ordered being received.
Service cost					
Cost of library service per population [Direct cost of the library service / Population]	\$55.85	\$66.95	\$65.21	New in 2020	This is reflective of Council directly managing library services.
Cost of library service [Direct cost of the library service / Number of visits]	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	\$10.95	No material variation.
Participation					
Active library members in municipality [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100	6.50%	6.64%	6.81%	7.71%	The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in libraries being closed for a significant period during 2020/21 and part of 2021/2022.
Animal Management					
Timeliness					
Time taken to action animal management requests [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.
Service standard					
Animals reclaimed [Number of animals reclaimed / Number of animals collected]x100	40.54%	37.10%	18.60%	26.32%	During 2021/22 Council collected 37 animals, 15 were reclaimed.
Animals rehomed [Number of animals rehomed / Number of animals collected]x100	59.46%	54.84%	72.09%	New in 2020	During 2021/2022 council collected 37 animals, 22 were rehomed.

Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Service cost					
Cost of animal management service per population [Direct cost of the animal management service / Population]	\$44.81	\$42.05	\$35.06	New in 2020	Variation is due to an increase in after-hours work by Council's Local Laws Officers in relation to animal requests and animals in the pound.
Cost of animal management service [Direct cost of the animal management service / Number of registered animals]	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	\$92.33	No material variation.
Health and safety					
Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	100%	100%	n/a	n/a	Council successfully prosecuted 1 animal offence during 2021/22.



Theme Two: Built and Natural Environment

The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the 2021/2022 Actions included in the Council Plan.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Review and update Council's asset management plan	COMPLETED	Council's Asset Plan was adopted at the Council meeting held on 1 June 2022.
Implement recycling bins in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow main business districts	NOT COMPLETED	Budget allocation in 2022/2023 budget to roll out recycling bins in main business districts.
Review Council's road Management Plan	COMPLETED	Council's road management plan 2021-2023 was adopted at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 4 August 2021.
Construction of Albacutya Bridge and associated road works	COMPLETED	Construction of Albacutya bridge was completed in May 2022. A scope variation has been approved to extend the roadworks, utilizing the remaining funds as the bridge project was under budget, aiming to be completed in December 2022.
Hold free green waste month in September and encourage residents to tidy their properties prior to the fire season	COMPLETED	Free green waste month was held in September / October 2021.
Consider for adoption of Nhill streetscape plan	COMPLETED	Nhill Streetscape Plan was adopted in December 2021.
Installation of solar heating on Rainbow swimming pool	COMPLETED	Rainbow Swimming Pool solar heating installed.
Advocate for improved water quality in the regional lakes and rivers	COMPLETED	Council officers advocate for improved water quality at any opportunity available. Council is working with GWM Water to obtain a grant for a new bore at Nhill Lake.
Construction of new clubrooms at Nhill Tennis Club	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	Construction of Nhill Tennis Club rooms is progress after a slow start due to unsuccessful tender rounds and shortage of materials. Works are now well underway on the construction with the concrete slab poured in mid-June and the frame now erected.
Review and update Waste Management Strategy	NOT COMPLETED	Review will be undertaken in 2022/2023. The review was delayed due to a number of factors.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Installation of pedestrian safety fencing at Nhill Early Years Centre	COMPLETED	Pedestrian fencing installed was installed at the Nhill Early Years Centre to ensure pedestrian safety.
Installation of seating and electric barbeques at Rainbow Lake	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	Construction of Amenities building is underway, the BBQ shelter has been ordered - though with supplier lead times isn't expected to arrive until early August. Installation / concreting of park furniture and seating will be completed by the Lake Committee in coming months at working bees.
Consider opportunities and seek funding for lighting in public areas	COMPLETED	Solar lighting was installed at the Dimboola Visitor Node, in front and at the rear of Rainbow library. New lighting was also installed at WMPM to light Albacutya Homestead to improve security.
Ensure Council representation on Western Highway Action Committee, Wimmera Regional Transport Group and Grampians Central West Waste, Resource Recovery Group and Hindmarsh Landcare Network	COMPLETED	Councillors and/or Officers represent Hindmarsh and attend WHAC; WRTG; GCWWRRG; HLN meetings.
Continue to advocate for funding for Davis Park improvements	ONGOING	Council continues to advocate for funding of Davis Park and was disappointed the election commitment did not come off

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2021/2022 budget for the year.

MAJOR INITIATIVES	PROGRESS
Reconstruction of the Albacutya Bridge	Construction of the Albacutya Bridge and road approaches was completed in May 2022. Minor works including anti-carbonation paint and barrier extensions are planned for August 2022.
Upgrade of the Albacutya Road, Albacutya	Construction of a 1.2km section at the silo art bend was completed in June 2022. Further works on Albacutya Road are planned in the 2022/2023 financial year.
Footpaths in Wimmera Street and Hindmarsh Street Dimboola	Footpaths were constructed in Wimmera Street between Victoria and Church Street, and Hindmarsh Street Dimboola between Normanby and Lochiel Streets.
Footpath in Roy Street Jeparit	This footpath construction has been delayed due to works being undertaken within VicTrack land.

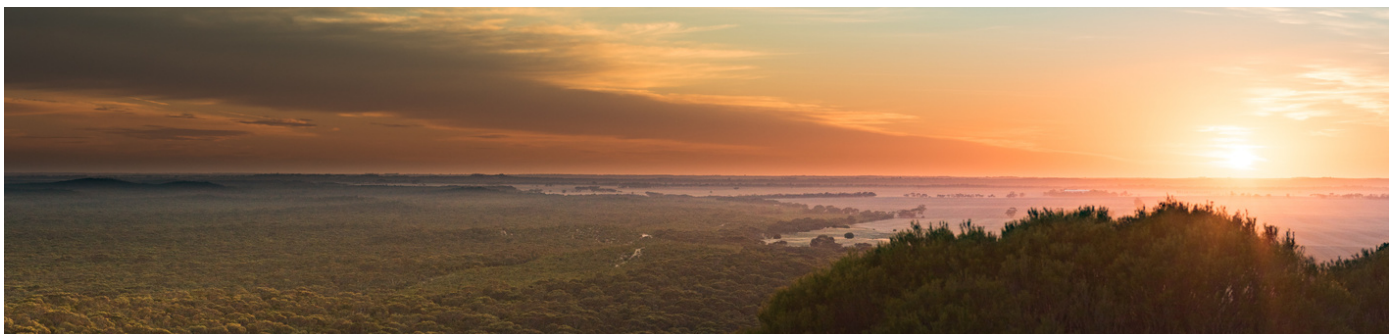
OUR PERFORMANCE - THEME TWO

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2021/2022 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL BUDGET VARIANCE \$
Local Roads and Bridges	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.	6,655,293 <u>5,957,227</u> 698,066
Drainage Management	The aim of this program is to have well maintained, fit for purpose drainage systems within townships.	500,324 <u>623,318</u> (122,994)
Paths and Trails	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.	548,653 <u>439,167</u> 109,486
Tree Management	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.	220,568 <u>346,025</u> (125,457)
Town Beautification	The aim of Council's Town Beautification program is to maintain and redevelop public open spaces in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.	758,272 <u>742,647</u> 15,625
Community Centres and Public Halls	Maintenance, renewal and upgrade of Council-owned and controlled community centres and halls, and supporting communities that undertake these activities on behalf of Council.	240,523 <u>281,562</u> (41,039)
Recreation Facilities	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.	1,079,542 <u>1,295,078</u> (215,536)
Waste Management	Management of Council's transfer stations and collection and disposal of domestic waste and recyclables across the Shire.	(57,487) <u>145,938</u> (203,425)
Quarry Operations	Management of Council-owned and controlled quarries and gravel pits for extraction of gravel for road making.	(6,064) <u>(68,315)</u> 62,251
Waterway Management	Management of Council-controlled waterways including weir pools and lakes.	72,899 <u>37,172</u> 35,727

OUR PERFORMANCE - THEME TWO

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> VARIANCE \$
Environment Management	Manage, protect and enhance Council's natural assets in conjunction with Government departments and environmental groups.	130,034 <u>69,695</u> 60,339
Fire Protection	To identify potential fire hazards and to prevent loss to life and property caused by fire.	74,683 <u>97,614</u> (22,931)



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

Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Roads					
Satisfaction of use					
<i>Sealed local road requests</i> [Number of sealed local road requests / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100	3.11	9.34	8.82	9.19	Requests were reduced as rural Victoria was in lock down for part of 2021/2022.
Condition					
<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%	99.83%	99.83%	99.83%	No material variation.
Service cost					
<i>Cost of sealed local road reconstruction</i> [Direct cost of sealed local road reconstruction / square metres of sealed local roads reconstructed]	\$34.22	\$20.77	\$30.74	\$25.79	The location of work required further transportation from the quarry which resulted in higher transportation costs.
<i>Cost of sealed local road resealing</i> [Direct cost of sealed local road resealing / Square metres of sealed local roads resealed]	\$5.17	\$5.08	\$5.04	\$4.93	No material variation.
Satisfaction					
<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]	55	53	50	54	No material variation.
Aquatic Facilities					
Service standard					
<i>Health inspections of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of authorised officer inspections of Council aquatic facilities / number of Council aquatic facilities]	1.00	1.50	2.00	1.00	Council undertook pre-opening inspections on all four swimming pools.
<i>Cost of aquatic facilities</i> [Direct cost of aquatic facilities less income received / number of visits to outdoor aquatic facilities]	\$40.41	\$29.45	\$32.92	New in 2020	This indicator is reflective of direct costs for running the four swimming pools in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.
<i>Cost of outdoor aquatic facilities</i> [Direct cost of outdoor aquatic facilities less income received / number of visits to outdoor aquatic facilities]	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	\$17.51	No material variation.

Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Aquatic Facilities					
Utilisation					
<i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / municipal population]	2.08	2.14	2.92	3.62	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and isolation rules swimming pools were closed at various times during the season.
Waste Collection					
Satisfaction					
<i>Kerbside bin collection requests</i> [Number of kerbside garbage and recycling bin collection requests / number of kerbside bin collection households] x1,000	41.74	25.72	14.76	4.26	The existing bins are approximately 17 years old and are therefore becoming brittle, which means the bins are often damaged by the garbage truck.
Service standard					
<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	0.18	0.09	0.66	0.14	During 2021/22 4 bins were missed (2 2020/2021).
Service cost					
<i>Cost of kerbside garbage collection service</i> [Direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service / Number of kerbside garbage collection bins]	\$212.62	\$198.18	\$196.46	\$177.09z	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]	\$125.25	\$121.17	\$88.86	\$99.14	Council contracts out Waste and Recycling collection. The increase in costs is reflective of a full year of recycling collection and increases in costs associated with recycling.
Waste Diversion					
<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	32.39%	30.10%	5.37%	32.26%	No material variation.



