



Annual Report
2018/2019



City of
Mount Gambier

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WELCOME TO THE CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT

—

The Annual Report provides an opportunity for the City of Mount Gambier to inform the community of its operations, activities and achievements during the 2018/2019 financial year and fulfils Council's legislative requirements under the Local Government Act 1999.

The Annual Report provides a comprehensive overview of how the Council is responding to the challenges of a growing and evolving regional city. It also reflects the strong commitment to maintaining the highest standards of good governance and acts to monitor the Council's financial and service performance.

The format of this Annual Report is presented under the following headings:

- Community,
- Environment,
- Infrastructure,
- Tourism and Economic Development,
- Governance, and
- Finance.

Each year the Council delivers many initiatives to help improve the quality of life for our community and value for money for ratepayers and we hope you find the Annual Report informative and an accurate reflection of the City's activity and achievements for the 2018/2019 financial year.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It has been almost a year since the local government elections held in November 2018 which resulted in eight members of the community being elected to represent Mount Gambier residents and ratepayers. Four incumbent members of Council welcomed four new faces, along with myself as the 34th Mayor of our city and the second female Mayor in our 143 year history.

Mount Gambier is the largest city in regional South Australia and advocates for lifelong learning which not only applies to our residents, but also to Elected Members. The four newly elected Councillors and I have much to learn about local government and how our council operates within the parameters of the Local Government Act. However, it is also important for the members returning for a further term to continually learn as by doing so we will work together to make Mount Gambier the best it can be for our residents.

Elected Members are currently reviewing Council's strategic plan being the Community Plan - The Futures Paper 2016–2020, together with Council's other key strategic documents supported by the Long Term Financial Plan, the Asset and Infrastructure Management Plan and the Annual Business Plan and Budget.

I congratulate the previous Council on their achievements over the past four years and look forward to continuing that good work for our community.

One very important project for Council is the delivery of the Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub planned for completion in late 2021. I take the opportunity to thank Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin MP for the Federal Government's \$15million contribution to this project and also to Premier Steven Marshall for the State Government's \$10million contribution.

This is the largest funding commitment to our city in its history and will provide a life changing facility for our residents for decades to come.

Mount Gambier is a multicultural city and welcomes people from many different countries, as well as our first nation's peoples. Council



continues to work towards an important milestone with the anticipated endorsement of a Reconciliation Action Plan, a document which will clearly define our shared vision towards reconciliation and will also highlight actions which aim to create meaningful change for our community.

I am pleased to report that Council is in a strong financial position as you will see when reading this Annual Report and this is a result of prudent management by Elected Members and staff.

Council has an amazing team of dedicated employees and it has been my privilege to meet them and I wish to thank them for their commitment in assisting Elected Members to carry out their roles.

In May, Council welcomed new Chief Executive Officer Andrew Meddle who has settled into his new role well and I look forward to working closely with Andrew to deliver new and improved services and amenities to our city.

Mount Gambier is a digitally connected city, well placed to grow our tourism market, to attract and retain new residents, to grow industry and in turn the economy for the benefit of our residents and ratepayers.

I have pleasure in presenting to you the 2018/2019 City of Mount Gambier Annual Report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynette Martin'.

**Lynette Martin OAM
MAYOR**

ELECTED MEMBER INFORMATION

Following the 2018 Local Government Elections the Council is comprised of a Mayor and eight Councillors, elected at large.

Council 2018-2022 (L-R)

Cr Kate Amoroso, Cr Frank Morello, Cr Ben Hood, Mayor Lynette Martin OAM, Cr Paul Jenner, Cr Sonya Meziniec (Deputy Mayor), Cr Max Bruins, Cr Christian Greco, Cr Steven Perryman.



Photo credit: Louise Agnew Photography.

ELECTED MEMBER ATTENDANCE

The following is the recorded attendance (or apologies) of Elected Members at the 12 ordinary Council meetings and the 11 special Council meetings held during the 2018/2019 year.

Attendance records are separated to reflect the membership of Council up to and following the November 2018 Local Government Elections.

Council meetings - November 2018 to June 2019

| Elected Member | Meetings attended | Apologies | Absent without apology | Leave of absence |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------|
| Mayor Martin | 16 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cr Amoroso | 14 | 2 | 1 | |
| Cr Bruins | 16 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cr Greco | 12 | 5 | 0 | |
| Cr Hood | 15 | 2 | 0 | |
| Cr Jenner | 13 | 4 | 0 | |
| Cr Meziniec | 16 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cr Morello | 15 | 2 | 0 | |
| Cr Perryman | 13 | 4 | 0 | |

Council meetings – July 2018 to October 2018

| Elected Member | Meetings attended | Apologies | Absent without apology | Leave of absence |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------|
| Mayor Lee | 6 | 0 | 0 | |
| Cr Greco | 4 | 2 | 0 | |
| Cr Lovett | 4 | 2 | 0 | |
| Cr Lynagh | 3 | 3 | 0 | |
| Cr Meziniec | 5 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cr Morello | 5 | 1 | 0 | |
| Cr Mutton | 3 | 3 | 0 | |
| Cr Perryman | 4 | 0 | 2 | |
| Cr Persello | 6 | 0 | 0 | |
| Cr Richardson | 6 | 0 | 0 | |
| Cr Von Stanke | 6 | 0 | 0 | |

2018 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Local Government Elections are held every four years in November. Mayoral and Councillor elections for the City of Mount Gambier were held in November 2018 with three candidates vying for the position of Mayor and 19 candidates competing for eight Councillor positions.

From November 2014 until November 2018 Council was comprised of a Mayor, Andrew Lee, and ten Councillors, Sonya Meziniec, Steven Perryman, Josh Lynagh, Des Mutton, Mark Lovett, Christian Greco, Ian Von Stanke, Penny Richardson, Frank Morello and Hanna Persello.

The election process starts in the preceding January when the Council Voters Roll is purged, following which any persons who are not on the House of Assembly Roll for the area must make application before the close of roll to be eligible to nominate as a candidate or vote in the Local Government Elections.

Preparatory activities for the election continued throughout 2018 in conjunction with the Local Government Association and the Electoral Commission SA, including promotions to raise awareness and encourage participation in the election process.

Candidate nominations opened on 4 September 2018 for a period of two weeks coinciding with the commencement of the election caretaker period which continued until the final declaration of the election results. Council assumes a caretaker role during this period with restrictions and prohibition on certain activities that could, or be perceived to, benefit any candidate or group of candidates or otherwise influence the outcome of the election.

Postal voting commenced in late October 2018 with the issue of voting papers by the Electoral Commission SA and voting closed at 5:00pm on Friday 9 November 2018.

A scrutiny and count commenced on the morning of Saturday 10 November 2018 with Mrs Lynette Martin OAM being provisionally declared as Mayor at 6:00pm that evening.

City of Mount Gambier Manager Executive Administration places his election vote into the ballot box.



The scrutiny and count for the Councillor election continued until mid-afternoon on Tuesday 13 November 2018 with a computer count allocating candidate preferences.

The final results for the Mayoral and Councillor elections were notified to Council and candidates by the Electoral Commission SA on Friday 19 November 2018 which officially ended the election process.

Ben Hood, Steven Perryman, Sonya Meziniec, Kate Amoroso, Max Bruins, Christian Greco, Frank Morello and Paul Jenner were elected as Councillors.

The 2018 City of Mount Gambier Elections resulted in the appointment of a new Mayor and the re-election of four sitting Councillors and election of four new Councillors (including one former Councillor from an earlier term). Three sitting Councillors were unsuccessful in their re-election attempt, together with other candidates (including two former Councillors from earlier terms) who also did not secure a position.

The first meeting of the newly elected Council was held on Thursday 22 November 2018 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber where Elected Members each read a Declaration of Office. Councillor Sonya Meziniec was appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor.

The next Local Government Elections are scheduled to be held in November 2022, unless a supplementary election is necessary to fill any vacancy arising in the meantime. It is a policy of the City of Mount Gambier to not hold a supplementary election to fill a single Councillor vacancy that arises between elections. However, a second or subsequent Councillor vacancy, or a vacancy in the position of Mayor would trigger a supplementary election(s).

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES (AS AT JUNE 2019)



**Her Worship the Mayor
Mrs Lynette Martin OAM**

Council committee positions

- CEO Review Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee (November 2018 - March 2019)

Ex officio

- Strategic Standing Committee
- Operational Standing Committee
- Audit Committee
- Junior Sports Assistance Fund
- Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee

Other positions

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association
- Local Government Association



**Cr Sonya Mezinec
Deputy Mayor**

Council committee positions

- Strategic Standing Committee
- CEO Review Committee (as Deputy Mayor)
- Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee
- Audit Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee (November 2018 - March 2019)

Other positions

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association (proxy - as Deputy Mayor)
- Local Government Association (proxy - as Deputy Mayor)



Cr Kate Amoroso

Council committee positions

- Operational Standing Committee
- Junior Sports Assistance Fund

Other positions

- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel
- Australia Day Celebrations Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group
- Regional Sport and Recreation Advisory Group
- Seniors Month Advisory Group
- Limestone Coast Violence Against Women Collaboration



Cr Max Bruins

Council committee positions

- Strategic Standing Committee
- Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee



Cr Christian Greco

Council committee positions

- Operational Standing Committee (Presiding Member)
- Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Presiding Member)
- CEO Review Committee (as Presiding Member Operational Standing Committee)



Cr Ben Hood

Council committee positions

- Strategic Standing Committee
- Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee (November 2018 - March 2019)

Other positions

- Mount Gambier and District Airport (DC Grant S41) Committee
- Limestone Coast Zone Emergency Centre Committee (Local Government Deputy Controller)

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES (AS AT JUNE 2019)



Cr Paul Jenner

Council committee positions

- Operational Standing Committee
- Council Assessment Panel
- Building Fire Safety Committee (Presiding Member)

Other positions

- Joint Boundary Roads Advisory Group (with DC Grant)
- LCLGA Limestone Coast Climate Adaptation Committee
- LCLGA Regional Waste Management Steering Committee
- LCLGA Roads and Transport Management Group
- Limestone Coast Violence Against Women Collaboration



Cr Frank Morello

Council committee positions

- Strategic Standing Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Review Committee (as Presiding Member Strategic Standing Committee)
- Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee
- CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee (November 2018 - March 2019)

Other positions

- Limestone Coast Economic Development Reference Group
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre Advisory Group



Cr Steven Perryman

Council committee positions

- Operational Standing Committee
- CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee (November 2018 - March 2019)

Other positions

- Tourism Mount Gambier Board

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

The Community Plan and the Futures Paper are Council's key strategic documents, supported by the Long Term Financial Plan, the Asset and Infrastructure Management Plan and the Annual Business Plan and Budget.

These plans identify the direction, services and facilities that Council wishes to provide for the community during the next four years and beyond.

A Futures Paper for City Development

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

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

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

The Futures Paper was developed entirely on the aspirations and issues raised and identified by people within the community and was based on sound academic research that identified four key characteristics of successful cities which are:

- Home to a highly skilled population,
- Centrally located, at the heart of a rich market and/or well positioned for trade with expanding markets,
- A diversified economy with a significant proportion of high order services, and
- Boasts a climate and/or natural setting superior to most other cities in the nation.

Using the Futures Paper as a guiding strategy for the long term development of the City, Council is able to develop policies and align and allocate resources where the most benefit can be achieved.

The Community Plan

The Community Plan was developed by drawing on the aspirations and issues raised by the community during the development of the Futures Paper. The Community Plan was endorsed by Council at its meeting in May 2016 and was prepared by Council in partnership with the community to guide decision making.

The plan identifies the outcomes Council seeks to achieve and the strategies that will be put in place to deliver them.

The Community Plan will be reviewed within the first two years of the 2018-2022 Council term.

Our Vision

An inclusive city where people lead fulfilling lives.

The richness and diversity of:

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

are what makes Mount Gambier the thriving and successful place that people are proud to call home.

These elements will contribute to the future growth and development of the City and form the goals of Council's Community Plan - The Futures Paper 2016-2020.

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

Through the development of corporate key performance indicators, Council undertakes quarterly reporting on the achievement of the strategies contained in the Community Plan.

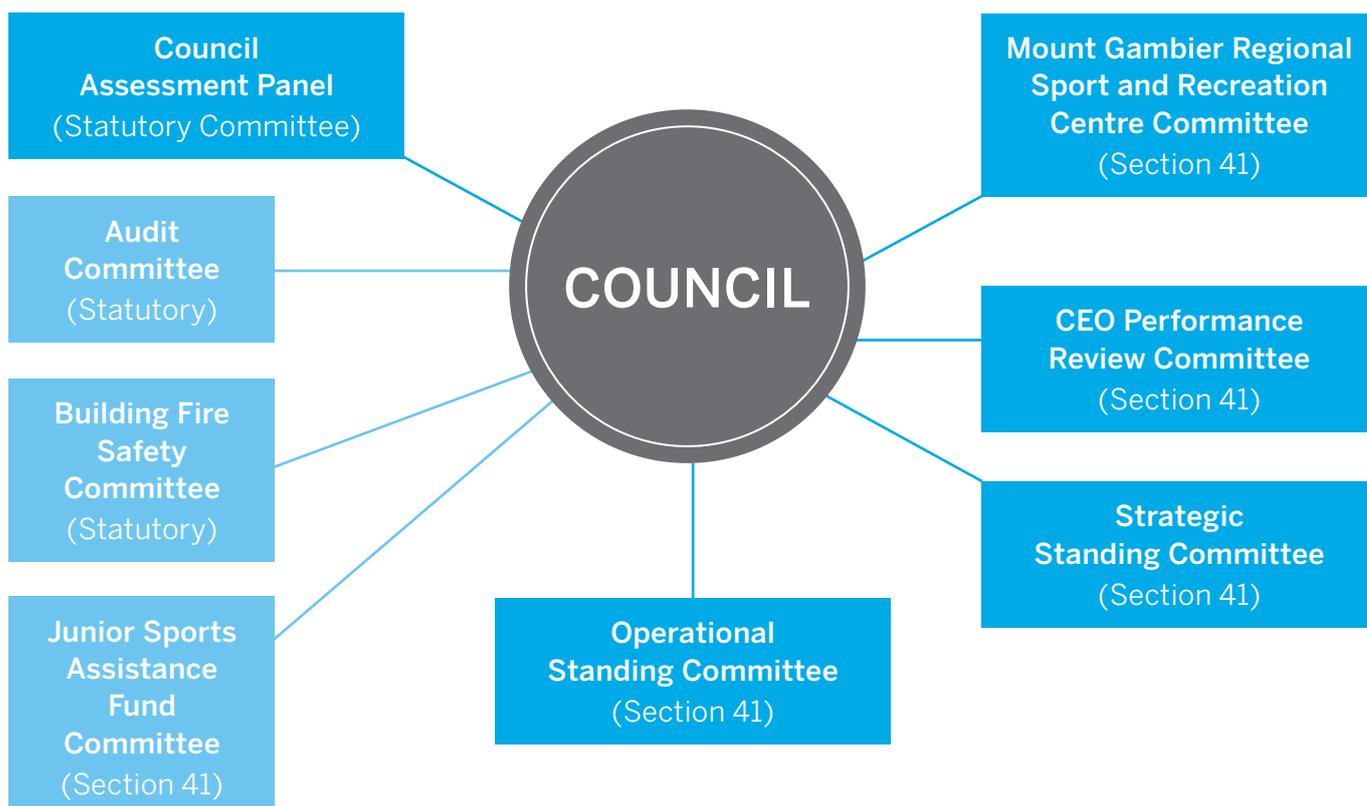
These are available on Council's website at www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE OF COUNCIL

Council has adopted a structure of committees to facilitate good governance and informed decision making processes.

Committee structure

Council's Committee structure is set out below (as at June 2019).



The following sub-committees in place prior to the 2018 Local Government Elections remained in recess as at 30 June 2019 pending consideration of their necessity by Council:

- Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee
- Heritage Sub-Committee

Council also supports the following informal advisory groups which meet as required to provide input to Council officers and Members on various community events and activities.

Advisory Groups

- Joint Boundary Roads
- Mount Gambier Youth (YAG)
- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel
- Australia Day Breakfast
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre
- Seniors Month
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade
- Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal

Council meetings are held at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace Mount Gambier on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm.

Standing committee meetings are held the week preceding Council meetings as follows (unless otherwise amended or altered by Council or the relevant standing committee):

Strategic Standing Committee - normally second Monday of each month commencing at 5:30pm.

Operational Standing Committee - normally second Tuesday of each month commencing at 5:45pm.

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

While members of the public are not normally permitted to speak at meetings, individuals may be invited to make a deputation.

Any person wishing to have a matter considered by Council should make a request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer for presentation to the Presiding Member of the relevant Council or Committee meeting. Agenda closing dates apply. Please check with Council for timeframes and the date/times of relevant meetings.

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

In addition to the aforementioned Standing Committees, other committees meet as and when required.

Delegations

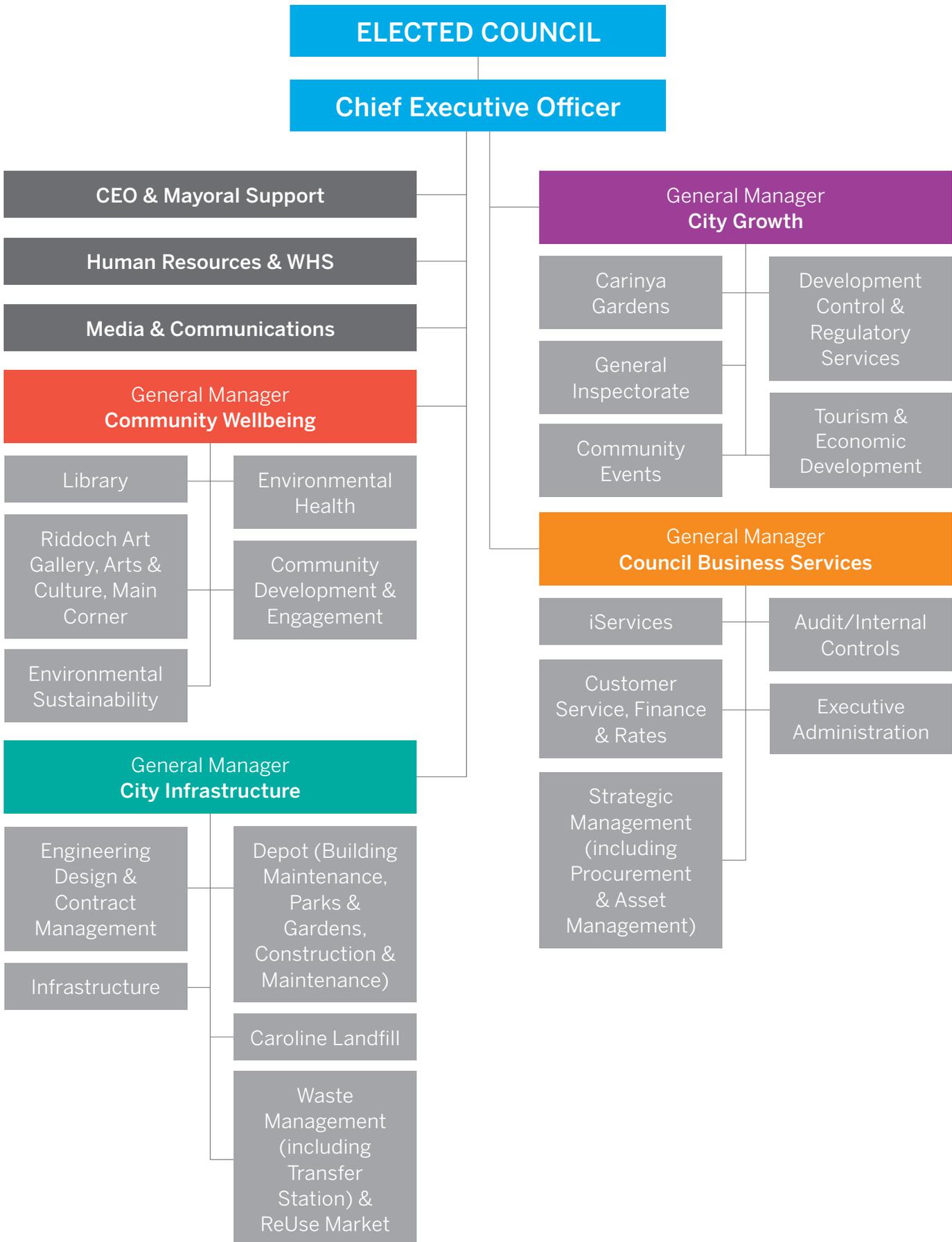
To ensure the efficient performance of operations and activities, Council delegates certain powers and functions to the Chief Executive Officer. These delegations are reviewed annually by Council.

The Chief Executive Officer further subdelegates certain powers and functions as necessary to specified officer positions.

The delegation instruments reference which legislative powers are delegated/subdelegated and any limitations or conditions that are applicable to those (sub) delegations.

Delegations were reviewed and adopted by Council on 19 March 2019 and are available for public inspection at the Council office and are also published on the Council website - www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



CEO'S MESSAGE

This year has seen a great deal of change within our community and Council. With Local Government Elections held last November, a new team has taken over the responsibility for moving the City forward. This change has brought a new approach to business and an appetite for increasing the pace of change.

The change in Elected Members has been matched by changes in senior staff at the Council with former CEO Mark McShane retiring and then a period of interim management under Graeme Maxwell until my arrival in late May. I would like to thank my predecessors for their unstinting efforts to continually improve our city and Council.

Whilst only at the helm for a month in the 2018/2019 municipal year I have already noted the great range of spaces and places there are in the City which are matched by a high level of aspiration within the community and the team of staff.

The Council has made some courageous decisions in the last year and has made significant investments into major, transformational projects for the community, as well as improving and enhancing the range of services available.

Specific actions include:

- Significant investment in preliminary development work which led to the securing of \$25million of State and Federal government grants to underwrite the future investment in the Community and Recreation Hub. This will be a transformational project where a once in a lifetime opportunity has been seized by Council on behalf of its community. Work on this exciting project is expected to be ongoing until late 2021.
- Progression of the GigCity project to deliver ultra-fast internet connections for our community, matching capital city speeds. This project enables us to not only deliver liveability but also connectivity, setting us apart from other regional centres through the provision of speedy access for data hungry business users.



- In the visitor economy partnering with the industry group Tourism Mount Gambier, including public access Wi-Fi and an enhanced digital tourism presence.
- The launch of the ReUse Market in October 2018 providing an opportunity for the community to reuse materials and reduce material going to landfill. Community support for the initiative has been overwhelming with more than 500 people visiting the market and more than 250 transactions made during one of the first open days. This trend continues almost one year later.
- Completion of stage three of the Rail Trail project. The shared walking and cycling path now extends from Jubilee Highway West to Wandilo Road and past Pick Avenue to Jubilee Highway East, to link with a walking track at Blue Lake Sports Park, providing an extra 2.6 kilometres. The total length of the trail now measures 7.42 kilometres.
- Partnering with other agencies to promote Mount Gambier as a place to live, work, study and visit. We have been focused on our liveability and our points of difference from other regional centres.
- The delivery of and support to community events. In 2018, the Council invested \$440,094 (financial and in-kind) to support local events, with a conservative estimated return of more than \$16.4million in economic benefits to Mount Gambier.
- Advocating and working in partnership to enable Mount Gambier to maintain state services, to attract grant funds and to ensure the City and region receive its share of resources.

In 2019/2020, as part of the Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan Forward Works Program the old Railway Station building will receive a long awaited face lift to the value of \$371,000. A Pump Track will be constructed at Hastings Cunningham Reserve.

CEO'S MESSAGE

The project is designed to encourage community spirit, learning and promote an active outdoor lifestyle for all. In a coup for the City, it also includes the right to host at least two Red Bull Pump Track World Championship qualifying meetings locally and will provide a major tourism and economic boost to Mount Gambier.

Our community has unlimited aspirations, but the Council has limited financial resources. With effective financial management the Council is in a strong position and can meet the needs of current and future residents, students, workers and visitors. As a result of this sound financial management, investment in capital enhancement, capital renewal and other key projects has been possible without significant borrowings.

We continue to deliver a wide range of services, some new and others ongoing. Many activities demonstrate a step change in the way the Council services and engages with its residents, compared to what would have been expected five or ten years previously.



Andrew Meddle
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Mayor Martin with current CEO, Andrew Meddle.

CEO CHANGES

After more than seven years in the top job, Chief Executive Officer Mark McShane retired from the role on Friday 15 February 2018.

Graeme Maxwell was appointed as interim CEO from Monday 18 February until Friday 17 May 2019.

The City of Mount Gambier thanks Mark and Graeme for their contributions to Council.

Current CEO Andrew Meddle began in the position on Monday 27 May 2019.



Mayor Martin with outgoing CEO, Mark McShane.

Mayor Martin with interim CEO, Graeme Maxwell.



SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

For the purposes of the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1999, the Senior Executive Officers (SEO's) of Council are defined as:

- Chief Executive Officer, and
- Four General Managers.

The remuneration and benefits of the SEO's are detailed in Council's Salary Register available by request at the Council office. Remuneration includes salary, superannuation and a vehicle or salary equivalent. Each SEO is employed on a five year fixed term contract of employment.

The General Manager portfolios are as follows:

General Manager City Infrastructure

Mr Nick Serle

Incorporating:

- Engineering and Contract Management,
- Infrastructure,
- Depot, Building Maintenance, Parks and Gardens, and
- Waste Management, including Caroline Landfill and ReUse Market.

General Manager City Growth

Dr Judy Nagy

Incorporating:

- Tourism,
- Carinya Gardens,
- Development Control and Regulatory Services,
- Events, and
- Economic Development.

General Manager Community Wellbeing

Ms Barbara Cernovskis

Incorporating:

- Library,
- Environmental Sustainability,
- Environmental Health,
- Riddoch Art Gallery, Arts and Culture, Main Corner,
- Community Development and Engagement, and
- Heritage.

General Manager Council Business Services

Ms Pamela Lee

Incorporating:

- Finance,
- Rates,
- Internal Audit,
- IT and Records Management,
- Executive Administration,
- Customer Service, and
- Governance and Strategy.

Pamela Lee resigned from City of Mount Gambier effective 12 June 2018. Jeroen Zwijnenburg is currently acting in the role.



General Manager City Infrastructure Nick Serle (left), Acting General Manager Council Business Services Jeroen Zwijnenburg, General Manager City Growth Judy Nagy, Chief Executive Officer Andrew Meddle, General Manager Community Wellbeing Barbara Cernovskis.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER STAFF

| Portfolio | Males | Females | Total |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Office of the CEO | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Community Wellbeing | 5 | 30 | 35 |
| Council Business Services | 6 | 23 | 29 |
| City Growth | 5 | 16 | 21 |
| City Infrastructure | 54 | 3 | 57 |
| Totals | 72 | 79 | 151 |

Total number of employees: 151

Full time equivalents*: 126.6

*including trainees

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Equal Opportunity and Discrimination Administrative Procedure was developed to:

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

Principles

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

- Merit-based recruitment, selection and promotion,
- Access for all employees to appropriate training, development and employee assistance programs, and
- Grievance handling procedures.

Responsibilities

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

The City of Mount Gambier will:

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



COMMUNITY

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES

Five citizenship ceremonies were conducted by the City of Mount Gambier during the 2018/2019 financial year, with a total of 25 people receiving Australian citizenship.

New citizens were welcomed to the City from Burundi, England, India, Iran, Myanmar, Netherlands, Philippines, Republic of Ireland, South Africa, Taiwan and the United Kingdom.

The Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia provided complimentary tickets to the Royal Adelaide Show as a special gift for each person who received Australian citizenship in South Australia during the year.

Representatives from Soroptimist International of Mount Gambier also attended the ceremonies to present a gift to every participant.

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

Corne Ryan receives her Australian Citizenship Certificate from Mayor Martin.



Amy Grouse (left) with Mayor Martin and Chanceline Kakule at an Australian Citizenship Ceremony hosted by City of Mount Gambier.



Photos: Kinship Productions

JUNIOR SPORTS ASSISTANCE FUND

Membership of the Junior Sports Assistance Fund is comprised of the City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant and a number of sporting organisations who have agreed to become financial members.

The fund provides financial support for junior sports people who have achieved state selection or higher in a specific sport. The financial transactions and financial position of the fund in 2018/2019 is as follows:

| 2018/2019 financial position | \$ |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Assistance to juniors | 16,195 |
| Support for special coaching clinics | 5,000 |
| Member contributions | 8,192 |
| Council contributions | 12,000 |
| Bank interest earned | 694 |
| Donations received | 1,500 |
| Sponsorship of programs received | 1,900 |
| Cash at bank, 30 June 2019 | 95,360 |

For the 34 years of the fund's operations, the consolidated transactions to 30 June 2019 are as follows:

| Fund history | \$ |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Assistance to juniors | 480,395 |
| Support for special coaching clinics | 90,383 |
| Assistance to disadvantaged juniors | 13,350 |
| Member contributions | 179,974 |
| Council contributions | 332,500 |
| Bank interest earned | 70,604 |
| Donations received | 46,086 |
| Sponsorship of programs received | 40,340 |
| Other expenses | 300 |
| Government and bank charges | 1,326 |

Note that payments from the fund for assistance to juniors did not commence until July 1988, funding for coaching clinics did not commence until July 1991 and funding for disadvantaged juniors did not commence until July 2012.

The major considerations and achievements for the year included:

- 17 sporting organisations/clubs as members of the fund,
- Generous donation of \$2,500 from Commercial Club Inc.
- Coaching clinic program of \$5,000 funded by the fund.
- The Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes approached the fund to administer a program to support/assist financially disadvantaged juniors of member organisations. The funding provided is up to \$3,000, dependent on applications, and is part of the surplus from the Blue Lake Fun Run.



2018 Commercial Club Inc Exceptional Junior awardee Georgia Clarke was presented with a cheque by Commercial Club committee members Greg McCallum and Michael Cameron and Councillors Christian Greco and Kate Amoroso. The talented hockey player received \$1,000 through the fund, as part of a \$2,500 donation from the Mount Gambier Commercial Club to support junior sportspeople in the region.

