



ATTACHMENTS

ITEM 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- Item 4 Attachment 1 – Council Meeting Minutes 30 August 2023

ITEM 5 PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

- Item 5.1 Attachment 2 – Petition Planning Permit Application PA1800-2022

ITEM 9 REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

- Item 9.1 Attachment 3 – Public Transparency Policy
- Item 9.1 Attachment 4 – Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy
- Item 9.1 Attachment 5 – Submission One
- Item 9.1 Attachment 6 – Submission Two
- Item 9.2 Attachment 7 – End of Year Financial Report
- Item 9.2 Attachment 8 – Performance Statement

ITEM 10 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Item 10.1 Attachment 9 – Rainbow Town Committee Minutes 21 August 2023
 - Item 10.2 Attachment 10 – Yanac Hall Committee AGM Minutes 15 August 2023
 - Item 10.2 Attachment 11 – Yanac Hall Committee Annual Report 2023
 - Item 10.2 Attachment 12 – Yanac Hall Committee Annual Financials 2023
 - Item 10.2 Attachment 13 – Yanac Hall Committee Minutes 15 August 2023
 - Item 10.2 Attachment 14 – WMPM Committee Presidents Report 2023
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 - Item 10.3 Attachment 16 – Audit & Risk Committee Minutes 20 September 2023
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1 September 2023

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday 30 August 2023

Time: 3:00pm

Venue: Nhill Memorial Community Centre
77-79 Nelson Street, Nhill

Council: Cr Brett Ireland – Mayor
Cr Melanie Albrecht – Deputy Mayor (*apology*)
Cr Debra Nelson
Cr Robert Gersch OAM
Cr Ron Ismay
Cr Wendy Bywaters

Officers: Greg Wood – Chief Executive Officer
Monica Revell – Director Corporate and Community Services
Michael Tudball – Director Infrastructure Services

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Community

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.



Public Access

This meeting is open to members of the public and will be livestreamed from Council's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hindmarshshirecouncil

Live Streaming Statement

This meeting will be streamed live on the internet and the recording of this meeting will be published on Council's website and/or social media pages after the meeting.

Members of the public attending this meeting may be filmed.

By remaining in the public gallery once the meeting commences, members of the public give their consent to being filmed, and for the recording of them to be made publicly available and used by Council.

Information about the broadcasting and publishing recordings of Council meetings is available in the Council's Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Council Meetings Policy is available on the Council's website.

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In Attendance:

Councillors:

Cr Brett Ireland (Mayor), Cr Wendy Bywaters, Cr Robert Gersch OAM, Cr Ron Ismay and Cr Debra Nelson.

Officers:

Mr Greg Wood (Chief Executive Officer), Ms Monica Revell (Director Corporate and Community Services), Mr Michael Tudball (Director Infrastructure Services) and Ms Shauna Johnson (Executive Assisant).

1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY & LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT

Cr B Ireland opened the meeting at 3:00pm by acknowledging the Indigenous Community and by reading out the live streaming statement.

2 APOLOGIES

Cr Melanie Albrecht (Deputy Mayor) was an apology.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

A Councillor or Officer with a conflict of interest in an item on the Agenda must indicate that they have a conflict of interest by clearly stating:

- the item for which they have a conflict of interest;
- whether their conflict is **general** or **material**; and
- the circumstances that give rise to the conflict of interest.

Declaration of material or general conflict of interest must also be advised by Councillors and Officers at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

No conflicts of interest declared.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26 July 2023 at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: CRS R Gersch/D Nelson

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26 July 2023 at the Nhill Memorial Community Centre, as circulated to Councillors be taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

Attachment Number: 1

5 PUBLIC QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

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-amble. Offensive, trivial and repetitive questions, questions which have been recently answered, or questions that may contain defamatory comments, 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.

No public questions and submissions received.

6 ACTIVITY REPORTS

COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES: 18 July – 21 August 2023

Cr IRELAND, MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
18/07/2023	Hindmarsh Business Networking Session	Jeparit	
18/07/2023	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Meeting		
20/07/2023	ABC Radio Interview		On Nhill Railway Station
24/07/2023	Meeting in Shire Offices with Committee Members of WMPM	Nhill	
24/07/2023	Interview with Horsham Times		Re Nhill Railway Station
26/07/2023	Cuppa Connections	Jeparit	
26/07/2023	Council Briefing Meeting	Nhill	
26/07/2023	Council Meeting	Nhill	
27/07/2023	Yurunga Homestead AGM	Civic Centre Rainbow	
27/07/2023	Mayoral Matters Column		
31/07/2023	Rainbow Civic Centre AGM	MECCA Supper Room	
09/08/2023	Wimmera Southern Mallee Meeting	Zoom	The Sandon report relating to new initiatives for council meetings was the main item on the agenda.
10/08/2023	CEO and Mayors Quarterly Lunch and Meeting		We had the land council representative via zoom talking about the recent recognition agreement with State Govt.
10/08/2023	Round Table Renewables MAV Meeting	Zoom	
12/08/2023	Tower Park Markets	Dimboola	
14/08/2023	Jeparit Advisory Committee Town Meeting		
15/08/2023	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Meeting		
16/08/2023	Meeting with	Zoom	

	Consultant and Independent Chair of CEO Recruitment Committee		
16/08/2023	Australian Citizenship Ceremony	Nhill Community Centre	
16/08/2023	Meeting with Councillors to Discuss Shortlist of Potential New CEO's	Zoom	
21/08/2023	Meeting with Jeparit Heritage Walk Chairperson		To assist with grant application.
21/08/2023	Meeting with Representatives from Melbourne		Regarding future of Nhill railway station.

Cr ALBRECHT, DEPUTY MAYOR

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
18/07/2023	Hindmarsh Business Networking Session	Jeparit	Thank you to those that attended to hear the interesting presentations on Tourism and Economic development.
19/07/2023	Hindmarsh Pride Committee Meeting	Dimboola	All allies are welcome to join.
26/07/2023	Council Briefing	Nhill	
28/06/2023	Council Meeting	Nhill	
31/07/2023	Nhill Town Committee AGM	Nhill	Due to quorum requirements this meeting will be rescheduled.
15/08/2023	Nhill & District Historical Society Annual General Meeting	Nhill	Congratulations to Kay Scott who was elected President for the year ahead and to all those that were appointed to the Executive and General Committee.
16/08/2023	Hindmarsh CEO Shortlisting meeting	Online	
16/08/2023	Nhill Silo Heritage Project Annual General Meeting	Nhill	Congratulations to Peter Duperouzel who was again elected as President and to all those that were appointed to the Executive and General Committee.

Cr NELSON

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
18/07/2023	Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN Finance Committee		
24/07/2023	Book Launch – Ebenezer Mission	Dimboola	

	Diaries		
25/07/2023	Mates Mentoring	DMSC	
26/07/2023	Council Briefing	Nhill	
26/07/2023	Council Meeting	Nhill	
27/07/2023	Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN COM Meeting	Horsham	
08/08/2023	Mates Mentoring	DMSC Dimboola	
16/08/2023	CEO Recruitment Shortlist Meeting		

Cr GERSCH

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
18/07/2023	Visit Nhill Railway Station		
26/07/2023	Council Meeting		
28/07/2023	Wimmera Regional Roads Meeting		
28/07/2023	RCV Board Meeting		
28/07/2023	JP with Council		
07/08/2023	Tourist Info Centre Duty		
15/08/2023	AGM Historical Society		
16/08/2023	Australian Citizenship Ceremony		
16/08/2023	CEO Short List		

Cr ISMAY

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
25/07/2023	WMT Meeting	Goroke	
25/07/2023	WMT AGM	Goroke	
26/07/2023	Briefing Meeting	Nhill	
26/07/2023	Council Meeting	Nhill	
09/08/2023	Rainbow Rises Meeting	Rainbow	
12/08/2023	Working Bee Rainbow Rises		
16/08/2023	CEO Short List Meeting	Zoom	
18/08/2023	Working Bee Rainbow Rises		

19/08/2023	Rainbows Rises 240 Day One		
19/08/2023	ATPA Tractor Pull Test and Tune Day		
20/08/2023	Rainbow Rises 240 Day Two		
21/08/2023	Rainbow Town Committee Meeting		

Cr BYWATERS

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Comments
18/07/2023	Homework Club	Nhill	
18/07/2023	Hindmarsh Business Networking Session	Jeparit	
18/07/2023	Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum General Meeting	Jeparit	
25/07/2023	Meeting with Director Infrastructure Services	Nhill	
26/07/2023	Council Briefing and Council Meeting	Nhill Community Centre	
27/07/2023	Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Networking Committee of Management Meeting	Horsham	
01/08/2023	Homework Club	Nhill	
01/08/2023	Nhill Lawn Tennis Club Meeting	Nhill	
02/08/2023	Mallee Machinery Field Days	Speed	
12/08/2023	Nhill Lake Committee Working Bee	Nhill Lake	
12/08/2023	Tower Park Market	Dimboola	
15/08/2023	Homework Club	Nhill	
15/08/2023	Nhill Historical Society AGM	Nhill	
16/08/2023	CEO Recruitment Committee Meeting	Zoom	
16/08/2023	Nhill Heritage Silo Restoration	Nhill Silo	

	Committee AGM		
21/08/2023	Meeting at the Nhill Train Station	Nhill	With Kim Boundey, the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor for Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) and Michael Borillo, General Manager of Property, and Finance for ARTC, Nhill Community Members, Mayor and Council Directors.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachment Numbers: 2 – 6

Introduction:

The following correspondence is attached for noting by Council.

Inwards:

- 2023/07/20 – Letter from Peter Taylor Memorial Events Committee
- 2023/07/25 – Congratulatory Letter to Cr Gersch from West Wimmera Shire Council
- 2023/08/07 – Letter from Minister Suleyman MP RE Public Holiday Gazettal

Outwards:

- 2023/07/28 – Letter to Nhill A&P Society RE Show Day Public Holiday
- 2023/07/28 – Letter to Rainbow A&P Society RE Show Day Public Holiday

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes:

1. ***the attached correspondence; and***
2. ***that the letter from Peter Taylor Memorial Events Committee will be addressed in item 9.3 of this agenda.***

MOVED: CRS R Ismay/D Nelson

That Council notes:

1. ***the attached correspondence; and***
2. ***that the letter from Peter Taylor Memorial Events Committee will be addressed in item 9.3 of this agenda.***

CARRIED

Attachment Numbers: 2 – 6

8 PLANNING PERMITS

8.1 VICSMART REPORT AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER CEO DELEGATION JANUARY – MARCH 2023

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure Services

Introduction:

This report provides Council with an update on VicSmart permits processed for the period 01 January 2023 to 31 March 2023.

This report also lists the Planning Applications approved under delegation by the CEO for the same period.

Discussion:

The VicSmart planning permit process is a statutory process that was introduced to streamline ‘simple’ planning permit applications.

Key features of VicSmart include:

- A 10 business day permit process
- Applications are not advertised
- Information to be submitted with applications and what Council can consider is pre-set
- The CEO or his delegate decides the application.

The table below lists the VicSmart permits that have been approved within this period.

- There have been no VicSmart permits approved within this period.

The following Planning Permit Applications were approved under delegation by the Chief Executive Officer, during this period.

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Statutory Days
PA1792-2022	277 Albrecht Road, Gerang Gerung	Expansion of existing cattle feedlot to 10,000 standard cattle units (SCU)	17/08/2022	Clause 35.07-1 – A permit is required to use the land for a Section 2 Use (Cattle Feedlot). Clause 35.07-4 – A permit is required for buildings and works associated with a Section 2 Use (Cattle Feedlot). Clause 42.01-2 – A permit is required	14/12/2022 Notice Of Decision (NOD) issued 13/01/2023 Permit issued	102

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Statutory Days
				to construct or carry out works.		
PA1739-2021-A1	Road Reserve, Albacutya	Amendment for Removal of vegetation	03/10/2022	Clause 42.01-2 (ESQ) - A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, including dead vegetation Clause 52.17-1 (Native Vegetation) - A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation	24/01/2023	113
PA1808-2022	60 Charles Street, Jeparit	Buildings and works associated with an existing dwelling (carport and outbuilding)	01/12/2022	Clause 44.04-2 (Land Subject to Inundation Overlay) -A permit is required to construct a building or to construct or carry out works.	24/01/2023	53
PA1810-2022	2A Rethus Drive, Nhill	Double sided externally illuminated major promotion sign	01/12/2022	Clause 52.05-2 (Signs) - Section 2 Sign	08/02/2023	36
PA1809-2022	33 Roy Street, Jeparit	Demolish existing door and construct new door and ramp	09/12/2022	A planning permit is required for the demolition of part of the building and to construct buildings and works for non-disabled access and alterations to the building under Clause 32.05-10 (TZ) Clause 43.01-1 (HO)	20/03/2023	35
PA1814-	1141	Buildings	16/01/2023	Clause 35.07-1	30/03/2023	39

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Statutory Days
2023	Coker Dam Road, Gerang Gerung	and works - replacement dwelling		(Farming Zone) - A permit is required for the use of land for a dwelling, as the Section 1 condition is not met. It is noted that this only applies for the limited time when there are 2 dwellings on the land which would be controlled through conditions of a permit. Clause 35.07-4 (Farming Zone) - A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry our works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.07-1		
PA1762-2021-A1	Rainbow Rises Road, Rainbow	Place of Assembly - change date of race event	25/02/2023	An amended planning permit is required for the amended date for the approved use for a Place of Assembly as it is a Section 2 (Permit required) use under Clause 35.07-1 of the Farming Zone (FZ) pursuant to Section 72 of the Planning Environment Act 1987	09/03/2023	3

Options:

N/A

Link to Council Plan:

Facilitating and supporting economic development.

Financial Implications:

Fees associated with planning permit applications and amendments are set by the State in accordance with the Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016. These fees are currently being applied to all applications received by Council.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	Risk is managed appropriately by adhering to the VicSmart process.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the Local Government Act 2020, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author – Robert Huxley, Manager Regulatory Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Officer Responsible – Michael Tudball, Director Infrastructure Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Nil

Next Steps:

Next Report to be provided in July 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Planning Applications approved under delegation by the Chief Executive Officer as listed above, for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023.

MOVED: CRS D Nelson/W Bywaters

That Council notes the Planning Applications approved under delegation by the Chief Executive Officer as listed above, for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023.

CARRIED

8.2 VICSMART REPORT AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED UNDER CEO DELEGATION APRIL – JUNE 2023

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure Services

Introduction:

This report provides Council with an update on VicSmart permits processed for the period 01 April 2023 to 30 June 2023.

This report also lists the Planning Applications approved under delegation by either the CEO, Director of Infrastructure or Manager of Regulatory Services for the same period.

Discussion:

The VicSmart planning permit process is a statutory process that was introduced to streamline 'simple' planning permit applications.

Key features of VicSmart include:

- A 10 business day permit process
- Applications are not advertised
- Information to be submitted with applications and what Council can consider is pre-set
- The CEO or his delegate decides the application.

The table below lists the VicSmart permits that have been approved within this period.

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Stat Days
VS1817-2023	6A Lochiel Street, Dimboola	Demolition of sewer pump station building	14/02/2023	Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 6 (ESO6) Heritage Overlay Schedule 34 (HO34)	14/04/2023	24

The following Planning Permit Applications were approved under delegation by an Authorised Officer, during this period.

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Stat Days
PA1794-2022	Bywaters Rd Nhill	Use and Development of land for a rural industry and reduction in car parking requirements	02/09/2022	Clause 35.07-1 (Farming Zone) – A permit is required to use the land for a Section 2 Use (Rural Industry) as the floor area exceeds the Section 1 condition requirement. Clause 35.07-4 (Farming Zone) – A permit is required to construct a	05/04/2023	54

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Stat Days
				building or to construct or carry out works associated with a Section 2 Use. Clause 52.06-3 (Car Parking) - A permit is required to reduce the number of car parking spaces required under Clause 52.06-5		
PA1790-2022	3751 Nhill Jeparit Road, Jeparit	Use and development of a dwelling	09/08/2022	A building or works associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.07-1.	06/04/2023	82
PA1814-2023	1141 Coker Dam Rd, Gerang Gerung	Buildings and works (replacement dwelling)	11/01/2023	Clause 35.07-1 (Farming Zone) - A permit is required for the sue of land for a dwelling, as the section 1 condition is not met. It is noted that this only applies for the limited time when there are two dwellings on the land which would be controlled through conditions of a permit. Clause 35.07-4 (Farming Zone) – A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of of Clause 35.7-01.	03/04/2023	39
PA1795-2022	7 Middleton Avenue, Nhill	Development of a store	21/09/2022	Clause 33.01-1 (Industrial 1 Zone) – A permit is required to use the land for a transfer station (section 2 use). Clause 33.01-4 (Industrial 1 Zone) – A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works	04/05/2023	30
PA1803-2022	13 Bow St,	Use and development	15/10/2022	A permit is required to construct a building or	03/05/2023	50

Permit No.	Address	Proposal	Date Lodged	Trigger	Date approved	Stat Days
	Rainbow	of a Place of Assembly (Tourism facility with viewing platform for the Mallee Silo Art Trail)		construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.05-2.		
PA1647-2019	CA5 Kurnbrunin Road Rainbow	Construction of shed to store gypsum	26/10/2022	Clause 35.07 (Farming Zone) of the Hindmarsh Planning Scheme for mineral extraction (Section 2 use)	04/05/2023	76
PA1812-2022	9 Lloyd Street, Dimboola	Construct Shed	08/12/2022	A planning permit is required to construct buildings and works for an outbuilding for the dwelling under Clause 44.04-2 of the LSIO	10/05/2023	8
PA1813-2022	64 Tarranyurk West Road, Jeparit	Additional dwelling	14/12/2022	A planning permit is required for the earthworks associated with the construction of the building (dwelling) under the ESO6.	09/06/2023	13
PA1806-2022	1 St Leonards Ave Dimboola	1 St Leonards Ave Dimboola	04/10/2022	Clause 44.04-2 (LSIO) – A permit is required to construct a building or to construct or carry out works.	15/06/2023	131

Options:

N/A

Link to Council Plan:

Facilitating and supporting economic development.

Financial Implications:

Fees associated with planning permit applications and amendments are set by the State in accordance with the Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016. These fees are currently being applied to all applications received by Council.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	Risk is managed appropriately by adhering to the VicSmart

	process.
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Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the Local Government Act 2020, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author – Robert Huxley, Manager regulatory Services

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Officer Responsible – Michael Tudball, Director Infrastructure Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Nil

Next Steps:

Next Report to be provided in October 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Planning Applications approved under delegation by an Approved Officer as listed above, for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023.

MOVED: CRS R Gersch/R Ismay

That Council notes the Planning Applications approved under delegation by an Approved Officer as listed above, for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023.

CARRIED

9 REPORTS REQUIRING A DECISION

9.1 GOVERNANCE UPDATES

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment Numbers: 7 – 9

Introduction:

This report seeks endorsement of the reviewed **Public Transparency Policy** and the new **Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy** to be made available for public consultation from 31 August 2023 to 15 September 2023 to be brought for approval at the Council Meeting on 27 September 2023.

This policy also seeks formal revocation of the **Conflict of Interest Policy**.

Discussion:

Conflict of Interest Policy

Council's Conflict of Interest Policy was adopted in 2020 in line with the new provisions around Conflicts of Interest in the *Local Government Act 2020*. Conflict of Interest (COI) management is an integral component of good governance within Council and is articulated through a number of policies and procedures. The substantive content of the current Conflict of Interest Policy is a reiteration of the provisions around COIs in the *Local Government Act 2020*, Hindmarsh Shire Council Governance Rules, Councillor Code of Conduct, Employee Code of Conduct, and various other policies including the Recruitment Procedure, Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy, Councillor Expenses Entitlement, Councillor Gifts and Hospitality Policy and the Procurement Policy. A standalone Conflict of Interest policy is not a requirement under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

It is therefore recommended that Council formally revoke the Conflict of Interest Policy in recognition that it does not provide any additional structure or scope to Council's existing function-specific COI provisions in alternative documents. Critical compliance requirements around gifts and hospitality, reporting and recording conflict of interest declarations and personal interest returns are effectively managed through other mechanisms. The State Government has published numerous guides around Conflicts of Interest that have been made available to Councillors.

A copy of the existing policy has been provided for reference.

Public Transparency Policy

Council is required to maintain a Public Transparency Policy under s57 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The public transparency principles that underpin the policy remain unchanged since the initial adoption of the policy in 2020, however this review has provided an opportunity to consider amendments and provisions that strengthen Council's commitment to, and practice of, public transparency. Changes include:

- A policy statement that asserts the principles and values that underpin local government

transparency;

- Added definition of Closed Meetings to provide greater clarity to the community on this process;
- Inclusion of two provisions around Freedom of Information –
 - Reference to the Freedom of Information Part II Statement that comprehensively details the types of information held by Council;
 - Reference to Council’s Freedom of Information obligations and processes to identify a method by which the community can access Council information.
- A clear discussion around the Public Interest Test to both ensure consistency and a greater understanding of how this exemption may be applied.

Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy

To ensure consistent and transparent practice, and in line with recommendations from the Local Government Inspectorate, Council officers have developed a *Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy* for community consideration. Councillors are often required to make decisions about planning and developments in their municipality and as part of seeking information, may interact with developers on upcoming projects. Council acknowledges that interactions with developers are a necessary and essential part of a healthy democracy and every person, organisation, and interest group have a right to put a case forward to elected officials as part of the land use planning decision-making process.

This policy provides guidance for how Councillors should interact with developers to maintain integrity, transparency, and good governance in their decision-making whilst also promoting development for the social and economic benefit of Hindmarsh Shire. The policy also gives rise to the creation of a Councillor Interaction with Developers register that will be made available to the public. Maintaining the public register is in line with best practice recommendations, complements Council’s commitment to public transparency and ensures that Council is taking a proactive approach to changing regulatory environments.

Options:

1. Council can choose to endorse the Public Transparency Policy for community consultation;
2. Council can choose to amend the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy prior to release for community consultation;
3. Council can chose to not endorse the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy for community consultation; and:
4. Council can choose to revoke the Conflict of Interest Policy;
5. Council can choose to retain the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Link to Council Plan:

Strong governance practices

A community well informed and engaged

Financial Implications:

NIL

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Governance	<p>The revocation of the Conflict of Interest policy does not impact the practice or principles around conflict of interest declarations and management for Councillors or staff. Additional operational policies around COI management will be explored, and additional resources developed by the State Government and Local Government Inspectorate have been made available to Councillors to ensure that information around COIs is readily available.</p> <p>The introduction of a Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy ensures that risks that might impact the appropriate and transparent undertaking of planning decisions are mitigated. It provides Councillors a uniform set of standards and expectations around these interactions that should reasonably prevent instances of real or perceived conflicts of interest. This also increases planning decision-making efficiency, ensuring that there are no unreasonable delays due to investigations into impartiality or inappropriate conduct.</p> <p>The amended Public Transparency Policy gives rise to Council's commitment to public transparency principles. Maintaining and implementing this policy ensures that Council is compliant and adhering to its own values and goals. It also ensures that Council is meeting its obligations and governance requirements under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and supplementary regulations.</p>

Relevant legislation:

- Local Government Act 2020*
- Local Government Act 1989*
- Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- Freedom of Information Act 1982*
- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*

Community engagement:

Should they be endorsed by Council, the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy will be made available for public consultation for the period 31 August 2023 to 15 September 2023.

Gender equality implications:

Gender impact assessments are required when the program, policy or service have a direct and significant impact on the community. The revocation of the Conflict of Interest policy does not meet this criterion as all provisions around conflict of interest declarations and

management remain unchanged and governed by alternative policies, procedures and legislation.