Theme Three: Competitive and Innovative Economy

The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the 2021/2022 Actions included in the Council Plan.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Upgrades to ensuite at Dimboola Caravan Park	COMPLETED	Upgrades completed to two ensuites.
Provide the business assistance grants program	COMPLETED	Council supported 15 businesses through the 2021/2022 business assistance grant program with funding totaling \$36,836.20.
Promote Hindmarsh as a tourism destination to stop, stay and play	ONGOING	<p>New and updated Visit Hindmarsh webpage was developed and is now live. Content is continually being added.</p> <p>Nhill, Jeparit & Rainbow brochures have been finalised and sent for printing.</p> <p>Arkona silo art and Dimboola mural completed with significant social media reach.</p> <p>12 more Hindmarsh sites listed on ATDW (Australian Tourism Data Warehouse). Wimmera Mallee Tourism are shortly implementing a region-wide project to work with local tourism related businesses to assist getting them listed on the ATDW, which will assist them to be picked up by overarching tourism organisations (such as Visit Victoria), travel agents and tour operators.</p> <p>Tourism business seed funding available through Tourism Business Innovation Grants, part of the Wimmera Mallee Silo Arts Trail funding.</p> <p>Tourism business training and mentoring available through Wimmera Mallee Silo Arts Trail funding.</p> <p>Region-wide marketing strategy completed, including a Social Media guide which will assist local organisations and groups align with regional marketing and get the best benefits from Social Media platforms.</p>
Host business networking session to encourage Hindmarsh businesses to come together and network	ONGOING	Unfortunately, due to COVID the May 2022 business networking session was cancelled. The next session will be held in September 2022

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Construction of a camp Kitchen at Jeparit riverbank precinct	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	The project was delayed waiting for landowner consent. Works have now commenced on the concrete slab. The camp kitchen structure, bbq and seating has all been purchased ready for install.
Installation of cabin accommodation (including all abilities) at caravan parks within Hindmarsh Shire (subject to funding)	COMPLETED	Six new cabins (3 all abilities; 3 standard) have been installed at Dimboola (2 standard); Nhill (1 standard, 1 all abilities); Jeparit (1 all abilities) and Rainbow (1 all abilities). Connection of services will be completed by contractors over the coming weeks and months
Commence review on Council's economic development strategy	NOT COMPLETED	The review has been delayed due to a range of reasons including awaiting the 2021 census data to be released. The review will be undertaken in 2022 / 2023.
Participate in Wimmera Development Association housing strategy meetings	COMPLETED	Council officers participated in WDA housing strategy meetings
Enhance Council's Procurement Policy to support Council purchasing locally	COMPLETED	Council's updated Procurement Policy was adopted on 4 August 2021 and includes local and regional weighting to support local and neighbouring council businesses.
Commence Silo Art at Llew Schilling Silo in Rainbow and Arkona Silo	PARTIALLY COMPLETED	Arkona Silo Art was completed in May 2022. Expression Of Interest for appointment of Project Architect process completed and shortlisted respondents invited to Tender for provision of Services. Architect appointed by 30 June 2022. Site visits will be scheduled as soon as possible after appointment for development of Concept Design.
Provide a calendar of events to assist community groups and event organisers to promote their events	COMPLETED	Members of the public are now able to list their events on Council's website by completing an online form which is available on Council's website at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/advertising-an-event . When submitted, the event is listed on the Upcoming Events page within 3 working days. Council staff also share the event through the Hindmarsh Shire Council Facebook page and include it in the next fortnightly e-newsletter and/or monthly newsletter.
Provide business concierge services to assist business understand COVID-19 restrictions	COMPLETED	Council employed a full-time business concierge and hospitality support officer to assist businesses and community groups to navigate and understand the COVID-19 restrictions.

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2021/2022 budget for the year.

MAJOR INITIATIVES	PROGRESS
Upgrades to Ensuites at Riverside Holiday Park Dimboola	Two ensuites were upgraded during 2021/2022.
New ensuite cabins for Jeparit and Rainbow Caravan Parks, and for Dimboola Holiday Park (subject to funding)	Six new cabins (3 all abilities; 3 standard) have been installed at Dimboola (2 standard); Nhill (1 standard; 1 all abilities); Jeparit (1 all abilities); and Rainbow (1 all abilities). Connection of services will be completed by contractors over the coming weeks and months.

The following statements provide information in relation to the services funded in the 2021/2022 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> VARIANCE \$
Economic Development	To encourage Economic Development throughout the municipality.	55,615 <u>189,422</u> (133,807)
Tourism	To develop a thriving Wimmera Mallee Tourism industry predominantly based on, but not limited to, the Shire's heritage and environmental assets.	228,060 <u>302,065</u> (74,005)
Private Works	Provision of private civil works services. Provide quotations for private works undertaken by the Council works department to residents, contractors and other authorities. Potential private works include grading of farm driveways, grading of fence lines, construction of driveway cross-overs, and supply of labour, plant and materials. Private works also include repair to Council's infrastructure caused by repair to third party assets.	26,963 <u>(70,798)</u> 97,758
Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds	Maintenance, renewal and upgrade of Council Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds.	426,491 <u>725,787</u> (299,296)
Aerodrome	Manage and maintain the Nhill Aerodrome.	101,983 <u>67,843</u> 34,140

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL BUDGET VARIANCE \$
Land Use Planning	<p>To ensure that any development that occurs in Hindmarsh Shire is carried out in accordance with relevant planning policies, principles and controls.</p> <p>Provide customers with advice on planning scheme requirements.</p> <p>Prepare and assess planning scheme amendments and consider planning permit applications.</p> <p>Represent Council at Panel Hearings and at Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.</p> <p>Undertake planning scheme compliance checks when necessary.</p> <p>Process subdivisions and planning certificates.</p> <p>Implement actions from the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Growth Plan.</p>	<p>153,906</p> <p><u>169,734</u></p> <p>(15,828)</p>
Building Control	<p>To provide statutory and private building services to the community.</p> <p>To carry out Council's statutory private building requirements.</p> <p>Issuing of building permits and certificates.</p> <p>Receipt and recording of building permits undertaken by private building surveyors.</p> <p>Undertake building enforcement and compliance checks.</p> <p>Provision of reports to the Building Control Commission.</p>	<p>154,117</p> <p><u>157,416</u></p> <p>(3,299)</p>



Service/Indicator/measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Statutory Planning					
Timeliness					
<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]	69	43	43	72	There were a number of new subdivision applications during the year. Delays in decision of planning applications was a result of COVID-19 lockdowns.
Service standard					
<i>Planning applications decided within 60 days</i> [Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days / Number of planning application decisions made] x100	90.16%	76.19%	80.49%	52.78%	Council utilised contract planning services for the provision of Statutory Planning from 2019/20 onwards. A trainee planner as employed during 2021/2022.
Service cost					
<i>Cost of statutory planning service</i> [Direct cost of statutory planning service / Number of planning applications received]	\$4,465	\$4,315	\$5,266	\$4,241	Council utilises contract planning services for the provision of Statutory Planning.
Decision making					
<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	0%	0%	0%	0%	No planning matters were taken to VCAT during 2021/2022.



Theme Four:

Good Governance & Financial Sustainability

The following statement reviews the performance of Council against the Council Plan including results achieved in relation to the 2021/2022 Actions included in the Council Plan.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Develop a workforce plan	COMPLETED	The workforce plan was adopted in December 2021.
Online streaming of Council meetings through Council's Facebook page	COMPLETED	Council continues to livestream Council meetings through Council's Facebook page.
Consideration for employing a trainee, or apprentice when vacancies arise throughout the year	ONGOING	Council considers employing young people when vacancies arise through traineeships and apprenticeships where possible.
Community conversation sessions held annually in our four main towns	COMPLETED	Community Conversation sessions were held in November 2021 (Jeparit Riverbank Precinct) and March 2022 (all four towns).
Drop in sessions held allowing for community input to Council on key documents or projects	ONGOING	A drop-in session was held for Arkona Silo Art project in March 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the drop-in sessions for the Council Plan were cancelled.
Develop a ten (10) year long term financial plan	COMPLETED	Council's Long Term Financial Plan was adopted in October 2021. The plan was revised as part of the 2022/2023 budget process and adopted by Council on 29 June 2022.
Quarterly finance reporting to Council	ONGOING	Finance reports have been presented to Council quarterly in July 2021; October 2021; February 2022; May 2022.
Review Council's Complaints Policy	COMPLETED	Council's Complaints Policy was updated and adopted in December 2021.
Ensure Council representation on Wimmera Development Association, Rural Council's Victoria, and Municipal Association of Victoria	COMPLETED	Council continues to have representation on WDA, RCV and MAV.

ACTION	RESULT	COMMENTS
Quarterly Council Plan reporting to Council	ONGOING	Council plan updates were reported to Council quarterly in November 2021; February 2022; and May 2022.
Develop a gender equality action plan	COMPLETED	The Gender Equality Action Plan was adopted in March 2022.
Collaborate with Horsham Rural City Council, West Wimmera Shire Council and Loddon Shire Council to implement the Rural Council Transformation Project	ONGOING	Council continues to collaborate with HRCC, LSC on the Rural Council Transformation Project with a report presented to the 29 June 2022 Council meeting endorsing the preferred tenderer.
Audit & Risk Committee meetings review and consider Council risks at each meeting	ONGOING	Risk Management is a standing item on Audit & Risk Committee meetings.

The following statement reviews the progress of Council in relation to major initiatives identified in the 2021/2022 budget for the year.

MAJOR INITIATIVES	PROGRESS
Collaboration with neighbouring Councils in the Rural Council's Transformation Project.	Council along with Horsham Rural City Council, and Loddon Shire Council continue to progress the Rural Council's Transformation Project. The project will be completed over a number of years.

The following statement provides information in relation to the services funded in the 2021/2022 budget and the persons or sections of the community who are provided the service.