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL DONATIONS SKYROCKET

The local community dug deep to support those in need in 2018, raising \$29,732.10 for the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal, the highest amount in several years.

City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin is grateful for the support of generous donors who contributed to the appeal.

"I thank everyone who took the time to support the cause and think of the less fortunate in our community," Mayor Martin said.

"I am so pleased that our community could come together to raise almost \$30,000 to provide hampers, toys, food vouchers and gift cards for those in need."

The funds raised through the appeal are provided to local welfare agencies the Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul Society, Uniting Care Mount Gambier, ac.care and Lifeline South East who distribute food hampers and other benefits to those who require a helping hand at Christmas.

"In 2018 the agencies assisted a total of 739 children, 670 adults and 454 families through the Christmas Cheer program and I thank them for their hard work."




City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin OAM is pleased to acknowledge the following donations to the 2018 Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal:

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bryant's Bakery Bunnings Mount Gambier Cameron Lock Surveying Carleen Laslett Carlin and Gazzard Chapmans Newsagency City of Mount Gambier employees Clode Cummins Mount Gambier Department for Child Protection Diana Cross DJ Interiors Empak Homes Exchange Printers Fennell Forestry Foodworks Conroe Heights Gambier Electronics Garry Vandeppeer Gavin McEachern and Associates Group Training Employment Gwen Collins Homestyle Bakery Iva Ryan Jane Riley John Williamson Jon and Claire Welch Julian Mattay Julie Bignell Julienne Feast K&S Corporation Ken and Carol Stafford Lennons on Lake Terrace Les Thompson Lions Club of Gambier City Liz Moriarty and Associates Longriders CMC Mount Gambier Margaret and Noel Doody | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Bakery and Café MM Riquier Mount Gambier Central Mount Gambier City Band Mount Gambier CWA Branch Mount Gambier Ladies Probus Club Mount Gambier Men's Shed Mount Gambier Truck Show Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group P & L Hopgood People's Choice Credit Union staff Peter Bayley Peter Roberts Pick Avenue Deli & Bakery Presto Eatery Probus Club of Port MacDonnell Queen Elizabeth Park Trust RA Francis and G Davis Trading Robert Klintberg Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Rowley C Miller Sheila Roach Scroptomist International Spencer and Sharon Buck St Martins Lutheran College Stacey Pedlar T Redding Tony Pasin MP - Barker Electoral Office Tracy Trappett Van Schaik's Bio Gro Vicki Jackson Vicki Osborne Woodlands Grove |
|---|--|

Total = \$29,732.10



The Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal raises funds for distribution to local welfare agencies ac.care, St Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, Lifeline SE and Uniting Care who provide food hampers, gifts and other support to those in need at Christmas.



MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

It is due to the support from the community and commitment of staff that the Mount Gambier Library has the agility and responsiveness to remain at the heart of the community. Contributing to the wellbeing of residents and visitors alike and adapting and responding to their needs is at the core of the Library's operations and programs.

The Library's vision is to be an ever evolving place for ever evolving people and that has certainly been evident throughout the 2018/2019 year.

Aside from our regular programs including; Baby Bounce, Move and Groove, Storytime, Minecraft Club, Robotics Club, LEGO Fan Club, 3D printing, Wacom tablets, Bookwell, local and family history help, computer lessons, Crochet Club, Chinese language lessons, Tuesday help desk, JP service, reading group, Tech Savvy Seniors, school holiday programs and more, a variety of events to cater to the needs of the entire community have also been delivered.

NUMBER OF VISITORS 
348,132

 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
ADULTS **11,199**
CHILDREN **7,570**
TOTAL **18,769**

 **13,976**
ACTIVE MEMBERS

1,078 TOTAL PROGRAMS

ANNIE'S STORY; GROWING UP STRONG ON BOANDIK COUNTRY

NAIDOC Week saw the Library host the launch of a local artist's book that tells the story of the lives of the Boandik people in the region.

Michelle Jacqueline-Furr tells the story of her Grandmother Annie and her life growing up as a Boandik woman in the children's storybook titled 'Annie's Story; Growing up strong on Boandik Country'. The launch of Michelle's book saw 125 people celebrate the Boandik culture and share in Annie's story.



Michelle Jacqueline-Furr at the launch of 'Annie's Story; Growing up strong on Boandik Country'.

 NUMBER OF ITEMS **52,841**

 NUMBER OF LOANS **286,798**

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ AUTHOR VISIT

225 people attended the in-conversation event with author Heather Morris to learn about the story of the Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist and the woman he loved.

This story was based on years of interviews that Heather conducted with real life Holocaust survivor, Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov.

Mount Gambier Library was one of the few libraries in Australia to secure Heather's visit prior to her trip to America. Heather announced at the event that her book will be made into a blockbuster movie or BBC series.

Library Programs Team Leader Kristi Leamey with Tattooist of Auschwitz Author Heather Morris.



NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME 2019

National Simultaneous Storytime was held across Australia on Wednesday 22 May 2019.

The Mount Gambier Library performance saw more than 300 children enjoy a puppet show theatrical adaptation of the Matt Cosgrove book titled 'Alpacas with Maracas'. Children and teachers alike enjoyed watching the hilarious characters come to life with laughter filling the City Hall. Adding to the excitement was a live musical accompaniment provided by James Morrison Academy students.

"The event was a wonderful way to share the story with so many children in such a dynamic and creative way while taking part in a nationwide initiative," Library Manager Georgina Davison said.



Library staff Kelly Lynch and Krista Owen (back) and Bec Coates and Danni Reade with special guest alpacas Macca and Al.

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

GOVHACK OPEN DATA COMPETITION

A record 45 local competitors participated in the 2018 GovHack Open Data competition, designed to provide budding entrepreneurs with an opportunity to connect, share ideas and create innovative ways to access open government data.

The event ran simultaneously throughout Australia and New Zealand from Friday 7 September until Sunday 9 September 2018, hosted locally at the Mount Gambier Library.

In 46 hours of competition time 11 local teams worked together to workshop and develop ideas to compete in the youth node or adult node. Competition was fierce with Mount Gambier participants achieving both state and national success.



Library Youth Services Coordinator Terasa Nearmy with 2018 GovHack awardees Liam Moulden and Declan Kowalick with sponsor Matt Cutting from Green Triangle Electronics and Library Manager Georgina Davison.

STATE AWARD WINNERS

- Adult node team 'Just We Three' were winners of the 'Your Friendly Council' and 'Lower Costs- Improving the Lives of South Australians' categories for their concept 'Connected - Councils Connecting Community'. They also received an honourable mention at national level in the 'Protecting our Carers' category.
- Youth node team 'Bachmanns and Fulwoods' were runners up at state level in the 'City of Adelaide - the place to live, work and play' category for their concept 'Backwards and Forwards - South Australian Edition'.
- Youth node team, 'Opt1c N3t' received an honourable mention at state level in the 'Your Friendly Council' category for their concept 'New Age Business'.

NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

- Youth node team 'Bachmanns and Fulwoods' won 'Best National Youth Team' for their concept 'Backwards and Forwards - South Australian Edition'.
- Youth node team 'Opt1c N3t' received an honourable mention in the 'On Your Marks, Get Set, Start Up' category for their concept 'New Age Business'.



GovHack participants at the 2018 event.

THE RIDDOCH AND MAIN CORNER COMPLEX

INTERNATIONAL LIMESTONE COAST VIDEO ART FESTIVAL

The Riddoch and Main Corner Complex hosted the inaugural International Limestone Coast Video Art Festival in Mount Gambier from 29 September to 21 October 2018.

The theme for the festival was 'The Lived Body' with a focus on art projects that reveal the human relationship with technology and nature to provide a metaphorical response via video art.

The festival celebrated video art and placed special emphasis on innovative and ground-breaking video art internationally, including the work of Australian and South Australian artists.

Australian and international video artists were invited to apply for a chance to win a grand prize of \$3,000. The major prize winner was Ryan Cherewaty from the Netherlands with a work called 'Static Glow'.

"Static Glow is an accomplished work of video art which combines computer graphics with a narrative on the future of humanity. An artificial intelligence reflects on what is humanity, what is identity and what is happiness," Judge Julianne Piece said.

"The work fits the theme of 'The Lived Body' by exploring what future bodies might be and especially in a future where humans will live alongside robots and artificial intelligence."

The winners of the high school award were MJ Seymour and Emily Helps from St Martins Lutheran College who received \$500 for their submission called 'Self Help' that addressed issues of bullying and self-esteem among teenage girls.



A still from 'Static Glow' by Ryan Cherewaty - the winning entry of the International Limestone Coast Video Art Festival.

PLAY ON: THE ART OF SPORT

The Riddoch and Main Corner Complex launched the touring exhibition Play On: The art of sport on Friday 24 May 2019.

A NETS Victoria, Ian Potter Museum of Art and University of Melbourne touring exhibition, Play On: The art of sport celebrated 10 years of the Basil Sellers Art Prize, the prestigious and distinctively Australian biennial exhibition reflecting upon one of Australia's great national obsessions - sport.

The exhibition featured the winners and other key works from all five instalments of the prize and brought together diverse explorations of the personal and collective significance of sport and sporting culture from some of Australia's most accomplished artists including: Tony Albert, Richard Bell, Daniel Crooks, Tarryn Gill and Pilar Mata Dupont, Jon Campbell, Fiona McMonagle, Richard Lewer and Gerry Wedd.

"Sport cuts across society like few pursuits. The exhibition really connects with regional audiences and gives communities an opportunity to see some of Australia's most exciting, leading and emerging Australian artists," NETS Victoria Director Mardi Nowak said.

The exhibition blended art and sport as two universal languages of humanity to engage new audiences and address broader issues such as gender and race relations. Some of the themes explored included sport culture, gymnastics, AFL, running and community sport.

"It goes even deeper: many hidden parallels between the arts and the sports are presented to us in this exhibition, as they both enable us to cross between cultures, communicate and express ourselves in an emotional, mental and physical sense," Riddoch Art Gallery Director and Manager

Arts and Culture Development Dr Melentie Pandilovski said.

“Persistence, balance, surmounting mental and physical circumstances, and being very driven are also attributes that connect arts and sports.”

“Art and sport have been integral in my life and my practice and surf culture has permeated through my work for a long time. It is an honour to be part of this exhibition,” artist Gerry Wedd said.



Summation of Force

THE RIDDOCH AND MAIN CORNER COMPLEX

PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE

Commercial Street West became home to a trial public art initiative aiming to create interest in vacant shopfronts and increase foot traffic in the CBD in January 2019.

The locally inspired artistic design aims to create conversation, an appreciation for the natural environment and to build civic pride within the City and region while highlighting the commercial opportunities available in the heart of Mount Gambier.

The brief was to produce three designs that present Mount Gambier and the surrounding region in a format that is unique and will create interest. Artist/designer Kristyn Jones created designs to meet the brief using a selection of photographer Ockert le Roux's work and her own photography.

"This piece is a series of three works which all contain different iconic scenes. I wanted to create something vibrant and interesting containing elements of the Limestone Coast that the community can relate to but also create a point of interest for tourists," Ms Jones said.



Deputy Mayor Sonya Mezinac, City of Mount Gambier Arts and Culture Development Officer Serena Wong, artist/designer Kristyn Jones and Herbert Commercial Real Estate agent Matt Kain in front of the public art.

The landlord has been a willing participant in the public art initiative and understands that creating interest and increasing value in the CBD precinct is a collaborative process.

"The owner of this property is very happy to see the energy invested into both the property and the marketing for a new tenant," Herbert Commercial Real Estate agent Matt Kain said.

"This installation is part of our overall strategy to refresh the entire group of landowners properties and surrounding businesses and this is just one of many properties that requires this approach."



Part two of the public art initiative in the CBD was unveiled in April 2019. City of Mount Gambier Arts and Culture Development Officer Serena Wong, Mayor Lynette Martin OAM, artist/designer Kristyn Jones and Herbert Commercial agent Matt Kain watched on as the final touches were placed on the installation at 24 Commercial Street West, the former 'Young's the Man Shop' store.

MOUNT GAMBIER AND DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants program provided 12 financial grants to local health students in 2019.

The program supports city or district residents who are required to leave the region to undertake university studies in identified health skill shortage areas within the community.

The program provides local students with a \$2,000 grant to help complete their tertiary studies within the health field.

“The program aims to support young people in their endeavour to formally train as a health specialist,” Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants Program Chairman Ken Stafford said.

“Although we know some grant recipients may be unable to return to the region, where possible we hope they do so following their graduation to boost the number of health professionals in the South East.”

Grants can be used for a broad range of student needs including university fees, medical uniforms, equipment, books, travel and living expenses.

“In 2018 we provided 11 grants to students who undertook studies in different health areas including medical science, pharmacy, speech pathology, medicine/surgery, medical radiation, physiotherapy, paramedic science, exercise science, nursing and midwifery, psychology and occupational therapy at five different universities throughout Australia.”

2018 grant recipient Vimbisio Chiodze said the financial support she received assisted her to meet the costs associated with her first year studying a Bachelor of Medicine/Surgery at the University of Adelaide.

“This grant was a shot in the arm and came in handy considering the cost of textbooks and other requirements such as a stethoscope are prohibitively too high, let alone the high cost of student accommodation. The grant impacted positively in making my transition into university life better than it would have been,” Miss Chiodze said.

22 year old Deakin University third year Bachelor of Nursing and Midwifery student Alice Telford said the grant made it possible for her to continue to undertake work placements throughout Victoria in 2018.

“The financial help provided by the grant enabled me to access a variety of workplace opportunities for both personal growth and practical learning; delivering babies, caring for those who are vulnerable and collaborating and learning amongst supportive and experienced teams of health professionals in both city and rural areas. Each situation has provided significant challenges, but rewarding practical opportunities to advance my skills and expertise as a student nurse and midwife,” Miss Telford said.

The grant program is supported by City of Mount Gambier, District Council of Grant, UFS Chemist, Flinders Rural Health SA, Mount Gambier and District Community Bank, Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes, John and Helen Kentish and Ken and Carol Stafford.

“Over the past 13 years the program has provided 132 grants to students at a total cost of \$264,000. We are always looking for additional financial contributors to the program so that we can try and keep the number of grants up between 12 and 15 each year,” Mr Stafford said.

“District Council of Grant doubled its contribution to the program this year from \$2,000 to \$4,000 which means that not one, but two students will be supported as a result.”

MOUNT GAMBIER AND DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The 2019 recipients were:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Jessica Henman | Medical Science / Optometry |
| Jacqueline Widdison | Health Sciences / Occupational Therapy |
| Panashe Saruwaka | Radiography |
| Anne Zwijnenburg | Medicine / Surgery |
| Zoe Duncan | Physiotherapy |
| Cody Lewis | Exercise Science / Clinical Exercise Physiology |
| Ashleigh Widdson | Chiropractic |
| Madeline Bowd-Moore | Nursing |
| Georgina Andrae | Paramedic Science |
| Jack Spooner | Paramedic Science |

Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants Program Chairman Ken Stafford (left), previous grant recipients Vimbiso Chiodze and Alice Telford, District Council of Grant Mayor Richard Sage and City of Mount Gambier Deputy Mayor Sonya Mezinac.



MOUNT GAMBIER CHILDREN'S CENTRE JOHN POWELL RESERVE INITIATIVE

Kindergarten students from Mount Gambier Children's Centre used their creative abilities to express ideas to further develop neighbouring John Powell Reserve.

The children met with City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin in December 2018 to discuss drawings they created outlining ideas for the space located on John Powell Drive, behind Mulga Street Primary School.

"I was very pleased to receive some beautiful works of art from the children and hear their ideas and vision for the reserve space they love to visit regularly," Mayor Lynette Martin said.

Mount Gambier Children's Centre Director Education and Care Pauline Bosco said the children were keen to have their say about the community space.

"The children would like to see some more things at the reserve to make it a better space including trees for shade, a water tap and a picnic table with bench seats and a barbecue area and shelter for families to enjoy," Ms Bosco said.

"We hope to use it as a space to showcase the children's artistic voice, empowering them to be seen as capable citizens of the community echoing the aspirations within the City of Mount Gambier Charter for Children."

Council continues to develop John Powell Reserve into a naturalscape to beautify the area and increase outdoor learning opportunities and engagement for local children and the community.

"The City of Mount Gambier is increasingly aware of the health and wellbeing benefits that connecting with and exploring nature offers children, by way of learning and improved cognitive development."

"Council will consider the ideas presented with a view to implement as many as possible within the next budget process," Mayor Martin said.



Phoebe, Mackenna, Joey, Jaxson, Asha, Lara and Ayla with Mayor Martin.

Mayor Lynette Martin faced a long list of questions from 56 inquisitive McDonald Park School students who visited the Council Chambers on Wednesday 3 April 2019. She is pictured here with SRC representatives Zoe, Bien, Mitchell and Kasey.



84 Year 4 Tenison Woods College students joined the Mayor in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 26 June 2019 to learn more about Council and the role it plays within the community.

AF SUTTON MEMORIAL PARK COMMUNITY DAY

More than 300 people converged on AF Sutton Memorial Park on O'Connor Drive on Monday 15 April 2019 for a community day for the surrounding neighbourhood.

The initiative follows a series of City of Mount Gambier engagement activities to learn more about the community living in the area.

The free community event provided entertainment and activities for the entire neighbourhood to enjoy.

“The event was a great success with hundreds of people participating in activities such as mural painting, a pop-up library, giant games, robotics, virtual reality, billy carts, a lego challenge, laser tag and a golf simulator, all while enjoying live music and a free barbecue,” City of Mount Gambier Community Wellbeing General Manager Barbara Cernovskis said.

Aligned with objectives outlined in the Youth Engagement Strategy and Cultural and Heritage plan, engagement activities leading up to the event included door knocking to find out what is important to the community, on-site discussions with park visitors and surveys.

“Council is interested in learning more about this neighbourhood, particularly what’s great about the streets surrounding the park, the community in general and what could be done to potentially make it even better,” Ms Cernovskis said.



Ella, Scarlett, Harper and Jayla.

“Locals were encouraged to share their opinions in an electronic survey on the Have Your Say Mount Gambier website. Post-paid postcards were also delivered to each individual household with a series of questions about the park and neighbourhood.”

Council has recently made several improvements to the park following community feedback as part of the engagement process.

“Work has included the refurbishment of the toilet facilities and the installation of security lighting, picnic tables, drinking fountains and additional rubbish bins at the park.”



April Hague, Stella, Cohen, Cailee, Vaughn, Indee and Charlene Riley paint a portion of the mural in the making at the skate park at AF Sutton Memorial Park.



Local artists, youth and community members worked on a climate change themed mural at the skate park on site at AF Sutton Memorial Park following consultation with the local community.

During the initial stages of community consultation in the local area, feedback from skate park users highlighted the gradual increase in graffiti appearing in and around the skate park.

“Users of the space expressed their disappointment in the presentation of the skate park, noting that it reflected poorly on the image of skateboarding in Mount Gambier,” Ms Cernovskis said.

“They believed that a new artwork, much like the watermelon bowl at Dimjalla Park, would rekindle a sense of pride and community ownership over the space.”



Artists April Hague (left) and Charlene Riley.

In early March 2019, Council called for expressions of interest from local artists to develop a mural at the site in consultation with skaters and other park users. Local artists April Hague and Charlene Riley were engaged to work with Council and youth to come up with a concept plan.

“More than 30 local residents including skaters, BMX and scooter riders of all ages took part in a workshop with Council and the artists on site on Saturday 30 March 2019 to help guide the development of a plan for the mural,” Ms Cernovskis said.

“We both really enjoyed the consultation day, it was great to meet the regular users of the space and have a chat about what they would like to see there and just get a feel for the culture there,” artist April Hague said.

The vibrant design features food items melting into the skate bowl, the earth and a representation of rising sea levels and climate change, appealing to a wide demographic.

“The kids were really excited about Council’s plans and had really interesting ideas to contribute on the day.”

Work on the mural commenced on Sunday 14 April 2019 and continued throughout the following week.

“It is hoped that this collaboration helps to increase the longevity of the artwork and ensures that the mural has a strong connection to those who regularly use the site.”

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Three community minded citizens and a popular local event were recognised as part of the City of Mount Gambier Australia Day Breakfast celebrations held at the Railway Lands on Saturday 26 January 2019.

“The Australia Day awards recognise individuals and organisations who have made a noteworthy contribution during the past year, and/or given outstanding service over a number of years, to our local community beyond normal employment duties,” City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin said.

Citizen of the Year was awarded to local volunteer and business owner Sharon Tuffnell.

Sharon was nominated by Ross Parkinson OAM for her community spirit, giving nature and ongoing generous support within the local community.

“Sharon is a dedicated St John Cadet Officer and the effort she puts in to her cadets is absolutely outstanding. She is a wonderful leader, she is very caring and she applies opportunities for cadets to develop as young people not only in first aid, but their leadership skills and their inspiration to do good for others,” Ross said.

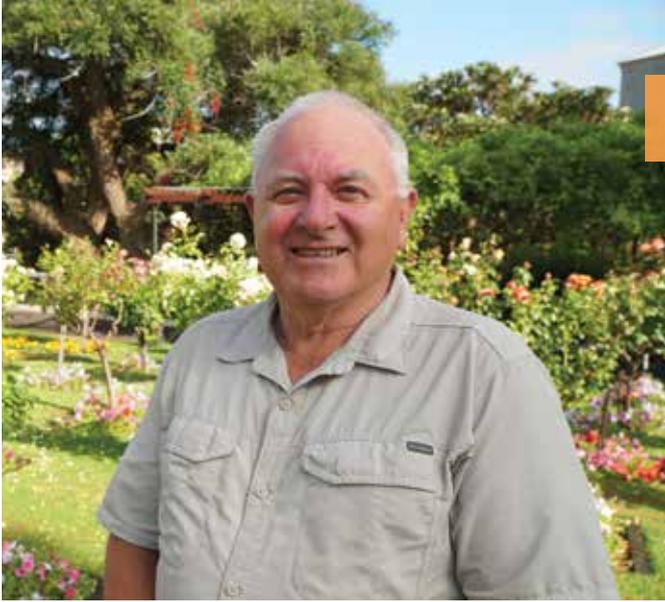
As a Grade Five Divisional Officer at the Mount Gambier St John Cadet Division, Sharon provides support to enable young cadets to travel and compete in state first aid and allied competitions.

“Our Cadet Division has grown to about 28 cadets and I see that my role is preparing the youth for their future, mentoring them, giving them leadership opportunities and setting them in good stead for community involvement,” Sharon said.

Sharon is passionate about supporting the growth and development of local members of the community.

Citizen of the Year Sharon Tuffnell.





Senior Citizen of the Year
Graham Robinson.

“You just feel rewarded when you can help others and the community by attending events and mentoring the kids.”

“This award is not about me, I do it for them, I do it for St John and the cadets and the adults in our division and our region. It’s about setting them up for their future life, whatever they’d like to do.”

Senior Citizen of the Year was awarded to Lakes Rotary Club stalwart Graham Robinson.

Graham has been involved with the club for more than 20 years and received Paul Harris Fellow recognition for his substantial contribution to educational programs.

“He’s what I call a ‘can do’ rather than a ‘gonna’, he’s an engineer by trade, a retired TAFE lecturer and he can build anything. He’s a very good organiser and a good leader,” Nominator Phil Richards said.

Graham takes the Rotary International motto ‘service above self’ seriously and thinks nothing of putting in 25 to 30 hours a week as a volunteer to assist many organisations throughout the community.

He volunteers at the Mount Gambier Police Station for five hours every Monday morning to assist with customer relations.

“I find it very rewarding, I happen to be a Justice of the Peace which also enables me to certify documents and statutory declarations at the same time,” Graham said.

“You always get back more than you put in. To me it might be a small thing, but it could be huge for someone else.”

Graham has initiated successful local programs including the annual Science and Engineering Challenge at Tenison Woods College and the road safety car headlight check initiative.

“He has put in many hundreds of hours of service for the benefit of the community over the years and he’s an unsung hero as far as I’m concerned,” Phil said.

With a long list of volunteering efforts, Graham remains humble about his input into the local community.

“In reality, I don’t see what I do as being special. Lots of people do lots of things for lots of organisations, it doesn’t matter what it is, and to be singled out I guess I’m surprised, but I’m happy to receive the award,” Graham said.

Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Joseph McMahan.

The 15 year old Grant High School student is dedicated to community service throughout the region, inspired by a desire to help others.

“He is a stand out young leader with a humanitarian streak that runs very deep in his soul and all his endeavours are pitched at helping others and the quality of his involvement in the community is amazing for a young man,” nominator Ross Parkinson said.

Joseph is a well-respected member of the St John Ambulance Cadet Division and completed Certificate Three in Basic Health in 2018 to become a certified First Responder.



Young Citizen of the Year
Joseph McMahan.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

“I hope that I can inspire more of our youth to get out there in the community. In the future I hope to become a paramedic or work within the medical industry because I’m really passionate about helping others,” Joseph said.

Demonstrating natural leadership and a genuine interest in making a positive difference within the community, Joseph has been a member of student representative committees and participated in a range of extra-curricular activities including public speaking, drama, sport and music.

“Volunteering can help you in so many ways, it can help you make new friends, meet new people and have new experiences that you may have never had before,” he said.

Joseph was also awarded South Australian Young Citizen of the Year (commendation) at a presentation at Government House in Adelaide.

“I was very honoured and speechless to receive this award because it’s such a big honour and I felt really proud and very inspired to keep volunteering and do a lot more.”

“We have a very fine young man in our midst and we’ll see a lot more of Joseph in the future,” Ross said.

The Community Event of the Year was awarded to the 2018 Mount Gambier Fringe Festival, the second annual event of its kind held in the City.

Mount Gambier Fringe was organised by a small committee with the aim to change the artistic and cultural landscape of Mount Gambier.

“We had a fantastic team of people as part of the committee, they were extremely passionate and determined to make this a fantastic event for our community,” Fringe Mount Gambier Event Coordinator Monica Hart said.

In 2018, the committee delivered an extensive program including 24 performing arts events, six visual art / film events and two literary events throughout the City.

The feature weekend held in March attracted an audience of 12,500 people commencing with the ‘Lift-Off Street Party’ which transformed

Commercial Street East, and in partnership with businesses and performers, provided dynamic entertainment for all ages and set a new benchmark for street parties in the City.

The Saturday Showcase event highlighted both local and national artists across a variety of genres encouraging performers and audiences to be brave, be bold and ‘come out and play’.

“A big thank you to everyone in the community, our businesses, our audiences, anyone who has shown support for Fringe Mount Gambier, we really appreciate it, it makes the hard work we do so much more worth it and we just encourage you to get out there and be involved,” Fringe Mount Gambier Ambassador and Artist Liaison Louise Adams said.

Community Event of the Year was awarded to the 2018 Mount Gambier Fringe Festival, represented by Monica Hart and Louise Adams.



YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

In 2018/2019 the Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group (YAG) organised and hosted various events including a comprehensive Youth Week program and collected more than \$3,000 during the Christmas Parade for the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal.

The Youth Advisory Group has continued to provide an important voice for Council on issues affecting young people in Mount Gambier.

YAG members also represented the interests of young people in the region through a variety of consultations throughout the year, such as the masterplan for the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre and the Community and Recreation Hub.

Youth Week

South Australian Youth Week kicked off just in time for school holidays on Wednesday 10 April 2019 with YAG delivering a program of events including Virtual Reality gaming, challenges, live music and an outdoor cinema.

Free events were held within the City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant as a celebration for young people aged 12 to 25.

"All the fun started with the Chill and Chat @ Metro event," City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group (YAG) member Sarah Harden said.

"This was a really relaxed event featuring local band Skyline Haze and provided young people with an opportunity to chill on the deck area and enjoy a free drink and snack."

Two events were held in Port MacDonnell as part of the program, including an outdoor cinema at the Port MacDonnell Village Green and Sk8 n Sounds @ the Bay.

Youth Week favourites Pop Culture Pursuit and The Amazing Race also returned to the program in 2019.

Pop Culture Pursuit celebrated all things pop culture including a cosplay competition with prizes, VR games and a screening of 'Avengers Infinity War' at the Main Corner.

"YAG took the lead in the delivery of Pop Culture and brought its version of Comic Con to the youth of Mount Gambier," Sarah said.

LOUD in the Library was held on Wednesday 17 April 2019 from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. In its eighth year, the Library came alive with music, entertainment and activities as a free event that attracts around 300 young people.

"LOUD in the Library is a fabulous opportunity to showcase local talent with live bands and acts, which can be enjoyed in the safe Library environment", Library Youth Services Coordinator Terasa Nearmy said.

The crowd was entertained by local music groups Trash Bandits, Skyline Haze, Awoken and Smelling Salts as well as live dance performances by HYPE Dance Studio.

"Each year I look forward to having such a wide range of events to bring together and entertain the youth," City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group member Dylan McLaren said.



City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group (YAG) Members Dylan McLaren, Sarah Harden, Ally Finnis, Ethan Hopgood and Mary-Joy Hutcheon.

MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS

ROOK WALK CENTENARY CELEBRATION

Mount Gambier History Group and the City of Mount Gambier held a centenary celebration on Tuesday 27 November 2018 to mark 100 years to the day that 2,000 people assembled at the lakes area to build Rook Walk.

In one of the greatest days of community effort in the City's history, Rook Walk was built in 1918 as part of a beautification of the lakes scheme and was organised by hotelier Arthur Rook and the progress association. The volunteers included tradesmen, labourers, bankers, shop assistants, 300 ladies who provided three meals during the day and live music by the Salvation Army and town band.

The commemorative event was enjoyed by hundreds of members of the community and included a cake cutting ceremony, entertainment from the City Band, Salvation Army Band and Compton Primary School.

The Rook family visited Mount Gambier to attend the event and held a family reunion to honour the efforts of their ancestor, Mr Arthur Rook.

Eleanor Fox (nee Warren) was also one of the original event organisers and her family including some local residents and family members from away also attended the centenary celebration.

Aunty Penny Bonney commenced the celebration with a Welcome to Country and Mayor Martin, Mount Gambier History Group members Lynn Lowe and Robert Brooksby, Annabel Wirth, Sue

Chamie and Andrew Rook also spoke, highlighting the significance of the occasion.

