

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL
LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, SERPENTINE – TUESDAY 22 APRIL 2014

The meeting commenced at 3.00pm with the Prayer.

Present

Cr Gavan Holt (Mayor)
 Cr Neil Beattie
 Cr Colleen Condliffe
 Cr Geoff Curnow
 Cr Cheryl McKinnon

In Attendance

Mr John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
 Mr Ian McLauchlan, Director Operations
 Mr Bryan McEwan, Director Economy and Community
 Mrs Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing
 Mrs Jude Holt, Director Corporate Services

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UNCONFIRMED

1. APOLOGIES

Nil

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

SUMMARY

Seeking approval of the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Council Forum and Meetings.

Author: John McLinden - Chief Executive Officer

Council Plan ref: Core business 8: Compliance

File No: 02/01/001

Attachment: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm:

1. *the minutes of the Council Briefing of 25 March 2014*
2. *the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 25 March 2014*
3. *The minutes of the Council Forum of 8 April 2014*

MOTION

Moved: Cr Beattie

Seconded: Cr Curnow

That Council confirm:

1. the minutes of the Council Briefing of 25 March 2014
2. the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 25 March 2014
3. The minutes of the Council Forum of 8 April 2014

Carried

2.2 REVIEW OF ACTION SHEET

SUMMARY

Approval of Action Sheet.

Author: John McLinden - Chief Executive Officer

Council Plan ref: Core business 8: Compliance

File No: 02/01/001

Attachment: 2.2 Action Sheet

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Action Sheet.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Curnow

That Council receive and note the Action Sheet.

Carried

UNCONFIRMED

3. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

3.1 **MAYORAL REPORT**

SUMMARY

Approval of the Mayoral Report.

Author:	John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
Council Plan ref:	Core business 1: Leadership
File No:	02/01/001
Attachment:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report.

Municipal Association of Victoria	
Section 86 Committees: Donaldson Park Committee of Management, Wedderburn Community Centre Committee of Management, Wedderburn Engine Park Committee of Management, Wedderburn Mechanics Institute Hall Committee of Management, Wedderburn Tourism Inc.	
16/4/14: Attended meeting of the Wedderburn Community Centre Committee of Management	
Audit Committee	
Other Council Activities	
DATE	Activity
27 & 28/3/14	Attended the Rural Councils Victoria summit at Nhill
28/3/14	Was a guest at the Wedderburn Liberal Party Branch meeting to meet the new Liberal candidate for the state seat of Ripon, Louise Staley
31/3/14	Attended meeting of Wedderburn Community Bank Steering Committee
2/4/14	Attended Murray River Group of Councils dinner at Wedderburn
3/4/14	Attended meeting of Murray River Group of Councils at Wedderburn
3/4/14	Attended the launch at Wedderburn by the Loddon Mallee Regional Development Australia Committee of the Loddon Mallee Regional Investment Prospectus

3/4/14	Met with Miranda Pereira of the National Hands Network to discuss plan for the expansion of the network in Loddon
5/4/14	Attended the Wedderburn vs Boort winter sports day at Wedderburn
8/4/14	Attended the Council Forum at Wedderburn
11/4/14	Attended meeting of the Rural Councils Victoria Executive Committee in Melbourne
	Attended the Regional Living Expo at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre where there were presentations from Loddon Shire and the Boort Development Committee
12/4/14	Attended the Wedderburn vs Wycheproof winter sports program at Wycheproof
17/4/14	Attended the official opening of the Transition Care Room of the Inglewood Hospital. This was an initiative of the Blue Ribbon Foundation
16/4/14	Attended the Laucke Flour Mill site at Bridgewater for a funding announcement to the mill of state manufacturing Minister Hodgetts and for an inspection tour of the mill.
21/4/14	Attended the 144 th Rheola Charity Carnival and officially opened the event
22/4/14	Had an inspection with councillors and staff of the Bridgewater Caravan Park development

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report.

Carried

3.2 COUNCILLORS' REPORT

SUMMARY

Approval of Councillors' Reports.

Author: John McLinden – Chief Executive Officer

Council Plan ref: Core business 1: Leadership

File No: 02/01/001

Attachment: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Councillors' Report.

Cr Beattie

Murray Darling Association	
Rail Freight Alliance	
Section 86 Committees: Boort Aerodrome Committee of Management, Boort Development Committee Inc., Boort Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Boort Resource Information Centre Committee Inc., Boort Tourism Committee Inc., Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Committee of Management, Korong Vale Sports Centre Committee of Management, Little Lake Boort Management Committee Inc., Yando Public Hall Committee of Management	
Recreation Strategy Implementation Steering Committee	
Other Council Activities	
DATE	Activity
6/4/14	Opened Boort Golf Club season
7/4/14	Boort Development Committee meeting
8/4/14	Council Forum Wedderburn
12/4/14	Saturday sports at Boort

14/4/14	Boort Park meeting
19/4/14	Attended Boort tennis annual Easter tournament
20/4/14	Visited Boort Historical Museum
22/4/14	Council meeting, Serpentine

Cr Condliffe

Calder Highway Improvement Committee	
28/3/14 – Calder Highway Improvement Committee meeting, Wedderburn	
Section 86 Committees: Bridgewater Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management, Campbells Forest Hall Committee of Management, Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management, Inglewood Riding Club, Inglewood Lions Community Elderly Persons Units Committee of Management, Inglewood Town Hall Committee of Management, Inglewood Reservoir Committee of Management	
Australia Day Committee	
Loddon Youth Committee	
Healthy Minds Network	
16/4/14 – Meeting in Inglewood	
Other Council Activities	
DATE	Activity
25/3/14	Inglewood and Districts Community Bank meeting
24/3/14	Inglewood Hub meeting
1/4/14	RSL Meeting Inglewood
2/4/14	Meeting in Bridgewater regarding speed through town and destruction in Bridgewater from the corellas

3/4/14	Kooyoorra Womens Network meeting in Bridgewater
4/4/14	Attended Local Government Rural Councils meeting held in Hopetoun
5/4/14	I attended a family night Campbells Forest
6/4/14	Official launch of Bears Lagoon book held at Bears Lagoon tennis courts – well attended
7/4/14	Salisbury West Landcare meeting held at Powlett Hall
8/4/14	Council Forum Wedderburn
8/4/14	Inglewood Resource Centre meeting
9/4/14	Rural Financing Counselling meeting
11/4/14	Presentation to Inglewood Districts Health Services Inglewood knee rugs
14/4/14	Official opening of the Hornibrook Room at IDHS \$100,000 was raised by Blue Ribbon Cricket Day
17/4/14	I spoke at Zonta in Dunolly
18/4/14	Good Friday Appeal fishing BBQ Inglewood
21/4/14	Rheola Carnival Easter – well attended again
16/4/14	Laucke Flour Mill Bridgewater, funding \$87,500 toward finishing the plant, this is the state of the art
22/4/14	Bridgewater Caravan Park followed by Council meeting, Serpentine
28/3/14	Rural Councils Victoria summit held at Nhill
28/3/14	Attended Liberal Party dinner to meet Louise Staley, candidate for Ripon

Cr Curnow

Central Murray Region Waste Management Group
Section 86 Committees: Eddington Community Centre Committee of Management, Kingower Development and Tourism Committee Inc.

Municipal Emergency Management Plan Committee and Municipal Fire Prevention Committee

Other Council Activities

DATE	Activity
26/3/14 – 28/3/14	Attended RCV Rural Summit at Nhill, with Crs Holt, McKinnon, Condliffe, CEO John McLinden and Bryan McEwan
31/3/14	Attended Steering Committee meeting of Loddon Mallee Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Group – in Melbourne
8/4/14	Attended the Loddon Shire Council Forum at Wedderburn
12/4/14	Attended the 50 year Celebration of Miniature Trains and Railway at Eddington representing Mayor Holt
21/4/14	Attended Rheola Easter Charity Carnival
22/4/14	April Loddon Shire Council meeting at Serpentine
29/3/14	Attended the Sprint Car Racing event at Eddington

Cr McKinnon

North Central Goldfields Regional Library

Section 86 Committees: Dingee Progress Association, East Loddon Community Centre Committee of Management, Mitiamo Municipal Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Committee of Management, Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool Committee of Management, Serpentine Bowls and Tennis Pavilion and Reserve Committee of Management

Nature Tourism Advisory Team

Other Council Activities

DATE	Activity
26/3/14	Travelled to Nhill with fellow councillors and CEO for the RCV Rural Summit
28/3/14	Goldfields Library Corporation meeting
	CLLM AGM and Vision at the Region Dinner with Minister Walsh as guest speaker
1/4/14	Pyramid Hill College assembly - invest school leaders and give an address on leadership
1/4/14	Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool meeting
7/4/14	Godfields Library Corporation special meeting
8/4/14	Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Committee meeting
8/4/14	Council Forum in Wedderburn
14/4/14	Nature Tourism Advisory Team – Inglewood
16/4/14	Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House meeting
16/4/14	Pyramid Hill Progress Association meeting
22/4/14	Council meeting, Serpentine

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council receive and note the Councillors' Report.