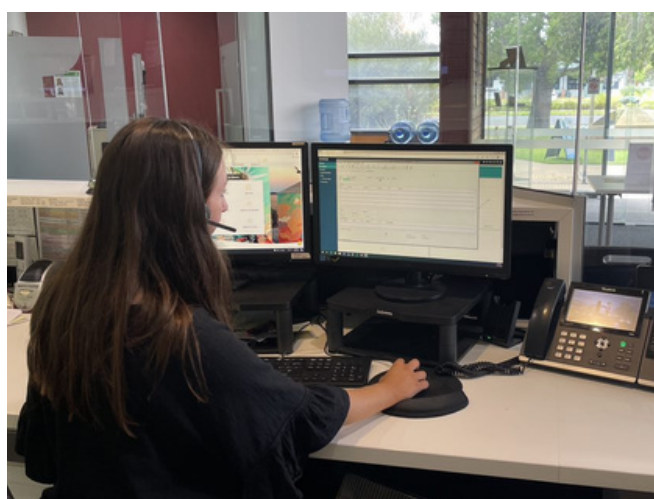
SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL BUDGET VARIANCE \$
Council Elections	Efficient and effective running of Elections by the Victorian Electoral Commission on behalf of Council. • Ongoing maintenance of the voters' rolls.	(2,834) <u>20,000</u> (22,834)
Information Technology	Using Information Technology as a tool to connect with the community and provide efficient and effective services.	366,622 <u>357,130</u> 9,492

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> VARIANCE \$
Civic Leadership and Governance	<p>To ensure that Council provides effective leadership and that its decisions are transparent, inclusive and based on sound recommendations and advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management support for the Mayor and Council. • Regular media releases and newsletters to inform the community of current issues. • Lobbying of politicians and government departments. • Advocacy on behalf of the community on key local government issues. • Memberships include Municipal Association of Victoria, Rural Council Victoria, North West Municipalities Association and Wimmera Development Corporation • Community Satisfaction Feedback Survey 	<p>970,055</p> <p><u>1,009,001</u></p> <p>(38,946)</p>
Customer Service Centres	<p>Operation and maintenance of customer service centres to provide facilities from which Council can efficiently deliver services to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of professionally-focused Customer Service Centres in each township. • Seek improvement in the community satisfaction survey conducted annually. • Adherence to Council's Customer Services Charter. • Provide licensing and registration services on behalf of VicRoads. • Provision of information to ratepayers and the general public on a broad range of services provided by Council and other government agencies. 	<p>481,997</p> <p><u>517,935</u></p> <p>(35,938)</p>
Financial Management	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of the annual budget, including the capital works budget • Preparation of Council's Annual Report • Preparation of management reports to Council and Senior Managers. • Investment of surplus funds in accordance with Council's investment policy having regard to legislation and financial risk. • Support of the internal and external audit functions • Management of Council's taxation obligations • Continued lobbying of governments for additional funding and resources 	<p>(7,255,814)</p> <p><u>(5,150,643)</u></p> <p>(2,105,171)</p>

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> VARIANCE \$
Rating and Valuations	<p>Management of Council's rating system, including valuation of properties and the levying of rates and charges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of property and valuation records, including supplementary valuations. • Administering Pensioner rate concessions on behalf of the State Government. • Issue of quarterly Rates and Valuations notices. • Collection of rates and legal action where necessary. • Issue of Land Information Certificates. 	<p>(7,918,335)</p> <p><u>(7,889,620)</u></p> <p>(28,715)</p>
Records Management	<p>Effective and efficient recording, storage, retrieval and disposal of records in line with the standards of the Public Records Office of Victoria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with Privacy and Freedom of Information Legislation. • Ensure that Council records, stores and disposes of its records in accordance with statutory obligations. 	<p>57,886</p> <p><u>56,675</u></p> <p>1,211</p>
Risk Management	<p>Monitor and manage Council's risks in relation to operations, employment and infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and review the Risk Register. • Regular review of the risks and control measures by Senior Management. • Ensuring that Council's assets and interests are insured adequately against risk. • Management of WorkCover Authority insurance and work place injury claims. • Quarterly meetings of the Risk Management Committee. • Quarterly meetings of the Audit Committee. • Advise staff and contractors in relation to Workplace Health and Safety. • Ensure that Council is aware of, and complies with, all of its statutory obligations. 	<p>474,681</p> <p><u>547,940</u></p> <p>(73,259)</p>
Contract Management	<p>Preparation of contract specifications, administration of tender processes and management of Council's contracted services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender preparation and specification development. • Supervision and management of contracted Council services. • Ensure that Council's tendering process (including letting of tenders and appointment of contractors) comply with Council purchasing policies and statutory obligations. • Ensure value for money and best products are achieved. 	<p>251,260</p> <p><u>250,078</u></p> <p>1,182</p>

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	NET COST ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> VARIANCE \$
Payroll and Human Resources Services	Provision of payroll services to Council employees and the provision of human resources services to management.	303,166 <u>278,458</u> 24,708
Emergency Management	Provide support to the community in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency response and emergency recovery.	61,343 <u>68,138</u> (6,795)
Depots and Workshops	Operation of Council's depots and workshops including the provision of heavy plant and equipment. • Securely house plant, equipment and materials. • Provide a base for the outdoor staff. • Provide a location to carry out maintenance and repairs of Council's plant and equipment. • Purchase and maintain plant and equipment to enable the delivery of works	2,271,087 <u>1,978,563</u> 292,524
Asset Management	Provision of skills, resources and systems to ensure the most efficient and effective management of Council's assets. • Ensure that Council targets the correct level of asset expenditure to achieve and maintain the desired levels of service into the foreseeable future. • Ensure that Council's asset renewal expenditure targets the most critical assets. • Provide Council's asset valuations.	236,373 <u>157,053</u> 79,320
Fleet Management	Ensure that Council's vehicle fleet is managed, maintained and replaced in the most efficient and effective way possible. • Timely maintenance of fleet vehicles. • Purchase and replacement of fleet vehicles in accordance with Council policy.	383,000 <u>593,602</u> (210,602)
Accounts Payable	Payment of invoices in an efficient and timely manner. • Maintenance of secure payment systems and processes. • Payment of invoices in accordance with Councils payment terms (within 30 days). • All payments to be made via EFT or Direct Credit.	36,976 <u>35,507</u> 1,469
Accounts Receivable	Receival of payments from debtors in an efficient and timely manner. • Monthly invoicing of accounts. • Ensure Council's Outstanding Debtor Policy is adhered to. • Regular reports to management on outstanding debtors.	13,866 <u>13,315</u> 551

Service/Indicator/Measure	Result 2022	Result 2021	Result 2020	Result 2019	Material Variations
Governance					
Transparency					
<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	15.35%	14.07%	15.97%	24.19%	Decisions made in closed council relate to personnel matters, contractual matters, hardship applications and legal advice.
Consultation and engagement					
<i>Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on community consultation and engagement]	55	56	59	60	No material variation.
Attendance					
<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	98.81%	95.24%	97.92%	94.70%	No material variation.
Service cost					
<i>Cost of governance</i> [Direct cost of the governance service / Number of councillors elected at the last council general election]	\$48,490	\$42,056	\$41,701	\$47,441	No material variation.
Satisfaction					
<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]	55	59	59	61	No material variation.



Governance



Governance:

The Hindmarsh Shire Council is constituted under the *Local Government Act 2020* 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:

Hindmarsh Shire Council operates in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*. Meetings are held on Wednesday's, generally on the first Wednesday of the month in February, March, April and May. Two meetings are held in June on the first and last Wednesday of the month, with meetings then being held on the third or fourth Wednesday of the month in July, August, September, October and November and the second Wednesday of the month in December. No meeting is held in January.

Council encourages members of the public to attend Council meetings (subject to COVID-19 restrictions) or to view our Council meetings live through Hindmarsh Shire Council's Facebook page.

Community members wishing to ask questions at council meetings may do so, in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the council meeting. Both the question and answer will be read out at the meeting. Questions may be submitted by mail, email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au or delivered in person to a council customer centre but are limited to two questions and 100 words including any pre-ambles. Offensive, trivial and repetitive questions or questions, which have been recently answered, may be excluded at the discretion of the Mayor.

The question must be accompanied by a name and the locality where the questioner resides or works, which will be read out at the meeting. By submitting a question, the questioner gives consent to this information being read out in public. Anonymous questions will not be answered.

For the 2021/22 year, Council held the following meetings:

- 13 ordinary Council meetings.
- 1 special Council meeting.

The following table provides a summary of Councillor attendance at Council meetings and Special Council meetings for the 2021/22 financial year:

Councillors	Council Meeting	Special Council Meeting	Total
Cr Melanie Albrecht Mayor	12	1	13
Cr Brett Ireland Deputy Mayor	13	1	14
Cr Rob Gersch	13	1	14
Cr Debra Nelson	13	1	14
Cr Ron Ismay	13	1	14
Cr Wendy Bywaters	13	1	14
Total Meetings Held	13	1	14

Special Committees:

The *Local Government Act 2020* 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.

Advisory 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	9	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	9	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	9	To represent the diverse members of the Rainbow community, identify community needs and interests, and advocate on behalf of the community.

Community Asset Committee	Councillors	Officers	Other	Purpose
Antwerp Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	11	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.

Community Asset Committee	Councillors	Officers	Other	Purpose
Lorquon Memorial Hall Committee	No delegate	No delegate	4	To provide a public hall facility for the use and benefit of the citizens of Lorquon and district.
Rainbow Civic Centre Committee	1	No delegate	7	To promote, develop and maintain the premises for the benefit of the community and to satisfy the financial return to the Council in order that the Civic Centre move to becoming self-supporting.
Yanac Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee	No delegate	No delegate	13	To provide a public hall and recreation reserve for the use and benefit of the citizens of Yanac and district.
Rainbow Recreation Reserve Committee	1	No delegate	5	To provide a public hall and recreation reserve facilities for the use and benefit of the citizens of Rainbow and district.
Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Committee	1	1	11	To manage the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum.
Yurunga Homestead Committee	1	1	7	To manage the Yurunga Homestead.

Adopted Policies and Plans:

The following table provides a summary of the plans and policies that were adopted during 2021/2022:

Policy/Plan Title	Month Adopted
Procurement Policy	August 2021
Road Management Plan 2021-2023	August 2021
CoRE Strategy 2021-2025	September 2021
Advisory Committee Policy	September 2021
Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025	September 2021
Council Plan 2021-2025, incorporating the Health and Wellbeing Plan, and Community Vision 2040	September 2021

Policy/Plan Title	Month Adopted
Long Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2030/31	October 2021
Wimmera River Waterway Management Plan	October 2021
CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy	November 2021
Hindmarsh Shire Council Youth Strategy 2021–2025	December 2021
Human Rights Policy	December 2021
Budget 2022/2023 incorporating Revenue and Rating Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan	June 2022
Council Plan 2021–2025 Action Plan 2022/2023 incorporating Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan	June 2022
Asset Plan 2022–2032	June 2022
Annual Budget 2022/2023	June 2022

Code of Conduct:

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Councils to develop and approve a Councillor Code of Conduct within 12 months after each general election. On 3 February 2021, 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 2021/2022, 21 conflicts of interest were declared at Council and Special Committee meetings.