Members of the Rook family unveiled the time capsule plaque with CEO Mark McShane and morning tea was provided by the Lioness Club.

Commemorative stories, photographs and memorabilia from the construction of Rook Walk were compiled by the Mount Gambier Library and the Mount Gambier History Group for inclusion in the time capsule and were used to create the content for the audio tour played on the day.

The Mount Gambier History Group and City of Mount Gambier staff visited schools in the weeks leading up to the event to educate students about the significance of the site. A competition was held to encourage students to design a logo for the occasion. The overall competition winner was Yvone Makila from North Gambier Primary School. Yvone's sketch of the Rook Walk appeared on the poster promoting the event and was used to create badges for students to keep as a memento of the occasion.

"It was wonderful to see the effort students put into the logo competition and we thank the Mount Gambier History Group for their assistance in judging the entries and also for assisting Council to deliver this significant event," City of Mount Gambier Community Events Team Leader Denise Richardson said.

Records of the anniversary celebration and mementos from 2018 were buried in a time capsule ready for another generation to relive the history of this remarkable feat.



Event organisers (L-R) Lynn Lowe from the Mount Gambier History Group, City of Mount Gambier Community Events Officer Xarnia Keding and Team Leader Denise Richardson, Mount Gambier Library History Officer Danni Reade and Brian Brooksby (Mount Gambier History Group).



City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin OAM was at Rook Walk on 29 April 2019 for the placement of the time capsule commemorating the 100 year celebration of the site. Mayor Martin is pictured with McDonald Park students Matilda, Mitchell and Blake.



This sketch by Yvone Makila from North Gambier Primary School of Rook Walk was used on the poster promoting the event and to create badges for students to keep as a memento of the occasion.



2,000 members of the community came together on 27 November 1918 to build Rook Walk.

Photo credit: Ockert le Roux

MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS

MOUNT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE

The NF McDonnell and Sons Mount Gambier Christmas Parade was held on Saturday 17 November.

Thank you to all who assisted with the 2018 Christmas Parade:

- NF McDonnell and Sons
- WIN Television
- City of Mount Gambier
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Advisory Group
- Lions Club of Mount Gambier
- Mount Gambier Rotary Club West Inc
- MJ Dance
- 1st Mount Gambier Scout Group
- Youth Advisory Group
- SAPOL
- SES
- Bank SA
- Borg Manufacturing
- Banner Mitre 10
- McDonald Park Primary School
- Float sponsors: Bunnings Warehouse, Mount Gambier Central, Chamber of Commerce, Mount Gambier Bendigo Bank, Exchange Printers, Gordon Education, Green Triangle Electronics and OG Roberts and Co
- The many volunteers who assisted in various ways
- Members of the community who made time to participate in or watch the Parade.



WIN

WIN TELEVISION HAS SPONSORED THE EVENT SINCE 1974

WIN TELEVISION PROVIDED IN-KIND AIRTIME VALUED AT MORE THAN **\$20,000** FOR PROMOTION OF PARADE

LIONS CLUB OF MOUNT GAMBIER ORGANISE THE BRASS BAND FESTIVAL INCLUDING MASSED MARCH, PARADE PARTICIPATION AND AFTERNOON CONCERT



46 COMMUNITY ENTRIES



ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT GAMBIER WEST INC DELIVERED PARTY IN THE PARK



35 VOLUNTEERS ASSISTED WITH THE EVENT

2018 AWARDEES

BEST CLUB OR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION
Ardlair School of Dancing

BEST SCHOOL ENTRY
Yahl Primary School

MOST OUTSTANDING
Recycled Runway

BEST THEMED BAND
Portland Citizens Band

BEST NON-CITY
Moorak Primary School

BEST BRASS BAND
Portland Citizens Band

BEST CHRISTMAS THEME
Mulga Street Primary School

BEST UTILISING RECYCLED RESOURCES
Compton Primary School

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD
Nangwarry Primary School

OPEN CATEGORY
Mount Gambier Family Truck Show



60 HOURS BY DEPOT STAFF

**MAJOR SPONSOR
NF McDONNELL & SONS SINCE 2017**



10 MEMBERS IN THE ADVISORY GROUP

**LIVESTREAMED BY BRASSBANNED
FACEBOOK 2600 VIEWS
YOUTUBE 1500 VIEWS**

19 BRASS BANDS



MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS

LOCAL 'BRASS BAND MAN' HONOURED

In November 2018, Mount Gambier's own 'brass band man' Allen Woodham OAM was honoured by the Christmas Parade Advisory Group for 20 years involvement in coordinating the Lions Club of Mount Gambier Brass Band Festival, including the organisation of bands marching in the annual Mount Gambier Christmas Parade.

Since 1999, Allen has coordinated the annual festival consisting of a street march contest, massed band march, Christmas Parade march and an on stage competition at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre.

He coordinated his first major event in 2001, the Australian Brass Band Festival, to celebrate the centenary of Federation.

"I had a grand vision of what we were going to do. We got the Governor General of Australia William Deane to come here and open it and that year we had what seemed like more bands than floats in the Christmas Parade, 21 in total," Mr Woodham said.

"We had the old City Hall and the Sir Robert Helpmann theatre running with brass bands all day and it turned into a massive thing."

At this point Allen became noticed nationally, gaining a solid reputation as an authority within the band world.

In 2006 he was approached to become the executive officer of the National Band Council of Australia.

"I was secretary and treasurer which meant looking after all of the community bands in Australia. Initially I had no idea what to do, it was a 'learn as you go' experience. I finished up being the longest serving executive officer in the council's history and was in the role for 10 years until 2016."

Allen received a Medal of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday honours list in 2012 for service to music through band organisations and to the local community.

"My daughters had fun with that, they are all married with different last names and one of them posted on Facebook 'My Dad got an OAM' and then the second one puts up, 'My Dad got one too!'" he joked.

His latest accolade was bestowed upon him in 2017, the James D Richardson Lions Club Honour award.

"It's the highest award you can receive in Australia when it comes to the Lions. I had no idea and I was speechless when I received it," Mr Woodham said.

Allen's dedication and tireless contribution to the parade and the festival is greatly appreciated by the Christmas Parade Advisory Group. The group formally thanked him for his efforts at the awards presentation evening held on Thursday 29 November 2018.

"Allen has been a valuable volunteer on the Christmas Parade Advisory Group. His knowledge and insight into the Brass Band world has given the Blue Lake Brass Band Festival and the parade a fantastic reputation and enables a great selection of brass bands to be present in Mount Gambier each year," City of Mount Gambier Events Team Leader Denise Richardson said.



AUSTRALIAN BASEBALL LEAGUE

In December 2018 Mount Gambier hosted round six of the Brut Australian Baseball League (ABL) between Auckland Tuatara and Adelaide Bite.

The three day series consisted of four professional games and two junior training clinics held at the Blue Lake Sports Park. 350 local aspiring baseballers and children that wanted to trial the sport enjoyed learning new skills and drills facilitated by ABL players.

The Mount Gambier and District Baseball League volunteers were instrumental in preparing Blue Lake Sports Park to the required professional standard with the inclusion of new bull pens and upgrade of the playing surface.

Volunteers from South, Centrals, Federals, Tigers, Millicent and Naracoorte baseball clubs ensured the event was a success with more than 400 spectators attending the showcase. Adelaide Bite claimed victory winning all four games.

Chief Executive Officer of Baseball Australia Cam Vale attended the series and was impressed with the facility.

“While events like this are significant in their own right, they can equally serve as a catalyst for longer-term projects like annual events or a potential location for an ABL expansion team,” Mr Vale said.

While in Mount Gambier ABL produced a video showcasing the industries, tourist attractions, baseball facilities and discussion around the gap between playing sport in a regional area compared with a capital city. The video will be used to promote expansion teams coming to Australia.

“Baseball Australia are now making a concerted effort to bring professional baseball to regional areas,” Mr Vale said.

“With the improvement of the facilities at Blue Lake Sports Park and commitment from the Mount Gambier and District Baseball League Mount Gambier is well positioned to host future events of this calibre”.



MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY EVENTS

2019 FRINGE MOUNT GAMBIER

Optus presents Fringe Mount Gambier was an outstanding success in 2019. With sights never seen before in Mount Gambier thousands of people flocked to the Lift Off Street Party on Friday 22 March to launch the festival for 2019.

The festival saw almost 50 events across nine days and generated an estimated economic return of \$2.2million to the City.

An estimated 19,000 people attended events across 16 venues and enjoyed genres from cabaret to comedy, live music, dance, visual arts, circus and magic.

More than 60 local businesses participated in the FringeUP! activities, decorating their shop fronts in Fringe themes leading into the event.

The delivery of curated activities by Fringe Mount Gambier as well as the extended program offered by local venues and businesses was well supported and reflects an emerging growth of participation in unique cultural events.

The festival is a cultural exploration that embraces acceptance and diversity. It gives agency to artists to be bold and present edgy art experiences to thrill, entertain and expose the community to alternative cultural activities right in their own backyard.





Photos courtesy of Kate Hill

PROFILE ID: COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

Community Profile

Demographic change across Australia is recorded by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in the Census collections every five years. Population experts analyse and convert these raw figures into stories of place to inform Council staff, community groups, investors, business, students and the general public.

The City of Mount Gambier Community Profile provides demographic analysis for the City and its suburbs based on results from the Census of Population and Housing. The profile is updated with population estimates when the ABS releases new figures such as the annual Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

Suburb boundaries and Census questions change over time, but the data is managed to ensure that there is an accurate time series provided for the current geographic boundaries.

Available data for the City of Mount Gambier includes population, age structure, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, income, qualifications, occupations, employment, unemployment, disability, disadvantage, volunteering, childcare, family structure, household structure, housing tenure, mortgage and rental payments and the size and type of the dwellings people live in.

The Community Profile presents this information in maps, tables and charts with concise factual commentary to answer three important questions:

- What are the characteristics of the people who live here?
- How are they changing?
- How do they compare to other areas?

This information provides the basis for making evidence based decisions about how to provide services for the community as it changes.

The quality of the information can be assured as it is derived from ABS data, analysed and presented by population experts.

Economic Profile

The City of Mount Gambier Economic Profile provides economic analysis for the City by combining 11 different datasets to build a cohesive story of a local economy, how it is changing and how it compares to other areas.

It is a public resource designed to be used by Council staff, community groups, investors, business people, students and the general public.

The quality of the information can be assured as it is derived from official sources and the most robust economic modelling, analysed and presented by experts and funded by the City of Mount Gambier. Each data source is maintained with the latest series so you can be sure you are using the most up-to-date information.

Results for the City of Mount Gambier include Gross Regional Product (GRP), local jobs, local businesses, employment, unemployment, population, building approvals, industry structure, journey to work and much more.



Council encourages the use of this extensive online resource which is available at: profile.id.com.au/mount-gambier

GENERAL INSPECTOR STATISTICS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Dog expiations | 203 |
| Dog complaints | 420 |
| Dog impoundments | 84 |
| Dog attack reports | 4 |
| Parking offences | 274 |
| Long grass notices | 182 |
| Fire permits | 97 |
| Cattle impoundments (sheep and cows) | 0 |
| Vehicle impoundments | 2 |
| Dog registrations | 5,207 |
| Payment to SEAWL (provision of pound services) | \$33,420 |
| Dog registration fees | \$144,423 |

 **84**
DOG
IMPOUNDMENTS

 **274**
PARKING
OFFENCES

182
LONG GRASS
NOTICES 



DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018 – 2023

Council is required by law to implement the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act. Council's Dog and Cat Management Plan 2018 - 2023 was adopted on 15 August 2017.

The City of Mount Gambier Dog and Cat Management Plan outlines a number of areas where residents can let their dogs off the leash for healthy exercise.

These 'off leash' areas are:

- Hastings Cunningham Reserve,
- Corriedale Park,
- Don McDonnell Reserve,
- Blue Lake Sports Park,
- Northumberland Avenue, and
- Frew Park.

In all other public areas/places in the City, dogs must be kept on a leash.

Council encourages all dog owners to act responsibly and ensure their pet is not allowed to wander at large or cause a nuisance to neighbours.

Dogs typically get scared during storms and fireworks and dog owners should make arrangements to secure their pets when storms and/or fireworks are predicted or publicised.

Dogs and Cats Online

Following changes to the Dog and Cat Management Act, all dogs and cats were required to be microchipped from 1 July 2018. All new generations of dogs and cats (born after 1 July 2018) must be desexed with exemptions that apply to working dogs and registered breeders.

Microchipping is a safe and permanent way to identify dogs and cats. The procedure is quick, with no ongoing discomfort and can only be carried out by a trained, authorised implanter.

Registration and microchip details are now entered into an online portal called Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) which has streamlined dog and cat management in South Australia. The central online system has replaced the 68 individual council registers across the state.

The DACO system is a one-stop online service for all registration payments, microchipping and breeder information and is accessible 24/7. It allows pet owners to instantly update registration or microchip details if they move house or change phone numbers and pay annual registration fees.

12 months on from the implementation of DACO, Council's General Inspectors have noted a significant increase in the number of registered and microchipped dogs throughout the City. Consequently this has resulted in a decrease in the number of dogs impounded as it is now much easier to reunite pets with their owners.

**For more information visit
www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au**

PET OWNERS URGED TO BE RESPONSIBLE

Following changes to the Dog and Cat Management Act that came into effect in July 2018, City of Mount Gambier is encouraging dog owners to ensure they are managing their pets responsibly at all times.

Under the new legislation authorised council officers now have increased powers to investigate and prosecute breaches of the Act, and increased fines and penalties now apply.

"Changes to the Act mean that dog owners can now face fines of \$210 for failing to immediately collect, remove and dispose of dog faeces and for not having their dogs on a leash in a public place," City of Mount Gambier Team Leader General Inspectorate Derek Ferguson said.

Following feedback from the community, Council rolled out new signs around popular reserves and open public spaces to remind dog owners of their responsibilities. The signs are located around the Blue Lake and at the Railway Lands.

"Public reserves and amenities are for the enjoyment and safety of the whole community and dog owners are asked to be mindful of other people and animals when using these

facilities. It is the responsibility of everyone in the community to keep these areas clean, safe and tidy for all," Mr Ferguson said.

Dog owners should be aware that Council also has a by-law which stipulates dog owners must have a bag or suitable container in their possession to enable them to clean up after their dogs when in a public place.

"Responsible pet ownership comes down to more than just registration and microchipping."

"These fines can be easily avoided and we just ask that - as the signs say - bag and bin, do the right thing."

City of Mount Gambier now has approximately 5,800 registered dogs, an increase of around 1,000 since July 2018 which General Inspectors attribute to the success of the new Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) registration system.

Changes to the Dog and Cat Management Act also mean that every owned dog and cat must be microchipped or owners risk being served a \$170 fine or up to \$750 for dogs of a prescribed breed.

"With an increase in the number of microchipped pets we are able to easily return the animal to its rightful owner, resulting in less impounds and lost dogs," General Inspector Michelle Abramovic said.

"It is important that pet owners keep their microchip details up-to-date to ensure you can be easily contacted should we locate your pet."

Since 1 July 2018 anyone in South Australia who wishes to breed dogs or cats for sale or trade must also register with the Dog and Cat Management Board.

"This isn't limited to pedigree breeds, and includes people whose dogs or cats have accidental litters - if you breed and you sell, you must be registered as a breeder or you risk facing an expiation of \$315."

City of Mount Gambier General Inspectors Michelle Abramovic (left) and Derek Ferguson urge pet owners to be responsible or risk facing fines.



DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018 – 2023

COUNCIL RENEWS SUPPORT FOR SEAWL

At the Council meeting on Tuesday 21 May 2019 Council resolved to enter into a three year funding agreement with the District Council of Grant and the South East Animal Welfare League (SEAWL) commencing on 1 July 2019.

The decision follows a request from SEAWL for Council to increase its financial support to allow operations to continue and to provide certainty for the organisation moving forward with the previous five year tri-party agreement coming to an end in June 2019.

“As part of the agreement ending June 2019 City of Mount Gambier contributes around \$34,000 as an annual amount which is directly related to impounded dogs,” City of Mount Gambier City Growth General Manager Judy Nagy said.

Council previously resolved to provide \$60,000 to the organisation in 2019/2020 however the resolution was revoked with Elected Members voting in favour of a three year agreement.

“The new agreement reflects an annual contribution of \$45,000 from the City of Mount Gambier and \$15,000 from the District Council of Grant,” Dr Nagy said.

The funding is subject to SEAWL meeting key performance indicators agreed upon between the parties and negotiated within agreed time frames.

“In arriving at the decision Council took into consideration the contribution that District Council of Grant was willing to provide and other factors in relation to the running of the SEAWL operation which are of broader community benefit, including the volunteer opportunities provided and the animal re-homing services.”

Dr Nagy indicated that since the agreement with SEAWL made in 2014, there had been significant changes in the way in which local government deals with animal control.

“Legislated changes including mandatory microchipping, desexing provisions and centralised registration have contributed to a significant decline in the number of impounded dogs.”



COMMUNITY SERVICES, LIFESTYLE, WELFARE AND WELLBEING

Council provides many direct and indirect services and support to the community and in particular, to the health, welfare, lifestyle and wellbeing of its citizens.

In addition to other contributions that may be referenced in this Annual Report, other direct financial support was provided by the Council in 2018/2019, including:

| | | | |
|--|----------|--|----------|
| Care Ring telephone service (Lifeline SE) | \$2,000 | Australia Day Breakfast | \$3,000 |
| Youth Advisory Group and projects | \$5,100 | Mount Gambier Racing Club Gold Cup | \$3,000 |
| Mount Gambier City Band | \$7,000 | Suicide Prevention Network | \$3,000 |
| Mount Gambier Toy Library | \$2,000 | General community donations | \$31,000 |
| NAIDOC Week | \$1,000 | Seniors activities | \$3,000 |
| Heritage Restoration Fund | \$20,000 | Syringe Disposal Service | \$5,000 |
| Stand Like Stone Foundation | \$8,000 | Main Corner / City Hall hire subsidies | \$50,100 |
| The Junction | \$1,500 | Wehl Street Theatre | \$9,500 |
| Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West | \$1,500 | Citizenship ceremonies | \$3,800 |
| Careers Expo | | Christmas Parade | \$38,000 |
| Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce Business Awards | \$1,500 | Christmas decorations | \$20,000 |
| New Year's Eve Celebrations (Mount Gambier Community Events) | \$8,000 | Tertiary Health Education grants | \$22,000 |
| Party in the Park (Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West) | \$1,000 | Limestone Coast Substance Misuse | \$10,000 |
| Lakes Rotary Blue Lake Fun Run | \$3,000 | Fringe in Mount Gambier | \$35,000 |
| Mount Gambier Eisteddfod (Backstage Inc.) | \$5,000 | Women in Business and Regional Development | \$1,900 |
| | | Community Day program | \$10,000 |
| | | Pioneers Basketball | \$15,000 |
| | | Reidy Park Centre | \$17,500 |

Amounts are rounded up to the nearest \$100.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH STATISTICS

| Food Safety | |
|--|-----|
| Total food businesses currently registered | 474 |
| Facilities which require food safety audits | 11 |
| P1 (highest) risk classified food businesses | 133 |
| P2 (high) risk classified food businesses | 192 |
| P3 (medium) risk classified food businesses | 96 |
| P4 (low) risk classified food businesses | 53 |
| Complaints received by Council | |
| Alleged food poisoning | 10 |
| Food unsafe due to foreign matter | 0 |
| Poor personal hygiene or poor food handling practices | 7 |
| Food unsuitable/unsafe due to microbial contamination/growth | 1 |
| Unclean premises | 1 |
| Food recall notifications received | 41 |
| Food safety education | |
| TAFE accredited food safety short courses | 4 |
| 'I'm Alert' online non-accredited food safety training users | 590 |
| New food business publications | 2 |
| Food business food safety newsletters | 3 |
| Public Health | |
| Registered high risk manufactured water systems | 65 |
| Public accessible swimming pool and spa inspections | 27 |
| Registered hair, beauty and skin penetration businesses | 87 |
| Onsite wastewater treatment system applications | 4 |
| Complaints received by Council | |
| Accommodation standards | 2 |
| Air pollution / odours | 4 |
| Discharge of wastes / waste control | 3 |
| General health complaint or enquiry / other | 2 |
| Hoarding and squalor | 5 |
| Infectious disease / notifiable disease | 2 |
| Mould | 2 |
| Public swimming pools and spa pools | 2 |
| Sanitary facilities | 0 |
| Supported residential facilities | 5 |

| Vermin (including birds) | 2 |
|--|-----|
| Water quality (other than public swimming pools and spa pools) | 2 |
| Communicable Disease Control Branch mandatory notifications | |
| Highest month with Influenza - June 2019 | 120 |
| Influenza notifications | 266 |
| Food borne related illnesses - Campylobacter and Salmonella | 72 |

| Community Health | |
|--|-------|
| Hazardous waste (sharps) collected at Civic Centre | 182kg |

 TOTAL FOOD BUSINESSES CURRENTLY REGISTERED **47**

 REGISTERED HAIR, BEAUTY AND SKIN PENETRATION BUSINESSES **87**

HIGHEST MONTH WITH INFLUENZA **JUNE 2019 (120)**



 **590**

ONLINE NON-ACCREDITED FOOD SAFETY TRAINING USERS

Food Business Guides now available at: **mountgambier.sa.gov.au/foodsafety**





ENVIRONMENT

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2019

Clean Up Australia Day 2019 consisted of clean ups held on two days - Schools Clean Up Day on Friday 1 March and the Community Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday 3 March 2019.

More than 1,000 students took part in Schools Clean Up Day cleaning up their respective school grounds and surrounding areas. Participation in this national event helps to educate children to recycle and reduce the amount of rubbish going into landfill.

The Community Clean Up Australia Day event involved more than 30 volunteers, mainly focused on the Cave Garden area and Vansittart Park.

Volunteers collected a substantial amount of rubbish, consisting mostly of drink cans and bottles and takeaway food packaging.

The community event was supported by the Gambier City Lions Club who provided a barbecue lunch for all volunteers.

Tommy, Peter and Matthew Izzard did their bit to help the environment for Clean Up Australia Day 2019.



WASTE SNAPSHOT

Waste Transfer Station



Kerbside Bins



Contractors waste
18,727 tonnes

Total to Landfill
25,388 tonnes

What is in
Mount Gambier's
rubbish bins?

Remember: you can put food
scraps in your green organics bin.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

Council solar power projects

As part of its strong support for environmental sustainability Council now has over 171 kilowatts (kW) of solar panels across five sites:

- Aquatic Centre - 68.5 kW
- Carinya Gardens - 10.4 kW
- Library - 57.5 kW
- Waste Transfer Station - 5.2 kW
- Works Depot - 29.9 kW

Together they have produced a total of more than 570,000 kWh of renewable electricity since the first system was switched on. That is equivalent to running an average size South Australian home for more than 87 years and equates to over 279 tonnes of carbon emissions.

These solar power projects have been undertaken to continue to reduce Council's reliance on grid electricity, deliver long-term savings on electricity costs, foster local renewable energy and reduce Council's environmental impact and emissions.

Environmental events

During 2018/2019 Council again participated in many environmental events including Earth Hour. Lights were switched off at the Main Corner, City Hall, Library, Vansittart Park, Lady Nelson Brig, Railway Lands and Centenary Tower between 8:30pm and 9:30pm on Saturday 30 March 2019. The international theme for the 2019 event was 'Connect 2 Earth' and was a symbolic gesture of solidarity in the global effort to reduce harmful emissions.



Reidy Park Primary School Year 3 class participated in an educational tour of Council's waste sites.

Waste and recycling activities

City of Mount Gambier continued to provide many activities during 2018/2019 designed to educate and assist the community to reduce waste and do the right thing for the environment. These included:

- Provision of a kitchen caddy to every green waste subscriber and a roll of compostable bags to all new and repeat green waste subscribers to increase the rate of food waste being diverted from landfill,
- Numerous tours of Council's waste sites - Caroline Landfill, Waste Transfer Station and the ReUse Market for school and community groups,
- Waste and recycling talks at schools and for community groups with interactive activities,
- Cleaning out of Gross Pollutant Traps (GPT) with school groups present to highlight the litter that is caught by the traps,
- Waste audits and bin tagging of household bins in order to provide feedback to the community about what they are doing well and where they can improve, and
- Opening of the ReUse Market in October 2018. The ReUse Market is a place where the community can get second hand bargains and a wide variety of items. Unwanted good quality items can be donated through the Waste Transfer Station to be sold.



SORT AND SAVE INITIATIVE

The Waste Transfer Station on Eucalypt Drive began collecting donations of useful unwanted items to sell at the ReUse Market in September 2018.

City of Mount Gambier Environmental Sustainability Officer Aaron Izzard said the facility now takes a variety of quality items that are suitable for a new home.

“You can drop off your good quality items to the Waste Transfer Station, but I must emphasise that they must be clean and in a good condition,” Mr Izzard said.

“What will or won’t be accepted for the ReUse Market will be at the discretion of the Transfer Station operators.”

Council encourages residents to sort their waste loads to save time and money before visiting the Waste Transfer Station.

“Residents can save on fees by making a few small changes to the way their loads are packed. Sorting your load and saving money is relatively simple by placing similar items together when you are packing your ute or trailer.”

Council’s ‘sort and save’ initiative aims to reduce the volume of re-usable and recyclable materials entering landfill through mixed loads.

“Many items can be dropped off for free, including items for the ReUse Market, TVs, computers and liquid paint. If these are placed in separately and can be easily taken off first, then residents will save money on fees as they will only be charged for the remainder of their load.”

Tips for sorting your load:

- Put all good quality items for the ReUse Market together (or on top of the load).
- Flatten any large cardboard boxes.
- Put bricks and rubble together.
- Separate untreated timber, metals, e-waste and green waste etc.

ReUse Market Coordinator Rebecca Mobbs and Waste Transfer Station Attendant Tanis Alexander sort a load at the Waste Transfer Station.

CYCLING CONSULTATION

In December 2018 the City of Mount Gambier sought community feedback on the shared cycling and walking paths at the Rail Trail to assess demand for additional infrastructure.

The construction of the Rail Trail shared path through the heart of Mount Gambier is popular with the local community and visitors to the City.

“It is regularly used by many residents for cycling and walking, for both recreation and commuting,” City of Mount Gambier Environmental Sustainability Officer Aaron Izzard said.

Mr Izzard said the key to the success of the Rail Trail is the fact that it is safe, easy to access and cyclists and walkers are clearly separated from motor traffic.

“It is now timely that we actively seek feedback from the community on the Rail Trail and assess the appetite within our community for more of this type of infrastructure.”

“Health issues due to insufficient physical activity throughout the Australian population, including Mount Gambier, have been well documented with incidental exercise such as cycling or walking to get from A to B identified as the most likely form of exercise to be maintained over the longer term.”

The consultation closed on Friday 15 February 2019 with 175 people responding to the survey. 91.4% of respondents believe the construction of the Rail Trail has made it easier to cycle in Mount Gambier.

When respondents were asked what would enable them to cycling more in Mount Gambier, 79% said dedicated bike paths that are separate from motor traffic and pedestrians would assist.

“The Rail Trail has got me on my bike again - I absolutely love riding to work whenever I can,” a survey respondent said.

A number of improvements and additions to the Rail Trail were also suggested by respondents.

The survey results will be summarised in a report to be presented to Council with recommendations as to what future steps can be taken towards improving or increasing cycling infrastructure in the City.

LIMESTONE COAST BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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

- Identify existing or potential risks to valuables from bushfire within the bushfire management area,
- Outline coordinated and cooperative bushfire prevention and mitigation strategies to achieve appropriate hazard reduction associated with bushfire management within its area,
- Identify asset or land custodians responsible for the implementation of the bushfire risk mitigation treatments, and
- Use or establish principles and standards to guide or measure the success of the bushfire management strategies and initiatives.

The Limestone Coast BMAP is available to view on the CFS website - www.cfs.sa.gov.au

LOCAL NUISANCE AND LITTER CONTROL ACT

Under the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 City of Mount Gambier is the relevant authority for local nuisance and litter control within the council boundary.

Allowing or contributing to local nuisance or litter is a crime and has costly penalties. Some common complaints of nuisance are noise, smoke and littering.

Council officers have investigated a number of enquiries and customer requests in relation to matters which can be addressed by the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act however at 30 June 2019 Council had not made any prosecutions under this Act.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The City of Mount Gambier budgeted \$85,000 towards stormwater management in 2018/2019, primarily to improve stormwater infrastructure in order to reduce flooding and increase the quality of water being discharged back into the underground aquifer.

Some of the improvement projects involved the construction of additional settlement pits and drainage bores, while other projects involved the reconstruction and clean out of existing drainage infrastructure to restore the system to full working condition.

Improvement works occurred in 2018/2019 at the following locations:

- Underwood Avenue, and
- Wireless Road East / Crouch Street North.



GPT SID'S LID REMOVAL

Tenison Woods College Mount Gambier Year 4 students visited the Cave Garden in March 2019 to view the cleaning of 'Sid's Lid' - one of the City's gross pollutant traps.

Learn more about Sid's Lid at: www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au/sustainability/environmental/water



ReUSE
Market

INFRASTRUCTURE

STREET TREES

Street trees are a fundamental component of an urban environment and in general are greatly appreciated by the community.

The benefits they provide include environmental, social, health and wellbeing, economic and visual amenity. Trees also assist in maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in an urban environment by providing habitat to bird life as well as improving air quality. These characteristics support a number of objectives outlined in Council's Community Plan.