The Public Transparency Policy has a general impact on the public, however the provisions are strictly guided by legislation (*Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014, Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Local Government Act 2020*). While Council can take measures to ensure that information is accessible to all members of the community equitably, those measures and mechanisms belong to other policies, process and procedures.

The **Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy** only has minor impacts on the public, with the significant components of planning decisions is guided by Council's planning scheme, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and operational development decision-making procedures that guide Officer's recommendations. Consultation periods for proposed planning decisions ensure that public views, including those of all genders, are taken into account.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Director Corporate and Community Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Petra Croot, Manager Governance and Human Services
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

All policies will be made available on Council's website with consultation periods advertised in the Nhill Free Press, Dimboola Banner and the Rainbow/Jeparit Argus.

Next Steps:

As above.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy for community consultation from 31 August 2023 to 15 September 2023 and revokes the Conflict of Interest Policy.

MOVED: CRS D Nelson/R Ismay

That Council endorses the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy for community consultation from 31 August 2023 to 15 September 2023 and revokes the Conflict of Interest Policy.

CARRIED

Attachment Numbers: 7 – 9

9.2 PROPOSED ASSET DISPOSAL – 41 VICTORIA STREET DIMBOOLA (SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE)

Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure Services

Introduction:

This report proposes that Council advertises its intention to sell the property currently known as the Dimboola Senior Citizens Centre, located at 41 Victoria Street Dimboola.

Discussion:

Council has a number of buildings across the Shire that are approaching end of life or at end of life. This report discusses an option to reduce the number of buildings by selling assets that are surplus to Council's needs.

The last condition and valuation audit on Council facilities showed many were in fair to poor condition – with operation and maintenance costs increasing to meet user demand or in the Dimboola Senior Citizens Centre case, no demand.

Over the past few years usage of this facility has dropped considerably and there has been little usage over the past two financial years.

During March 2022 Council undertook discussions with members of the community seeking the re-establishment of the Senior Citizens. No support was achieved at the meeting.



Options:

1. Council can propose the sale of the asset as surplus to requirements and undertake participative engagement including seeking submissions;
2. Council can resolve not to proceed, noting that significant maintenance is required on the building that will need to be referred to a future budget.

Link to Council Plan:

Built and Natural Environment - Well maintained physical assets and infrastructure to meet community and organisational needs.

Financial Implications:

Council will incur selling and legal fees for the sale of the property. Upon the sale of the property rates and charges may be able to be levied. Council will no longer be responsible for the Fire Services Levy and maintenance on the property. Costs will be re-couped through any ultimate sale of the property.

There are significant financial implications from the current needs of the buildings that Council is responsible for. Many of these buildings are non-revenue generating and are approaching or are at the end of life. There are minimal grants available for many of these buildings and Council buildings all have condition audits and valuations undertaken on them every four years with the next audit to take place in the 23/24 financial year.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
Asset Management	It is critical that Council and the community understand the principles around Asset Lifecycle and the financial implications of the cycle for Council. The appropriate planning for the buildings includes asking the community what they need for the future. This can sometimes be a difficult discussion if we are attempting to be aspirational but dealing with population decline or if there is a change to state policy.

Relevant legislation:

Under Section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) Restriction on power to sell or exchange land

- (2) Before selling or exchanging the land, the Council must—
 - (a) at least 4 weeks prior to selling or exchanging the land, publish notice of intention to do so—
 - (i) on the Council's Internet site; and
 - (ii) in any other manner prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this subsection; and
 - (b) undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy; and

- (c) obtain from a person who holds the qualifications or experience specified under section 13DA(2) of the ***Valuation of Land Act 1960*** a valuation of the land which is made not more than 6 months prior to the sale or exchange.

Community engagement:

Initial engagement with the affected community via the Dimboola Senior Citizens occurred on Thursday 17 March 2022 and the meeting did not gain support for the re-establishment of the Dimboola Senior Citizens.

Council is proposing in this report to formally propose its sale and seek submissions on the proposal.

Gender equality implications:

A gender impact assessment was not required.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible – Michael Tudball, Director Infrastructure Services

In providing this advice as the Author & Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Under the Local Government Act Council is required to resolve an asset as surplus to requirements and advertise publicly its intention and in accordance with Councils Community Engagement Policy, any asset sales will undertake participatory engagement including direct discussions, public advertising and seeking submissions prior to resolving the disposal.

Next Steps:

If the surplus to requirements is resolved, Council will publicly advertise and advise appropriate community/township groups and seek submissions which Council will then consider any submissions at a future meeting a decide a further course of action.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. ***gives public notice by advertising for a minimum of 28 days Council's intention to sell 41 Victoria Street Dimboola – Senior Citizens Centre, under section 114(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020;***
2. ***Council undertakes a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy in accordance with s114(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020;***

3. ***Council obtains a valuation of this building for sale, from a registered valuer in accordance with s114(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 2020; and***
4. ***A further report to be presented to Council at the end of the notice period.***

MOVED: CRS D Nelson/W Bywaters

That Council:

1. ***gives public notice by advertising for a minimum of 28 days Council's intention to sell 41 Victoria Street Dimboola – Senior Citizens Centre, under section 114(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020;***
2. ***Council undertakes a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy in accordance with s114(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020;***
3. ***Council obtains a valuation of this building for sale, from a registered valuer in accordance with s114(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 2020; and***
4. ***A further report to be presented to Council at the end of the notice period.***

CARRIED

9.3 REGIONAL COMMUNITY EVENT GRANTS PROGRAM 2023/24

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate and Community Services

Attachment Numbers: 2 & 10 (11 – 15 Confidential Attachments)

Introduction:

This report seeks Council approval to provide funding through the 2023/2024 Regional Community Events grants program to eligible community organisations / groups.

Discussion:

The Regional Community Events (RCE) grants program has been established to support community organisations / groups with funding for events that bring economic benefit to Hindmarsh Shire. The aim of this funding is to support community events which celebrate culture, heritage, and community wellbeing, boost the economy, and increase visitation to Hindmarsh Shire. Total annual funding of \$30,000 has been allocated with grant recipients able to apply for funding of up to \$7,500 (made up of cash and in-kind determined by Council) for their event if they meet the eligibility and selection criteria.

The RCE program was promoted through Council’s website, Facebook page, and through local media.

Council has received five (5) applications requesting total funding of \$37,500. The recommendation is to award funds of \$30,000.

Although no closing date was advertised, officers believe that all known major events have submitted an application for this year. For the avoidance of doubt, next year applications will be called for in early July closing on 31 August 2024.

Community Group / Organisation	Event	Funding Sought	Total Event Budget
Dimboola Boating & Ski Club	Peter Taylor Memorial Barefoot Ski Event	\$7,500*	\$51,296
Rainbow Playgroup	George the Farmer	\$7,500	\$7,500
Rainbow Rises Events Committee	Rainbow Desert Enduro	\$7,500	\$8,500**
The Oasis Rainbow	Big Sky Festival	\$7,500	\$13,160
Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre (NAHC)	Nhill Airshow	\$7,500	\$150,700
Total:		\$37,500	\$226,656

* In addition, Council have also received a letter from the Dimboola Boating and Ski Club requesting an extra \$7,500 (\$15,000 total) for the successful running of the event.

** Does not include specific race related budget from VORRA

Funding applications have been assessed against the following eligibility criteria:

All applications must:

- Be holding the event within Hindmarsh Shire and supported by a committee/organisation based within Hindmarsh Shire.
- Have relevant followed and obtained any relevant permit processes/liquor licences and comply with all relevant regulations and council requirements.
- Be an incorporated not for profit organisation based in Hindmarsh Shire.
- Have public liability insurance and complete a risk assessment for the event seeking funding.
- Be an event open to the public, and also be inclusive and accessible for everyone.

Ineligible applications:

Applications by, or for, the following purposes will not be eligible for funding:

- Any organisation that is not located within Hindmarsh Shire or supported a committee/organisation based within Hindmarsh Shire.
- Any organisation owing money to council.
- Private events and functions.
- Events which exclude parts of the community.
- Government bodies and subsidiaries (eg parents and friends).
- Events which have been held/completed (retrospective funding is not available).
- Events taking place outside Hindmarsh Shire.
- Anyone who has received council funding/regional community events grant funding in the same financial year.

Assessment Criteria:

Applications will be assessed against the following assessment criteria:

- Events which will actively promote Hindmarsh Shire and deliver community and/or tourism, visitor and economic outcomes.
- Events which encourage partnerships and collaborations between groups and businesses within Hindmarsh Shire.
- Compliance with council and other authority requirements (eg permits, traffic management plans, insurance)
- Have an event management plan and budget.
- Provide evidence of community support and community engagement.
- Events which celebrate cultural, heritage, and community wellbeing.

Applicants were also asked to submit a detailed Event Management Plan and detailed Budget.

Out of a possible total score of 20, the event applications returned the following scores:

- Dimboola Boating and Ski Club = 20
- Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre = 20
- The Oasis Rainbow = 19
- Rainbow Rises Events Association = 18

- Rainbow Playgroup = 15

The Dimboola Boating and Ski Club – Peter Taylor Memorial Barefoot Ski Event

This event has been held previously in 2022 and attracted an estimated 2,500 people with competitors from around Australia. Originally planned for 2021 the event had commitment from both the Australian and USA barefoot waterski teams to attend as a practice event leading up to the international titles, however the COVID-19 Pandemic caused this inaugural event to be cancelled. The event is run with support from the South Australian Barefoot Ski association and attracts a significant number of interstate competitors and supporters.

In relation to the letter received by Council requesting funding in addition to the maximum \$7,500, Council should consider:

- With a total event grant funding budget of \$30,000, awarding half of that budget to one event would:
 - Set a precedence and open the option for other events to ask for the same.
 - Limit the spread and opportunity for other events to gain funding.
- In comparison of neighbouring Councils event support, the \$7,500 grant limit is significantly generous:
 - West Wimmera Shire Council Community Events Funding is for a maximum of \$1,200.
 - Yarriambiack Shire Council Community Events Funding is up to \$1,500.
 - Horsham Rural City Council offer event funding through their general community grants with a maximum of \$10,000, with most events being awarded less than \$6,000.
- The club has in previous years been awarded Visit Victoria event funding that was impacted by event cancellation due to COVID. They have been encouraged by Council staff to re-apply for this grant, and Sport and Recreation event grant funding which is currently open for applications.
- The club should be encouraged to develop a sustainable financial model for the event, including corporate sponsorship opportunities.

The recommendation is to provide \$5,000 cash and \$2,500 in-kind to support the event. (Final ratio to be determined after the event)

Rainbow Playgroup – George the Farmer

The Rainbow Playgroup have applied for \$7,500 in support of running an even featuring George the Farmer. George the Farmer recently performed at the Birchip Playgroup and provides entertainment and education around agriculture targeted at younger children.

Council should consider that whilst this event would be great for families in the Rainbow Community it is likely to have a limited impact on attracting visitation outside of Rainbow and the Shire, and limited impact on generating significant increases to the visitor economy.

The recommendation is to not provide funding for this event. This type of event may be better suited to a Community Action Grant through Council.

Rainbow Rises Events Association - Rainbow Desert Enduro

The Rainbow Desert Enduro Off-Road race for buggies and cars was first planned and subsequently held in August 2017. The support of the local Rainbow community has been simply overwhelming. Despite the 2017 Rainbow Desert Enduro being the first event, organisers were able to secure national championship status, hosting Victoria's round of the BF Goodrich Australian Off-Road Championship. The event has become an annual event, although the 2021 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It continues to attract spectators, competitors including drivers, co-drivers and support crews from across Australia.

The support of the local community, sporting groups, and organisations through volunteer catering efforts provides them with significant economic and social benefits which where possible is transferred to local businesses such as supermarkets, butchers, bakers etc as local suppliers.

The Rainbow Rises Events Centre has been developed into a leading off-road racing events staging area through the support of government Grants, Council, and an extremely passionate and proactive volunteer group. Support of this event would not only assist the growth of the event but also demonstrate recognition to the significant amount of volunteer hours put into the event and staging area.

The recommendation is to provide \$4,000 cash and \$3,500 in-kind to support the event due to the significant work involved with traffic management (noting that any in-kind expenditure above the \$3,500 will need to be invoiced - final ratio to be determined after the event)

Oasis Rainbow – 2024 Big Sky Event

The 2024 Big Sky Festival will build upon the success of the previous two events held in 2018 and 2022, which each attracting around 500 visitors from the local area, intrastate and interstate. The festival is held as a single day event that brings the Rainbow community together by offering something for everyone. The program includes a market, workshops, art activities and world class live music.

The Big Sky Festival has a strong branding already established, with a consistent 'look' developed during the previous festivals. The Oasis Rainbow Facebook page has 900 followers.

All profits will go directly towards the sustainability of the Oasis and future events/festivals.

The recommendation is to provide \$6,500 cash and \$1,000 in-kind to support the event. (Final ratio to be determined after the event)

Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre – 2024 Nhill Airshow

The third Nhill Airshow will be a spectacular regional event drawing over 3,000 spectators from all over Victoria and interstate. The Airside Program will be delivered by Paul Bennet Airshows featuring spectacular aerobatics, vintage aircraft maneuvers, and a range of aircraft flyovers. A DC3 will fly passengers in from Melbourne, and Helicopter and Tiger Moth joy flights will be offered during the day.

An extensive ground program will feature a 'Crafters Fair' set up in the historic Bellman Hangar, children's activities and the popular musical trio the 'Pacific Belles'. Other displays will include vintage cars, military vehicles, along with flight simulators and memorabilia from various air museums. The Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre will be open for visitors, and a wide choice of food will be on offer. Special children's activities will also run throughout the day.

Previous Nhill Airshows have proven to be significant events for the region and have demonstrated significant increases in the visitor economy.

The recommendation is to provide \$5,000 cash and \$2,500 in-kind to support the event. (Final ratio to be determined after the event)

Application Summary:

Community Group / Organisation	Amount Requested	Total Event Budget	Recommended Allocation
Dimboola Boating & Ski Club	\$7,500	\$51,296	\$7,500
Rainbow Playgroup	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
Rainbow Rises Events Committee	\$7,500	\$8,500	\$7,500
The Oasis Rainbow	\$7,500	\$13,160	\$7,500
Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre (NAHC)	\$7,500	\$150,700	\$7,500
Total:	\$37,500	\$226,656	\$30,000

Options:

Council can choose to support some or all, partly or in full, or none, of the applications for funding through the Regional Community Events Grant.

Link to Council Plan:

Develop and promote local tourism opportunities that attract visitation: Support community initiatives such as markets, pop up shops and appropriate events / activities

Financial Implications:

Council has allocated \$30,000 to the Regional Community Events grants for the 2023/2024 financial year.

Risk Management Implications:

Strategic Risk Description	Risk Management Discussion
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Governance	Event guidelines were prepared to ensure the funding is awarded based on evaluation criteria that is consistent for all applications. Event management, risk management and occupational health and safety requirements will need to be demonstrated by all successful applicants.
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Relevant legislation:

Local Government Act 2020

Community engagement:

The funding program was communicated through Council’s facebook page, newsletters and in local newspapers. Officers have been liaising with community groups/organisations who have contacted Council in relation to the funding.

Gender equality implications:

No gender impact assessment has been completed on the requests for funding. The event guidelines ensure the events promote inclusion and gender equality.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Director Corporate and Community Services.
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Jeff Woodward, Tourism and Economic Development Officer.
In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Communications Strategy:

Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of Council’s decision by phone and via letter correspondence regarding application outcomes.

Next Steps:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That based on the eligibility and assessment criteria, Council approves awards the following funding allocations:

- 1. Dimboola Barefoot Water Ski Club - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$5,000 in-kind \$2,500) to support the 2024 Peter Taylor Memorial event;***
- 2. The Oasis Rainbow - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$6,000 in-kind \$1,000) to support the 2024 Big Sky Festival;***

3. *Rainbow Desert Enduro - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$4,000 in-kind \$3,500) to support the 2024 Rainbow Desert Enduro; and*
4. *Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$5,000 in-kind \$2,500) in support of the 2024 Nhill Airshow.*

Unsuccessful Applications:

1. *Rainbow Playgroup - \$7,500 to support George the Farmer.*

TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING ALLOCATED: \$30,000.

MOVED: CRS W Bywaters/R Ismay

That based on the eligibility and assessment criteria, Council approves the following funding allocations:

1. *Dimboola Barefoot Water Ski Club - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$5,000 in-kind \$2,500) to support the 2024 Peter Taylor Memorial event;*
2. *The Oasis Rainbow - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$6,500 in-kind \$1,000) to support the 2024 Big Sky Festival;*
3. *Rainbow Desert Enduro - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$4,000 in-kind \$3,500) to support the 2024 Rainbow Desert Enduro; and*
4. *Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre - \$7,500 (approximately cash \$5,000 in-kind \$2,500) in support of the 2024 Nhill Airshow.*

Unsuccessful Applications:

1. *Rainbow Playgroup - \$7,500 to support George the Farmer.*

TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING ALLOCATED: \$30,000.

CARRIED

Attachment Numbers: 2 & 10 (11 – 15 Confidential Attachments)

10 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

10.1 JEPARIT TOWNSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Attachment Number: 16

Introduction:

The Jeparit Township Advisory Committee held a meeting on 14 August 2023. The purpose of this report is to note the minutes from this meeting. A copy of the minutes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the minutes of the Jeparit Township Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2023.

MOVED: CRS R Gersch/R Ismay

That Council notes the minutes of the Jeparit Township Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2023.

CARRIED

Attachment Number: 16

10.2 HINDMARSH PRIDE COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Attachment Number: 17

Introduction:

The Hindmarsh Pride Committee held a meeting on 19 July 2023. As there wasn't a quorum, the purpose of this report is to note the notes from this meeting. A copy of the notes is included as an attachment for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the notes of the Hindmarsh Pride Committee Meeting held on 19 July 2023.

MOVED: CRS W Bywaters/D Nelson

That Council notes the notes of the Hindmarsh Pride Committee Meeting held on 19 July 2023.

CARRIED

Attachment Number: 17

10.3 COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Attachment Numbers: 18 – 28

Introduction:

The following Hindmarsh Shire Council Community Asset Committee's held meetings on the following dates:

- **Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Community Asset Committee:**
General meetings on 20 June 2023 and 18 July 2023. *See attachments 18 and 19.*
- **Yurunga Homestead Community Asset Committee:**
Annual General Meeting on 27 July 2023 and general meetings on 27 July 2023 and 22 June 2023. *See attachments 20 – 24.*
- **Rainbow Civic Centre Community Asset Committee:**
Annual General Meeting and general meetings on 31 July 2023. *See attachments 25 – 28.*

The purpose of this report is to note the minutes and reporting documents from these meetings. A copy of all the minutes and reporting documents are included as attachments for the information of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Community Asset Committee general meetings held on 20 June 2023 and 18 July 2023;***
2. ***notes the minutes and reporting documents of the Yurunga Homestead Community Asset Committee Annual General Meeting held on 27 July 2023 and general meetings held on 27 July 2023 and 22 June 2023; and***
3. ***notes the minutes and reporting documents of the Rainbow Civic Centre Community Asset Committee Annual General Meeting and general meetings held on 31 July 2023.***

MOVED: CRS R Ismay/D Nelson

That Council:

1. ***notes the minutes of the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Community Asset Committee general meetings held on 20 June 2023 and 18 July 2023;***
2. ***notes the minutes and reporting documents of the Yurunga Homestead***

Community Asset Committee Annual General Meeting held on 27 July 2023 and general meetings held on 27 July 2023 and 22 June 2023;

- 3. notes the minutes and reporting documents of the Rainbow Civic Centre Community Asset Committee Annual General Meeting and general meetings held on 31 July 2023; and***
- 4. writes a letter of appreciation to the president and the secretary of the Rainbow Civic Centre Community Asset Committee.***

CARRIED

Attachment Numbers: 18 – 28

11 LATE REPORTS

No late reports.

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motion.

13 OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

In accordance with Section 66 (2) (a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council may close the meeting to the public to consider confidential information. Confidential information is defined by part IV of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and by Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* as being:

- a) Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released;
- b) security information, being information that if released is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person;
- c) land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values;
- d) law enforcement information, being information which if released would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation into an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person;
- e) legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies;
- f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;
- g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
 - i. relates to trade secrets; or
 - ii. if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage;
- h) confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a);
- i) internal arbitration information, being information specified in section 145;
- j) Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information, being information specified in section 169;

- k) information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition;
- l) information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989

RECOMMENDATION:

That the meeting be closed in accordance with section 66 (2) (a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by section (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982:

- 14.1 CONTRACT AWARD 2022-2023-19 CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICS WORKSHOP AT JEPARIT DEPOT & EVALUATION REPORT CONTRACT 2022-2023-16 DIMBOOLA DEPOT SHED REDEVELOPMENT – this report contains “Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council’s position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released” insofar as it pertains to contractual matters; and**
- 15.1 CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE – this report contains “personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs” insofar as it pertains to CEO employment matters.**

MOVED: CRS R Gersch/R Ismay

That the meeting be closed in accordance with section 66 (2) (a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to consider reports that contain confidential information as defined by section (3) of the Local Government Act 2020, and/or Part IV of the Freedom of Information Act 1982:

- 14.1 CONTRACT AWARD 2022-2023-19 CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICS WORKSHOP AT JEPARIT DEPOT & EVALUATION REPORT CONTRACT 2022-2023-16 DIMBOOLA DEPOT SHED REDEVELOPMENT – this report contains “Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council’s position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released” insofar as it pertains to contractual matters; and**
- 15.1 CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE – this report contains “personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs” insofar as it pertains to CEO employment matters.**

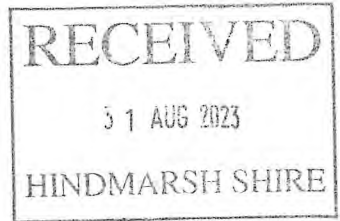
CARRIED

15 LATE CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

16 RESUMING INTO PUBLIC SESSION

17 MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Cr B Ireland declared the meeting closed at 4:15pm.



31st August 2023

Chief Executive Officer
Hindmarsh Shire Council
92 Nelson Street
NHILL VIC 3418

To the Chief Executive Officer

Re: Petition regarding Planning Application PA1800-2022 67-69 Nelson Street, Nhill, Vic 3418 (Lot 1 on TP423252E and Lot 1 on TP389297M)

The following petitioners ask the Council to reject the planning application **PA1800-2022**. This action will protect nearby residents from property devaluation, significant degradation in the quality of their lifestyle and potential safety risks. This action will also avoid significant traffic problems and safety risks that would arise if this application were to be approved.

The reports which underpin the planning application **PA1800-2022** do not appear to provide a realistic appraisal of the risks and benefits associated with the application. These reports appear to be heavily biased in favour of the applicants' preferred outcomes, without considering all the impacts on the residents, businesses, and visitors to the town.

Any benefits to the community from the approval of planning application **PA1800-2022** are heavily outweighed by the problems and risks to the community and passing traffic that it would bring including:

1. A Major danger to pedestrians and passing traffic.
2. Would be a bottle neck at times, especially where the road becomes one lane.
3. Busy intersection with Community Centre, Mr Le's, & IGA nearby.
4. Could be quite unsightly in the heart of the town.
5. Locality unsuitable for the intended purpose.
6. No provision for local employment.
7. Cleanliness to be a likely issue.
8. This location could be better used to benefit the town, business, and residents.

There are 481 signatories to this petition.

Kind regards

B. J. Rethus





Bev Rethus - Head Petitioner
Address: 112 Nelson St. Nhill Vic 3418
Phone: 0437 911 180
Email: wwbeef@bigpond.com

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON ST NHILL PA1800-2022

The petition organised by Bev Rethus 0437 911 180 reads:

Online Submissions

"The Nhill community does not agree with the planning application for 67-69 Nelson St Nhill to use the site for the development of an unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alteration to property access"

#	What is your full name?	What is your email address?	Would you like to support this petition?	Signature
1	Julie Woolcock		Yes	
2	Matthew Fritsch		Yes	
3	Nikitesh		Yes	
4	Madison Borgelt		Yes	
5	Jasmine Decker		Yes	
6	Jeremy Borgelt		Yes	
7	Ryan Smith		Yes	
8	Tracey D		Yes	
9	Janet French		Yes	
10	Sarah White		Yes	
11	Thomas Davies		Yes	
12	Catherine Etherton		Yes	
13	Tina Balter		Yes	
14	Maggie bridgewater		Yes	
15	Samantha Holland		Yes	
16	Joelle Browne		Yes	
17	Bailee White		Yes	
18	Tani Fritsch		Yes	
19	Jessica Nix		Yes	
20	Amanda Cole		Yes	
21	Carmen Binns		Yes	
22	Gemma Ruth Cramer		Yes	
23	Carlee Kennedy		Yes	
24	Juanita Arnold		Yes	
25	Hayley Pfeiffer		Yes	
26	Janet Harris		Yes	
27	Luke Matthew Keiler		Yes	
28	Claire O'Neill		Yes	

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

The Nhill community does not agree with the planning permit application for 67-69 Nelson Street Nhill to use the site for the development of a unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alterations to property access.

Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
28/8/23	Row Beezel	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	TRACEY MERRETT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	Sharon Maloney	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	COLIN ALEXANDER	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	TREVOR JAMES	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	D. L. Whelan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
"	M. L. Luddy	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	LIAM ALBRECHT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
" "	CASSIANDRA ALBRECHT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8	Fraeme Warner	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8	Madeline Paterson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8	JESSE CAMPBELL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8	Greg Ryan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
30/8	MARTY COLWERT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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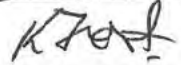


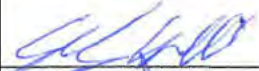



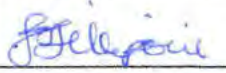


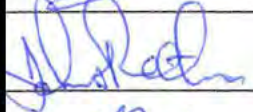


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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
25/08	Jake Preston			
25/08	Louise Rossini			
✓	TILLY SUTHERLAND			
25/8/23	Auan King			
25/8/23	DAVID KELLER			
25/8/23	GREG HISCOCK			
25/8/23	JAN COLE			
25/8/23	Anthony Burns			
25-8-23	Rosalie Wallis			
25/8/23	Ben Crockett			
26/8/23	Michele Schwarz			
26-8-23	SADIE WILLIAMS			
26-8-23	GELE HORVATH			
26-8-23	KELVIN DECKERT			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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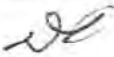
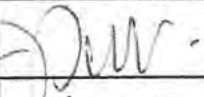


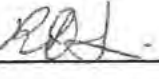
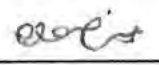
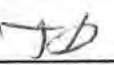



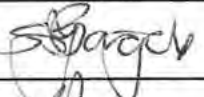
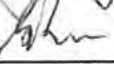


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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/8/23	Toby Hill			
24/8/23	KAY FROST			
24.8.23	Evelyn Hill			
24/8/23	BILL MASIRO			
24/8/23	Greg Hill			
24/8/23	CRANG McCross			
24/8/23	LASON KING			
24/8/23	Liz Pfeiffer			
25/08/23	J. Fillyon			
25/08/23	J. Woods			
25/8/23	Nicoh Hill			
25/8/23	JOHN BETHUR			
26/8/23	NITA BETER			
25/8/23	Emily Gladds			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

The Nhill community does not agree with the planning permit application for 67-69 Nelson Street Nhill to use the site for the development of a unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alterations to property access.

Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
	Dodo			
	Tom Duffy			
	Jean Flavel			
	Jenny Graham			
	Rose Stevenson			
	Ella Caris			
	John Decker			
	Queen Bathe			
	Bea Blanch			
	B. Blanch			
	Sandra Borgelt			
	Ann Gondaola			
	V. Hood			
	G. Eshelton			

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
22-8-23	Pam Preston	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
22-8-23	Glen Trueman			[Signature]
22-8-23	Christine Richards			[Signature]
22-8-23	Dallers Darter			[Signature]
22-8-23	Adrienne Filliponi			[Signature]
22-8-23	Jenny Botsun			[Signature]
22/8/23	GARYL DISCOU			[Signature]
23-8-23	GAVIN MENZER			[Signature]
23-8-23	IAN JENSON			[Signature]
23-8-22	John Gault			[Signature]
23-8-23	Mary-Ann Rogers			[Signature]
23-8-23	Tora McCallum			[Signature]
23-8-23	Belinda Johnson			[Signature]
23-8-23	Dale Schultz	[Signature]		

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8	Karin Dodds	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Karin Dodds
23/8	EV & H. Sanders	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Ev & H Sanders
23/8	ANDREW REICHERT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	Leslie Rux	376 130 ARARAT	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	Ann Frank	Burns Bay	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	Joel Brown	Nhill	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	John Lee	Hastings	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	Jack Wilson	Nhill	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	JAMES MAITLAND	CLIFTON HILL	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	Ken Robertson	Nhill [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	KR
23/8	Olivia Hamilton	Nhill	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/08	M. Goodall	Nhill	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/08	B. SCHIRMER	ADELAIDE	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8	G. Conner	Margate	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23-8	S. W. Bothe	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	S. W. Bothe
23.8.23	K. Curran	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	K. Curran
23.8.23	D. Athinidi	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	D. Athinidi
23/8/23	M. Simons	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	M. Simons
23/8/23	A. Gubbin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	A. Gubbin
23/8/23	J. Rusbridge	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	J. Rusbridge
11 11	K. Armon	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	K. Armon
23-8	J THOMAS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	J THOMAS
23.8	J. MATTSCHLOSS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	J. MATTSCHLOSS
23/8	J. Pizzoccolo	Kingsgate RL		J. Pizzoccolo
23/8	C. MITCHELL	DIMBOOLA		C. MITCHELL
23/8	Cathie Kennedy	NHILL.		Cathie Kennedy
23/8	John Kennedy	NHILL.		John Kennedy
23/8	Christie Pintak	Gymbawa		Christie Pintak

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	Michael Podger	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
	John Haller	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8/23	A. MILOK	HAVEN VIC		[Signature]
23/8/23	K. DIKES	NHILL		[Signature]
23/8/23	Seb JOHN	Nhill	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8/23	Sheryl Elshaug-Maltschels	Kerivera		[Signature]
23/8/23	Mark Zimmermann	Nhill		[Signature]
23/8/23	Coral A	Netherby		[Signature]
23/8/23	MATTHEW CHEQUER	[REDACTED]		[Signature]
23-8-23	JOSH C	[REDACTED]		[Signature]
23/8/23	Billie B	Nhill		[Signature]
23/8/23	Rodney Stone	Nhill		[Signature]
24/8/23	G.T. COLLINS	TORAU VIC.	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
23/8/23	Chris Kerr	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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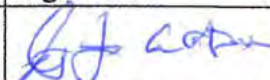







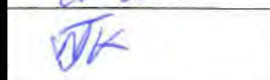
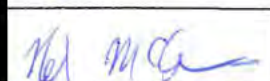
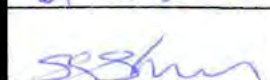
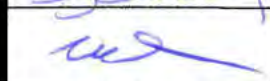
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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
28.8.23	M LYNCH	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28-8-23	R MARLOW	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28-2003	John Bone	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
" "	K. Hamilton	Nhill, VIC, 3418	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
" "	R. Day.	Nhill Vic	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28-8-23	ARVILLE DEVA CRUZ	NHILL VIC	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8/23	Liz Preston	NHILL VIC.	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8/23	Dorina Watson	NHILL. VIC	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8/23	Allen McDONALD	Nhill Vic	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8/23	STEVE WHLIE	NHILL VIC	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8/23	BARRY SCHULTZ	NHILL VIC	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
29/8/23	Don Landers	NHILL VIC	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
30/8/23	Emma Dickinson	Nhill vic	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
30/8/23	Timothy Rinkoule	Nhill Vic	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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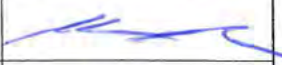


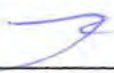

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	GAVIN WATSON			
23-8-23	DARREN HUOT			
✓	STEWART MATHENZIK			
23/8/23	TROY FREEDAY			
23/8	HEVIN HOOT	NHILL		
23/8	HEM O'NEIL	KEITH		
23/8	REBECCA WEBB			
23/8	JONATHAN WHITEHEAD			
23/8	JONATHAN KEEL			
23/8	ADRIEN MELLING	NHILL		
23/8	JASON KEEL	NHILL		
23/8	NOEL MCCOY	NHILL		
23/8	SAM STOREY	KEITH		
23/8	JOHN HUDD	NHILL		

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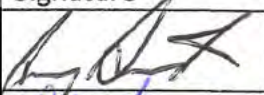

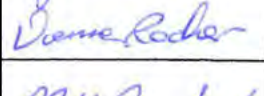
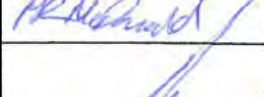

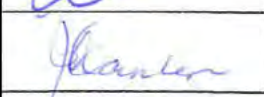


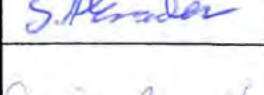
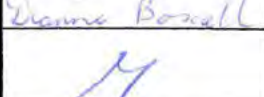
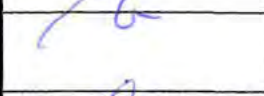

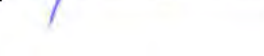
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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	Cheryl Walker			
23/8/23	Tracey Alton			
23-8-23	Nicholas wallis			N wallis
23/8/23	Sophie Warner			sr.
23/8/23	Marguerite P.			
✓	Berry Cramer			
23/8/23	Stuart Gardner			
23/8/23	Alan Harris			
23-8-23	Tracey Matthews			
23-8-23	Anne Dixon			
23/8/23	Lee Korman			
23-8	Scott Smith			SS
23/8	Ina Jones			Ina
23/8	JEFF MERRITT			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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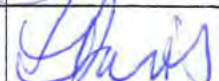
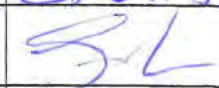

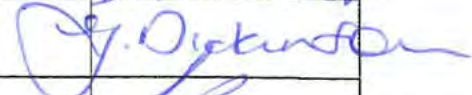
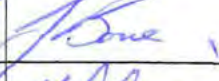




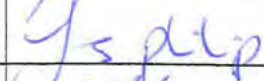



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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	Terry Quirk			
23/8/23	GEORGE FOSTER			
23/8/23	Vienne Rocher			
"	Peter McDonald			
"	K. Jones			
23/8/23	Ali Hewazi			
23/8/23	Leanne Hamlyn			
23/8/23	Judith Taylor			
23/8/23	WYATON BRICE			
23/8/23	Shaun Alexander			
23/8/23	Dianne Boswell			
23/8/23	MURFIN YIP			
23/8/23	J. Hine			
23/8/23	HM O'Flynn			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

The Nhill community does not agree with the planning permit application for 67-69 Nelson Street Nhill to use the site for the development of a unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alterations to property access.



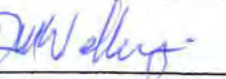

Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8	E. Van Wageningen			
23/8	h Davies			
23/8	E Jansen			
23/8	D S Kennedy			
23/8	G. DICKINSON			
23/8	J. BONE			
23/8	M. Alexander			
23/8	Megan Nossack			
23/8	JEFF TRITZSCH			
23/8	ROSS ELLIS			
24-8	JAMES PHILIP			
24-8	C. WALLIS			
24-8	D Janecki			
24/8	Sam Bone			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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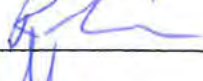


Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
26-8-23	Lynnette Jefferey			
✓	Armondwan Benedek			
26-8-23	ROD COLBERT			
"	Ter Hannon			
26-8-23	SyD ARGALL			
"	LEANNE HARRIS			
"	Glenn Dotter			
"	Sharon Matlock			
"	GLENN DAVIES			
"	DARREN WEDDING			
"	Debbie Schultz			
"	Colin Pagon			
"	MARILYN NICHOLLS			
26/8/23	Toni King			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
26/8/23	MICHAEL BUCHAN	[REDACTED]		
27/08/23	GRAEME KERBER	[REDACTED]		
27/8/23	John Dickington	[REDACTED]		
27/8/23	Greene Jayo	[REDACTED]		
27/8/23	PHILIP MCCARTHY	[REDACTED]		
	GREG NATT	[REDACTED]		
	DALLAS MOYLE	[REDACTED]		
27-8-23	Kat Goldsworthy	[REDACTED]		
28-8-23	Lois	[REDACTED]		
28-8-23	Daniel Stacombe	[REDACTED]		
28.8	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		
28	STEPHEN WHEATON	[REDACTED]		
28/3/23	Ric Fisher	[REDACTED]		
28/8/23	ADAM PEDIE	[REDACTED]		

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
22-8-23	ERROL LAVERTY	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	E Laverty
22-8-23	JANICE LAVERTY			J. Laverty
23-8	DAVE WILLIAMS			DW
23/8	WAYNE WILDE			Wayne Wilde
"	Arnold v. Bevecke			AB
"	Steve D'Poole			SD
23/8/23	Karen Doolan			Karen Doolan
1/11	KEE WILLIAMS			KEE
1/11	BRADEN BRIZZI			BB
1/11	R Laverty			R Laverty
23/8/23	DAREAL HALL			Dareal Hall
23-8-23	Austin Mackenzie			Austin Mackenzie
23-8-23	IAN CRAMER			Ian Cramer
23-08-23	Emily Joan Bennett.	Joan Bennett		

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	Tania Ryan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	TR
23/8/23	Liz Preitter	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	lp
23/1/23	Pauline McCracken	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
	Honishi Murrett	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
24/3	Christine Pearce	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	Amber Delaney	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	Kim Rowe	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	Vicki Sherwell	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	Rob Sherwell	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3/23	Andrea McColl	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3/23	Jess McDonald	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	^{ring} Dorecki	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/3	Lorraine Clark	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
	N. McBotney	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]



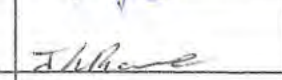
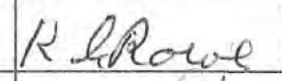
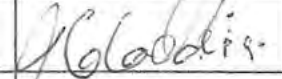

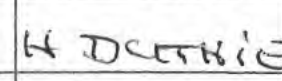
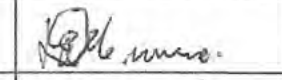

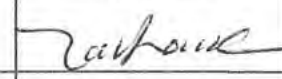
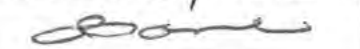




24/3 D. S. Wheeler Greater

[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

The Nhill community does not agree with the planning permit application for 67-69 Nelson Street Nhill to use the site for the development of a unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alterations to property access.

Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/8/23	LINETTE TAYLOR			
24/8/23	Rochelle James			
24/8/23	JANET ROWE			
24/8/23	HELEN ROWE			
24.8.23	Jackie Gloddie			
24.8.23	RON DUTHIE			
24.8.23	HELEN DUTHIE			
24.8.23	Don Murray			
24.8.23	THANK LE			
24/23	nails by charis			
25-8-23				
25-8-23	Michelle Marra			
23.8.23	CANDY KUMAR			
23-8-23	ELINOR BUSH			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24-8	Paw Moo khin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	Des Jandghai	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24-8	Cochie Beard	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24-8	Re Reichert	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
21-8	gno van	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	Lucas Dahlberg	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	IAA JUNE PAW	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	Tom Alden	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
- 8	GLEN ELLIOTT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	Callahan Elliott	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24-8	JUAN LEYONJELM	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24/8	marie Goode	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
25/8	Michelle Effrett	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
28/8	Ken Effrett	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24.8.23	S. PARS OIC			S. Pars
24.08.23	B. T. Tattersall			B. T. Tattersall
24.08.23	M. Delaney			M. Delaney
24.08.23	B. Duffty			B. Duffty
24-8-23	J. E. Dickin			J. E. Dickin
24.8.23	Fris King			Fris King
24.8.23	Charlene Marra			Charlene Marra
24.8.23	Dave Bell			Dave Bell
24/8/23	JOCK BONE			Jock Bone
	Ann Haly			Ann Haly
24/8	Clara			Clara
24/8	Sarah Bird			Sarah Bird
24/8	Ellen Wheaton			Ellen Wheaton
24/8	M. Wolk			M. Wolk

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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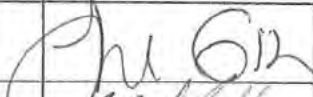

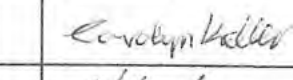
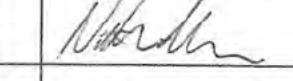
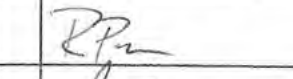
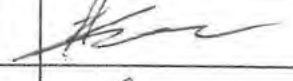
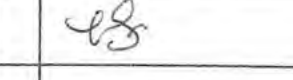
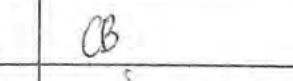
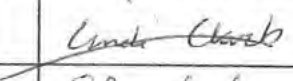
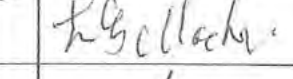

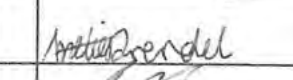

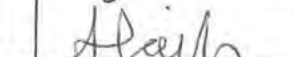
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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/1/23	Kanna Sanders	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Kanna Sanders
"	Jan Branch			Jan Branch
25/1	Lola Alexander			Lola Alexander
"	Geeta Gould			Geeta Gould
"	Marge Puddy			Marge Puddy
	A elongel			A elongel
"	Mr Kennedy			Marie H. Kennedy
"	Sharon Crook			Sharon Crook
"	Kaye Heat			Kaye Heat
"	Kevin Heat			Kevin Heat
"	Peter Heat			Peter Heat
"	Jill Fischer			Jill Fischer
	Fran Bone			Fran Bone
	Sandra Schofield			Sandra Schofield

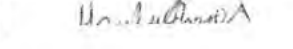
PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23.8	J Colbert			
23.8	IAN KELLER			
23.8	CAROLYN KELLER			
24.8	Nathan Albrecht			
24.8	REBECCA PEREIRA			
24.8	AGOSTINHO PEREIRA			
24.8	Holly Beattie			
24.8	Clint Beattie			
24.8	Cindi Clark			
24.8	Lorraine Mackenzie			
24.8	Linda Drendel			
24.8	Amelia Drendel			
24.8	Alex Pipkorn			
24.8	April Haign			

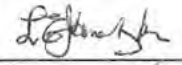




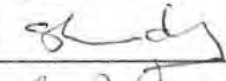
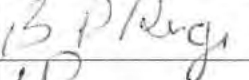
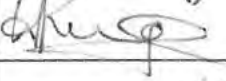
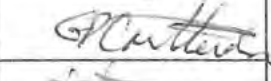
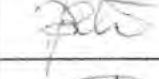
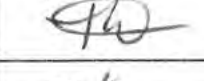
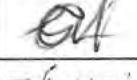
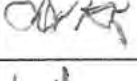

24.8 Hauke Sherwell



PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
23/8/23	L JANETZKI			
23/8/23	KEN VOIGT			
23/8/20	Janet Voigt			
24/8/23	Kathryn Koop			
24/8/27	ROD KENNEDY			
24/8/23	Steph Kennedy			
24/8	Brian Ruge			
24/8	Helen Ruge			
24/8	Geoff Crittenden			
24/8	Amanda Brown			
24/8	Holly Kennedy			
24/8	Carol Case-Hassall			
24/8	Charles Hassall			
24-18	Will Lynch			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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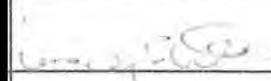


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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/8/23	Sandra Bone			Sandra Bone
24.8.23	Manda Kitchie			Manda Kitchie
	DAVID CRAVED			David Craved
	Tasmire Stacombe			Tasmire Stacombe
	LUTE TRAN			LUTE TRAN
	Alex Gamm			Alex Gamm
	Shirley Lawlor			Shirley Lawlor
24/8/23	Sanjosh Alefi			Sanjosh Alefi
	Julie McDonald			Julie McDonald
	Jerry Ryan			Jerry Ryan
24.8.23	Kim Rubson			Kim Rubson
24.8.23	ALAN KENNEDY			ALAN KENNEDY
24/08/23	Ravi			Ravi
24/8	NEIL KEAM			NEIL KEAM

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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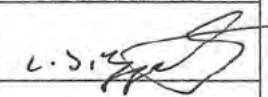
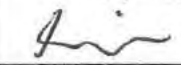
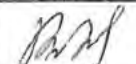
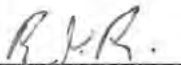

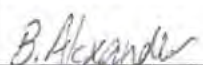

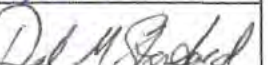
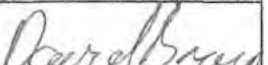
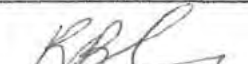
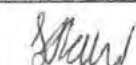
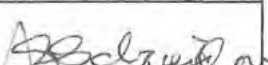


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Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/8/23	Steven Braubach			
23/8/23	Wendy Thomas			
23.8.23	B. J. Rettus			B. J. R.
23-8-23	Rob Well			Rob Well
	Rhonda Day			Rhonda
23-8-23	Meredith Gilbert			
23-8-23	L. Ripley			L. Ripley
23-8-23	Dorothy Schwaebel			D. S.
23-8-23	Debbie Reichelt			Dee
23-8-23	Charlotte Pickinon			C Pickinon
23-8-23	Sheila Muralanti			Sheila M
23/8	TREVOR FLAVEL			Trevor Flavel
23/8	Emiley Bone			Emiley Bone
24/8	Fiona Lock			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

The Nhill community does not agree with the planning permit application for 67-69 Nelson Street Nhill to use the site for the development of a unmanned service station (diesel and ad-blue only), including illuminated electronic pole sign and alterations to property access.



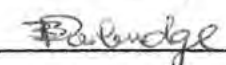

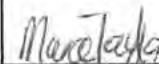

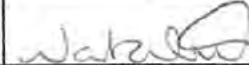
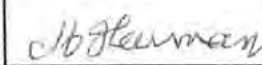
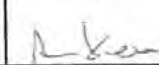
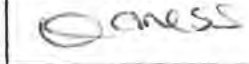



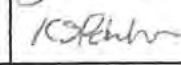
Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
22/8/23	L. J. SYMONS			
22/8/23	A. Szejnoga			
22/8/23	R. Davies			
23/8/23	R. J. Restus			
23/8/23	I. ALEXANDER			
23/8/23	B. ALEXANDER			
23/8/23	A. CRAMES			
23/8/23	D. STANFORD			
23/8/23	D. BROWN			
23/8/23	R. BARKER			
23/8/23	L. Kellel			
23/8	S. Schneider			
23/8/23	J. MORRISON			
23/8/23	WICK			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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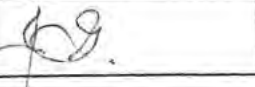
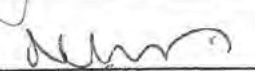

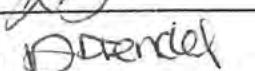
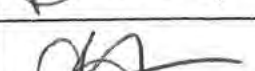

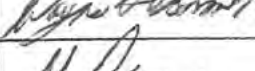
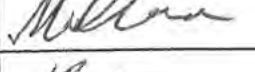
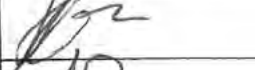



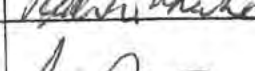
Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24/8	Josh			
25/8	Madelaine			
25/8	RHONDA			
25/8	Rosemary			
25/8	Maree			
25/8	Sarah			
25/8	Natalie			
25/8	Melwa			
25/8	Ann			
25/8	Gann			
28/8	Leoni			
28/8	Kim			
29-8	Joselyn			
28.8	Kate			

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature		
25/8	Joy CURRY					
25/8	N. Sims					
25/8	R. Kennedy					
26	T Drendel					
26/8	M. Parker					
28/8/23	W DONNELL					
29/8/23	M. Ramanauskas					
29/8/23	Dale Stephen					
"	Jenna Eastick					
30/8/23	Lesley Gordon					
30/8/23	Pauline Wheeler					
30.8.23	Michelle Allen					
30.8.23	Jacinta Effelt					

PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATION PETITION: 67-69 NELSON STREET NHILL

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Upon signing this, I agree and understand that my details will be published for public viewing on Hindmarsh Shire Council's website.

Date	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
24-8	JULIE ARGALL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
24-8	Teresa Ross			[Signature]
24-8	Graeme Bone			G. Bone
24-8	TREVOR BORGEL			[Signature]
24-8	JOHN SCHNEIDER			[Signature]
24-8	Jerry Miller			[Signature]
29-8	Rebecca Curtis			[Signature]
29-8	Jenny Morgan			J. Morgan
31-8	STEVEN SCHNEIDER			[Signature]
	Ivan Lyngbyll			I. Lyngbyll
31-8	BONNIE MCELREW			[Signature]

17 Sep 9:00 AM
for

POLICY



C019 Public Transparency Policy

1 Purpose

This Public Transparency Policy (the **Policy**) supports Council in its ongoing drive for good governance and reinforces the importance of open and accountable conduct. In practice, it provides guidance as to how Council information is to be made publicly available. Council must adopt and maintain a public transparency policy under section 57 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act). This Policy gives effect to the public transparency principles outlined in section 58 of the Act -

- (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.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all Councillors, delegated committees under the Act and all employees of Hindmarsh Shire Council.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, Council adopts the following definitions:

Community

Means the Municipal Community and includes –

- (a) people who live in the municipal district of the Council;
and
- (b) people and bodies who are ratepayers of the Council;
and
- (c) Traditional Owners of land in the municipal district of the Council; and
- (d) people and bodies who conduct activities in the municipal district of the Council.¹

¹Local Government Act 2020 s3

Confidential information	has the same meaning under section 3 of the Act and is further described under clause 7(a) of this Policy
Council	means Hindmarsh Shire Council
Closed Meetings	Under section 66(5) of the Act, Council may determine that a meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential information. A meeting may therefore be closed to the public if Council resolves to close the meeting, in order to consider a confidential matter regarding issues of a legal, contractual or personnel nature and other issues deemed not in the public interest.
Transparency	a lack of hidden agendas or conditions, and the availability of all information needed in order to collaborate, cooperate and make decisions effectively.
Contrary to Public Interest	Means where Council may refuse to release information if it determines that the harm likely to be created by releasing the information will exceed the public benefit in being transparent.

4 Policy

4.1 Policy Statement

Transparency and accountability go hand in hand. Openness, accountability, and honesty define local government transparency and Council's obligation to share information with the community. Transparency is central to the ability of the community to hold its elected officials accountable.

Public transparency, in the local government context, requires that the decision-making processes of the Council be conducted openly with information made freely and proactively available to individuals and participation in decision-making is encouraged. There should be minimal exceptions and in accordance with legal requirements. An explanation should always be provided as to why information will not be released or why a decision cannot be made with full transparency.

4.2 Application

To enact the principles of transparency, Council will apply them to the following processes.

4.2.1 Decision-making at Council Meetings

Decision-making at Council meetings –

- Will be undertaken in accordance with the Governance Rules.
- Will be conducted in an open and transparent forum, unless in accordance with the provisions in the Governance Rules.
- Will be informed through community engagement, in accordance with the Community Engagement Principles and the Community Engagement Policy.

4.2.2 Council Information

Council delivers a range of services to residents, business and visitors to the municipality and our services and functions are documented. Council will publish information about Council services and administration activities on Council's website or will make this information available upon request.

Part II of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* requires Council to publish a number of statements designed to assist individuals in accessing the information it holds. A list of available information is provided in the Part II Statement published in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. This information includes:

Documents such as:

- Plans and Reports adopted by Council;
- policies;
- project and service plans;
- grant application, tenders and tender evaluation material;
- service agreements, contracts, leases and licences;
- Council leases, permits and notices of building and occupancy; and
- relevant technical reports and / or research that informs decision making.

Procedural information such as:

- Practice notes and operating procedures;
- application processes for approvals, permits, grants, access to Council services;
- decision making processes;
- guidelines and manuals;
- community engagement processes; and
- complaints handling processes.

Council records including but not limited to the details below, will be made available where possible on Council's website or on request:

- Council and Delegated Committee meeting agendas and minutes;
- reporting from Committees required to in accordance with the Governance Rules;
- details of Delegated Committees, Community Asset Committees and Advisory Committees;
- registers of gifts, benefits and hospitality offered to Councillors or Council Staff;
- registers of travel undertaken by Councillors or Council Staff;
- registers of Conflicts of Interest disclosed by Councillors or Council Staff;
- submissions made by Council to State or Federal processes;
- details of any Memorandum of Understanding entered into by Council that are not subject to confidentiality clauses;
- registers of donations and grants made by Council;
- registers of leases entered into by Council, as lessor and lessee;
- register of Delegations;
- register of Authorised officers;
- register of Election campaign donations;
- summary of Personal Interests; and
- any other Registers or Records required by legislation or determined to be in the public interest.

Publications

Council publishes a range of newsletters and reports for residents, businesses and visitors to Hindmarsh. These can be downloaded from Council's website or by contacting Council for a copy. Some of these publications are available at Council's Libraries.

4.3 Transparency Considerations and Limitations

Some Council information that informs decision making by Council may not be made publicly available. This will only occur if the information is confidential information or if its release would be contrary to the public interest or in compliance with relevant legislation.

4.3.1 Legislation and Policy

The information made available is subject to the provisions of:

- the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*;
- the *Local Government Act 2020*
- the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;
- the *Health Records Act 2001*; and
- Council's Privacy Policy.

4.3.2 Confidential Information

"Confidential information" is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It includes the types of information listed in the following table.

Type of Information	Description
Council business	Information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.
Security	Information that is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person if released.
Land use planning	Information that is likely to encourage speculation in land values if prematurely released.
Law enforcement	Information which would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation into an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person if released.
Legal privileged	Information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies.
Personal	Information which would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs if released.
Private commercial	Information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets or that would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage if released.
Confidential meeting	Records of a Council and/or Delegated Committee meeting that are closed to the public to consider confidential information.

Internal arbitration Confidential information relating to internal arbitration about an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct – Councillors.

Councillor Conduct Panel Confidential information relating to a Councillor Conduct Panel matter.

Confidential information under the 1989 Act Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Council may decide, in the interests of transparency, to release information to the public even though it is confidential under the Act. However, this will not happen if release is contrary to law, in breach of contractual requirements or if releasing the information is likely to cause harm to any person or is not in the public interest to do so.

4.3.3 Public Interest Test

Council is not required to make publicly available information if the release would be Contrary to the Public Interest, in accordance with the Act. Council may refuse to release information if it is satisfied that the harm to the community likely to be created by releasing the information will exceed the public benefit in it being released.

When considering possible harm from releasing information, Council will only concern itself with harm to the community or members of the community. Potential harm to the Council will only be a factor if it also damages the community, such as where it involves a loss of public funds or prevents the Council from performing its functions.

4.4 Freedom of Information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* gives individuals a right to apply for access to documents held by Council. Council is committed to proactive and informal release of information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and the Professional Standards issued by the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner. Individuals are encouraged to contact Council prior to submitting an application under Freedom of Information as Council staff can advise what documents are available for inspection and in some instances can assist with providing the requested information informally.

5 Responsibilities

All Councillors and Council Officers are responsible for facilitating access to council information in accordance with this policy.

Specific responsibilities are detailed below -

Party/parties	Roles and responsibilities
Council	Champion the commitment and principles for public transparency through leadership, modelling practice and decision-making.
Executive Management Team	Champion behaviours that foster transparency and drive the principles through policy, process and leadership. Monitor implementation of this policy.

Senior Management Team	Manage areas of responsibility to ensure public transparency, good governance and community engagement is consistent with this policy.
All Staff	Public transparency is the responsibility of all employees as appropriate to their role and function. All staff respond to requests for information and facilitate provision of information in consultation with their manager and in alignment with this Policy.
Manager Governance	To monitor implementation of this policy and conduct periodic reviews to drive continuous improvement.

6 Non-Compliance

If a member of the community wishes to question a decision about the release of information, this should be raised directly with the officer handling the matter in the first instance. If the member of the community is still not satisfied and would like to contest the decision, this can be reported to Council’s Manager Governance and Human Services on (03) 5391 4444.

If you are not satisfied with Council’s response, the concerns can be raised directly with the Victorian Ombudsman’s office on (03) 9613 6222. or via the website www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au.

7 Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter Compatibility Statement

This policy has been reviewed against section 13 of the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*. Importantly, transparency is a human right under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*, namely, “the right to have the opportunity, without discrimination, to participate in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Additionally, this policy also provides for the protection of an individual’s right not to have their privacy unlawfully or arbitrarily interfered with.

8 Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Council commits to monitoring processes, information sharing and decision making to understand the overall level of success in the Policy’s implementation.

A periodic review of this policy will be undertaken to ensure any changes required to strengthen or update the policy are made in a timely manner.

9 References

Related documents	Legislation
Governance Rules Public Transparency Principles Privacy and Data Protection Policy	<i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i> <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>

Community Engagement Policy Privacy Policy	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i> <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i>
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10 Document Control

C019 Public Transparency Policy		Policy Category	COUNCIL
Version Number	1.1	Policy Status	DRAFT
Approved/Adopted By	COUNCIL	Approved/Adopted on:	XX September 2023
Responsible Officer	CEO	Review Date:	XX September 2026
Version History	Date	Version	Description
	August 2020	1.0	New policy required by <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>
	September 2023	1.1	Scheduled Policy Review

POLICY

C012 Councillor Interaction with Developers



1 Purpose

Councillors are often required to make decisions about planning and developments in their municipality and as part of seeking information, may interact with developers on upcoming projects. Council acknowledges that interactions with developers are a necessary and essential part of a healthy democracy and every person, organisation, and interest group have a right to put a case forward to elected officials as part of the land use planning decision-making process.

This policy provides guidance for how Councillors should interact with developers to maintain integrity, transparency, and good governance in their decision-making whilst also promoting development for the social and economic benefit of Hindmarsh Shire.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council and to their interactions with developers in relation to land-use planning related matters, including current planning permit applicants and prospective planning permit applicants.

3 Definitions

Council	means Hindmarsh Shire Council
Councillors	means elected Councillors of Hindmarsh Shire Council, including the Mayor
Contact	means any communication or information exchange between a Councillor and a developer, regardless of whether it was expected, planned, solicited or reciprocated and regardless of the means of communication.
Developers	an applicant, or proposed applicant, for a land use planning application or similar. This includes any consultants, advisors, agents, representatives or person closely associated with the developer who is appointed to promote or advocate for the developer's interests or proposal.

4 Policy

4.1 Conflict of Interest

Council should not engage in any form of contact with developers when there is an existing conflict of interest. If an interaction with a developer is handled inappropriately and/or not in accordance with this policy, a Councillor may create a conflict of interest and preclude themselves from future decision-making relating to the relevant development application.

4.2 Contact with Prospective Developers

Councillors should encourage responsible and appropriate development in Council's area. Councillors should not feel inhibited in any communications with potential developers in promoting the benefits of developing in Hindmarsh.

However, in dealings with potential developers, Councillors:

- must make clear to potential developers that they can provide general information on the application process only and cannot give advice about, or commit to, the development's chance of success;
- should suggest the developer seek independent professional advice;
- if applicable, must encourage potential developers to seek preliminary advice on their proposal by utilising the established process within Council's planning department pre-lodgement meetings with Council officers; and
- should not state any opinions or provide any advice regarding the proposal (other than that stated above). The Councillor must be aware that if they do give a personal opinion on the potential development, this may preclude them from being involved in any decisions on the development in the future.

4.3 Councillors Involvement in Decision-making

It is the Council staff responsibility to receive and assess development applications, culminating in a report to Council that provides information and a recommendation on the application. The role of the Council in the decision-making process is to approve or decline the application on the information and recommendation provided by Council staff. To avoid prejudicing the eventual decision, Councillors must not make up their minds about a development application until they have read the officer's reports and heard all sides of the debate. This may include receiving submissions, as a Council, to be read in conjunction with the Council report.

4.4 Commenting Prior to Decision

Any involvement a Councillor has with a development application during its assessment has the potential to damage the integrity of the final determination. It is important that Councillors avoid making public comments that could be seen as supporting or opposing an application.

In addition, Councillors should not be seen to be trying to influence the public by commenting on the application or signing petitions during the public comment period.

If a member of the public, particularly those that have an objection to the development application, approaches a Councillor to discuss the application, they should avoid comment and encourage the person to direct their objection and comment to Council officers to be included, where appropriate, for Council consideration. Written submissions directed to and received by individual Councillors should be provided to the Mayor to be distributed to all Councillors and the Director Infrastructure Services.

4.5 Meeting with Developers

Any request for a meeting between Councillors and developers should occur only to listen to the position of the relevant person or group. To ensure a fair and transparent process, where such meetings occur, Councillors must then also make themselves available to all other parties involved in the matter to hear their views should they similarly request to be heard.

At any meeting with developers, Councillors:

- **should advise the contact that the meeting might be registered in accordance with this Policy, and should proceed only if the contact understands and agrees;**
- must make clear that they are only in attendance to listen to the person or group, that they can provide general information on the application process only and they cannot give advice about the development's chance of success;
- should not state any opinions or provide any advice regarding the proposal (other than that stated above). The Councillor must be aware that if they do give a personal opinion on the potential development, this may preclude them from being involved in any decisions on the development in the future; and
- should state that in relation to Council's possible decision on the application, that the Councillor's principal obligation is to serve the public interest by ensuring that their decision is -
 1. consistent with the planning legislation, Council's planning scheme and policies; and
 2. made after having appropriate regard to any officer's (or Council appointed consultant's) advice; and
 3. not influenced by any other irrelevant or inappropriate consideration.

Councillors should avoid one-on-one meetings with developers who have an application before Council or who may make an application to Council. A one-on-one meeting with a developer runs the risk of a Councillor being perceived as being influenced or biased in their decision-making.

Requests for a meeting should go through official Council channels, such as a generic Council inbox. Councillors should only meet with a developer with a Council officer present. The Councillor should be transparent with other Councillors around the nature of the meeting and provide them with the opportunity to attend should they wish to do so.

Where a Councillor receives a request to meet with a developer who has no current application before Council, they should be mindful during the interaction of any impacts the meeting might have on future applications as per clause [4.1.1](#).

4.6 Meeting with Developers where the Development Application is Subject to Legal Proceedings

In the event that a land use planning application is proceeding to any type of court or tribunal proceeding, no meetings between Councillors and developers should take place unless approved by the Chief Executive Officer or the Director Infrastructure Services, with such meeting being approved on a "without prejudice" basis.

4.7 Gifts and Hospitality

Management of offers of gifts or hospitality from developers should be managed in accordance with Council's Gifts and Hospitality Policy.

4.8 Campaign Donations

Local government election candidates must provide a record of whether they did or didn't receive any donations, gifts or in-kind support for their election campaign. Under the Act, all candidates in Victorian council elections must submit a return within 40 days of election day.

Once Council has received a *successful* candidate’s campaign donations return form, any disclosable gifts from developers will be transferred to Council’s **Register of Interactions** (see clause [4.9](#)). If it is not clear that the donation is from a developer, Council may ask that the Councillor confirm further information as to the nature of the donation so that it might be properly recorded.

4.9 Register of Interactions

Councillors should keep a written record of the matters discussed at any interaction with a developer. A Councillor Declaration of Contact with Developer Form (see Appendix 1) should be completed and forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer for inclusion in the Register of Contact with Developers within 10 business days of the meeting taking place.

The Manager Governance and Human Services (on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer) is responsible for maintaining the Register of Contact with Developers. The Register shall be made publicly available in an electronic format on the Council’s website and updated on a monthly basis.

5 Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 – Compatibility Statement

The Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* has been considered in relation to whether any human right under the Charter is restricted or interfered with in any way by enacting any part of this policy. It is considered that this policy is consistent with the rights outlined in the Charter.

6 References

Related documents	Legislation
Hindmarsh Shire Council Councillor Code of Conduct	<i>Local Government Act 2020</i> <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>
Hindmarsh Shire Council Gifts and Hospitality Policy	<i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i>
Hindmarsh Shire Council Conflict of Interest Policy	<i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>

7 Document Control

C012 Councillor Interaction with Developers		Policy Category	COUNCIL
Version Number	1.0	Policy Status	DRAFT
Approved/Adopted By	COUNCIL	Approved/Adopted on:	XX September 2023
Responsible Officer	CEO	Review Date	XX September 2026
Version History	Date	Version	Description

	September 2023	1.0	New Policy
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DRAFT

Appendix 1

Councillor Declaration of Contact with Developer Form



	Details
Councillor name	
Name of Developer	
Date, time and place of contact	
Type or method of contact	
Property under discussion	
Nature of issue covered in the contact	
Did you advise the developer of the Contact Register?	
How did you advise them of the Contact Register?	
Other relevant information/comments	

Signed

Date



Hindmarsh Shire Council

DRAFT Public Transparency Policy and DRAFT Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy

Open for public submissions until 5pm on Friday 15 September 2023

PRIVACY STATEMENT

We will handle any personal information you have provided in this form in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Our privacy policy contains information about how you may access your personal information and seek correction of such information; as well as how to complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how we will deal with such a complaint. For more information, please see our Privacy Policy or contact our team on (03) 5391 4444. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other party unless Council is required to do so by law, has gained your consent to do so or an information privacy principle exemption applies.

By completing this form, you consent for it to be presented at the Council Meeting held on 27 September 2023 and published within the meeting Agenda and Minutes.

Provide your feedback:

Which policy are you provided feedback on? You are able to select more than one.

Public Transparency Policy

Enter your feedback here:

This Public Transparency Policy (the Policy) supports Council in its ongoing drive for good governance and reinforces the importance of open and accountable conduct.

This is the opening statement. In particular can I draw your attention to the end of this statement. ".....the importance of open and accountable conduct".

Each councillor may remember when the charging station was placed at the north end of the gardens in Federal St Rainbow I emailed each one of you asking who made the decision to place it where it sits. Not one Councillor could, or would tell me whose decision it was.

"The importance of open and accountable conduct". Not one Councillor would be accountable.

Will this draft policy bring more accountability when questions such as mine are asked. Will decisions made that affect communities be made so openly.

To date I have not had a response from any councillor as to who made the decision to put this charging station where it currently sits. Is this draft statement going to make a difference or will things remain the same.

About you:

Your Full Name

Graham Nuske

Town

Rainbow

Your Email Address

[REDACTED]

Your Phone Number



Request to be heard at Council meeting on Wednesday 27 September 2023 in relation to submission?

No



Hindmarsh Shire Council

DRAFT Public Transparency Policy and DRAFT Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy

Open for public submissions until 5pm on Friday 15 September 2023

PRIVACY STATEMENT

We will handle any personal information you have provided in this form in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Our privacy policy contains information about how you may access your personal information and seek correction of such information; as well as how to complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how we will deal with such a complaint. For more information, please see our Privacy Policy or contact our team on (03) 5391 4444. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other party unless Council is required to do so by law, has gained your consent to do so or an information privacy principle exemption applies.

By completing this form, you consent for it to be presented at the Council Meeting held on 27 September 2023 and published within the meeting Agenda and Minutes.

Provide your feedback:

**Which policy are you provided
feedback on? You are able to select
more than one.**

Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy

Enter your feedback here:

In relation to the Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy

see Hume Council POL291-COUNCILLOR-GIFT-POLICY.pdf (
<https://www.hume.vic.gov.au/Home>
)

5 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

5.1 Councillors will avoid situations giving rise to the appearance that a person or body, through the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality of any kind, is attempting to gain favourable treatment from an individual Councillor or from the Council.

5.2 Councillors will take all reasonable steps to ensure that our family members do not receive gifts, benefits or hospitality that give rise to the appearance of being an attempt to gain favourable treatment.

I bring your attention to principle 5.2 "our family members do not receive gifts, benefits" in relation to Councillor Gersch in particular.

Councillor Gersch's grandson has/is participated in the construction of Elizabeth Street, Russell Street and Frazer Street on behalf of Mark Shearwood and his investors. If Mark Shearwood or one of his investors submits a planning application, Councillor Gersch should be disqualified from voting, as this would create a perceived conflict of interest. To demonstrate the close relationship between Mark Shearwood and Councillor Gersch's grandson, the grandson hand delivered a letter from Mark Shearwoods lawyer to my address, after 10pm at night. Contrary to Councillor Gersch's assertion, his grandson is not a 'builder' as he is not registered with the Victorian Building Authority. As Councillor Gersch's grandson has participated in

the above builds, any future votes by Councillor Gersch on these planning applications would benefit his family (grandson is defined as a family member in the Local Government Act 2020) and thus should be automatically disqualified.

About you:

Your Full Name

tom pintarich

Town

nhill

Your Email Address

[REDACTED]

Your Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Request to be heard at Council meeting on Wednesday 27 September 2023 in relation to submission?

Yes



Hindmarsh
Shire Council

2022/2023

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2023

Hindmarsh Shire Council

Financial Report

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Hindmarsh Shire Council

Financial Report

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Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, the Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Heather Boyd, BBA, MBA
Principal Accounting Officer

Dated : <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 2023 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 Brett Ireland
Councillor

Dated : <Date>
Nhill

Deputy Mayor Melanie Albrecht
Councillor

Dated : <Date>
Nhill

Greg Wood
Chief Executive Officer

Dated : <Date>
Nhill

<INSERT VAGO REPORT - PAGE 1>

<INSERT VAGO REPORT - PAGE 2>

Comprehensive Income Statement For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Income / Revenue			
Rates and charges	3.1	9,450	9,222
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	220	247
User fees	3.3	2,021	1,549
Grants - operating	3.4	7,769	7,711
Grants - capital	3.4	3,459	7,064
Contributions - monetary	3.5	77	86
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	34	128
Share of net profits (or loss) of associates and joint ventures	6.2	(62)	82
Other income	3.7	624	283
Total income / revenue		23,592	26,373
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	(8,208)	(7,651)
Materials and services	4.2	(5,063)	(5,519)
Depreciation	4.3	(4,946)	(4,524)
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	4.4	75	(31)
Other expenses	4.5	(1,371)	(1,345)
Total expenses		(19,514)	(19,070)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		4,079	7,303
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.1	-	33,051
Total other comprehensive income		-	33,051
Total comprehensive result		4,079	40,354

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

Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	10,589	8,980
Trade and other receivables	5.1	2,050	1,903
Other financial assets	5.1	4,000	6,000
Inventories	5.2	725	503
Prepayments	5.2	250	84
Total current assets		17,613	17,471
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1	2	2
Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries	6.2	233	295
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	203,818	201,580
Total non-current assets		204,053	201,877
Total assets		221,667	219,347
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	868	725
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	101	102
Unearned income/revenue	5.3	1,726	2,029
Provisions	5.4	2,244	2,166
Total current liabilities		4,939	5,021
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	207	198
Total non-current liabilities		207	198
Total liabilities		5,146	5,220
Net assets		216,521	214,128
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		83,961	79,882
Reserves	9.1	132,561	134,245
Total Equity		216,521	214,127

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

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2023	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year		214,127	79,882	134,245
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		4,079	4,079	-
Net asset impairment	6.1	(1,684)	-	(1,684)
Balance at end of the financial year		216,521	83,961	132,561

2022		Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000
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
Balance at end of the financial year		214,127	79,882	134,245

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 2023

	2023	2022
	Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)
Note	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Rates and charges	9,418	9,261
Statutory fees and fines	16	34
User fees	2,190	1,378
Grants - operating	7,771	7,707
Grants - capital	3,155	4,326
Contributions - monetary	77	86
Interest received	328	77
Other receipts	285	1,252
Net GST refund/payment	(32)	(420)
Employee costs	(8,105)	(7,741)
Materials and services	(6,749)	(5,270)
Trust funds and deposits repaid	-	(1,406)
Other payments	114	(0)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	8,467	9,284
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1 (9,102)	(12,180)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	243	557
Payments for investments	-	(6,000)
Redemption of term deposit	2,000	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(6,859)	(17,623)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,608	(8,339)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	8,980	17,319
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	10,588	8,980
Financing arrangements	5.5 2,030	2,030
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1 101	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 2023

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Property			
Land		-	32
Total land		<u>-</u>	<u>32</u>
Buildings		2,198	1,822
Total buildings		<u>2,198</u>	<u>1,822</u>
Total property		<u>2,198</u>	<u>1,854</u>
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment		1,972	2,306
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		37	22
Computers and telecommunications		75	67
Library books		27	42
Total plant and equipment		<u>2,111</u>	<u>2,436</u>
Infrastructure			
Roads		3,262	3,696
Bridges		57	3,076
Footpaths and cycleways		251	313
Drainage		80	24
Other infrastructure		1,142	781
Total infrastructure		<u>4,792</u>	<u>7,890</u>
Total capital works expenditure		<u>9,102</u>	<u>12,180</u>
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		2,139	1,521
Asset renewal expenditure		5,258	6,294
Asset upgrade expenditure		1,705	4,365
Total capital works expenditure		<u>9,102</u>	<u>12,180</u>

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

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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

1.1 Basis of accounting

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.

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.

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.

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

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

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.5)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.5)
- 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 5.8)
- 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.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2 ANALYSIS OF OUR RESULTS

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 / Revenue and expenditure

	Budget 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Income / Revenue					
Rates and charges	9,434	9,450	16	0	1
Statutory fees and fines	42	27	(15)	(0)	2
User fees	1,713	2,215	502	0	3
Grants - operating	5,894	7,771	1,877	0	4
Grants - capital	5,492	3,457	(2,035)	(0)	5
Contributions - monetary	12	77	65	5	6
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	332	34	(298)	(1)	7
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures	0	(62)	(62)	100	8
Other income	238	624	386	2	9
Total income / revenue	23,157	23,593	435	0	
Expenses					
Employee costs	8,177	8,208	(31)	(0)	10
Materials and services	7,132	5,063	2,069	0	11
Depreciation	6,190	4,946	1,244	0	12
Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	9	(75)	84	9	13
Other expenses	(360)	1,371	(1,731)	5	14
Total expenses	21,148	19,514	1,634	0	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,009	4,079	(1,199)	(1)	

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Rates and charges	Rates and charges are above budget due to additional Windfarm charges and supplementary valuations.
2	Staturory fees and fines	Animal control fines were lower than budgeted. Fire prevention fines were lower that exected due to high rainfall in November.
3	User fees	Agency home care fees are higher than budget due to an increase in clients. Additional income has been received from Rural Roads Victoria (RRV) to repair damage caused to roads during floods in November 2022. Fees from the Caravan Parks are higher than budgeted due to new facilities and cabins becoming available.
4	Grants - operating	Unbudgeted operating grants received during the year include for the Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) program, Library Digital Literacy, Kindergarten grant and the State Library Innovation Grant. Council also received 100% of the Grants Commission funding relating to 2023/2024.
5	Grants - capital	Revenue was lower than expected due to funding which has yet to be received from the Local Roads and Infrastructure Program for Phases 1, 2 and 3.
6	Contributions - monetary	Contributions were made the the Town Committees.
7	Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure. Plant and equipment recognises the difference in the sale of the asset and its written down value.
8	Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures	An expense was recognised due to the decrease in Hindmarsh Shire Council's share in the Wimmera Development Association. This is a result of the WDA distributing funds as per their charter.
9	Other income	Higher than budget income was received from interest due an increase in interest rates. Income was received from insurance. Plant and Fleet recovery has been applied to other expenses.
10	Employee expenses	Employee expenses are higher than budgeted due to the finalisation of the Aged Care Service.
11	Materials and services	Quarry rehabilitation and resoration is less than budgeted for. Changes in the treatment of water chages have seen a reduction in this area. High rainfall in November resulted in delays to general road maintenance work. Plant and equipment recoups. As well as quarry recovery has been transferred to materials and services from other expenses.
12	Depreciation	The revaluation of Roads in 2021/2022 has resulted in lower than budgeted depreciation of Roads in 2022/2023.
13	Bad and doubtful debts	A review of bad and doubtful debts has resulted in the reduction of the provision held.
14	Other expenses	Other expenses is higher than expected due to the recovery of plant and equipment recoups as well as landfill being transferred to materials and services.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2.1.2 Capital works

	Budget 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
Property					
Land	-	-	-	-	
Land improvements	-	-	-	-	
Total land	-	-	-	-	
Buildings	2,159	2,199	40	0	1
Total buildings	2,159	2,199	40	0	
Total property	2,159	2,199	40	0	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,358	1,972	614	0	2
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	5	37	32	6	3
Computers and telecommunications	85	75	(10)	(0)	4
Library books	45	27	(18)	(0)	5
Total plant and equipment	1,493	2,111	618	0	
Infrastructure					
Roads	2,333	3,069	736	0	6
Bridges	-	57	57	57	7
Footpaths and cycleways	196	251	55	0	8
Drainage	166	80	(86)	(1)	9
Kerb & Channel	15	194	179	12	10
Other infrastructure	2,635	1,142	(1,493)	(1)	11
Total infrastructure	5,345	4,792	(553)	(0)	
Total capital works expenditure	8,997	9,102	105	0	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	2,959	2,139	(820)	(0)	
Asset renewal expenditure	3,798	5,258	1,460	0	
Asset upgrade expenditure	2,240	1,705	(535)	(0)	
Total capital works expenditure	8,997	9,102	105	0	

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Buildings	Work on the new Holiday park cabins, Dimboola Depot and Jeparit Workshop have commenced, but were not completed at 30 June 2023. A number of projects carried forward from 2021/2022 were completed during 2022/2023 including the Rainbow Recreation Reserve Female Friendly change rooms, and the Wimmera Southern Mallee Caravan Park upgrades.
2	Plant and Machinery	Plant and Machinery is higher than budget as plant ordered in 2021/2022 was received in 2022/2023.
3	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Furniture and Fixtures includes the fit out of the Park Cabins purchased with the Wimmera Southern Mallee Caravan Park upgrades grant.
4	Computers and telecommunications	Hindmarsh replacement of workstations and Ipads was less than budgeted for.
5	Library Books	Books ordered in 2022/2023 have yet to be delivered.
6	Roads	The expenditure is higher than budgeted due to construction of the Albacutya Bridge Road extension which was carried forward from 2021/2022.
7	Bridges	Work carried forward from 2021/2022 was completed on the Albacutya Bridge.
8	Footpaths and cycleways	Work commenced on the Wimmera River Discovery Trail carried forward from previous years.
9	Drainage	Drainage is over budget due to urgent work being undertaken to correct drainage issues in the Dimboola Recreation Reserve.
10	Kerb & channel	Kerb & channel included work on Park Street carried over from the previous financial year.
11	Other infrastructure	The under expenditure compared to budget is due to the phasing of the budgeted projects, in particular the Silo Art trail and the transfer stations upgrades.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2.2 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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

	Income / Revenue	Expenses	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	Total assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2023					
Our Community	2,453	(2,539)	(85)	1,739	402
Built and Natural Environment	4,080	(9,345)	(5,264)	2,319	5,334
Competitive and Innovative Economy	2,099	(2,033)	65	813	1,321
Good Governance and Financial Sustainability	14,959	(5,597)	9,363	6,358	2,046
Unattributed	-	-	-	-	-
	23,592	(19,513)	4,079	11,228	9,102

	Income / Revenue	Expenses	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Grants included in income / revenue	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

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES

	2023	2022
3.1 Rates and charges	\$'000	\$'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 the value of land and all of its improvements.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2022/23 was \$2,813.4 million (2021/22 \$2,037.2 million).

General rates	7,401	7,280
Municipal charge	742	747
Waste management charge	1,179	1,099
Revenue in lieu of rates	127	96
Total rates and charges	9,450	9,222

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was January 2023, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2023.

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.

	2023	2022
3.2 Statutory fees and fines	\$'000	\$'000
Animal Registration Fees	63	64
Building Fees	9	27
Infringements and costs	26	42
Town planning fees	109	102
Land information certificates	8	8
Permits	5	4
Total statutory fees and fines	220	247

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.

	2023	2022
3.3 User fees	\$'000	\$'000
Aged and health services	485	379
Private works	38	164
Caravan parks & camping fees	818	523
Transfer station fees	115	113
Commercial garbage collection fees	58	43
Film screenings and hall hire	12	6
Regional Roads Victoria works	350	197
Lease fees	39	36
Certificates	33	17
Events	53	-
Other fees and charges	19	71
Total user fees	2,021	1,549

User fees by timing of revenue recognition

User fees recognised at a point in time	2,021	1,549
Total user fees	2,021	1,549

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
3.4 Funding from other levels of government		
Grants were received in respect of the following :		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	8,225	7,976
State funded grants	3,003	6,800
Total grants received	11,228	14,775
(a) Operating Grants		
<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Financial Assistance Grants	6,338	6,333
General home care	551	519
Other	21	24
<i>Recurrent - State Government</i>		
Delivered Meals	36	35
Home care services	65	78
Home maintenance	6	9
Senior citizens	-	7
School crossing supervisors	7	6
Facilitated Playgroup	77	40
Kindergarten central enrolment	39	6
Libraries	124	122
Freeza Youth participation program	36	30
Engage!	50	25
Roadside weeds and pest management	150	75
Case assessment	27	25
Other	13	30
Total recurrent operating grants	7,538	7,363
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Other	10	19
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Regional events funding	6	-
LG Business Concierge & Hospitality	-	60
Outdoor dining	-	200
Covid relief program	90	-
Community climate change adaption	-	5
Rural Roads Support Program	-	22
Recycling Transition Plan	-	10
Waste Transition Plan	-	22
Kindergarten Infrastructure & Services	42	-
VicHealth	30	-
Premiers Reading Challenge	6	-
Digital Literacy	12	-
Animal Welfare - Pet Desexing	7	-
Kerbside Reform	22	-
Other	6	11
Total non-recurrent operating grants	231	348
Total operating grants	7,769	7,711

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
(b) Capital Grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Roads to recovery	1,081	1,081
Recurrent - State Government		
Other	-	-
Total recurrent capital grants	1,081	1,081
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government		
Buildings	150	-
Non-recurrent - State Government		
Local Roads & Infrastructure Program	-	1,081
Nhill Early Learning Facility upgrade	-	21
Dimboola Early Learning Facility upgrade	-	22
CFA Fire Access Grant	-	15
Regional Arts Fund	-	4
Living Libraries	-	388
Albacutya Bridge	-	2,300
Agrilinks	(55)	481
Heavy Vechiles Safety & Productivity	-	420
TAC Community Road Safety	12	12
Rainbow Rec Reserve Change Rooms	21	183
Vic Fisheries Authority Large Grant Program	-	23
Silo Art	267	200
Nhill Caravan Park Amenities	-	185
WSM Caravan Park Upgrades	-	650
Redevelop Rainbow Rises	282	-
Libraries to You, Library Van	70	-
Pieces of You Libraries for Health & Wellbeing	8	-
Flood Recovery	500	-
TAC Road Safety	35	-
Wimmera River Discovery Trail	300	-
Transfer Station Upgrades	243	-
Yurunga Homestead Living Heritage	166	-
Park Cabins WDA	380	-
Total non-recurrent capital grants	2,379	5,983
Total capital grants	3,459	7,064

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

(c) 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 of 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.

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Income recognised under AASB 1058 <i>Income of Not-for-Profit Entities</i>		
General purpose	6,482	6,357
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	5,192	7,207
Other specific purpose grants	434	396
Revenue recognised under AASB 15 <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i>		
Specific purpose grants	847	816
	12,955	14,775

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
(d) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner		
<i>Operating</i>		
Balance at start of year	47	49
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	145	47
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(192)	(49)
Balance at year end	0	47
<i>Capital</i>		
Balance at start of year	1,982	4,722
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	724	1,982
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(979)	(4,722)
Balance at year end	1,726	1,982

Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
3.5 Contributions		
Monetary	77	86
Non-monetary	-	-
Total contributions	77	86

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

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	243	557
Written down value of assets disposed	(209)	(429)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	34	128

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

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
3.7 Other income		
Plant operations	-	84
Quarry operations	2	1
Interest	328	77
Recoupments	168	10
Fire services levy administration	46	45
Scrap metal and transfer station fees	31	47
Vicroads agency administration		4
Other	50	15
Total other income	624	283

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 4 THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES		
4.1 (a) Employee costs		
Wages and salaries	6,065	5,938
WorkCover	155	250
Annual leave, sick leave and long service leave	667	480
Superannuation	797	727
Fringe benefits tax	109	93
Training	179	125
Other	236	37
Total employee costs	8,208	7,651
 (b) Superannuation		
Council made contributions to the following funds:		
 Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	40	49
	40	49
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	-	-
 Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	349	323
Employer contributions - other funds	431	361
	780	684
Employer contributions payable at reporting date.	-	-

Contributions made exclude amounts accrued at balance date. Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
4.2 Materials and services		
Contract payments	206	297
Building maintenance	295	183
Depots and workshops	50	47
Emergency assistance and fire prevention	32	50
Flood Recovery	110	-
Health promotion	91	185
Home and community care	197	132
Community development, tourism and youth activities	250	211
Garbage and recycling collection and waste disposal	928	623
Utilities	125	366
Office administration	177	69
Information technology	365	389
Parks, reserves and aerodromes	88	68
Plant and fleet operations	(158)	1,070
Printing, stationery and advertising	26	71
Quarry operations	193	450
Rating and valuation	10	13
Roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage management	1,382	761
Swimming pool maintenance and management	340	340
Town beautification	116	40
Consultants and labour hire	195	15
Other	48	141
Total materials and services	5,063	5,519

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

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
4.3 Depreciation		
Property	586	512
Plant and equipment	1,171	1,058
Infrastructure	3,189	2,954
Total depreciation	4,946	4,524

Refer to note 5.2(c), 5.8 and 6.2 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
4.4 Bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses		
Rates debtors	(55)	78
Other debtors	(20)	31
Total bad and doubtful debts - allowance for impairment losses	(75)	109

Movement in allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors

Balance at the beginning of the year	109	78
New provisions recognised during the year	(75)	31
Balance at end of year	34	109

An allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
4.5 Other expenses		
Advertising	60	37
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	43	59
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	12	14
Bank charges	35	30
Community action grants	13	20
Council contributions - other	24	85
Councillors' allowances	213	196
Fire services levy	24	23
Insurance	384	316
Landfill charges	288	314
Legal costs	44	59
Postage	21	19
Subscriptions	151	148
Telecommunications	10	19
Town committees	30	30
Others	17	(24)
Total other expenses	1,371	1,345

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION	2023	2022
5.1 Financial assets	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	4	4
Cash at bank	3,585	4,976
Term deposits	7,000	4,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	10,589	8,980
(b) Other financial assets		
Current		
Term deposits - current	4,000	6,000
Total current other financial assets	4,000	6,000
Total other financial assets	4,000	6,000
Total financial assets	14,589	14,980
Councils 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)	101	102
Total restricted funds	101	102
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	10,488	8,878
Intended allocations		
Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:		
- Grants received in advance - capital works	1,726	2,747
- Grants received in advance - operating	-	47
Total funds subject to intended allocations	1,726	2,794

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
(c) Trade and other receivables	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	563	514
Provision for doubtful debts - rates	(21)	(78)
Building Permit debtors	17	13
Infringement debtors	188	176
Net GST receivable	195	163
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Other debtors	183	134
Sundry debtors	935	1,010
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors	(11)	(31)
Total current trade and other receivables	2,050	1,903
Non-current		
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Street Scheme debtors	2	2
Total non-current trade and other receivables	2	2
Total trade and other receivables	2,052	1,905

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.

(d) 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	58	591
Past due between 31 and 180 days	856	20
Past due between 181 and 365 days	14	135
Past due by more than 1 year	87	398
Total trade and other receivables	1,015	1,145

(e) Ageing of individually impaired Receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$11,372 (2022: \$17,034) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$11,372 (2022: \$17,034). 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:

Past due by more than 1 year	11	17
Total trade & other receivables	11	17

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

5.2 Non-financial assets	2023	2022
(a) Inventories	\$'000	\$'000
Inventories held for distribution	725	503
Total inventories	725	503

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) Prepayments	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Prepayments	250	84
Total other assets	250	84

5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue	2023	2022
(a) Trade and other payables	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
<i>Non-statutory payables</i>		
Trade payables	663	454
Accrued expenses	205	271
Total current trade and other payables	868	725

(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Current		
Refundable deposits	-	12
Fire services levy	101	90
Total current trust funds and deposits	101	102

(c) Unearned income/revenue		
Current		
Grants received in advance - operating	-	47
Grants received in advance - capital	1,726	1,982
Total current unearned income/revenue	1,726	2,029

Unearned income/revenue represents contract liabilities and reflect consideration received in advance from grant providers in respect of the completion of obligations contained within funding agreements. Unearned income/revenue are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer. Refer to Note 3.

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.

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

5.4 Provisions

	Employee \$ '000	Landfill restoration \$ '000	Quarry \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2023				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,140	28	196	2,364
Additional provisions	706	1	-	707
Amounts used	(602)	-	(19)	(620)
Balance at the end of the financial year	2,244	29	177	2,451
<i>Provisions - current</i>	2,130	30	85	2,244
<i>Provisions - non-current</i>	114	-	93	207
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	2,140	28	196	2,364
<i>Provisions - current</i>	2,034	28	103	2,166
<i>Provisions - non-current</i>	106	-	93	198

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
(a) Employee provisions		
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	806	702
Long service leave	127	51
	933	753
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	252	213
Long service leave	944	1,068
	1,197	1,281
Total current employee provisions	2,130	2,034
Non-current		
Long service leave	114	106
Annual leave	-	-
Total non-current employee provisions	114	106
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:		
Current	2,130	2,034
Non-current	114	106
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	2,244	2,140

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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	4.063%	3.693%
- index rate	6.000%	3.850%

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
(b) Landfill restoration		
Current	30	28
Non-current	-	-
	30	28

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

Council reviews the landfill and quarry restoration provision on an annual basis, including the key assumptions listed below.

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	4.063%	3.693%
- index rate	6.000%	3.850%

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
(c) Quarry restoration		
Current	85	103
Non-current	93	93
	178	196

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	4.063%	3.693%
- index rate	6.000%	3.850%

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
(d) Summary of Provisions		
Current		
Annual Leave	1,058	916
Long Service Leave	1,071	1,119
Landfill	30	28
Quarry	85	103
Total current provisions	<u>2,244</u>	<u>2,166</u>
Non-current		
Annual Leave	-	-
Long Service Leave	114	106
Quarry	93	93
Total non-current provisions	<u>207</u>	<u>198</u>
5.5 Financing arrangements	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2023.		
Bank overdraft	2,000	2,000
Credit card facilities	30	30
Total facilities	<u>2,030</u>	<u>2,030</u>
Used facilities	13	10
Unused facilities	<u>2,017</u>	<u>2,020</u>

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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.

Commitments for expenditure

2023	Not later than	Later than 1	Later than 2	Later than 5	Total
	1 year	year and not later than 2 years	years and not later than 5 years	years	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating					
Town Planning Services	139	-	-	-	139
Printers/Copiers	11	11	6	-	28
Garbage collection	984	1,033	1,084	1,139	4,239
Swimming pool management	357	375	98	-	831
Internal audit services	19	20	20	-	59
Kindergarten services	22	23	24	26	95
Information communication and technology	44	46	-	-	90
Quarry Material	236	248	260	273	1,017
Total	1,811	1,755	1,494	1,437	6,497

2022	Not later than	Later than 1	Later than 2	Later than 5	Total
	1 year	year and not later than 2 years	years and not later than 5 years	years	
	\$'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	1,360	906	938	357	3,562

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

5.7 Leases

At inception of a contract, Council assesses 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;
- Council has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- Council 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.

Under AASB 16 Leases, Council as a not-for-profit entity has elected not to 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.

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	-	-
Leases of low value assets	-	5
Total	-	5

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:

Payable:

Within one year	2	2
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	-
Total lease commitments	2	2

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Carrying amount 30 June 2022 \$'000	Additions \$'000	Impairment Losses \$'000	Revaluation \$'000	Depreciation \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Write-off \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Carrying amount 30 June 2023 \$'000
Property	26,610	1,086	-	-	(422)	-	-	1,197	28,471
Plant and equipment	7,672	2,078	-	-	(1,336)	(209)	(37)	-	8,169
Infrastructure	160,902	3,532	(1,684)	-	(3,190)	-	-	4,264	163,824
Work in progress	6,395	2,420	-	-	-	-	-	(5,461)	3,354
	201,579	9,116	(1,684)	-	(4,947)	(209)	(37)	-	203,818

Summary of Work in Progress

	Opening WIP \$'000	Additions \$'000	Write-off \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Closing WIP \$'000
Property	1,199	1,122	-	(1,197)	1,124
Plant and equipment	22	32	-	-	54
Infrastructure	5,174	1,265	-	(4,264)	2,176
Total	6,395	2,420	-	(5,461)	3,354

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

(a) Property

	Land - specialised	Total Land & Land Improvements	Heritage buildings	Buildings - specialised	Total Buildings	Work in Progress	Total Property
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	2,592	2,592	1,364	23,016	24,380	1,199	28,172
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	-	-	(22)	(341)	(363)	-	(363)
	2,592	2,592	1,342	22,675	24,017	1,199	27,809
Movements in fair value							
Additions	15	15	-	1,071	1,071	1,122	2,208
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	1,197	1,197	(1,197)	(0)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15	15	-	2,268	2,268	(75)	2,208
Movements in accumulated depreciation							
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	(22)	(399)	(422)	-	(422)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	(22)	(399)	(422)	-	(422)
At fair value 30 June 2023	2,607	2,607	1,364	25,284	26,648	1,124	30,380
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	-	-	(44)	(741)	(785)	-	(785)
Carrying amount	2,607	2,607	1,320	24,544	25,863	1,124	29,595

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

(b) Plant and Equipment

	Plant machinery and equipment	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Library books	Work In Progress	Total plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	12,954	1,519	272	22	14,767
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(5,882)	(1,145)	(46)	-	(7,072)
	7,073	374	226	22	7,694
Movements in fair value					
Additions	1,971	80	27	32	2,110
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	(717)	-	-	-	(717)
Write-off	-	(524)	-	-	(524)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
	1,254	(444)	27	32	869
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,171)	(138)	(27)	-	(1,336)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	508	487	-	-	996
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	(663)	350	(27)	-	(340)
At fair value 30 June 2023	14,208	1,075	299	54	15,635
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	(6,544)	(795)	(73)	-	(7,413)
Carrying amount	7,664	280	226	54	8,223

**Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

(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 2022	119,901	6,752	7,363	6,818	22,201	12,627	5,174	180,837
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(1,937)	(1,538)	(3,969)	(2,406)	(220)	(4,690)	-	(14,760)
	117,965	5,214	3,394	4,412	21,981	7,936	5,174	166,076
Movements in fair value								
Additions	2,995	62	168	-	205	101	1,265	4,797
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	648	3,297	17	-	151	151	(4,264)	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3,643	3,359	185	-	356	252	(2,998)	4,797
Movements in accumulated depreciation								
Depreciation and amortisation	(2,115)	(101)	(162)	(85)	(225)	(500)	-	(3,190)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	(1,684)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,684)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(3,800)	(101)	(162)	(85)	(225)	(500)	-	(4,874)
At fair value 30 June 2023	123,544	10,111	7,548	6,818	22,557	12,879	2,176	185,634
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	(5,736)	(1,640)	(4,132)	(2,492)	(444)	(5,190)	-	(19,634)
Carrying amount	117,808	8,471	3,417	4,327	22,113	7,689	2,176	166,000

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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 \$'000
<i>Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods</i>		
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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer AAPI Reg 63163 of Preston Roe Patterson 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 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation	Type of Valuation
Land	-	-	2,607	Jun-21	Full
Heritage Buildings	-	-	1,320	Jun-21	Full
Buildings	-	-	24,544	Jun-21	Full
Total	-	-	28,471		

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

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation	Type of Valuation
Roads	-	-	117,808	Jul-21	Full
Bridges	-	-	8,471	Jun-18	Full
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	3,417	Jun-20	Full
Drainage	-	-	4,327	Jun-20	Full
Kerb & Channel	-	-	22,113	Jul-21	Full
Other infrastructure	-	-	7,689	Jun-20	Full
Total	-	-	163,824		

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
6.2 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries		
(a) Investments in associates		
Wimmera Development Association	233	295
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 Yarriambiak Shire Council, had an interest in the Wimmera Development Association.		
Hindmarsh Shire has a 10.34% interest in equity (10.34% in 2021/2022)		
Fair value of Council's investment in Wimmera Development Association	233	295
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at start of year	271	189
Reported surplus/(deficit) for year	(62)	82
Transfers (to) from reserves	-	-
Distributions for the year	-	-
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at end of year	209	271
Council's share of reserves		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	24	24
Transfers (to) from reserves	21	-
Council's share of reserves at end of year	45	24
Movement in carrying value of specific investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	295	213
Share of surplus/(deficit) for year	(62)	82
Share of asset revaluation	-	-
Distributions received	-	-
Carrying value of investment at end of year	233	295

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.

(b) Community Asset Committee

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

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7 PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent entity

Hindmarsh Shire Council Council is the parent entity.

Subsidiaries and Associates

Interests in subsidiaries and associates are detailed in Note 6.3.

(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 and Directors are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Councillor M Albrecht (Mayor 1/7/2022 to 8/11/2022 and Deputy Mayor 9/11/2022)
Councillor W Bywaters
Councillor R Gersch
Councillor B Ireland (Deputy Mayor from 1/7/2022 to 8/11/2022 and Mayor 9/11/2022)
Councillor R Ismay
Councillor D Nelson
Chief Executive Officer
Director - Corporate and Community Services
Director - Infrastructure
Director - infrastructure Temporary 6/6/2023

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Total Number of Councillors	6	6
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	4	3
Total Number of Key Management Personnel	10	9

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and Other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term employee benefits	816	762
Other long-term employee benefits	18	11
Post-employment benefits	78	56
Termination benefits	-	18
Total	911	847

**Notes to the Financial Report
 For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

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

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
\$10,000 - \$10,999	1	-
\$20,000 - \$29,999	4	4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	-	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	-	-
\$50,000 - \$59,999	2	1
\$170,000 - \$179,999	-	1
\$180,000 - \$189,999	-	-
\$190,000 - \$199,999	1	-
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	1
\$210,000 - \$219,999	-	-
\$220,000 - \$229,999	-	-
\$230,000 - \$239,999	-	-
\$240,000 - \$249,999	-	-
\$250,000 - \$259,999	-	-
\$260,000 - \$260,000	-	-
\$270,000 - \$279,999	-	1
\$280,000 - \$289,999	-	-
\$290,000 - \$299,999	1	-
	10	9

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
7.2 Related party disclosure		
(a) Transactions with related parties		
During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties.		
<i>T. Ismay & Co (a related party to Cr R. Ismay)</i>	24	32
<i>Nhill IGA (a related party to Cr W Bywaters)</i>	16	-
<i>Rural Councils Victoira (a related party to Cr R Gersch)</i>	4	-
<i>Hindmarsh Landcare Network (a related party to Cr D Nelson)</i>	2	-
<i>Hot Spark Fabrication (a related party to Cr W Bywaters)</i>	47	22
<i>Wimmera Development Association (a related party to Cr M Albrecht)</i>	81	-
(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

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets 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.

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:

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	47	52
Later than one year and not later than five years	161	197
Later than five years	4	44
	212	293

(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.

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 2022/2023 year (2021/2022 \$0). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2023. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2024 are \$21,273.

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 2023 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2023 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2024 that are expected to impact Council.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables). 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's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes council to fair value interest rate risk / 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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

(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. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4.

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 4.1%.

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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. (For plant and equipment carrying amount is considered to approximate fair value given short useful lives). 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. The following table sets out the frequency of revaluations by asset class.

Asset class	Revaluation
Land	3 to 5 years
Buildings	3 to 5 years
Roads	3 to 5 years
Bridges	3 to 5 years
Footpaths and cycleways	3 to 5 years
Drainage	3 to 5 years
Other infrastructure	3 to 5 years

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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9 OTHER MATTERS

9.1 Reserves	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Increment (decrement)	Balance at end of reporting period
(a) Asset revaluation reserves	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2023			
Property			
Land and land improvements	1,832	-	1,832
Buildings	8,176	-	8,176
	10,008	-	10,008
Infrastructure			
Roads	112,742	(1,684)	111,057
Bridges	218	-	218
Footpaths and cycleways	1,479	-	1,479
Drainage	2,416	-	2,416
Other infrastructure	7,354	-	7,354
Share of asset revaluation in associates	28	-	28
	124,237	(1,684)	122,553
Total asset revaluation reserves	134,245	(1,684)	132,561
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 associates	28	-	28
	91,186	33,051	124,237
Total asset revaluation reserves	101,194	33,051	134,245

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

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)	\$'000	\$'000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	4,079	8,349
Profit/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	34	128
Depreciation	4,946	4,524
Other	2,015	(302)
<i>Change in assets and liabilities:</i>	-	
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(147)	(765)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(166)	43
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	210	206
(Decrease)/increase in unearned income /revenue	(303)	(2,742)
(Decrease)/increase in other liabilities	1	-
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(222)	(74)
(Decrease)/increase in provisions	86	(120)
(Decrease)/increase in trust funds	-	1
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses	(65)	34
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	10,468	9,284

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 2023, this was 10.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2022: 10%)).

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 [Employer name] 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.

Notes to the Financial Report **For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

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. A triennial actuarial investigation is currently underway for the Defined Benefit category which is expected to be completed by 31 December 2023. Council was notified of the 30 June 2023 VBI during August 2023 (2022: August 2022). The financial assumptions used to calculate the 30 June 2023 VBI were:

Net investment returns 4.45% pa
Salary information 1.37% pa
Price inflation (CPI) 6.00% pa

As at 30 June 2022, 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 102.2%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the 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

Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021). Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at June 2023 was 104.1%.

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2022 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer contributions

(a) Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2022 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 2023, this rate was 10.5% of members' salaries (10.0% in 2021/22). 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 2022 interim 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.

Notes to the Financial Report For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The 2022 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 2022 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:

	2022 (Interim) \$m	2021 (Interim) \$m
- A VBI Surplus	45.7	214.7
- A total service liability surplus	105.8	270.3
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	112.9	285.2

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 2022.

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 2022.

The discounted accrued benefits 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 2022.

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of Scheme	Rate	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Vision super	Defined benefits	10.5% (2022:10.0%)	40	49
Vision super	Accumulation	10.5% (2022:10.0%)	349	323
Other Funds	Accumulation	10.5% (2022:10.0%)	431	361

[In addition to the above contributions, Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$0 (2021/22 \$0).

There were \$14,465 contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2023.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2024 is \$21,273.

Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10 CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2022-23 year.



Hindmarsh
Shire Council

2022/2023

PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2023

HINDMARSH SHIRE COUNCIL

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023



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 2023

<i>Indicator/measure</i>	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Results 2023	Material Variations
<i>Own-source revenue</i> <i>Own-source revenue per head of municipal population</i> [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$2,199	\$2,242	\$2,069	\$2,204	No material variation.
<i>Recurrent grants</i> <i>Recurrent grants per head of municipal population</i> [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$1,235	\$1,204	\$1,505	\$1,539	No material variation.
<i>Population</i> <i>Expenses per head of municipal population</i> [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$3,918	\$3,684	\$3,239	\$3,494	No material variation.
<i>Infrastructure per head of municipal population</i> [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$28,683	\$28,387	\$35,763	\$35,917	No material variation.
<i>Population density per length of road</i> [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.85	No material variation.
<i>Disadvantage</i> <i>Relative socio-economic disadvantage</i> [Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage by decile]	2	2	2	1	No material variation.
<i>Workforce turnover</i> <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	11.5%	19.6%	23.1%	28.6%	The increased turnover a result of Council ceasing the delivery of in-home aged care services on 30 June 2023.

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 2023

Service/indicator/measure	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Results 2023	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]	59	59	55	52	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 2022/2023.
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]	50	53	55	48	A heavy rainfall event in November 2022 may have resulted in the community satisfaction with sealed roads decreasing.
Libraries Participation <i>Active library borrowers in municipality</i> [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / Municipal population] x100	6.8%	6.6%	6.5%	6.87%	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	5.4%	30.1%	32.4%	34.5%	No material variation.
Aquatic facilities Utilisation <i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	2.9	2.1	2.08	0.53	Council experienced maintenance issues with a number of the different pools owned by Council resulting in the aquatic facilities being closed for a significant number of days during the opening period.

Service/indicator/measure	Results 2020	Results 2021	Results 2022	Results 2023	Material Variations
Animal management Health and safety <i>Animal management prosecutions</i> [Number of successful animal management prosecutions]	n/a	100%	100%	n/a	Council did not have any animal prosecutions in 2022/23.
Food safety Health and safety <i>Critical and major non-compliance notifications</i> [Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises] x100	100%	n/a	n/a	n/a	There were no critical or non-compliance notifications to the Environmental Health Officers in 2022/23.
Maternal and child health Participation <i>Participation in the MCH service</i> [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Council does not provide this service.
Participation <i>Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children</i> [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	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 2023

Dimension/ <i>indicator/measure</i>	Results	Results	Results	Results	Forecasts				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Operating position Adjusted underlying result <i>Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	7.92%	-1.98%	11.6%	7.99%	-6.16%	-6.66%	-7.47%	-8.24%	Council's result at 30 June 2023 was an underlying surplus due to the early receipt of 100% of the 2023/24 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant.
Liquidity Working capital <i>Current assets compared to current liabilities</i> [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	347.7%	248.8%	347.9%	356.6%	97.6%	104.3%	118.0%	113.6%	Council received 100% of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant for 2023/24 in June 2023.
Unrestricted cash <i>Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities</i> [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	295.4%	164.9%	138.4%	179.4%	47.5%	46.01%	52.27%	40.23%	Council received 100% of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant for 2023/24 in June 2023.
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	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Council continues to remain debt free with no loans or borrowings.
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.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results	Results	Results	Results	Forecasts				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Indebtedness <i>Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue</i> [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	2.1%	1.2%	1.7%	1.68%	1.9%	1.94%	1.94%	1.94%	No material variation.
Asset renewal & upgrade <i>Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation</i> [Asset renewal and asset upgrade expenses / Asset depreciation] x100	155.2%	93.1%	235.6%	140.8%	143.0%	88.5%	80.5%	91.1%	Due to the November 2022 rainfall event a number of renewal projects were unable to be completed. Council aims to maintain levels close to 100%.
Stability Rates concentration <i>Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue</i> [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	37.1%	44.9%	45.2%	44.4%	51.3%	52.6%	52.7%	52.8%	No material variance.
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%	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	The decrease in result is due to the valuations significantly increasing in the Farm category as a result of higher prices being paid for land, but rate revenue increases are capped by the rate cap.
Efficiency Expenditure level <i>Expenses per property assessment</i> [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$4,253	\$4,015	\$3,504	\$3,785	\$3,927	\$3,963	\$4,104	\$4,248	No material variation.
Revenue level <i>Average rate per property assessment</i>	\$1,508	\$1,541	\$1,561	\$1,574	\$1,629	\$1,677	\$1,728	\$1,780	No material variation.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Results	Results	Results	Results	Forecasts			Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
[General rates and Municipal charge / Number of property assessments]								

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 2023

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 28 June 2023. 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: 27 September 2023

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Hindmarsh Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 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 Brett Ireland

Mayor

Dated: 27 September 2023

Cr Debra Nelson

Councillor

Dated: 27 September 2023

Mr Greg Wood

Chief Executive Officer

Dated: 27 September 2023



20th August 2023

To Committee Members,

NOTICE is hereby given that a Rainbow Township Advisory Committee Meeting of the Hindmarsh Shire Council will be held at the Civic Centre Small Meeting Room on **Monday 21st August 2023** commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. **Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community**

2. **Apologies**

3. **Disclosure by Committee members or Councillors or Council Officers of any interest or conflicts of interest in any item on the agenda**

4. **Confirmation of Minutes**

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

6. **Correspondence**
- updated Rainbow brochure 22-7-23
- Rainbow female changerooms financial contribution letter 9-8-23

7. **Events**

8. **General business as notified to the Chair**
a. [potential “merger” with Rainbow Progress Association](#)

9. **Councillor Report**

10. **Officer Report**

11. **Urgent business**

12. **Finance report**

13. Decisions to be made

14. Meeting Closed

15. Council Officer Authorisation

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND OPENING PRAYER

Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community

We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations and we acknowledge them 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.

2. APOLOGIES

Allira Roberts, Greg Roberts, Colleen Petschel, Belinda Eckermann, Ron Ismay, Roger Aitkins*, Michael Henderson

*Graham Nuske & Norelle Eckermann**
Apologies moved by Belinda/seconded by Allira AiF C

3. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS OR OFFICERS OF ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the RTAC Committee Meeting held on at the Civic Centre Meeting Room, circulated to Committee Members be taken as read and confirmed.

Minutes moved by Allira/seconded by Belinda AiF C

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

6. CORRESPONDENCE

INWARD –

Updated Rainbow tourist Brochure (22-7-23)

- The committee looked over the brochure carefully & suggested a number of changes including:
 - Changing the location of where the cemetery is marked on the map
 - Add details and links for the rifle range
 - Mention big sky festival in Oasis section
 - Replace Arts with community in reference to Oasis
 - Add details about Rainbow Desert Enduro and short course event
 - Correct phone numbers for caravan park & Eureka Hotel

Rainbow female changerooms financial contribution letter (9-8-23)

- We need to set up a meeting with Simon to discuss this further

OUTWARD - Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That the Inward Correspondence be noted.

Moved by Belinda/seconded by Allira AiF C

7. EVENTS

Nil

8. GENERAL BUSINESS AS NOTIFIED TO THE CHAIR

8.1 Discussions on a potential “merger” with the Rainbow Progress Association

- Greg outline the meeting that Graham, Colleen & Greg attended at Dimboola on the 4th July 2023
- Colleen read through the notes taken at the meeting
- There was a discussion on the pros and cons of the move to “merge”
- Concerns over permits and insurance not covered under possible new arrangement
- Discussed the fact that the Shire was still willing to provide financial support on an annual basis
- Discussed that there would have to be guidelines to acquit/spend the money that is already allocated in the Town Committee financial statements
- It was agreed that our next step is to organize someone from the Shire to come and discuss this in more detail
- It was agreed that we would schedule an AGM on the **Monday 18th September** and that someone from the Shire would then discuss the process further at the general meeting after the AGM.

9. COUNCILLOR REPORT

- Albacutya Bridge road to be fixed. Work starting next Monday 28th August (weather permitting). It will be completed by the Shire as the contractor is not coming back to fix up the issues.

10. OFFICER REPORT

Rainbow Rises Events Centre

- Weekend event just completed with I believe good feedback for the newly completed Pit / Hardstand area.
- Bruce Heinrich from Mallee Earthmoving only has some culverts, posts and signs to install and is done.
- Unfortunately the modular (shipping container) Kitchen / canteen facility and Amenities building tender ended up not coming in within budget so a rescope / redesign is currently underway in order to deliver these facilities within the available budget.

Rainbow Silo

- Further design work is also underway with the Silo project as the response to the initial tender was not within budget.
- The Project Architect is revising the design, proposing to construct the elevator and staircase externally and link them with the Silo to provide access for viewing of internal art activations, with a viewing platform at the top of this structure. It is expected once revisions are complete the project will be tendered again.

Rainbow Caravan Park

- Footings for 2 new cabins will be done the week of 20th September, with installation 2nd week of October.
- Toilet block is currently being built and is looking like being installed in November, will have confirmed dates in the next month or so. (hopefully before the next committee meeting)

Public toilets in Federal street

- Floor plans for the proposed renovations of the Federal Street public toilets were handed around and discussed
- The proposal is to go out for funding
- There will potentially be an all access toilet with an inset ramp in the location of the old shire office.

11. URGENT BUSINESS
Nil

12. FINANCE REPORT
Not supplied for meeting

- 12.1 Summary of Balances in Finance Report.**
- 12.2 Purchase Orders to be raised - \$2,000 or less**
- 12.3 Purchase Orders to be raised – Greater than \$2,000**

13. DECISIONS TO BE MADE

The following decisions are recommendations to Council for endorsement:

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
4	Minutes	Confirmation of the Minutes
5	Business Arising from Minutes	Nil
6	Correspondence	Noting the Inward.
7	Events	Nil
8	General Business as Notified to the Chair	
9	Councillor’s Report	
10	Officer’s Report	
11	Urgent Business	Nil
12.1	Finance Report	Not provided
12.2	Purchase Orders to be Raised (\$2,000 or less)	Nil
12.3	Purchase Orders to be Raised (above \$2,000)	Nil

14. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting closed at 20:32

15. COUNCIL OFFICER AUTHORISATION

*to be completed by the Council Officer

I Michael Henderson accept the following recommendations made by the Rainbow Town Committee at this meeting held on 21/08/2023:

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
4	Minutes	Confirmation of the Minutes
5	Business Arising from Minutes	
6	Correspondence	Approving the Outward Correspondence and Noting the Inward.
7	Events	
8	General Business as Notified to the Chair	
9	Councillor's Report	
10	Officer's Report	
11	Urgent Business	
12.1	Finance Report	That the Finance Report as provided with the Agenda be approved.
12.2	Purchase Orders to be Raised (\$2,000 or less)	That the Council Officer raise the Purchase Orders listed.

SIGNED:



Dated:

28 August 2023

**Yanac Public Hall and Recreation Reserve
102nd Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 15th Aug 2023
7.30pm**

Present: Susanne Beattie, Bruce Beattie, Craig Smith, Jenny Smith, Erin Alexander, Shaun Alexander, Michael Dart, Raelene Dart, Petra Croot (Hindmarsh Shire), Shelley Gersch (Hindmarsh Shire)

Apologies: Mayor Brett Ireland, Bec Dart

Erin Alexander moved, Michael Dart seconded that the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

Shaun Alexander moved, Michael Dart seconded, that the minutes of the last AGM as read be received.

CARRIED

Presidents Report:

We have had a great year with quite a few private bookings and with the Yanac Hockey Club continuing to enjoy the use of our facilities at the hall and the recreation reserve. They continue to maintain the Recreation Reserve and Hall area very well and we thank them for that. The solar panels continue to provide us with a little bit of income. Thankyou to everyone that has kept the hall clean and the surrounds mowed. I am looking forward to the next 12months.

Susanne Beattie moved, Craig Smith seconded that the Presidents Report be accepted.

CARRIED

Treasurers Report:

Balances as at 30th June 2023

Chq acc \$6,849.93

Term Dep \$35978.05

Petty Cash \$ 55.00

Jenny Smith moved, Erin Alexander seconded that the Profit and Loss statement presented be accepted. Books have been audited by Shire in the past however this years books are still to be audited by Hindmarsh Shire.

CARRIED

All positions were then declared vacant.

Yanac CFA Captain Craig Smith called for nominations.

President- Susanne Beattie (nominated by Erin Alexander) elected

Vice President – Michael Dart (nominated by Jenny Smith) elected

Secretary/Treasurer- Erin Alexander (nominated by Susanne Beattie) elected

Raelene Dart moved Michelle Dickinson seconded that President Susanne Beattie, Vice President Michael Dart, Secretary/Treasurer Erin Alexander to be the new signatories at the National Australia Bank. The signatory authority of 2 to sign out of the 3 to remain for all transactions and internet banking. All existing signatories to be deleted.

CARRIED

Committee

Michael Dart moved, Raelene Dart seconded that the following be nominated for this years committee.

Bruce Beattie, Craig Smith, Jenny Smith, Shaun Alexander, Rebecca Dart, Raelene Dart, Michelle Dickinson

CARRIED

With thanks to Petra Croot and Shelley Gersch all committee members and office bearers have completed all their necessary volunteer paperwork, WWSC, and Police Check, except Rebecca Dart who will complete them at the Shire or online.

Meeting Closed: 7.48 pm

YANAC PUBLIC HALL AND RECREATION RESERVE COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

Our committee manage the facilities which includes hiring, maintenance, cleaning and insurance issues. We also organise community activities and events. Funds raised from those events are used to keep the facilities modern and safe for all community users.

Achievements

Last year was a very successful year with many private function bookings and the Yanac Hockey Club continue to be successful on the field and off. The club continue to hire the facilities and with their assistance the hall and the reserve are well maintained. The Yanac Yard Dog Trials were not held but should be back in March 2024. The dog trials are a very good fundraiser and bring the community together, bringing visitors from around South Australia and Victoria..

Future Vision

The committee has been an amazing group of hard working volunteers for many years. We wouldn't have the facility we have without the enormous hours of work, that the past and present group of volunteers have put in. Fortunately we have a diverse age group on the committee, which is great for future succession planning of the committee. With continued support from the Hindmarsh Shire, the facility should continue to be a pleasant and safe meeting place for the Yanac community, long into the future. A great asset for the town.

Financial Report Summary

30th June 2023

Petty Cash \$55.00

Cheque Account \$6,849.93

Term Deposit \$35,978.05

Conclusion

We are in a strong financial position and that will hold us in good stead for the future. The installation of solar panels in 2018 have proven to be a success covering the ever increasing costs of electricity. Jenny Smith stepped down as secretary/treasurer a position she has held for 26 years and we thank her for her many years of volunteering and commitment to the community. We look forward to the year ahead.

Yanac Public Hall
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2023

	<u>Jun 30, 23</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cheque	6,849.93
NAB Term Deposit	35,978.05
Petty Cash	55.00
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>42,882.98</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>42,882.98</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>42,882.98</u></u>
LIABILITIES	<u><u>0.00</u></u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>42,882.98</u></u>
EQUITY	
Opening Bal Equity	32,912.38
Retained Earnings	10,218.24
Net Income	-247.64
TOTAL EQUITY	<u><u>42,882.98</u></u>

12:03 PM
12/08/23
Cash Basis

Yanac Public Hall
Profit & Loss
July 2022 through June 2023

	<u>Jul '22 - Jun 23</u>
Income	
Grant	250.00
Hire of Facilities	330.00
Solar Credits	130.59
Term Dep Interest	74.75
Total Income	<u>785.34</u>
Expense	
Asset Purchases	
Freezer	379.00
Microwave	249.00
Total Asset Purchases	<u>628.00</u>
Repairs & Maintenance	231.90
Supplies	
Cleaning etc	173.08
Total Supplies	<u>173.08</u>
Total Expense	<u>1,032.98</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-247.64</u></u>

12:07 PM

12/08/23

Cash Basis

Yanac Public Hall Transaction Detail by Account July 2022 through June 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Description	Clr	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
Cheque									
Cheque	12/08/2022	425	IGA		X	Cleaning etc	-69.74	-69.74	-69.74
Cheque	17/08/2022	426	B & S Beattie		X	Cleaning etc	-85.34	-85.34	-155.08
Cheque	18/08/2022	427	Cash		X	Petty Cash	-50.00	-50.00	-205.08
Cheque	2/09/2022	428	JG Mulhallens		X	-SPLIT-	-628.00	-628.00	-833.08
Cheque	4/09/2022	429	Home Hardware		X	Repairs & Mai...	-27.85	-27.85	-860.93
Cheque	30/09/2022		Nhill Gutter Cleanin...		X	Repairs & Mai...	-204.05	-204.05	-1,064.98
Deposit	30/09/2022			Deposit	X	Grant	250.00	250.00	-814.98
Payment	12/10/2022		Yanac CFA		X	Trade receiva...	10.00	10.00	-804.98
Payment	19/10/2022		Mattschoss S		X	Trade receiva...	100.00	100.00	-704.98
Deposit	19/10/2022			Deposit	X	Solar Credits	130.59	130.59	-574.39
Payment	13/02/2023		Estelle		X	Trade receiva...	50.00	50.00	-524.39
Payment	20/03/2023		Mattschoss S		X	Trade receiva...	50.00	50.00	-474.39
Payment	17/04/2023		Yanac CFA		X	Trade receiva...	10.00	10.00	-464.39
Payment	2/05/2023		Yanac Hockey Club...		X	Trade receiva...	60.00	60.00	-404.39
Cheque	11/05/2023		IGA		X	Cleaning etc	-18.00	-18.00	-422.39
Payment	29/06/2023		Dickinson Michelle		X	Trade receiva...	50.00	50.00	-372.39
Total Cheque								-372.39	-372.39
NAB Term Deposit									
Deposit	14/09/2022			Deposit	X	Term Dep Inte...	74.75	74.75	74.75
Total NAB Term Deposit								74.75	74.75
Petty Cash									
Cheque	18/08/2022	427	Cash			Cheque	50.00	50.00	50.00
Total Petty Cash								50.00	50.00
Trade receivables									
Payment	12/10/2022		Yanac CFA			Cheque	-10.00	10.00	10.00
Payment	12/10/2022		Yanac CFA			Cheque	-10.00	-10.00	0.00
Payment	19/10/2022		Mattschoss S			Cheque	-100.00	100.00	100.00
Payment	19/10/2022		Mattschoss S			Cheque	-100.00	-100.00	0.00
Payment	13/02/2023		Estelle			Cheque	-50.00	50.00	50.00
Payment	13/02/2023		Estelle			Cheque	-50.00	-50.00	0.00
Payment	20/03/2023		Mattschoss S			Cheque	-50.00	-50.00	-50.00
Payment	20/03/2023		Mattschoss S			Cheque	-50.00	50.00	0.00
Payment	17/04/2023		Yanac CFA			Cheque	-10.00	10.00	10.00
Payment	17/04/2023		Yanac CFA			Cheque	-10.00	-10.00	0.00
Payment	2/05/2023		Yanac Hockey Club...			Cheque	-60.00	-60.00	-60.00
Payment	2/05/2023		Yanac Hockey Club...			Cheque	-60.00	20.00	-40.00
Payment	2/05/2023		Yanac Hockey Club...			Cheque	-60.00	20.00	-20.00
Payment	2/05/2023		Yanac Hockey Club...			Cheque	-60.00	20.00	0.00
Payment	29/06/2023		Dickinson Michelle			Cheque	-50.00	-50.00	-50.00
Payment	29/06/2023		Dickinson Michelle			Cheque	-50.00	50.00	0.00
Total Trade receivables								0.00	0.00

12:07 PM

12/08/23

Cash Basis

Yanac Public Hall Transaction Detail by Account July 2022 through June 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Description	Clr	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
Grant									
Deposit	30/09/2022		Hindmarsh Shire	Deposit		Cheque	-250.00	-250.00	-250.00
Total Grant								-250.00	-250.00
Hire of Facilities									
Tax Invoice	12/10/2022	42	Yanac CFA	Hall Hire		Trade receive...	-10.00	-10.00	-10.00
Tax Invoice	19/10/2022	43	Mattschoss S	Hall Hire		Trade receive...	-100.00	-100.00	-110.00
Tax Invoice	13/02/2023	44	Estelle	Hall Hire 18th...		Trade receive...	-50.00	-50.00	-160.00
Tax Invoice	20/03/2023	48	Mattschoss S			Trade receive...	-50.00	-50.00	-210.00
Tax Invoice	17/04/2023	46	Yanac CFA	Hall Hire		Trade receive...	-10.00	-10.00	-220.00
Tax Invoice	2/05/2023	41	Yanac Hockey Club...	Quiz Night		Trade receive...	-20.00	-20.00	-240.00
Tax Invoice	2/05/2023	41	Yanac Hockey Club...	BBQ Hire for ...		Trade receive...	-20.00	-20.00	-260.00
Tax Invoice	2/05/2023	41	Yanac Hockey Club...	Hockey Wind...		Trade receive...	-20.00	-20.00	-280.00
Tax Invoice	29/06/2023	47	Dickinson Michelle	Hall Hire - Ch...		Trade receive...	-50.00	-50.00	-330.00
Total Hire of Facilities								-330.00	-330.00
Solar Credits									
Deposit	19/10/2022		AGL	Deposit		Cheque	-130.59	-130.59	-130.59
Total Solar Credits								-130.59	-130.59
Term Dep Interest									
Deposit	14/09/2022			Deposit		NAB Term De...	-74.75	-74.75	-74.75
Total Term Dep Interest								-74.75	-74.75
Asset Purchases									
Freezer									
Cheque	2/09/2022	428	JG Mulhallens			Cheque	379.00	379.00	379.00
Total Freezer								379.00	379.00
Microwave									
Cheque	2/09/2022	428	JG Mulhallens			Cheque	249.00	249.00	249.00
Total Microwave								249.00	249.00
Total Asset Purchases								628.00	628.00
Repairs & Maintenance									
Cheque	4/09/2022	429	Home Hardware	toilet door lock		Cheque	27.85	27.85	27.85
Cheque	30/09/2022		Nhill Gutter Cleanin...	clean gutters		Cheque	204.05	204.05	231.90
Total Repairs & Maintenance								231.90	231.90

12:07 PM

12/08/23

Cash Basis

Yanac Public Hall
Transaction Detail by Account
July 2022 through June 2023

Type	Date	Num	Name	Description	Clr	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
Supplies									
Cleaning etc									
Cheque	12/08/2022	425	IGA			Cheque	69.74	69.74	69.74
Cheque	17/08/2022	426	B & S Beattie			Cheque	85.34	85.34	155.08
Cheque	11/05/2023		IGA			Cheque	18.00	18.00	173.08
Total Cleaning etc								173.08	173.08
Total Supplies								173.08	173.08
TOTAL								0.00	0.00

**Yanac Public Hall and Recreation Reserve
Committee Meeting
Tuesday 15th Aug 2023
7.48 pm**

Present: Susanne Beattie, Bruce Beattie, Craig Smith, Jenny Smith, Erin Alexander, Shaun Alexander, Michael Dart, Raelene Dart, Petra Croot (Hindmarsh Shire), Shelley Gersch (Hindmarsh Shire)

Apologies: Mayor Brett Ireland, Rebecca Dart

Erin Alexander moved, Michael Dart seconded that the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

Shaun Alexander moved Raelene Dart seconded the motion that the minutes of the last committee meeting as read be received.

CARRIED

Business Arising From Minutes:

Possum repairs still required.

Correspondences

12/7/2022 Email from Hindmarsh Shire – re Reconnecting Communities Through Small Events – Grant \$250

19/8/2022 Email to Hindmarsh Shire – RE AGM Minutes, committee meeting minutes and the finance report

24/8/2022 Letter from the Hindmarsh Shire re endorsement of Committee Members – conditionally endorsed due to not completing WWSC and Police Checks

9/9/2022 Email from Hindmarsh Shire re Community Asset Committee Draft Guidelines

20/9/2022 Email to Hindmarsh Shire re Community Asset Committee Draft Guidelines - comments

20/9/2022 Letter from Hindmarsh Shire re: Community Asset Committees Governance Meeting

10/2/23 Parks and Reserves Hire Agreement Estelle Dickfos

20/6/23 Parks and Reserves Hire Agreement Yanac Hockey Club

23/6/23 Parks and Reserves Hire Agreement Michelle Dickinson

Jenny Smith moved, Shaun Alexander seconded that the correspondences as presented be accepted.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Possum Damage

A possum moved into the hall temporarily and has eaten through some plaster. Repairs need to be completed.

Thanks

Susanne Beattie thanked Jenny Smith for 26 years of service to the Yanac Hall in her role as secretary/treasurer. Jenny had been very successful in obtaining grants for many projects and was able to liaise with the Hindmarsh Shire during covid times. Her commitment has been very much appreciated.

Christmas Tree Social Event

Discussion was held about holding a community Christmas event and the committee all agreed that would be a great idea. Bec Dart and Erin Alexander to organize and gather some helpers to assist with the event.

Photo of King

Enquiries to be made about how we obtain a photo of the King to display in the hall with the Queen photo. Approach Shire first.

Asset Committee

Discussion was held about the future of the Yanac Public Hall and Recreation Reserve Asset Committee, due to the compliance procedures getting more complex all the time. Petra Croot suggested the management of the Hall could be taken over by an incorporated organization such as the Yanac Hockey Club Inc. The committee wish to investigate this option further. Communications between the Hindmarsh Shire and the Hall committee need to continue.

Meeting Closed 8.17pm

President's Report Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum 2022-2023.

I am pleased to present the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum Asset Committee President's Report for the last financial year. It has been a busy year not without its challenges as we continue to act on the Masterplan in the face of strong headwinds. I am proud to commend to the Shire the boundless energy of Mary-Anne Paech (Treasurer) and Craige Proctor (Secretary) who have both been a joy to work with, ready to step in and volunteer wherever needed but especially on the front desk at a moment's notice, engaging with our customers and diligently working toward a better organisation working toward a higher standard of exhibits for our customers.

This year the Committee identified seven areas of undertaking.

1. **Storage:** This is a difficult topic with ongoing discussions. We identified the Hindmarsh Shire Workshop and a neighbouring vacant land as a possible site for storage along with repurposing some more conventional storage areas (especially for textiles, photos, artwork etc).
2. **Reorganisation of the McKay Shed:** This area was identified as an important project to tell the story of H.V. McKay and his Sunshine Harvester company and the importance of his contribution to modern day farming. The rearrangement of harvesters and other implements to convey a story will allow visitors to make more sense of the display and highlight our rare push harvester, bringing a richer understanding of this important man and his contribution to modern day agriculture.
3. **Signage:** Upgrades to current information signs which are fading has been successfully completed. We are continuing to install storyboards and QR codes around the facility. A further nine story boards have been installed. This was a collaboration of between Craige Proctor (content), Jeff Woodward (graphic design) and Peter Pampa (frames). Well done to all involved!
4. **Cataloguing and digitisation:** I attended a digitisation workshop with NAHC which led to the purchase of professional photographic equipment in readiness for updating the domestic catalogue this coming year.
5. **Rally.** We decided to hold a 2-day Rally in the face of waning enthusiasm amongst committee members and concern for involvement/attendance of Sandy Creek Clydesdales. The weekend was very successful with 665 visitors over the two days. We thank the Maldon Vintage Engine Club for their generous donation of a commercial coffee machine which a local teen - Natalie Jenz -successfully ran all weekend for the Museum. We again welcomed many exhibitors who generously donate their time to help make our weekend successful.
6. **Indigenous display.** The Committee was keen to upgrade our indigenous artefacts display as originally envisioned by the Museum founders. We reached out to Barengi Gadjin Land Council to collaborate on a new exhibit. This collaboration is waiting for available funding for their involvement.
7. **Risk Management:** Craige Proctor attended an online course: Disaster Risk for Heritage Collections, and with rising waters in the Wimmera river the CMA flood map was analysed for low areas in the compound in preparation for sandbagging.

In addition, this year we formed collaborations with

- First Peoples State Relations to register and catalogue our indigenous artefacts.
- The Menzies Institute to bring a stronger presence to our longest serving Prime Minister's humble beginnings.

- Federation University to develop a curriculum which may bring history students in to help with much-needed research and curatorial efforts in our organisation in the future.
- Royal Historical Society of Victoria and the Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies to bring a higher profile to our Museum amongst Historical Societies in the western region of our state.
- Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre and Nhill Historical Society to foster closer relationships and exchange of knowledge.

Further, we attended governance and tourism forums and began the arduous task of digitising our collection with the purchase of professional camera equipment. A big thank you to Craige Proctor for his tireless involvement in these practices which will no doubt lead to a stronger organisation into the future.

The Committee has ensured the day-to-day upkeep of the facility with ongoing exterior painting of the Chemist and Detpa School, and electrical upgrades to the food hall, and we continue to foster a good working relationship with the Shire infrastructure management.

In June we held a successful Rally with numbers up by 7% overall from the previous year. We welcomed 55 exhibitors with the local Garden and Craft Clubs exhibiting for the first time. We also welcomed the Nhill Historical Society, Nhill Silo Heritage Project and NAHC to exhibit for the first time this year. We held a number of successful talks building on the success of our twelve new storyboards and Mary-Anne Paech entertained the children with stick shed building activities. Early in 2023 the Committee opted to run a series of smaller events with themed pop-up displays throughout the coming year, rather than holding a two-day Rally in 2024. This decision was largely made due to the limited number of committee members and volunteers in the organisation of the Rally, and the conflicting timeframe with cropping taking farmers away from organisational activities in the weeks leading up to the Rally. Concerningly, the organisation of such a large event has taken our focus away from our primary role of the day-to-day running and upgrades to the Museum, specifically the difficulty in finding time to devote to the execution of the Masterplan. This announcement has mobilised the community and we were pleased to welcome four new committee members and a working group of a further four community members to organise next year's event.

Our year was not without its issues with the possible theft of some vintage hammers and rope makers from the Blacksmith Shop and perceived volunteer conduct issues. A split in the committee became evident following this year's Rally, prompting the vacation of the President, Secretary and Treasurer's positions for the coming year. It will fall on the incoming president to resolve these issues, find appropriately qualified members for these positions and work towards a more harmonious committee.

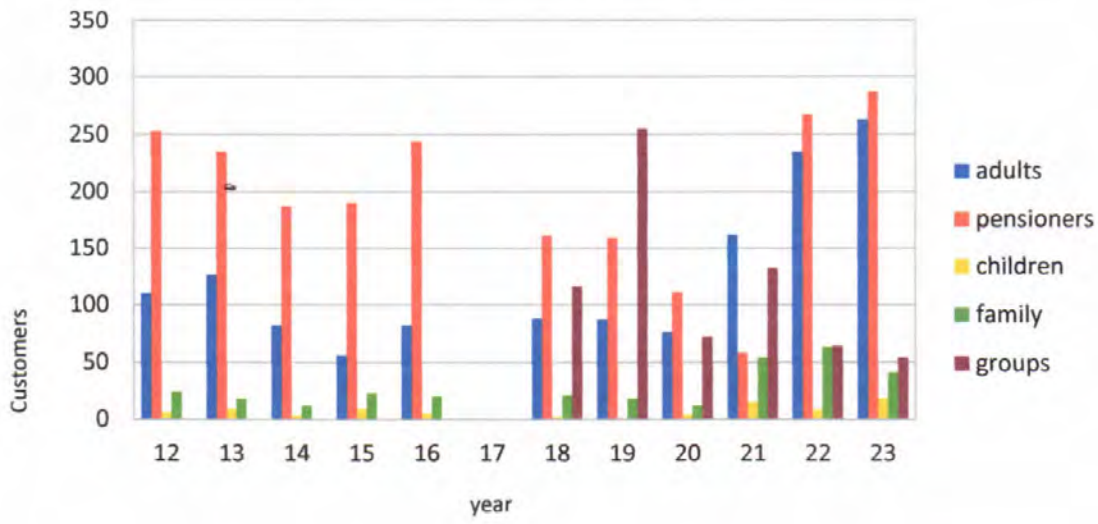
This year has seen a continued stream of donations offered to the museum to improve our visitor experience, with a rare straw baler (chaff cutter), tractor, organ, children's clothing and wedding attire, multiple historical publications and a cash donation from the Jeparit Lions Club which will be used for a cabinet to protect our army uniform display. We also donated six chairs from the original Lowan Shire Council Chambers to the Nhill Historical Society to round out their own display.

Visitor numbers continue to rise since COVID, up 4% over last year's visitors and 22% over 2019 visitors. We have also welcomed a small number of group bookings.

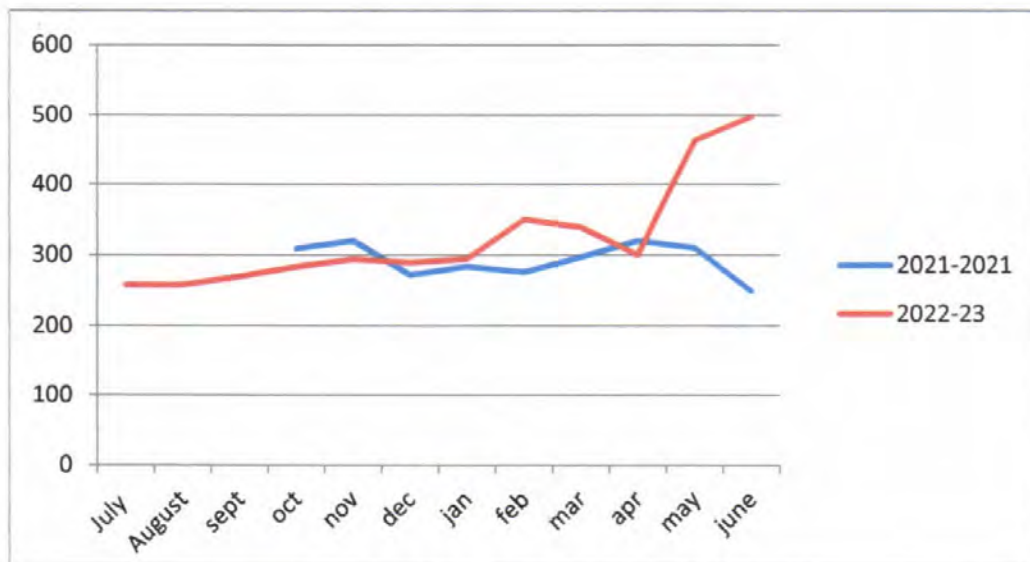
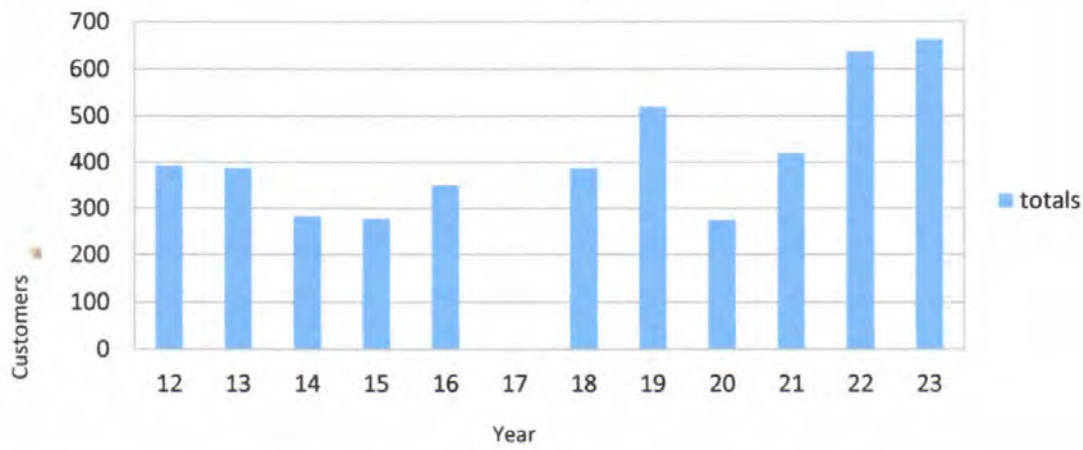
As we move onto the next era in Museum management we will contend with increased scrutiny in governance and OH&S issues which will need to be addressed along with further improvements to preservation and in bringing our precious items and stories to the public. I have been honoured to serve as President and a big thank you to all who have supported me in this role. Thanks to all the committee members for donating their time, the volunteers that keep the doors open and those who help us each year at the Rally. Without their ongoing support and hard work this valuable asset for our town and Shire could not continue to function. We look forward to a prosperous new year in 2023-24.

Sincerely
Wendy J Werner

Customer Attendance 2012-2023



Customer Attendance



VOLUNTEER HOURS.

WIMMERA MALLEE PIONEER MUSEUM

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2022 – 2023

<u>Opening Balance</u>	30/06/2022	As per Bank	Statement	\$28,331.52
<u>Income</u>				
Museum Entry	\$ 5,399.00			
Souvenirs	\$ 972.00			
Ice-creams/drinks	\$ 795.60			
Donations	\$ 396.35			
Group Entry	\$ 440.00			
Unallocated Funds	\$ 53.80			
Catering	\$ 110.00			
Rally Float	\$ 3,000.00			
Rally Entry 2022	\$ 1,110.00			
Rally Entry 2023	\$ 7,375.00			
Rally Raffle	\$ 263.00			
Rally Catering	\$ 2,421.35			
CC Grant	\$ 2,000.00			\$ 24,336.10
Unallocated Funds	-\$ 141.50	- \$10 Cash taken	For Ryko Book	<u>-\$ 151.50</u>
				\$24,184.60
<u>Expenses</u>				<u>+\$28,331.52</u>
Term Deposit	\$15,000.00		<u>Petty Cash opening</u>	\$52,516.12
Elgas/Gas supplies	\$ 83.60		<u>balance</u>	
Magazine Subs	\$ 109.00		\$ 16.15	
Maintenance	\$ 462.51		+\$50.00 Petty Cash	
Sign Printing	\$ 2,420.00		-\$39.80 Misc	
Catering Supplies	\$ 1,177.24		(Fuel, stamps, repair,	
Miscellaneous	\$ 648.72		+ cleaning expense)	
Rally expense	\$ 960.40		<u>Closing balance</u>	
Souvenirs	\$ 445.50		\$ 26.35	
Supermarket	\$ 1,187.43			
Office Supplies	\$ 284.50			
Rally Float	\$ 3,000.00			
Merchant Fees	\$ 309.32			
Petty Cash	\$ 50.00			
Catalogue Equip	\$ 1,497.95			
Advertising	<u>\$ 220.00</u>			<u>-\$ 27,856.17</u>
	<u>-\$ 27,856.17</u>			\$24,659.95
Unpresented Chq's	1185, 1194, 1195,	1198		<u>+\$ 3,347.74</u>
				\$28,007.69
Presented Chqs	1159, 1160, 1162,	1165, 1166		<u>-\$ 1,167.26</u>
	Bank Balance	@ 30.06.2023	as per Bank balance	<u>\$26,840.43</u>
		<u>Interest rec TD's</u>		
<u>Term Deposits</u>	\$ 14,138.26	\$ 21.12	Cash Float	\$ 240.00
	\$ 20,240.91	\$ 43.11	Petty Cash	\$ 26.35
		<u>Invest \$15,000.00</u>	Term Deposits	<u>\$34,379.17</u>

Total Investment	\$ 34,379.17		TOTAL	\$61,485.95
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**MINUTES OF THE HINDMARSH SHIRE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS, WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2023,
COMMENCING AT 11AM.**

PRESENT:

Mr D Welsh (Interim Chairperson, Member), Mr A Roberts (Member), Mr S Coutts (Member), Cr D Nelson (Councillor Delegate), Mayor B Ireland (Councillor Delegate), Mr G Wood (CEO), Ms P Croot (Manager Governance & Human Resources), Ms H Boyd (Manager Finance & Customer Services), Ms Kathie Teasdale (Internal Auditor), Mr P Harrison (Internal Auditor), Mr M Thompson (External Auditor), item 10, Mr B Short (IT Administrator), item 14, Ms A Veitch (HR & Safety Officer).

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Community

Welcome and acknowledgement of the indigenous community by the Chairperson.

We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations and we acknowledge them 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.

2. Apologies

Monica Revell (Director Corporate & Community Services)
Mr A Cordy (Member)

3. Declaration of Interests

Committee Members to declare any known interests in relation to any item published on the agenda for this meeting, either:

- Material; or

- General.

Declaration of material or general interest must also be advised by Committee Members at the commencement of discussion of the specific item.

No conflicts of interest declared.

4. Internal & External Auditor Assurance

Assurance from the internal and external auditors that there have been no obstructions to work undertaken.

Nil obstructions noted.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOVED: D NELSON / A ROBERTS

That the Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14 June 2023 via Teams, as circulated to members be taken as read and confirmed.

Refer attachment 5.1

6. Election of Chairperson

Chief Executive Officer will assume the role of temporary chair and call for nominations of Chairperson.

Nominee: A Roberts

Nominated by: D Welsh accepted: A Roberts

New Chairperson to assume the Chair.

MOVED: D WELSH / S COUTTS

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend that Council appoints Ashley Roberts as the Chairperson of the Audit & Risk Committee until September 2024.

7. Internal Audit Update

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate & Community Services
Attachment Number: 7.1 Internal Audit Findings Action List
7.2 Internal Audit Status Report
7.3 Internal Audit Update Report
7.4 Capital Works Internal Audit
7.5 Records Management Audit
7.6 Project Scope Environmental Health Internal Audit

Verbal report to be given during the meeting by RSD Audit on the recent internal audit publications, internal audit plan, internal audit status, recently completed audits on capital works and records management.

Manager Finance & Customer Services to discuss progress on internal audit findings action list.

P Harrison spoke to reports 7.2-7.6. Simon asked about key findings from the VAGO food safety report and how learnings might be proactively applied prior the undertaking the audit.

Ashley suggested that perhaps the internal auditors can bring forward IT general controls particularly as they apply to cloud environments.

MOVED: S COUTTS / D NELSON

That the Audit & Risk Committee

- 1. Receives the internal audit recent publications and audit status report;***
- 2. Receives the update on the recently completed internal audits on capital works and records management; and***
- 3. Notes the progress on internal audit findings.***
- 4. Committee request ongoing items and low risk items removed from the action list.***

Refer attachment 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5 & 7.6

8. Hindmarsh Shire Council Annual Accounts 2022/2023

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate & Community Services
Attachment Number: 8.1 Financial Report 30 June 2023
8.2 Performance Statement 30 June 2023
8.3 VAGO Closing Report 30 June 2023
8.4 VAGO Local Government Update

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit & Risk Committee with the audited Annual Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Discussion:

Local Government Act 2020 (Act) requires a resolution of Council to adopt the In-Principle Financial Statements and In-Principle Performance Statement. The Act also requires a resolution of Council to appoint two Councillors to sign these documents in their final form on behalf of Council, under Section 99 (2) and (3) of the Act.

The Financial and Performance Statements were prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the applicable accounting standards. Copies of the Statements were provided to Crowe (external auditor acting for the Victorian Auditor-General's Office). The audit of the Statements has now been substantially completed.

Once finalised and certified by Council, the Auditor General will prepare the formal report on the Financial and Performance Statements for inclusion in Council's Annual Report 2022/23.

The 2023/23 Financial Statements show a comprehensive surplus of \$4.079 million.

Total revenue for the financial year was \$23.59m, a decrease of \$2.78m from the previous financial year. The decrease is due to the reduction in Capital grants received in 2022/23 (\$3.459m) compared to 2021/22 (\$7.064m).

Total expenditure for the financial year was \$19.5m a increase of \$0.5m from the previous financial year. The increase is largely due to the finalisation of the Aged Care Service.

At 30 June 2023 Council held \$10.588m cash at bank. This is due to receipt of 100% of the 2023/2024 Financial Assistance Grant in June 2023.

Capital works expenditure was \$9.102m for 2022/23, a decrease of \$3.08 from 2021/22. The decrease is due to the Albacutya Bridge project being completed in 2021/22.

Link to Council Plan:

Strategic Objective 4.6: An organisation that takes its risk management responsibilities seriously and embeds a culture of risk management throughout the organisation

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications in this process. The statements outline financial performance for the previous year but costs for their production are part of normal operating expenditure.

Risk Management Implications:

Management of risks will minimise Council's exposure to adverse financial impacts, improve effectiveness and generate efficiencies.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible – Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author & Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

MOVED: D WELSH / S COUTTS

That the Audit & Risk Committee recommend, pending no material changes to the Statements, that Council:

- 1. approves in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2023; and***
- 2. authorises any two Councillors to sign the Financial Statements and Performance Statement in their final form.***

Refer attachment 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 & 8.4

9. Governance Compliance Report

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance & Human Services
Attachment Number: 9.1 Asset Management Policy
9.2 Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy
9.3 Public Transparency Policy

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Audit Committee of:

- Councils progress with the implementation of the *Local Government Act (Vic) 2020 (Local Government Act)*;
- Council's update of the Asset Management Policy and provisional endorsement of the Public Transparency Policy and Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy;
- Staff re-induction training undertaken;
- Compliance reviews for Delegations;
- Any disclosable gifts, hospitality or benefits to Councillors or Council employees.
- Council's progress with the implementation of the *Gender Equality Act (Vic) 2020 (Gender Equality Act)*;

Discussion

Local Government Act 2020

Council has completed its substantive implementation of the *Local Government Act 2020*, with updates to policies and processes undertaken in line with amendments and reforms. Council

Compliance Reviews – Council Policies

At the Council meetings held on 26 July 2023, Council resolved to adopt the following updated policy –

- **Asset Management Policy**

Council's Asset Management Policy forms part of its Asset Management Framework, supporting compliance with section 92(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Asset Management Policy was last reviewed in 2015 and as such, Council officers have revised the policy in line with current practices, Council objectives and the Strategic Risk Profile. These changes reflect and support current roles, responsibilities and practices, and refine the principles that guide Council's asset management strategy.

Additionally, two policies were endorsed at the Council meeting held on 31 August 2023 for community consultation that are of relevance to the function of this Committee.

- **Public Transparency Policy**

Council is required to maintain a Public Transparency Policy under s57 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The public transparency principles that underpin the policy remain unchanged since the initial adoption of the policy in 2020, however this review has provided an opportunity to consider amendments and provisions that strengthen Council's commitment to, and practice of, public transparency.

- **Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy**

In response to the recommendations from the Local Government Inspectorate around how Council's manage relationships between Councillors, Council staff and current and prospective developers, Council has provisionally endorsed (subject to the consultation period) this new policy.

The Councillor Interaction with Developers Policy provides guidance for how Councillors should interact with developers to maintain integrity, transparency, and good governance in their decision-making whilst also promoting development for the social and economic benefit of Hindmarsh Shire. The policy also gives rise to the creation of a Councillor Interaction with Developers register that will be made available to the public. Maintaining the public register is in line with best practice recommendations, complements Council's commitment to public transparency and ensures that Council is taking a proactive approach to changing regulatory environments.

Staff Re-induction Training

On 2 August 2023, 14 Council staff undertook 'induction refresher training' to re-familiarise themselves with key Council policies, procedures and processes. This training forms a crucial part of Council's human resources-based risk-mitigation. Training included sections on conflict of interest, procurement, the code of conduct, fraud prevention and risk management. The next session is scheduled for 11 September 2023.

Councillor Re-induction Training & Governance Manual

Councillor re-induction training has been scheduled for 26 October 2023. At the Council Meeting held on the same date, Council Officers will be presenting a Hindmarsh Shire Council Governance Manual for Council adoption. The Manual has been drafted in consultation with the Wodonga Good Governance Framework, amended to reflect Hindmarsh Shire Council's context. The Manual complements the Governance Rules, Code of Conduct and other relevant governance documents. Also

Compliance Reviews – Delegations

At the Audit and Risk Committee held on 14 June 2023, Council notified the Committee of changes to the below delegations -

- S18 Sub-Delegation under the EPA Act 2017
- S6 Delegation from Council to Council Staff
- S11A Delegation under Planning & Environment Act 1987

All Council staff noted in the Instruments have now completed forms noting their understanding of the obligations within the Instrument and their willingness to undertake those responsibilities. This is an additional assurance measure that has been undertaken to strengthen compliance with Council's delegations. Delegations and authorisations are also in the process of being administered through the recently procured RelianSys software.

Council has a planned review of CEO Delegations prior to the commencement of a new Chief Executive Officer in October.

Gifts and Hospitality

Council is responsible for maintaining a Gifts and Hospitality Register in accordance with both its Councillor (C007) and Staff (HR010) Gifts and Hospitality policies and for reporting on compliance with the policy to the Audit and Risk Committee. In the period since the previous Audit and Risk Committee meeting, there were no disclosed gifts, hospitality or benefits to Councillors or Council staff.

Gender Equality Act 2020 Update

Council's Gender Equality Action Plan (**GEAP**) was approved by the Gender Equality Commission on 25 July 2022. The Gender Equality Action Plan, a component of Council's obligations under the Gender Equality Act, is an organisational commitment to improving gender equality in the workplace. Actions undertaken in relation to Council's GEAP since June 2023 include;

- A report to Council on the progress of the Gender Equality Action Plan;
- Participation in the People Matter Survey for Local Government (this provides the requisite data for reporting against the 7 workplace gender equality indicators) and receipt of results with actions being developed;
- Near complete compilation of workforce data to be submitted with Council's progress report to the Gender Equality Commission, due February 2024; and

- LGBTQIA+ reference group (Hindmarsh Pride Committee) continue to meet as required to provide Council advice on relevant matters, including IDAHOBIT; and

Council will be required to submit this progress report by 20 February 2024 relating to its Gender Equality Action Plan, gender impact assessments and progress against the workplace gender equality indicators.

Link to Council Plan:

Strong Governance Practices: Ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Gender Equity respect and leadership: Demonstrate leadership on gender equity and promote respectful relationships through partnerships, programs, activities, spaces and education and Council's implementation of the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Risk Management Implications:

The updated policies and plans will ensure that Council maintains its governance, transparency and community engagement obligations under the Act and other relevant regulations.

Keeping up to date with the implementation of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Gender Equality Act 2020* ensures that Council is meeting its legislative requirements.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author & Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

MOVED: D WELSH / D NELSON

That the Audit & Risk Committee receives the Governance compliance update.

Refer attachment 9.1, 9.2 & 9.3

10. Risk Management Report

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance & Human Services

Attachment Number: 10.1 Strategic Risk Report

- 10.2 Strategic Risk Management Work Plan
- 10.3 Risk Management Presentation Handout
- 10.4 Draft Business Continuity Plan

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Audit and Risk Committee of Council's current strategic risk portfolio through the presentation of the Strategic Risk Report, Council's Strategic Risk Management Work Plan, reviewed Business Continuity Plan. The report will also update the Audit & Risk Committee on how Council is reducing information technology risk.

Discussion

Council's Strategic Risk Register has been implemented to ensure that:

- Strategic risks are identified;
- Strategic risks are assessed;
- The effectiveness of existing controls is evaluated;
- Residual risk is assessed;
- Risk treatment options are considered;
- Actions are determined and prioritised; and
- Action plans are implemented.

Attachment 10.1 presents Council's Strategic Risk Report and identifies the controls and treatments relating to each risk.

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Project Management and Strategic Execution
3. Technology Security
4. Government Political and Policy Changes
5. Financial Sustainability
6. Community Needs
7. Organisational Culture and Capability
8. Governance
9. Asset Management

The Risk Register will continue to be updated and reviewed regularly with department officers and management.

Council has acquired and is in the process of implementing Reliansys. Reliansys provides new risk management capabilities for the maintenance of Council's risk portfolio. Alongside the new software, Council officers are drafting a legislative compliance plan to provide a framework around how staff utilise the compliance processes within the new system.

The continuing focus of the Risk Management process will be –

- Implementing the reviewed Business Continuity Plan;
- Maintaining Council's Strategic Risk framework in consultation with the Audit and Risk Committee;
- Ensuring that Council's policies, procedures, plans and decision-making responds to the changing legislative and risk environment around climate change;

- Regular review of individual risks with consideration of current controls and possible improvements to further reduce the risk;
- The provision of appropriate risk management training given staffing changes across both organisational directorates;
- Ensuring the treatment plan listed includes achievable treatments to address risks faced by Council; and
- Regular discussion with Senior Management Team about high risks faced by Council.

Risk Management Presentation (Attachment 10.3)

On 30 August 2023, the Manager Governance and Human Services delivered a presentation to Councillors on Council's Risk Management Framework and the impacts of, and mitigation strategies around, Council's Strategic Risks. This included briefing the Councillors on the updated Council Report template that now requires Council officers to directly discuss the impact of the decision required by the report on relevant Strategic Risks.

Strategic Risk Management Work Plan (Attachment 10.1)

The Strategic Risk Management Work Plan has been developed to provide clear structure around the obligations risk owners have for reviewing and actioning the treatments within Council's Strategic risks. The review periods have been made more regular, proportionate with the assessment of the risk rating and Council's risk appetite. Risks that require Council to be increasingly proactive and responsive to changing legislative contexts have been given priority in their review regularity.

Business Continuity Plan (Attachment 10.4)

Council has undertaken a review of the Business Continuity Plan and presents it to the Audit and Risk Committee for review and endorsement. Business continuity management is an integral part of our risk management framework, is adopted as a core obligation of good governance and utilises the methodology specified in the AS/NZS 5050:2010 'Business Continuity – Managing Disruption Related Risk', AS ISO22301:2020 'Security and Resilience – Business Continuity Management Systems Requirements' and AS/NZS 31000:2018 'Risk Management – Guidelines'.

Technology Risk

Council's IT Administrator to provide a verbal report on projects underway to reduce Council's technology risk.

Link to Council Plan:

Ensure responsible risk management principles: Further develop and implement Council's Risk Management Framework and ensure all key risks have been measured and adequately controlled.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Risk Management Implications:

Management of risks will minimise Council's exposure to adverse financial impacts, improve effectiveness and generate efficiencies.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author & Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

A request was made for staff to prepare a presentation for independent members on how risks are identified, assessed and managed within the organisation.

MOVED: D WELSH / S COUTTS

That the Audit & Risk Committee receives the Risk Management update.

Refer attachment 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 & 10.4

11. Rural Council Transformation Program

Responsible Officer: Manager Finance & Customer Services

Attachment Number:

Verbal report to be given during the meeting by Heather Boyd, Manager Finance & Customer Services on the current status of the Rural Council Transformation Program.

MOVED: B IRELAND/D WELSH

That the Audit & Risk Committee receives the verbal audit update on the Rural Councils Transformation Program.

12. Audit & Risk Committee Self-Assessment

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate & Community Services

Attachment Number: 12.1 Audit & Risk Committee Self-Assessment

12.2 Audit & Risk Committee Self-Assessment

Introduction

The purpose of this report is for members of the Audit and Risk Committee to undertake a self-assessment.

Discussion:

Under section 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020* the Audit and Risk Committee must undertake an annual assessment of their performance with the assessment to be tabled at the next meeting of Council.

The self-assessment provides guidance to the Council on the effectiveness of the committee and ensures that the Committee members have the necessary experience to enable the committee to make informed recommendations to the Council. The document also informs management of any changes that need to be made to reports tabled to the Committee to ensure they are able to make informed recommendations.

The online self-assessment was distributed to Committee members on Monday 4 September 2023. At the time of writing this report, two self-assessments were received. The Committee will review the self-assessment during the meeting and discuss its performance.

Link to Council Plan

Strong governance practices

Risk Management Implications

A high performing Audit & Risk Committee will ensure strong oversight of Council's financial, risk and governance responsibilities.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Author & Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

Areas for improvement include Internal Audit Reporting.

The audit committee would like a report on the skill mix makeup of the Committee in matrix format. Members queried whether unrepresented skills are prioritised in new member appointments.

MOVED: S COUTTS / D WELSH

That the Audit & Risk Committee received discuss and recommend items of improvement relating to the performance of the Committee and self-assessment questionnaire.

Refer attachment 12.1 & 12.2

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate & Community Services
Attachment Number: 13.1 Expenses Reimbursement Listing
13.2 Interstate & Overseas Travel Register

Introduction:

This report provides the Audit & Risk Committee with a list of reimbursements made to the CEO and Councillors, and the overseas and interstate travel by staff and Councillors for the period 01 June 2023 to 31 August 2023.

Discussion:

A listing is provided for review by the Audit & Risk Committee of payments made to the CEO and Councillors (excluding Councillor Allowances) and overseas and interstate travel undertaken.

Link to Council Plan:

Strong governance practices

Financial Implications:

This decision has no financial implications.

Risk Management Implications:

Reimbursement will not be made where the transaction cannot be supported with a tax invoice.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

MOVED: D NELSON / D WELSH

That the Audit & Risk Committee receives the reimbursement listing for the CEO and Councillors, and overseas and interstate travel register for the period 01 June 2023 to 31 August 2023.

Refer attachment 13.1 & 13.2

14. Incident and Hazing Report

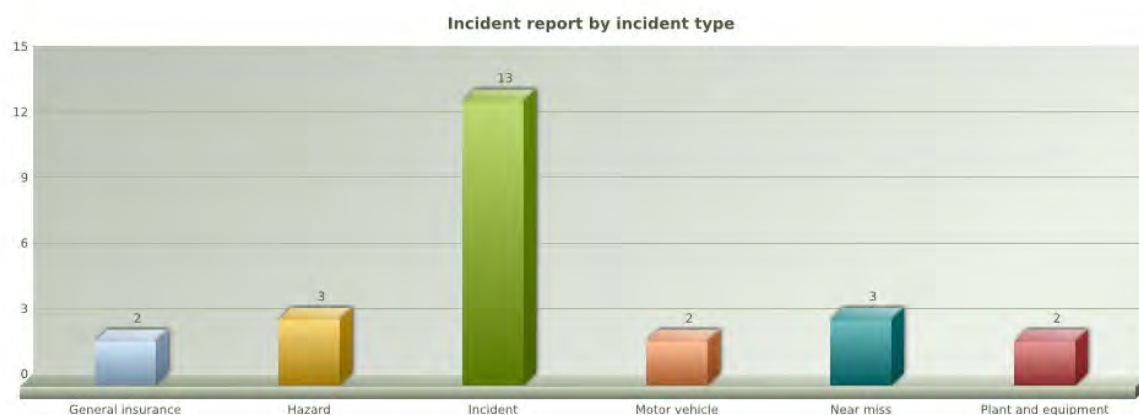
Responsible Officer: Manager Governance & Human Services
Attachment Number:

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit Committee with an update on the Hazard, Incident and Injury Reports from 1 June 2023 and 31 August 2023.

Discussion

24 reports were received in the period 1 June 2023 and 31 August 2023. This is in comparison to 22 reports during the same period in 2022.



1 June 2023 and 31 August 2023



1 June 2022 and 31 August 2022

General Insurance:

Two reports received, one involved accidental damage to water infrastructure and one was a break in resulting in theft of a small amount of cash, which was reported to police.

Hazards:

3 hazards were reported, two involved slip/trip/fall hazards, which have been either eliminated or a workaround put in place to temporarily avoid the area.

Incidents:

13 Incident reports were received during this time, which included 8 reports of verbal abuse or harassment by customers. This continues to be the most reported incident type. The Health and Safety Committee discussed this ongoing trend at the most recent meeting and have suggested the following to mitigate this risk:

- An article in the paper/campaign on the radio – put faces to “the Council”.
- More signage “It’s Never OK”.

- More education for staff relating to the Dealing with Difficult and Vexatious Customers policy.
- Continue to encourage employees to report incidents on Elumina.

Notifiable Incidents under the OHS Act:

One incident was reported to WorkSafe during the period, a serious laceration that required stitches. A worker's finger became jammed when they attempted to remove a stone from the tail gate, which was preventing the automatic closure. The worker did not require additional time off, other than to have the injury treated, and returned to work the following day. The coordinator investigated the incident to identify any controls that can be introduced. The incident was discussed during a Toolbox meeting. WorkSafe did not deem it necessary to attend the workplace and no further action was taken.

The remaining incidents were minor injuries and no lost time.

No new Workers Compensation claims submitted.

Motor Vehicle:

One report of damage caused by hitting an animal and one report of minor damage caused by low-speed collision, which was investigated.

Near Miss:

Three Near Misses reported, narrow avoidance of motor vehicle incidents.

Plant and Equipment:

One report of minor damage to council equipment and one report of minor damage to private property caused by council equipment.

Link to Council Plan:

Ensure responsible risk management principles.

A skilled Council and workforce capable of meeting community needs.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Risk Management Implications:

Managing incident and hazard reports is a key aspect of Council's Risk Management Framework. The reporting of hazards and near misses allows hazards to be identified and controlled to mitigate further incidents.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any conflict of interest, including the type of interest.

Author: Angela Veitch, HR and Safety Officer

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no interests to disclose.

Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services
In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

MOVED: S COUTTS/D WELSH

That the Audit & Risk Committee receives the Incident Report update.

15. Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Dates 2024

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate & Community Services

Attachment Number:

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to set the meeting dates for 2024 for the Audit & Risk Committee.

Discussion:

Council's Audit & Risk Committee Charter states that the Audit & Risk Committee shall meet at least three times in each financial year.

During 2022 meetings were held in March, June, and September. The proposal is to hold meetings in March, June and September 2024 and discuss the possibility of holding a meeting in November 2024.

The March meeting will enable discussion on internal audits conducted, June will enable discussion on the VAGO interim audit and Council's draft annual budget, and September will ensure the Audit & Risk Committee endorse the annual financial statements and performance statement for Council adoption by the 30 September deadline.

Link to Council Plan:

Strong governance practices

Financial Implications:

Council's annual budget allocates sitting fees for independent members of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Risk Management Implications:

An effective Audit & Risk Committee monitors compliance and risk, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness of Hindmarsh Shire Council's internal control system.

Conflict of Interest:

Under section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Author & Officer Responsible: Monica Revell, Director Corporate & Community Services

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no interests to disclose.

MOVED: D WELSH / D NELSON

That the Audit & Risk Committee meetings be held on the following dates in 2024:

- ***Wednesday 6 March 2024***
- ***Wednesday 12 June 2024***
- ***Wednesday 18 September 2024***

16. Late Reports

17. General Business

Moved: D WELSH / D NELSON

that the Audit and Risk Management Committee congratulate Greg Woods on his time at Hindmarsh Shire Council and his work with the Committee.

The committee have asked for an in camera session prior to the meetings with both the internal and external auditors.

18. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 06 March 2024, commencing at 11am.