Councillor Allowances:

In accordance with Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance while performing their duty as a Councillor. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are 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.

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

Councillors	Allowance \$
Cr Melanie Albrecht (Mayor)	\$53,104.90
Cr Brett Ireland (Deputy Mayor)	\$29,400.86
Cr Robert Gersch	\$22,904.98
Cr Debra Nelson	\$22,910.98
Cr Ron Ismay	\$39,479.24
Cr Wendy Bywaters	\$22,904.98

Councillors Expenses:

In accordance with Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, 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 2021/2022 year are set out in the following table.

Councillors	TR \$	CM \$	CC \$	IC \$	CE \$	CT \$
Cr Melanie Albrecht (Mayor)					625.92	
Cr Brett Ireland (Deputy Mayor)	57.55				240.00	
Cr Robert Gersch	442.08				1,149.30	
Cr Debra Nelson		1,087.92			806.50	
Cr Ron Ismay					234.00	
Cr Wendy Bywaters					373.48	65.10

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 and Risk Committee:

The Audit and Risk 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 and Risk Committee consists of four independent members, Mr Bernard Young (Chair), Mr Darren Welsh, Mr Ashley Roberts, Ms Krista Thiele and two Councillors. The desired Audit and Risk 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 and Risk Committee elect a Chair to fill that role, with an election held at the first meeting of each calendar year to elect a new Chair.

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

Copies of the minutes of the meetings from each Audit and Risk 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 Audit Committee meetings to report on the status of the audit plan, comment on the implementation of audit recommendations and to present findings of completed reviews.

During 2021/2022 internal audits were completed on Cyber Security and Building Application Review.

External Audit:

Council is externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General. For 2021/2022, the annual external audit of Council's Financial Statements and Performance Statement was conducted by the Victorian Auditor-General's representative, Mr Martin Thompson of Crowe.

Crowe, VAGO's representative since the 2014/15 financial year, attended the September 2021 Audit Committee meeting to present the independent audit report for the 2020/2021 financial year, and also attended the March 2022 to present the 2021/2022 audit strategy, and June 2022 to discuss the interim 2021/2022 audit. The external audit management letter and responses are also provided to the Audit and Risk Committee.

Risk Management:

In May 2021 Council updated 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 & 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
Community Engagement Policy (policy outlining council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest)	Adopted in accordance with section 55 of the Act. It combines policy document and guidelines. Date of adoption: 3 February 2021.
Community engagement guidelines (guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community)	Adopted in accordance the Act. It combines policy document and guidelines. Date of adoption: 3 February 2021.
Financial Plan (plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years)	Adopted in accordance with the section 91 of the Act. Date of adoption: 20 October 2021.
Asset management plans (plans that set out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for key infrastructure asset classes for at least the next 10 years)	Adopted in accordance with section 92 of the Act. Date of adoption: 1 June 2022.
Revenue and Rating Plan (plan setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges)	Adopted in accordance with section 93 of the Act. Date of adoption: 29 June 2022.
Annual budget (plan 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: 29 June 2022.
Risk policy (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations)	Date of operation of current policy: 5 May 2021
Fraud policy (policy outlining council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud)	Date of operation of current policy: 21 October 2019

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
Municipal emergency management plan (plan under section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 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: 17 August 2020
Procurement policy (policy outlining the matters, practices and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods, services and works)	Prepared and approved in accordance with section 108 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> . Date of approval: 4 August 2021.
Business continuity plan (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 September 2020.
Disaster recovery plan (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 included within Business Continuity Plan. Updated: 1 September 2020.
Risk management framework (framework outlining council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations)	Date of operation of current Risk Management Strategy: 3 February 2021.
Audit and Risk Committee (advisory committee of council under section 53 and 54 of the Act)	Established in accordance with section 54 of the Act Date of establishment: 15 July 2020
Internal audit (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: 9 June 2021
Performance reporting framework (a set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 98 of the Local Government Act 1989)	Date of operation of current framework: 1 July 2014
Council Plan reporting (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: 04 August 2021; 22 September 2021; 20 October 2021; 02 February 2022; 04 May 2022.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment
Quarterly budget reports (quarterly reports to Council under section 97 of the Act comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure with actual revenue and expenditure)	Statements presented to Council in accordance with section 97 of the Act Date statements presented: 04 August 2021; 20 October 2021; 02 February 2022; 4 May 2022.
Risk reporting (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 and Risk Committee meeting on 21 September 2021; 09 March 2022 and 15 June 2022.
Performance reporting (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: 04 August 2021 and 02 February 2022.
Annual report (annual report under sections 98 and 99 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 100 of the Act. Annual report considered: 20 October 2021
Councillor Code of Conduct (Code setting out the conduct principles and the dispute resolution processes to be followed by Councillors)	Reviewed and adopted in accordance with section 139 of the Act Date reviewed: 3 February 2021
Delegations (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 11(7) of the act and a register kept in accordance with sections 11(8) and 47(7) of the Act Date of review: 04 August 2021.
Meeting procedures (Governance Rules governing the conduct of meetings of council and delegated committees)	Governance Rules adopted in accordance with section 60 of the Act. Date adopted: 19 August 2020

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



Cr Melanie Albrecht
Mayor
28 September 2022



Greg Wood
Chief Executive Officer
28 September 2022

Statutory Information



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

Documents available for public inspection:

Council adopted a public transparency policy on 19 August 2020 in accordance with sections 57 and 58 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The following public transparency principles are contained within the policy:

- a) Council decision making processes must be transparent except when Council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of the Act or any other Act;
- b) Council information must be publicly available unless –
 - i. the information is confidential by virtue of the Act or any other Act;
 - ii. public availability of the information would be contrary to the public interest;
- c) Council information must be understandable and accessible to members of the municipal community;
- d) public awareness of the availability of Council information must be facilitated.

A copy of the policy is available on Council's website (www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au) under the heading Governance and Transparency.

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.

Contracts:

During the 2020/21 financial year Council did not enter into any contracts valued at \$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 is required to prepare a Disability Action Plan and report in its annual report. Council incorporated Positive Ageing and Inclusions into the Council Plan 2021–2025.

The following actions have been implemented from the Council Plan 2021–2025 Actions 2021/2022:

- Supporting our community through hosting seniors concert, social connection activities including movie matinees and morning teas, and delivery of community care services.
- Upgrades to our libraries to ensure they are all abilities friendly and services are accessible.
- Support and coordination of the volunteer taxi service in Nhill.
- Providing all abilities accessible accommodation in our four caravan parks in Dimboola, Jeparit, Nhill and Rainbow.
- Fortnightly e-newsletters and monthly hard copy newsletters to keep our community informed.

We continue 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 2021-2025 on 22 September 2021. 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 and on our website www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.



Public Interest Disclosure Procedures:

In accordance with section 69 of the *Public Interest Disclosures 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 *Public Interest Disclosures 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 2021/22 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.

Infrastructure and development contributions:

In accordance with section 46GM and 46QD of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, a Council that is a collecting or development agency must prepare and give a report to the Minister for Planning on infrastructure and development contributions including levies and works in kind.

No such contributions were received by Council during the financial year.



Hindmarsh
Shire Council

PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED JUNE 2022

HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2022



Our Municipality

Hindmarsh Shire is located in the Wimmera region in western Victoria and covers an area of 7,527km². 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, 5,698 people live in Hindmarsh Shire, with a median age of 50 years. According to the 2021 Census 82.6% of people in Hindmarsh Shire were born in Australia, with English the only language spoken in 86% of homes. Our most significant group of migrants are Karen refugees from Burma (Myanmar), with approximately 220 calling Nhill home.

The median weekly household income is \$1,159, 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, 15.4% higher than the national average.

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Indicator/measure	Results 2019	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Material Variations
Own-source revenue <i>Own-source revenue per head of municipal population</i> [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$2,048	\$2,199	\$2,242	\$2,069	The decrease in own-source revenue is due to a decrease in income received from user fees and sale of plant and equipment
Recurrent grants <i>Recurrent grants per head of municipal population</i> [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$1,125	\$1,235	\$1,204	\$1,505	The increase in recurrent grants is due to the early receipt of the 2022/23 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant.
Population <i>Expenses per head of municipal population</i> [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$4,219	\$3,918	\$3,684	\$3,239	The decrease in expenses per head of municipal population is a result of decreased expenditure for 2021/2022 and an increase in population from 2020/2021 to 2021/2022.
<i>Infrastructure per head of municipal population</i> [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$27,580	\$28,683	\$28,387	\$35,763	No material variation.
<i>Population density per length of road</i> [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	1.78	1.85	1.85	1.84	No material variation.
Disadvantage <i>Relative socio-economic disadvantage</i> [Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage by decile]	2	2	2	2	No material variation.
Workforce turnover <i>Resignations and terminations compared to average staff</i> [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	19.8%	11.5%	19.6%	23.1%	Due to the small number of staff employed by Council, staff turnover statistics are sensitive to resignations.

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 2022

Service/indicator/measure	Results 2019	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Material Variations
Governance Satisfaction <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]	61	59	59	55	No material variation.
Statutory Planning Decision making <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	n/a	n/a	n/a	No planning applications were taken to VCAT during 2021/2022.
Roads Satisfaction <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]	54	50	53	55	No material variation.
Libraries Participation <i>Active library borrowers in municipality</i> [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / Municipal population] x100	7.7%	6.8%	6.6%	65%	No material variation.
Waste Collection Waste diversion <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	32.2%	5.4%	30.1%	32.4%	No material variation.
Aquatic facilities Utilisation <i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	3.6	2.9	2.1	2.08	No material variation.
Service/indicator/measure	Results 2019	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Material Variations
Animal management Health and safety					

PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	n/a	n/a	100%	100%	Council successfully prosecuted 1 animal offence during 2021/2022.
Food safety Health and safety Critical and major non-compliance notifications [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%	n/a	n/a	n/a	During 2021/2022 there were no non-compliance notifications.
Maternal and child health Participation Participation in the MCH service [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	Council does not provide this service.
Participation Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [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	Council does not provide this service.