The following table provides a list of the street tree plantings that were undertaken in 2018/2019:



| Common name | Botanical name | Street name | Trees retained | Proposed removals | Proposed plantings | Net gain |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Box Elder | <i>Acer negundo</i> 'Sensation' | Aquarius Crt | 0 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| Box Elder | <i>Acer negundo</i> 'Sensation' | Kaleo Crt | 0 | 0 | 16 | 16 |
| Box Elder | <i>Acer negundo</i> 'Sensation' | Saxon Crt | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| Box Elder | <i>Acer negundo</i> 'Sensation' | Dolomite Dr | 0 | 0 | 29 | 29 |
| Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush | <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness' | Bertha St | 2 | 8 | 25 | 17 |
| Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush | <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness' | Dickson St | 2 | 3 | 14 | 11 |
| Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush | <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness' | Wilson St | 6 | 2 | 35 | 33 |
| Littleleaf Linden | <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Shamrock™' | Balambool Ave | 0 | 1 | 32 | 31 |
| Littleleaf Linden | <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Shamrock™' | Rosemary Ave | 0 | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| Littleleaf Linden | <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Shamrock™' | Hume Crt | 0 | 0 | 23 | 23 |
| Hedge Maple | <i>Acer Campestre</i> 'Evelyn' Queen Elizabeth™ | Mallee St | 0 | 0 | 24 | 24 |
| Hedge Maple | <i>Acer Campestre</i> 'Evelyn' Queen Elizabeth™ | Leray Ave | 0 | 0 | 20 | 20 |
| Dwarf Yellowgum | <i>Eucalyptus leucoxyton</i> subsp.'Euky Dwarf' | Heaver Dr | 0 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| Dwarf Yellowgum | <i>Eucalyptus leucoxyton</i> subsp.'Euky Dwarf' | Bray St | 0 | 2 | 22 | 20 |
| Designer Flowering Ash | <i>Fraxinus ornus</i> 'Meczek' | Railway Tce | 0 | 2 | 22 | 20 |
| Designer Flowering Ash | <i>Fraxinus ornus</i> 'Meczek' | Duffield Pl | 0 | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| Purple Leaf Cherryplum | <i>Prunus Cerasifera</i> 'Niagra' | Mawson Ave | 4 | 1 | 14 | 13 |
| TOTAL | | | 14 | 19 | 335 | 316 |

AIRPORT FEDERAL FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

City of Mount Gambier welcomed the announcement of \$3.5million in Federal Government Building Better Regions Funds to support District Council of Grant's Mount Gambier Airport redevelopment project on Tuesday 10 July 2018.

Federal Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government Hon Dr John McVeigh MP made the major announcement at the Mount Gambier Airport. It followed extensive lobbying from Member for Barker Tony Pasin.

The State Government will contribute \$4million to the project following the work of Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell. District Council of Grant will contribute \$1.1million and City of Mount Gambier will provide a financial contribution of \$500,000 for the long awaited airport upgrade.



Former City of Mount Gambier Mayor Andrew Lee (left), Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell, Federal Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government Hon Dr John McVeigh, District Council of Grant Mayor Richard Sage and Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin.

INSTALLATION OF NO STOPPING ZONES ON JUBILEE HIGHWAY EAST

Council installed 'no stopping' zones on the north side of Jubilee Highway East on either side of the Attamurra Road intersection to improve traffic safety.

The decision was made at the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 February 2019, following a report to Council and complaints from motorists regarding restricted sight distance for vehicles leaving Attamurra Road due to trucks and caravans parking along the roadway to go to the newly constructed McDonald's restaurant.

"Semi-trailers and caravans were parking opposite McDonald's and west of Attamurra Road which made it very difficult for other motorists to see past them as they enter the intersection or leave the McDonald's car park," City Infrastructure General Manager Nick Serle said.

"Whilst Jubilee Highway is a Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) road, Council is responsible for the implementation and establishment of parking restrictions on DPTI roads."

"Council has consulted with the department on this matter and DPTI supported Council's recommendation to implement parking restrictions along Jubilee Highway to establish safe intersection sight lines."



No stopping zones were implemented on Jubilee Highway East (northern half) 78 metres west and 66 metres east of the Attamurra Road intersection.

REMOVAL OF HAY DRIVE BRIDGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY

Hay Drive was closed to all traffic from Wednesday 23 January to Friday 8 March 2019 to enable the removal of the Hay Drive bridge and construction of a two-way road.

City of Mount Gambier Design Engineer Andrew Thompson said the project involved kerbing, new pavement and an asphalt surface to enable a safer connection from Lake Terrace to Hay Drive/Keegan Drive.

“We’ve now got a road that will last for forty years, is cheaper to maintain, is more practical and is safer. Now that it’s bi-directional there’s no single lane giving way at each end,” Mr Thompson said.

“It’s lower risk and removes the potential of anti-social behaviour such as illegal dumping or vandalism where the bridge used to be.”

The bridge was demolished and removed in February as it had reached the end of its useful life.

“The bridge was no longer required to access the old hospital grounds and was removed as part of Council’s 2018/2019 works program.”

“Contractors filled the void where the bridge used to sit with 2,500 cubic metres of material comprised of salvaged concrete, limestone and bricks including rubble from the old bridge itself. It took about 150 truck loads to smooth it in,” Mr Thompson said.

The soil on site has been topped up and the garden area has been mulched.

“The retaining wall on Lake Terrace was shifted back an extra metre to provide adequate width for the installation of a footpath which will veer up to the left of Hay Drive and taper off into Elizabeth Knight Reserve.”

The project ran smoothly and was delivered on time and under budget at \$163,000.

Below: City of Mount Gambier Design Engineer Andrew Thompson stands alongside the completed Hay Drive roadway.

Right: Before (top) and after (morning) of Hay Drive construction.



BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC) operates pursuant to the provisions of the Development Act 1993.

Its primary function is to:

- Achieve a reasonable standard of fire safety for the occupiers of a building,
- Ensure minimal spread of fire and smoke, and
- Ensure an acceptable firefighting environment.

The BFSC is made up of one Elected Member, Cr Paul Jenner, who is the chairperson, a member of the Metropolitan Fire Service Andrew Sharrad and Level 1 accredited Building Surveyor Grant Riches. City of Mount Gambier Building Officer Paul Gibbs provides information and advice on building related issues that cannot be dealt with under staff delegated authority.

Over the past 12 months long standing issues with several commercial premises have been addressed with favourable outcomes.

The BFSC meets on an as required basis.



BOUNDARY ROADS

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

In 2018/2019 each council contributed \$30,000 to the boundary roads program to allow for maintenance works to the road network.

Works completed as part of the 2018/2019 boundary roads program included the following:

- Hawkins Road - reseal Jubilee Highway to Terrell Road,
- McCormick Road - reseal full length,
- Pinehall Avenue - reseal a portion of O'Leary Road.

Preliminary works commenced for Bishop Road/Kennedy Avenue staggered T-junction, including land acquisition, ground clearance and service alterations.

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

The City of Mount Gambier is committed to maintaining its road network to a high standard. Approximately \$2.4million was spent on road infrastructure upgrades in 2018/2019.

Projects included:

- Road resealing works,
- Road patching works,
- Reconstruction of sections of Crouch Street South,
- Reconstruction of sections of Heaver Drive,
- Reconstruction of sections of Argyle Place,
- Reconstruction of sections of Finch Street,
- Reconstruction of Helen Street,
- Reconstruction of sections of Wireless Road West,
- Reconstruction of Sturt Street,
- Reconstruction of sections of Laurie Street,
- Reconstruction of Robin Street, and
- Hay Drive bridge removal.

CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES

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

Mount Gambier Licensing Accord

A regular forum coordinated by Council involving Liquor and Gaming Commissioner, SAPOL, hotel and club licensees and other key stakeholders.

Mount Gambier dry areas

Council maintains five State Government approved dry areas within the City of Mount Gambier.

The proclaimed dry areas are:

- Mount Gambier city centre (Area 1),
- Vansittart Park Garden (Area 2) and Vansittart Park Oval (Area 3),
- Dimjalla Park (Area 4), and
- AF Sutton Memorial Park (Area 5).

CCTV surveillance cameras

There are more than 30 surveillance cameras at various locations within the Mount Gambier city centre.

SAPOL has increased its detection and prevention capabilities using the latest technology and identified a number of busy locations that should be under surveillance and where anti-social behaviour occurs regularly. Council has installed internet based technology and cameras in these locations with the network capable of being expanded in the future.

CCTV is a useful tool to decrease anti-social behaviour and increase public safety. Council will continue to work with SAPOL to determine areas that require the presence of increased surveillance and will continue to expand on the number of cameras installed to improve public safety.

The cameras are monitored by Mount Gambier Police and this has proven to be an effective initiative.

CONCRETE FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION

Council invested \$340,000 in the construction of an additional 3.2 kilometres of concrete paths throughout the City, in addition to the maintenance of paved areas.

These projects form part of Council's 10 year rolling footpath program which is designed to take into account the following:

- Urban growth,
- Change in land use,
- Requests from ratepayers, and
- Deterioration of the existing path network.

The projects that were included in the 2018/2019 program were:

- Swallow Drive (inside loop)
- Wireless Road East - south side (Aramanta drive to Kennedy Avenue)
- Pinehall Avenue - south side (Suttontown Road to Suttontown School)
- O'Halloran Terrace - south side (Power Street to Wehl Street)
- Hart Street – both sides (full length)
- Plover Street – north side (full length)
- Ferrers Street - west side (Gwendoline Street to Heriot Street)
- Kennedy Avenue - east side (Wireless Road to Red Oak Place)
- Kennedy Avenue - west side (North Terrace to North Terrace)
- John Street - north side (Crennan Street to Davison Street)

In addition to the concrete paths Council also installed numerous new ramp openings as part of the footpath program to improve the safety of road crossing by the disabled, elderly and those with prams and spent approximately \$80,000 on resurfacing existing footpaths.

REUSE MARKET OPENING

The Mount Gambier ReUse Market was officially opened on Saturday 8 December 2018. The market provides a variety of second hand goods for sale at 3 Eucalypt Drive Mount Gambier and aims to reduce waste going to landfill by upcycling and reusing useful items.

City of Mount Gambier Deputy Mayor Sonya Meziniec spoke at the opening event and said the market concept is a demonstration of Council's commitment to dealing with rubbish differently as part of the reduce, reuse and recycle philosophy.

"We've got fast food, we've got fast fashion and now we've got fast furniture. We can buy household items very cheaply now which sends the message that when you get sick of it, you just throw it out and get something new," Cr Meziniec said.

"We are hoping to change that attitude with the ReUse Market, so that all those items that are still useful can be reused by someone else."

The \$560,000 recovery facility was the brainchild of the former Council, formally endorsed in August 2017.

"It takes a lot of people, talent and commitment to make these ideas become reality. I acknowledge the work of Council's former Environmental Sustainability Committee. As a group we advocated strongly for the market concept and for Council to allocate funds toward it."

"I'd also like to thank Council staff who took the idea that we had and dealt with the logistics to make it happen. The staff are so passionate about giving recovered items another useful life and have been supported along the way with assistance from students from the Independent Learning Centre."

Community support for the new initiative has been overwhelming with more than 500 people visiting the market and more than 250 transactions made during one of the first open days.

"I'd like to thank the community for embracing the idea of donating items for the market, there has been an enormous amount of interest and on the occasions it has been open it has been packed and people have really enjoyed their time browsing."

"The success of the market is only limited to the extent that the community support it and when you take a look you'll see the magic that has been created by the ReUse Market team," Cr Meziniec said.

General Manager City Infrastructure Nick Serle, ReUse Market Coordinator Rebecca Mobbs, ReUse Market Attendants Tanis Alexander and Michael Satterley.



Deputy Mayor Sonya Meziniec cuts the ribbon to officially open the Mount Gambier ReUse Market.

BUILDING DIVISION

Throughout 2018/2019 Council's building division has continued to support local builders and professionals to deliver a core range of services including:

- Building rules certification of proposed development,
- Onsite audit-based inspection of construction activities,
- Approval for occupation of commercial premises,

- Maintenance of Asbestos and Essential Safety Provisions registers, and
- Administration to Council's Building Fire Safety Committee.

These duties are carried out under a series of regulations and statutory instruments adopted under the Development Act 1993 and the National Construction Code.

Council's building division records statistics regarding activities within the local construction industry which are as follows:

| | 2018/2019 | 2017/2018 | 2016/2017 | 2015/2016 | 2014/2015 |
|---|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Dwellings | 62 | 102 | 87 | 85 | 101 |
| Dwelling additions | 21 | 24 | 24 | 18 | 31 |
| Outbuildings | 145 | 160 | 155 | 172 | 181 |
| Commercial | 57 | 32 | 22 | 22 | 26 |
| Industrial | 11 | 4 | 21 | 13 | 6 |
| Signage | 3 | 15 | 9 | 9 | 16 |
| Wastewater | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Other | 43 | 52 | 78 | 61 | 56 |
| Total number of development applications | 348 | 391 | 398 | 382 | 417 |
| Estimated total development expenditure | \$34,190,596 | \$47,052,940 | \$39,254,506 | \$32,562,828 | \$43,093,104 |

MOUNT GAMBIER RAILWAY LANDS AND RAIL TRAIL ADDED TO THE HEART FOUNDATION 'HEALTHY ACTIVE BY DESIGN' WEBSITE

The Mount Gambier Railway Lands and Rail Trail were added to the Heart Foundation 'Healthy Active by Design' website in January 2019, featuring alongside a range of case studies from around Australia.

The Heart Foundation recognises the Railway Lands and Rail Trail as high quality projects developed for the greater benefit of the community.

By highlighting high quality projects, the Heart Foundation is hoping that industry practitioners will be inspired to change standard practices to promote health and wellbeing outcomes.

To view the case study, visit www.healthyactivebydesign.com.au/case-studies/the-railway-lands-and-rail-trail-walking-and-cycling-path



FREW PARK RV PARK AND DUMP POINT

The recreational vehicle (RV) parking area based at Frew Park on Penola Road was completed in May 2019 following months of construction and the demolition of the former St John Ambulance building.

Council demolished the former St John Ambulance building in 2016 after it had reached the end of its useful life. The site has now been transformed into a parking area and dump point for long vehicles, trailers, motor homes and caravans to allow easy access to the city centre.

“Council was approached by a number of individuals and organisations seeking RV and caravan parking close to the CBD,” City of Mount Gambier Manager Engineering Design and Contracts Daryl Morgan said.

“A concept plan was developed and we worked closely with groups such as the Australian Caravan Club to refine the plans for the RV park and dump point.”



City of Mount Gambier Manager Engineering Design & Contracts Daryl Morgan stands beside the dump point installed at the site allowing users to dispose grey and black water from recreational vehicles free of charge.

The \$146,000 project formed part of Council's 2018/2019 infrastructure budget and included the installation of a grey and black water dump point and connection to sewer, solar lighting, picnic benches, drinking water fountain, bitumen works and landscaping.

“The location is an ideal site given its close proximity to the visitor centre and visibility from major roads, but most importantly it's only a five minute walk to the city centre,” Mr Morgan said.

“Frew Park also provides the perfect area for families or pets to have a run around after being cooped up in the car travelling.”

The Australian Caravan Club (ACC) commended Council on the initiative hailing the project as a step towards making Mount Gambier an RV friendly city.

“There are tens of thousands of RV travellers on the road at any one time throughout Australia and it has been well documented that these travellers spend at least \$100 per day on average,” ACC Limestone Coasters President Paul Smith said.

“These dollars can only be spent in places that provide suitable parking and facilities.”

There are currently no time limits in place for vehicle parking during the day, however Council by-laws prohibit overnight camping.

Council has included a number of environmentally sustainable initiatives throughout the project such as solar lighting and park benches constructed from recycled plastic.



COUNCIL ASSESSMENT PANEL

The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 requires all councils in South Australia to establish a Council Assessment Panel (CAP) to act as a delegate of Council in the assessment of development applications.

The role of the CAP is to make development decisions as a relevant authority pursuant to the Act; the CAP has sole regard to Council's Development Plan and any referral advice to determine the merits of each proposal.

Development applications that are referred to the CAP are usually those applications that are at serious variance to the Development Plan, are considered to be contentious and/or have received representations objecting to the development as part of the community notification process.

The CAP can also provide advice and reports to Council regarding trends, issues and other matters relating to planning and development. This advice can emerge as a result of performing its development assessment function and in performing other duties as assigned by the Council.

The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act requires that the membership of the CAP must be no more than five members, only one of which may be an Elected Member. All members of the CAP are appointed by Council and must have experience and/or qualifications in town planning or a similar field of expertise.

The CAP members until February 2019 were:

- Elizabeth Travers (Presiding Member),
- Peter Seebohm,
- Margaret Trotter,
- Ian Von Stanke (former Councillor).

During this time there remained one vacancy on the CAP.

Every two years Council seeks nominations for people to form a new CAP. After a nomination process in January 2019 the following people were appointed to the CAP in February 2019:

- Ian Von Stanke (Presiding Member)
- Peter Seebohm
- Mark Teakle
- Cr Paul Jenner.

For the 2018/2019 financial year the CAP considered 21 development applications.

The CAP holds meetings on the third Thursday of each month in the Level 1 Committee Room, 10 Watson Terrace Mount Gambier commencing at 5:45pm (unless otherwise determined).

The agreed sitting fees are:

Ordinary meetings:

- Presiding Member
\$250 excluding GST,
- Other independent members
\$200 excluding GST,
- Council Member appointees
\$200 excluding GST.

Special meetings:

- Presiding Member
\$60 excluding GST,
- Other independent members
\$50 excluding GST,
- Council Member appointees
\$50 excluding GST.

(Mrs Travers was paid a travel allowance to attend meetings).

Where the meeting does not require the attendance of members in person and can be undertaken by phone due to a small agenda, the minor nature of items for discussion and lack of need for site inspections, the sitting fees are as follows:

- Presiding Member
\$60 excluding GST,
- Other independent members
\$50 excluding GST,
- Council Member appointees
\$50 excluding GST.

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGES

Local builders and associated trades were encouraged to get informed about significant changes to the National Construction Code (NCC) which came into effect on 1 May 2019.

The NCC is produced and maintained by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) and is a uniform set of technical provisions for the design and construction of new buildings and other structures throughout Australia.

“The NCC is the primary document for builders, designers, architects, assessors and surveyors to refer to when designing and/or assessing buildings for compliance to minimum requirements to gain council building approval,” City of Mount Gambier Building Officer Paul Gibbs said.

“The 2019 revision includes many changes from the previous version issued in 2016.”

Mr Gibbs encouraged builders and associated trades such as carpenters, brick layers and plumbers to become aware of their responsibilities by registering to attend the 2019 HIA Business Industry Update held at the Council office at the Civic Centre on Friday 24 May 2019.

“Builders, designers and trades need to familiarise themselves with key changes that have an impact on housing, including condensation management, changes to energy efficiency enhanced documentation requirements, revised masonry and cladding provisions and new separating walls.”

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) presentation offered an in depth revision of the 2019 NCC Australian Standards requirements in Volume One (commercial buildings) and Volume Two (residential dwellings) and a brief review of the South Australian planning and building control changes.

“It is important for builders and trades to understand any required changes that may impact on day to day work practices and procedures.”

Mr Gibbs and consulting Building Surveyor Dave Vandborg attended the National Construction Code (NCC) 2019 Symposium in Canberra in April 2019 to update their knowledge and understanding regarding the changes now in force.



City of Mount Gambier Building Officer Paul Gibbs (left), Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (AIBS) Chief Executive Officer Brett Mace, AIBS Board president Troy Olds and City of Mount Gambier consulting Building Surveyor Dave Vandborg at the 2019 National Construction Code Symposium in Canberra.

COMMUNITY AND RECREATION HUB

WORK ON THE COMMUNITY AND RECREATION HUB CONTINUES BEHIND THE SCENES TO DELIVER THE LARGEST INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT COUNCIL HAS EVER UNDERTAKEN BY THE END OF 2021.



Community Reference Group

The Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Community Reference Group (CRG) met for the first time on Wednesday 18 July 2018, following Council endorsement of 17 members of the CRG at its July meeting.

The community members represent local schools, swim clubs, allied health care providers, community youth groups, sporting/recreation club representatives and other community groups.

“You can clearly see the vision for this centre and this is the first time in many years that all local sports clubs and community groups are working together,” CRG member Scott Martin said.

| Name | Applied to CRG to represent: |
|------------------|---|
| Graham Dowie | Primary school, secondary school, sport/rec club representative |
| Julie Moran | Swimming |
| Scott Martin | Netball |
| Tom Kosch | Basketball, other community group |
| Phil Lowe | Local swim school and club, swimming |
| Hazel Grant | Allied health care providers |
| Lisa Thomas | Primary school, secondary school |
| James Stephenson | Other community group |
| Jamie MacDonald | Swimming |
| Yvette Holmes | Netball |
| Matthew Charlton | Tennis |
| Peter Collins | Secondary school, local swim school and club, sporting/rec club representative, other community group |
| Nathan Stratford | Sporting/rec club representative, other community group |
| Nick Watson | Other community group |
| Jordi Lee Gower | Netball |
| Ethan Hopgood | Community Youth Group (YAG) |
| Matthew Sutton | Sporting/rec club representative, basketball |



CRG members, Elected Members and council staff at the first CRG meeting.

COMMUNITY AND RECREATION HUB

Intermediate designs

Following months of work with the community and external specialists, the intermediate designs and draft financial modelling for the proposed Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub were completed in October 2018.

Since April 2018, Council worked towards developing concept plans for the community facility and conducted financial analysis and cost estimates. The intermediate designs and cost estimates were prepared as part of the shovel ready proposal in readiness for a full business case submission for funding under the Federal Government Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

Council and the Community Reference Group (CRG) worked with architects Design Inc and Co-Op Studio to develop intermediate designs for the Community and Recreation Hub.

“Proactive engagement with a range of community groups and service clubs and the CRG has provided valuable community input into the possible uses of the facility and the overall design and functionality,” former City of Mount Gambier CEO Mark McShane said.

Core design features and functional elements of the Community and Recreation Hub include:

- **Six regulation size, multi-purpose courts** for ball sports and a range of other recreation and fitness purposes.

- The courts can also be used for other purposes such as large **conferences/ events/performances accommodating more than 1000 people**, including breakout areas and smaller conference/meeting rooms.
- Versatile space with a stage for live performances, retractable seating, efficient acoustics, projection and IT facilities.
- **Aquatics** including learn to swim pool, children’s water splash/play area, 25 metre pool and a warm water pool. All facilities will be to regulation size with disability access.
- **Youth program area**
- **Amenities** including a crèche, café and office space for sporting groups and allied health, disability access and storage areas.
- **Fitness spaces** located on the first floor along with community and conference rooms with associated amenities.
- **Seating** on the first floor, overlooking the six multi-purpose courts.
- The current **50 metre pool** will be retained for summer use with easy access to the new facility.
- The exterior features include increased car parking, undercover drop off areas and paved and landscaped entrance.

\$15m Federal funding announcement (stage 2 progression)

On 15 October 2018 Council received news that \$15million had been earmarked for the project, following an announcement by Federal Member for Barker Mr Tony Pasi MP.

The Federal funding was contingent on majority community support to be determined by an elector survey.

In addition to securing the Federal grant, Council continued to lobby the State Government with support from Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell for funds to progress the project.



Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell, Peter Collins (CRG), Cr Max Bruins, Graham Dowie (CRG), Cr Ben Hood, Mayor Lynette Martin OAM, Yvette Holmes (CRG), Matt Sutton (CRG), Member for Barker Tony Pasi, Scott Martin (CRG), Nathan Stratford (CRG), Jamie Bignell (CRG) and Hazel Grant (CRG) celebrate the ‘yes’ vote at the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre in January 2019.

Community engagement and elector postal survey

A focused community engagement campaign commenced on Saturday 10 November 2018 to inform the community and electors about the Community and Recreation Hub, the intermediate design elements including possible functions and uses, the costs and to provide the opportunity for questions to enable the community to make an informed decision when surveyed.

Council's project team hit the streets at a variety of locations throughout the City to answer questions and inform the community about the facility.

Survey distribution commenced on 28 November 2018 to 19,322 electors on the City of Mount Gambier electoral roll. The one 'yes' or 'no' question posed to electors was 'Based on the design and the information on the sheet provided do you support the development of the Community and Recreation Hub?'

On 8 January 2019 the survey results were received by Council. The City of Mount Gambier electors voted in favour of the Community and Recreation Hub proposal.

Of a total 8,722 elector survey returns, 71.6 per cent voted 'yes' in support of the project, and 28.4 per cent voted 'no'.

The total number of 'yes' votes was 6,230 while 2,466 electors voted 'no' with a 0.13 per cent invalid response rate.

"Our community has spoken and have clearly indicated they want this project to go ahead," Mayor Martin said.

State Government awards \$10m in funds to the project

On 18 January 2019 the State Government announced a funding commitment of \$10million from the State Regional Growth Fund to assist with the project.

"Confirmation of the State Government and Federal Government funding to our community totalling \$25million for the project is a huge vote of support for our City and the region," Mayor Martin said.

The Federal and State Government grant commitments ensure the Community and Recreation Hub proposal can proceed.

Grant District Council announces support

On Tuesday 22 January 2019 Council welcomed formal notification of a \$350,000 contribution to the capital costs of the project from neighbouring District Council of Grant.



COMMUNITY AND RECREATION HUB

Final Federal funding hurdle overcome

City of Mount Gambier welcomed Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin's announcement on 22 March 2019 that \$15million in Federal grant funding for the Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub project under the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) has been formally approved.

City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin expressed her delight that the final hurdle to secure Federal funds for the facility has been cleared.

"Council is absolutely thrilled to hear from Member for Barker Tony Pasin that the Federal

Government will support the Community and Recreation Hub project with \$15million in grant funding," Mayor Martin said.

"This is the largest grant the local community has ever received and Council would like to acknowledge the work of Mr Pasin for his assistance in securing the funds."

Council endorsed spending of up to \$66,000 for an early works package for the Community and Recreation Hub at its meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2019.

Sod turning

The first sod was turned at Olympic Park on Monday 29 April 2019 to mark the official commencement of the Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub project.

In consultation with Council, Architects DesignInc and Co-Op Studio have provided a preliminary project plan outlining timelines for the next stage of the historic project.

"This ground-breaking event is a historic occasion for Mount Gambier and Council is working with the design team to establish the draft implementation plan as a work in progress which will be further refined as we move forward," Mayor Martin said.

"You won't physically see works happening on site for a few months, but there is a lot going on in the background including development approvals, the commencement of soil and water testing and the timber feasibility study."

Member for Barker Tony Pasin, Deputy Mayor Sonya Mezinac, Cr Frank Morello, Community Development and Stakeholder Engagement Officers Heidi Gajic and Ben Kilsby, Strategic Projects Officer Danielle Leckie, Cr Ben Hood, General Manager City Growth Judy Nagy, Cr Max Bruins, General Manager Community Wellbeing Barbara Cernovskis, Cr Steven Perryman, former CEO Mark McShane and Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell.





Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell, Councillors Kate Amoroso, Frank Morello and Ben Hood with Mayor Lynette Martin, Councillor Sonya Meziniec and Member for Barker Tony Pasin.

KEY PROJECT MILESTONES TO DATE

21 March 2018

Initial community forum held at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre.

24 April 2018

Council accepted a petition signed by more than 10,000 community members in support of an indoor sport and recreation facility.

26 April 2018

EOI submitted for Federal Government funding.

17 July 2018

Appointment of Community Reference Group.

15 October 2018

Member for Barker Tony Pasin MP announced \$15million has been earmarked for the project (progression to stage 2 of EOI).

18 October 2018

Intermediate designs and preliminary costings received.

November/December 2018

Community information sessions and intensive engagement to educate the community to make an informed decision prior to the elector survey.

14 December 2019

Submission of business case submitted to State Government for funding.

21 December 2018

Elector survey submissions closed.

6 January 2019

Survey results announced. 71.6% voted in favour of the project.

18 January 2019

Confirmation of \$10million funding from the State Government.

22 January 2019

DC Grant announced funding support of \$350,000.

23 January 2019

Full business case for Federal

funding endorsed by Council.

25 January 2019

Full business case submitted to Federal Government.

22 March 2019

\$15million Federal Government funding confirmed.

29 April 2019

Sod turning ceremony at the site.

....

Still to come:

- Finalised design and costings,
- Tender process,
- Naming of facility,
- Construction,
- Facility open.

LOCAL HERITAGE RESTORATION FUND

The Local Heritage Restoration Fund was established by the City of Mount Gambier to assist owners of local heritage listed properties to undertake conservation work such as painting, repairs, extensions and re-roofing.

In 2018/2019 Council allocated \$20,000 for the Local Heritage Restoration Fund to 15 owners of local heritage dwellings within the City on the recommendation of the Heritage Sub Committee.

This is the 16th year that Council has offered grants as part of the Local Heritage Restoration Fund. All applicants demonstrated potential conservation of their local heritage property and were all offered funds.

Mount Gambier resident Darren Coxon was one of the successful applicants in 2018/2019.

Mr Coxon received \$1,500 to assist with the cost of replacing and painting fascias, reinstating original bull nose verandah and restoring original ceilings and cornicing at his historic property, which dates back to 1902, located on the iconic Bay Road.

“We loved the location and period of the home and this was a great opportunity to restore the home back to its original condition,” Mr Coxon said.

Council is committed to protecting Mount Gambier’s heritage and assisting heritage property owners to maintain their buildings.

“It is important that local heritage buildings are preserved and by Council providing assistance this will ensure the character of these buildings will be maintained for years to come,” Mr Coxon said.

The Local Heritage Restoration Fund assisted with the cost of extensive works at this historic Bay Road property.



CARINYA GARDENS CEMETERY

The gardens, chapel and surrounds of Carinya Gardens continue to provide a peaceful ambience for bereavement services.

Great pride is taken in the quality of services offered to the community at Carinya Gardens, particularly to families in a time of need.

There were 481 services conducted at the cemetery during the 2018/2019 year, compared with 480 in the previous year.

The cemetery undertook 95 burials compared with 114 the previous year, and a total of 386 cremations were performed compared to 366 in 2017/2018.



Carinya Garden Cemetery staff Brian Sparrow and Brian Whitwell demonstrate the use of the grave safety fence.



CARINYA GARDENS CEMETERY CUSTOM EQUIPMENT

Carinya Gardens Cemetery staff have developed an adjustable elevated lowering device and grave safety fence that is now used for every adult sized burial on site.

The innovation was inspired by an occupational health and safety issue which highlighted that Council was responsible for the safety of pallbearers who get very close to open grave sites at the cemetery.

“The pallbearers are generally mourners at a service and they don’t get much training on what to do and how to do it. It’s very awkward to carry a heavy coffin over the top of a grave,” Carinya Garden Cemetery Team Leader Brian Sparrow said.

“I went to a conference and I saw a lowering device there with rollers on it so I came back and came up with something to suit the purpose.”

Mr Sparrow worked with local company BKM Custom Fabrication to come up with a prototype that took three months to develop.

“It’s important for Council to be innovative in relation to projects like this, especially when it comes to safety considerations,” he said.

“The safety fence acts as a barrier to stop anyone from falling into the grave. It sits on a specially made trailer for us to be able to transport it to the grave and use a crane to lift it up, swing it around and drop it on the grave. The whole unit is over 200 kilograms.”

The team has been using the lowering device since August 2018.

“The feedback from mourners and funeral directors has been really positive.”

The equipment is also used for burials at the Lake Terrace Cemetery.

BLUE LAKE GOLF COURSE LEASING OPTIONS DISCUSSED

The City of Mount Gambier discussed leasing options associated with the Queen Elizabeth Park Trust (QEPT) and the Blue Lake Golf Course in confidence at the Council meeting held on Tuesday 21 May 2019.

It followed a confidential deputation from the Blue Lake Golf Club made to the Operational Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday 14 May 2019 and a confidential letter from the QEPT regarding the lease of the Blue Lake Public Golf Links which was due to expire on 30 June 2019.

Following discussions with Golf Australia the Blue Lake Golf Club approached Council seeking to lease the golf course directly from Council, a proposal which was endorsed at the meeting together with a \$75,000 operational grant in the first year.

“Council has been approached by both the QEPT and Blue Lake Golf Club in regard to the future of the golf course. Council has considered both approaches in confidence and has given due consideration to a fair and reasonable outcome for the community and the parties involved,” Acting CEO Barbara Cernovskis said.

The Blue Lake Golf Club signed a new lease for the Blue Lake Golf Course on 28 June 2019, ending 12 months of uncertainty around the future of the public course and the commencement of a new chapter in the courses history after 40 years of management by the Queen Elizabeth Park Trust.

The Trust first entered into a lease for the land on the south western face of the Mount Gambier crater in February 1979.

This process has seen the Blue Lake Golf Club engage its members as volunteers to perform an array of activities associated with maintaining and operating the course, with the support of golf pro and longstanding manager and operator of the Linksvue Bar and Bistro, Bill Burley.

The 2019/2020 year will be crucial to the Blue Lake Golf Club establishing its credentials to operate the Blue Lake Golf Course, with Council taking a keen interest in ensuring that it operates in a financially sustainable manner and has a long term plan for the management of assets under its control.



LAKE TERRACE CEMETERY 150TH COMMEMORATION

The Mount Gambier History Group commemorated 150 years of burials at the Lake Terrace Cemetery on Sunday 2 September 2018.

Edward Hodge, the 13 week old baby son of Thomas and Harriet Hodge was the first burial at the cemetery.

“He was buried in an unmarked grave, which was not unusual at the time, but the history group has since installed a plaque to commemorate him as the first burial at the site,” Mount Gambier History Group member Lynn Lowe said.

“There are a lot of children buried in there, one family lost four children within a short period of time to diphtheria, while another family lost four of their older children in two years to tuberculosis.”

Ms Lowe said the 8,000 headstones in the cemetery tell the story of Mount Gambier’s people.

“You can match a burial or headstone to most of the street names in town.”

“There are about 10,000 burials from a wide cross section of our community over the decades, with some huge ornate memorials and headstones signifying wealthy families, while just across the driveway you’ll also find unmarked graves,” she said.

In 1993, members of the history group put together a self-guided tour booklet ‘Little Grey Walks’ to encourage people to explore the local history within the cemetery.

“The tour takes about two hours and was put together by the late Pat Galpin and Christine Heness. At the time, this really started to regenerate interest in the cemetery again as unless it was a family plot, no new burials occurred on site from 1966 when Carinya Gardens opened through until the early 1990s.”

Former City of Mount Gambier Mayor Andrew Lee unveiled a plaque at the event.

The Lake Terrace Cemetery is owned and maintained by the City of Mount Gambier.

Mount Gambier History Group members Lynn Lowe, Jeanette Aslin, Jim Galpin and Phil McInnes with former Mayor Andrew Lee at the Lake Terrace Cemetery 150th commemoration held on Sunday 2 September 2018.

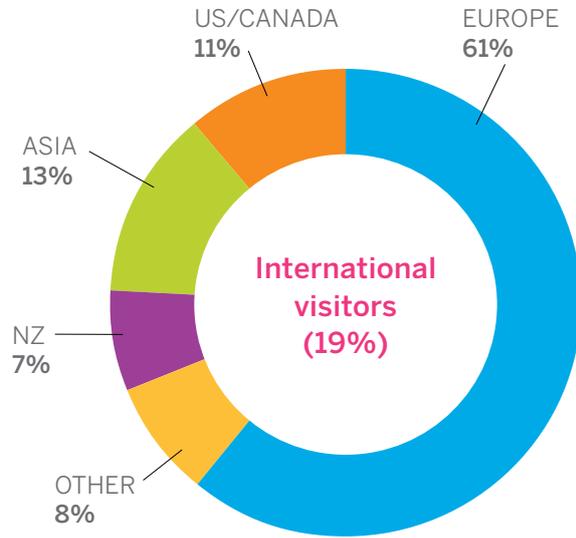
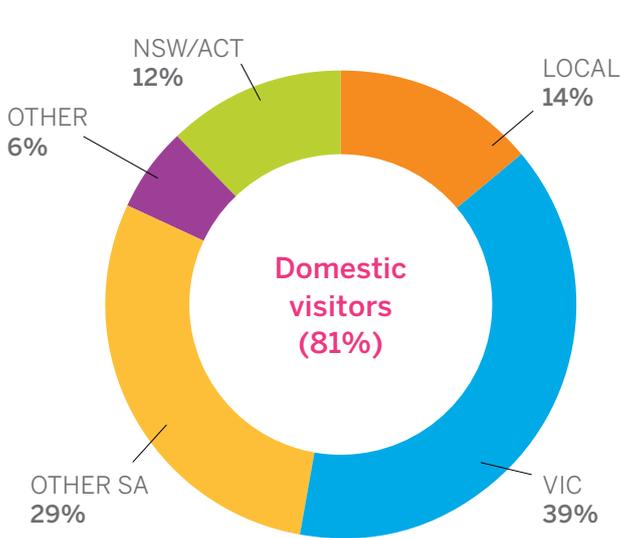




TOURISM AND
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

TOURISM AND VISITOR SERVICES SNAPSHOT

Visitation to Mount Gambier




@MOUNTGAMBIER VISITORCENTRE
101 POSTS
225,125 ORGANIC REACH



68,437
VISITORS THROUGH THE DOOR


3,385
VISITORS SERVICED AT POP-UPS


@DISCOVERMOUNTGAMBIER
667,083 ORGANIC REACH
 SINCE 1 JULY 2018


@DISCOVER_MOUNT_GAMBIER
#DISCOVERMOUNTGAMBIER
2,660 HASHTAG USES


DISCOVERMOUNTGAMBIER.COM.AU
75,553 TOTAL SITE VIEWS

OUR KEY CAMPAIGN
 Australian Traveller Magazine

- Print editorial and online displays
- Above-average click through rate online

SATC FEATURED CAMPAIGNS

- 'Tell us where' campaign with Umpherston Sinkhole featured in Sydney Metro
- 2019 Winter campaign

OTHER PROMOTION

- '7 Wonders of Australia' by Experience Oz
- Network Ten's 'The Living Room'
- Channel 9 News

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY EVENTS CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2018, the City of Mount Gambier invested \$440,094 (financial and in-kind) to support local events, with a conservative estimated return of more than \$16.4million in economic benefits to Mount Gambier.

This is an improvement on the 2017 result, with Council investing \$401,033 with a return conservatively estimated at \$13.8million in economic benefits.

A report using conservative modelling as an indication of the significant leverage that can be achieved from Council supported activities was presented to Council in May 2019. It provided an indication of the contributions Council makes through its annual budget to the community towards ongoing sponsorship of events in the City and the region.

“The report does not attempt to capture all events. It summarises by month the economic benefit that comes to our community from visitors who attended the larger events in the calendar year of 2018 that occur annually or bring large numbers of visitors to Mount Gambier,” General Manager City Growth Judy Nagy said.

“It does not capture the additional wellbeing and other benefits that flow to our residents from having a varied program of events to enrich our community.”

“It shows an estimate of the number of people involved in any event and includes assumptions that are conservative. Though it is not possible to determine numbers with accuracy, outcomes indicate that Council’s event sponsorship provides benefits far in excess of the dollars and staffing resources allocated,” Dr Nagy said.

Some of the annual Council sponsored events that generated the highest domestic average spend (\$136 per night multiplied by the number of nights they may stay) included:

- Fringe Festival,
- Generations in Jazz,

- Tour of the Great South Coast,
- Junior Basketball Tournament,
- Legend of the Lakes Hillclimb.

“It is important to recognise that the economic benefits flow on to businesses in the City of Mount Gambier and the nearby region. Council’s contributions provide for significant returns that flow to the visitor economy and as the economy grows, this builds opportunities for economic development,” Dr Nagy said.

Tour of the Great South Coast is one of the many Council supported events which generates a significant economic boost to the City. Photo credit: Con Chronis.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LIMESTONE COAST INVESTMENT SHOWCASE

In August 2018 a delegation of 12 Asian investors visited the Limestone Coast for a two day showcase throughout the region to investigate ways to value-add to local primary produce.

The delegation of Chinese and Malaysian investors visited Mount Gambier, Coonawarra, Millicent, Blue Lake Dairy and Mayura Station in search of opportunities to invest in local tourism, horticulture, agriculture, seafood and wine industries.

“It is widely recognised that Australian agriculture will need to find innovative ways to attract domestic and foreign investment to the level of \$600 billion between now and 2050 to play in the Asian market,” former City of Mount Gambier Investment Attraction Manager Bruce Rodda said.

“To grow our regional economy we need to attract more investment into agriculture to enable the value-add we so desperately need to gain maximum returns from exporting our premium products.”

Mr Rodda said several of the investors on the tour were familiar with the local area and keen to inject capital into the region.

“Many of the investors that we are hosting on this visit have already invested millions of dollars into the South Australian economy. Others have exported many thousands of dollars of high quality woollen products and lobster from the Limestone Coast.”

The Limestone Coast Investment Showcase is a collaboration between Immigration SA, the South Australian Tourism Commission, City of Mount Gambier, Wattle Range Council, District Council of Robe, Limestone Coast Local Government Association and Regional Development Australia.



The delegation of Chinese and Malaysian investors began their whirlwind tour of the region at the Oatmill Complex.

TOURISM

GUIDES OF MOUNT GAMBIER FUNDING BOOST

In July 2018 Tourism Mount Gambier welcomed \$20,000 in Federal Government Building Better Regions Fund Community Investments to bring the Guides of Mount Gambier visitor economy project to life to revitalise the local tourism industry.

Tourism Mount Gambier matched the funds provided by the Federal grant to develop Guides of Mount Gambier, a long term project in partnership with the City of Mount Gambier, to create a formal professional tour guiding program within the local tourism industry.

“Guides of Mount Gambier is a concept that has been developed as a key initiative by Tourism Mount Gambier in our strategic plan.

We are delighted that the government has backed our vision and we look forward to bringing the vision to reality,” Tourism Mount Gambier Chair Kent Comley said.

City of Mount Gambier Tourism and Economic Development Manager Donna Foster said the program aims to increase the attractiveness of Mount Gambier as a destination and encourage visitors to stay longer, spend more and support local economic growth and jobs.

“This project will work closely with community stakeholders to develop content, stories and fact sheets to share Mount Gambier’s stories. The program will build skills and business capacity to positively influence visitor perceptions,” Ms Foster said.

“The business case shows that in three years the Guides of Mount Gambier program will create an estimated \$2.9million in visitor spend per year.”

The guided tours will be based around themes such as geology, volcanoes and history or early settler years.

“The project will draw on expertise from organisations such as Savannah Guides and the South Australia Tourism Industry Council to provide in depth knowledge and experience in the guiding field for those learning to lead tours,” Ms Foster said.

Tourism Mount Gambier Board Chair Kent Comley and City of Mount Gambier Tourism and Economic Development Manager Donna Foster.



TOURISM

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The inaugural Guides of Mount Gambier celebrate their graduation from the program in readiness for the 2018/2019 summer tourism season.

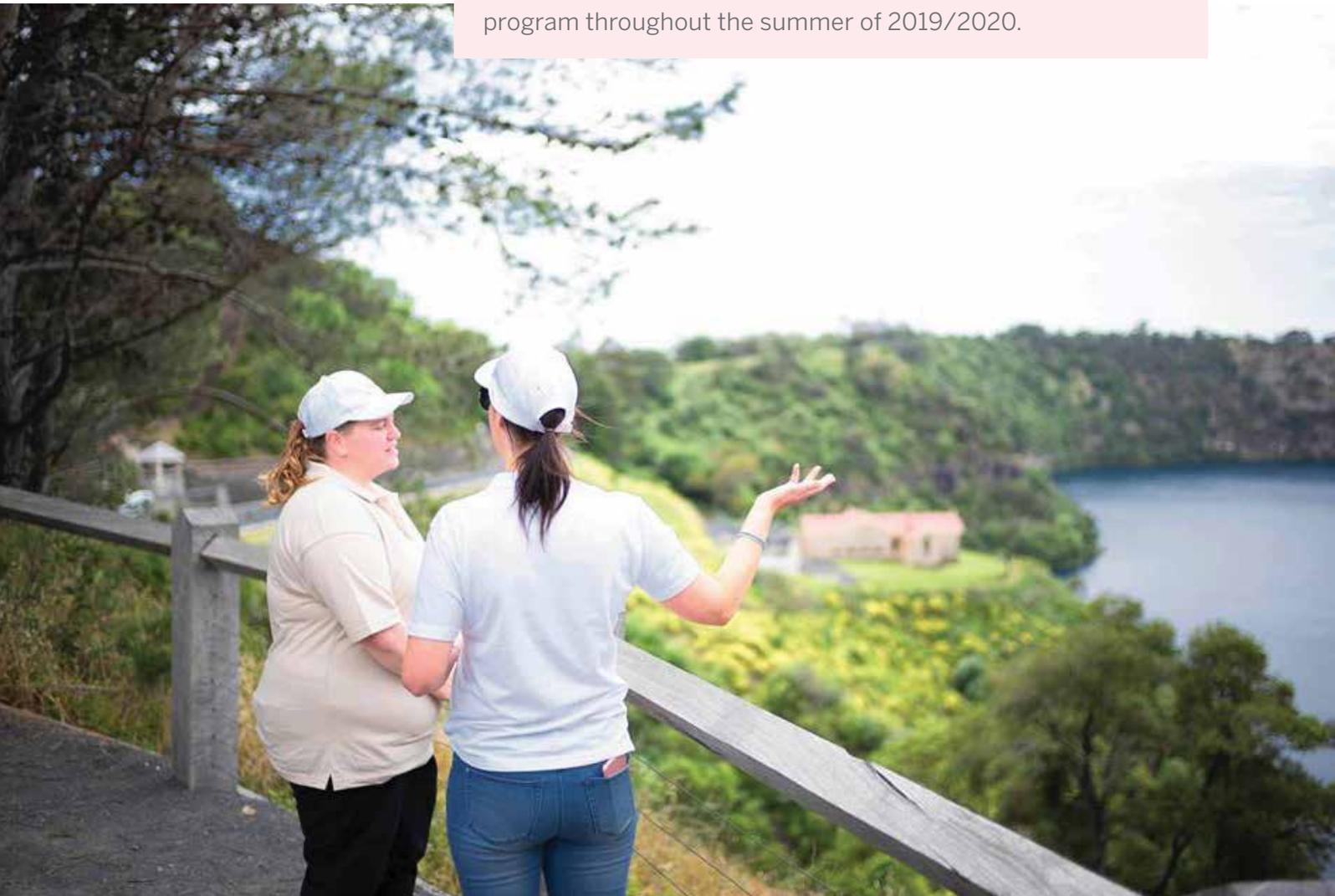
GUIDES OF MOUNT GAMBIER PILOT PROGRAM SUCCESS

The first guides under the Guides of Mount Gambier program were recruited and trained as part of the pilot formation and initial delivery ready for the 2018/2019 summer tourism season.

A training program that was accessible to all of the community was offered at no cost. The comprehensive and interactive training was delivered over a two day period. The content included understanding guiding, storytelling, customer profiles and servicing, with a component of infield training. As an outcome of this training there were 13 official Guides of Mount Gambier graduates.

The Guides of Mount Gambier framework is based on best practice and in consultation with industry and community. A code of conduct and charter was agreed to and the program structure created with input from all stakeholders. To ensure it aligned with national standards Russell Boswell (Savannah Guides) and Claire Ellis (consultant and Eco-Tourism Australia) came to assist in the development. The program has developed into a sustainable initiative and created a pathway for growth with the possibility of introducing the Guides program on regional, state and national levels.

The tourism team is excited to roll out the second round of the program throughout the summer of 2019/2020.



TOURISM INDUSTRY EVENINGS

The Mount Gambier Visitor Centre held the first of its tourism industry update evenings including presentations from local tourism businesses Reef 2 Ridge and Kilsby Sinkhole. The presentations provided insight into adventure tourism opportunities.

Reef 2 Ridge is Mount Gambier's premier dive centre, offering snorkelling and scuba dive tours and training. Owner Rob Main came to Mount Gambier just over two years ago, starting his business from a van which evolved to his current shopfront operation employing nine people.

"I came from the Hunter Valley which is considered an adventure centre for Australia, but having visited Mount Gambier I felt the opportunities here were substantial so my wife and I packed up and moved to South Australia," Mr Main said.

The unique story of the Kilsby Sinkhole has been thrust into the spotlight by Kilsby brothers Graham and Ben who have created a unique adventure tourism business operating only a short drive from Mount Gambier.

The sinkhole is on a working farm so access is restricted but can be obtained through advance bookings. The response to the new snorkelling tours introduced in December 2018 has resulted in a hive of activity at the sinkhole.

"The water temperature is consistently 16 degrees all year round and we don't get the swell and rips or predators of the ocean," Kilsby Sinkhole Dive Instructor Jen Will said.

Jen has experienced diving at sites all around the world and enjoys introducing beginners to snorkelling at the sinkhole.

"I love hearing the feedback from customers who have been afraid to snorkel but are now enjoying this amazing experience".

City of Mount Gambier Manager Tourism and Economic Development Donna Foster explained how the geology of the region has created natural wonders and ideal environments for fresh water diving and cave related exploring activities.

"Although the region attracts experienced cave divers such as the Australians of the Year Dr Richard Harris OAM and Dr Craig Challen SC OAM, it also offers opportunities for others to experience these wonders such as snorkelling in Ewens Ponds and Kilsby Sinkhole. New abseiling experiences are soon to be on offer too, with dry caving to follow," Ms Foster said.

"It is so rewarding to see these products becoming available and the way our agencies and the private sector are collaborating to grow our visitor economy. We are working with both the new operators and those already delivering adventure experiences, such as Engelbrecht Cave, to increase capability and capacity in the industry and share the story of our unique landscape."

"The session also highlighted the ghost mushroom season which is in its third year - a different kind of adventure and unique to Mount Gambier."

Tourism industry evenings are held regularly to provide a forum for the promotion of tourism through presentations, information sharing and connectivity.



Tourism industry representatives listen to a presentation from Kilsby Sinkhole at a tourism industry evening hosted by the Mount Gambier Visitor Centre.

TOURISM

UMPHERSTON NOMINATED FOR 7 WONDERS OF AUSTRALIA

Mount Gambier's Umpherston Sinkhole was among six iconic South Australian sites nominated in a nation-wide voting initiative to determine the '7 Wonders of Australia'.

Umpherston Sinkhole joined Wilpena Pound, Naracoorte Caves, Lake Eyre, Lake Gairdner and Flinders Chase National Park as potential wonder nominees from South Australia.

Led by the country's largest online marketplace for travel experiences, Experience Oz, the '7 Wonders of Australia' campaign asked Australians of voting age to select from a shortlist of 50 iconic Australian natural sites, landmarks and architectural icons submitted by state and regional tourism organisations from across the country.

The poll aimed to reinforce Australia's majestic sites as some of the best on the planet, encourage domestic travellers to explore the best of their backyard, and highlight conservation and environmental issues in a bid to encourage people to contribute to help preserve them.

"We are very excited to see Umpherston Sinkhole nominated in the national search for the '7 Wonders of Australia'. It is an incredibly unique site that brings together nature, wildlife, geology and history into a single experience," Tourism and Economic Development Manager Donna Foster said.

"Umpherston Sinkhole is one of many geological wonders from the Mount Gambier region. Our geological make-up is truly unique and something everyone should experience for themselves."

"The 7 Wonders of Australia concept really encourages Australians to explore their own 'backyard', with so many diverse destinations to explore."

A number of nationwide and international organisations collaborated on the campaign in a quest to promote the '7 Wonders of the Australia' and also engage conservation efforts. The once-off campaign received significant support with 67,000 Australians who voted and a panel of expert judges that deliberated over the country's most remarkable sites.



Experience Oz Social Media Coordinator Svenja Desinger (left), Marketing Manager Matt Hobbs, City of Mount Gambier Tourism Officer Madeleine Brookes and Manager Tourism And Economic Development Donna Foster.

The judging panel included representation from some of Australia's leading tourism and conservation organisations including Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife Fund (WWF), Great Barrier Reef Foundation, The Wilderness Society, RACQ, TicketMates and Experience Oz.

Experience Oz Marketing Manager Matt Hobbs said the campaign was designed to provide the fairest possible perspective on such a list of sites, while also shedding light on the importance of domestic travel and conservation of our wonders.

"People have been making lists of the top icons of Australia for years, but they have always come from the - often biased - perspective of one writer. We now live in the age of crowdsourcing and, given we work with thousands of tourism experience businesses across the country and collaborate with tourism organisations in each state, our distribution network allows us to get a massive sample size of Aussies' opinions," Mr Hobbs said.

The wonders were selected based on a comprehensive criterion, which considers the level of recognition, natural, architectural or cultural value, desirability and aspiration, rarity and uniqueness and tourism value of the wonder.

"While Umpherston Sinkhole unfortunately didn't make the final seven, it had some tough competition with the likes of national icons including the Great Barrier Reef, Uluru, Whitsundays, Cradle Mountain and the Great Ocean Road and 12 Apostles," Ms Foster said.



GOVERNANCE

COUNCIL POLICIES, REGISTERS AND CODES

Council has adopted a wide range of policies, registers and codes to assist in its administrative and decision making processes.

Council policies, registers and codes are periodically reviewed to ensure they remain up to date with legislative requirements, Council and community expectation and emerging practices in local government.

Current council policies, registers and codes and a range of other documents required by legislation are available at the Council office and at www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

The following policy index lists all current Council policies as at 30 June 2019.

| City Infrastructure | |
|---------------------------|---|
| B150 | Building - Sewer Connections, Waste Management Control and the Provision of Toilet Facilities |
| C355 | Council Land - Irrigation |
| E135 | Encroachments - Protection of Public during Building/Maintenance Work |
| E500 | Provision of Council Resources to Support the Emergency Services in Emergencies |
| F110 | Inspectorial - Fencing Costs - Contributions by Council |
| F175 | Engineering - Footways and Crossovers |
| F190 | Engineering Footways - Paving in City Centre Zone |
| R270 | Road Pavement – Excavation and Re-instatement of |
| S115 | Fencing and Stormwater Retention Basins |
| T120 | Tree Policy |
| W115 | Waste Management - Receipt of Waste - Caroline Landfill |
| W125 | Waste Management - Refuse Collection |
| Council Business Services | |
| B300 | Budget Framework |
| C200 | Request for Service and Complaint |
| C290 | Internal Review of Council's Decisions |
| C375 | Council Vehicles - Provision and Replacement of |
| F225 | Fraud and Corruption Prevention |
| P155 | Privacy |
| P415 | Prudential Management |
| P420 | Procurement and Disposal of Land and Assets |
| R105 | Rates - Rating |
| R130 | Rates - General Matters |
| R155 | Rates - Rate Rebate |
| R180 | Records Management |
| R200 | Community Land (Reserves) Lease/Licence/Rental Arrangements |

Council Business Services (continued)

| | |
|------|---------------------------|
| R305 | Risk Management Framework |
| S140 | Street Numbering |
| T150 | Treasury Management |

City Growth

| | |
|------|---|
| A170 | Advertising and Signage |
| A240 | Assemblies and Events on Streets and other Council Land |
| A515 | Animal Control - Dog |
| A520 | Animal Control |
| C120 | Cemeteries - Carinya Gardens and Lake Terrace Cemetery |
| D140 | Development Act - Delegations |
| D150 | Development Act - Building Inspection |
| D160 | Development Act - Inspection and Copying of Documents |
| E240 | Expiation Notices - Cancellation or Waiver |
| F125 | City Burning Policy |
| F135 | Flammable Undergrowth |
| F500 | Footways and Council Land - Removal of Objects |
| F505 | Footways and Council Land - Sales of Commodities |
| F510 | Footways and Council Land - Fundraising and Promotion |
| L130 | Land Divisions |
| L230 | Licensed Premises |
| O110 | Order Making |
| P135 | Planning - Entertainment Venues |
| S120 | Street Signs - Directional, Tourist and other Scenic Facility Signs |
| S135 | Streets - Naming of |

Community Wellbeing

| | |
|------|---|
| A270 | Australia Day Awards |
| C140 | Main Corner Complex - Hire |
| D230 | Donations - Authority to Approve Requests |
| H120 | Historical Matters - Collection of |
| H125 | Historical Matters - Copyright - 'The Les Hill Photographic Collection' |
| P195 | Community Consultation and Engagement |

COUNCIL POLICIES, REGISTERS AND CODES

| Council and Committees | |
|-------------------------|---|
| C305 | Caretaker Policy |
| C320 | Council Chamber and Reception Area - Use of |
| C410 | Conduct of Meetings (s92 Code of Practice s90(8a)) |
| E115 | Elections - Council Entitlement to Vote |
| F140 | Flag Protocol |
| M130 | Media - Statements on behalf of Council |
| M205 | Members - Mayor - Anniversary Messages |
| M225 | Members - Service Recognition |
| M265 | Members - Complaint Handling |
| M270 | Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice |
| M405 | Members - Allowances, Reimbursements, Benefits and Facilities |
| M500 | Members - Training and Development |
| S400 | Supplementary Elections |
| V140 | Visits by Parliamentary/Governmental Representatives |
| Chief Executive Officer | |
| C700 | Corporate Branding and Identity |
| E200 | Employees - Service Awards - Gifts at Resignation or Retirement |
| S175 | Safe Environment |
| W150 | Whistleblowers Protection |

The following codes and registers are required in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999;

| Section of Act | |
|----------------|---|
| s68 | Register of Interests (Members) |
| s79 | Register of Allowances and Benefits |
| s105 | Register of Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits |
| s116 | Register of Interests (Officers) |
| s207 | Register of Community Land |
| s231 | Public Road Register |
| s252 | By-Law Register |
| s63 | Code of Conduct for Members |
| s92 | Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents |
| s110 | Code of Conduct for Employees |

ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

- Introduction to Local Government,
- Legal responsibilities,
- Council and committee meeting procedures, and
- Financial management and reporting.

Following the 2018 Local Government Elections, Council conducted an Elected Member Development Program for the newly elected Council and arranged for attendance at Elected Member mandatory training sessions via webinar or face-to-face sessions. Access to online training became available in June 2019.

It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1999 that Elected Member mandatory training be completed within the first 12 months of the new council term (i.e. by November 2019).

The 2018/2019 budget allocation for Elected Member training and development was \$12,418.00 and an amount of \$22,229.77 was expended. Of this figure \$8,475.99 was utilised to procure accredited facilitators for a two day Elected Member strategic workshop and face-to-face Elected Member mandatory training sessions held in Mount Gambier.

During 2018/2019, Elected Members were provided opportunity to participate in variety of training programs, workshops and briefings.

July 2018 to November 2018

- Elected Member strategic planning day for all members,
- 2018 LGA AGM and Showcase: Mayor Lee, Cr Mutton, Cr Von Stanke, Cr Persello.

November 2018 to June 2019

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Mayor Lynette Martin OAM | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 |
| | LGA Mayor's and Chairperson's Leadership Program (Adelaide) |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| | LGA media training |
| | 2019 LGA Best Practice Showcase and OGM (Adelaide) |
| Cr Kate Amoroso | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop (1 day) |
| | 2019 LGA Best Practice Showcase and OGM (Adelaide) |
| | Meeting with LGA and SA Power Networks (Adelaide) |
| Cr Max Bruins | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| Cr Christian Greco | Nil |
| Cr Ben Hood | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| | LGA media training |

ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Cr Paul Jenner | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| | 2019 LGA Best Practice Showcase and OGM (Adelaide) |
| | Meeting with LGA and SA Power Networks (Adelaide) |
| | Meeting with SA Planning Commission (Adelaide - no cost) |
| Cr Sonya Mezinec | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 2, 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| Cr Frank Morello | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 1,2,3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |
| Cr Steven Perryman | Elected Member Mandatory Training Modules 3 & 4 |
| | Elected Member two-day strategic workshop |

Elected Members were also provided with the opportunity to attend the following workshops, briefings and designated informal gatherings from November 2018 to June 2019:

- Strategic planning session
- Limestone Coast Local Government Association and Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- Community and Recreation Hub survey outcome
- Community and Recreation Hub next steps
- Annual Business Plan and Budget 2019/2020, Long Term Financial Plan and Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan
- Community and Recreation Hub - meetings with architects
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust leasing matters
- Community and Recreation Hub status update
- Architects presentation and Community Reference Group meeting
- Community and Recreation Hub Community Reference Group briefing
- Architects meeting with Regional Sport and Recreation Centre Committee
- Architects meeting with Community and Recreation Hub Community Reference Group
- Community and Recreation Hub general discussions
- Mount Gambier Public Art Strategy
- SEAWL funding request and major and cultural events
- Waste management
- Regional Development Australia, Tourism Mount Gambier and UniSA presentations
- Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget - 2nd workshop
- Working party input
- Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget - 3rd workshop.

MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Since the 2010 Local Government Elections Elected Member allowances have been determined by the independent Remuneration Tribunal in accordance with Section 76 of the Local Government Act 1999. In making its determination, the Tribunal must have regard to:

- The role of members of Council as members of the Council’s governing body and as representatives of the area,
- The size, population and revenue of the Council and any relevant economic, social, demographic and regional factors in the council area,
- That an allowance is not intended to amount to a salary for a member,
- That an allowance should reflect the nature of a member’s office, and
- That provisions of the Local Government Act provide for reimbursement of members expenses.

Section 76 of the Act further provides for allowances to be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. Elected Member allowances for the City of Mount Gambier from the conclusion of the 2018 Local Government Elections are as follows:

| | |
|--|---|
| Council | Group 2 classification (out of 5 groups) |
| Group 2 | Base is \$17,270 |
| Mayoral allowance | 4 x \$17,270 = \$69,080 |
| Deputy Mayoral allowance | 1.25 x the \$17,270 = \$21,587.50 |
| Presiding Member of prescribed committee | As for Deputy Mayoral Allowance \$21,587.50 |
| Members | \$17,270 |

Council also approved various other reimbursements of expenses and support to members in accordance with Section 77 of the Act, including:

- Travelling expenses (outside of Council area only),

- Child/dependent care expenses,
- Conference/seminar/training expense,
- Business cards,
- Mobile phone (Mayor only),
- Office and executive assistance (Mayor only), and
- Motor vehicle (Mayor only).

For mobile devices and data plans Council determined reimbursements for computing devices up to \$1,500 per council term and an allowance for data of \$600 per annum.

For details including limitations and conditions associated with council approved expense reimbursements refer to Council Policy M405 – Members – Allowances, Re-imbursments, Benefits and Facilities adopted by Council following the 2018 Local Government Elections.

All member base and prescribed committee allowances are paid monthly and non-prescribed committee allowances are paid quarterly in arrears.

An Elected Member is entitled to decline payment of the allowance (see Section 76 (7) of the Act), but it must still be recorded in the Register.

The allowances set out in the Remuneration Tribunal Determination will be adjusted annually on the first, second and third anniversaries of the 2018 Local Government Elections to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index as defined at Section 76 (15) of the Local Government Act 1999.

Sitting fees for the Audit Committee are:

- \$100 per meeting or \$50 for any special meeting for an independent person on the Audit Committee,
- \$150 per meeting or \$100 for any special meeting for an independent Presiding Member of the Audit Committee,
- Elected Members on the Audit Committee receive no sitting fee.

ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW

Schedule 4 of the Local Government Act 1999 requires Council to publish in its Annual Report a statement of:

- The Council's representation quota,
- The average representation quota for councils of a similar size and type (taking into account various factors prescribed by the regulations),
- When the Council next intends to conduct a review under Chapter 3 Part 1 Division 2, and
- The procedures that are available under Chapter 3 for electors to make submissions on representation under this Act.

The following provides the required statements.

Select Outer Metropolitan & Regional Councils Composition & Elector Ratio (as at February 2019)

| Council | Members | Electors | Elector Ratio |
|----------------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Port Augusta | 10 | 9,491 | 1:949 |
| Port Lincoln | 10 | 10,360 | 1:1036 |
| Barossa | 12 | 17,600 | 1:1,466 |
| Murray Bridge | 10 | 14,334 | 1:1,433 |
| Whyalla | 10 | 15,248 | 1:1,524 |
| Gawler | 11 | 17,659 | 1:1,605 |
| Mount Gambier | 9 | 19,282 | 1:2,142 |
| Mount Barker | 11 | 24,593 | 1:2,235 |
| Adelaide Hills | 13 | 29,405 | 1:2,261 |

Section 12(4) of the Act outlines that the Council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the Council are comprehensively reviewed at least once every eight years.

Council last conducted an Elector Representation Review during the 2016/2017 year with an amended composition to apply from the November 2018 Local Government Elections.

Prior to the 2018 Local Government Elections Council comprised of 10 Area Councillors with no wards and a Mayor elected by the community.

The following Council composition applied from the 2018 Local Government Elections:

- The principal member of Council be a Mayor elected by the community,
- The Council area not be divided into wards (i.e. retain the existing 'no wards' structure), and
- The elected body of Council comprise eight Area Councillors and the Mayor.

The next representation review for the City of Mount Gambier is scheduled to occur between April 2024 and April 2025.

BY-LAWS

Council had the following by-laws in operation during the 2018/2019 year:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| By-law No. 1 | Permits and Penalties |
| By-law No. 2 | Local Government Land |
| By-law No. 3 | Roads |
| By-law No. 4 | Moveable Signs |
| By-law No. 5 | Dogs |
| By-law No. 6 | Taxi Regulation (until 31 December 2018) |

By-laws are available on the Council website - www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

A by-law review was conducted during the 2017/2018 financial year. Replacement by-laws numbered 1 to 5 were adopted on 19 June 2018 and commenced operation from 5 November 2018.

By-law No. 6 Taxi Regulation expired on 1 January 2019 following changes to state legislation that made Council unable to make a replacement by-law. Taxi operations came under state jurisdiction from 1 January 2019.

By-laws 1 to 5 will expire on 1 January 2026 after the seventh anniversary of their adoption, unless revoked or replaced prior to this date.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The City of Mount Gambier received and determined four applications under the Freedom of Information Act 1991 during the 2018/2019 year.

| | |
|--|---|
| Number of applications | 4 |
| Number of applications carried over from 2017/2018 | 0 |
| Full access granted | 3 |
| Access refused | 1 |
| Fees not paid | 0 |
| Documents otherwise available | 1 |
| Incomplete (as at 30 June 2019) | 0 |
| Applications for internal review | 0 |
| Decision confirmed | 0 |

Enquiries or requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 1991 should be forwarded to:

Manager Executive Administration
City of Mount Gambier
PO Box 56
Mount Gambier SA 5290
city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

An information statement in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 is published by the City of Mount Gambier and is available to view on Council's website at www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

Council is required to report on the use of confidentiality provisions under subsections 90(2) and 91(7) of the Local Government Act.

The following tables provide the information required to be published for the 2018/2019 financial year:

Use of section 90(2) orders to exclude public and section 90(3) grounds

| | No. of S90(2) orders made | (a) Personal affairs of person | (b) Commercial advantage | (c) Trade secret | (d) Prejudice commercial position | (e) Safety/security of Members/employees | (f) Maintenance of law | (g) Does not breach any law or court | (h) Legal advice | (i) Litigation may take place | (j) Info provided by Crown or Minister | (k) Tenders | (m) DPA's | (n) FOI |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Totals | 26 [#] | 4 | 14 | 4 | 5 | - | 1 | 9 | 4 | - | 1 | 8 | - | - |

Use of section 91(7) orders to keep documents confidential

| No. of S91(7) orders made | No. of S91(7) orders that expired, ceased to apply or were revoked | No. of S91(7) orders remaining operative at 30 June 2019 |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| 19 | 14 [*] | 38 [^] |

[#] Some orders were made under more than one s90(3) ground, making the total number of orders less than the aggregate for all grounds.

^{*} Includes expired, ceased and revoked orders from previous financial years.

[^] Includes 20 orders that remain operative from previous financial years.

Council meeting dates, subject, s90(3) grounds and status (as at 30 June 2019) of s91(7) orders associated with the use of confidentiality provisions during the 2018/2019 financial year.

| Date of meeting | Subject of S90(2) order | S90(3) grounds | S91(7) order status (as at 30 June 2019) |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--|
| 18-Jun-19 | Engagement of Legal Representation for Appeal to the Environment, Resources and Development Court – Development Application 381/0334/2018 - 1 Pick Avenue, Mount Gambier - Mount Gambier Agricultural and Horticultural Society Inc. Report No. AR19/27812 | (g) & (h) | Current |
| 18-Jun-19 | Property Management - Licence Expiry Review Report No. AR19/26427 | (b) & (d) | Current |
| 03-Jun-19 | Community and Recreation Hub - Geotech Survey Report No. AR19/27126 | (b) & (k) | Current |
| 03-Jun-19 | 50m Pool Condition Report Report No. AR19/27104 | (b) & (k) | Current |
| 03-Jun-19 | Community and Recreation Hub - Aquatic Facilities Scope Report No. AR19/27170 | (b) & (k) | Current |

| Date of meeting | Subject of S90(2) order | S90(3) grounds | S91(7) order status (as at 30 June 2019) |
|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| 03-Jun-19 | Community and Recreation Hub - Timber Feasibility Structure Study - Report No. AR19/27070 | (b) & (k) | Current |
| 03-Jun-19 | Community and Recreation Hub - Mechanical Plant Feasibility Study - Report No. AR19/27041 | (b) & (k) | Current |
| 21-May-19 | Pump Track Project Report No. AR19/24140 | (d) | Current |
| 21-May-19 | Queen Elizabeth Park Trust / Blue Lake Golf Course - Leasing Report No. AR19/24097 | (b), (d) & (h) | Partially expired |
| 21-May-19 | Engagement of Legal Representation for Appeal to the Environment, Resources and Development Court - Development Application 381/0334/2018 - 1 Pick Avenue, Mount Gambier - Mount Gambier Agricultural and Horticultural Society Inc. Report No. AR19/19698 | (g) & (h) | Current |
| 21-May-19 | Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre and Civic Centre: Fire Detection and Emergency System Upgrade - Report No. AR19/19553 | (b) | Current |
| 18-Mar-19 | Execution of Agreement - Legal Advice Report No. AR19/12051 | (g), (h) & (i) | Expired |
| 18-Mar-19 | CEO Selection and Recruitment Committee Report No. AR19/12104 | (a) | Expired |
| 7-Mar-19 | Discussion with QEPT on the WellPlayed Report, the QEPT's response to that report and their proposed sub-leasing arrangements. | (b), (c) & (g) | Partially expired |
| 7-Mar-19 | QEPT WellPlayed Report and Documentation Report No. AR19/10346 | (b), (c) & (g) | Partially expired |
| 7-Mar-19 | Documents Relating to the Management of the Crater Lakes Area Report No. AR19/10304 | (b), (c) & (g) | Partially expired |
| 7-Mar-19 | Consideration of media statement and appointing Council Member as a spokesperson on matters relating to the QEPT | (b), (c) & (g) | Expired |
| 19-Feb-19 | Sale of Land for Non Payment of Rates Report No. AR19/2015 | (a) | Current |
| 19-Feb-19 | Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates Report No. AR19/2005 | (a) | Expired |
| 19-Feb-19 | Illegal Development - Mr RKH Pearson (Amberich Pty Ltd) Report No. AR19/4134 | (a) & (f) | Current |
| 19-Feb-19 | Queen Elizabeth Park Trust matters | (b) & (d) | Expired |
| 18-Dec-18 | Request for Quote - CEO Selection and Recruitment | (k) | Expired |
| 18-Dec-18 | Property Management | (b)(d)(g) | Current |
| 30-Aug-18 | Tender - Caroline Landfill Cell 3C Construction Report No. AR18/34301 | (k) | Expired |
| 21-Aug-18 | Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre 2018-19 Business Plan Report No. AR18/30233 | (g) | Current |
| 17-Jul-18 | Tender AF18/244 Architectural Design, Documentation and Project Management: Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre - Report No. AR18/27217 | (k) | Expired |

COMMUNITY LAND

Council is required under the Local Government Act 1999 to adopt a Community Land Management Plan for any land classified as community land that has been specifically modified or adapted for the benefit or enjoyment of the community or that is, or is to be, occupied under a lease or licence.

Community Land Management Plans are periodically prepared and/or reviewed and re-adopted for new and existing community land parcels.

New community land parcels arise when Council purchases land (that is not excluded prior to acquisition) or receives land from subdivisions (usually in the form of reserves and roads). Roads are specifically excluded from the definition of community land.

When Council prepares a new, or reviews an existing, Community Land Management Plan it undertakes public consultation in accordance with the Local Government Act prior to its adoption.

No Community Land Management Plans were adopted by Council during the 2018/2019 financial year.

Community Land Management Plans are available for inspection at the Council office.

INTERNAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS

Council has adopted a formal policy and procedure, C290 – Internal Review of Council's Decisions, in accordance with the requirements of Section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999.

The policy and procedure is reviewed during the term of each Council and was last reviewed in March 2017.

The procedure is one aspect of Council's customer-focused approach to service delivery. It provides the opportunity for any person to seek a review of a Council decision, the manner in which Council provides services to the community and to identify areas for improvement.

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

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

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

During the 2018/2019 financial year no formal applications were received in relation to Section 270 of the Act or the City of Mount Gambier Internal Review of Council's Decisions Policy.



FINANCE

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission (SALGGC) is an independent statutory authority established under the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992.

The SALGGC makes recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the distribution of untied Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to local governing authorities in South Australia.

Grants distributed aim to compensate councils for differences between the costs of providing services and revenue raising capacity. Grants for local governing authorities (councils) in South Australia are distributed in accordance with national principles set by the Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995. Councils may choose to have higher or lower levels of service according to their own priorities. The grants are untied and may be spent according to community priorities.

The Commission aims to equalise councils' financial capacity to provide a similar level of service to their communities. Equalisation refers to the financial capacity of the council, it does not mean that the level of service must be equal.

Pursuant to the Local Government Act, all South Australian councils are required to submit an annual information return along with their audited annual financial statements to the Commission.

From this information the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission prepares and distributes a range of comparative data on each council, commonly referred to as the Grants Commission database reports.

The SA Local Government Grants Commission website includes other database reports for the Local Government sector. Refer to www.dpti.sa.gov.au/local_govt/LGGC

STRATEGIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Council's financial management and sustainability focus has been on the implementation of an integrated planning and budgeting framework, a holistic approach to ensure Council's functions, services and programs are aligned to meet the needs and expectations of Council and the community as articulated in the Community Plan 2016-2020 and related strategies and initiatives.

This integrated approach ensures that Council's strategic directions can be translated and cascaded into financial terms and guide the direction of Council in a financially sustainable manner over a period of at least 10 years. The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) provides a comprehensive understanding of the impacts that decisions made today have on the future. The Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan (IAMP) focuses on future expenditure for new assets and the renewal of existing assets over a period of at least 10 years. It also encompasses planned and reactive maintenance of our assets and significantly influences the LTFP.

Council has maintained strategic financial discipline with the 2018/2019 key indicators being in alignment with budget and reasonable compared to the local government targets. Council's LTFP and IAMP are reviewed periodically in accordance with legislative requirements and are available from Council's website at www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

Council's 2018/2019 operating surplus ratio sits within the local government target range of 0 - 10%. Council has a low level of financial liabilities (borrowings) and consequently the financial liability ratio has been reducing over time but is forecast to increase with the Community and Recreation Hub development. Council is working towards a review of its asset management framework and depreciation practices to boost its asset sustainability ratio which stands at 69% for the 2018/2019 financial year, compared to the local government target range of 90% to 110%.

| Financial ratios | Local Govt. target | LTFP target | 2017/2018 actual | 2018/2019 actual |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| Operating surplus ratio | 0% - 10% | 0% | 6% | 1.4% |
| Net financial liabilities ratio | 0% - 100% | 27% | 17% | 33% |
| Asset sustainability ratio | 90% - 110% | 71% | 72% | 69% |

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

The City of Mount Gambier's Annual Business Plan and Budget are statements of the planned strategies, programs and financial outcomes for the financial year and were developed with reference to the Community Plan, LTFP and IAMP.

Development of the Annual Business Plan and Budget is a fundamental component within the integrated planning and budgeting framework. The framework links Council's strategic suite of documents including the strategies, plans and initiatives with the budgeting process ensuring alignment and an optimal mix of services, programs, infrastructure and facilities are delivered with the LTFP and budget parameters.

The Annual Business Plan and Budget defines the objectives for the financial year, the services, programs and activities required to deliver these objectives and how performance will be monitored and measured.

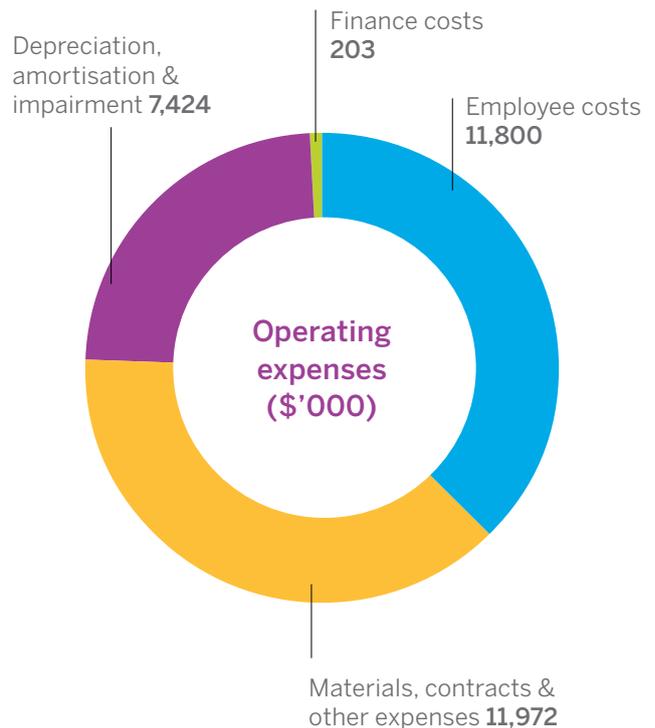
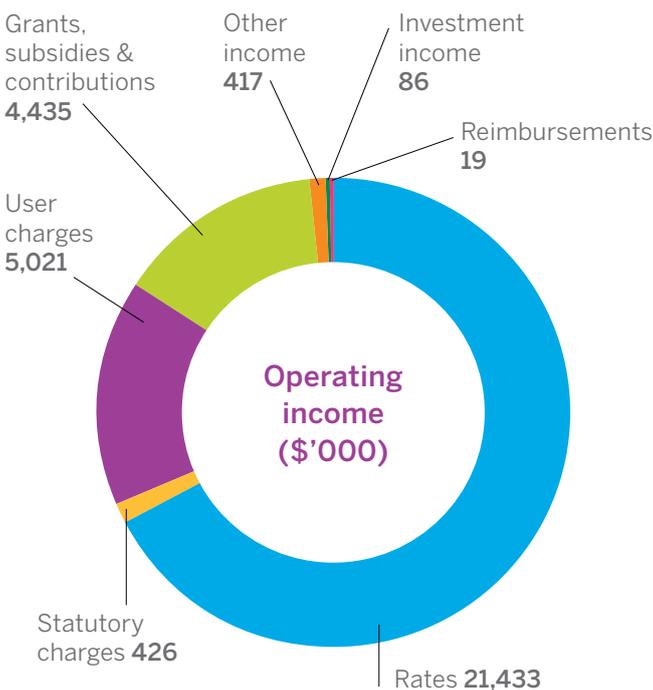
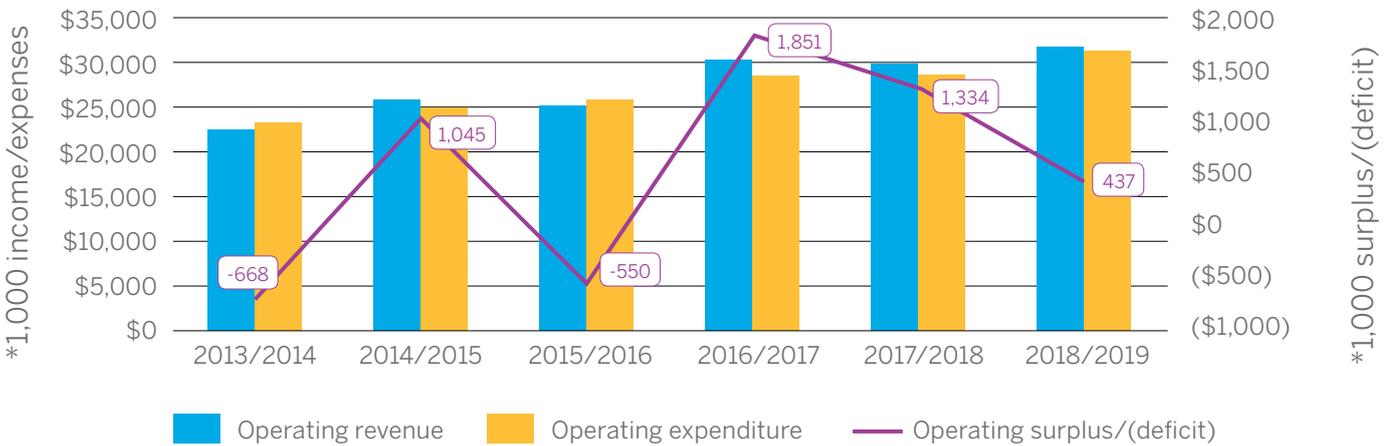
BUDGET ANALYSIS

Council's financial statements report an operating result of \$437,000 for 2018/2019 compared to a budgeted operating surplus of \$226,000.

This improved result is a combination of the total expenses being \$1,203k higher than budget, while at the same time the total income was \$1,414k higher than budgeted for the year. This increase in revenue was impacted by the larger than anticipated prepayment of the 2019/2020 financial assistance grants and the receipt of the supplementary roads grants for the years 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020/2021. Other impacts include higher than anticipated Caroline Landfill revenue and related expenses, including depreciation expenses, and costs incurred in relation to the start of the Community and Recreation Hub project.

The operating result represents the third consecutive year of operating surpluses recorded by Council.

Operating income, expenses and surplus/(deficit)



BUDGET ANALYSIS

Council's budget consists of programs and services that are regular and recur each year, new programs and services first delivered in 2018/2019 that will continue as a recurring program and projects and initiatives that do not recur annually, therefore may occur on a cyclical rotation or once-off.

Council's significant recurring capital programs are infrastructure in nature and for the 2018/2019 financial year included roads with an original budget of \$2.31million (actual \$2.34million), footpaths with an original budget of \$912,000 (actual \$770,965) and plant/equipment with an original budget of \$1.62million (actual \$1.16million).

Additionally, some of the key projects that do not recur annually or were initiated in the 2018/2019 financial year include:

| Program/ service | Nature | Original budget | | | Actual | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | Expense | Capital | Revenue | Expense | Capital | Revenue |
| ReUse Market operations | First year, ongoing | \$194k | \$50k | \$30k | \$297k | \$75k | \$43k |
| Local Government Elections | 4 year cycle | \$129k | | | \$119k | | |
| Customer Service counter and office | Once-off | | \$50k | | | \$103k | |
| Rail Trail – shared path continuation | Once-off spanning multiple years | | \$500k | \$250k | | \$303k | |
| Budget and Business Intelligence software | Once-off | | \$50k | | | \$44k | |
| Polystyrene recycling machine | First year | | \$35k | | | \$36k | |
| Hay Drive demolition, fill and rebuild | Once-off | | \$191k | | | \$163k | |
| Frew Park RV Park and dump point | Once-off | | \$120k | | | \$146k | |

At the conclusion of the 2019 financial year \$2.33million in capital expenditure was rolled over for projects that were still in progress, compared with \$1.1million in 2018.

PROCUREMENT AND COMPETITIVE TENDERING

The City of Mount Gambier's Procurement Policy, framework and administrative procedure ensures that procurement and tendering activities are undertaken in a way that:

- encourages open and effective competition,
- obtains value for money (not measured by price alone),
- has consideration for social and economic benefits,
- encourages the use of local goods and services,
- ensures probity and ethical behaviour,
- complies with work health and safety requirements,
- supports environmentally safe and sustainable practices,
- appropriately identifies, assesses and manages risks,
- promotes efficient purchasing practices and continuous improvement, and
- aligns with strategic management plans.

Council requires a formal tender process for purchases with an estimated expenditure of more than \$50,000 and tender evaluation is carried out by a minimum three person panel with at least one person who is independent to the project. All formal tenders approach the market via a secure online platform.

Council is committed to maximising the positive impact of our procurement activities to benefit the local community and economy (where all other material considerations are comparable).

National Competition Policy

The National Competition Policy seeks to remove competitive advantages and disadvantages that arise through the ownership differences between public and private sector entities engaged in significant business activities.

During the financial year Council did not:

- commence or cease any significant business activities,
- receive any complaints alleging a breach of competitive neutrality,
- provide any review or assistance in relation to the structural report of public monopolies, or
- implement any new by-laws that would restrict competition. Council's taxi by-law No.6 ceased on 1 January 2019.

PROCUREMENT AND COMPETITIVE TENDERING

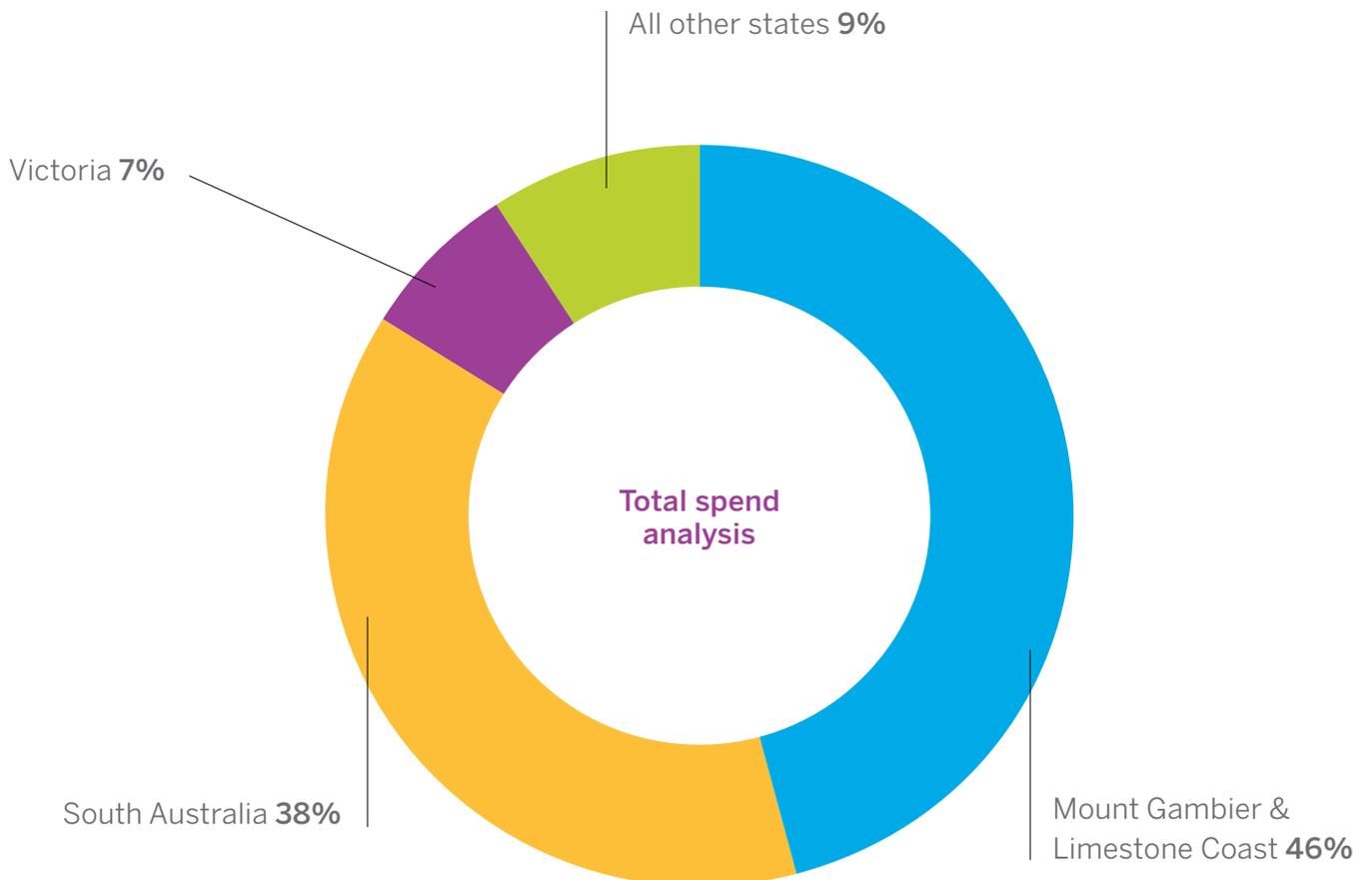
Procurement snapshot

49
FORMAL
PROCUREMENTS
OF WHICH
70%
WERE
AWARDED
LOCALLY

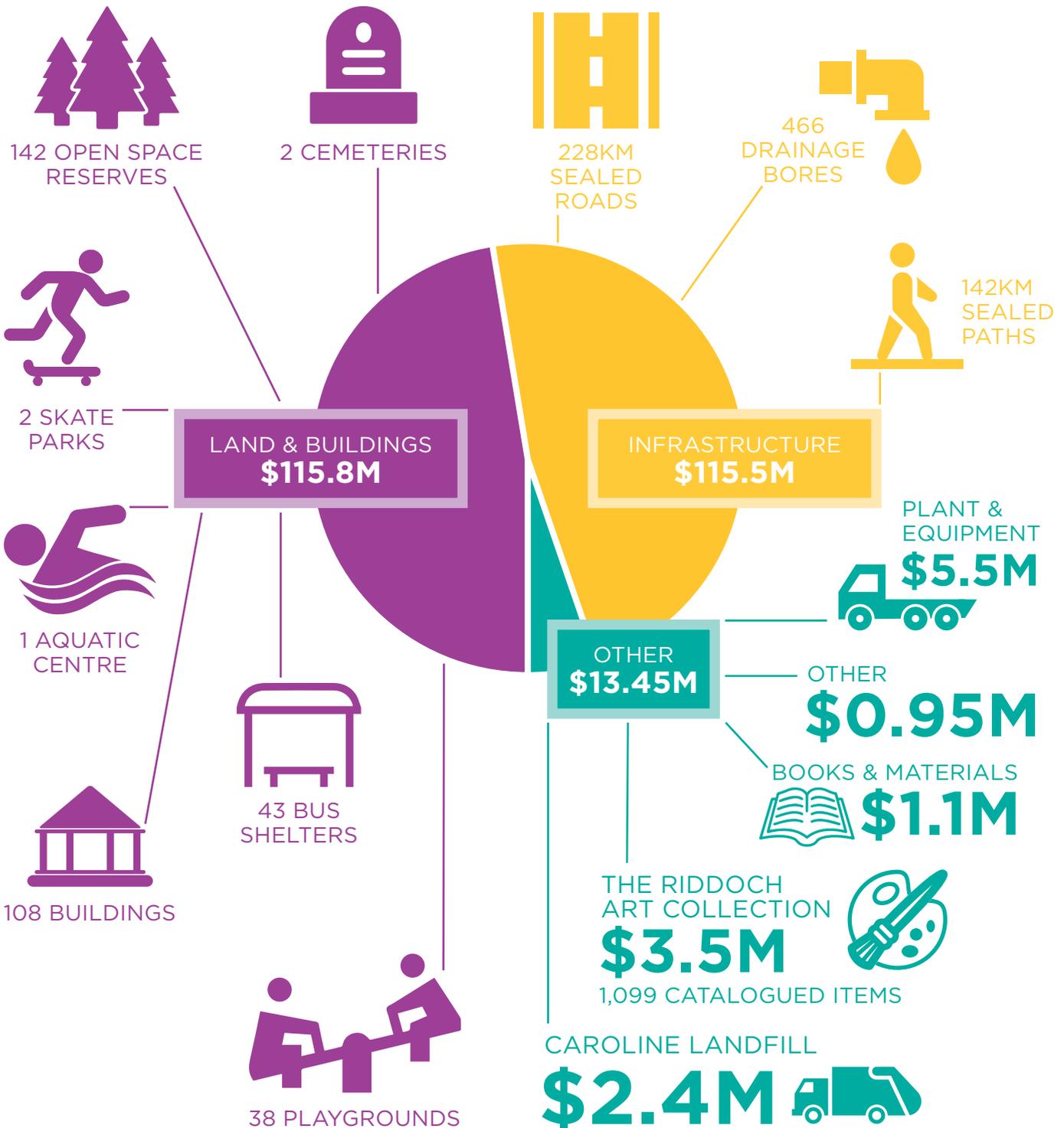


25 
NEW
CONTRACTS
SIGNED

 **210**
PREQUALIFIED
CONTRACTORS
(MINOR WORKS AND SERVICES)



TOTAL ASSET VALUE \$244.75M



RATES

To deliver its services, programs and activities in 2018/2019, Council approved an increase in the overall general gross rate revenue equivalent to 4.5%.