Carried

4. **DECISION REPORTS**

4.1 **AUDIT COMMITTEE REMUNERATION 2014-2015 REPORT**

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's approval to increase the remuneration paid to independent members of Council's Audit Committee.

Author	Jude Holt, Director Corporate Services
Council Plan ref:	Strategic enabler: Effective and efficient operating systems and procedures
File no:	06/02/003
Attachment:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *increases the quarterly remuneration paid to independent members of the Audit Committee to \$425, effective the quarter commencing 1 May 2014*
2. *retains payment of an extra quarter remuneration to the Chair during a one year term*
3. *retains a travel reimbursement for independent members of the Audit Committee, paid at the rate that Councillors are reimbursed for travel.*

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council was provided with an Audit Committee Remuneration Report at the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 April 2013, where Council resolved to:

- increase the quarterly remuneration paid to independent members of the Audit Committee to \$410, effective the quarter commencing 1 May 2013
- retain payment of an extra quarter remuneration to the Chair during a one year term
- retain a travel reimbursement for independent members of the Audit Committee, paid at the rate that Councillors are reimbursed for travel.

BACKGROUND

The Consumer Price Index for All Groups – Melbourne for December has been sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The indexation factor is 2.75%.

Application of 2.75% to the Audit Committee's current remuneration of \$410 per quarter calculates to \$421.28 per quarter. This report recommends that this amount be rounded to \$425 per quarter.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Last year's report confirmed Council's commitment of an extra quarterly payment to the Chair during a one-year term. This payment recognises the additional responsibility held by the Chair.

It also confirmed a travel reimbursement to be paid to independent members at the same rate as the Councillors' travel reimbursement.

This report recommends that the travel reimbursement and extra payment for the Chair be retained.

COSTS/BENEFITS

There is a small financial cost to Council resulting from this report.

RISK ANALYSIS

Council increases the likelihood of recruiting and retaining quality Audit Committee members by ensuring that remuneration is increased in line with CPI.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Nil

MOTION

Moved: Cr McKinnon

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That Council :

1. increases the quarterly remuneration paid to independent members of the Audit Committee to \$425, effective the quarter commencing 1 May 2014
2. retains payment of an extra quarter remuneration to the Chair during a one year term
3. retains a travel reimbursement for independent members of the Audit Committee, paid at the rate that Councillors are reimbursed for travel.

Carried

4.2 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2014

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with financial information for the period ending 31 March 2014.

Author	Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services
Council Plan ref:	Strategic enabler: Sound financial management protocols
File no:	08/06/001
Attachment:	Finance Report for Period Ending 31 March 2014

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *receives and notes the 'Finance Report for the period ending 31 March 2014'*
2. *approves budget revisions included in the report for internal reporting purposes only*
3. *approves the supplementary valuations of rateable and non-rateable properties in respect of the 2013/14 financial year, as returned by the Shire Valuer, LG Valuations Pty Ltd, and endorses them being incorporated into the Register of Rateable and Non Rateable Properties and Rate Book for 2013/14.*

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council is provided with Finance Reports on a monthly basis.

BACKGROUND

The Finance Report for the period ended 31 March 2014 includes standard monthly information about budget variations, cash, investments, interest, debtors and creditors, and provides a comparison of year-to-date actual results to year-to-date budget (by dollars and percentage) and total revised budget (by percentage).

The information is in the format provided in the 2013/14 Budget, and includes operating results, capital expenditure and funding sources. It also provides a focus report.

This Finance Report also includes supplementary valuations. Each year Council makes a number of additions, subtractions and alterations to the valuations contained in the annual rate book. These changes arise from various sources including:

- splitting of parcels into new rateable assessments
- development of vacant or unproductive land (urban and rural)
- consolidation of separate rateable assessments into one assessment
- re-assessment of property valuations arising from objections to the initial valuation
- additions and cancellations of licences (grazing and water frontages)
- change of use
- covenant on Title
- area amendment
- change of Australian Valuation Property Classification Code (AVPCC)
- supplementary valuation correction.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

This month a capital and major projects variance report has been included as per the new reporting regime. This gives explanation notes for capital expenditure and some major projects included as operating expenditure and is designed to provide Council with progress information on these works.

COSTS/BENEFITS

The benefit to Council and the community is that accurate and regular financial reporting is being disclosed along with an accurate representation of property valuations is reflected in Council's rating system and the distribution of rate notices for the year 2013/14.

Provision of financial reports on at least a quarterly basis is a requirement of the Local Government Act.

RISK ANALYSIS

The provision of regular and accurate finance reports to Council minimises the risk of Council not delivering projects within the approved budget. Council's risk exposure is also increased if the rating system does not reflect the valuation changes associated with supplementary valuations as Council will not be aware of the changes, which can alter the rate revenue in the current year and in future rating years.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

There has been considerable consultation internally with respective managers in understanding their budget responsibilities and keeping within budgetary constraints.

Consultation with ratepayers and authorities that act on behalf of ratepayers occurs when a change to a property is required or occurs by virtue of a sale.

External engagement with the community was undertaken during the submission period of the budget, and regular reporting provides a mechanism of monitoring the financial outcomes of Council against that expectation.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council:

1. receives and notes the 'Finance Report for the period ending 31 March 2014
2. approves budget revisions included in the report for internal reporting purposes only
3. approves the supplementary valuations of rateable and non-rateable properties in respect of the 2013/14 financial year, as returned by the Shire Valuer, LG Valuations Pty Ltd, and endorses them being incorporated into the Register of Rateable and Non Rateable Properties and Rate Book for 2013/14.

Carried

4.3 FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 2014 TO 30 JUNE 2015

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's approval of the Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

Author	Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services
Council Plan ref:	Core business 6: Financial stability
File no:	07/01/006
Attachment:	Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *approved the Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015*
2. *implement the Fees and Charges from 1 July for items not subject to a notice period, and at the end of the notice period for those items subject to the same*
3. *make effective immediately any changes where the fees and charges are subject to legislation, subject to the approval of the Director Corporate Services or Chief Executive Officer, and make amendment to the Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.*

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A draft schedule was submitted for discussion by Councillors at the Council Briefing held on 25 March 2014.

BACKGROUND

Each year as part of the budget process a Fees and Charges Schedule is prepared and submitted for approval by Council.

Generally the new schedule takes effect from the start of the financial year; however, included in the schedule are residential accommodation charges which require a minimum notification period to the tenant of 60 days. Notification will be forwarded to tenants as soon as practicable after approval by Council.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

This year's schedule shows a general increase of 2.75% on the previous schedule. The calculated figures are rounded to convenient amounts.

An increase of 2.75% is the CPI adjustment for Melbourne as advised in the data supplied by the Australia Bureau of Statistics for the year December 2012 to December 2013. 2.75% is the expected increase for June 2014 to June 2015.

In addition to discretionary charges, various charges are levied based on legislated changes. These items are notified progressively through the year, via the Government Gazette, and direct advice from Victorian Government Departments, and will be incorporated into the published schedule as required.

The Fees and Charges Schedule for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 is attached.

COSTS/BENEFITS

Nil.

RISK ANALYSIS

There is a minimum notification period to be given to tenants of Council's residential accommodation, where sufficient time needs to be allowed from approval of this schedule to the time the new fees and charges take effect. The timing of this adoption allows this required period of time and reduces the risk of not levying fees and charges in full.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

There has been consultation internally with respective managers along with a detailed review being undertaken by the Management Executive Group.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council:

1. approved the Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015
2. implement the Fees and Charges from 1 July for items not subject to a notice period, and at the end of the notice period for those items subject to the same
3. make effective immediately any changes where the fees and charges are subject to legislation, subject to the approval of the Director Corporate Services or Chief Executive Officer, and make amendment to the Fees and Charges for the year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

Carried

4.4 ANNUAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM 2014 / 2015

SUMMARY

This report and attachment outlines the proposed Annual Infrastructure Program for the 2014 / 2015 financial year.