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 borrower" 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 98 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

"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

"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

Financial Performance Indicators

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results			Results			Forecasts			Material Variations
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026		
Operating position Adjusted underlying result <i>Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	-4.2%	7.92%	-1.98%	11.6%	4.05%	-9.61%	-9.73%	-9.31%	Council's result at 30 June 2022 was an underlying surplus due to a number of operational grants being received throughout the 2021/2022 financial year and early receipt of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant.	
Liquidity Working capital <i>Current assets compared to current liabilities</i> [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	310.0%	347.7%	248.8%	347.9%	106.8%	112.2%	108.6%	113.7%	Council received early payment of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant in 2021/2022.	
Unrestricted cash <i>Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities</i> [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	254.9%	295.4%	164.9%	138.4%	64.6%	68.2%	61.2%	64.5%	Council received early payment of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant in 2021/2022.	
Obligations Loans and borrowings <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 continues to remain debt free with no loans or borrowings.	

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results			Results		Forecasts				Material Variations
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026		
Loans and borrowings <i>Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates</i> [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Council continues to remain debt free with no loans or borrowings.	
Indebtedness <i>Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue</i> [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100 Asset renewal & upgrade <i>Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation</i> [Asset renewal and asset upgrade expenses / Asset depreciation] x100	2.3%	2.1%	1.2%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	An assessment in Quarry restoration resulted in an increase in the provision for the restoration. Asset renewal is high due to the rebuilding of the Albacutya Bridge.	
Asset renewal <i>Asset renewal compared to depreciation</i> [Asset renewal expense / Asset depreciation] x 100	New in 2020 62.7%	155.2%	93.1%	235.6%	97.5%	63.4%	67.3%	63.7%	Expenditure on Asset renewal remains a high priority for Council.	
Stability Rates concentration <i>Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue</i> [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	37.8%	37.1%	44.9%	45.23%	41.2%	47.4%	47.7%	47.7%	A significant increase in recurrent grants (mainly the Victorian Grants Commission) has resulted in a reduction in rates concentration.	
Rates effort <i>Rates compared to property values</i> [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	Valuations have increase significantly in the Farm category as this is reflected by the high prices being paid for farm land	

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results			Results		Forecasts			Material Variations
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Efficiency Expenditure level Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$4,670	\$4,253	\$4,015	\$3,504	\$4,270	\$4,332	\$4,394	\$4,458	Expenses per property assessment has decreased due to the finalisation of expenditure on flood recovery.
Revenue level Average rate per property assessment [General rates and Municipal charge / Number of property assessments]	New in 2020	\$1,508	\$1,541	\$1,561	\$1,585	\$1,616	\$1,649	\$1,682	No material variation.
Average residential rate per residential property assessment [Residential rate revenue / Number of residential property assessments]	\$1,169	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	Retired in 2020	

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
- "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 2022

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 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

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 2020* 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 considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by Council in its annual budget on 23 June 2022. The estimates are 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 annual budget can be obtained by contacting Council at its municipal offices at 92 Nelson Street Nhill, online at www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au by email to 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 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.



Heather Boyd

Manager Finance & Customer Service

Dated: 28 September 2022

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Hindmarsh Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

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 2020* to certify this performance statement in its final form.



Cr Melanie Albrecht

Mayor

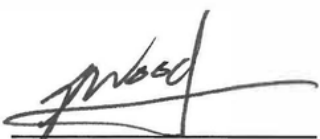
Dated: 28 September 2022



Cr Brett Ireland

Deputy Mayor

Dated: 28 September 2022



Mr Greg Wood

Chief Executive Officer

Dated: 28 September 2022

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Hindmarsh Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2022 • sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • other information and • certification of the performance statement. <p>In my opinion, the performance statement of Hindmarsh Shire Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2022 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<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>. 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 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I 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>
Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement	<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 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p>

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, 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. 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 the 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
10 October 2022



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria



END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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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 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Heather Boyd, BBAA, MBA
Principal Accounting Officer

28/9/2022.

Date : <Date>

Nhill

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Hindmarsh Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that 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 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Mayor M Albrecht
Councillor

Date : <Date> 28 September 2022

Nhill



Deputy Mayor Brett Ireland
Councillor

Date : <Date> 28/9/2022

Nhill



Greg Woods
Chief Executive Officer

Date : <Date>

Nhill

28 September 2022

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the financial report of Hindmarsh Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • balance sheet as at 30 June 2022 • 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 • statement of capital works for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies • certification of the financial statements. <p>In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2022 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. 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 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (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.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report	<p>The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>, 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.</p> <p>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.</p>

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.



MELBOURNE
10 October 2022

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Comprehensive Income Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	3.1	9,222	9,076
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	247	257
User fees	3.3	1,549	1,493
Grants - operating	3.4	7,711	6,235
Grants - capital	3.4	7,064	3,879
Contributions - monetary	3.5	86	348
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	128	76
Share of net profits (or loss) of associates and joint ventures	6.2	82	112
Other income	3.7	283	1,525
Total income		26,373	23,002
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	(7,651)	(7,801)
Materials and services	4.2	(5,519)	(5,081)
Depreciation	4.3	(4,524)	(6,286)
Other expenses	4.5	(330)	(1,435)
Total expenses		(18,024)	(20,603)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		8,349	2,399
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)		33,051	(1,458)
Total other comprehensive income		33,051	(1,458)
Total comprehensive result		41,400	941

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

Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	8,980	17,319
Trade and other receivables	5.1	1,903	1,138
Other financial assets	5.1	6,000	-
Inventories	5.2	503	430
Other assets	5.2	84	126
Total current assets		17,471	19,013
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1	2	2
Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries	6.2	295	213
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	201,579	161,300
Total non-current assets		201,876	161,515
Total assets		219,347	180,528
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	725	483
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	102	101
Unearned income/revenue	5.3	2,029	4,771
Provisions	5.4	2,166	2,286
Total current liabilities		5,021	7,641
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	198	160
Total non-current liabilities		198	160
Total liabilities		5,220	7,801
Net assets		214,127	172,727
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		79,882	71,533
Reserves	9.1	134,245	101,194
Total Equity		214,127	172,727

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

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
2022				
Balance at beginning of the financial year		172,727	71,533	101,194
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		8,349	8,349	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.1	33,051	-	33,051
		214,127	79,882	134,245
Balance at end of the financial year		214,127	79,882	134,245

		Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
2021				
Balance at beginning of the financial year		171,786	69,134	102,652
Adjusted opening balance		171,786	69,134	102,652
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		2,399	2,399	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.1	(1,458)	-	(1,458)
		941	2,399	(1,458)
Balance at end of the financial year		172,727	71,533	101,194

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 2022

	Note	2022 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000	2021 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		9,261	9,001
Statutory fees and fines		34	23
User fees		1,378	1,275
Grants - operating		7,707	6,541
Grants - capital		4,326	7,820
Contributions - monetary		86	348
Interest received		77	83
Other receipts		1,252	1,477
Net GST refund/payment		(420)	390
Employee costs		(7,741)	(7,661)
Materials and services		(5,270)	(5,353)
Other payments		(1,406)	(1,426)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		(0)	(101)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		9,284	12,418
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments		(6,000)	
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	(12,180)	(6,495)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		557	363
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(17,623)	(6,132)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(8,339)	6,286
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		17,319	11,033
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		8,980	17,319
Financing arrangements	5.5	2,020	
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1	102	

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

Statement of Capital Works For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Property			
Land		32	-
Total land		32	-
Buildings		1,822	1,277
Total buildings		1,822	1,277
Total property		1,854	1,277
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		2,306	617
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		22	95
Computers and telecommunications		67	25
Library books		42	43
Total plant and equipment		2,436	780
Infrastructure			
Roads		3,696	3,296
Bridges		3,076	12
Footpaths and cycleways		313	500
Drainage		24	40
Other infrastructure		781	590
Total infrastructure		7,890	4,438
Total capital works expenditure		12,180	6,495
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		1,521	644
Asset renewal expenditure		6,294	3,817
Asset upgrade expenditure		4,365	2,034
Total capital works expenditure		12,180	6,495

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

Note 1 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 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, except for the cash flow information, 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.

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

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.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.

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 6.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3)
- the determination, in accordance with *AASB 16 Leases*, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.7)
- whether or not *AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable
- other areas requiring judgements

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.

(b) Impact of Covid-19

During 2021-22 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact on Council's operations. Council has noted the following significant impacts on its financial operations:

- Additional revenue – LG Business Concierge and Hospitality.
- Revenue reductions – Hall Hire and Movie income (minimal)
- Additional costs – additional staff required to undertake the LG Business Concierge and Hospitality grant requirements.

Note 2.1 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 2020* 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.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

2.1.1 Income and expenditure

	Budget 2022 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Income					
Rates and charges	9,214	9,222	8	0.0	
Statutory fees and fines	146	247	102	0.7	1
User fees	1,275	1,549	274	0.2	2
Grants - operating	5,896	7,711	1,816	0.3	3
Grants - capital	8,423	7,064	(1,359)	(0.2)	4
Contributions - monetary	12	86	74	6.2	5
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	571	128	(443)	(0.8)	6
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures	-	82	82	-	7
Other income	1,098	283	(815)	(0.7)	8
Total income	26,634	26,373	(261)	(0.0)	
Expenses					
Employee costs	7,748	7,651	97	0.0	9
Materials and services	4,559	5,519	(959)	(0.2)	10
Depreciation	5,675	4,524	1,150	0.2	11
Other expenses	1,935	330	1,605	0.8	12
Total expenses	19,918	18,024	1,894	0.1	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	6,717	8,349	(2,155)	(0.3)	

(i) Explanation of material variations

1	Statutory fees and fines	Land use planning permit fees were higher than budgeted while building control certificate fees were lower than budgeted.
2	User fees	User fees and charges is above budget due to Aged care service fees, transfer station fees, private works and caravan park fees being higher than budgeted.
3	Grants - operating	Operating grants are higher than budgeted due to the receipt of part of the 2022/2023 Victorian Local Government Grants Commission funding. Unbudgeted grants were also received for Outdoor Dining and for the LG Business Concierge and Hospitality.
4	Grants - capital	Grants Capital is below budget as the final payment for the Albacutya Bridge will be received once work has completed on the bridge. The Silo Art grant will be recognised when work is completed.
5	Contributions - monetary	Recorded internal contributions to the Town Committees and well as income being received from MAV for Tobacco Activity.
6	Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	The net gain/loss on the sale of assets reflects the gains and losses on the sale of assets.
7	Share of net profits/(Losses) of associates and joint ventures	Additional revenue was recognised due to the increase in Hindmarsh Shire Councils shares in the Wimmera Development Association
8	Other income	Council has amended the accounting treatment of internal charges in this financial year to ensure that the internal expenses and revenue recorded are eliminated.
9	Employee costs	Employee costs are lower than budgeted due to staff vacancies.
10	Materials and services	Materials and services are higher than budgeted due to the timing of the budget for maintenance work on roads. The road and infrastructure audit, Rainbow Lake development and quarry restoration have been undertaken from the budget carried forward from 2020/21.
11	Depreciation	The reduced depreciation reflects the changes in values to Roads, Kerb and Channel as well as the additional work undertaken in 2021/2022 and disposal of some items of plant and machinery. Work in progress will not accrue depreciation until the work is completed.
12	Other expenses	Council has amended the accounting treatment of internal charges in this financial year to ensure that the internal expenses and revenue recorded are eliminated.