The overall percentage increase included a growth component (i.e. new developments, new assessments) of 0.42% and a nominal increase of 4.08%. For the average residential ratepayer, the rate increase equated to an estimated \$43 per annum, bringing the average annual residential rates to \$1,188.

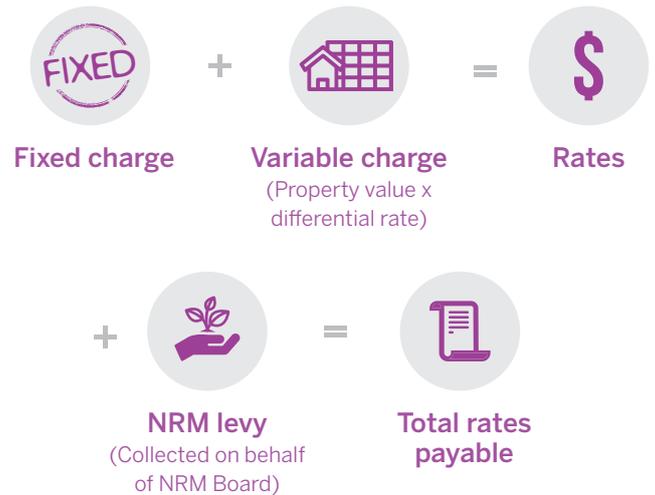
| Average rates | 2017 /2018 | 2018 /2019 |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| SA metro councils | \$1,542 | \$1,598 |
| SA rural councils | \$1,306 | \$1,399 |
| City of Mount Gambier | \$1,145 | \$1,188 |

In 2018/2019 City of Mount Gambier ratepayers paid approximately \$211 less in residential rates on average, in comparison to other regional cities in South Australia*.

**Based on the Local Government of South Australia rates survey 2018/2019.*

How rates are determined

Council's rating strategy uses a combination of a fixed charge on every rateable property and a differential or variable rating system, based on land use, when calculating general rates.



City of Mount Gambier uses valuations from the State Valuation Office. The rate in the dollar determines how much is payable according to how much the property is worth. The fixed charge component was \$655.20 in 2018/2019, applicable to every rateable property, raising just under half (45%) of Council's gross general rate revenue. The variable rating component that raises the remainder (55%) is determined by multiplying the individual property value by the differential rate in the dollar adopted for each separate land use category, i.e. residential, commercial, industrial, primary production, vacant land or other land use.

As part of Council's rating strategy a range of rate relief measures are available upon application.

RESIDENTIAL RATES COMPARISON FOR 2018/2019

The Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLG) categorises councils using the population, population density and the proportion of the population that is classified as urban for the council.

All local governments who receive general purpose financial assistance grants via the Grants Commission are classified according to ACLG categories. These categories are defined as:

- URS: Urban Regional Small
- URM: Urban Regional Medium
- UFS: Urban Fringe Small

The majority of other SA councils are classified in 'Rural' or 'Urban' large (metro) categories.

SA councils categorised as 'Urban' (regional or fringe) have been used in the table below for comparative purposes.

In 2017/2018 the City of Mount Gambier residential rates per rateable property (\$1,251) was equivalent to 81.4% of the state average (\$1,536) or 18.6% below the state average.

In the 2016/2017 financial year this figure was 84.4% of the state average or 15.6% below the state average.

RATES OUTSTANDING AS AT JUNE 30



| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| 2.32% | 2.21% | 2.47% | 2.48% | 2.69% |

TOTAL RATEPAYERS REGISTERED TO RECEIVE RATES NOTICES ELECTRONICALLY

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 2018/2019 | 4,246 |
| 2017/2018 | 3,009 |
| 2016/2017 | 940 |
| 2015/2016 | 480 |



Total income from rates

| | \$'000 | Amount paid electronically \$'000 | % paid electronically |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2018/2019 | \$20,490 | \$17,941 | 87% |
| 2017/2018 | \$19,608 | \$16,265 | 83% |
| 2016/2017 | \$18,764 | \$13,560 | 72% |

| Council | ACLG | Population (ERP) 2018 | Total rates \$'000 | Rates as % of revenue | Residential rates/ residential property \$ |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Alexandrina | UFS | 27,037 | 38,003 | 83 | 1,872 |
| Barossa | UFS | 24,808 | 29,413 | 77 | 1,719 |
| Gawler | UFS | 24,018 | 21,643 | 79 | 1,863 |
| Mount Barker | URM | 35,545 | 37,051 | 80 | 1,942 |
| Mount Gambier | URS | 27,176 | 20,597 | 68 | 1,251 |
| Murray Bridge | URS | 22,165 | 23,723 | 64 | 1,709 |
| Port Augusta | URS | 14,102 | 18,847 | 51 | 1,754 |
| Port Lincoln | URS | 14,626 | 14,063 | 69 | 1,615 |
| Victor Harbor | URS | 15,248 | 20,791 | 79 | 1,919 |
| Whyalla | URS | 21,766 | 19,905 | 64 | 1,474 |
| State average | | | | 72 | 1,536 |

AUDITORS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The City of Mount Gambier Annual Financial Statements for 2018/2019 were audited by Galpins Accountants Auditors and Business Consultants who were appointed as external auditors in August 2016 for a five year term pursuant to Section 128 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Remuneration paid or payable during 2018/2019 to the auditors for work performed for the annual audit of Council's financial statements pursuant to Section 128 of the Act was \$25,700.

Council's Audit Committee held four meetings in the 2018/2019 financial year, two of which were attended by the Galpins' audit partner.

Information regarding sitting fees for the Audit Committee can be found under 'Members Allowances and Reimbursements' in the Governance section of this report.

SELECTED GENERAL STATISTICS

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Area | 3,388 ha or 34 km ² |
| Length of roads | 228 km |
| Number of residential properties | 12,379 |
| Population (2018) | 27,176 |
| Population density (persons per hectare) | 8.02 |
| Average household size (2016) | 2.30 |
| Unemployment (March 2018) | 6.7% |
| Capital value, all land (June 2019) | \$3,817 billion |
| Gross Domestic Product (June 2018) | \$1.485 billion |

Customer Service statistics



18,382

**FINANCIAL
TRANSACTIONS
PROCESSED AT THE
CIVIC CENTRE**



22,327

**CALLS RECORDED
THROUGH THE
CUSTOMER
EXPERIENCE CALL
CENTRE**



**TRANSACTIONS AT
THE REUSE MARKET**

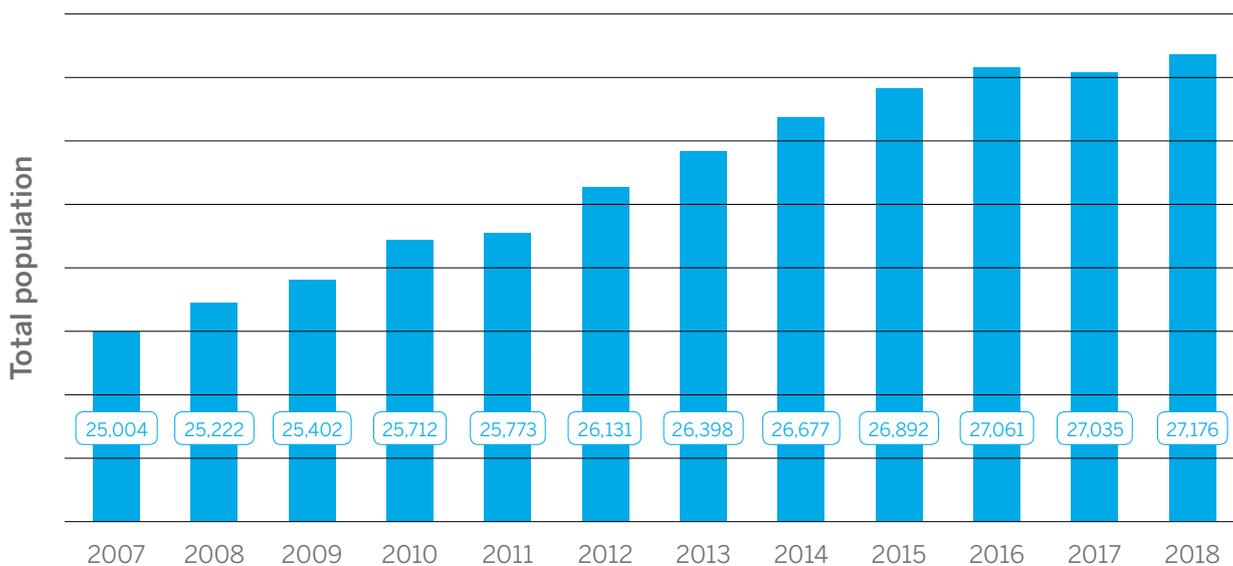
3,111

SELECTED GENERAL STATISTICS

Population

The population and population growth of the City of Mount Gambier is shown in the following graph (source: Australian Bureau of Statistics - estimated resident population data).

City of Mount Gambier resident population

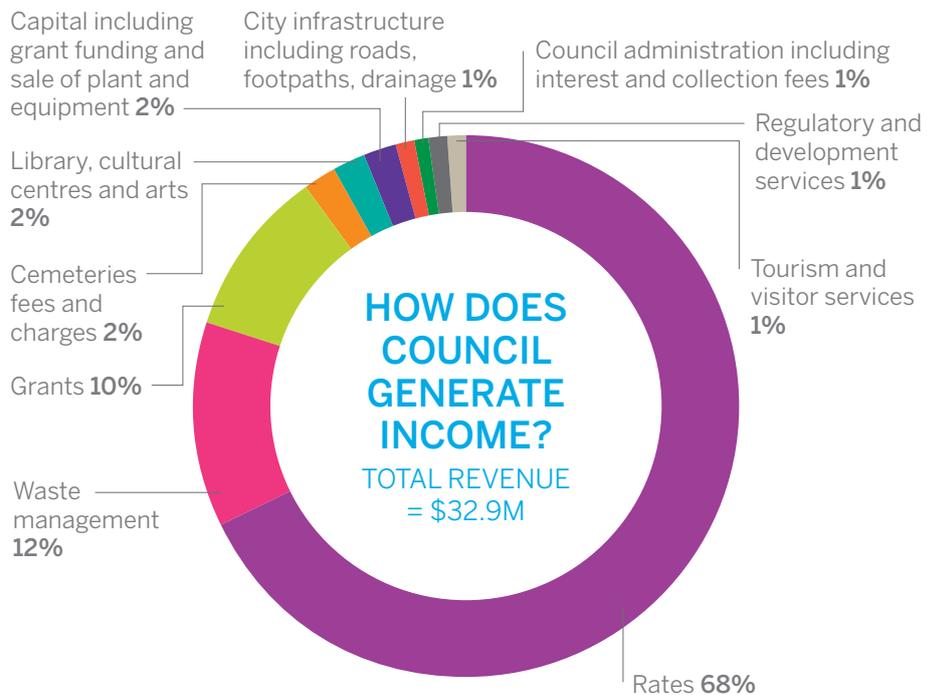
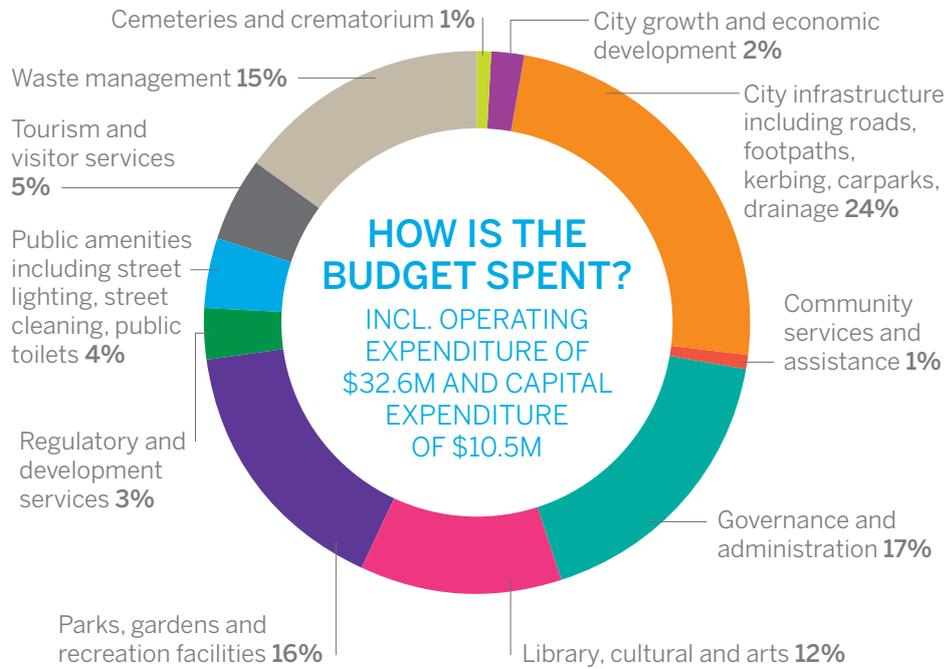


Electors on the House of Assembly Role

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 18,345 | 18,874 | 19,408 | 19,270 | 19,292 |

PROJECTIONS AND TARGET FOR 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2019/2020 includes \$32.6million operating and \$10.5million capital expenditure as well as \$32.9million in revenue.



The core services include \$3.1million for maintenance of parks, gardens and reserves, \$1.5million for the footpath construction and maintenance program, \$5.1million for roads and drainage, \$2.5million for kerbside waste and recycling collection and disposal and \$1.4million for public amenities and streetscaping.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

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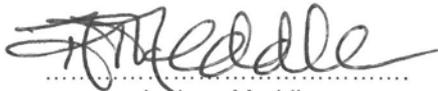
City of Mount Gambier

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2019

Certification of Financial Statements

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

- the accompanying financial statements comply with the *Local Government Act 1999*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards.
- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position at 30 June 2019 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Council's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Council's accounting and other records.



Andrew Meddle
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Lynette Martin
MAYOR

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| INCOME | | | |
| Rates | 2 | 21,432 | 20,597 |
| Statutory charges | 2 | 426 | 447 |
| User charges | 2 | 5,021 | 4,483 |
| Grants, subsidies and contributions | 2 | 4,435 | 3,906 |
| Investment income | 2 | 86 | 62 |
| Reimbursements | 2 | 19 | 83 |
| Other income | 2 | 417 | 522 |
| Total Income | | 31,836 | 30,101 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Employee costs | 3 | 11,800 | 11,033 |
| Materials, contracts & other expenses | 3 | 11,972 | 10,023 |
| Depreciation, amortisation & impairment | 3 | 7,424 | 7,461 |
| Finance costs | 3 | 203 | 250 |
| Total Expenses | | 31,399 | 28,767 |
| OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | | 437 | 1,334 |
| Asset disposal & fair value adjustments | 4 | (594) | (243) |
| Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets | 2 | 105 | 445 |
| Physical resources received free of charge | 2 | 159 | 463 |
| NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | | | |
| transferred to Equity Statement | | 107 | 1,999 |
| Other comprehensive income | | | |
| <i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i> | | | |
| Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | | 56 | 21,108 |
| Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve | | - | (1,215) |
| Total Other Comprehensive Income | | 56 | 19,893 |
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME | | 163 | 21,891 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 5 | 6,069 | 4,587 |
| Trade & other receivables | 5 | 1,867 | 1,524 |
| Inventories | 5 | 816 | 304 |
| Total current assets | | 8,752 | 6,415 |
| Non-current assets | | | |
| Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | 7 | 244,752 | 245,807 |
| Total non-current assets | | 244,752 | 245,807 |
| Total assets | | 253,504 | 252,222 |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Trade & other payables | 8 | 3,017 | 2,429 |
| Borrowings | 8 | 195 | 218 |
| Provisions | 8 | 2,338 | 2,332 |
| Total current liabilities | | 5,550 | 4,979 |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Borrowings | 8 | 2,377 | 2,572 |
| Provisions | 8 | 3,650 | 2,907 |
| Total non-current Liabilities | | 6,027 | 5,479 |
| Total liabilities | | 11,577 | 10,458 |
| NET ASSETS | | 241,927 | 241,764 |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated surplus | | 65,609 | 65,515 |
| Asset revaluation reserves | 9 | 175,458 | 175,402 |
| Other reserves | 9 | 860 | 847 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | 241,927 | 241,764 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

| | Accumulated surplus \$'000 | Asset revaluation reserve \$'000 | Other reserves \$'000 | Total equity \$'000 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2019 | | | | |
| Balance at end of previous reporting period | 65,515 | 175,402 | 847 | 241,764 |
| Net surplus / (deficit) for the year | 107 | | | 107 |
| Other Comprehensive Income | | | | |
| Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | | 56 | | 56 |
| Transfers between reserves | (13) | | 13 | - |
| Balance at end of period | 65,609 | 175,458 | 860 | 241,927 |
| 2018 | | | | |
| Balance at end of previous reporting period | 61,333 | 155,509 | 3,030 | 219,872 |
| Net surplus / (deficit) for the year | 1,999 | | | 1,999 |
| Other Comprehensive Income | | | | |
| Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | | 21,108 | | 21,107 |
| Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve | | (1,215) | | (1,215) |
| Transfers between reserves | 2,183 | | (2,183) | - |
| Balance at end of period | 65,515 | 175,402 | 847 | 241,763 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

STATEMENT CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|---|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Receipts | | | |
| Rates - general & other | | 21,388 | 19,522 |
| Fees & other charges | | 426 | 447 |
| User charges | | 5,459 | 4,343 |
| Investment receipts | | 86 | 62 |
| Grants utilised for operating purposes | | 4,435 | 3,906 |
| Reimbursements | | 21 | 61 |
| Other revenues | | 446 | 597 |
| Payments | | | |
| Employee costs | | (11,629) | (11,715) |
| Materials, contracts & other expenses | | (12,981) | (9,816) |
| Finance payments | | (161) | (172) |
| Net cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities | | 7,490 | 7,235 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Receipts | | | |
| Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets | | 105 | 445 |
| Sale of replaced assets | | 359 | 146 |
| Sale of surplus assets | | - | 71 |
| Repayments of loans by community groups | | 17 | 35 |
| Payments | | | |
| Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets | | (4,006) | (4,053) |
| Expenditure on new/upgraded assets | | (2,265) | (2,114) |
| Net cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities | | (5,790) | (5,470) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Payments | | | |
| Repayments of borrowings | | (218) | (206) |
| Net cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities | | (218) | (206) |
| Net increase / (decrease) in cash held | | 1,482 | 1,559 |
| Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period | 10 | 4,587 | 3,028 |
| Cash & cash equivalents at end of period | 10 | 6,069 | 4,587 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 1 - Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of preparation

Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

The financial report was authorised by Council for issue by certificate under regulation 14 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* dated 17 September 2019.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of these Notes.

Rounding

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

2 The Local Government reporting entity

City of Mount Gambier is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier. These financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

3 Income recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the income, or when the amount due constitutes an enforceable debt, whichever first occurs.

Where grants, contributions and donations recognised as incomes during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in these notes. Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as incomes in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

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

| | Cash received/ revenue \$'000 | Annual allocation \$'000 | Revenue increase/ (decrease) \$'000 |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 2017 | \$3,908 | \$2,580 | \$1,328 |
| 2018 | \$3,172 | \$3,018 | \$154 |
| 2019 | \$3,952 | \$3,303 | \$649 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 1 - Significant accounting policies (continued)

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

The operating surplus ratio disclosed in note 13 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

The actual amounts of untied grants received during the reporting periods (including the advance allocations) are disclosed in note 2.

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

4 Cash, cash equivalents and other financial instruments

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

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed

statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments forms part of note 12.

5 Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued by using the weighted average cost on a continual basis, after adjustment for loss of service potential. Inventories held in respect of business undertakings have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Initial recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired free of charge or at a nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of recognition.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead.

Materiality

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 1 - Significant accounting policies (continued)

Subsequent recognition

The revaluation model is applied for the asset classes land, buildings and structures, waste management, infrastructure and the Riddoch art collection. The cost model is applied to the asset classes of plant and equipment, office equipment and other.

All revaluation model asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. The latest revaluations occurred in 2018 for land (every second year), in 2016 for buildings and structures (every fourth year), in 2018 for infrastructure (every third year), in 2019 for waste management (annually) and in 2018 for the Riddoch art collection (every fourth year).

For infrastructure and other asset classes where no active market exists, fair value is determined to be the current replacement cost of an asset less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Significant uncertainties exist in the estimation of fair value of a number of asset classes including land, buildings and other structures and infrastructure. Further detail of existing valuations, methods and valuers is provided in note 7.

Depreciation of non-current assets

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

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

Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown in note 7. Depreciation periods

for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets carried at fair value whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, are not assessed for impairment.

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

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

7 Payables

Goods and services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

Payments received in advance and deposits

Amounts (with the exception of some grants) received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 1 - Significant accounting policies (continued)

—

delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

8 Borrowings

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

9 Provisions

Employee benefit provisions

Salaries, wages & compensated absences

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based oncosts) measured in accordance with AASB 119.

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based oncosts) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms (1.94% in 2019 and 2018).

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

An accrual is made for vesting sick leave and Council does make payment for vesting sick leave in accordance with the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement for AWU employees.

Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the superannuation fund selected by the employee. The default superannuation fund is Statewide Super. The fund has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in note 16.

Provisions for reinstatement, restoration, rehabilitation, etc.

Council operates the Caroline landfill site, incorporating cells which require capping upon complete fill. Capping and restoration costs can include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, the removal of residual materials and the remediation and rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Estimated close capping and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, and are carried at the net present value of estimated future costs.

Although estimated future costs are based on a closure plan, such plans are based on current environmental requirements and construction costs estimates which may change and require management to exercise judgement. Significant uncertainty exists in the estimation of the future closure date.

10 GST implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 1031 *Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax*

- receivables and creditors include GST receivable and payable;
- except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable;
- non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment, and;
- amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 1 - Significant accounting policies (continued)

11 Comparative information

Council has corrected a material prior period error retrospectively in these Statements in the comparative information. The error relates to waste management assets in general and the Caroline landfill in particular. In the comparative financial year the provided-for cost of capping for part of a cell was included in the prior year asset value and the future reinstatement / restoration provision, while the cost of construction of that same part was not included in the asset value and the depreciation (capacity in use) was based on the entire cell capacity rather than the part cell completed.

Under AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* the following changes have been made to the comparatives in the statement of financial position and the statement of comprehensive income:

| | \$'000 |
|--|----------------|
| Statement of financial position | |
| Provision | decrease \$714 |
| IPP&E - Waste management | decrease \$700 |
| IPP&E cumulative depreciation – Waste management | increase \$457 |
| Statement of comprehensive income | |
| Depreciation – Waste management | increase \$457 |
| Unwinding of NPV discounts | increase \$14 |

12 New accounting standards

AASB 7 *Financial instruments – Disclosures* and AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* commence from 1 July 2018 and have the effect that non-contractual receivables (e.g. rates & charges) are now treated as financial instruments. Although the disclosures made in note 12 Financial instruments have changed, there are no changes to the amounts disclosed.

AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, which will commence from 1 July 2019, affect the timing with which revenues, particularly special purpose grants, are recognised. Amounts received in relation to contracts with sufficiently specific performance obligations will in future only be recognised as these obligations are fulfilled.

AASB 16 *Leases*, which will commence from 1 July 2019, requires that the right of use conveyed by lease contracts – except leases with a maximum term of 12 months and leases of non-material amounts – be recognised as a form of Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment, and that the lease liability be disclosed as a liability.