Author	David Fry, Manager Infrastructure (Program Development)
Council Plan ref:	Core business 5: Providing quality infrastructure
File no:	15/01/001
Attachment:	Proposed Annual Infrastructure Program

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the proposed 2014/2015 Annual Infrastructure Program, subject to sufficient funds being secured through the 2014/15 Council Budget.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Each year Council is presented with and asked to endorse the Annual Infrastructure Program which spells out the capital works to be completed during the course of the financial year. In accordance with standard practice the draft program is presented to Council during a scheduled forum for discussion, prior to formal presentation for adoption the month following. This program was presented to the May Council Forum.

BACKGROUND

The projects identified within the program are developed using a combination of information contained within the Moloney Asset Management System, the infrastructure rolling works program, council's asset management plans and visual inspection.

The completion of this program along with the completion of Councils Local Road Maintenance Program will ensure the following financial requirements are met:

- Expenditure of Federal Government "Roads to Recovery" (R2R) funding of \$1.62m for 2014/2015 by 30 June 2015
- Expenditure of Council funds totalling \$2.21m on road related infrastructure
- Expenditure of Grants Commission funds tied to local roads totalling \$3.18m
- Expenditure of State Government funding tied to local roads totalling \$1m

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The overall Infrastructure Program is divided into nine (9) separate program areas. Within each of these programs the individual projects are assessed and given a priority score based upon individual project scoping documents. These scoping documents also include a budget figure. The one exception to this is in the resealing program where Moloney Seal and Pavement data is used to identify the individual projects.

1. Local Road Gravel Resheet

The 2014/2015 program allows for the gravel resheeting of 25.71km of gravel roads.

All the projects in this program have been identified and placed on the rolling program by either Team Leaders, Road Inspectors or generated from requests from the general public, then inspected to identify the appropriate treatment.

2. Local Road Shoulder Resheet

The 2014/2015 program allows for 20 lane km of shoulder resheeting.

As for the above program all the projects in this program have been identified and placed on the rolling program by either Team Leaders, Road Inspectors or generated from requests from the general public, then inspected to identify the appropriate treatment.

3. Local Road Construction – Asset Preservation

The 2014/2015 program includes 6 projects totalling 9.8 km.

Pyramid Yarraberb Road: This project is the rehabilitation of a failed section of the Pyramid Yarraberb Road south of the channel near the East Loddon School. This section of pavement has significantly deteriorated in the last 12 months.

Bridgewater Raywood Road: Three sections of this road form part of the current Capital Works Program. Initial design work and vegetation assessments are being undertaken on these sections with the identified offsets to be purchased. This process is well under way. The proposed works for the 2014 – 2015 program involves the rehabilitation of one of these sections immediately west of the intersection with the Pyramid Yarraberb Road (LRC0431) including all required tree removal and drainage. On the remaining two sections (LRC0427 & LRC0428) it is proposed to complete only the drainage and tree removal works, with the remaining pavement works notionally programmed for future years.

Borong Hurstwood Road: The works proposed on this section carry on from the project completed in the 2013 – 2014 program. This is a 2km section and includes the minor realignment of the pavement over a GMW structure.

Rheola Llanelly Road: This section of pavement is experiencing a number of failures and an increase in maintenance activities. Like the Pyramid Yarraberb Road this section of pavement deterioration may partly be consequential damage related to the floods.

4. Local Road Construction – Amenity

The 2014/2015 program includes 2 high priority Amenity improvement projects.

Park Street Bridgewater: The section of Park Street Bridgewater directly outside the Caravan Park Entrance has a narrow seal and poor drainage. The increased traffic during the upgrade works on the Caravan Park has highlighted the need to carry out pavement improvement and Drainage works at this location. The proposed works will align with the new pavement in the Caravan Park Grounds and will extend to Sugar Gum Drive approximately 120m.

Eldon Street Bridgewater: This project will involve the placement of a Graded Aggregate Treatment seal to the unsealed section of Eldon Street through to the Calder Highway. This type of treatment has been used successfully recently and improves the amenity through the reduction of dust as well as improving the mechanical strength of the pavement.

5. Local Road Construction – Safety

The 2014/2015 program includes 2 high priority Safety projects.

Neivandts Road: This project involves the placement of guardrail over a deep culvert. This road experiences high commercial vehicle traffic as it is an access road to Councils Gravel pit. It is also proposed to seal a short section over the culvert to reduce dust and therefore safety for passing traffic over the culvert.

Arnold West Inglewood Road: This project involves the realignment of the intersection to improve visibility and safety. It will also include drainage works to prevent water crossing the road.

6. Township Street Improvements

The 2014/2015 program includes 3 projects containing Kerb & Channel works, with one of the projects also including footpath works.

In the program one project for new works is proposed. This project in Hospital Street Wedderburn, (TSI 0393) was recently identified as an issue due to the lack of road drainage, causing water to flow directly under a house during rain events. Maintenance work alone will not fix this problem therefore it has been included for capital works and will include construction of a short section of Kerb & Channel as well as the upgrade of some underground drainage.

In this year's Township Street Improvement Program, as with all other programs an effort has been made to concentrate on renewal and upgrade works rather than new infrastructure projects.

7. Urban and Township Drainage

The 2014/2015 program includes 2 significant projects.

Projects in this area as the name suggests relate to drainage in Township areas. The drainage issues addressed in this program relate to the overall drainage requirements of a locality rather than just the road related drainage issues. For this reason not all the projects in this program are able to be treated as eligible expenditure when calculating Councils reference expenditure for the Roads to Recovery program. For acceptance on the Roads to Recovery program a project must directly relate to Roads and Streets.

Nixon Street outfall extension works: This project involves the redefining and upgrading of a drainage path that serves as both the outfall for the Nixon Street retardation basin and road drainage for Nixon Street. In the current program there is a project for the design and acquisition of the required vegetation offsets to enable this project to proceed. This project is able to be calculated as part of Councils reference expenditure for Roads to Recovery purposes due to the road drainage component.

Nardoo Creek Wedderburn: This project involves the undergrounding of the last major section of open drain in the Wedderburn Township, between Godfrey Street and Racecourse Road. This project will improve the amenity of this area.

8. Local Bridges and Culverts

The 2014/2015 program includes 4 projects.

Burkes Flat Road: This is the largest project in this years proposed program. It was identified in early February by the contractor carrying out Councils Level 2 bridge inspections. The advice from the contractor was to immediately close the bridge. This is the only all-weather access for the Burkes Flat area.

9. Road Reseals

The 2014/2015 program allows for the resealing of up to 30.93 km of Councils sealed road network. The actual total will not be known until full designs are completed and contractor costs

for next season are known. For this reason more projects than it is expected can be completed within the budget have been included and the final works will be completed on a priority basis.

COSTS/BENEFITS

The development and completion of the Annual Infrastructure Program ensures that Council appropriately maintains its Capital Assets, within current financial constraints. The long term financial plan as it relates to the Annual Infrastructure Program highlights the ongoing financial cost of the infrastructure gap.

RISK ANALYSIS

Not completing an Annual Infrastructure Program would put Council at a heightened risk of litigation and increase the risk to Councils reputation. If Council fails to fully expend grant monies appropriately the risk is a potential reduction in grant funding.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The processes undertaken to develop the program included consultation with a number of professionals and stakeholders both in and outside the Loddon Community. They include consultants, other authorities, internal professional staff and the community through Councils works request system and the rolling program.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council adopts the proposed 2014/2015 Annual Infrastructure Program, subject to sufficient funds being secured through the 2014/15 Council Budget.

Carried

5. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

5.1 **STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PROGRAM COMMENCING APRIL 2014**

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with a list and the status of projects and initiatives currently active in community planning.