2.1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2022 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Land	-	32	32	-	1
Total land	-	32	32	-	
Buildings	1,193	1,822	629	0.5	2
Total buildings	1,193	1,822	629	0.5	
Total property	1,193	1,854	661	0.6	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,938	2,306	369	0.2	3
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	55	22	(33)	(0.6)	4
Computers and telecommunications	82	67	(15)	(0.2)	
Library books	45	42	(3)	(0.1)	
Total plant and equipment	2,120	2,436	316	0.1	
Infrastructure					
Roads	3,169	3,696	527	0.2	5
Bridges	3,500	3,076	(424)	(0.1)	6
Footpaths and cycleways	203	313	110	0.5	7
Drainage	34	24	(10)	(0.3)	
Other infrastructure	2,694	781	(1,913)	(0.7)	8
Total infrastructure	9,600	7,890	(1,710)	(0.2)	
Total capital works expenditure	12,912	12,180	(732)	(0.1)	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	2,385	1,521	(864)	(0.4)	
Asset renewal expenditure	8,746	6,294	(2,452)	(0.3)	
Asset upgrade expenditure	1,672	4,365	2,694	1.6	
Total capital works expenditure	12,802	12,180	(622)	(0.0)	

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Land	Land was purchased for the redevelopment of the Rainbow Recreation Reserve and Caravan Park.
2	Buildings	Buildings are over budget due to the building of the Rainbow Library as well as the Nhill Early Learning Centre Upgrade which were carried forward from 2020/2021.
3	Plant & Machinery	The purchase of plant and machinery is higher than budgeted as Council has received delivery of plant and equipment carried forward from 2020/2021.
4	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Fixtures and fitting purchases will commence once the Holiday Park cabins have been completed.
5	Roads	Roads works carried forward from 2020/2021 were completed in the 2021/2022 financial year.
6	Bridges	The under expenditure in actual expenditure is due to the Albacutya Bridge final works yet to be completed.
7	Footpaths and cycleways	This variance is due to the phasing of the Wimmera River Discovery Trail which is a project carried forward from 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.
8	Other Infrastructure	The Silo Art project for the Lew Schilling Silo as well as the upgrades to the transfer stations will be carried forward to 2022/2023.

Note 2.2 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following four key themes.

2.2.1 Our Community

Our Community's mission is to increase accessible services to enable the community to be healthy, active and engaged.

Built and Natural Environment

Built and Natural Environment's mission is to provide infrastructure essential to support the community; and to protect and enhance our natural environment.

Competitive and Innovative Economy

Competitive and Innovative Economy's mission is to foster a sustainable and diversified local economy where economic growth is encouraged and supported.

Good Governance and Financial Sustainability

Good Governance and Financial Sustainability's mission is to promote user friendly services to ensure transparency, good governance and financial sustainability, and to advance gender equality, equity and inclusion for all.

2.2.2 Summary of income, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

	Income	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2022					
Our Community	2,025	(2,605)	(580)	1,456	1,618
Built and Natural Environment	6,434	(9,088)	(2,654)	4,647	183,199
Competitive and Innovative Economy	2,355	(1,985)	371	1,235	3,816
Good Governance and Financial Sustainability	15,559	(4,346)	11,212	7,437	29,363
Unattributed	-	-	-	-	1,350
	26,373	(18,024)	8,349	14,775	219,347

	Income	Expenses	Surplus / (Deficit)	Grants included in income	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2021					
Community Liveability	2,342	(2,557)	(215)	1,619	1,914
Built and Natural Environment	3,806	(9,484)	(5,678)	2,836	143,337
Competitive and Innovative Economy	1,524	(1,797)	(273)	426	4,636
Our People, Our Process	15,330	(6,765)	8,565	5,233	29,530
Unattributed	-	-	-	-	1,111
	23,002	(20,603)	2,399	10,114	180,528

Note 3 Funding for the delivery of our services

3.1 Rates and charges

2022
\$'000

2021
\$'000

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

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2021/22 was \$2,037.150 million (2020/21 \$1,666.94 million).

General rates	7,280	7,161
Municipal charge	747	745
Waste management charge	1,099	1,076
Revenue in lieu of rates	96	94
Total rates and charges	9,222	9,076

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was January 2022, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2022.

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.

3.2 Statutory fees and fines

Animal Registration Fees	64	71
Building Fees	27	55
Infringements and costs	42	46
Town planning fees	102	77
Land information certificates	8	7
Permits	4	1
Total statutory fees and fines	247	257

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.

3.3 User fees

Aged and health services	379	332
Private Works	164	84
Caravan parks & camping fees	523	458
Transfer station fees	113	98
Commercial garbage collection fees	43	44
Film screenings and hall hire	6	7
Regional Roads Victoria works	197	392
Lease Fees	36	-
Certificates	17	-
Other fees and charges	71	78
Total user fees	1,549	1,493

User fees by timing of revenue recognition

User fees recognised at a point in time	1,549	1,493
Total user fees	1,549	1,493

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

3.4 Funding from other levels of government	2022	2021
Grants were received in respect of the following :	\$'000	\$'000
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	7,976	6,357
State funded grants	6,800	3,758
Total grants received	14,775	10,115
(a) Operating Grants		
<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Financial Assistance Grants	6,333	4,723
General home care	519	520
Other	24	33
<i>Recurrent - State Government</i>		
Delivered Meals	35	45
Home care services	78	57
Home maintenance	9	5
Senior citizens	7	23
School crossing supervisors	6	6
Libraries	122	118
Youth participation program	30	25
Roadside weeds and pest management	75	75
Case assessment	25	23
Other	30	-
Total recurrent operating grants	7,292	5,653
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Other	19	-
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Kindergarten central enrolment	6	24
Regional events funding		24
Facilitated Playgroup	40	59
LG Business Concierge & Hospitality	60	60
Outdoor dining	200	250
Covid relief program	-	15
Community activation & social isolation	-	90
Community climate change adaption	5	40
Rural Roads Support Program	22	-
Engage!	25	-
Recycling Transition Plan	10	-
WasteTransition Plan	22	-
Other	11	20
Total non-recurrent operating grants	419	582
Total operating grants	7,711	6,235

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Hindmarsh Shire Council
2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

(b) Capital Grants		2022	2021
		\$'000	\$'000
<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>			
Roads to recovery		1,081	1,081
<i>Recurrent - State Government</i>			
Other		-	-
Total recurrent capital grants		1,081	1,081
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>			
Other		-	-
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>			
Local Roads & Infrastructure Program		1,081	1,406
Roads to Market		-	50
Working for Victoria		-	378
Nhill Early Learning Facility upgrade		21	17
Dimboola Early Learning Facility upgrade		22	17
Dimboola Community Civic Hub		-	450
Dimboola Bowling Club Sporting Facility		-	164
Yurunga Homestead Veranda		-	32
Riverside Holiday Park All Abilities Amenities		-	143
ICT Infrastructure Program		-	100
CFA Fire Access Grant		15	21
Public Safety Infrastructure Grant		-	20
Regional Arts Fund		4	-
Living Libraries		388	-
Albacutya Bridge		2,300	-
Agrilinks		481	-
Heavy Vehicles Safety & Productivity		420	-
TAC Community Road Safety		12	-
Rainbow Rec Reserve Change Rooms		183	-
Vic Fisheries Authority Large Grant Program		23	-
Silo Art		200	-
Nhill Caravan Park Amenities		185	-
WSM Caravan Park Upgrades		650	-
Total non-recurrent capital grants		5,983	2,798
Total capital grants		7,064	3,879

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	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner		
<i>Operating</i>		
Balance at start of year	49	196
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	47	49
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(49)	(196)
Balance at year end	<u>47</u>	<u>49</u>
<i>Capital</i>		
Balance at start of year	4,722	37
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	1,982	4,722
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(4,722)	(37)
Balance at year end	<u>1,982</u>	<u>4,722</u>

(d) Recognition of grant income

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies *AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities*.

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of the accounting framework under which grants are recognised.

Income recognised under *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*

General purpose	6,357	-
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	7,207	-
Other specific purpose grants	396	-

Revenue recognised under *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers*

Specific purpose grants	816	-
	<u>14,775</u>	<u>-</u>

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
3.5 Contributions		
Monetary	86	348
Total contributions	<u>86</u>	<u>348</u>

Monetary contributions are recognised as revenue at their fair value when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	557	363
Written down value of assets disposed	(429)	(287)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	128	76

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

3.7 Other income		
Plant operations	84	852
Quarry operations	1	496
Interest	77	83
Recoupments	10	25
Fire services levy administration	45	44
Scrap metal and transfer station fees	47	22
Vicroads agency administration	4	2
Other	15	1
Total other income	283	1,525

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.

Council has amended the accounting treatment of internal charges in this financial year to ensure that the internal expenses and revenue recorded are eliminated.