As a result of the new accounting policy, the following changes will be made to balance sheet amounts as at 1 July 2019:

| Asset | \$'000 |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| IPP&E Right-of-use asset | increase \$340 |
| Lease liability | increase \$333 |
| Accumulated surplus | increase \$7 |

The effect on profit and loss in future years will be non-material.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 2 - Income

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| RATES REVENUES | | | |
| General rates | | 20,434 | 19,593 |
| Less: Mandatory rebates | | (211) | (221) |
| Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs | | (29) | - |
| Total general rates | | 20,194 | 19,372 |
| Other rates (including service charges) | | | |
| Natural Resource Management levy | | 1,087 | 1,079 |
| Other charges | | | |
| Penalties for late payment | | 79 | 79 |
| Legal & other costs recovered | | 72 | 67 |
| Total rates revenue | | 21,432 | 20,597 |
| STATUTORY CHARGES | | | |
| Development Act fees | | 77 | 95 |
| Town planning fees | | 126 | 110 |
| Health & septic tank inspection fees | | 1 | 21 |
| Animal registration fees & fines | | 157 | 143 |
| Parking fines / expiation fees | | 16 | 18 |
| Other licences, fees & fines | | 49 | 60 |
| Total statutory charges | | 426 | 447 |
| USER CHARGES | | | |
| Cemetery/crematoria fees | | 764 | 795 |
| Green waste collection | | 495 | 472 |
| Landfill charges | | 2,824 | 2,112 |
| Hall & equipment hire | | 346 | 279 |
| Recycling | | - | 132 |
| Sales - general | | 158 | 441 |
| Sales - Waste Transfer Station | | 220 | - |
| Bus ticketing | | 214 | 242 |
| Sales - sundry | | - | 11 |
| Total user charges | | 5,021 | 4,484 |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | | | |
| Interest on investments | | | |
| Local Government Finance Authority | | 84 | 49 |
| Banks & other | | 2 | 13 |
| Total investment income | | 86 | 62 |
| REIMBURSEMENTS | | | |
| Reimbursements - roadworks | | - | 14 |
| Reimbursements - private works | | 12 | 63 |
| Reimbursements - other | | 7 | 6 |
| Total reimbursements | | 19 | 83 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 2 - Income (continued)

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| OTHER INCOME | | | |
| Insurance & other recoupments (infrastructure, property, plant & equipment) | | 149 | 148 |
| Donations | | 56 | 57 |
| Other income - sundry | | 212 | 317 |
| Total other income | | 417 | 522 |
| GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS | | | |
| Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets | | 105 | 445 |
| Other grants, subsidies and contributions | | | |
| Untied - Financial Assistance Grant | | 3,952 | 3,172 |
| Roads to Recovery | | 171 | 564 |
| Library & communications | | 181 | 148 |
| Grants, subs, contributions - sundry | | 131 | 22 |
| Subtotal - other grants, subsidies and contributions | | 4,435 | 3,906 |
| Total grants, subsidies, contributions | | 4,540 | 4,351 |
| Sources of grants | | | |
| Commonwealth government | | 190 | 564 |
| State government | | 4,309 | 3,787 |
| Other | | 41 | 0 |
| | | 4,540 | 4,351 |
| <i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 11.</i> | | | |
| Conditions over grants & contributions | | | |
| Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows: | | | |
| Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period | | 250 | 130 |
| Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods | | | |
| Bicycle Funding Program | | (152) | (40) |
| Salvage Yard | | | (90) |
| Subtotal | | (152) | (130) |
| Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions | | | |
| Rail Trail - Stage 3 | | - | 250 |
| Subtotal | | - | 250 |
| Unexpended at the close of this reporting period | | 98 | 250 |
| Net increase / (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period | | (152) | 120 |
| PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE | | | |
| Land - free of charge | | 6 | 188 |
| Footpaths & kerbing - free of charge | | 34 | - |
| Roads - free of charge | | 44 | 269 |
| Riddoch collection - free of charge | | 75 | 6 |
| Total physical resources received free of charge | | 159 | 463 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 3 - Expenses

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| EMPLOYEE COSTS | | | |
| Salaries and wages | | 9,331 | 8,785 |
| Employee leave expense | | 1,103 | 944 |
| Superannuation | | 1,072 | 997 |
| Workers' compensation insurance | | 269 | 262 |
| Operating employee costs - other | | 25 | 45 |
| Total operating employee costs | | 11,800 | 11,033 |
| <i>Total number of employees expressed in full time equivalents</i> | | | |
| | | 127 | 125 |
| MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES | | | |
| Prescribed expenses | | | |
| Auditor's remuneration | | | |
| Auditing the financial reports | | 26 | 33 |
| Bad and doubtful debts | | 11 | 23 |
| Elected members' expenses | | 234 | 459 |
| Election expenses | | 119 | 14 |
| Subtotal - Prescribed expenses | | 390 | 529 |
| Other materials, contracts & expenses | | | |
| Contractors | | 2,379 | 1,890 |
| Repairs & maintenance | | 1,162 | 575 |
| Contributions / donations | | 851 | 581 |
| Energy | | 877 | 835 |
| Insurance | | 276 | 282 |
| Levies paid to government - EPA, ESL & dog levies | | 1,292 | 1,114 |
| NRM levy expense | | 1,087 | 1,079 |
| Materials | | 981 | 721 |
| Training | | 196 | 193 |
| Water | | 185 | 132 |
| Communication | | 272 | 281 |
| Consultants | | 706 | 513 |
| Licences and subscriptions | | 605 | 587 |
| Sundry expenses | | 715 | 708 |
| Subtotal - Other materials, contracts & expenses | | 11,584 | 9,494 |
| | | 11,972 | 10,023 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 3 - Expenses (continued)

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT | | | |
| Depreciation | | | |
| Depr buildings & other structures | | 2,346 | 2,363 |
| Depr waste management | | 902 | 1,078 |
| Infrastructure | | | |
| Depr stormwater drainage | | 102 | 99 |
| Depr bridges | | 2 | 3 |
| Depr footpaths & kerbing | | 1,073 | 702 |
| Depr roads | | 1,700 | 1,826 |
| Depr carparks | | 256 | 249 |
| Depr plant & equipment | | 596 | 701 |
| Depr office equipment | | 148 | 158 |
| Depr Riddoch collection | | - | - |
| Depr other | | 299 | 280 |
| Impairment of derecognised assets | | - | 1,215 |
| | | 7,424 | 8,678 |
| Less: Impairment expense offset to asset revaluation reserve | 9 | - | (1,215) |
| | | 7,424 | 7,461 |
| FINANCE COSTS | | | |
| Interest on loans | | 161 | 172 |
| Unwinding of present value discounts | | 42 | 64 |
| | | 203 | 236 |

Note 4 - Gain / (loss) on asset disposal

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT | | | |
| Assets renewed or directly replaced | | | |
| Proceeds from disposal | | 359 | 146 |
| Less: Carrying amount of assets sold | | (324) | 100 |
| Gain / (loss) on disposal | | 35 | 45 |
| Asset surplus to requirements | | | |
| Proceeds from disposal | | - | 71 |
| Less: Carrying amount of assets sold | | - | 85 |
| Gain / (loss) on disposal | | - | (14) |
| FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS | | | |
| Impairment of disposed assets | | (629) | (275) |
| Total fair value adjustments | | (629) | (275) |
| Net gain/(loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets | | (594) | (243) |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 5 - Current assets

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS | | | |
| Cash on hand and at bank | | 515 | 327 |
| Deposits at call | | 4,788 | 3,522 |
| Short term deposits & bills, etc | | 766 | 738 |
| | | 6,069 | 4,587 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|
| TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES | | | |
| Rates - general & other | | 742 | 430 |
| Interest receivable | | 4 | 11 |
| Debtors - general | | 1,045 | 883 |
| GST recoupment | | - | 155 |
| Prepayments | | 112 | 53 |
| Loans to community organisations | | 18 | 35 |
| Total | | 1,921 | 1,567 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------|
| Less: Allowance for doubtful debts | | 54 | 43 |
| | | 1,867 | 1,524 |

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

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|------------|------------|
| INVENTORIES | | | |
| Stores & materials | | 18 | 20 |
| Trading stock | | 9 | 10 |
| Work in progress | | 789 | 274 |
| | | 816 | 304 |

Note 6 - Non-current assets

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| FINANCIAL ASSETS | | | |
| Loans to community organisations | | - | - |
| Total financial assets | | - | - |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 7 - Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

| | Fair value level | 2018 \$'000 | | | | 2019 \$'000 | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | | At fair value | At cost | Accumulated depreciation | Carrying amount | At fair value | At cost | Accumulated depreciation | Carrying amount |
| Land | 2 | 10,063 | - | - | 10,063 | - | - | 10,063 | |
| Land | 3 | 41,590 | 361 | - | 41,590 | 367 | - | 41,957 | |
| Buildings & other structures | 2 | 1,009 | 9 | - | 976 | 9 | (81) | 904 | |
| Buildings & other structures | 3 | 96,041 | 2,227 | (33,793) | 96,074 | 2,860 | (36,058) | 62,876 | |
| Waste Management | 3 | 7,678 | 498 | (6,525) | 7,734 | 2,084 | (7,428) | 2,390 | |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | |
| Stormwater drainage | 3 | 7,185 | - | (1,986) | 7,185 | 68 | (2,088) | 5,165 | |
| Bridges | 3 | 164 | - | (73) | - | - | - | - | |
| Footpaths & kerbing | 3 | 70,928 | - | (16,556) | 70,653 | 1,327 | (17,581) | 54,399 | |
| Roads | 3 | 63,332 | - | (15,194) | 62,922 | 1,709 | (16,783) | 47,848 | |
| Carparks | 3 | 10,230 | - | (2,092) | 10,230 | 206 | (2,348) | 8,088 | |
| Plant & equipment | | (118) | 7,743 | (2,492) | - | 8,154 | (2,666) | 5,488 | |
| Office equipment | | - | 2,060 | (1,648) | - | 1,668 | (1,216) | 452 | |
| Riddoch collection | 3 | 3,434 | - | - | 3,509 | - | - | 3,509 | |
| Other | | - | 3,232 | (1,500) | - | 3,412 | (1,799) | 1,613 | |
| Total infrastructure, property, plant & equipment | | 311,536 | 16,130 | (81,859) | 310,936 | 21,864 | (88,048) | 244,752 | |
| Comparatives | | 281,610 | 19,982 | (73,335) | 311,536 | 16,130 | (81,859) | 245,807 | |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 7 - Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

| | 2018 | Carrying amount movements during year | | | | | | | | | | 2019 |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | | | | | | | | | | \$'000 |
| | Carrying amount | Additions | Disposals | Depreciation | Impairment | Transfers | | Net revaluation | Carrying amount | | | |
| | New/ upgrade | Renewals | | | In | Out | | | | | | |
| Land - Level 2 | 10,063 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 10,063 | | | |
| Land - Level 3 | 41,951 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 41,957 | | | |
| Buildings & other structures - Level 2 | 1,018 | - | - | (24) | - | (90) | - | - | 904 | | | |
| Buildings & other structures - Level 3 | 64,475 | 288 | - | (2,322) | - | 90 | - | - | 62,876 | | | |
| Waste Management Infrastructure | 1,651 | 1,585 | - | (902) | - | - | - | 56 | 2,390 | | | |
| Stormwater drainage | 5,199 | - | 68 | (102) | - | - | - | - | 5,165 | | | |
| Bridges | 91 | - | (89) | (2) | - | - | - | - | - | | | |
| Footpaths & kerbing | 54,372 | 638 | (228) | (1,073) | - | - | - | - | 54,399 | | | |
| Roads | 48,138 | 74 | (299) | (1,700) | - | - | - | - | 47,848 | | | |
| Carparks | 8,138 | 206 | - | (256) | - | - | - | - | 8,088 | | | |
| Plant & equipment | 5,133 | 219 | (324) | (596) | - | - | - | - | 5,488 | | | |
| Office equipment | 412 | 87 | - | (148) | - | - | - | - | 452 | | | |
| Ridloch collection | 3,434 | 75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3,509 | | | |
| Other | 1,732 | 63 | (13) | (299) | - | - | - | - | 1,613 | | | |
| | 245,807 | 3,241 | (953) | (7,424) | - | 90 | (90) | 56 | 244,752 | | | |
| Comparatives | 228,257 | 1,415 | (459) | (7,461) | (1,215) | 21,290 | (21,290) | 21,108 | 245,807 | | | |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 7 - Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

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Valuation of Assets

General Valuation Principles

Accounting procedure:

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

Highest and best use:

For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the "highest and best use" recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land.

Much of the land under Council's care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999. Other types of restrictions also exist.

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

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

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations

Certain land, and the buildings and structures thereon, are shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 2 valuation inputs. They are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, with directly or indirectly observable adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of land

Valuations of Crown land, community land and land subject to other restrictions on use or disposal, shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 3 valuation inputs, are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, but include adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset that are not directly or indirectly observable in that market, or the number and / or amount of observable adjustments of which are so great that the valuation is more fairly described as being based on level 3 valuation inputs.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of buildings, infrastructure and other assets

There is no known market for these assets and they are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

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

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 7 - Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Valuation of Assets (continued)

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

| | |
|---|---------|
| Office furniture & equipment | \$1,000 |
| Other plant & equipment | \$1,000 |
| Buildings - new construction/extensions | \$5,000 |
| Park & playground furniture & equipment | \$1,000 |
| Road construction & reconstruction | \$5,000 |
| Paving & footpaths, kerb & gutter | \$5,000 |
| Stormwater & drainage | \$5,000 |
| Waste management | \$5,000 |

These thresholds are indicative only and where an asset is material by its nature rather than value, the capitalisation threshold may be a lesser amount.

Estimated useful lives

Useful lives are estimated for each individual asset. In estimating useful lives, regard is given to technical and commercial obsolescence, as well as legal and other limitations on continued use. The range of useful lives for a representative range of assets is shown below, although individual assets may have an estimated total useful life of greater or lesser amount. The useful life represents Council's expected availability for use and is in line with Council's planned replacement schedules.

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Land | indefinite |
| Building & other structures | |
| Buildings - structure | 60 to 100 years |
| Buildings - roofing | 40 to 50 years |
| Buildings - services | 40 to 60 years |
| Buildings - fit-out | 15 to 25 years |
| Park shelters & other structures | 20 to 30 years |
| Playground equipment | 20 to 30 years |
| Benches, seats, etc. | 10 to 30 years |
| Waste management | |
| Landfill assets | capacity in use |
| Infrastructure | |
| Sealed roads - seal | 12 to 40 years |
| Sealed roads - pavements | 30 to 75 years |
| Sealed roads - sub pavements | 120 to 150 years |
| Unsealed roads | 10 to 20 years |
| Bridges | 50 years |
| Footpaths | 10 to 70 years |
| Kerbing & channels | 40 to 70 years |
| Stormwater drainage | 70 years |
| Plant & equipment | |
| Staff vehicles | 2 years |
| Trucks | 5 to 25 years |
| Rollers, loaders, graders & tractors | 10 to 25 years |
| Sundry plant | 2 to 15 years |
| Office equipment | |
| IT hardware & equipment | 3 to 10 years |
| Software | 3 to 7 years |
| Other assets | |
| Library books | 10 to 15 years |
| Artworks | indefinite |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 7 - Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Land

Council has formed the opinion that it is not possible to reliably measure the fair value of land under roads and therefore does not recognise land under roads. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

Freehold land and land over which Council has control, but does not have title, is recognised on the cost basis. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

Land is revalued every second year (lastly in 2018) based on Valuer General's valuations provided to Council.

Buildings and other structures

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2016 by Richard Wood, AAPI CPV, of Opteon Property Group. Revaluations occur every four years. All additions are initially recorded at cost, which values are assumed to be a reasonable approximation of the fair values and classified at fair value.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure assets includes stormwater drainage, bridges, footpath and kerbing, roads and carpark assets. Infrastructure assets were valued by Council officers at depreciated current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 2018, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting periods ended 30 June 2018. Revaluation occurs every three years. All additions are initially recorded at cost, which values are assumed to be a reasonable approximation of the fair values and classified at fair value.

Waste management - landfill

Landfill remediation and cell development assets are amortised on a consumption basis over the individual landfill cell's capacity to receive waste. At the time of construction of a cell, Council includes the present value of estimated costs to cap and close the cell into the landfill cell. This estimate is offset by the recognition of a provision. This recognition of the capping costs is amortised in line with the consumption of the landfill cell's capacity used in any one year.

Revaluation of the landfill occurs annually.

Plant and equipment and office equipment

These assets are recognised at historical cost and depreciated over its expected useful life.

Riddoch art collection

The Riddoch art collection was revalued as at 30 June 2018 by Simon Storey Art and Cultural Collection Valuers. These assets are not depreciated and are revalued every four years.

Other assets

These assets, including land improvements and library books, are recognised at historical cost. Library books and other lending materials are capitalised in bulk each year and written off when fully depreciated.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 8 - Liabilities

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES | | | |
| Goods & services | | 1,974 | 1,521 |
| Payments received in advance | | 410 | 153 |
| Accrued expenses - employee entitlements | | 491 | 361 |
| Accrued expenses - other | | 86 | 247 |
| Deposits, retentions & bonds | | 55 | 88 |
| Other payables | | 1 | 61 |
| Total trade & other payables | | 3,017 | 2,429 |
| BORROWINGS Current | | | |
| Loans current | | 195 | 218 |
| Total borrowings current | | 195 | 218 |
| BORROWINGS Non-current | | | |
| Loans non-current | | 2,377 | 2,572 |
| Total borrowings non-current | | 2,377 | 2,572 |
| <i>All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.</i> | | | |
| PROVISIONS Current | | | |
| Employee entitlements (including oncosts) | | 2,338 | 2,332 |
| Future reinstatement / restoration, etc. | | - | - |
| Total provisions current | | 2,338 | 2,332 |
| PROVISIONS Non-current | | | |
| Employee entitlements (including oncosts) | | 162 | 161 |
| Future reinstatement / restoration, etc. | | 3,488 | 2,746 |
| Total provisions non-current | | 3,650 | 2,907 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 9 - Reserves

| Asset Revaluation Reserve | Opening \$'000 | Net increments (decrements) \$'000 | Transfers, impairments \$'000 | Closing \$'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Land | 41,311 | - | - | 41,311 |
| Buildings & structures | 56,391 | - | - | 56,391 |
| Infrastructure | 69,003 | - | - | 69,003 |
| Waste management | 2,908 | 56 | - | 2,964 |
| Plant & equipment | 770 | - | - | 770 |
| Minor plant | 34 | - | - | 34 |
| Other assets | 4,985 | - | - | 4,985 |
| TOTAL | 175,402 | 56 | - | 175,458 |
| <i>Comparatives 30 June 2017</i> | <i>155,509</i> | <i>21,108</i> | <i>(1,215)</i> | <i>175,402</i> |

| Other Reserves | Opening \$'000 | Transfers to reserve \$'000 | Transfers from reserve \$'000 | Closing \$'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mount Gambier Cemetery | 710 | - | 1 | 711 |
| Mayor Christmas Appeal | 38 | 8 | - | 46 |
| Christmas Parade | 13 | (4) | (1) | 8 |
| Junior Sports Assistance Fund | 86 | 9 | - | 95 |
| Total | 847 | 13 | - | 860 |
| <i>Comparatives 30 June 2017</i> | <i>3,030</i> | <i>74</i> | <i>(2,257)</i> | <i>847</i> |

Purpose of reserves

Asset Revaluation Reserve

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

Other Reserves

Other reserves are used when reserves are maintained for the purpose of specific Council committees or for committed funds of Council.

Mount Gambier Cemetery

The Mount Gambier cemetery reserve represents funds that have been separated for any development works or projects that may be required at the Carinya Gardens Cemetery and crematorium.

Mayor Christmas Appeal

The Mayor Christmas Appeal reserve represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Mayor Christmas Appeal and to be used for that purpose.

Christmas Parade

The Christmas Parade reserve represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Christmas Parade and to be used for that purpose.

Junior Sports Assistance Fund

The Junior Sports Assistance Fund reserve represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Junior Sporting Assistance Fund and to be used for that purpose.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 10 - Reconciliation of Cash Flow Statement

(a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

| | Notes | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Total cash & equivalent assets | 5 | 6,069 | 4,587 |
| Less: Short-term borrowings | 8 | - | - |
| Balances per Cash Flow Statement | | 6,069 | 4,587 |

(b) Reconciliation of change in Net assets to Cash flows from operating activities

| | | | |
|---|---|--------------|--------------|
| Net surplus / (deficit) | | 107 | 1,999 |
| Non-cash items in Income Statement | | | |
| Depreciation, amortisation & impairment | 3 | 7,424 | 7,461 |
| Net increase / (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits | | 137 | 42 |
| Premiums & discounts recognised & unwound | 3 | 42 | 78 |
| Non-cash asset acquisitions | 2 | (159) | (463) |
| Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity | 2 | (105) | (445) |
| Net (gain) / loss on disposals | 4 | 594 | 243 |
| | | 8,040 | 8,915 |
| Add / (less): Changes in net current assets | | | |
| Net (increase) / decrease in receivables | | (360) | (170) |
| Net (increase) / decrease in inventories | | (512) | (272) |
| Net (increase) / decrease in other current assets | | - | - |
| Net increase / (decrease) in trade & other payables | | 309 | (589) |
| Net increase / (decrease) in other provisions | | - | - |
| Net increase / (decrease) in other reserves | | 13 | (649) |
| Net increase / (decrease) in other liabilities | | - | - |
| Net cash provided by (or used in) operations | | 7,491 | 7,234 |

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

| | | | |
|--|---|-----|-----|
| Acquisition of assets by means of: | | | |
| Physical resources received free of charge | 2 | 159 | 463 |

(d) Financing arrangements

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

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|
| Bank overdrafts | | 250 | 250 |
| Corporate credit cards | | 30 | 25 |
| LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility | | 10,000 | 10,000 |

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 11 - Functions

| | Incomes, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions & activities | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| | Income | | Expenses | | Operating surplus (deficit) | | Grants included in income | | Total assets held (Current & non-current) | |
| | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
| Administration / Support Services | 25,400 | 23,768 | 2,554 | 2,489 | 22,846 | 21,279 | 3,952 | 3,172 | 52,248 | 57,347 |
| Community Support | 784 | 884 | 1,940 | 2,203 | (1,156) | (1,319) | 2 | 3 | 9,121 | 8,854 |
| Culture | 741 | 465 | 8,236 | 6,994 | (7,495) | (6,529) | 226 | 148 | 389 | - |
| Economic development | 310 | 304 | 2,450 | 2,037 | (2,140) | (1,733) | 17 | - | 59 | 21 |
| Environment | 3,567 | 2,994 | 7,090 | 6,199 | (3,523) | (3,205) | 67 | 9 | 8,747 | 6,901 |
| Recreation | 128 | 115 | 3,664 | 3,151 | (3,536) | (3,036) | - | - | 1,585 | 769 |
| Regulatory services | 386 | 398 | 1,153 | 1,202 | (767) | (804) | - | - | - | - |
| Transport | 185 | 578 | 3,270 | 3,014 | (3,085) | (2,436) | 171 | 564 | 105,358 | 102,769 |
| Engineering / Indirect | - | - | 796 | 1,164 | (796) | (1,164) | - | - | 75,997 | 75,561 |
| Unclassified activities | 335 | 595 | 246 | 314 | 89 | 281 | - | 10 | - | - |
| TOTALS | 31,836 | 30,101 | 31,399 | 28,767 | 437 | 1,334 | 4,435 | 3,906 | 253,504 | 252,222 |

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 11 - Functions (continued)

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Components of functions

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Business undertakings

Private Works and Landfill Facility.

Community support

Public order and safety, crime prevention, emergency services, other fire protection, other public order and safety, health services, pest control – health, immunisation, preventive health services, other health services, community support, senior citizens facilities, children and youth services, community assistance, other community support, community amenities, bus shelters, cemeteries / crematoria, public conveniences, car parking – non-fee-paying and other community amenities.

Culture

Library services, other library services, cultural services, cultural venues, heritage, museums and art galleries and other cultural services.

Economic development

Regional development, tourism, visitor information and other economic development.

Environment

Animal/plant boards, waste management, domestic waste, green waste, recycling, transfer station, other waste management, other environment, stormwater and drainage, street cleaning, street lighting, street-scaping, Natural Resource Management levy, and other environment.

Recreation

Parks and gardens, sports facilities – indoor, sports facilities – outdoor, swimming centres – Outdoor, and other recreation.

Regulatory services

Dog and cat control, building control, town planning, clean air/pollution control, litter control, health inspection, parking control, and other regulatory services.

Transport

Bridges, footpaths and kerbing, roads – sealed, roads – formed, roads – natural formed, roads – unformed, traffic management and other transport.

Unclassified activities

Finance charges and investment revenue, private works and sundry property maintenance.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 12 - Financial instruments

All financial instruments are categorised as *loans and receivables*.

Accounting policies - Recognised financial instruments

Bank, deposits at call, short term deposits

Accounting Policy: Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.

Terms and conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 1.25% and 1.95% (2018: 1.5% and 2.15%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 1 day and an average interest rate of 1.25% (2018: 1 day, 1.50%).

Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

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

Accounting policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms and conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 6.35% (2018: 5.5%). Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - Fees and other charges

Accounting policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms and conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. However, certain charges can be secured to a property where legislative criteria is met. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries and Council properties immediately surrounding Council boundaries.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - other levels of government

Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal value.

Terms and conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by departments and agencies of state and federal governments.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

Liabilities - Creditors and accruals

Accounting policy: Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.

Terms and conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms or in line with the specific terms and conditions of the supplier.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

Liabilities - Interest Bearing Borrowings

Accounting policy: Carried at the principal amounts. Interest is charged as an expense as it accrues.

Terms and conditions: secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable in two repayments per year with fixed terms of 15 years (2018: 10 and 15 years); interest is charged at a fixed rate of 5.97% (2018: between 5.05% and 5.97%).

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

Liabilities - Finance leases

Accounting policy: accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 12 - Financial instruments (continued)

Liquidity analysis

| | Due < 1 year \$'000 | Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years \$'000 | Due > 5 years \$'000 | Total contractual cash flows \$'000 | Carrying values \$'000 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 2019 | | | | | |
| Financial assets | | | | | |
| Cash & equivalents | 6,069 | - | - | 6,069 | 6,069 |
| Receivables | 1,045 | - | - | 1,045 | 1,045 |
| Other financial assets | 18 | - | - | 18 | 18 |
| Total | 7,132 | - | - | 7,132 | 7,132 |
| Financial liabilities | | | | | |
| Payables | 3,017 | - | - | 3,017 | 3,017 |
| Current borrowings | 195 | - | - | 195 | 195 |
| Non-current borrowings | - | 2,377 | - | 2,377 | 2,377 |
| Total | 3,212 | 2,377 | - | 5,589 | 5,589 |
| 2018 | | | | | |
| Financial assets | | | | | |
| Cash & equivalents | 4,587 | - | - | 4,587 | 4,587 |
| Receivables | 883 | - | - | 883 | 883 |
| Other financial assets | 35 | - | - | 35 | 35 |
| Total | 5,505 | - | - | 5,505 | 5,505 |
| Financial liabilities | | | | | |
| Payables | 2,429 | - | - | 2,429 | 2,429 |
| Current borrowings | 218 | - | - | 218 | 218 |
| Non-current borrowings | - | 852 | 1,720 | 2,572 | 2,572 |
| Total | 2,647 | 852 | 1,720 | 5,219 | 5,219 |

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

| | 30 June 2019 | | 30 June 2018 | |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | Weighted average interest rate % | Carrying value \$'000 | Weighted average interest rate % | Carrying value \$'000 |
| Fixed interest rates | 5.97% | 2,572 | 5.96% | 2,790 |
| | | 2,572 | | 2,790 |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 12 - Financial instruments (continued)

Net fair value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

Risk exposures

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

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

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

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 13 - Financial indicators

These financial indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia. Detailed methods of calculation are set out in the SA Model Statements.

| | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Operating surplus ratio | | | |
| <u>Operating surplus</u> | | | |
| Total operating revenue | 1.4% | 6.0% | 6.0% |

This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.

| Net financial liabilities ratio | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| <u>Net financial liabilities</u> | | | |
| Total operating revenue | 11% | 17% | 28% |

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

Adjustments to ratios

In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. The adjusted operating surplus ratio adjusts for the resulting distortion in the disclosed operating result for each year.

| | | | |
|---|--------|------|------|
| Adjusted operating surplus ratio | (0.7%) | 5.5% | 2.0% |
| Adjusted financial liabilities ratio | 10% | 17% | 28% |

| Asset renewal funding ratio | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| <u>Net asset renewals</u> | | | |
| Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan required expenditure | 68% | 72% | 62% |

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 14 - Uniform presentation of finances

—

The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.

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

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

| | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Income | 31,836 | 30,101 |
| Expenses | (31,399) | (28,767) |
| Operating surplus / (deficit) | 437 | 1,334 |
| Net outlays on existing assets | | |
| Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets | 5,346 | 4,053 |
| Depreciation, amortisation and impairment | (7,424) | (7,461) |
| Proceeds from sale of replaced assets | (359) | (146) |
| | (2,437) | (3,554) |
| Net outlays on new and upgraded assets | | |
| Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets <i>(including investment property & real estate developments)</i> | 566 | 2,246 |
| Amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets | (105) | (445) |
| Proceeds from sale of surplus assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments and non-current assets held for resale)</i> | 359 | (71) |
| | 820 | 1,730 |
| Net lending / (borrowing) for financial year | 2,054 | 3,158 |

Note 15 - Operating leases

—

Lease payment commitments of Council

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

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

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

No lease contains any escalation clause.

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 15 - Operating leases (continued)

| | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Not later than one year | 49 | 28 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | 212 | 18 |
| Later than 5 years | - | - |
| | 261 | 46 |

Note 16 - Superannuation

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

Accumulation only Members

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9.50% in 2019 and 2018) and enterprise bargaining agreement (1% in 2019 and 2018). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) Members

Salarylink is a defined benefit scheme where the benefit payable is based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and level of contribution and final average salary. Council makes employer contributions to

Salarylink as determined by the Fund's Trustee based on advice from the appointed Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6.3% in 2018) of "superannuation" salary.

In addition, Council makes a separate contribution of 3% of ordinary time earnings for Salarylink members to their accumulation account plus an additional 1% per enterprise bargaining agreement. Employees also make member contributions to the Salarylink section of the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Salarylink section of the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

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

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, Louise Campbell, FIAA, of Willie Towers Watson as at 30 June 2018. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 16 - Superannuation (continued)

Contributions to other superannuation schemes

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

Note 17 - Contingencies and assets and liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Balance Sheet but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to users of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. Land under roads

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 228 kilometres of road reserves of average width 20 metres.

2. Potential insurance losses

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

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which

is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

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

3. Bank guarantees

Council has guaranteed certain loans and other banking facilities advanced to community organisations and sporting bodies, amounting to \$110,000 (2018: \$110,000) at reporting date.

Council does not expect to incur any loss arising from these guarantees.

4. Legal expenses

Council is the relevant planning authority for its area pursuant to the Development Act 1993. Certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of Council may appeal against the decision to the Environment, Resources and Development Court. It is normal practice as part of these proceedings that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council has not received notice of any appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.

5. Community and Recreation Hub

On 25 March 2019, Council signed a grant agreement with the Commonwealth Government that commits Council to capital spending of \$13,766,000 for the proposed Community and Recreation Hub, intended to be completed in 2021. In good faith, all design and specification work is continuing to allow for tender documents to be prepared and the commitment of funds will only be confirmed when Council endorses the tender outcomes and enters into a construction contract with a third party in the 2019/2020 financial year.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

Note 18 - Related party disclosures

—

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 23 persons were paid the following total compensation:

| | 2019 \$'000 | 2018 \$'000 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits | 1,311 | 1,169 |
| Post-employment benefits | 126 | 96 |
| Long term benefits | 91 | 12 |
| Termination benefits | - | 148 |
| Total | 1,528 | 1,425 |

Parties related to key management personnel

Two key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel are members in organisations that received Council support in the year, e.g. through sponsorship of community and sporting.

Key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel own retail businesses from which various supplies were purchased as required either for cash or on 30 day account. These purchases were made on normal commercial terms on an arms length basis. No individual purchases from these businesses exceeded \$1,746 during the year.

No key management personnel or close family member (including related parties) lodged a planning application during the year.

City of Mount Gambier
Annual Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2019

Certification of Auditor Independence

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of the City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2019, the Council's Auditor, Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants, has maintained its independence in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 made under that Act.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22(3) Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.


.....
Andrew Meddle
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER


.....
Cr Sonya Mezinac
PRESIDING MEMBER
AUDIT COMMITTEE

David Chant CA, FCPA
Simon Smith CA, FCPA
David Sullivan CA, CPA
Jason Seidel CA
Renaë Nicholson CA
Tim Muhlhausler CA
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Daniel Moon CA



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of the City of Mount Gambier

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the City of Mount Gambier, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Council Certificate of the City of Mount Gambier.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2019, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

Basis for Opinion

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

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 and for such internal control as Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

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

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

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

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Tim Muhlhausler CA Registered Company Auditor
Partner

22 / 10 / 2019

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the City of Mount Gambier

Independent Assurance report on the Internal Controls of the City of Mount Gambier

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of the City of Mount Gambier with the requirements of Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

In our opinion, the City of Mount Gambier has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls established by the Council in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 .

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our engagement in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 *Compliance Engagements*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls specified above for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 . ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

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

The Council's Responsibility for Internal controls

The Council is responsible for implementing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, in accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

Our Independence and Quality Control

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

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 Compliance Engagements, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation only to the Internal Controls specified above for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 . ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

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

Limitations of Controls

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

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

Limitation of Use

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

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

22 / 10 / 2019

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2019

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2019, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Section 290, published by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22 (5) *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.



Timothy Muhlhausler

Galpins, Accountants, Auditors and Business Consultants

Dated this 22nd day of October 2019



City of
Mount Gambier

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Design/print: juliareader.com.au

Photography: Ockert le Roux (cover photos)

ISSN 1834-0903