Author:	Tim Jenkyn, Manager Community Planning
Council Plan ref:	1.2 Use community planning to allow our communities to create their own futures
File no:	13/09/005
Attachment:	Status of the Loddon Shire Community Planning Program April 2014

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Council Report July 2013 – Community Planning Program 2013-14
- Council Report September 2013 – Community Planning Program Status
- Council Report December 2013 – Community Planning Program Status

BACKGROUND

The community planning program has a number of large, medium and small scale projects underway across the Shire, as detailed in the attached report.

The attached spread sheet lists the location, type of project, funding sources, total community planning allocation, percentage complete and project management information on items initiated in community planning.

Projects with multiple allocations over financial years have been placed on one line with information about those allocations.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Currently Loddon Shire Council's community planning program represents a total allocated value of \$1,107,000 for Loddon's communities (April 2014). This figure is based on Council's financial contribution to 39 projects, and includes those that Council and the community have invested in over previous and the current financial year.

Once larger and medium-scale projects have attracted the necessary external funding, they will be transferred from the Community Planning budget to a project management budget. When that transfer is made, the project will be noted in the Community Planning schedule as 100% complete, as the subsequent responsibility and reporting has shifted to the project management area.

Together with smaller projects numerous members of each community volunteer their time in planning, contributing funds and in kind work on the ground.

Fifteen of these projects are marked complete at April 2014 as detailed in the attached spread sheet. Completed projects will be removed from the spread sheet at the end of the 2013-14 financial year, when new projects will be added.

COSTS/BENEFITS

Council has appointed Adrian Lowrey to oversee the delivery and further planning of a number of committed projects. From the Community Planning area, this list takes in the Inglewood Town Hall Hub, Wedderburn's streetscape improvement and Boort Eastern Entry (Stage 3).

Community plan funding for these projects has now been transferred to the appropriate project management budget. Accordingly, these three projects have been marked as 100% complete in the attached report.

RISK ANALYSIS

Whilst Council encourages community 'ownership' of projects Council remains treasurer and project manager for all projects in community planning to ensure effective delivery. For example – utilising contractors that meet the requirements of Loddon preferred suppliers on projects.

A risk for some medium to large projects is the ability to attract external funding so the project can be realised. Projects of this nature are developed with a funding strategy that identifies funding sources and amounts that can potentially be accessed. Current funding programs can be identified however there is no guarantee that these programs will continue to be available from one year to the next.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation on projects includes meeting with community plan committees and project groups in order to deliver the program. Meetings are held annually with community plan committees and on a as needs basis with community members in order to bring projects to fruition.

The Manager Community Planning moderates an e-mail network to share information efficiently with the key community plan contacts in each community (Chair and Secretary), who are then able to distribute the information within the wider community, or specifically target groups if it is of value to them i.e. grant information for a sporting club.

Some projects have a higher consultation and planning requirement than others. Projects such as the Inglewood Town Hall, Laanecoorie Foreshore Project, Boort Eastern Entry and Serpentine Recreation Reserve projects involve regular meetings and communication with community members and stakeholders involved.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council receive and note the report.

Carried

5.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK – FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with comparative results of Council's financial performance indicators with other small rural local governments and Victorian local government average results. It also provides trends of Council's results over the past 5 years.

Author	Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services
Council Plan ref:	Core business 6: Financial stability
File no:	06/01/001
Attachment:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the 'Local Government Performance Reporting Framework – Financial Performance Indicators' report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

In June 2013, Council was presented with a report which detailed the results of the 2011/12 financial year.

BACKGROUND

In 2013, the Department of Planning and Community Development introduced the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF). All Victorian councils are required to provide mandatory reporting on a suite of indicators that come into force on 1 July 2014, and will be audited on the results for year ending 30 June 2015 and yearly thereafter.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

This report focuses on the financial performance indicators only. The LGPRF has 13 indicators over 5 categories of:

- operating position
- liquidity
- obligations
- stability
- efficiency.

The following shows Council in respect of the 13 indicators with a comparative to the small rural councils (SRC) average and the state (ALL) average (excluding City of Melbourne) over the last 5 years beginning the financial year 2008/09.

The comparative data has been sourced from information received from Strategy Plus, a company that has been providing comparative financial information to Council over the last 6 years.

It is emphasised that Council's information shows significant volatility associated with the flood disaster impact and further restoration works in the last 3 years.

Category 1: Operating position

Ratio 1:

Underlying result

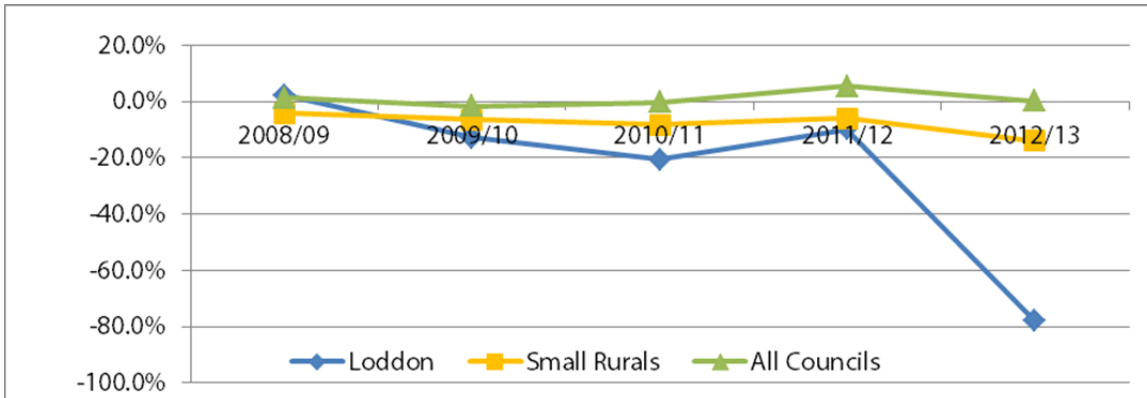
Measured by:

Underlying result / underlying revenue

Measures:

Whether revenues exceed expenses, and excludes abnormal or non-recurrent revenues from the published surplus/(deficit), including capital income that is received yearly

Expected band for this measure is: >0%



Small rural councils (SRC) show an historic underlying deficit. For Council, the last three years have been somewhat distorted by the impact of the floods and the rectification works that followed. Significant restoration works were undertaken in these three years but in the 2012/13 this was classified as operating expenditure instead of capital expenditure to capture the maintenance/restoration component.

It is extremely difficult for Loddon, and most small rural councils to be able to budget and achieve an underlying surplus due to the limited types of income available.

It is emphasised that Council budgets traditionally to protect its cash base and does not budget to achieve a cash deficit.

Category 2: Liquidity

Ratio 2:

Working capital

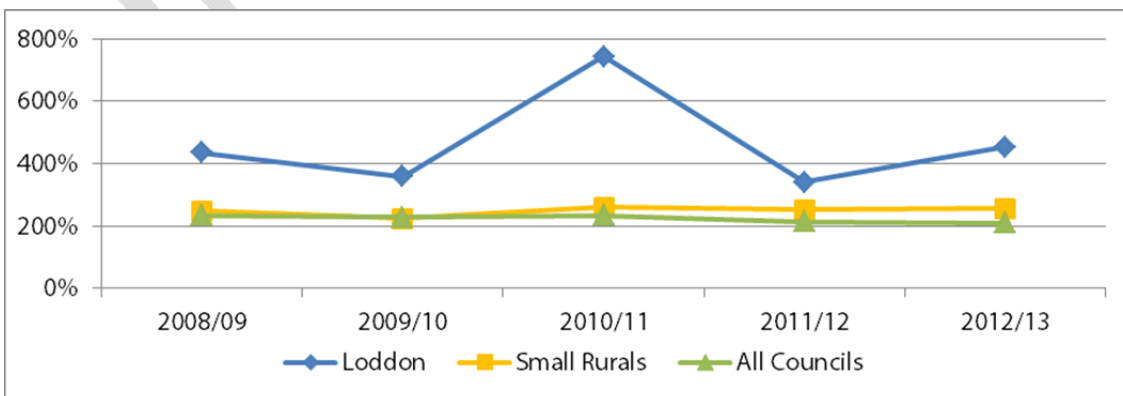
Measured by:

Current assets / current liabilities

Measures:

The ability to pay short term commitments

Expected band for this measure is: 120% - 200%



The working capital ratio looks very positive for Council; however historically it can be distorted by 2 significant elements:

- prepaid Victorian Grants Commission funding
- unexpended grants in respect to flood works and other major capital works.

All of these elements demand expenditures in subsequent years. For Council, this seems to be a continuing cycle.

Ratio 3:

Unrestricted cash

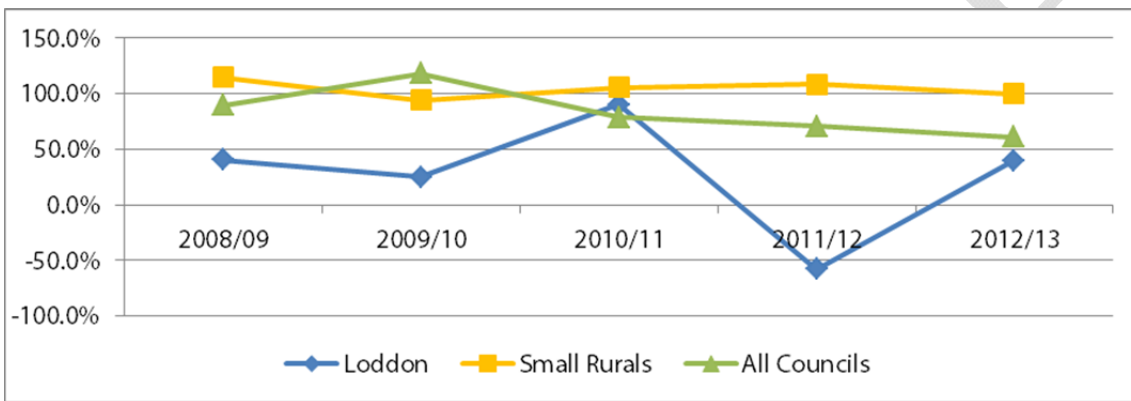
Measured by:

Unrestricted cash / current liabilities

Measures:

The proportion of current liabilities that can be paid from unrestricted cash

Expected band for this measure is: 50% - 100%



Unrestricted cash for Council shows a positive of \$1.9M. This is in line with previous trends.

It is difficult to analyse the unrestricted cash with other local governments as the use of reserve funding is not universal.

Category 3: Obligations

Ratio 4:

Indebtedness

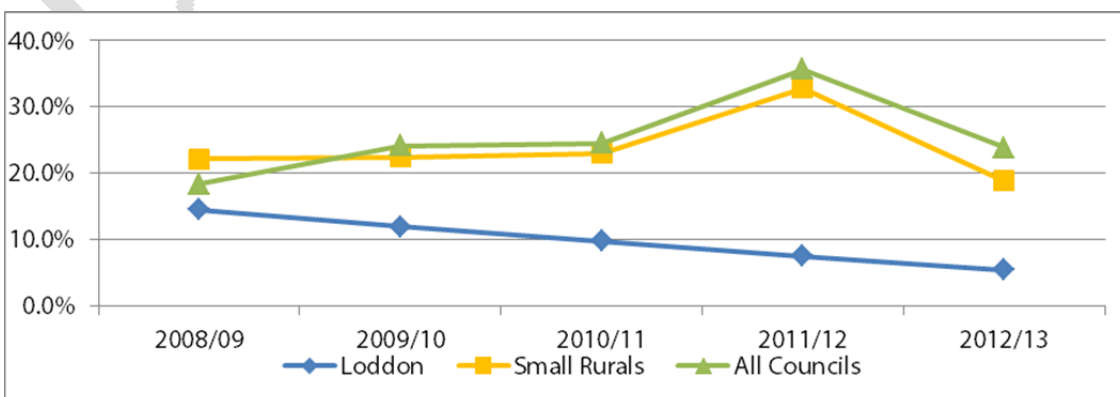
Measured by:

Interest bearing loans and borrowings / total rates

Measures:

The proportion of rates income that is required to underwrite existing debt

Expected band for this measure is: 20% - 60%



Council's position has been to restrain borrowings. Council has two current loans representing approximately \$442K. The trend shows a decline in its ratio, and that Council has a very low exposure to debt based on rating revenue. Since June 2013, Council has paid out one of its loan commitments.

Ratio 5:

Debt repayments

Measured by:

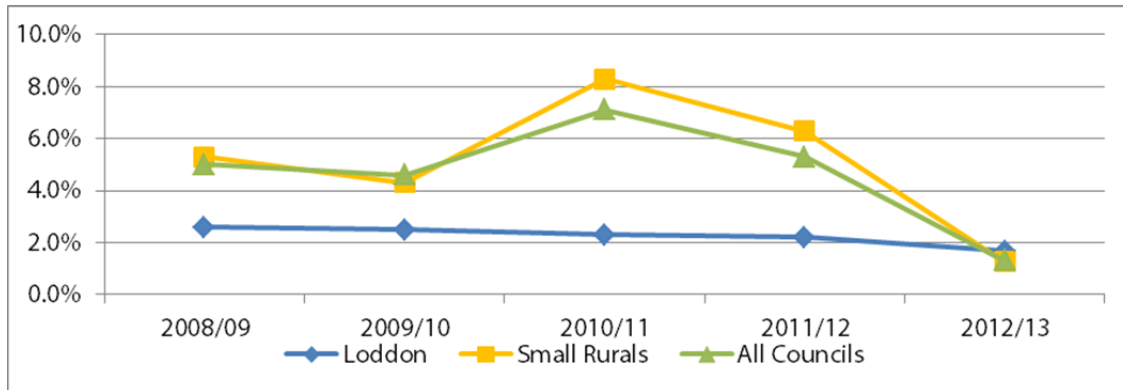
Annual interest and principal repayments / total rates

Measures:

The capacity to service current debt

Expected band for this measure is:

0% - 5%



This ratio is diminishing at a slow rate; loan repayments remain constant (as Council has not entered into any new borrowings), while rates income increases each year.

Ratio 6:

Long term liabilities

Measured by:

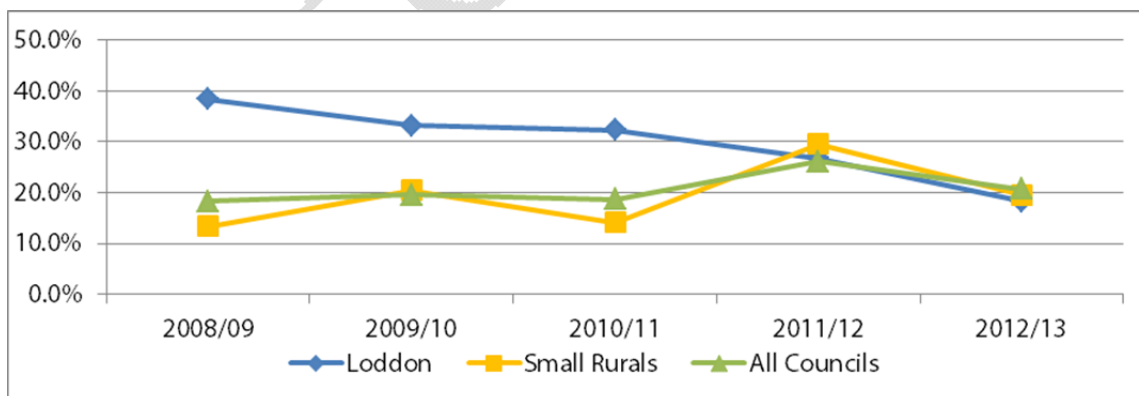
Non-current liabilities / own sourced revenue

Measures:

The proportion of own sourced revenue that is required to meet non-current liabilities

Expected band for this measure is:

10% - 40%



This shows a declining trend for Council; however, own sourced revenue includes gravel pit income, which was significant during the flood rectification period.

Ratio 7:

Asset renewal

Measured by:

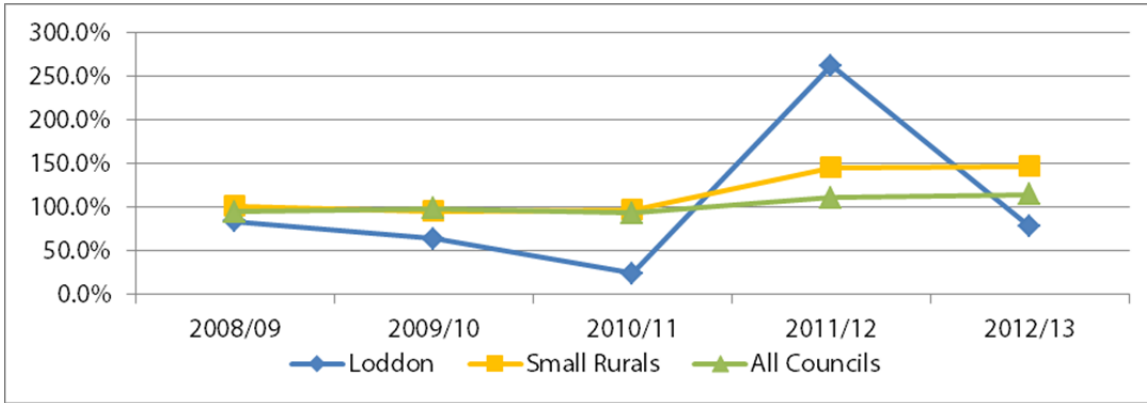
Actual asset renewal expenditure / depreciation expense

Measures:

The ability to meet asset renewal demand

Expected band for this measure is:

90% - 110%



This shows that Council was extremely high on this ratio in 2010/11 but declined back to below average in 2012/13.

This is due to the significant works undertaken in respect to flood rectification works with 100% capitalised in 2011/12 and none capitalised in 2012/13.

Category 4: Stability

Ratio 8:

Rates concentration

Measured by:

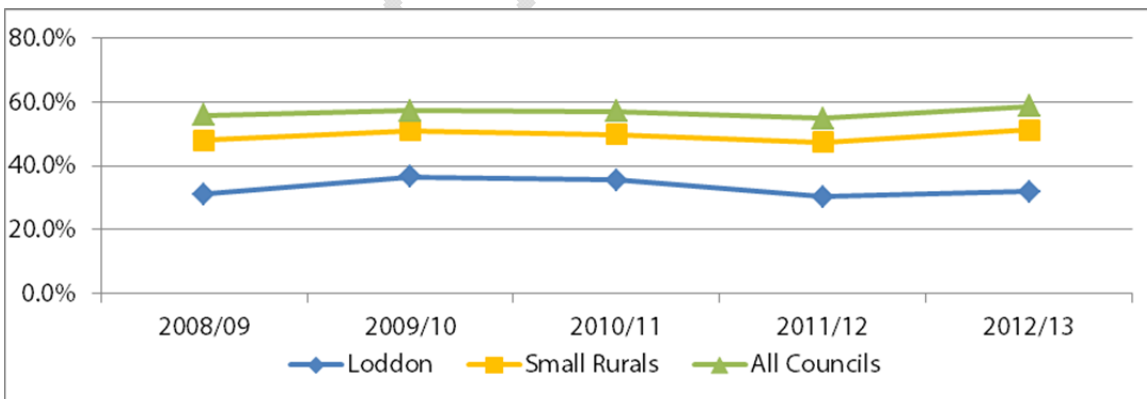
Rates income / total underlying revenue

Measures:

The concentration of revenue sources and the reliance on rates

Expected band for this measure is:

50% - 80%



Council appears more reliant on other sources of income, mainly recurrent grants. Council's current rating strategy is applying a 5% rate increase annually. The results show that Councils constantly sits below both indication groups in relation to this ratio.

Ratio 9:

Measured by:

Measures:

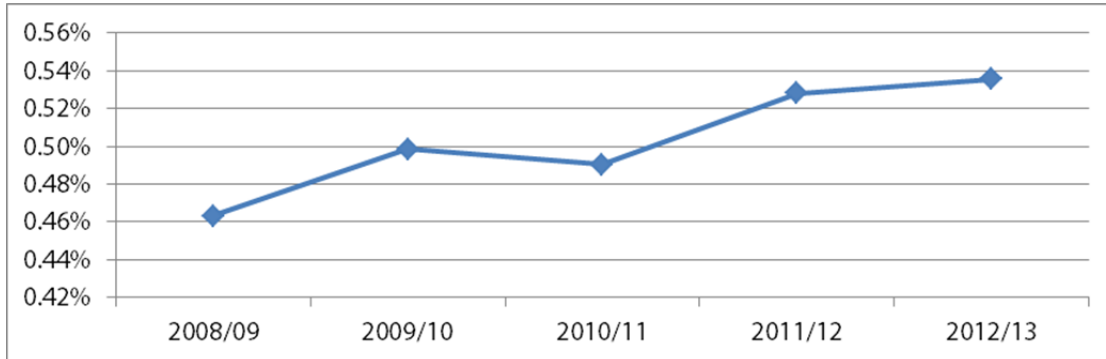
Expected band for this measure is:

Rates effort

Rates income / total Capital Improved Value (CIV)

The amount of rates raised per dollar of property valuation

0.2% - 0.6%



It is not possible to provide a comparative graph as the information for other Councils is not readily available and is not provided by Strategy Plus. Only Council's information has been included as the graph above shows. The CIV information has been sourced from Victorian Grants Commission returns. The trend shows gradual increase as rates and property values increase.

Category 5: Efficiency

Ratio 10:

Measured by:

Measures:

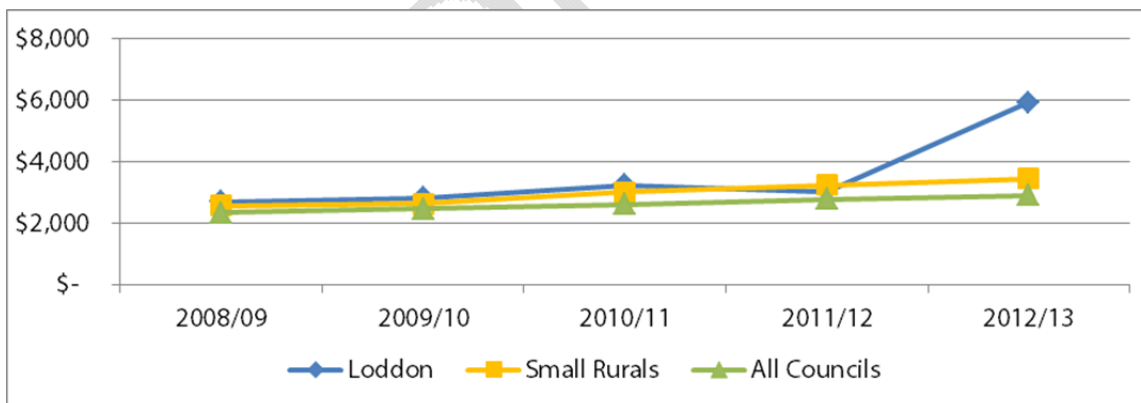
Expected band for this measure is:

Expenditure level

Underlying expenditure / total assessments

The efficient use of Council resources per assessment

None provided in the LGPRF



Council is in line with other local governments for this ratio. Due to the recognition of flood works in 2012/13 as operating expenditure there is a slight distort with the last point but this is expected to return to a continual line in 2013/14.

Ratio 11:

Specific purpose grants

Measured by:

Specific purpose grants expended / specific purpose grants received

Measures:

The efficient use of Council resources

Expected band for this measure is:

None provided in the LGPRF

No graph has been produced as there is no data provided from Strategy Plus for this category and information on comparison councils is not readily available.

Ratio 12:

Rates level

Measured by:

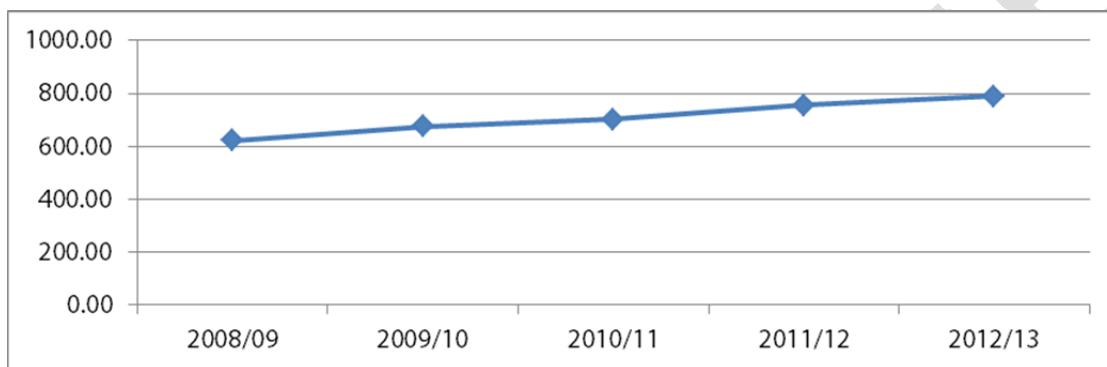
Residential rate revenue / residential property assessments

Measures:

Measures the improvement in organisational efficiency

Expected band for this measure is:

None provided in the LGPRF



No data was provided from Strategy Plus but data was sourced from the Victorian Grants Commission working papers as this is a common indicator within that report. Residential rates and numbers are steadily increasing which is shown in the gradual increase in the above data. Information on comparison councils is not readily available.

Ratio 13:

Workforce turnover

Measured by:

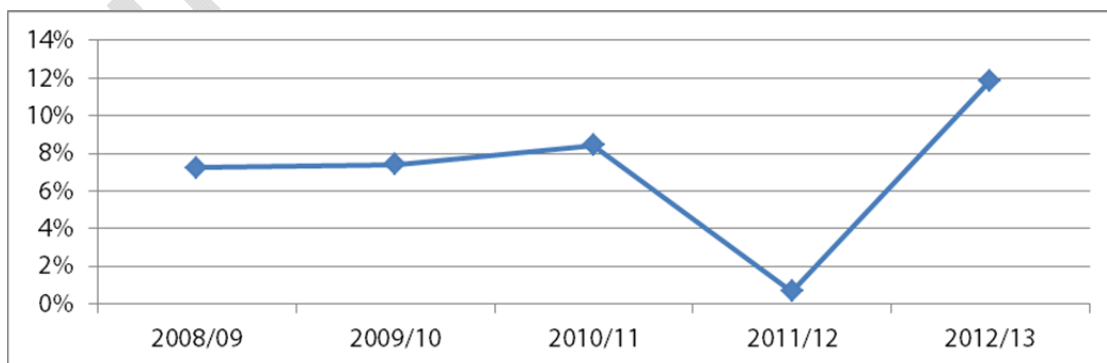
Number of staff resignations and terminations / average number of staff for the financial year

Measures:

Measures the workforce turnover for the year

Expected band for this measure is:

5% - 10%



No data provided from Strategy Plus for this category and information on comparison councils is not readily available. Data for this graph has been sourced from Victorian Grants Commission return. It shows a steady level of workforce turnover with a low level of staff leaving in 2011/12 and a high level of staff

resignations/terminations in 2012/13 with the completion of the flood restoration program. On average over the two years the percentage is between 6% and 7%.

COSTS/BENEFITS

The LGPRF states that the primary objective of the new framework is to provide comprehensive performance information that meets the needs of the stakeholders. In meeting this objective:

- councils will have information to support strategic decision making and continuous improvement
- communities will have information about council performance and productivity
- regulators will have information to monitor compliance
- State and Commonwealth Government will be better informed to make decisions that ensure an effective efficient and sustainable system of local government.

Key performance indicators on balance can provide a health check on the financial and service capabilities, and can in themselves establish agreed strategic indicators that can help Council in setting its longer term goals and objectives.

They also guide Council and the community of expected levels of service.

RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks associated with the recommendation itself but there are risks associated with comparative performance indicators. They are:

- organisations have external factors that can impact a particular year's results. For example, Council's results have been significantly impacted for the past 3 years due to flood recovery and restoration works. Situations such as these make valid comparisons impossible
- data from different sources can be analysed in various ways, which may make invalid comparatives between councils e.g. utilisation of reserves, treatment of restricted cash, depreciation methods and capital allocation policies.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The LGPRF requirements have been discussed at length with Council, Management Executive Group and the Management and Leadership Group.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Beattie

Seconded: Cr Curnow

That Council receives and notes the 'Local Government Performance Reporting Framework – Financial Performance Indicators' report.

Carried

5.3 2014 REVALUATION UPDATE REPORT

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with progress on the 2014 revaluation of land and buildings in the Shire.

Author	Jude Holt, Director Corporate Services
Council Plan ref:	Core business 8: Compliance
File no:	09/01/001
Attachment:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the '2014 Revaluation Update Report'.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Nil

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Valuation Best Practice, Council undertakes a revaluation of all properties in the Shire every 2 years. The prescribed date for the next revaluation is 1 January 2014, and that valuation data will be used for the 2014/2015 budget.

Council undertakes its revaluation process via external contractor, and LG Valuations Pty. Ltd. (LG) is currently in the process of revaluing properties in the Shire.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Valuation Best Practice outlines milestone dates for the return of information during the revaluation process. This is to ensure that Council has a Valuation Return by the final due date of 30 April, 2014. The milestone dates for the 2014 revaluation are:

Stage	Details	Due Date	Date Lodged with VGV	Date Certified by VGV
Stage 1	Statistical Analysis	28 February 2013	13 February 2013	5 March 2013
Stage 2	Residential & Rural Preliminary Valuations			
	- Rural	31 October 2013	7 August 2013	16 September 2013
	- Residential	31 October 2013	13 May 2013	11 June 2013
Stage 3A	Specialist Properties	31 August 2013	16 October 2013	18 December 2013
Stage 3B	Commercial & Industrial	31 January 2014	5 February 2014	14 March 2014
Stage 4	Residential & Rural Final Valuations			
	- Rural	31 March 2014	28 March 2014	
	- Residential	31 March 2014	25 February 2014	
Stage 5	Valuation Return	30 April 2014		

Stage 1:

Stage 1 includes preparation, planning and statistical analysis of the previous valuation against recent sales. It was due on 28 February 2013/

Stage 1 was lodged with the Valuer-General Victoria (VGV) on 13 February, and a 7A Certificate was received on 5 March 2013.

A 7A Certificate is authorisation of the revaluation stage by VGV and states that:

- The work was accompanied by the documentation and evidence required by the Valuer-General
- The work is in accordance with the standards required by the Valuer-General for the 2014 General Valuation and is considered satisfactory.

Stage 2:

Stage 2 includes the largest body of work – Rural and Residential properties. This stage is the preliminary work required for those properties, where the majority of inspections and field data verification is completed. A final review of values for these properties occurs in Stage 4. Stage 2 was due on 31 October 2013.

Due to the size of the data, Stage 2 is normally lodged in two parts – Rural and Residential. Stage 2 Rural was lodged with VGV on 7 August 2013, and a 7A Certificate was received on 16 September 2013.

Stage 2 Residential was lodged with VGV on 13 May 2013, and a 7A Certificate was received on 11 June 2013.

Stage 3A:

Stage 3A includes specialist properties that Council has nominated in the contract as being unusual, due to size or nature. It includes chicken farms, olive groves, piggeries, and other commercial properties. It was due on 31 August 2013.

Stage 3A was lodged with VGV on 16 October 2013, and a 7A Certificate was received on 18 December 2013.

Stage 3B:

Stage 3B is Commercial and Industrial properties. This stage was due on 31 January 2014.

Stage 3B was lodged with VGV on 5 February 2014, and a 7A Certificate was received on 14 March 2014.

Stage 4:

Stage 4 is a review of Stage 2 data based on an analysis of subsequent sales. This stage is due on 31 March 2014.

Stage 4 Residential was lodged on 25 February 2014, and no 7A Certificate has been received. Stage 4 Rural was lodged on 28 March 2014, and no 7A Certificate has been received.

Stage 5:

Stage 5 is the return of the valuation to Council, and includes the valuer's final report. This stage is due on 30 April 2014.

Certification of this stage is critical for Council's budget process, as the new valuation will be used as a basis for raising rates in the first year after return. Council does not resolve to advertise the budget until certification has been received, to ensure that the valuation base does not change.

Until now Council has had until 31 August each year to adopt the budget, however, the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014 is expected to be enacted on 18 April 2014. This Act includes a change to the budget adoption date for Council to 30 June annually.

As Council cannot calculate the final rate until certification of the valuation data is received (in a revaluation year), and there is a 28 day submission period for advertising the budget, there will be some

difficulty for Council in meeting the new legislative date with the current Valuation Best Practice Guidelines (VBPG) dates.

The 2012 revaluation data was certified on 24 July 2012. The 2010 revaluation data was certified on 11 June 2010. In both of these revaluation years, Council would not have met the legislative timeframe for the budget had the date been 30 June, and not 31 August as is presently the case.

Recently the Valuer-General Victoria invited submissions for the (VBPG) for the 2016 revaluation. Council submitted concerns regarding the new budget adoption date along with the current VBPG date for Stage 5 of 30 April, and requested that the dates for stages 3B, 4 and 5 be brought forward by one month to assist all councils in meeting legislative timeframes.

COSTS/BENEFITS

There are no direct costs relating to this report.

The benefit of updating Council on the progress of the revaluation is that Council will be prepared for any delays in finalising the budget if it becomes apparent that milestone dates are not being met.

RISK ANALYSIS

There is a legislative risk that Council will not meet the new date for adopting the budget in a revaluation year unless the VBPG dates can be amended favourably or Stage 5 data is certified earlier than has been experienced in the past.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

As well as gauging progress against the milestone dates, Council is able to monitor the process by the following mechanisms:

1. Council is provided with a report from Valuer-General Victoria (VGV) when each stage is approved
2. Periodic meetings with LG Valuations Pty. Ltd. - Under Council's contract, Council can ask for meetings with LG to discuss progress, queries, and any potential issues with return of data.

Also, LG's representative often calls into the office to touch base when he is working in the Wedderburn area.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That Council receives and notes the '2014 Revaluation Update Report'.

Carried

5.4 OUTCOME OF ANNUAL COMMUNITY CARE SERVICE USER SURVEY

SUMMARY

This report is to provide Council with the results of the 2013 Community Care service user survey.

Author	Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing
Council Plan ref:	Core business 2: Provision of wellbeing services
File no:	12/12/01
Attachment:	2013 Community Care survey results

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report detailing the results of the 2013 Community Care service user survey.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Nil

BACKGROUND

Councils Community Care Department conducts an annual survey of service users to determine levels of satisfaction with the overall program, and to assist with identification of areas for improvement.

To ensure that all levels of Council are aware of service user satisfaction, the 2013 quality review suggested that the Community Care Department report results of the annual survey to Council.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

At the end of 2013, one hundred and fifty surveys were distributed randomly to current service users, fifty two surveys were returned, and no recipient answered every question.

Although a return of fifty is above the average expected survey return, the previous returns of the annual survey have been in the mid-seventies, so a smaller than usual sample for this year's survey.

100% of respondents determined that the receipt of services improves daily life and provided adequate support for them to remain living independently.

In comparing the sum of responses for 'Always' and 'Usually' the following areas indicated over 90 % of respondents were satisfied with:

- Community care workers arrive and leave on time
- Community care workers are approachable
- Community care workers use personal protective equipment
- Queries with the office are resolved satisfactorily and timely
- Office staff are approachable and courteous
- Assessment officers are courteous and listen
- Assessment officers include clients in planning their service
- Adequate information is provided on privacy, access to personal information, rights and responsibilities
- Family/representative is happy with service provided.

Through the survey responses, service users indicated that they do not receive enough information about how to contact an advocate and what to do if they have concerns or complaints.

The Community Care department, as a result of recommendations from the 2013 quality review, have recently reviewed documentation provided to clients and have included additional information on both of these areas. The introduction of an Opportunity for Improvement (OFI) form will enable service users to provide feedback at any time.

COSTS/BENEFITS

The annual Community Care service user survey enables the Community Care department to determine areas of focus and link them in to the current quality improvement plan.

There are no costs associated with this report.

RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks associated with this report.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

One hundred and fifty surveys were sent out randomly to current service users.

The opportunity to provide additional comments is included in the survey, and these provide the Community Care department with valuable insight.

Whilst the survey is anonymous, service users are given the option to provide their name and contact details for a follow up call if they would like to further discuss their survey responses. Thirteen respondents have taken this opportunity.

MOTION

Moved: Cr McKinnon

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That Council receive and note this report detailing the results of the 2013 Community Care service user survey.

Carried

5.5 MONTHLY PLANNING ACTIVITY REPORT

SUMMARY

Provides Council with an update on planning applications currently under consideration and a register of planning permits issued between 08-03-2014 and 09-04-2014.

Author	Amy Lanfranchi, Planning Officer
Council Plan ref:	Strategic Platform 2: Grow our population through appropriate development
File no:	02/01/001
Attachment:	List of Active Planning Applications List of Applications Approved under Delegation

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the monthly Planning Activity Report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council is provided with a monthly report identifying the status of planning applications currently under consideration or those permits which have been issued within the preceding month.

BACKGROUND

The Loddon Shire's Planning Scheme sets out Council's objectives for the Shire with regard to land use and development via the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Policies, and specifies which uses and developments require planning approval via zones and overlays.

As the responsible Authority it is Loddon Shire Council's duty to administer and enforce its planning scheme.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The associated attachments provide Council with a full list of planning applications currently under consideration and those planning permits issued between 08-03-2014 and 09-04-2014.

COSTS/BENEFITS

Encouragement of appropriate development within the Shire is considered to offer a variety of benefits including population growth, economic diversity and development, infrastructure improvement or increased community and private services.

RISK ANALYSIS

Failure to process planning applications in a timely manner or undertake rigorous assessment of development or works proposals is considered to pose the following risks:

- Barrier to development and associated economic growth within the Shire
- Proliferation of incompatible land use development
- Council's reputation as a regulatory authority
- Infrastructure, service provision or regulatory and enforcement pressures
- Protection of zones to accommodate intended activities or reduction of surrounding property amenity

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation and engagement with planning permit applicants is routinely conducted at the required periods throughout the assessment and permit approval process.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Beattie

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That Council receive and note the monthly Planning Activity Report.

Carried

UNCONFIRMED

6. COMPLIANCE REPORTS

6.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with a list of documents signed and sealed during the month.

Author:	John McLinden - Chief Executive Officer
Council Plan ref:	Core business 8: Compliance
File No:	02/01/001
Attachment:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receive and note the 'Document for Signing and Sealing' report
2. endorse the use of the seal on the documents listed

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Nil

BACKGROUND

N/A

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Loddon Shire Council Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer
 Loddon Shire Council Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff
 Transfer of land from Younghusband to Loddon Shire Council

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council:

1. receive and note the 'Document for Signing and Sealing' report
2. endorse the use of the seal on the documents listed

Carried

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That the following items be treated as urgent business.

Carried

7.1 COSTS OF REVALUATION

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council write a letter to Rural Councils Victoria and the Municipal Association Victoria to draw their attention to the costs to local government of the two year cycle of revaluations, and suggest that the cycle be changed to a four year period.

Carried

7.2 REIMBURSEMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

MOTION

Moved: Cr McKinnon

Seconded: Cr Condliffe

That the travel reimbursement and extra quarterly repayments to the Chair of the Audit Committee be paid automatically each year.

Carried

7.3 APPRECIATION OF WORKS IN BOORT

Cr Beattie asked that his appreciation of the organisation and completion of the works in north and west Boort be conveyed to the staff who have performed the work.

8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Closing of Meeting to the Public

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to the public.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Beattie

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That the meeting be closed to the public at 4.21pm

Carried

8.1 REVIEW OF ACTION SHEET

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council receive and note the Action Sheet.

Carried

8.2 BUILDING DEPARTMENT STATUTORY ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Beattie

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council receive and note the Building Department Statutory Enforcement Activity report.

Carried

8.3 BUILDING DEPARTMENT STATUTORY ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Beattie

That Council receive and note the Building Department Statutory Enforcement Activity Report.:

Carried

8.4 WEDDERBURN COMMUNITY BANK

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council:

1. Make available from the Land and Buildings Reserve the amount of \$150,000 to acquire and renovate suitable premises for the Wedderburn Community Bank
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to purchase the premises of the former milk bar, 75 High Street Wedderburn, and arrange suitable renovations in consultation with the Wedderburn Community Bank Steering Committee up to a total cost of \$150,000.

Carried

8.5 PLANNING AND LOCAL LAWS COMPLIANCE ACTIVITY

MOTION

Moved: Cr Curnow

Seconded: Cr McKinnon

That Council receives and notes the Planning and Local Laws Compliance report.

Carried

MOTION

Moved: Cr Condliffe

Seconded: Cr Curnow

That the meeting be re-opened to the public at 4.43pm

Carried

NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 27 May at Serpentine commencing at 3pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 4.50pm.

Confirmed this.....day of..... 2014

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UNCONFIRMED