Note 4 The cost of delivering services

4.1 (a) Employee costs		
Wages and salaries	5,938	5,961
WorkCover	250	172
Annual leave, sick leave and long service leave	480	693
Superannuation	727	697
Fringe benefits tax	93	91
Training	125	149
Other	37	38
Total employee costs	7,651	7,801

(b) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

Defined benefit fund

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	49	52
	49	52
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	-	-

Accumulation funds

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	323	312
Employer contributions - other funds	361	332
	684	644
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	-	-

Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

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	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
4.2 Materials and services		
Contract payments	297	328
Building maintenance	183	158
Depots and workshops	47	69
Emergency assistance and fire prevention	50	32
Health promotion	185	216
Home and community care	132	141
Community development, tourism and youth activities	211	163
Garbage and recycling collection and waste disposal	623	618
Utilities	366	383
Office administration	69	135
Information technology	389	437
Parks, reserves and aerodromes	68	83
Plant and fleet operations	1,070	992
Printing, stationery and advertising	71	51
Quarry operations	450	370
Rating and valuation	13	8
Roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage management	761	475
Swimming pool maintenance and management	340	280
Town beautification	40	36
Consultants and labour hire	15	17
Other	141	89
Total materials and services	5,519	5,081

Expenses are recognised as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

4.3 Depreciation		
Property	512	1,027
Plant and equipment	1,058	997
Infrastructure	2,954	4,262
Total depreciation	4,524	6,286

Refer to note 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

4.4 Bad and doubtful debts		
Rates debtors	14	-
Other debtors	17	-
Total bad and doubtful debts	31	-

Movement in provisions for doubtful debts

Balance at the beginning of the year	29	18
New provisions recognised during the year	2	11
Balance at end of year	31	29

Provision for doubtful debt is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
4.5 Other expenses		
Advertising	37	58
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	59	45
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	14	16
Bank charges	30	31
Community action grants	20	55
Council contributions - other	85	111
Councillors' allowances	196	171
Fire services levy	23	23
Hindmarsh Landcare Network contribution	-	10
Insurance	316	340
Landfill charges	314	272
Legal costs	59	56
Postage	19	22
Subscriptions	148	159
Telecommunications	19	19
Town committees	30	30
Internal recoupment of plant and quarry materials	(1,046)	-
Others	7	17
Total other expenses	330	1,435

Council has amended the accounting treatment of internal charges in this financial year to ensure that the internal expenses and revenue recorded are eliminated.

Note 5 Our financial position

5.1 Financial assets

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand	4	4
Cash at bank	4,976	5,315
Term deposits	4,000	12,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	8,980	17,319

(b) Other financial assets

Term deposits - current	6,000	-
Total other financial assets	6,000	-
Total financial assets	14,980	17,319

Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary use. These include:

- Trust funds and deposits (Note 5.3)	102	101
Total restricted funds	102	101
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	8,878	17,218

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	2,747	4,721
- include details of other allocated amounts	47	49
Total funds subject to intended allocations	2,794	4,770

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months 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.

Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
(b) Trade and other receivables		
Current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	436	475
Building permit debtors	13	9
Infringement debtors	176	163
Net GST receivable	163	(256)
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Other debtors	134	114
Sundry debtors	1,010	662
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors	(31)	(29)
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>1,903</u>	<u>1,138</u>
Non-current		
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Street scheme debtors	2	2
Total non-current trade and other receivables	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total trade and other receivables	<u>1,905</u>	<u>1,140</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.

(c) Ageing of Receivables

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

Current (not yet due)	-	-
Past due by up to 30 days	591	341
Past due between 31 and 180 days	20	27
Past due between 181 and 365 days	135	365
Past due by more than 1 year	398	45
Total trade and other receivables	<u>1,145</u>	<u>778</u>

(d) Ageing of individually impaired Receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$17,034 (2021: \$6,084) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$17,034 (2021: \$6,084). 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	17	6
Total trade & other receivables	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
5.2 Non-financial assets		
(a) Inventories		
Inventories held for distribution	503	430
Total inventories	503	430
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	84	126
Accrued income	-	-
Other	-	-
Total other assets	84	126
	2022	2021
5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue		
(a) Trade and other payables		
<i>Non-statutory payables</i>		
Trade payables	454	246
Accrued expenses	271	237
Total trade and other payables	725	483
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Refundable deposits	12	12
Fire services levy	90	89
Total trust funds and deposits	102	101
(c) Unearned income/revenue		
Grants received in advance - operating	47	48
Grants received in advance - capital	1,982	4,723
Other	-	-
Total unearned income/revenue	2,029	4,771

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

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.

5.4 Provisions

	Employee \$'000	Landfill restoration	Quarry	Total
2022				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,264	28	154	2,446
Additional provisions	316	-	42	358
Amounts used	(440)	-	-	(440)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<u>2,140</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>2,364</u>

	Employee \$'000	Landfill restoration	Quarry	Total
2021				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,175	28	153	2,356
Additional provisions	1,014	-	1	1,015
Amounts used	(925)	-	-	(925)
Balance at the end of the financial year	<u>2,264</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>2,446</u>

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
(a) Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12		
Annual leave	702	665
Long service leave	51	60
	<u>753</u>	<u>725</u>
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12		
Annual leave	213	147
Long service leave	1,068	1,273
	<u>1,281</u>	<u>1,420</u>
Total current employee provisions	<u>2,034</u>	<u>2,145</u>
Non-current		
Long service leave	106	119
Annual leave	-	-
Total non-current employee provisions	<u>106</u>	<u>119</u>
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	2,034	2,145
Non-current	106	119
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	<u>2,140</u>	<u>2,264</u>

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

Annual leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:
- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

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. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. 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 and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	3.693%	-0.015%
- index rate	3.850%	4.250%

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
(b) Landfill restoration		
Current	28	28
Non-current	-	-
	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>

Council is obligated to restore a number of landfill and quarry sites to a particular standard. The forecast life of the sites is based on current estimates of remaining capacity and the forecast rate of infill. The provisions for landfill and quarry 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 sites 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.

Key assumptions:

- estimated cost to rehabilitate	28	28
- index rate	-	-

(c) Quarry restoration

Current	104	113
Non-current	93	41
	<u>197</u>	<u>154</u>

Key assumptions:

- estimated cost to rehabilitate	197	154
- index rate	-	-

(d) Summary of Provisions

Current		
Annual Leave	916	812
Long Service Leave	1,119	1,333
Landfill	28	28
Quarry	104	113
Total current provisions	<u>2,166</u>	<u>2,286</u>
Non-current		
Annual Leave	-	-
Long Service Leave	106	119
Landfill	-	-
Quarry	93	41
Total non-current provisions	<u>198</u>	<u>160</u>

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
5.5 Financing arrangements		
The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2022.		
Bank overdraft	2,000	2,000
Credit card facilities	30	30
Total facilities	<u>2,030</u>	<u>2,030</u>
Used facilities	10	10
Unused facilities	<u>2,020</u>	<u>2,020</u>

5.6 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
(a) Commitments for expenditure					
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Town Planning Services	120	126	132	-	378
Recycling	188	-	-	-	188
Garbage collection	264	-	-	-	264
Transport waste and recycling to Doen	88	-	-	-	88
Swimming pool management	309	324	340	357	1,331
Meals for delivery	100	165	174	-	439
Internal audit services	17	17	18	-	52
Kindergarten services	20	20	20	-	60
Information communication and technology	40	40	40	-	120
Quarry Material	214	214	214	-	642
Total	<u>1,360</u>	<u>906</u>	<u>938</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>2,920</u>
2021	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Building services	122	130	-	-	252
Recycling	179	-	-	-	179
Garbage collection	252	-	-	-	252
Transport waste and recycling to Doen	84	-	-	-	84
Swimming pool management	276	-	-	-	276
Meals for delivery	100	102	-	-	202
Internal audit services	14	14	15	-	43
Kindergarten services	20	20	20	-	60
Information communication and technology	40	40	40	40	160
Total	<u>1,087</u>	<u>306</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>1,508</u>

5.7 Leases

At inception of a contract, all entities would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Council has elected to apply the temporary option available under AASB 16 *Leases* which allows not-for-profit entities to not measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

Short-term and low value leases

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of AUD\$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	-	-
Leases of low value assets	5	6
Total	5	6
Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)	-	-

Non-cancellable lease commitments - Short-term and low-value leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Payable:		
Within one year	2	2
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	-
Total lease commitments	2	2

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Note 6 Assets we manage

6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Carrying amount 30 June 2021 \$'000	Additions \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Revaluation \$'000	Depreciation \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Write-off \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Carrying amount 30 June 2022 \$'000
Property	26,141	832	-	-	(363)	-	-	-	26,610
Plant and equipment	6,888	2,419	-	-	(271)	(1,364)	-	-	7,672
Infrastructure	126,146	4,659	-	33,051	(2,954)	-	(968)	-	159,933
Work in progress	2,125	5,649	-	-	-	-	-	(411)	7,363
	161,300	6,395	-	33,051	(3,588)	(1,364)	(968)	(411)	201,579

Summary of Work in Progress

	Opening WIP \$'000	Additions \$'000	Write-off \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Closing WIP \$'000
Property	237	1,160	-	(198)	1,199
Plant and equipment	-	22	-	-	22
Infrastructure	1,888	4,468	-	(1,181)	5,174
Total	2,125	5,649	-	(1,379)	6,395

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(a) Property

	Land - specialised \$'000	Total Land & Land Improvements \$'000	Heritage buildings \$'000	Buildings - specialised \$'000	Total Buildings \$'000	Work In Progress \$'000	Total Property \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	2,561	2,561	182	23,398	23,580	237	26,378
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Movements in fair value	2,561	2,561	182	23,398	23,580	237	26,378
Additions	32	32	-	602	602	1,160	1,794
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	1,182	(984)	198	(198)	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	32	32	1,182	(382)	800	962	1,794
Movements in accumulated depreciation							
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	(22)	(341)	(363)	-	(363)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	(22)	(341)	(363)	-	(363)
At fair value 30 June 2022	2,592	2,592	1,364	23,016	24,380	1,199	28,172
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	-	-	(22)	(341)	(363)	-	(363)
Carrying amount	2,592	2,592	1,342	22,675	24,017	1,199	27,809

(b) Plant and Equipment

	Plant machinery and equipment \$'000	Fixtures fittings and furniture \$'000	Library books \$'000	Work In Progress \$'000	Total plant and equipment \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	12,011	1,448	230		13,689
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(5,759)	(1,019)	(23)		(6,801)
	6,252	429	207		6,888
Movements in fair value					
Additions	2,307	71	42	22	2,441
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	(1,364)	-	-	-	(1,364)
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
	943	71	42	22	1,077
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,058)	(126)	(23)	-	(1,207)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	935	-	-	-	935
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	(123)	(126)	(23)	-	(271)
At fair value 30 June 2022	12,954	1,519	272	22	14,766
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(5,882)	(1,145)	(46)	-	(7,072)
Carrying amount	7,073	374	226	22	7,694

Notes to the Financial Report
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(c) Infrastructure

	Roads \$'000	Bridges \$'000	Footpaths and cycleways \$'000	Drainage \$'000	Kerb & Channel \$'000	Other Infrastructure \$'000	Work In Progress \$'000	Total Infrastructure \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2021	132,189	7,720	7,203	6,818	20,131	12,135	1,888	188,084
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(42,083)	(2,439)	(3,805)	(2,321)	(5,194)	(4,208)	-	(60,050)
	90,106	5,281	3,398	4,497	14,937	7,927	1,888	128,034
Movements in fair value								
Additions	3,497	-	160	-	511	492	4,468	9,127
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	26,299	-	-	-	6,752	-	-	33,051
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	(968)	-	-	-	-	-	(968)
Transfers	(42,083)	-	-	-	(5,193)	-	(1,181)	(48,457)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(12,288)	(968)	160	-	2,070	492	3,286	(7,247)
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,937)	(67)	(164)	(85)	(219)	(482)	-	(2,954)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	968	-	-	-	-	-	968
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	42,083	-	-	-	5,193	-	-	47,276
	40,146	901	(164)	(85)	4,974	(482)	-	45,290
At fair value 30 June 2022	119,901	6,752	7,363	6,818	22,201	12,627	5,174	180,837
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(1,937)	(1,538)	(3,969)	(2,406)	(220)	(4,690)	-	(14,760)
Carrying amount	117,965	5,214	3,394	4,412	21,981	7,936	5,174	166,076

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.

	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit
<i>Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods</i>		\$'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 - pavements, substructure, formation and earthworks	15 - 110 years	1
roads - kerb, channel and minor culverts and other	60 - 100 years	1
bridges - deck and substructure	70 - 120 years	1
footpaths and cycleways	15 - 80 years	1
drainage	80 - 120 years	1
others	5 - 100 years	1

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls 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 above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

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.

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer AAPI Reg 63163 of Preston Rowe Paterson Horsham and Wimmera Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2021. 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.

Specialised 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.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation
Land	32	-	2,561	Jun-21
Heritage Buildings	800	-	182	Jun-21
Buildings	-	-	23,398	Jun-21
Total	832	-	26,141	

Valuation of infrastructure

Valuation of infrastructure assets has been determined in accordance with an independent valuation undertaken by Peter Moloney MIEAust from Moloney Asset Management Systems.

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

The valuation of Bridges, footpaths and cycleways, drainage and other infrastructure is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

The valuation of Roads and Kerb & Channel is based on fair value at the date of valuation.

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation
Roads	3,497	-	116,403	Jul-21
Bridges	-	-	6,752	Jun-18
Footpaths and cycleways	160	-	7,203	Jun-20
Drainage	-	-	6,818	Jun-20
Kerb & Channel	511	-	21,689	Jul-21
Other infrastructure	492	-	12,135	Jun-20
Total	4,661	-	171,001	

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised buildings are valued using a current replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are 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 current 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.

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
6.2 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries		
(a) Investments in associates		
Wimmera Development Association	295	213
Wimmera Development Association		
<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, had an interest in the Wimmera Development Association.		
Hindmarsh Shire has a 10.34% interest in equity (10.34% in 2020/2021)		
Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Development Association	295	213
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at start of year	189	77
Reported surplus/(deficit) for year	82	112
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	-
Distributions for the year	-	-
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at end of year	271	189
Council's share of reserves		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	24	24
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	-
Council's share of reserves at end of year	24	24
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	213	101
Share of surplus/(deficit) for year	82	112
Share of asset revaluation	-	-
Distributions received	-	-
Carrying value of investment at end of year	295	213

Associates are all entities over which Council has significant influence but not control or joint control. Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost.

(c) Committees of Management

All entities controlled by Council that have material revenues, expenses, assets or liabilities, such as committees of management, have been included in this financial report. Any transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full.

Note 7 People and relationships

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent entity

Hindmarsh Shire Council is the parent entity.

Subsidiaries and Associates

Interests in subsidiaries and associates are detailed in Note 6.2.

(b) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Hindmarsh Shire Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Director Infrastructure and Director Corporate and Community Services are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors	Councillor M Albrecht (Deputy Mayor 1/7/2021 to 9/11/21 and Mayor 10/11/221)
	Councillor W Bywaters
	Councillor R Gersch
	Councillor B Ireland (Deputy Mayor from 10/11/2021)
	Councillor R Ismay (Mayor 1/7/2021 to 9/11/2021)
	Councillor D Nelson
Employee KMP	Chief Executive Officer
	Director - Corporate and Community Services
	Director - Infrastructure (1/7/2021-18/5/2022)

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Total Number of Councillors	6	9
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	3	3
Total Number of Key Management Personnel	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	762	743
Long-term benefits	11	30
Post employment benefits	56	53
Termination benefits	18	-
Total	<u>847</u>	<u>826</u>

The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
\$0-\$9,999		3
\$10,000 - \$19,999	-	3
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	1
\$30,000 - \$39,999	1	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	-	1
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	1	-
\$180,000 - \$189,999	-	2
\$190,000 - \$199,999	-	-
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	-
\$210,000 - \$219,999	-	-
\$220,000 - \$229,999	-	-
\$230,000 - \$239,999	-	-
\$240,000 - \$249,999	-	-
\$250,000 - \$259,999	-	-
\$260,000 - \$269,999	-	-
\$270,000 - \$279,999	1	-
\$280,000 - \$289,999	-	1
	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>

(d) Senior Officer Remuneration

A Senior Officer is an officer of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, who:
a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000

The number of Senior Officers are shown below in their relevant income bands:

Income Range:	2022 No.	2021 No.
\$160,000 - \$169,999	-	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	1	-
\$180,000 - \$189,999	-	2
\$190,000 - \$199,999	-	-
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	-
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Senior Officers included above, amounted to:	377	360

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

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

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<i>T. Ismay & Co (a related party to Cr R. Ismay)</i>	32	9
<i>Allambi Elderly Peoples Home (a related party to Cr D Nelson)</i>	-	46
<i>Jeparit Golf Club (a related party to Cr B Ireland)</i>	-	2
<i>Hindmarsh Landcare Network (a related party to Cr D Nelson)</i>	-	10
<i>Hot Spark Fabrication (a related party to Cr W Bywaters)</i>	22	-

(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

Nil	Nil
-----	-----

Note 8 Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable, respectively

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

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Not later than one year	52	42
Later than one year and not later than five years	197	174
Later than five years	44	76
	293	292

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:

- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

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, Hindmarsh Shire Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 during the 2021/2022 year (2020/2021 \$0). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2022. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2023 are \$96,468.

Liability Mutual Insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

MAV Workcare

Council was a participant of the MAV WorkCare Scheme. The MAV WorkCare Scheme provided workers compensation insurance. MAV WorkCare commenced business on 1 November 2017 and the last day the Scheme operated as a self-insurer was 30 June 2021. In accordance with the Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013, there is a six year liability period following the cessation of the Scheme (to 30 June 2027). During the liability period, adjustment payments may be required (or received). The determination of any adjustment payments is dependent upon revised actuarial assessments of the Scheme's tail claims liabilities as undertaken by Work Safe Victoria. If required, adjustments will occur at the 3-year and 6-year points during the liability period, and will affect participating members.

(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 guarantees they may become future liabilities of Council.

Financial guarantee contracts are not recognised as a liability in the balance sheet unless the lender has exercised their right to call on the guarantee or Council has other reasons to believe that it is probable that the right will be exercised.

8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2022 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2022 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2023 that are expected to impact Council.

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables) and payables (excluding statutory payables). 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 2020*. 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. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. 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 8.1(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 8.1(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% and -1% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 0.85%.

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.

8.4 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.

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

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being 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. At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 3 to 5 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.

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

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

Note 9 Other matters

	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Increment (decrement)	Balance at end of reporting period
9.1 Reserves			
(a) Asset revaluation reserves	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2022			
Property			
Land and land improvements	1,832	-	1,832
Buildings	8,176	-	8,176
	10,008	-	10,008
Infrastructure			
Roads	86,443	26,299	112,742
Bridges	218	-	218
Footpaths and cycleways	1,479	-	1,479
Drainage	2,416	-	2,416
Other infrastructure	602	6,752	7,354
Share of asset revaluation in asso	28	-	28
	91,186	33,051	124,237
Total asset revaluation reserves	101,194	33,051	134,245
2021			
Property			
Land and land improvements	1,639	193	1,832
Buildings	9,827	(1,651)	8,176
	11,466	(1,458)	10,008
Infrastructure			
Roads	86,443	-	86,443
Bridges	218	-	218
Footpaths and cycleways	1,479	-	1,479
Drainage	2,416	-	2,416
Other infrastructure	602	-	602
Share of asset revaluation in asso	28	-	28
	91,186	-	91,186
Total asset revaluation reserves	102,652	(1,458)	101,194

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

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8,349	2,399
Profit/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	128	76
Depreciation	4,524	6,286
Other	(302)	(140)
<i>Change in assets and liabilities:</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(765)	(139)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	43	123
Increase/(decrease) in accrued income	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	206	(485)
(Decrease)/increase in unearned income /revenue	(2,742)	4,246
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	-	-
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(74)	(102)
(Decrease)/increase in provisions	(120)	89
(Decrease)/increase in trust funds	1	13
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses	34	52
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9,284	12,418

9.3 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 category, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives 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 2022, this was 10.0% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2021: 9.5%)).

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 Hindmarsh Shire 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 2021, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 109.8%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment returns 4.75% pa

Salary information 2.75% pa

Price inflation (CPI) 2.25% pa.

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is expected to be completed by 31 October 2022.

Vision Super has advised that the VBI at 30 June 2022 was 102.2%. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021). The financial assumptions used to calculate this VBI were:

Net Investment returns 5.5%pa

Salary information 2.5%pa to 30 June 2023, and
3.5%pa thereafter

Price inflation (CPI) 3.0%pa

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2021 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 arrangement from prior years.

Employer contributions

(a) Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2021 interim 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 2022, this rate was 10.0% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2020/21). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

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.

(b) 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.

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2021 and the last full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2021 (Interim) \$m	2020 (Triennial) \$m
- A VBI Surplus	214.7	100.0
- A total service liability surplus	270.3	200.0
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	285.2	217.8

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2021.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2021.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2021.

Council was notified of the 30 June 2021 VBI during August 2021 (2020: August 2020).

The 2022 interim actuarial investigation

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2022 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2022. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021).

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of Scheme	Rate	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Vision super	Defined benefits	10.0% (2021:9.5%)	49	52
Vision super	Accumulation	10.0% (2021:9.5%)	323	312
Other Funds	Accumulation	10.0% (2021:9.5%)	361	332

In addition to the above contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 (2020/21 \$0).

There were \$24,432.53 contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2022.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2023 is \$40,719.

10 Change in accounting policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2021-22 year.

There are no pending accounting standards that are likely to have a material impact on council



Main Office:
92 Nelson Street
NHILL VIC 3418

Postal Address:
PO Box 250
NHILL VIC 3418

Phone: 03 5391 4444

Email: info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Website: www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil