



Notice is given that a Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 25 October 2022
Time: 3pm
Location: Loddon Shire Council Chambers,
Wedderburn

AGENDA

Council Meeting

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OPENING COMMENT

This meeting is being recorded and audio streamed via the Council website and Facebook.

1 OPENING AFFIRMATION

“We, the Councillors of the Loddon Shire, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance.”

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

“The Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered and pays its respects to their Elders both past and present.”

3 APOLOGIES**4 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

5 PREVIOUS MINUTES**5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm the minutes of the:

1. Council Briefing of 27 September 2022
2. Council Meeting of 27 September 2022
3. Confidential Council Meeting of 27 September 2022
4. Council Forum 11 October 2022.

REPORT

This report seeks Council confirmation of Minutes from the September 2022 Council Meeting and Briefing and the October 2022 Council forum, as circulated to Councillors.

6 ADVISORY MEETINGS**6.1 RECORD OF ADVISORY MEETINGS**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirm records of the following as detailed within this report :

1. Council Briefing 27 September 2022.
2. Council Forum 11 October 2022.

Rule 51 of Council's Governance Rules requires a record of Councillor briefings, Councillor forums and advisory committees to be confirmed at scheduled Council meetings, and that the record include:

- a) a record of which Councillors attended the meeting;
- b) a summary of the matters considered in the meeting; and
- c) a record of any conflicts of interest disclosed by Councillors.

This report seeks confirmation of the following meetings and forums, conducted since the last scheduled meeting of Council and detailed within this report:

1. Council Briefing 27 September 2022.
2. Council Forum 11 October 2022.

Meeting details	Briefing
Date	27 September 2022
Councillor Attendees	Cr Beattie Cr Holt Cr Jungwirth Cr Murphy Cr Straub
Staff/Stakeholder representatives	Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing Steven Phillips, Director Operations Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate Lisa Clue, Manager Governance Janine Jackson, Manager Organisation Development Louise Johnston, Statutory Planning Coordinator Glenn Harvey, Manager Development and Compliance Objector - Planning Application 5769
Items discussed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chief Executive Officer's Key Performance Indicators 2. Planning Application 5769 – 317 Curnows Road, Calivil 3. General Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAV State Council • Roadside slashing • Kow Swamp
Conflict of Interest Disclosures - Councillor/officer making disclosure	Nil
Councillor/officer left room	N/A

Meeting details	Forum
Date	11 October 2022
Councillor Attendees	Cr Beattie Cr Holt Cr Jungwirth (online) Cr Murphy Cr Straub
Staff/Stakeholder representatives	Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate Wendy Gladman, Director Community Wellbeing Steven Phillips, Director Operations Lisa Clue, Manager Governance Paul Scullie, Acting Manager Community Support and Community Support team members Peter Walsh MP Leigh Barry and Sage Hahn, Bio Gro Trevor Budge, City of Greater Bendigo Susa Fayad, City of Ballarat Belinda McKnight, Emergency Management Coordinator Julian Perez, Villawood Properties Carolyn Stephenson, Statutory/Strategic Planner Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services (online)
Items discussed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Community Support 2. Peter Walsh MP 3. Bio Gro 4. Victorian Central Goldfields World Heritage Bid 5. Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2022 6. Aged care Reform – Staff consultation feedback and community survey results 7. Emergency Management Update 8. Wedderburn Housing Development Stage 2 – Yelka Street Residential Development Feasibility Assessment 9. Review of the Financial Hardship Policy V3 10. Scheduling of Special Meeting for the election of Mayor 11. General Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation of Directorship Course • Wedderburn Senior Citizens Club/Clubrooms
Conflict of Interest Disclosures - Councillor/officer making disclosure	Nil
Councillor/officer left room	N/A

7 REVIEW OF ACTION SHEET**7.1 REVIEW OF ACTIONS**

File Number: 02/01/002

Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance

Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Council resolutions acted upon since the September 2022 Council meeting

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note resolutions acted upon since the September 2022 Council meeting as attached to this report.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

REPORT

A document listing Council resolutions acted upon since the September 2022 Council meeting (including one resolution made while the meeting was closed to the public) is attached to this report.

Council resolutions acted upon since the September 2022 Council meeting

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Scullie, Paul Gladman, Wendy	Decision Reports	Community Grants Program Guidelines
RESOLUTION 2022/95			
Moved: Cr Linda Jungwirth Seconded: Cr Wendy Murphy			
That Council endorse the modifications to the Community Grants program guidelines, as listed in the report, to provide a structure that will improve the grant experience for community groups.			
CARRIED			
18 Oct 2022 1:59pm Scullie, Paul			
Community Grants guidelines have been implemented, with a new round of grants to be opening soon.			
18 Oct 2022 2:01pm Scullie, Paul - Completion			
Action completed by Scullie, Paul			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Jackson, Janine Wilson, Amanda	Decision Reports	2022 Office Closure
RESOLUTION 2022/96			
Moved: Cr Neil Beattie Seconded: Cr Gavan Holt			
That:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council approve the closure of the Wedderburn administrative centre from midday Friday 23 December 2022 with a proposed reopening at 8.15 am on Tuesday 3 January 2023. 2. Council give notice of the amended office hours by publishing the details in the public notices section of the Bendigo Advertiser, in the Loddon Herald, on Council's website and on social media. 			
CARRIED			
13 Oct 2022 10:53am Jackson, Janine			
Advertisements have been prepared for publication in print and social media.			
13 Oct 2022 10:58am Jackson, Janine - Completion			
Action completed by Jackson, Janine			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Coombes, Christine Fitzgerald, Lincoln	Decision Reports	2023 Council Meeting Schedule
RESOLUTION 2022/97			
Moved: Cr Linda Jungwirth			
Seconded: Cr Neil Beattie			
That Council:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approve the schedule of Council Meetings for 2023 as contained within this report 2. provide public notice of the Council Meetings schedule. 			
CARRIED			
13 Oct 2022 11:41am Coombes, Christine			
The 2023 meeting dates have been listed on Councils website and scheduled for publication in local newspapers and Councils social media page.			
13 Oct 2022 11:43am Coombes, Christine - Completion			
Action completed by Coombes, Christine			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Johnston, Louise Phillips, Steven	Decision Reports	Planning Application 5769 - 317 Curnows Road, Calivil
<p>RESOLUTION 2022/98</p> <p>Moved: Cr Neil Beattie Seconded: Cr Wendy Murphy</p> <p>That That the Responsible Authority having considered all matters which the Planning and Environment Act, 1987, requires it to consider, decides to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit for a drainage flow control structure and associated works at 317 Curnows Road, Calivil subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>LAYOUT</p> <p>1. The development and works as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered or modified unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Responsible Authority.</p> <p>FARM MONITORING PROGRAM</p> <p>2.1 Within two months of the development commencing, a Farm Monitoring Program to the satisfaction of the responsible authority must submitted to and approved by the responsible authority. When approved, the Farm Monitoring Program will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit.</p> <p>2.2 The Farm Monitoring Program must be generally in accordance with the plan as outlined in 'Effluent System Design and Management Plan' monitoring program and time frame frequency submitted with application 5521. Once endorsed, the monitoring program must not be modified or altered without the written consent of the responsible authority.</p> <p>2.3 The endorsed Farm Monitoring Program must be implemented and maintained to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.</p> <p>GOULBURN MURRAY WATER</p> <p>3. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with sediment control principles outlined in 'Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control' (EPA, 1991).</p> <p>DRAINAGE FLOW CONTROL STRUCTURE</p> <p>4. The drainage flow control structure hereby permitted must only be used in significant rain events to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.</p> <p>EXPIRY</p> <p>5. This permit will expire if the permitted development is not started within two years of the date of this permit, or is not completed within four years of that date. The responsible authority may extend these periods if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within six months afterwards if the development has not been started • within twelve months afterwards if the development started lawfully before the permit expired. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>			

13 Oct 2022 10:36am Johnston, Louise
 Notice of Decision issued 28 September 2022
13 Oct 2022 10:36am Johnston, Louise - Completion
 Action completed by Johnston, Louise

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Phillips, Steven Fitzgerald, Lincoln	Motion	Motion
<p>RESOLUTION 2022/100</p> <p>Moved: Cr Neil Beattie Seconded: Cr Linda Jungwirth</p> <p>That Council write to VicRoads regarding the state of C Class roads within the Loddon Shire, in particular, safety concerns with overgrown roadside vegetation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>			
<p>18 Oct 2022 3:34pm Phillips, Steven Letter has been sent to Department of Transport and Regional Roads Victoria.</p> <p>18 Oct 2022 3:35pm Phillips, Steven - Completion Action completed by Phillips, Steven</p>			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/09/2022	Jackson, Janine Wilson, Amanda	Confidential Items	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
<p>RESOLUTION 2022/101</p> <p>Moved: Cr Neil Beattie Seconded: Cr Wendy Murphy</p> <p>That Council endorse the 2022/23 Chief Executive Officer key performance indicators as detailed in the attachment to this report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>			
<p>13 Oct 2022 10:59am Jackson, Janine - Completion Action completed by Jackson, Janine</p>			

8 MAYORAL REPORT**8.1 MAYORAL REPORT**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report.

REPORT

The Mayor will present a verbal report at the meeting.

Cr Straub

Loddon Campaspe Councils	
Murray River Group of Councils	
North Central Goldfields Regional Library	
North Central Local Learning and Employment Network	
Special Committees Of Council (Section 65 Community Asset Committees):	
East Loddon Community Centre Community Asset Committee	
Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee	
Other Council activities	
DATE	Activity

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORT**9.1 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

File Number: 02/01/001
Author: Lisa Clue, Manager Governance
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Councillors' reports

REPORT

Each Councillor will present a report at the meeting.

Cr Beattie

Rail Freight Alliance	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Boort Aerodrome Community Asset Committee	
Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee	
Boort Park Community Asset Committee	
Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Community Asset Committee	
Korong Vale Sports Centre Community Asset Committee	
Little Lake Boort Community Asset Committee	
Yando Public Hall Community Asset Committee	
DATE	Activity

Cr Holt

Municipal Association of Victoria	
Audit and Risk Committee	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Donaldson Park Community Asset Committee	
Wedderburn Community Centre Community Asset Committee	
Wedderburn Engine Park and Market Square Reserve Community Asset Committee	
Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Hall Community Asset Committee	
Hard Hill Tourist Reserve Community Asset Committee	
Other Council activities	
DATE	Activity

Cr Jungwirth

Loddon Mallee Local Government Waste Forum	
Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance	
Municipal Emergency Management Plan Committee	
Other Council activities	
DATE	Activity

Cr Murphy

Calder Highway Improvement Committee	
Local Government Women’s Charter	
Australia Day Committee	
Healthy Minds Network	
Section 65 Community Asset Committees:	
Bridgewater on Loddon Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee	
Campbells Forest Hall Community Asset Committee	
Inglewood Community Sports Centre Community Asset Committee	
Inglewood Community Elderly Persons Units Community Asset Committee	
Inglewood Town Hall Hub Community Asset Committee	
Other Council activities	
DATE	Activity

10 DECISION REPORTS**10.1 REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY V3**

File Number: FOL/19/432511
Author: Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services
Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate
Attachments: 1. Financial Hardship Policy v3

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Financial Hardship Policy v3.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The current version of the Financial Hardship Policy (the Policy), version two, was adopted on 23 July 2019 with a review date of 23 July 2022.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Policy is to set principles for Loddon Shire Council to assist ratepayers who are experiencing general and financial hardship to make payments of rates and waste charges raised by Council.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The Policy outlines the circumstances where Council will give consideration to assisting a ratepayer experiencing genuine financial hardship with the following options:

- deferred payment
- waiver of all or part of a rate or charge.

The updates in this review of the Policy relate to the action taken with any request made to Loddon Shire Council. Within the authorised delegations provided by Council, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) can determine the outcome of the application. A further section has been added to the policy allowing the CEO to refer the application to a Council Meeting for determination in some circumstances.

An additional section has also been added that allows the CEO to extend an application for waiver where the hardship status still exists and the ratepayer has complied with all conditions of the agreement including debt repayment schedules.

Minor administrative alterations have been made to wording throughout the document to assist ratepayers understand the intended purpose of the document and ensure language is aligned with legislation.

COST/BENEFITS

There are no direct costs associated with the adoption of this policy. Where a hardship claim has been approved, there could be paused future or reduction in past interest charges. It is expected that when approving hardship claims, this will assist with rates and charges to be paid, therefore avoiding the need to proceed with legal action.

RISK ANALYSIS

It is a Council function to levy and collect rates from property owners within the municipality. This policy assists in mitigating financial and reputational risk through providing an avenue to support those who are experiencing financial hardship.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

This Policy has been reviewed by Loddon Leaders, Policy Review Group and the Management Executive Group prior to submission to Council.

The Policy has a review timeline of four years.



FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

DOCUMENT TYPE:	Council policy
DOCUMENT STATUS:	Draft
POLICY OWNER POSITION:	Manager Financial Services
INTERNAL COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT:	Not applicable
APPROVED BY:	Council
DATE ADOPTED:	Click here to enter date of approval
VERSION NUMBER:	3
REVIEW DATE:	Click here to enter a date.
DATE RESCINDED:	Click here to enter a date.
RELATED STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS, POLICIES OR PROCEDURES:	Rateable Properties with Environment Covenants Policy Revenue and Rating Strategy
RELATED LEGISLATION:	Local Government Act 1989 Local Government Act 2020
EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL:	

Signed by Chief Executive Officer

FILE LOCATION: K:\FINANCE\Policies\Draft\POL Financial Hardship Policy v3.docx

Policy documents are amended from time to time, therefore you should not rely on a printed copy being the current version. Please consult the policies on the Loddon Shire website (Council Policies) or Intranet (Organisational Policies) to ensure that the version you are using is up to date.

This document is available in alternative formats (e.g. larger font) if requested.



FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

1 PURPOSE

This policy sets the principles for Loddon Shire Council to assist ratepayers who are experiencing general and financial hardship to make payments of rates and waste charges raised by Council.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to ratepayers who have an outstanding rate or charge with Council and are experiencing genuine financial hardship.

3 POLICY

Council will give consideration to assisting a ratepayer experiencing genuine financial hardship within the following options:

- deferred payment
- waiver of all or part of a rate or charge.

Any requests for rate deferral waiver that meet the criteria outlined in this policy must be made to Council in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). A decision on any such request may be made by the CEO as per the authorised delegations. In some circumstances the CEO may decide to refer the application to a Council Meeting for determination.

3.1 Deferred payment

The intent under Section 170 of the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") of providing a deferral for payment of rates is to assist a ratepayer who owns and occupies a single rateable property who can demonstrate, via a certified statement of financial position, that payment of rates will cause hardship.

Council will consider an application for a deferred payment for such period as it deems fit. If a deferral is granted, it will be based on the following conditions:

- the ratepayer continues to accrue interest on the amount affected by the deferral at the interest rate fixed under section 2 of the Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983
- the deferral ceases and the deferred rates and accrued interest are immediately payable if the ratepayer ceases to own or occupy the property on which the rates are imposed
- the deferral ceases if Council in its discretion revokes the deferral. In such cases Council will notify the ratepayer in writing and request full payment of the deferred rates and accrued interest within 30 days
- the deferral will be reviewed each year within one month of the issue of the annual rates notice.

An increase in the valuation of a property and a subsequent increase in rates cannot be considered grounds for a deferred payment of rates.

Council may also authorise the deferral of rate payments for up to three months where the ratepayer is awaiting on finance from the sale of an asset, which will enable them to make full payment for rates. As stated above, Council will charge interest during this time; however no further legal or debt recovery action will be taken during the time of deferral.



FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

3.2 Waiver of all or part of a rate or charge

Under Section 171A of the Act, a person suffering financial hardship may make an application to Council for a waiver of the whole or part of any rate, charge or interest.

Where a ratepayer is unable to make rate payments and the charging of interest would cause undue financial hardship, an application under Section 171A will be considered subject to the following conditions.

Assistance will only be considered:

- for a property that is used for residential purposes and is the sole principal place of residence of the applicant
- for land that is classified as farm land and is the sole or principal place of residence of the applicant
- for land that is classified as commercial/industrial and is owned and operated by the applicant.

The applicant must provide:

- a certified Statement of Financial Position signed by a qualified accountant or financial counsellor
- a Financial Plan to ensure future rates and charges can be paid.

Each application will only apply for the current rating financial year, after which a new application for the next financial year will be required.

The Chief Executive Officer may decide to extend an application for waiver where the hardship status still exists and the ratepayer has complied with all conditions of the agreement including debt repayment schedules.

4 HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT

It is considered that this policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights Act. Loddon Shire Council is committed to consultation and cooperation between management and employees. The Council will formally involve elected employee Health and Safety Representatives in any workplace change that may affect the health and safety of any of its employees.

5 REVIEW

The Manager Financial Services will review this policy for any necessary amendments no later than 4 years after adoption of this current version.

10.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES (PLACES OF LAST RESORT)

File Number: fol/19/432270
Author: Janine Jackson, Manager Organisation Development
Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate
Attachments: 1. Neighbourhood Safe Places Plan September 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Loddon Shire Council Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan - September 2022, which includes and confirms designated Neighbourhood Safer Places within the municipality in the townships of Boort, Bridgewater, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, Serpentine and Wedderburn.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

At its Ordinary Meeting on 23 August 2010, Council adopted the initial Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSP) Plan which contains the Council NSP Assessment Criteria.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 11 September 2011, Council endorsed the NSP assessment process and resolved to continue identification and assessment of potential sites for NSPs, and once identified report these back to Council for consideration.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 27 August 2012, Council adopted the Loddon Shire Council Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan August 2012, which included designated NSPs at Boort, Bridgewater, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, Serpentine and Wedderburn.

At Ordinary Meetings held in September in the years 2013 to 2019, Council has adopted the Loddon Shire Council Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan, which includes and confirms designated NSPs at Boort, Bridgewater, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, Serpentine and Wedderburn.

BACKGROUND

NSPs and the NSP Plan are direct consequences of the Black Saturday fires and the interim recommendations from the Bushfires Royal Commission. NSPs are legislated under the Emergency Services Legislation Amendment Act 2018 (ESLA Act) which amends the Emergency Management Act 2013, and the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (CFA Act). Councils in Victoria, under the ESLA Act are required to identify, certify, designate, establish and maintain NSPs within their municipal district.

The flow chart in section one of the NSP Plan sets out the process followed when establishing a NSP. In short this process includes:

- identification of potential sites by Council
- assessment by Council against Council's criteria
- assessment by CFA against CFA criteria
- designation by Council of the approved sites
- establishment and signage of site by Council
- annual review of existing and potential new sites by Council and CFA.

Under Section 50J of the CFA Act, Council must, by 31 August each year, conduct a review of each designated NSP in its municipal district to determine if it is still suitable to be designated as a NSP, and ask the Country Fire Authority (CFA) to assess each NSP in its municipal district in accordance with the Country Fire Authority assessment guidelines.

Once the Council and CFA assessments have been completed and the established NSPs have been determined by each organisation as being compliant, the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO), under section 50K of the CFA Act, must provide an updated list of all designated neighbourhood safer places and community fire refuges in the municipal district to the CFA, by 30 September of each year.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

In compliance with Section 50J of the CFA Act, in June 2022, the CFA was requested to conduct the annual inspection of the current designated NSPs in Boort, Pyramid Hill, Bridgewater, Inglewood, Wedderburn and Serpentine. In August 2022, the CFA identified all current NSPs as compliant under the CFA Act. In August 2022 Council's OHS, Risk Management and Fire Prevention Officer conducted Council's reassessment and confirmed that the six current designated NSP sites are compliant with Council guidelines.

No new or additional NSP sites have been nominated by Council staff, the local community, or the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee. A list of all designated Loddon Shire NSPs was provided to the CFA by 30 September 2022.

COST/BENEFITS

Administration of the NSP process requires the allocation of Council and CFA resources to undertake the necessary site assessment, and prepare the associated reports and supporting documentation. The cost of maintaining the NSPs contained within recreation reserves and at a local hall is borne by the associated committees of management for these facilities.

The remaining NSP is located in an area which Council maintains through routine operations. Provision and maintenance of designated NSPs within the municipality contributes to the overall safety and wellbeing of the local community in the event of a bushfire and forms part of the response provisions within the Municipal Fire Management Plan.

RISK ANALYSIS

Failure to adequately and regularly assess the designated NSP sites for compliance against specified criteria has the potential to place members of the community utilising these sites at risk should site conditions change over time. Failure to meet the inspection and reporting timelines may result in Loddon Shire failing to meet its legislated obligations under the CFA Act and ESLA Act.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Determination of the suitability to retain the designated NSP sites has been made in consultation with the CFA.

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN –
SEPTEMBER 2022**

PLACES OF LAST RESORT DURING A BUSHFIRE



DOCUMENT INFORMATION

DOCUMENT TYPE:	Strategic document
DOCUMENT STATUS:	Draft
POLICY OWNER POSITION:	OHS Risk Management Fire Prevention Officer
INTERNAL COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT:	Not applicable
APPROVED BY:	Council
DATE ADOPTED:	Click here to enter a date.
VERSION NUMBER:	9
REVIEW DATE:	30/09/2022
DATE RESCINDED:	
RELATED STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS, POLICIES OR PROCEDURES:	Municipal Fire Management Plan 2012-2017 Municipal Emergency Management Plan
RELATED LEGISLATION:	Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (Vic) Emergency Services Legislation Amendment Act 2018 (Vic) Emergency Management Act 2013

EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL:

Signed by Chief Executive Officer

FILE LOCATION: K:\EXECUTIVE\Strategies policies and procedures\Strategies - adopted PDF and Word\STR Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan September 2021.docx1

Strategic documents are amended from time to time, therefore you should not rely on a printed copy being the current version. Please consult the Loddon Shire website to ensure that the version you are using is up to date.

This document is available in alternative formats (e.g. larger font) if requested.

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1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In its Interim Report, the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission recommended that neighbourhood safer places, or 'NSPs', be identified and established to provide persons in bushfire affected areas with a place of last resort during a bushfire.¹

In response to this recommendation, the Victorian Government has introduced the Emergency Services Legislation Amendment Act 2018 (Vic) ('ESLA Act') which amends the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (Vic) ('CFA Act') and the Emergency Management Act 2013 (Vic) ('EM Act'). The effect of these amendments will be to require the Country Fire Authority ('CFA') to certify NSPs against the CFA's Fire Rating Criteria, and Victoria's Councils to identify, designate, establish and maintain suitable places as NSPs in their municipal districts.

NSPs are not community fire refuges or emergency relief centres. NSPs are places of last resort during the passage of a bushfire, and are intended to be used by persons whose primary bushfire plans have failed. NSPs are places of relative safety only. They do not guarantee the survival of those who assemble there. Furthermore, there may be serious risks to safety encountered in traveling, and seeking access, to NSPs during bushfire events. Depending on the direction of a particular fire, it may not be a safer place to assemble than other places within the municipal district.

NSPs will be assessed by the CFA as providing some protection from immediate risk of direct fire attack, but not necessarily from other risks, such as flying embers. Where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA's criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.

This Plan is a neighbourhood safer places plan for the purposes of the legislation, and contains guidelines which have been developed by the Municipal Association of Victoria ('MAV') to assist the Council in identifying, designating, establishing, maintaining and decommissioning places as NSPs within its municipal district.

This Plan also identifies other matters that should be taken into account in identifying, designating, establishing and maintaining NSPs within the municipality.

This Plan contains a step-by-step methodology for the Council to follow in identifying, designating, establishing, maintaining and decommissioning NSPs. The Council must consider each of the factors set out in this Plan. It should also consider other factors which are specific to the Council's circumstances, including the resources available to the Council. Once this Plan has been adopted, Council must make it, and any documents incorporated into it, available at the Council's municipal offices for public inspection during normal office hours free of charge under section 50F(4)(b) of the CFA Act. It must also be published on Council's website under section 50F(4)(a) of the CFA Act.

¹ Recommendation 8.5, 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission Interim Report

1.1 Structure of this plan

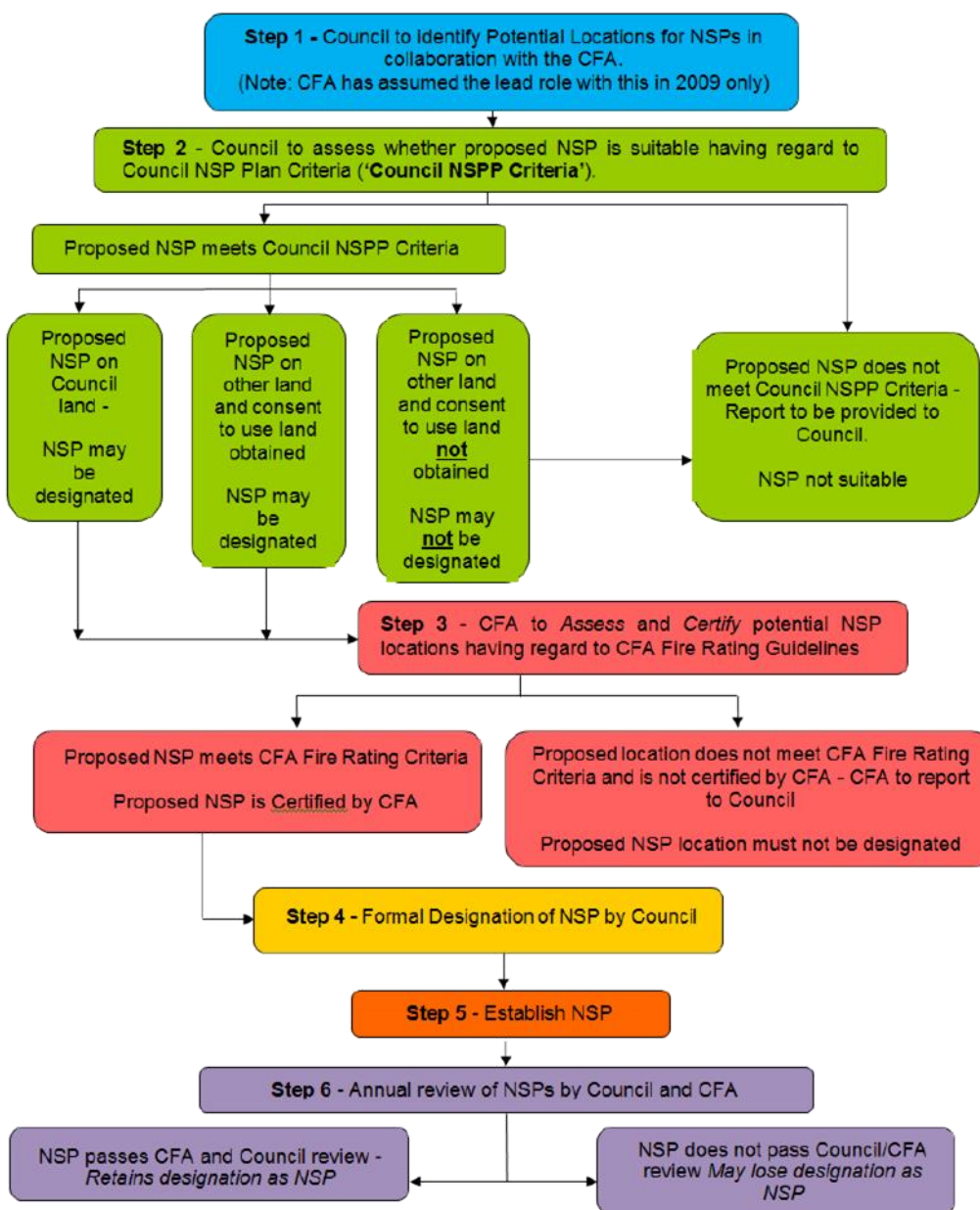
This Plan has been divided up into five distinct sections.

- Section 1:** contains a flow chart which summarises the process for councils to adopt in identifying, designating, establishing and maintaining NSPs within their municipal district.
- Section 2:** contains a more detailed summary of the steps summarised in the flow chart found in Section 1.
- Section 3:** contains a summary of the factors for Council to consider in assessing potential NSP locations, prior to designation.
- Section 4:** contains details of content of signage that Council is required to erect at designated NSP Locations.
- Section 5:** Register of Designated NSP locations including completed Council site assessments.

2 SECTION 1

FLOW CHART SHOWING PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING, DESIGNATING, ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING NSPs

2.1 Overview of the process for establishing and maintaining NSPs after adoption of this plan by Council



3 SECTION 2

DETAILED SUMMARY OF STEPS FOR ESTABLISHING NSPs

3.1 Overview of the steps associated with NSPs

3.1.1 Identification of potential NSP locations

- For the 2009-2010 fire season, the Country Fire Authority ('CFA'), assumed lead responsibility for identifying potential locations for NSPs. This was done in consultation with Councils. The initial focus was upon the identification of proposed NSPs within those municipalities with CFA Township Protection Plan ('TPP') areas in place. However, identification efforts have now expanded beyond these localities.
- From 2010-onwards, Council will be responsible for identifying potential places as NSPs within its municipal district.
- The Loddon Shire Council will undertake identification, management and the decommissioning of NSPs processes through the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP), a subcommittee of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee, (MEMPC).

3.1.2 Identification timing

The Loddon Shire Council should identify and assess potential additional places as NSPs by 31 May in each year. This should allow sufficient time for designation of the potential NSP location by the Council, (**Council Designation**) and assessment and certification of the potential NSPs by the CFA, (**CFA Certification**).

Subject to the outcome of the assessment and designation process, establishing the NSPs, including the erection of signage and other steps by Council, (**Establishment**).

The process of NSP identification is ongoing with the MEMPC assessing at the end of each fire season the need for any additional NSPs within the municipality.

3.1.3 Criteria used in identifying NSP locations

As part of the initial identification of NSPs the following criteria should be used in assessing its suitability:

- the environment surrounding the potential NSP
- what other uses are made of the potential NSP and whether or not those uses could be inconsistent with its designation as a NSP
- whether the land on which the potential NSP is located is Council owned or non-Council owned land
- an assessment of the fire risk of the neighbourhood should be undertaken to assess the need for a NSP (Risk Matrix Assessment)

For those Councils who's municipal district falls within both a CFA region and the Metropolitan Fire District (MFD) or borders the MFD but is within the CFA region:

- the risks involved in people staying in the area being considered for an NSP, versus leaving the area and travelling to a nearby urban area
- the adequacy of egress routes out of the area being considered for an NSP (including number of egress routes, whether major or minor roadway, type and amount of vegetation along key egress routes; the capacity of egress routes to

accommodate potentially large numbers of vehicles and to accommodate potential vehicle breakdowns)

3.2 Council assessment of NSPs

Council must assess the place in accordance with the factors outlined below to determine whether it is suitable to be designated as a NSP. Unless a potential NSP satisfies each of the criteria outlined below, it should not be designated by Council as a NSP.

The MFPO and MERO will be responsible for the inspection process utilising existing expertise within the MEMPC and MFMPCC committees to assist with the audit and assessment of potential NSPs.

The factors to determine the suitability of the place as a NSP are as follows (Council NSP Criteria)

3.2.1 Consent and rights of access

There must be appropriate land access and tenure arrangements so that Council has the right to:

- use the place as a NSP
- access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance
- erect appropriate signage at the NSP, including the OESC signage and additional NSP information signage.

3.2.2 Council land

If the potential NSP is on land owned or controlled by Council, appropriate rights of land access and tenure are unlikely to be an issue. However, Council will need to ensure that where Council land is leased or licensed to a third party; it must be possible to put in place appropriate arrangements on reasonably satisfactory and acceptable terms with the tenant or licensee permitting Council to use the land as a potential NSP. In taking these matters into account, Council should consider what alternative uses may be made, whether temporarily or semi-permanently, of land under Council control or management.

3.2.3 Crown land

If the potential NSP is on Crown land not owned or controlled by Council, then the consent of the Crown land manager is likely to be required. If the land has been leased or licensed to a third party, such as a caravan park operator, then the consent of the tenant or licensee to use the place as a potential NSP will also be required. In obtaining the consent of the relevant Crown land manager, it will be necessary to consider whether or not the Crown Grant or reservation authorises the place to be used as a potential NSP.

3.2.4 Private land

Where, it is proposed that a place on privately-owned land is to be used as a NSP, then, the consent of the relevant landowner (and, where applicable, occupier) for the place to be designated and used as an NSP is required. If the landowner (or occupier) does not consent to the place being designated and used as a NSP on terms which are reasonably satisfactory and acceptable to the Council, it must not be so designated and used.

3.2.5 Deed of Consent

Where a potential NSP is located on non-Council land, with the result that consent and rights of access need to be negotiated with the owner and (where necessary) occupier, Council officers responsible for negotiating such consent and rights of access should provide a draft form of consent to the owner/occupier for their consideration. The form of consent will be

required to be approved either by Council (through a formal resolution), or by the CEO acting under delegation.

Any amendments to the form of consent which may be requested by the landowner or occupier would need to be thoroughly considered before they are agreed to by Council. If it is not possible or appropriate for Council to agree on amendments that may be requested to the consent document, then the proposed NSP should not be designated by Council.

3.2.6 Access and Egress

Council must assess whether there is sufficient access to the potential NSP which will allow:

- anticipated potential numbers of people to move to and from the place
- the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities and operations.

Council must assess potential access and egress routes, bearing in mind the fact that NSPs are **places of last resort**.

As people may be seeking access to a NSP in a rushed or panicked state, a number of people could be seeking access in a relatively short time and visibility could be affected by smoke, easily navigable routes to and from a NSP are crucial.

In considering whether access and egress routes are adequate, consideration should be given to issues such as:

- the condition of the road surface
- the proximity of the NSP to major roadways and population centres
- the type and amount of vegetation along any access routes, and whether that vegetation could be affected by fire and pose a risk of harm to those seeking access to the potential NSP, or otherwise block access to the NSP
- the capacity of access routes to accommodate potentially large numbers of vehicles, and to accommodate potential vehicle break-downs
- parking at the place
- any hazards that may exist for persons accessing the place by foot, including in the buffer zone
- any relevant matter contained in Council's Road Management Plan prepared pursuant to the Road Management Act 2004 (Vic); and
- the number of access points to any potential NSP.

If appropriate and satisfactory access and egress routes are not available, then the proposed NSP should not be designated by Council.

3.3 **Opening of a NSP**

3.3.1 Council must consider

- whether it will be possible or practicable to open the potential NSP or otherwise make it available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period

- the potential for damage to the place during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as a NSP
- the potential cost to Council associated with the above points
- the possibility that the potential NSP could be used for unintended purposes, such as a refuge and,
- is it appropriate to open or make available NSPs only on Code Red days.

3.3.2 Defendable space

The CFA have advised that there is no guarantee that fire units will attend a NSP, and that individuals that use NSPs are doing so at their own risk. There should be **No expectations** that fire units or other emergency services personnel will attend a NSP during a bushfire.

Despite this, the potential NSP should be surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA and other fire services to conduct asset protection and fire suppression activities around the place.

Any open space should be reasonably free of obstacles that could hinder fire suppression activities. These obstacles may include but are not limited to:

- fences
- buildings and sheds
- steep inclines in close proximity to the potential NSP
- vegetation especially large trees
- other land forms such as rocks, boulders and knolls which could substantially hinder fire suppression activities.

If necessary, advice from CFA should be sought with regard to their defendable space and fire vehicle access requirements.

When assessing the defendable space factor, Council must consider whether or not approval to clear or disturb flora and/or fauna is required, under legislation such as the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)*, *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)* or the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)*. If such approval is required, then it must be obtained before the potential NSP location is designated.

If the proposed NSP does not have adequate space around it or if approval to clear or disturb flora and/or fauna is required but cannot be obtained before the NSP is required to be established, or cannot be obtained on reasonably satisfactory conditions, it should not be designated as a NSP by Council.

3.3.3 Dependability of buildings

If the potential NSP is a building, Council must consider whether or not it is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack.

As the CFA is not required to assess the risk of ember attack to a building in undertaking the CFA fire rating assessment when certifying NSPs, the Council should consider this issue. In considering this issue, Council may need to seek expert advice from appropriately qualified CFA personnel.

If there is an appreciable risk of the proposed NSP being compromised by ember attack, which cannot be satisfactorily defended, then the building is unlikely to be suitable as an NSP and should not be designated by Council.

3.3.4 Signage

Council must assess whether it will be possible to have signage at the entry to, and in the vicinity of, the potential NSP. Such signage must generally be in accordance with the Signage Template, which is at **Section 4** of this Plan.

Council must refer to the Signage Template when considering whether or not appropriate signage can be erected.

If signage must be placed on private land, then the consent of the landowner will be required

3.3.5 Maintenance and maintainability

- Council must assess whether ongoing maintenance of the proposed NSP, and the surrounding area, is both possible and practical, having regard to the resources reasonably available to the Council. This factor should be considered by the Council not only in relation to the suitability of a proposed NSP, but also as to the total number of proposed NSPs that can be reasonably maintained within the municipal district. This is needed to ensure that the place remains suitable for use as an NSP during each fire season.
- Specifically, the place must be capable of being maintained so as to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria. It is Council policy that if it is not possible to maintain a potential NSP, then it must not be designated as such.
- When assessing the maintainability of the potential NSP, both the NSP and the Buffer Zone may require various maintenance activities to be undertaken on a periodic basis.
- There may be cases where maintenance activities can only be undertaken by, or with the consent of, an adjoining landowner. This may, in turn, require assurances from such landowners that the place, and areas surrounding it, will be maintained to a satisfactory level.
- If the proposed NSP is not capable of being satisfactorily maintained, then it should not be designated by Council.

3.3.6 Separation and demarcation of area

If the NSP is to be located in an open area, it must be possible to identify the area that is the NSP. This may best be achieved by signage and or some sort of boundary or perimeter marking. In the example of an oval this may be the boundary fence.

Although not always possible, areas that enable separation or enable enough room to move away from other forms of potential hazard such as vehicles, buildings and animals are preferred.

3.3.7 Alternative uses of potential NSP

Council must consider what other uses may be made of the potential NSP which could impact upon its ability to properly function as a NSP.

If the place is used for other uses which could compromise its ability to be used as a NSP, and these activities cannot be managed so that they do not impact on the operation of the NSP then a NSP should not be designated by Council.

3.3.8 Communication with the community

Council must be able to communicate the location of the potential NSP to the community. There should be good community awareness of the location of the place, together with the risks that relate to the use of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with travelling to the potential NSP in the event of a bushfire.

3.3.9 Public liability insurance

As a matter of prudent risk management, Council should have regard to:

- any additional factors which are relevant to Council's maintenance of insurance coverage for legal claims relating to the identification, designation, establishment, maintenance and decommissioning of a place as a NSP, as well as travel to a NSP
- any indemnity provided by the State of Victoria, and
- any statutory defences to claims.

3.4 **CFA Assessment and certification of potential Neighbourhood Safer Places of Last Resort locations – December 2010**

3.4.1 CFA Assessment criteria

Under section 50G(5) of the CFA Act, the CFA is responsible for assessing potential NSP locations against the CFA Fire Rating Guidelines. This will be done by appropriate qualified and experienced CFA personnel.

Council is not responsible for the assessment and certification of potential NSPs by the CFA but must request CFA undertake their assessment prior to requesting that Council Designate/Not Designate and establish/not establish a NSP.

If a potential NSP is NOT COMPLIANT under the Council or CFA assessment criteria that NSP MUST NOT be put forward for designation as a NSP by Council.

3.4.2 Introduction

Neighbourhood Safer Place means a place that may, as a last resort, provide shelter for people from the immediate life threatening effects of a bushfire.

They are an area or premises that may provide some sanctuary from direct flame contact and radiant heat. It is envisioned it would be an existing space or structure, such as an oval or a building that may protect a person against fire.

This assessment guideline articulates the process by which qualified/experienced CFA Officers assess the suitability of Neighbourhood Safer Places and is not intended for use by the general public.

3.4.3 Background

Reducing the impact of bushfires is a shared responsibility between government, emergency service organisations and the community. The community has an integral role to take the necessary steps to prepare their property and to implement their bushfire survival plan.

This document sets out criteria for CFA's assessment of Neighbourhood Safer Places. The criteria provide a framework to assist Municipal Councils to identify Neighbourhood Safer Places to provide a place of last resort for people to gather during the passage of a bushfire front. The primary purpose of a Neighbourhood Safer Place is the protection of human life from a bushfire.

The 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission (VBRC) Final Report stated that the people who left their homes sheltered in a variety of locations for example, other houses or buildings; bunkers, reserves and ovals; pubs; in-ground swimming pools, cars and dams. Some people reported that these were pre-planned alternatives and in some cases, helped people survive. However, the VBRC also heard examples of people dying in very similar locations, which serve to highlight that, these locations do not guarantee safety (VBRC Final Report Vol 2: pg 19).

The VBRC also stated that "many people did not have a well-thought-out plan and were left to make their own decisions without the benefit of assistance from the authorities [and] for these people, the lack of alternatives, the provision of shelters, refuges or evacuation, became critical as a fall back option (VBRC Final Report Summary: pg 5). They also "considered that a revised bushfire safety policy should provide information about places in which to shelter and support for individuals in identifying such places" (VBRC Final Report Vol 2: pg 21). Neighbourhood Safer Places continue to be a part of the shelter options for community members.

3.4.4 Concept

A Neighbourhood Safer Place is a space that:

- is a place of last resort for individuals to access and shelter in during the passage of fire through their neighbourhood - without the need to take a high risk journey beyond their neighbourhood;
- provides a level of protection from the immediate life threatening effects of a bushfire (direct flame contact and radiant heat); and
- is intended to provide relative safety;
- does not guarantee the survival of those who assemble there; and
- should only be accessed when personal bushfire survival plans cannot be implemented or have failed.

Neighbourhood Safer Places should be recorded in Township Protection Plans. However, not all townships will have Neighbourhood Safer Places identified in these Plans as they may not meet specific criteria identified in this document and within a council's Municipal Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan. Some towns may not have the fire risk profile to indicate a need for a Neighbourhood Safer Place.

Neighbourhood Safer Places are not to be confused with Fire Refuges², Relief Centres, Recovery Centres, Assembly Areas, or Informal Places of Shelter, each of which have a different and specific purpose.

² Fire refuges have been described in the OESC Fire Refuges in Victoria – Policy and Practice (2005). However, these guidelines are currently undergoing a review with the OESC and because the issues associated with fire refuges are being considered separately, they will not be considered further in this document.

3.4.5 Limitations

Neighbourhood Safer Places have a number of limitations, being:

- limited capacity
- no guarantee of safety
- they do not cater for animals
- emergency services will not necessarily be present
- they do not provide meals or amenities
- they may not cater for particular special needs (e.g. infants, elderly, ill or disabled)
- they may not provide shelter from the elements, particularly flying embers
- there are risks to people during access, shelter during passage of the fire front and egress from Neighbourhood Safer Places

3.4.6 CFA Neighbourhood safer places assessment criteria

Neighbourhood Safer Places should provide protection to people from lethal levels of radiant heat through an appropriate separation distance between fire hazards, particularly vegetation, and the site of the Neighbourhood Safer Place. Isolated flammable elements may occur within the separation space so long as such elements do not add to a fire's rate of spread nor significantly contribute to the radiant heat impacting on the Neighbourhood Safer Place.

Fire industry collaboration established criteria to determine the suitability of any site as a Neighbourhood Safer Place. The critical criteria decided upon was radiant heat load with maximum allowable radiant heat loads agreed upon for sites that are open spaces and those that are buildings. It was further agreed that each Neighbourhood Safer Place needs to be assessed on its merits, with radiant heat load calculated using the NSW Rural Fire Service Site Bush Fire Attack Assessment Methodology (Douglas and Tan, 2005) as the assessment tool in these guidelines.

3.4.7 Radiant heat and setback measurements

To provide initial direction to CFA staff and others in assessing the suitability of potential Neighbourhood Safer Places, the following guidance is provided:

Neighbourhood Safer Places must meet the following criteria for radiant heat load:

1. If a Neighbourhood Safer Place is an open space the maximum potential radiant heat impacting on the site must be no more than 2kw/m².
2. If a Neighbourhood Safer Place is a building, the maximum potential radiant heat impacting on the building must be no more than 10kw/m².

By way of example, Neighbourhood Safer Places adjoining extreme fuel hazards, this equates to a separation distance from the fire hazard of:

- greater than **310** metres from the outer edge of the NSP for an open space; and
- greater than **140** metres from the outer edge of a building to the fire hazard.

It is acknowledged that for NSPs abutting less than extreme fuel hazards this separation distance may be reduced so long as the criteria for maximum radiant heat impact are met.

3.4.8 Additional management for Neighbourhood Safer Places in Grassland Areas

Grasslands have a distinct place in the Neighbourhood Safer Places framework, due to:

- the potential for rapid growth in conditions of adequate warmth and moisture; and
- the requirement under section 50J of the CFA Act for councils to review their NSPs by 31 August each year.

Councils may identify a suitable Neighbourhood Safer Place site in a grassland area that can only meet the assessment criteria with active management of the site over the fire danger period, with treatments including slashing, mowing or grazing.

In these circumstances CFA may certify the site as meeting the assessment criteria provided that appropriate, specified and prescribed treatments are in place throughout the fire danger period. This must include prescriptions for management of the grassland secured by agreed terms entered into by the landholder. The landholder may be the council, a public authority, an agency or a private person.

The identified treatment of the grassland must be included within the MFPP or MFMP (whichever is relevant). Council has the role of facilitation and, if required, enforcement of the treatment(s) during the fire danger period. Fire Prevention Notices would not ordinarily be an appropriate method for achievement of management prescriptions in NSPs. Their use would only be an option of last resort that councils may use where a private landholder has reneged on their agreed conditions **and** the grassland condition constitutes or may constitute a danger to life or property from the threat of fire.

3.4.9 Notification to CFA of potential NSPs

Following identification of a place which may be suitable as a NSP, the potential NSP is assessed by the CFA as soon as practicable. This is likely to occur shortly after identification.

3.4.10 Informing council of CFA assessment

Once the assessment of a potential NSP is completed by the CFA, the CFA will certify the potential NSP if the place meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria. The CFA will provide a copy of the CFA certification in relation to a potential NSP to Council upon completion of certification, and a summary of the criteria and assumptions upon which the assessment is based.

Council should ensure that the boundaries of both the potential NSP as certified by the CFA, and any Buffer Zone surrounding it, are clearly defined in the CFA assessment.

For reasons of community safety, it is a requirement of the CFA Act, and it is also Council policy, that only those places assessed and certified by the CFA may be considered for designation as NSPs by the Council. The Council must not designate a place as an NSP unless it has CFA certification.

3.5 Council designation of NSP

Council must formally determine whether or not to designate a place as a NSP. Council should not designate a place as an NSP unless it is satisfied that the place is suitable, having regard to the Council NSPP Criteria.

A NSP may only be designated by a resolution of the Council.

Following preparation of an assessment of a potential NSP by the MEMPC, Council should determine whether or not to designate a potential NSP location by no later than 31 July. This will enable any necessary establishment works to be undertaken.

Once the Council has designated a place as an NSP, the MFPO must provide an updated list of all designated NSPs within the municipality to the CFA under section 50K of the CFA Act. This updated list must be provided by no later than 30 September in each year.

3.5.1 Establishment and maintenance of NSPs following designation

Following designation, Council will establish all designated NSPs within the municipal district.

3.5.2 Establishing a NSP after its designation

To establish a NSP after its designation, Council must

- erect appropriate signage at and near the NSP
- undertake any necessary preparatory works, including the construction or establishment of any required infrastructure and the clearance of vegetation, so as to enable the area to be used as a NSP
- publish the location of the NSP on the Council website
- update Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan and Municipal Fire Prevention/Management Plan to include the location of the NSP.

The MFPO must provide an up-to-date list of NSPs to the CFA no later than 30 September each year under section 50K of the CFA Act.

Council is responsible for maintaining all designated NSPs within its municipal district. This includes vegetation management, maintenance of access and egress points and signage required for the functioning of the site as a NSP.

3.6 Annual inspections and decommissioning of NSPs

3.6.1 Responsible for the annual review of NSPs

Council must undertake an annual review of all designated NSPs within the municipality. Council must also request the CFA to undertake an assessment against the CFA Fire Rating Criteria of each NSP within the municipality on an annual basis.

These reviews are intended to ensure that each NSP remains suitable for use as a NSP during the up-coming fire season.

3.6.2 Considerations when undertaking inspections

NSPs should be assessed annually against the Council NSPP Criteria. The CFA will assess NSPs against the CFA Fire Rating Criteria.

If a NSP no longer meets:

- the CFA Fire Rating Criteria
 - then it must be decommissioned; or
- Council's NSPP Criteria
 - Council must determine if it has the capacity to address the identified non compliances. If it does not, then the NSP must be decommissioned.

3.6.3 Inspection timelines

NSPs must be inspected prior to 31 August each year under section 50J of the CFA Act.

3.6.4 Decommissioning of NSPs

By Council Resolution only.

- Council must decommission a NSP if the CFA assessment determines the site is no longer suitable.
- Council may decommission a NSP even if it has CFA certification, if Council is satisfied on reasonable grounds that it is not appropriate for the site to continue to be designated a NSP.
- Council will decommission a NSP that is not on Council land if the occupier or the person in control of the land has withdrawn consent to the designation of the site as a NSP.

4 SECTION 3

**SUMMARY OF FACTORS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IN
ASSESSING POTENTIAL NSP LOCATIONS PRIOR TO
DESIGNATION**



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION:

DATE:

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:		Date:		Time:	
Assessor name:				Sign:	
Agency:					

LOCATION

Place name and specific location:	Map Reference:
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	
Controlling (owner) authority:	

Owner Details

Contact:		
Name/Position		
Organisation:		
Postal Address:		
Phone:		
Email:		

Tenant Details

Contact:		
Name/Position		
Organisation:		
Postal Address:		Post code:
Phone:	W: _____	H: _____
Email:		

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact:			
Name/Position			
Organisation:			
Postal Address:			Post code:
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			
Location Description			
Location Description:	(Open area or building)		
Population of Township/ Locality:			
Estimated NSP Site Capacity:			
Reference Material Sited:			
NSP INSPECTION DETAILS			
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: <i>insert cross into square indicating result</i>	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: <i>insert cross into square indicating result</i>	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs


Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Consents and rights of access	If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.		
	If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 		
Access and egress	Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 		
	Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.		
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment? <i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i>		

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Opening of the NSP	Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building. Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.		
	What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?		
	Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief center)?		
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)? <i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defendability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i>		
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth), <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Vic) and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic)? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?		
Defendability of Buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?		

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?		
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtained the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?		
Maintenance and maintainability	<p>Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria?</p> <p>Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.</p>		
Disabled access	Are there are means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?		
Alternative uses of potential NSP	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>		
Community Communication	Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?		

5 SECTION 4
NSP SIGNAGE TEMPLATE

Making Victoria FireReady:



This is the signage that will identify a Neighbourhood Safer Place – Place of Last Resort.

Neighbourhood Safer Places

Places of Last Resort have been designated at:

- Boort
- Bridgewater
- Inglewood
- Pyramid Hill
- Serpentine and
- Wedderburn

Further details, including a map of the NSP location(s), can be found on the Community Information Maps (Township Protection Plans) published on the CFA website at: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

IMPORTANT INFORMATION


The purpose of a Neighbourhood Safer Place - **Place of Last Resort** is to provide some protection from the effects of radiant heat during a bushfire.

A **Place of Last Resort** is only intended for use when all other plans have failed and should not be considered as a place to relocate to when leaving early as it will not guarantee safety or survival from fire, embers or radiant heat.


Travelling to a **Place of Last Resort** when there is a bushfire may be extremely dangerous due to dense smoke, radiant heat, flying embers, fallen trees and power lines, traffic congestion and accidents.

A Neighbourhood Safer Place - **Place of Last Resort** may not have the capacity to cater for special needs; and there will be no support services (food or drink, material aid) or provision for pets. There is no guarantee that emergency services will be present during a bushfire.


A Neighbourhood Safer Place – **Place of Last Resort** should not replace a personal bushfire survival plan. If your plan is to leave early, the safest option is to leave at the beginning of a day when the Fire Danger Rating is declared Severe or Extreme. On a Code Red (Catastrophic) rated fire danger day, the safest option is to leave the night before, or early in the morning.



1800 240 667
www.cfa.vic.gov.au



LODDON
SHIRE

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.
FireReady 

6 SECTION 5**REGISTER OF DESIGNATED NSP LOCATIONS INCLUDING
COMPLETED COUNCIL SITE ASSESSMENTS**

NSP LOCATION REGISTER		DATE DESIGNATED
BOORT	BOORT PARK RECREATION RESERVE (OVAL ONLY)	27/02/2012
PYRAMID HILL	MITCHELL PARK RECREATION RESERVE (OVAL ONLY)	27/02/2012
SERPENTINE	RECREATION RESERVE (OVAL ONLY)	27/02/2012
BRIDGEWATER	MEMORIAL HALL (GROUNDS ONLY)	27/08/2012
INGLEWOOD	J. SLOAN PARK (PLAYGROUND AREA)	27/12/2015
WEDDERBURN	DONALDSON PARK (CENTRAL OVAL AREA ONLY)	27/08/2012

6.1 Boort Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) – Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: Boort Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only)

DATE: 8/7/2022

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	10:35AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber			Sign:	Jayden Baber
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	Boort Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) Malone St, Boort	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within township		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Loddon Shire Council		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position			
Organisation:	Loddon Shire Council		
Postal Address:	P.O. Box 21, Wedderburn	Post code:	3518
Phone:	W: 5494 1200	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position	President		
Organisation:	Boort Park Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact: Name/Position			
Organisation:			
Postal Address:			Post code:
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			
NSP INSPECTION DETAILS			
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:- 		
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
<p>Consents and rights of access</p>	<p>If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.</p>	<p>Area is owned by Council and maintained by the Boort Park Committee of Management.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	<p>Boort Park Committee of Management has granted consent for the area to be used and they have agreed to maintain the NSP area as per CFA Dec 2010 Grasslands Guidelines and the Shire has agreed to install and maintain all NSP signage in an acceptable condition at all times.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Access and egress</p>	<p>Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	<p>There are no restrictions to Access and Egress The area is accessible via wide access road. Pedestrian and vehicle safe access/egress. The CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	<p>Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.</p>	<p>There is a wide open road access/egress route with for pedestrian and vehicle safe access/egress. Large open area available for parking of vehicles as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment</p>	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment? <i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Boort Park Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Opening of the NSP</p>	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building. Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p> <p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p> <p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief center)?</p>	<p>24/7 Access available.</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>In an emergency situation all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>YES</p> <p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)? <i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defend ability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i>	The CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.	YES
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth), <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Vic) and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic)? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	NA	YES
Defendability of buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council has sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings contained within the designated NSP area.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Council has agreed to erect and maintain all required signage to an acceptable standard at all times. There are signs at both entrances.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtained the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	The Boort Park Committee of Management has agreed that Council will erect and maintain all required signage to an acceptable standard at all times.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance and maintainability	<p>Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria?</p> <p>Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.</p>	<p>Boort Park Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Disabled access	<p>Are there are means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?</p>	<p>No restrictions to disabled access/egress.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Alternative uses of potential NSP	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities (Football/cricket/Trotting etc.) will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Community Communication	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in Local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Boort Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) – Shire Assessment



CRM #1000010890 - Boort Football Club and Harness Racing (Oval area only), Malone Street, Boort, as per CFA Reassessment August 2019



6.2 Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) Pyramid Hill – Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) Pyramid Hill

DATE: 8/7/2022

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	11:00AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber			Sign:	Jayden Baber
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) Pyramid-Gladfield Rd, Pyramid Hill	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within township of Pyramid Hill		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Department of Environmental, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position:	Property Officer		
Organisation:	DELWP		
Postal Address:	PO Box 3100, Bendigo Delivery Centre, Bendigo VIC	Post code:	3554
Phone:	W: 5430 4671	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position:	President		
Organisation:	Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact:			
Name/Position			
Organisation:			
Postal Address:			Post code:
Phone:	W:		H:
Email:			
NSP Inspection Details			
Location Description:	Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve (Oval Only)	(Open Area or Building)	Open Area (Oval)
Population of Township/ Locality:	Approx. 560		
Estimated NSP Site Capacity:	Approx. 750		
Reference Material Sited:	NA		
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Consents and rights of access	If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.	Area is owned by DELWP however maintained by the Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management.	YES
	If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has been granted consent for the area to be used and they have agreed to maintain the area as per CFA Guidelines. Council undertakes maintenance of all signage relating to the NSP.	YES
Access and egress	Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	No restrictions to access and egress. Area is accessible via wide access road with side point if required.	YES
	Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.	As above	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment?</p> <p><i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Opening of the NSP	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building.</p> <p>Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p>	<p>24/7 access available.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p>	<p>Nil.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief centre)?</p>	<p>In an emergency all other activities will cease and the area will be available for a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	<p>Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)?</p> <p><i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defend ability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i></p>	<p>CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth), <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Vic) and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic)? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	N/A.	YES
Defendability of buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings are contained within the NSP area as it is the oval only.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Three signs well signposted at two main entrances to the area for vehicles. One designated pedestrian entrance.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtain the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	The Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed.	YES
Maintenance and maintainability	Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria? Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.	Mitchell Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area in line with the CFA guidelines.	YES
Disabled access	Are there any means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?	Nil restrictions.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
<p>Alternative uses of potential NSP</p>	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In emergency situations all other activities will cease (ie Football/Cricket).</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Community Communication</p>	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in Local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Mitchell Park Rec Reserve (Oval Only) Pyramid Hill – Shire Assessment



CRM #1000010888 - Mitchell Park (Oval Only), Gladfield Road, Pyramid Hill – As per CFA Reassessment August 2019



6.3 Serpentine Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) – Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: Janiember Park (formerly known as Serpentine Recreation Reserve)
(Oval Only)

DATE: 8/7/2022

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	9:50AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber			Sign:	Jayden Baber
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	Serpentine Recreation Reserve (oval only) Chapel St, Serpentine	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within Serpentine township		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Department of Environmental, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position:	Property Officer		
Organisation:	DELWP		
Postal Address:	PO Box 3100, Bendigo Delivery Centre, Bendigo VIC	Post code:	3554
Phone:	W: 5430 4671	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position:	President		
Organisation:	Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact: Name/Position	NA		
Organisation:			
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			
NSP Inspection Details			
Location Description:	Serpentine Recreation Reserve (oval only)	(Open area or building)	Open area (oval only)
Population of Township/ Locality:	Approx. 380 people		
Estimated NSP Site Capacity:	Approx. 750 people		
Reference Material Sited:	N/A		
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:- 		
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Consents and rights of access	If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.	Area is owned by DELWP however maintained the Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management.	YES
	If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	The Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has been granted consent for the area to be used and they have agreed to maintain the area as per CFA Guidelines. Council has maintenance of all signage relating to the NSP.	YES
Access and egress	Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	No restrictions to access and egress. Area is accessible via wide access road with side point if required.	YES
	Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.	As above.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment?</p> <p><i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Opening of the NSP	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building.</p> <p>Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p>	<p>24/7 Access available.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p>	<p>Nil/</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief center)?</p>	<p>In an emergency all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	<p>Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)?</p> <p><i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defendability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i></p>	<p>CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i> , <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)</i> and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)</i> ? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	NA	YES
Defendability of Buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings are contained within the NSP area.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Two signs well signposted at two main entrances to area.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtain the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed that Council will erect and maintain all required signage to an acceptable standard at all times.	YES
Maintenance and maintainability	Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria? Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.	Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.	YES
Disabled access	Are there any means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?	No restrictions.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Alternative uses of potential NSP	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities (Football/cricket etc.) will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Community Communication	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in Local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Serpentine Recreation Reserve (Oval Only) – Shire Assessment



CRM #1000010889 – Serpentine Recreation Reserve (Janiember Park) - (portion oval area only), Corner Chapel Street and Park View Drive, Serpentine – as per CFA Reassessment August 2019



6.4 Bridgewater Memorial Hall (Grounds Only) - Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: Bridgewater Memorial Hall (Grounds Only)

DATE: 8/7/2022

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	9:35AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber	Sign:	Jayden Baber		
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	Bridgewater Memorial Hall – Grounds only Erskine Street, Bridgewater	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within township of Bridgewater		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Department of Environmental, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position:	Property Officer		
Organisation:	DELWP		
Postal Address:	PO Box 3100, Bendigo Delivery Centre, Bendigo VIC	Post code:	3554
Phone:	W: 5430 4671	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position:	President		
Organisation:	Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details									
Contact: Name/Position	NA								
Organisation:									
Postal Address:		Post code:							
Phone:	W:	H:							
Email:									
NSP INSPECTION DETAILS									
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:- 								
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result</td> <td>DESIGNATE</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>NOT DESIGNATE</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>			RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>							

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs


Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Consents and rights of access	If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.	Area is owned by DELWP however maintained the Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management	YES
	If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management has granted consent for the area to be used and they have agreed to maintain the area as per CFA Guidelines. Council has maintenance of all signage relating to the NSP.	YES
Access and egress	Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	No restrictions to access and egress. CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for assess and personal protection activities as required.	YES
	Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.	There are no fences on two road frontages of the property with footpaths on Erskine and Eldon St side so there is safe pedestrian access/egress. Ample vehicle parking around area.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment?</p> <p><i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Opening of the NSP	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building.</p> <p>Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p>	<p>24/7 Access available.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p>	<p>Nil.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief centre)?</p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	<p>Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)?</p> <p><i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the dependability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i></p>	<p>The CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth), <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Vic) and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic)? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	N/A.	YES
Defendability of Buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council has sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings are contained within the NSP area as it is the grounds only. Building is in middle of grounds.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Areas signposted.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtained the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management has agreed.	YES
Maintenance and maintainability	Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria? Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.	Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee of Management has agreed to Maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.	YES
Disabled access	Are there are means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?	No restrictions to disabled access/egress.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
<p>Alternative uses of potential NSP</p>	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Community Communication</p>	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Bridgewater Memorial Hall (Grounds Only) – Shire Assessment

 CRM #1000014876 - Bridgewater Memorial Hall (Grounds Only) Corner Erskine Street and Eldon Street Bridgewater, as per CFA Reassessment August 2019



6.5 Sloan Park Playground, Inglewood – Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: J.Sloan Park Playground - Inglewood

DATE: 8/7/22

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	9:25AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber	Confirm continue designation as a NSP		Sign:	Jayden Baber
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	J Sloan Park Playground – between swimming pool and tennis courts	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within township of Inglewood		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Loddon Shire Council		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position:			
Organisation:	Loddon Shire Council		
Postal Address:	PO Box 21 Wedderburn	Post code: 3518	
Phone:	W: 5494 1200	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position:	President		
Organisation:	Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact: Name/Position	NA		
Organisation:			
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			
Location Description:			
Location Description:	J. Sloan Park Playground, Inglewood	(Open area or building)	Open Area Playground
Population of Township/ Locality:	Approx. 1000 People		
Estimated NSP Site Capacity:	Approx. 400 People		
Reference Material Sited:	N/A		
NSP INSPECTION DETAILS			
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:- 		
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Consents and rights of access	Area is owned by Loddon Shire Council however maintained by a Committee of Management being the Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management	Area is owned by Council however maintained by the Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management.	YES
	If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management has been granted consent for the area to be used and they have agreed to maintain the area as per CFA Guidelines. Council has maintenance of all signage relating to the NSP.	YES
Access and egress	Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	No restrictions to access and egress. CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for assess and personal protection activities as required.	YES
	Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.	There is a wide entrance on an open road providing access/egress route to NSP. Sufficient vehicle parking and pedestrian access.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment?</p> <p><i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management has agreed to Maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Opening of the NSP	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building.</p> <p>Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p>	<p>24/7 Access available.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p>	<p>Nil.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief center)?</p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	<p>Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)?</p> <p><i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defendability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i></p>	<p>The CFA and other emergency services will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth)</i> , <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)</i> and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic)</i> ? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	N/A.	YES
Defendability of Buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings are contained within the NSP area it is the grounds only. Building is in the middle of grounds.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Area signposted on fence along Calder Hwy, and in front of designated NSP area. Nil signage regarding NSP on main entrance to sports ground.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtain the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management has agreed.	YES
Maintenance and maintainability	Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria? Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.	Inglewood Community Sports Centre Committee of Management has agreed to maintain the NSP area in line with the CFA guidelines.	YES
Disabled access	Are there any means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?	No restrictions to disabled access/egress.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
<p>Alternative uses of potential NSP</p>	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Community Communication</p>	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

J Sloan Playground Inglewood between pool and tennis courts – Shire Assessment



CRM #1000014867 - Inglewood J. Sloan Playground, Inglewood – As per CFA Reassessment August 2019



6.6 Donaldson Park (Oval Area Only) - Wedderburn – Shire Assessment



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES PLAN

CRITERIA – AUDITING/ASSESSMENT TOOL

LOCATION: Donaldson Park (Oval Area Only) - Wedderburn

DATE: 8/7/2022

**NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES ASSESSEMENT CRITERIA
AUDITING AND ASSESSMENT TOOL**

DETAILS

Day:	Friday	Date:	8 July 2022	Time:	8:55AM
Assessor name:	Jayden Baber			Sign:	Jayden Baber
Agency:	Loddon Shire Council				

LOCATION


Place name and specific location:	Donaldson Park (Oval Area Only) Wedderburn	Map Reference:	
Distance from nearest town centre (km):	Within township		
Controlling (owner) authority:	Loddon Shire Council		

Owner Details

Contact Name/Position			
Organisation:	Loddon Shire Council		
Postal Address:	P.O. Box 21, Wedderburn	Post code:	3518
Phone:	W: 5494 1200	H:	
Email:			

Tenant Details

Contact Name/Position	President		
Organisation:	Donaldson Park Committee of Management		
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			

Tenant 2 Details			
Contact: Name/Position	NA		
Organisation:			
Postal Address:		Post code:	
Phone:	W:	H:	
Email:			
NSP INSPECTION DETAILS			
OFFICERS NAME: Jayden Baber	SIGNATURE:- 		
DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/7/2022	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
OFFICERS NAME:	SIGNATURE:-		
DATE OF INSPECTION:	RECOMMENDATION: insert cross into square indicating result	DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
		NOT DESIGNATE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors to Consider in Assessing Potential NSPs

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
<p>Consents and rights of access</p>	<p>If the potential NSP is located on Council-owned land, can Council use the land as an NSP if required? Consider whether or not Council allows the land to be used for potentially inconsistent purposes, such as for farmers' markets, fetes, circuses etc.</p>	<p>Area is owned by Council and is maintained by the Donaldson Park Reserve Committee of Management.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>If the potential NSP is on private land, or public land under the control of a Crown Land Manager (other than Council), can Council enter into arrangements which allow it to use the land as a potential NSP on reasonably satisfactory terms? Also consider whether Council has the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access the site and surrounding areas for maintenance • erect appropriate signage at the NSP. 	<p>Donaldson Park Reserve Committee of Management has granted consent for area to be used and they have agreed to main the NSP area as per the CFA Guidelines. Council has agreed to erecting and maintaining relevant signage in relation to the NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Access and egress</p>	<p>Do access routes to the potential NSP allow for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the anticipated potential number of people to move to and from the place • the CFA and other emergency services to attend the place for asset and personnel protection activities? 	<p>No restrictions to access and egress. Area is accessible via wide access road with side point if required. Five vehicle access points all with NSP signage.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Are access routes easily navigable, bearing in mind they could be affected by smoke? Consider the condition of the road surface, proximity to population centers and major roads, capacity of access routes to accommodate large numbers of vehicles, the availability of car parking at the place and any other relevant matters.</p>	<p>Multiple open gates off the roads as access egress route for Hospital St, Chapel St, and Godfrey St. There is also access/egress for pedestrians. Large areas available for parking of vehicles.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Maintenance of NSP in accordance with CFA assessment	<p>Can Council maintain the potential NSP in accordance with the criteria taken into account by the CFA in arriving at its fire rating assessment?</p> <p><i>If the CFA have not provided sufficient information in relation to the criteria it has taken into account in arriving at its fire rating assessment, it may be necessary for Council to seek further information from the CFA.</i></p>	<p>Donaldson Park Committee of Management has agreed to maintain area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Opening of the NSP	<p>Will it be possible and practicable to make the potential NSP available for use on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? This is a particular issue where the potential NSP is a building.</p> <p>Consider the potential for damage to the NSP which could result during times that it is open and available for use, but is not being used as an NSP.</p>	<p>24/7 Access available.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>What costs could be incurred by Council in making the potential NSP available on a 24 hour basis during the declared fire danger period? Are these costs reasonable, and capable of being borne by Council?</p>	<p>Nil.</p>	<p>YES</p>
	<p>Could the potential NSP be used for an unintended purpose which could impact upon its use as an NSP (such as an emergency relief center)?</p>	<p>In an emergency all other activities will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Defendable space and fire suppression activities	<p>Is the potential NSP surrounded by sufficient open space to enable the CFA to conduct asset protection and fire suppression operations? Is that open space reasonably free of obstacles (such as fences, buildings, steep gradients, vegetation and other land formations)?</p> <p><i>Council should seek CFA advice concerning the defendability of the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone, including in relation to fire vehicle access requirements.</i></p>	<p>The CFA and other emergency services also will be able to attend for asset and personal protection activities as required.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
	Will approval be required under legislation such as the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cwlth), <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Vic) and the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic)? Can such approval be obtained before the NSP is established?	N/A.	YES
Defendability of Buildings	If the potential NSP is a building, has Council sought expert advice from the CFA to determine whether the NSP is likely to be subject to risk from ember attack? If it is subject to such a risk, can that risk be safely managed?	No buildings included within the NSP area.	YES
Signage	Can appropriate signage be erected at the entry to the potential NSP, and in its vicinity?	Five signs well signposted at main vehicle entrances to area.	YES
	If signage needs to be placed on private land, can Council obtain the consent of the relevant landowner to the erection of the signage?	Donaldson Park Committee of Management has agreed that the Loddon Shire Council will erect all required signage and maintain to an acceptable standard at all times.	YES
Maintenance and maintainability	Is the potential NSP capable of being maintained to ensure continuing compliance with the CFA Fire Rating Criteria and the Council NSPP Criteria? Where relevant, consider whether adjoining land owners and occupiers will provide Council with an assurance that both the potential NSP and the Buffer Zone can be maintained to a satisfactory level.	Donaldson Park Committee of Management has agreed to Maintain the NSP area as per the CFA December 2010 Grasslands Guidelines.	YES
Disabled access	Are there are means of access for disabled and mobility-impaired persons to the potential NSP, including vehicle access to drop off people with disabilities?	No restrictions to disabled access/egress.	YES

Council NSPP Criteria	Issues to consider	Council comments	Satisfied? Yes/No
Alternative uses of potential NSP	<p>Can Council manage alternative uses which may be made of the potential NSP so as to ensure that those uses will not compromise the function of the place as a potential NSP?</p> <p><i>The CFA has advised that where a potential NSP which is used for an operational purpose at many times meets the CFA Fire Rating Criteria, then the CFA considers that those operational activities will be able to continue (to the extent practicable in the circumstances) while the place is being used as an NSP.</i></p>	<p>In an emergency situation all other activities (Football, Trotting Meetings or hockey etc.) will cease and the area will be available as a NSP.</p>	<p>YES</p>
Community Communication	<p>Will it be possible to ensure that there will be good community awareness of the location of the potential NSP, and the risks associated with using the potential NSP?</p>	<p>Council and the CFA will conduct a Community awareness campaign and regularly make reference to the NSP on social media and in local papers.</p>	<p>YES</p>

Donaldson Park Wedderburn – Shire Assessment



CRM #100009350 - Donaldson Park (Oval only), Chapel Street, Wedderburn – As per CFA Reassessment August 2019



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10.3 BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON DEVELOPMENT INC. - FEE WAIVER APPLICATION

File Number: FOL/19/269835
Author: Steven Phillips, Director Operations
Authoriser: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to waive the Planning Permit Application fee of \$1,185.00 for Bridgewater on Loddon Development Inc.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

At its July 2021 Ordinary meeting, Council resolved to adopt the Fees and Charges – Waiver or Reduction Policy.

BACKGROUND

Council's Fees and Chargers – Waiver or Reduction Policy applies to any not for profit organisation, incorporated association or unincorporated community group which provides a community benefit to the Shire and wishes to apply to have a fee and or charge waived or reduced.

Applications over \$1,000 are reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer and submitted to Council for approval via a formal resolution.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The Bridgewater on Loddon Development Inc. have applied for a Planning Permit for the replacement of the existing solar system on the Bridgewater on Loddon Memorial Hall which has reached the end of its useful asset life and is no longer functioning. They have requested that Council waive the Planning Permit Application fee of \$1,185.00.

Council has not been asked to contribute any other funding for this project.

The project is consistent with the Council Plan objective *A sustainable built and natural environment* and Strategic Objective 1.2 – *We will work with our partners to preserve and protect our local environment...*

The granting of a fee waiver in no way affects or influences Council's obligations to assess the Planning Permit Application on its merits against the Loddon Planning Scheme.

COST/BENEFITS

The cost to the community is \$1,185.00. The Bridgewater on Loddon Development Inc. expects that the new solar system will reduce their electricity bills and benefit the environment as it produces no direct greenhouse gas emissions.

RISK ANALYSIS

The risks associated with this fee waiver is considered low.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Council officers have had discussions with the Bridgewater on Loddon Development Inc. on this matter.

10.4 ANNUAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM, AMENDMENT TO PROJECT ALLOCATIONS AND A SCOPE CHANGE

File Number: FOL/19/432620

Author: David Southcombe, Manager Assets and Infrastructure

Authoriser: Steven Phillips, Director Operations

Attachments: 1. **Proposed funding allocation updates - Confidential**

This attachment is designated as confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(g(ii)) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

May affect contractor prices **(under separate cover)**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the proposed changes to the project allocations outlined in the attachment of this report and the Community Project scope change detailed in this report.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Annual Infrastructure Program was adopted at the June 2022 Council Meeting.

BACKGROUND

Every year Council allocates and spends significant funds on capital infrastructure projects. Council continually carries out scoping of new infrastructure projects and maintains a rolling program of these projects. The rolling program is a database that forms the basis of the elements of the Annual Infrastructure Program.

An estimate of the project cost is undertaken as part of scoping up projects. Project estimates are based on construction unit rates or estimates developed by consultants and/or Council engineers. Occasionally project estimates need to be reviewed after tendering for projects or due to increased costs due to specific project requirements that were not accounted for as part of estimates.

A number of existing projects require a review of their allocations to allow them to be delivered. The total value as well as many of the adjustments being greater than 10% of each project allocation require approval at Council level.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The following projects require a review of their budget allocation to allow their delivery.

Potters Hill La, Market St and Nixon St, Inglewood – Local Road Construction – Amenity Project

This project is associated with sealing Potters Hill La, Market St, and Nixon St in Inglewood to improve the amenity of nearby residents. The Potters Hill La and Market St sections of sealing have been completed but the costs to undertake these sections of the project were above the original estimate. This project requires additional funds to complete the sealing of Nixon St.

Grant St Kerb & Channel Renewal – Township Street Improvement Project

The contract for this project was awarded as a Council resolution at the January 2022 Council meeting. The contract was later cancelled by mutual agreement between Loddon Shire and the contractor and the tender was readvertised. A suitable contractor has been identified but additional funding is required for the project to be delivered.

Appin South Road Box Culvert Replacement - Local Bridges & Culverts Project

This project involves the replacement of a box culvert on Appin South Road. The delivery of the project is to be undertaken by two contractors, one for the supply of the culverts and one for the installation of the culverts. A contractor for the supply of the culverts has been engaged, the remaining budget is now insufficient to complete the install for the project. It is proposed to increase the budget allocation for this project to allow its completion.

Tarnagulla Community Facilities Sewage Project - Buildings Project

Tenders for this project have been received but additional funding is required to engage the preferred contractor for the works. The additional funds for this project will be sourced from Phase 3 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program by reallocating funds originally intended for soil disposal associated with the Donaldson Park project, which is now not required.

Major Recreation Reserve Floodlighting Upgrade – Community Project Scope Change

It is proposed to update the scope of this project to change the location for the installation of football oval lights from the Mitiamo Recreation Reserve to the Calivil Recreation Reserve. As the Mitiamo Football and Netball Club have indicated they are not ready to progress with the project in the next 12 months, the Calivil Recreation Reserve will be reprioritised.

Funding

The attachment details the current and proposed allocations. The additional project allocations will be funded through the Roads to Recovery Program and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 3. No overall increase to the total allocation for the Annual Infrastructure Program is proposed. The increase in each project allocation will be funded from cost savings and reallocation of funding from other projects.

COST/BENEFITS

There is no change to the overall allocation for the Annual Infrastructure Program. The proposed additional funding will be allocated from savings in other projects within the Program which will enable the projects to be delivered.

RISK ANALYSIS

There are minimal risks associated with the proposed changes to the project allocations and scope. There is sufficient funding within the Roads to Recovery Program and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 3 to accommodate the updated allocations. Further changes to project allocations within the Annual Infrastructure Program are possible due to price escalations that have occurred over the past two financial years and continue to impact infrastructure costs. It is expected these increases can be offset by cost savings in completed projects and by reallocation of funding not required for the soil disposal for the Donaldson Park project.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The updated allocations for each project were developed after consultation with Council officers from the Assets and Infrastructure team and Works Department.

10.5 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE QUARTER 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

File Number: FOL/22/4399

Author: Deanne Caserta, Manager Financial Services

Authoriser: Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate

Attachments: 1. Finance Report for the quarter endng 30 September 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. receives and notes 'Finance Report for the quarter ending 30 September 2022
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 2022/23 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 2022/23.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A report was presented and adopted in April 2021 that recommended that Council now be provided with finance reports on a quarterly basis. The only exception is when changes to the Council Meeting timetable result in the Council Meeting occurring before the completion of the end of month finance procedures.

The last quarterly report presented was for the March 2022 quarter at the April 2022 Council Meeting. The 2021/22 full financials were presented to Council at the August 2022 Council Meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Finance Report for the period ended 30 September 2022 includes standard quarterly 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 adopted 2022/23 Budget, and includes operating results, capital expenditure and funding sources. The report also includes a cash flow statement and the community planning program financials.

This Finance Report also includes reporting on 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 corrections.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Budgeted Surplus - Council's budgeted cash surplus has increased from an adopted budget surplus position of \$0.6M, to an actual carried forward surplus position of \$4.37M, then through revision adjustments to \$5.50M.

Income Statement (revenue) - Council's year to date (YTD) operating revenue is at 59% of total budget. Revenue brought to account for the quarter was \$20.14M.

Income Statement (expenditure) - Council's operating expenditure is at 20% of total budget. Payments for this quarter totalled \$8.37M.

Capital Works - The revised budget for capital works is \$24.0M and is 6% complete in financial terms for the current financial year.

Service Areas – Appendix 3 provides Council with net results for each service area. As further work is undertaken on service planning and reviews throughout the year, the cost of each service will be refined.

Balance Sheet - Council has a cash total of \$39.8M with \$6.6M in general accounts. Total debtors at the end of September are \$12.44M, this includes \$11.78M in rates (\$1.06M at the end of June). Sundry debtors total \$0.72M with invoices outstanding for 90 or more days relating to community wellbeing debtors and local community groups totalling approximately \$87K.

COST/BENEFITS

The benefit to Council and the community is that accurate and regular financial reporting is disclosed, along with an accurate representation of property valuations being reflected in Council's rating system and the distribution of rate notices for the year 2022/23.

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 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 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.

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL

FINANCE REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2022



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INTRODUCTION

In September 2022, Council received final approval and sign off from the Victorian Auditor general for the 2021/22 Financial and Performance Statements. This is a huge milestone for Council.

During the quarter, work has been undertaken in clearing any reserves back into the operating statements along with commencement of budget timing to allow the finance team to ensure enough cash is on hand to pay major contractor invoices as they come due. Work has also commenced on the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission return which is due back to the department early November 2022.

1 CASH SURPLUS POSITION

1.1 Budget revisions

Budget revisions commenced in July 2022, with the first group input being the 2022/23 carry over projects along with the approved capital works program. Council also had a carry forward surplus of \$8.9M where only \$4.6M was expected

Since the July report the surplus has increased from \$4,967,093 to \$5,502,922. Notes around major variances are included below:

Adopted Surplus (Position as at 1 July 2022)	\$ 599,368
Adjusted carried forward amount - 2021/22 result	\$ 4,367,725
Additional Local Roads and General Revenue Grant funding	\$ 334,876
Reconciliation of workcover to reflect actual premium	-\$ 28,253
Reconciliation of insurance to reflect actual premium	\$ 115,295
Other minor adjustments	\$ 113,911
Closing Surplus (Position as at 30 September 2022)	\$ 5,502,922

2 INCOME STATEMENT

Variance reporting has been included in this report where variations occur within the statements of 10% or \$30,000.

2.1 Operating revenue

Total revenue brought to account for this quarter was \$20.14M. The total income raised is 59% of the total revised budget income for 2022/23.

2.1.1 Statutory fees

There has been a significant increase in permit activity in the planning department, and as a result higher than expected fee income has been raised. This accounts for almost \$38K of the overall variation.

2.1.2 Fees and charges

The main variation to budget is gravel pits of \$33K due to a delay in invoices being raised.

2.1.3 Recurrent grants (capital)

Recurrent grants for capital are behind budget by \$317K or 53%. The main variation to budget is Road to Recovery, where the income claimed for the quarter was lower than expected. This should catch up with the next quarterly claim.

2.1.4 Non-recurrent grants (capital)

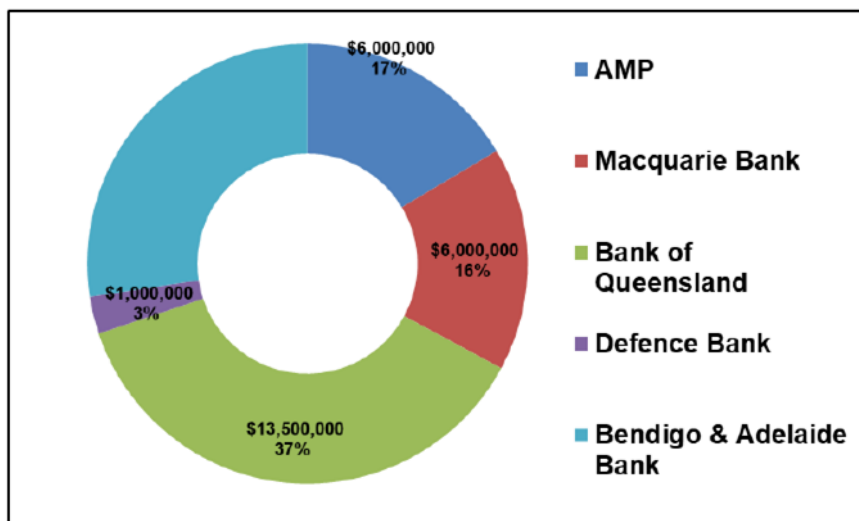
The main variations in this area relate to the Local Roads Community Infrastructure Program where a significant payment was received in advance.

2.1.5 Interest income

Council's Investment Policy requires investment of funds with authorised deposit taking institutions rated AAA+ to BBB- with a maximum of 40% of funds at any one institution and a maximum of \$2M in any one transaction.

The total investment interest received and accrued to date is \$173K. Rates interest amounts to \$3K. Year to date represent 74% of the total Revised Budget amount of \$200K.

All investments are term deposits and are currently with banks that meet Council's Investment Policy as per the following graph:



Current investments:						
AMP	A2/BBB+				\$ 10,000,000	30.3%
Macquarie Bank	A1/A				\$ 5,000,000	15.2%
Bank of Queensland	A2/BBB				\$ 8,000,000	24.2%
Defence Bank	A2/BBB				\$ 1,000,000	3.0%
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	A2/BBB+				\$ 9,000,000	27.3%
Council Funds on Term Deposit					\$ 33,000,000	100%

The below table shows all investments for the financial year to date:

LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL INVESTMENT SCHEDULE												
Bank	Establishment date	Status	Maturity date	Term (day)	Interest rate	Investment amount	Total interest receivable on TD	Interest accrued 2021/22	YTD accrued interest	Total interest accrued	YTD interest received	Total YTD interest earned
AMP - Business Saver	16/07/2021	Open	Ongoing		0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Macquarie Bank	8/07/2021	Closed	8/07/2022	365	0.40%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,912	\$ 88	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 88
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	16/07/2021	Closed	15/07/2022	364	0.35%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 3,490	\$ 3,347	\$ 144	\$ -	\$ 3,490	\$ 144
Bank of Queensland	24/11/2021	Closed	22/07/2022	240	0.60%	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 13,808	\$ 12,542	\$ 1,266	\$ -	\$ 13,808	\$ 1,266
AMP	5/11/2021	Closed	2/09/2022	301	0.90%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 14,844	\$ 11,688	\$ 3,156	\$ -	\$ 14,844	\$ 3,156
Bank of Queensland	14/09/2021	Closed	14/09/2022	365	0.38%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 7,600	\$ 6,018	\$ 1,582	\$ -	\$ 7,600	\$ 1,582
Bank of Queensland	24/09/2021	Closed	27/09/2022	368	0.38%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 7,662	\$ 5,809	\$ 1,853	\$ -	\$ 7,662	\$ 1,853
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	15/02/2022	Open	13/10/2022	240	0.60%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 7,890	\$ 4,438	\$ 3,025	\$ 7,463	\$ -	\$ 3,025
AMP	17/01/2022	Open	17/10/2022	273	1.00%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 7,479	\$ 4,493	\$ 2,521	\$ 7,014	\$ -	\$ 2,521
AMP	11/11/2021	Open	14/11/2022	368	1.00%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 20,164	\$ 12,658	\$ 5,041	\$ 17,699	\$ -	\$ 5,041
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	15/02/2022	Open	12/12/2022	300	0.70%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 11,507	\$ 5,178	\$ 3,529	\$ 8,707	\$ -	\$ 3,529
AMP	27/01/2022	Open	4/01/2023	342	1.10%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 10,307	\$ 4,641	\$ 2,773	\$ 7,414	\$ -	\$ 2,773
Bank of Queensland	15/02/2022	Open	15/02/2023	365	0.85%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 6,288	\$ 4,285	\$ 10,573	\$ -	\$ 4,285
Defence Bank	1/03/2022	Open	1/03/2023	365	0.92%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 9,200	\$ 3,050	\$ 2,319	\$ 5,369	\$ -	\$ 2,319
Macquarie Bank	2/03/2022	Open	2/03/2023	365	0.95%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 9,500	\$ 3,123	\$ 2,395	\$ 5,518	\$ -	\$ 2,395
Macquarie Bank	13/04/2022	Open	13/03/2023	334	1.85%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 33,858	\$ 7,907	\$ 9,326	\$ 17,233	\$ -	\$ 9,326
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	1/03/2022	Open	4/04/2023	399	0.80%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 17,490	\$ 5,304	\$ 4,033	\$ 9,337	\$ -	\$ 4,033
Macquarie Bank	13/04/2022	Open	13/04/2023	365	1.85%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 7,907	\$ 9,326	\$ 17,233	\$ -	\$ 9,326
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	13/04/2022	Open	13/05/2023	395	1.85%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 40,041	\$ 7,907	\$ 9,326	\$ 17,233	\$ -	\$ 9,326
Bank of Queensland	19/05/2022	Open	19/05/2023	365	3.15%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 63,000	\$ 7,249	\$ 15,879	\$ 23,129	\$ -	\$ 15,879
Bank of Queensland	1/06/2022	Open	1/06/2023	365	3.15%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 63,000	\$ 5,005	\$ 15,879	\$ 20,885	\$ -	\$ 15,879
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	16/06/2022	Open	16/06/2023	365	3.85%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 38,500	\$ 1,477	\$ 9,704	\$ 11,181	\$ -	\$ 9,704
AMP	14/07/2022	Open	14/07/2023	365	4.35%	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 43,500	\$ -	\$ 9,296	\$ 9,296	\$ -	\$ 9,296
AMP	22/07/2022	Open	22/07/2023	365	4.45%	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 133,500	\$ -	\$ 25,603	\$ 25,603	\$ -	\$ 25,603
Bank of Queensland	14/09/2022	Open	14/08/2023	334	4.10%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 75,036	\$ -	\$ 3,595	\$ 3,595	\$ -	\$ 3,595
AMP	6/09/2022	Open	6/09/2023	365	4.35%	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 87,000	\$ -	\$ 5,721	\$ 5,721	\$ -	\$ 5,721
Total Interest on Investments								\$ 129,941	\$ 151,663	\$ 230,199	\$ 51,405	\$ 151,663
Interest on General Accounts								\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,975
Total Interest								\$ 129,941	\$ 151,663	\$ 230,199	\$ 51,405	\$ 169,638
Interest transferred to/from externally funded projects								\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net interest on investments								\$ 129,941	\$ 151,663	\$ 230,199	\$ 51,405	\$ 169,638

Due to the short-term nature of the term deposits, those deposits which have not reached maturity are included as cash in the Balance Sheet. They are adjusted during the year-end financial report process if required.

The highlighted row shows the employee provision investment as required by updated policy.

2.2 Operating expenditure

Total operating expenditure for the quarter was \$8.37M. The total expenditure for the quarter takes the total spend to 20% of the total revised budget expenditure for 2022/23.

2.2.1 Creditors

Creditors are currently 37% or \$1.3M behind YTD budget. The main variations where project expenditure has been delayed are:

- Bridgewater female change rooms of \$101K, with project almost complete but the final invoices yet to be submitted
- community support is behind budget of \$1.1M due to projects yet to commence as there has been a delay in the commencement of new staff in this area.

2.2.2 Fuel

Fuel is currently behind budget by \$143K or 33%, the variation is due to an increase in the budget for fuel for the year but prices are yet to reach that expected rate until October.

2.2.3 Contractors

The main variation within the contractor's expenditure relates to the timing of invoices that are received for waste, cleaning and swimming pool management contracts. This is expected to continue throughout the year if the invoices are not received in a timely manner for processing.

2.2.4 Utilities

The main variation within the utilities is power and water usage for Council facilities and parks where there was lower usage less than expected with a wetter than usual winter / spring.

2.2.5 Grants expense

The variation is due to the timing of the community groups when they return the required paperwork. This is to be submitted prior to the grant being paid. Some have a quick turnaround time, while others are yet to provide the required further information.

2.3 **Operating surplus**

As a result of the variances as explained in the previous pages, the operating surplus to date is \$11.77M compared to a revised budget deficit amount of \$7.55M. This is due to all rates and charges income of \$12.03M being raised in quarter one of the year.

3 **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Total capital works expenditure for the quarter was \$1.44M with the program now only 6% complete. The total revised budget amount for 2022/23 is \$24.0M.

The main variations within capital expenditure relate to:

- building and property maintenance of \$266K- the Building Asset Management Plan allocations are now finalised and some works are underway, but others are still in the design phase
- multiple community planning projects which have not yet being started, these will progress over the year.
- plant replacement of \$251K due to delay receiving the plant item as there is a back log for the supplier.

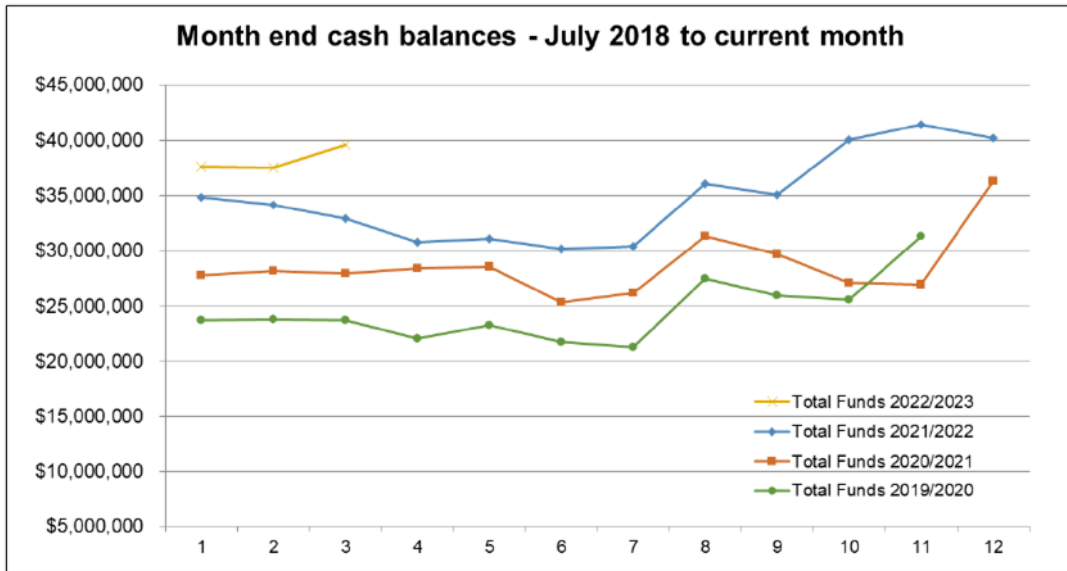
A full capital works report in detail is included in Appendix 6.

4 BALANCE SHEET

4.1 Cash

At the end of the month, Council’s overall cash total was \$39.8M, which includes a balance of \$6.6M in general accounts.

Month end balances for Council’s cash, from July 2019 until the current month, are reflected in the following graph:



4.2 Receivables

4.2.1 Debtors

Monthly balances of the various categories of debtors for the financial year are:

Debtor category	September 2021	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022
Rates	10,233,756	125,154	12,080,938	11,369,781	10,487,014
Fire Services Property Levy	1,220,668	83,366	1,511,113	1,400,178	1,289,700
Total rates and Fire Services Property Levy	11,454,425	208,520	13,592,051	12,769,959	11,776,713
Sundry debtors	981,837	908,242	1,141,792	872,909	719,343
Community loans/advances	-	-	-	-	-
Long term loans/advances	-	-	-	-	-
Employee superannuation	(5,035)	1,770	3,064	1,566	2,023
Magistrates court fines	96,810	96,645	96,570	96,570	96,570
LESS provision for doubtful debts	(122,528)	(151,188)	(151,188)	(151,188)	(151,188)
Total	12,405,509	1,063,988	14,682,289	13,589,817	12,443,462

4.2.2 Rates debtors

Outstanding rates and Fire Services Property Levy at the end of selected months were:

Rating year	September 2021 (1/10/2021)	June 2022 (1/6/2022)	July 2022 (1/7/2022)	August 2022 (1/8/2022)	September 2022 (1/9/2022)
2006/07 to 2016/17	31,841	25,966	26,647	26,548	23,333
2006/07 to 2016/17 FSPL	4,995	4,238	4,261	4,252	3,849
2017/18	16,487	14,931	15,173	15,251	15,000
2017/18 Fire Services Property Levy	4,188	3,513	3,534	3,533	3,478
2018/19	26,928	21,676	22,982	23,269	21,841
2018/19 Fire Services Property Levy	6,380	5,235	5,232	5,212	5,117
2019/20	63,759	41,920	42,501	42,507	39,330
2019/20 Fire Services Property Levy	12,220	8,045	7,929	7,888	7,520
2020/21	154,920	70,334	69,188	67,526	65,190
2020/21 Fire Services Property Levy	25,208	12,672	11,823	11,462	10,733
2021/22	9,953,549	-	172,695	148,979	133,349
2021/22 Fire Services Property Levy	1,153,949	-	27,319	23,564	21,564
Sub-total: arrears	11,454,424	208,531	409,283	379,991	350,302
Current year (outstanding but not due)	9,953,549	-	11,759,586	11,074,206	10,218,027
Fire Services Property Levy	1,153,949	-	1,423,182	1,315,762	1,208,384
Total outstanding	11,107,498	-	13,182,768	12,389,968	11,426,411
SUMMARY					
Rates in arrears	293,935	174,827	176,491	175,101	164,693
FSPL in arrears	52,991	33,704	32,779	32,347	30,697
Total arrears	346,926	208,531	209,269	207,448	195,390

4.2.3 Sundry debtors

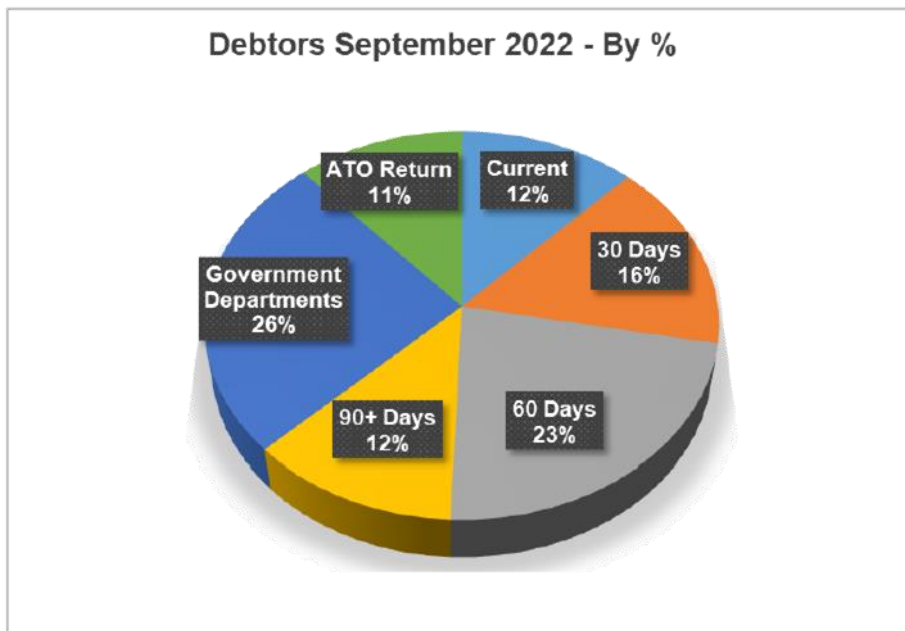
Outstanding sundry debtors at the end of the month consist of:

Current	\$87,695	19%
30 days	\$114,029	25%
60 days	\$162,575	36%
90 + days	\$87,057	19%
Sub total routine debtors	\$451,357	100%
Government departments	\$184,878	
ATO return	\$83,108	
Total	\$719,343	
90 + days consists of:		
Community Wellbeing debtors	\$9,256	
Local community groups	\$23,797	
Others	\$54,004	
Total	\$87,057	

The mainstream sundry debtors (\$451K) have been broken into the amount of time they have been outstanding. At the time of this report, \$87K or 19% of that total has been outstanding for more than 90 days. All debtors are contacted as a matter of routine.



Total outstanding sundry debtors as at 30 September 2022 are \$719K. The majority of total debtors is Government departments with \$185K which have a higher percentage of collection.



4.3 Other assets

4.3.1 Property valuations

All rateable and non-rateable supplementary valuations are included in this report.

There were 154 supplementary valuations during the first quarter of 2022/23.

Row Labels	Count of Property	Sum of Site Movement	Sum of CIV Movement	Sum of NAV Movement
Cancellation of licence	1	-\$ 1,000	-\$ 1,000	-\$ 50
Change AVPCC	2	\$ 24,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 2,450
Consolidation	8	\$ 859,000	\$ 893,000	\$ 44,650
Improvement	66	\$ 192,000	\$ 7,447,700	\$ 372,735
New property	24	\$ 2,530,000	\$ 3,272,000	\$ 163,600
Property split	40	-\$ 1,291,700	-\$ 1,323,200	-\$ 66,160
Reactivated property	1	\$ 70,000	\$ 136,000	\$ 6,800
Subdivision	1	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 500
Unused road licence	1	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 50
Update area	10	-\$ 266,000	-\$ 34,000	-\$ 1,700
Grand Total	154	\$ 2,117,300	\$ 10,450,500	\$ 522,875

The total rateable CIV at the end of September 2022 is now just under \$2.78B.

Valuation type	1 July 2022 Totals	Supplementary Changes	Closing Balance
Site Value	\$ 1,886,299,000	\$ 2,117,300	\$ 1,888,416,300
Capital Improved Value	\$ 2,766,631,900	\$ 10,450,500	\$ 2,777,082,400
NAV	\$ 139,877,365	\$ 522,875	\$ 140,400,240

4.3.2 Water rights

Council-owned water rights are valued at \$2.71M at 30 June 2022.

The rights are revalued to market at the end of each financial year.

4.3.3 Vision Super Defined Benefits Plan update

On 6 October 2022, Council received official notification of the 30 June 2022 actual Vested Benefit Index (VBI) for the sub-plan being 102.2%. This is a decrease from the previous quarter but it remains above the required 100%.

Currently, under the superannuation prudential standards, VBI's must generally be kept above a fund's nominated shortfall, currently 97%. When an actuarial review/investigation is in progress the fund's VBI must be at least 100% as it was at 30 June 2022.

Below is the sub-plan's recent VBI history:

As at	30 June 2021 (actual)	30 Sep 2021 (estimated)	31 Dec 2021 (estimated)	30 March 2022 (estimated)	30 June 2022 (actual)
LASF DB	109.7%	109.9%	111.2%	108.5%	102.2%

5 COMMUNITY PLANNING FINANCIALS

5.1 Boort community plans

Boort ward carried forward \$185K into 2022/23. With the additional \$50K allocation there is currently \$235K available for the community planning group to allocate toward projects.

Current community planning projects planned for 2022/23 are outlined below:

Boort Community Plans					ACTUALS			BUDGET		
YEAR	LEDGER	LEDGER	JOB CODE	PROJECT	2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR			2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR		
					INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST
				Income						
				Unspent Allocation from Previous Years	\$184,684	\$0	\$184,684	\$184,684	\$0	\$184,684
				This Year's Allocation	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
				Equity Adjustment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Movement in Wards	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Strategic Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Transfer from Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Total Amount Available	\$234,684	\$0	\$234,684	\$234,684	\$0	\$234,684
2017/18		26880	2241951355XX	CP1170012241951355		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Boort Community Plans Unallocated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$234,684	\$234,684
				Total Expenditure for the Year	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$234,684	\$234,684
				Total Amount Not Spent at the End of the Year, and Available for Next Year			\$234,684			\$0

5.2 Inglewood community plans

Inglewood ward carried forward \$261K into 2022/23. With the additional \$50K allocation there is currently \$311K available for the community planning group to allocate toward projects.

Current community planning projects planned for 2022/23 are outlined below:

Inglewood Community Plans					ACTUALS			BUDGET		
YEAR	LEDGER	LEDGER	JOB CODE	PROJECT	2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR			2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR		
					INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST
				Income						
				Unspent Allocation from Previous Years	\$260,681	\$0	\$260,681	\$260,681	\$0	\$260,681
				This Year's Allocation	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
				Strategic Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Movement in Wards	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Equity Adjustment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Total Amount Available	\$310,681	\$0	\$310,681	\$310,681	\$0	\$310,681
2011/12	24804	2242964315XX	CP2110012242954315	Bridgewater Streetscape	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$39,427	\$39,427
2016/17	26842	2242214305XX	CP2170012242214305	Bridgewater Memorial Hall Alloc 2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,276	\$4,276
2019/20	26856	2242964315XX	CP2200012242954315	Inglewood Euoy Museum Annex Alloc 2	\$0	\$1,571	\$1,571	\$0	\$81,000	\$81,000
2019/20	26857	2242214305XX	CP2200022242214305	Bridgewater Memorial Hall Alloc 3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
2020/21		2242214305XX	CP2210012242214305	Bridgewater Memorial Hall Alloc 4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,185	\$33,185
2020/21		2242964315XX	CP2210022242954315	Inglewood Euoy Tractor Annex	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,185	\$33,185
2021/22		2242214305XX	CP2220012242214305	Bridgewater Hall Alloc 5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
2021/22		2242214305XX	CP2220022242214305	Campbells Forest Hydrology Report	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
2021/22		2242964315XX	CP2220032242954315	Inglewood Town Hall Roof Replace	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
				Inglewood Community Plans Unallocated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$49,608	\$49,608
				Total Expenditure for the Year	\$0	\$1,571	\$1,571	\$0	\$310,681	\$310,681
				Total Amount Not Spent at the End of the Year, and Available for Next Year			\$309,110			\$0

5.3 Tarnagulla community plans

Tarnagulla ward carried forward \$218K into 2022/23. With the additional \$50K allocation there is currently \$268K available for the community planning group to allocate toward projects.

Current community planning projects planned for 2022/23 are outlined below:

Tarnagulla Community Plans					ACTUALS			BUDGET		
YEAR	LEDGER	LEDGER	JOB CODE	PROJECT	2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR			2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR		
					INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST
				Income						
				Unspent Allocation from Previous Years	\$218,411	\$0	\$218,411	\$218,411	\$0	\$218,411
				This Year's Allocation	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
				Strategic Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Movement in Wards	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Equity Adjustment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Total Amount Available	\$268,411	\$0	\$268,411	\$268,411	\$0	\$268,411
				LESS Expenditure for the Year						
2019/20	18704	2243218805XX	CP3190012243218805	TaCPSF Laanecoorie Hall Paint	\$0	\$18,182	\$18,182	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
2019/20	18706	2243218805XX	CP3190022243218805	TaCPSF Tarnagulla Community Centre Asphalt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
2019/20	26859	2243658820XX	CP3200082243218805	Newbridge Progress Park BBQ and Shelter	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,509	\$10,509
2019/20	18710	2243218805XX	CP3200052243218805	Laanecoorie Notice Board	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
2019/20	18711	2243218805XX	CP3200072243218805	Newbridge Notice Board	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,118	\$1,118
2020/21		2243218805XX	CP3210012243218805	TaCPSF Shelbourne Railway	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$917	\$917
2020/21		2243658820XX	CP3200092243658820	TaCPSF Soldiers Memorial Park Toilets	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
2020/21		2243218805XX	CP3200112243218805	TaCPSF Laanecoorie Hall Paint Alloc 2	\$0	\$3,409	\$3,409	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
2020/21		2243658820XX	CP3210022243658820	Progress Park Fitness Station	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000
2021/22		2243658820XX	CP3220012243658820	Gratians Lane Intersection	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,000	\$13,000
2021/22		2243658820XX	CP3220022243658820	Disabled Carpark Newbridge Hall	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,500	\$8,500
2021/22		2243658820XX	CP3220032243658820	Pavement Wimmera Hwy Newbridge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
2021/22		2243658820XX	CP3220042243658820	Newbridge Hall Restoration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,542	\$1,542
					\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CURRENT		2243218805XX		Tarnagulla Community Plans Unallocated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$65,825	\$65,825
				Total Expenditure for the Year	\$0	\$21,591	\$21,591	\$0	\$268,411	\$268,411
				Total Amount Not Spent at the End of the Year, and Available for Next Year						\$0

5.4 Terrick community plans

Terrick ward carried forward \$134K into 2021/22. With the additional \$50K allocation there is currently \$184K available for the community planning group to allocate toward projects.

Current community planning projects planned for 2022/23 are outlined below:

Terrick Community Plans					ACTUALS			BUDGET		
YEAR	LEDGER	LEDGER	JOB CODE	PROJECT	2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR			2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR		
					INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST
				Income						
				Unspent Allocation from Previous Years	\$133,569	\$0	\$133,569	\$133,569	\$0	\$133,569
				This Year's Allocation	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
				Equity Adjustment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Strategic Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Total Amount Available	\$183,569	\$0	\$183,569	\$183,569	\$0	\$183,569
				LESS Expenditure for the Year						
2010/11	16279	2244218865XX	CP4100012244218865	Pyramid Hill Rural Water Community Areas	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,091	\$7,091
2018/19	18352	2244218865XX	CP4180022244218865	Dingee EPU Feasibility Study	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000
2018/19	27907	2244958880XX	CP4160012244958880	PH Lions Park Redevelopment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,075	\$21,075
2019/20	18712	2244218865XX	CP4200012244218865	Mitiamo Sporting Rooms Flood Upgrade	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
2019/20	18713	2244218865XX	CP4200022244218865	Dingee Memorial Hall Toilet	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
2020/21		2244218865XX	CP4210012244218865	Calivil Rec BBQ & Shelter	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$40
2020/21		2244218865XX	CP4210022244218865	Dingee Hall Disabled Toilet	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,388	\$14,388
CURRENT				Terrick Community Plans Unallocated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$98,975	\$98,975
				Total Expenditure for the Year	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$183,569	\$183,569
				Total Amount Not Spent at the End of the Year, and Available for Next Year						\$0

5.5 Wedderburn community plans

Wedderburn ward carried forward \$265K into 2022/23. With the additional \$50K allocation there is currently \$315K available for the community planning group to allocate toward projects.

Current community planning projects planned for 2022/23 are outlined below:

Wedderburn Community Plans					ACTUALS			BUDGET		
YEAR	LEDGE	LEDGER	JOB CODE	PROJECT	2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR			2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR		
					INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	NET COST
				Income						
				Unspent Allocation from Previous Years	\$265,233	\$0	\$265,233	\$265,233	\$0	\$265,233
				This Year's Allocation	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
				Equity Adjustment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Movement in Wards	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Strategic Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
				Total Amount Available	\$315,233	\$0	\$315,233	\$315,233	\$0	\$315,233
				Expenditure						
2016/17	16913	2245219490XX	CP5180022245219490	Wedderburn Caravan Park	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
2018/19	27909	2245959500XX	CP5180012245959500	Wedderburn Caravan Park Redevelopment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
CURRENT				Wedderburn Community Plans Unallocated	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$240,233	\$240,233
				Total Expenditure for the Year	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$315,233	\$315,233
				Total Amount Not Spent at the End of the Year, and Available for Next Year			\$315,233			\$0

APPENDIX 1: INCOME STATEMENT

Element	2022/23 Original Budget	2022/23 Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Actuals	2021/22 YTD Percentage Variance
Income					
69 - Statutory Fees	284,357	284,357	83,264	105,855	127%
70 - Fees & Charges	1,531,648	1,545,241	392,343	324,597	83%
71 - Contribution	0	70,000	17,502	50,450	288%
73 - Interest	235,000	235,000	58,750	172,743	294%
77 - Reimbursements	260,081	260,081	68,770	49,327	72%
80 - Rates	12,257,016	12,257,016	12,037,922	12,027,326	100%
81 - Non Recurrent Grants (Operating)	0	200,000	73,001	75,259	103%
82 - Recurrent Grants (Operating)	4,174,076	4,583,154	1,175,464	1,161,874	99%
83 - Recurrent Grants (Capital)	2,387,726	2,413,119	603,280	286,186	47%
84 - Non Recurrent Grants (Capital)	0	11,824,236	2,888,913	5,741,502	199%
90 - VicRoads	518,366	518,366	129,591	148,435	115%
Total Income	21,648,270	34,190,571	17,528,800	20,143,554	115%
Expenses					
01 - Labour	12,635,376	12,653,556	3,321,749	2,748,925	83%
04 - Creditors	9,062,423	13,678,731	3,633,473	2,302,479	63%
05 - Stores	72,280	72,280	18,070	0	0%
06 - Fuel	1,714,821	1,714,821	428,705	285,376	67%
07 - Contractors	2,421,097	2,464,786	478,919	311,100	65%
08 - Depreciation	10,106,628	10,106,628	2,526,657	2,526,657	100%
09 - Utilities	593,342	593,342	131,382	105,124	80%
25 - Grants Expenditure	386,957	455,393	80,397	93,992	117%
45 - Bad Debts Expense	0	0	0	124	0%
63 - Reversal of Impairment Losses	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Expenses	36,992,923	41,739,536	10,619,352	8,373,777	79%
Net Result Surplus / (Deficit)	(15,344,654)	(7,548,966)	6,909,448	11,769,777	170%

*Income and expense items required by Australian Accounting Standards (AAS)

APPENDIX 2: CAPITAL WORKS STATEMENT

Element	2022/23 Original Budget	2022/23 Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Actuals	2021/22 YTD Percentage Variance
Funding Decisions					
88 - Reserves Transfer From	10,064,192	19,469,094	16,145,412	16,145,412	0%
89 - Reserves Transfer To	(1,844,270)	(1,846,792)	0	0	0%
74 - Asset Sales (Capital)	327,989	327,989	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total Funding Decisions	8,547,911	17,950,291	16,145,412	16,145,412	100%
Capital Expenditure					
12 - Economic Development	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
21 - Caravan Parks	0	69,844	0	0	#DIV/0!
41 - Community Planning - Boort	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
42 - Community Planning - Inglewood	0	163,612	40,902	1,571	4%
43 - Community Planning - Tarnagulla	0	108,551	27,135	0	0%
44 - Community Planning - Terricks	0	21,075	5,268	0	0%
45 - Community Planning - Wedderburn	0	25,000	6,249	0	0%
47 - Grants & Community Planning	500,000	6,889,572	1,696,950	485,620	29%
49 - Swimming Pools	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
65 - Information Technology	100,000	100,000	100,000	58,180	58%
70 - LRCl Projects	0	6,298,809	1,574,697	47,817	3%
71 - Council Engineering and Technical Services	0	0	0	0	0%
72 - Project & Contract Management	1,765,768	3,430,146	650,924	194,536	30%
73 - Roads to Recovery	2,387,726	2,686,431	671,607	169,009	25%
75 - Local Laws and Animal Management	0	102,121	0	0	#DIV/0!
82 - Building & Property Maintenance	405,000	1,204,495	366,183	99,978	27%
84 - Plant and Fleet	2,077,340	2,607,671	5,000	250,820	5016%
90 - Parks & Townships	100,000	106,136	4,722	42,149	893%
96 - Waste Management	0	184,609	46,152	92,993	201%
98 - Waterways Management	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total Capital Expenditure	7,335,834	23,998,072	5,195,789	1,442,673	28%
Non Cash Adjustments					
08 - Depreciation	10,106,628	10,106,628	2,526,657	2,526,657	100%
45 - Bad Debts Expense	0	0	0	124	0%
63 - Reversal of Impairment Losses	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Non Cash Adjustments	10,106,628	10,106,628	2,526,657	2,526,781	100%
Accumulated surplus brought forward	4,625,317	8,993,042	8,993,042	8,993,042	100%
Net Cash Surplus / (Deficit)	599,368	5,502,922	29,378,771	37,992,341	129%

APPENDIX 3: NET RESULT BY SERVICE AREA

Service Area	2022/23 Full Year Budget	2022/23 Total Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget September	2022/23 YTD Actuals September
11 - Administration and Management	2,820,088	3,107,287	811,573	656,166
12 - Economic Development	139,488	339,478	45,199	14,817
13 - Council Administration	511,307	518,420	106,278	109,877
14 - Library Services	221,288	221,288	55,322	102,705
15 - Media	114,636	114,312	28,645	26,012
21 - Caravan Parks	(61,383)	(387,315)	(108,095)	(279,853)
22 - Loddon Discovery Tours	(0)	(29)	88	53
23 - Tourism	365,004	418,151	83,019	45,181
31 - Aged Care Services	556,016	1,524,890	223,303	147,363
32 - Elderly Persons Units	14,625	14,577	4,115	(4,856)
33 - Rural Access	0	145,031	0	0
34 - Seniors	99,524	103,461	44,474	37,324
35 - Community Wellbeing Projects	0	122,656	30,663	21,529
40 - Community Support	1,106,493	1,152,746	289,381	177,643
41 - Community Planning - Boort	50,000	234,684	58,671	0
42 - Community Planning - Inglewood	50,000	310,681	77,667	1,571
43 - Community Planning - Tarnagulla	50,000	268,411	67,101	21,591
44 - Community Planning - Terricks	50,000	183,569	45,891	0
45 - Community Planning - Wedderburn	50,000	315,233	78,807	0
46 - Emergency Management	17,440	57,868	16,954	8,700
47 - Grants & Community Planning	780,300	2,528,661	572,895	(3,015,458)
48 - Municipal Health & Wellbeing	9,500	67,201	4,603	681
49 - Swimming Pools	707,569	717,493	85,682	60,442
50 - Maternal and Child Health	89,348	331,630	88,035	(14,061)
51 - Early Years	249,822	758,201	198,032	8,869
52 - Boort Pre School	(0)	0	2,486	(5,830)
53 - Dingee Pre School	0	0	2,591	2,278
54 - Inglewood Pre School	(0)	(0)	2,484	(2,584)
55 - Pyramid Hill Pre School	0	(0)	2,754	(11,353)
56 - Wedderburn Pre School	0	0	2,492	(2,497)

APPENDIX 3: NET RESULT BY SERVICE AREA (Continued)

Service Area	2022/23 Full Year Budget	2022/23 Total Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget September	2022/23 YTD Actuals September
57 - Immunisation	41,017	40,791	11,246	4,906
59 - Youth	6,000	46,091	11,523	719
60 - Corporate Governance	222,246	278,089	77,834	56,143
61 - Financial Services	(3,621,835)	(17,591,616)	(22,868,931)	(23,025,780)
62 - Rates & Property	(10,049,166)	(10,066,437)	(10,020,332)	(9,967,818)
63 - Customer Service	310,332	308,746	73,293	68,021
64 - Information Management	425,126	422,663	100,689	89,500
65 - Information Technology	1,096,906	1,093,764	487,812	293,530
66 - Human Resources & Development	662,001	811,690	219,986	165,129
67 - Risk Management	481,379	496,714	308,502	302,841
70 - LRCI Projects	0	(212,987)	(53,244)	(2,339,909)
71 - Council Engineering & Technical Services	213,641	272,416	23,426	13,936
72 - Project & Contract Management	1,933,805	3,387,181	652,277	184,676
73 - Roads to Recovery	0	666,567	166,641	152,110
74 - Building Regulation	80,817	79,826	22,081	438
75 - Local Law s and Animal Management	297,258	440,999	106,753	69,233
76 - Public Health	103,149	102,707	(69)	(8,773)
77 - Strategic & Statutory Planning	276,033	273,461	76,859	27,004
80 - Air Strips	9,942	9,801	3,433	1,444
82 - Building & Property Maintenance	1,299,315	2,131,005	631,190	325,519
84 - Plant and Fleet	152,883	702,739	(271,936)	(537,039)
86 - Gravel Pits	320,612	320,612	(26,848)	419
88 - Management & Administration	527,802	524,157	142,871	136,567
90 - Parks & Townships	1,095,074	1,153,728	287,120	290,439
92 - Roads	5,648,852	5,616,701	1,571,171	1,717,676
94 - DoT Routine Maintenance Contract	(70,532)	(70,532)	(17,633)	(9,005)
96 - Waste Management	(7,201)	145,855	(1,499,785)	(1,614,682)
98 - Waterways Management	60,742	50,389	10,847	30,887

APPENDIX 4: BALANCE SHEET

	September 2022 As per trial balance	June 2023 As per adopted budget	June 2022 As per financial statements	September 2021 As per trial balance
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$39,797,618	\$12,560,553	\$3,727,157	\$28,175,866
Other financial assets	\$0	\$0	\$36,684,402	\$0
Trade and other receivables	\$12,443,462	\$412,696	\$1,063,989	\$12,453,955
Financial assets	\$235,466	\$0	\$393,485	\$139,112
Inventories	\$0	\$21,768	\$0	\$26,800
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	\$311,958	\$222,784	\$311,958	\$540,076
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$52,788,504	\$13,217,801	\$42,180,991	\$41,335,809
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Trade and other receivables	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,268
Financial assets	\$295,154	\$284,783	\$295,154	\$275,436
Intangible assets	\$2,713,090	\$2,674,570	\$2,713,090	\$2,979,650
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	\$341,223,204	\$387,872,483	\$343,749,861	\$360,374,367
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	\$344,231,448	\$390,831,836	\$346,758,105	\$363,630,721
TOTAL ASSETS	\$397,019,952	\$404,049,637	\$388,939,096	\$404,966,530
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	\$44,808	\$427,527	\$692,750	\$763,561
Trust funds and deposits	\$1,815,279	\$329,567	\$367,782	\$1,609,822
Unearned income	\$0	\$0	\$3,076,276	\$0
Provisions	\$2,871,882	\$2,730,218	\$2,841,411	\$2,653,379
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$4,731,969	\$3,487,312	\$6,978,219	\$5,026,762
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Provisions	\$1,246,284	\$2,156,202	\$1,246,284	\$1,716,013
Interest bearing loans & borrowings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$1,246,284	\$2,156,202	\$1,246,284	\$1,716,013
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$5,978,253	\$5,643,514	\$8,224,503	\$6,742,775
NET ASSETS	\$391,041,700	\$398,406,123	\$380,714,593	\$398,223,758
EQUITY				
Accumulated Surplus	\$118,140,067	\$94,893,756	\$91,667,548	\$96,965,874
Asset Revaluation Reserve	\$247,356,512	\$294,682,747	\$262,232,789	\$278,439,144
Other Reserves	\$25,545,121	\$8,829,620	\$26,814,256	\$22,818,739
TOTAL EQUITY	\$391,041,700	\$398,406,123	\$380,714,593	\$398,223,758

APPENDIX 5: CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Cash flows from operating activities	Adopted Budget 2022/23	YTD Actual September 2022
Rates and charges	12,881,431	459,133
Statutory fees and fines	329,432	116,953
User fees	1,739,527	404,872
Grants - operating	4,257,558	1,334,479
Grants - capital	2,435,481	2,951,412
Contributions - monetary	-	50,450
Contributions - non monetary	-	-
Reimbursements and subsidies	794,016	197,762
Interest received	235,000	73,186
Net GST refund (payable)	(274,022)	1,449,161
Trust funds and deposits taken	(17,345)	1,447,497
Payments to employees	(12,438,030)	(3,059,335)
Payments to suppliers	(14,645,521)	(4,596,717)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	-
Share of net profits of associates and joint ventures	-	-
Other income	-	-
Reversal of impairment of assets	-	-
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-
Finance costs	-	-
Bad debts expense	-	(124)
Other expenses	-	-
Councillors' emoluments	-	-
Internal audit remuneration	-	-
External audit remuneration	-	-
Impairment of interest free loans	-	-
Net cash provided (used in) investing activities	(4,702,473)	828,730
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(7,007,845)	(1,442,671)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	-
Term deposits	-	36,684,402
Payment for intangible assets	-	-
Loans and advances to community organisations	-	-
Repayment of loans and advances from community organisations	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(7,007,845)	35,241,731
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	-	-
Borrowing costs	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(11,710,318)	36,070,462
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	24,270,871	3,727,157
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	12,560,553	39,797,619

APPENDIX 6: FULL CAPITAL WORKS

Account Number	2022/23 Full Year Budget	2022/23 Total Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget September	2022/23 YTD Actuals September	2022/23 YTD Revised Variance September
11 - Commercial Services	0	69,844	0	0	0
21 - Caravan Parks	0	69,844	0	0	0
1910 - Caravan Park Improvement Prog	0	69,844	0	0	0
22 - Community Support	500,000	7,207,810	1,776,504	487,190	1,289,314
42 - Community Planning - Inglewood	0	163,612	40,902	1,571	39,331
4315 - Inglewood Community Plans - Ca	0	163,612	40,902	1,571	39,331
43 - Community Planning - Tarnagulla	0	108,551	27,135	0	27,135
8620 - Tarnagulla Community Plans - C	0	108,551	27,135	0	27,135
44 - Community Planning - Terricks	0	21,075	5,268	0	5,268
8680 - Terrick Community Plans - Capi	0	21,075	5,268	0	5,268
45 - Community Planning - Wedderburn	0	25,000	6,249	0	6,249
9500 - Wedderburn Community Plans - C	0	25,000	6,249	0	6,249
47 - Grants & Community Planning	500,000	6,889,572	1,696,950	485,620	1,211,330
1835 - Bridgewater Foreshore S2	0	272,664	68,166	0	68,166
2340 - Community Plans Strategic Fund	500,000	500,000	0	0	0
3000 - Donaldson Park Grants	0	3,179,029	794,754	278,241	516,513
4520 - Inglewood Sports Centre Grants	0	42,118	10,530	0	10,530
4747 - Lake Boort Park Precinct	0	166,083	166,083	150,985	15,098
5720 - Miamo Lighting Project	0	100,000	0	0	0
7252 - Pyramid Hill Com Centre Grants	0	2,629,678	657,417	56,394	601,024
33 - Information Management	100,000	100,000	100,000	58,180	41,820
65 - Information Technology	100,000	100,000	100,000	58,180	41,820
6180 - PC Replacement	100,000	100,000	100,000	58,180	41,820

APPENDIX 6: FULL CAPITAL WORKS (Continued)

Account Number	2022/23 Full Year Budget	2022/23 Total Revised Budget	2022/23 YTD Revised Budget September	2022/23 YTD Actuals September	2022/23 YTD Revised Variance September
41 - Assets & Infrastructure	4,153,494	12,415,386	2,897,228	411,362	2,485,866
70 - LRCI Projects	0	6,298,809	1,574,697	47,817	1,526,880
1910 - Caravan Park Improvement Prog	0	700,000	174,999	0	174,999
3000 - Donaldson Park Grants	0	3,322,452	830,610	30,236	800,374
3655 - Footpaths Capital Works	0	214,169	53,541	0	53,541
5720 - Mtiamo Lighting Project	0	263,000	65,751	0	65,751
7250 - Pyramid Hill Streetscape	0	600,984	150,246	0	150,246
7600 - Road Construction Capital Work	0	1,198,204	299,550	1,208	298,342
7630 - Road Resheets Capital Works	0	0	0	16,373	(16,373)
72 - Project & Contract Management	1,765,768	3,430,146	650,924	194,536	456,388
1590 - Bridges and Culverts Capital W	0	260,000	65,001	0	65,001
3025 - Drainage Capital Works	350,000	476,500	119,124	0	119,124
3585 - Flood Mitigation FH	0	486,000	0	0	0
3586 - Flood Mitigation Brt	0	340,445	0	0	0
3655 - Footpaths Capital Works	426,183	462,256	115,566	134,492	(18,926)
5670 - Minor Plant & Equip-Capital	20,000	0	0	0	0
7250 - Pyramid Hill Streetscape	0	0	0	657	(657)
7600 - Road Construction Capital Work	201,938	727,152	181,788	0	181,788
7620 - Road Reseals	0	29,304	7,326	0	7,326
7630 - Road Resheets Capital Works	405,419	25,916	6,480	0	6,480
7660 - Road Safety Capital Works	90,093	273,600	68,400	59,388	9,012
7675 - Road Shoulder Sheet Capital Wo	244,156	320,994	80,244	0	80,244
8830 - Trails Signage	27,979	27,979	6,995	0	6,995
73 - Roads to Recovery	2,387,726	2,686,431	671,607	169,009	502,598
1590 - Bridges and Culverts Capital W	149,488	505,705	126,429	0	126,429
3655 - Footpaths Capital Works	0	0	0	8,206	(8,206)
4650 - Kerb & Channel Capital Works	115,995	0	0	0	0
7585 - Road Amenity Capital Works	0	0	0	248	(248)
7600 - Road Construction Capital Work	991,576	0	(0)	0	(0)
7620 - Road Reseals	1,130,667	1,044,044	261,009	0	261,009
7630 - Road Resheets Capital Works	0	969,632	242,409	160,556	81,853
7660 - Road Safety Capital Works	0	40,000	9,999	0	9,999
7675 - Road Shoulder Sheet Capital Wo	0	127,050	31,761	0	31,761
42 - Development & Compliance	0	102,121	0	0	0
75 - Local Laws and Animal Management	0	102,121	0	0	0
6735 - Pound Livestock	0	102,121	0	0	0
44 - Works	2,582,340	4,102,911	422,057	485,939	(63,882)
82 - Building & Property Maintenance	405,000	1,204,495	366,183	99,978	266,205
1725 - Building Asset Project-Capital	400,000	1,199,495	364,933	99,978	264,955
2520 - Council Property Fencing	5,000	5,000	1,250	0	1,250
84 - Plant and Fleet	2,077,340	2,607,671	5,000	250,820	(245,820)
3550 - Fleet Replacement	282,540	282,540	0	0	0
5685 - Minor Plant & Equipment	20,000	20,000	5,000	0	5,000
6435 - Plant Replacement	1,774,800	2,305,131	0	250,820	(250,820)
90 - Parks & Townships	100,000	106,136	4,722	42,149	(37,427)
6270 - Plan & Strategy Implementation	100,000	106,136	4,722	42,149	(37,427)
96 - Waste Management	0	184,609	46,152	92,993	(46,841)
8865 - Transfer Stations Upgrades	0	184,609	46,152	92,993	(46,841)
Grand Total	7,335,834	23,998,072	5,195,789	1,442,672	3,753,117

APPENDIX 7: CARAVAN PARK INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This report was previously reported to Council as a separate agenda item. Due to the nature of the report this will now be reported to Council for the quarterly reporting cycle within this report.

Income and expenditure from the 2022/21 financial year to the current 2022/23 financial year for each park is listed in the table below. Comments are also provided where there has been unusual items.

Park	Year	Income	Expenditure	Net	Comments
Boort	2020/21	\$ 67,728.08	\$ 13,558.86	\$ 54,169.22	
	2021/22	\$ 62,733.00	\$ 8,402.00	\$ 54,331.00	
	2022/23 YTD	\$ 79,688.00	\$ 3,030.00	\$ 76,658.00	
Bridgewater	2020/21	\$ 350,603.06	\$ 267,973.37	\$ 82,629.69	
	2021/22	\$ 398,136.00	\$ 316,552.00	\$ 81,584.00	
	2022/23 YTD	\$ 191,308.00	\$ 54,482.00	\$ 136,826.00	
Pyramid Hill	2020/21		\$ 12,777.21	-\$ 12,777.21	
	2021/22	\$ -	\$ 3,700.00	-\$ 3,700.00	Credit for expenditure in 2020/21 expended to the upgrade budget.
	2022/23 YTD	\$ 2,422.00	\$ 3,908.00	-\$ 1,486.00	
Wedderburn	2020/21	\$ 134,353.88	\$ 108,707.10	\$ 25,646.78	
	2021/22	\$ 138,931.00	\$ 100,197.00	\$ 38,734.00	
	2022/23 YTD	\$ 127,051.00	\$ 35,558.00	\$ 91,493.00	

10.6 ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2022**File Number:****Author:** Amanda Wilson, Director Corporate**Authoriser:** Lincoln Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Loddon Shire Council Annual Report for Year Ending 30 June 2022**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Loddon Shire Council Annual Report for the Year Ending 30 June 2022

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council discussed the Annual Report at the Councillor Forum on 11 October 2022. The financial and performance statements included within the Annual Report were adopted by Council at the 23 August 2022 Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

In accordance sections 98, 99 and 100 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) Council must prepare an Annual Report in respect of each financial year.

The Act no longer requires Council to submit the budget or annual report to the Minister for Local Government. The Annual Report must however be presented to Council, at a meeting open to the public, within four months of the end of the financial year.

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

The Annual Report for the 2021-2022 period has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

The attached Annual Report includes:

- a report of operations of the Council
- an audited performance statement
- audited financial statements
- a copy of the auditor's report on the performance statement and
- a copy of the auditor's report on the financial statements

The report of operations contains a statement of progress on implementation of the Council Plan, which includes the results of the strategic indicators; a statement of progress in relation to the major initiatives identified in the budget and the measures and performance of the prescribed indicators of service performance.

The financial statements included in the attachment have been prepared in accordance with the regulations and have been audited by the Victorian Auditor General's Office.

COST/BENEFITS

As well as being a legislative requirement, preparation of the Annual Report provides Council with an opportunity to formally record the achievements of the financial year at an organisation level and by individual staff.

RISK ANALYSIS

Timely preparation and approval of the Annual Report ensures that Council complies with legislative requirements outlined in the Act.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

There is no longer a requirement to submit the Annual Report to the Minister of Local Government however Council must comply with its public transparency policy and the public transparency principles in section 58 of the Act.

A public notice was placed in the Bendigo Advertiser and Loddon Herald to advise the public the Annual Report has been prepared and is available for inspection at Council's office in Wedderburn, and on Council's website, and will be presented at the 25 October 2022 Council meeting.



Annual Report

2021/22



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Acknowledgement of Country

Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land comprising the Loddon Shire Council area. Council would like to pay respect to their Elders both past and present.

We also recognise the many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members across the Shire who make up the vibrant communities to which our organisation provides services.



Cover main: Serpentine Air Show.

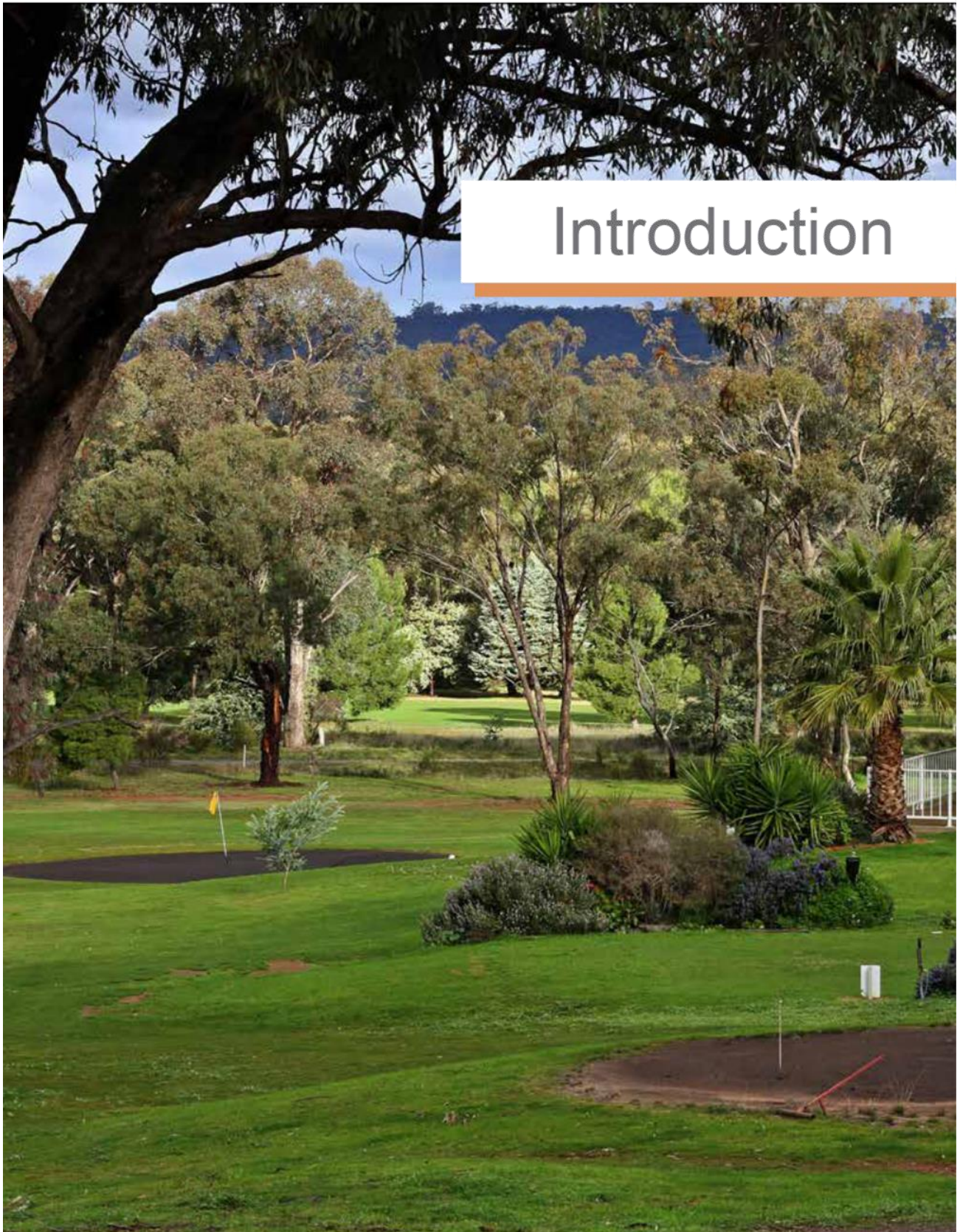
Inset left to right: 1. Old shed on Loddon Valley Highway at Campbells Forest, 2. Fishing at Bridgewater, 3. Boort Sculpture Walk, 4. Tarnagulla Hall, 5. Holy Trinity Anglican Church Wedderburn.

Images: 1. Ann-Marie Davis, 2. Melinda Hansen, 5. Dave Thomas.



Back cover left to right: 1. Canoe trail, 2. Yarraberb painted tree and Hall, 3. Local market produce, 4. Old hay rake at Hillcrest Farm Campbells Forest, 5. Artwork bird series Wedderburn.

Image: 4. Ann-Marie Davis



Introduction

Community Grants Scheme recipient, Wedderburn Golf Club. *Image: Dave Thomas*

Introduction

Welcome to report of operations

Welcome to Loddon Shire Council's report of operations for the year 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

This is the final report in the planning and accountability framework for local government, and along with the Financial Statements and Performance Statement, forms Council's Annual Report for the year.

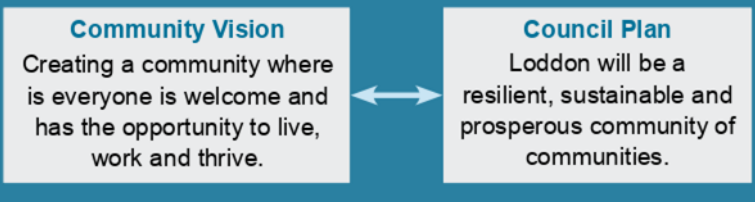
Council is committed to transparent reporting and accountability to the community. The report of operations is the primary means of advising the Loddon community about Council's operations and performance during the year.

The report also serves as an important document that will provide 'point in time' information about Council and the community for readers of the future.

This document also provides the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Council, Council staff and the community over the course of the year.

Community Vision and Council Plan

There is a strong link between the Community Vision and the Council Plan. This reflects Council's commitment to the community in focusing on the areas that are important to the Community vision.



Snapshot of Council

Purpose

Council Plan 2021-2025


Council engaged a facilitator to work with Councillors, senior officers and members of the community to assist in preparing the Council Plan 2021-2025 (the Plan).

The ideas and philosophies contributed by those involved led to a restatement of Council's vision, mission and strategic objectives, all of which were included in the Plan.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Council reviews the Council Plan annually to ensure it still reflects the Council's strategic intent.

The new Council Plan 2021-2025 was adopted by Council at its meeting on 26 October 2021.


Facts and figures

22,520 Incoming calls to the municipal office 


8,585 Rates notices issued 

519 Land information certificates 


2,137 Tonnes of garbage, recycling and organics from kerbside bins 


128 Planning applications received 

31 Local law permits issued 


955 Kilometres of sealed local roads 

2,026 Dog registrations 


439 Cat registrations 

13,205 Visits to swimming pools 

7,971 Meals on Wheels 

29,676 Physical library collection item loans 

71 Births 

98 Children enrolled in kindergarten 

47 Community groups supported with Council grants 

Grants

Community Grants Scheme

Council's Community Grants Scheme assists not-for-profit clubs and organisations based in the Loddon Shire, to deliver projects that directly benefit residents.

Successful clubs and organisations

- Arnold Cricket Club
- Boort Angling Club
- Boort Historical Society
- Boort Lakeside Croquet Club
- Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee
- Calivil United Football Netball Club
- Campbells Forest Hall Community Asset Committee
- Dunolly and District Field and Game Club
- Inglewood Bowling Club
- Inglewood Riding Club
- Newbridge Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Rheola Public Cemetery
- Serpentine Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Tarnagulla and District Golf Club
- Wedderburn Golf Club
- Wedderburn Historical Records Museum
- Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Community Asset Committee
- Wedderburn Open-Air Gallery Committee auspice by Wedderburn Community House
- Woodstock-on-Loddon Tennis Club

Community Grants Scheme: Boort Historical Society (top) for restoration and preservation of historic artifacts. Arnold Cricket Club (bottom right) for a new centre wicket.
Images: Boort Historical Society, Arnold Cricket Club
Event Promotion Scheme: Wedderburn and District Harness Racing Club (bottom left) for the Wedderburn Pacing Cup. *Image: Dave Thomas*

Event Promotion Scheme

Council's Events Sponsorship Scheme exists to provide assistance to community groups organising local events.

Many events were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions and some funds were returned to Council. Some organisations retained the funds due to expenditure on advertising and other unavoidable costs before the event was cancelled.

Successful community groups

- 1st Lake Boort Sea Scouts
- Boort Bowls Club
- Boort Football Club
- Boort Golf Club
- Boort Indoor Bias Bowls Club
- Boort Lakeside Croquet Club
- Boort Tennis Club
- Boort Tourism and Development
- Boort Trotting Club

Community groups continued over page ►



Introduction

Bridgewater Water Ski Club

Calivil Bowling Club

Dingee Bowling Club

Inglewood Bowling Club

Inglewood Golf Club

Korong Vale and District Bowling Club

Laanecoorie Gold Bash

Loddon Darts Association

Newbridge Arnold Llanely Community Plan Committee

Northern Victorian Quarter Horse Association

Pyramid Hill Bowling Club

Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee

Pyramid Hill Progress Association

Serpentine Bowling Club

St Johns Bears Lagoon - Christmas Tree Competition Committee

Wedderburn and District Harness Racing Club

Wedderburn Bowls Club

Wedderburn Community House

Wedderburn Country Women's Association

Wedderburn Golf Club

Wedderburn Historical Engine and Machinery Society

Wedderburn Tourism

Challenges and future outlook

Our challenges

- Internet and mobile phone connectivity and access.
- Ongoing recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.
- An ageing population.
- Retaining our youth.
- Urbanisation and changing social values.
- Technology and innovation.
- Budgetary constraints.
- Maintaining or upgrading Council's assets, including its extensive road network and building infrastructure.
- Changing weather patterns and unreliable rainfall.
- Water security.
- Attracting and retaining staff.
- Sparsely populated Shire.

Future outlook

- Continuing to advocate to State and Federal politicians and their representatives on behalf of our community, including around priorities as outlined in Council's Priorities 2022 document.
- The expanding renewable energy sector.
- The growing agribusiness sector.
- Continuing to encourage tourism within the Loddon Valley.
- Delivering the Council Plan 2021-2025, Community Vision 2031, Financial Plan, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025, and asset management plans.
- Development of the Recreation Open Space and Aquatic Strategy (ROSA).
- Donaldson Park Community Hub redevelopment.
- Pyramid Hill Community Centre Development.
- Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project.
- Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project.
- Responding to service delivery expectations in a financially-sustainable way.
- Continued COVID-19 response and recovery.

The year in review



Council's 2021/22 Community Grants Scheme saw almost \$123,000 in funding allocated to 20 community groups across the Shire, including Inglewood Bowling Club. *Image: Inglewood Bowling Club*

Message from the Mayor and CEO

Welcome to the Loddon Shire Council Annual Report 2021/22. We are proud to present the highlights and achievements of the year.

While the past year again presented challenges with COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns, it also saw a renewed sense of optimism as these lockdowns and some restrictions began to be lifted.

The past year also saw Loddon Shire become a popular destination for people to relocate to, further cementing the positive sense of optimism in our communities recognising Loddon as the place to work, live and thrive.

Despite the challenges, Council continued to ensure it maintained the highest level of service to our community, carried out regular Council activities, and progressed major new projects. The year also saw Council welcome Lincoln Fitzgerald as its new Chief Executive Officer in November.

Additionally, the year included the adoption of Council's Community Vision 2031 and new four-year Council Plan in October. These documents were developed with feedback and collaboration from the community, who were crucial in developing this blueprint for Loddon Shire's future.

This Community Vision and Council Plan also puts us in good stead to advocate for additional Federal and State Government investment in our community to build on our goals – including population growth, infrastructure, sustainability, the environment and youth.

Council's 2021/22 Budget again showed Council in a strong cash position and debt free. The budget included a capital expenditure program of \$7.34 million, with \$3.4 million towards roads, \$350,000 for urban and road drainage, and \$426,000 for footpaths.



Mayor Dan Straub and CEO Lincoln Fitzgerald.

This Community Vision and Council Plan also puts us in good stead to advocate for additional Federal and State Government investment in our community to build on our goals – including population growth, infrastructure, sustainability, the environment and youth.



There was also full funding of Council's ongoing commitment to community planning of \$750,000.

The easing of COVID-19 restrictions also saw the welcome return of events in our Shire, including Australia Day 2022 celebrations, Anzac Day commemorations, in-person Citizenship Ceremonies, as well as local sport.

There was also the memorable Serpentine Air Race in March, which celebrated the centenary of Australia's first official air race, and saw perfect weather and an amazing crowd, estimated in excess of 5,000 people.

Additionally, the year saw the completion of projects and continuation of works across the Shire. This included the Baileys Bridge replacement over Bullock Creek in Derby, female-friendly change rooms at the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve, reconstruction, widening and sealing of

Laanecoorie Newbridge Road, culvert replacements, footpath construction works at various locations, caravan park upgrades and more.

Other major projects also moved ahead, including the tender for the Donaldson Park Community Hub Project, appointment of architects for the detailed design of the Pyramid Hill Community Centre Development, and anticipation of works beginning in the new financial year for the Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project.

In March, Council endorsed the staging of the Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct Project and approved a funding application from the Boort Bowls Club for \$301,970 to deliver Stage 1 of the project.

Stage 1 is underway and will involve the replacement of the Boort Bowls Club irrigated turf with a World Bowls-approved synthetic turf before the next bowls season. The remaining stages will include tennis courts fencing and lighting, and the installation of a pump park and basketball half court, as well as possible additional works identified at the croquet club as planning progresses.

Council, through its collaboration with Boort Tourism and Development Inc. and relevant user groups, is in the process of developing the scope for Stage 2 works for the project. Council will continue its work with the community over the next 12 months, including the sourcing of external funding resulting in the enhancement of the recreational precinct around Little Lake Boort.

Additionally, Council's 2021/22 Community Grants Scheme saw almost \$123,000 in funding allocated to 20 community groups across the Shire towards projects, while Council also provided around \$109,000 towards projects as part of the 2021/22 Community Plan allocations.

Throughout the year, Council continued to engage with the community around a number of strategic documents and other subjects.

This included the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025, Road Management Plan, Annual Plan, and asset management plans for footpaths; parks, open spaces and streetscapes; recreation, leisure and community facilities; bridges and major culverts; stormwater drainage; roads; and buildings.

Other major projects also moved ahead, including the tender for the Donaldson Park Community Hub Project, appointment of architects for the detailed design of the Pyramid Hill Community Centre Development, and anticipation of works beginning in the new financial year for the Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project.

It was pleasing to see residents rate Council's overall performance, its customer service and waste management higher than both the state-wide average and small rural council average via the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council also continued to advocate for its communities through its membership of wider regional, state and national associations, including the Loddon Campaspe Group of Councils Murray River Group of Councils, Rural Councils Victoria, Municipal Association of Victoria and Australian Local Government Association.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge Councillors, Council staff and the community. This past year has again shown the level of commitment and care of our community as well as how working together helps our Shire be resilient, vibrant and provides the chance to look forward to a positive future.



Cr Dan Straub
Mayor



Lincoln Fitzgerald
Chief Executive Officer

Financial summary

Council's financial position continues to remain sound. A summary of our performance is outlined below. Detailed information relating to Council's financial performance is included within the financial statements and performance statement section of this report.

Operating position

Council finished the year with a surplus of \$2.0M. This surplus contrasts with the prior year surplus of \$2.75M. The Comprehensive Income Statement in the Financial Statements indicates that the variance is due mainly to an increase in upfront grant income related to road and other infrastructure projects. The adjusted underlying surplus of Council, after removing non-recurrent capital grants, cash capital contributions and nonmonetary capital contributions, is a surplus of \$1.29M or 3.94 per cent when compared to adjusted underlying revenue.

Liquidity

Cash has remained steady with another early payment of Financial Assistance Grants allocation which is equivalent to 75 per cent of the expected 2022/23 funding. This will enable Council to complete some of the scheduled works for 2022/23 far earlier than expected due to this advance payment. The working capital ratio which assesses Council's ability to meet current commitments is calculated by measuring Council's current assets as a percentage of current liabilities. Council's result of 604 per cent is an indicator of a satisfactory cash position. Council operates a number of reserves to fund future expenditure. The balance of these reserves at the end of 2021/22 was \$26.81M. This amount was held by Council in cash and term deposits at the end of the financial year.

Obligations

Council aims to maintain its infrastructure assets in accordance with its Asset Management Plans, while at the same time continuing to deliver the services needed by the community. To bridge the infrastructure gap, Council invested \$5.6M in renewal and upgrade works during the year. This was funded from grants, rate income and cash reserves with no borrowings. At the end of the year, Council's debt ratio, which is measured by comparing interest bearing loans and borrowings to rate revenue, was zero per cent. Council's asset renewal ratio, which is measured by comparing asset renewal and upgrade expenditure to depreciation, was just over 60 per cent.

Stability and efficiency

Council has a range of revenue sources including rates, user fees, fines, grants and contributions. Council's rates concentration, which compares rate revenue to adjusted underlying revenue, was 36.34 per cent for the financial year. Council was restricted to increasing its revenue base for the year by a 1.5 per cent rate cap. This resulted in an average rate per assessment of \$1,256.83 which compares favourably to similar councils in rural Victoria.



Business Networking dinner at Newbridge with guest speaker Alex Dekker from Alex Makes Meals.

Description of operations

Council is responsible for a variety of services, from family and children's services, aged and disability services, parks and gardens, youth programs, waste management and community building, to matters concerning business development, planning for appropriate development and ensuring accountability for Council's budget.

This broad range of services and infrastructure for residents helps Loddon Shire to be a resilient, sustainable and prosperous community of communities. Council's vision, strategic objectives and strategies to further improve services and facilities are described in our Council Plan 2021-2025 and budget.

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

Economic factors

During 2021/22 Council continued to operate within both a rate capped and labour capped environment. The budget was developed based on 1.5 per cent rate cap and 3 per cent cap on labour.

Major capital works

During 2021/22 major capital works included:

Buildings

- Completion of female-friendly change rooms at Bridgewater Recreation Reserve with assistance from Federal and State Government funding.
- Upgrades to Korong Vale Mechanics Hall.
- Refurbishment works on a number of public toilets.

The year in review

Roads, bridges and culverts

Council completed:

- 5.2km of local road construction. This involved the rehabilitation and widening of existing pavements and sealing
- 9.8km of local road shoulder resheets
- 8.2km of local road resheets.

Inspection summary:

- 999 inspections were completed (3916 defects raised), with 98.9 per cent of all inspections completed before their due date.

Defect rectification:

- 8,736 defects were rectified, with 98.2 per cent of all defects (8,579 in total) completed before their due date.

Department of Transport (VicRoads) controlled roads

Council also undertakes routine maintenance of pavement, shoulders, roadside areas, drainage systems, road furniture and structures on various arterial roads within Loddon Shire. VicRoads related requests or issues can be directed to VicRoads by calling 13 11 70.

1791 defects were rectified, with 90.6 per cent of all defects (1622 in total) completed before their due date.

Maintenance program

1164 maintenance grading work actions were completed resulting in 2,631 kilometres of grading and 6,564 kilometres of inspections.

Key projects included:

- Reconstruction, widening and sealing of Laanecoorie Newbridge Road
- Installation of kerb and channel and associated works at Lake View Street and Andrews Street in Boort
- New footpaths, kerb and channel, and underground drainage works at High Street, Wedderburn (from near café to police station)
- Bridgewater Raywood Road widening (completion of 10-year progressive project)

- Baileys Bridge replacement over Bullock Creek in Derby
- Culvert replacement at Gladfield Road and at Pickles Road, Jarklin.

Major changes

- Council's Chief Executive Officer Phil Pinyon retired July 2021.
- Jude Holt was appointed as interim Chief Executive Officer from 5 July 2021 until 31 October 2021.
- Council's Chief Executive Officer Lincoln Fitzgerald commenced in November 2021.
- Development of SmartyGrants program for Section 65 Community Asset Committees and Management Agreement reporting.
- Director Corporate, Amanda Wilson appointed in March 2022.

Major achievements

- Council adopted the Loddon Shire Community Vision 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025.
- 2020/21 Annual report adopted.
- Annual Plan adopted.

Assets and Infrastructure

- Asset Management Plans (four-year plans) adopted, including footpaths; parks, open spaces and streetscapes; recreation, leisure and community facilities; bridges and major culverts; stormwater drainage; roads; and buildings.
- Asset Plan 2022 adopted (10-year plan).
- Council's Design Engineer, Sujjan Bastakoti, nominated as a finalist in the Engineers Australia 2021 Victorian Young Professional Engineer of the Year.
- Road Management Plan adopted (four-year plan).
- Annual Infrastructure Program 2022/23 adopted (one-year plan).
- Installation of pedestrian crossing at Coutts Street, Boort.

The year in review

- Awarding of tender for kerb and channel works, underground drainage and sealing upgrades in Grant Street, Inglewood.
- Electric recharging stations in Wedderburn and Inglewood completed, final installation of chargers to be completed for Newbridge.

Community events

- Loddon Shire saw the return of some events, previously cancelled or restricted due to COVID-19. These included Australia Day 2022 celebrations, Anzac Day commemorations, in-person Citizenship Ceremonies, the Serpentine Air Race, as well as local sport.

Community project management

- Council's 2021/22 Community Grants Program saw almost \$123K in funding allocated to 20 community groups.
- Completion of the northern section of the Little Lake Boort foreshore walking trail as part of the Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct.
- Council welcomed funding of \$200K from the Victorian Government's Country Football and Netball Funding Program towards new fit-for-purpose light towers and sustainable

LED floodlighting at the Serpentine Recreation Reserve and Mitiamo Recreation Reserve.

- Arnold Cricket Club commenced phase two of a five-year facility improvement plan, with Council providing financial support via the community grants program.
- A sculpture was installed at Serpentine Memorial Hall in Chapel Street, acknowledging the sacrifice and contribution of our war veterans in defending Australia. Created by Tait Decorative Iron, the sculpture was made possible by the State Government of Victoria and The Victorian Veterans Council through the Victoria Remembers Grant Program.
- Dingee Historical Wall story project was delivered by the Dingee Progress Association Inc. with funding support from Council's community planning program, receiving a grant of \$1,025 to assist with fabrication and installation costs.
- A custom-built ladder was installed on the island swimming pontoon at the Bridgewater Swimming Hole. The ladder was designed and constructed specifically for this location, with input into the design from Bridgewater community members.



Above: Council Design Engineer Sujan Bastakoti, nominated as a finalist in the Engineers Australia 2021 Victorian Young Professional Engineer of the Year.

Top L-R: 2021 Mayor Beattie and Acting CEO Jude Holt. CEO Lincoln Fitzgerald with Mayor Straub. Above L-R: Outgoing CEO Phil Pinyon. Sharon Morrison (outgoing Director Corporate) with CEO Lincoln Fitzgerald. Amanda Wilson (new Director Corporate) with Acting CEO Jude Holt.

The year in review



Serpentine Memorial Hall sculpture.

- Commenced installation of World Bowls-approved synthetic turf at the Boort Bowling Club as part of Stage 1 of the Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct.
- Awarding of tender for Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project.
- Architects engaged to undertake detailed design for the Pyramid Hill Community Centre Development.
- Released tender for Donaldson Park Community Hub project.

Compliance and development

- 192 new building permits were issued.
- Heritage Loan Policy – A policy is being developed to enable owners of properties of heritage significance that are subject to heritage controls to access a loan fund to support repair and restoration.
- Ridge Street Residential Development (Stage 2) feasibility assessment – Council engaged a residential development consultant to prepare subdivision options for land in

Ridge Street, Wedderburn, and provide costings for its development and servicing. It also engaged an economic modelling consultant to provide an understanding of the benefit to the community of development of this site. Council will now consider the cost and benefit of it undertaking a residential development on this land.

- Industrial Land Strategy – Council has commenced preparation of an Industrial Land Strategy to ensure that there is a suitable and sufficient supply of industrial land within the Shire to provide for business and employment growth, and in particular to accommodate businesses that support the agricultural sector. A review of the existing supply of industrial land in the Shire has been completed along with an assessment of the historic demand for this land. Outcomes from the review and assessment, together with an economic assessment of industry in Loddon and identified future industrial land options, will be considered during further development of the strategy before it is presented to the community for feedback.

The year in review

- Detailed feasibility assessment of key residential development sites identified in the Settlement Strategy – A funding submission has been made to the Victorian Planning Authority to support Council to undertake research into the viability of the vacant residential land supply in Loddon Shire towns, and to develop initiatives to encourage new residential growth.
- Council has commenced a review of the Loddon Planning Scheme to ensure that the scheme reflects and responds to current issues and supports the direction of the Council Plan.
- Updated flood controls planning scheme amendment (Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and Floodway Overlay) – Council is working with the North Central Catchment Management Authority to incorporate revised flood mapping into the Loddon

Planning Scheme to ensure that flood risk is accurately identified when new development is proposed.

- Adoption of Compliance Management Policy.
- Registration of swimming pools across Loddon Shire.
- In June, Council approved the draft Community Local Law to be released for public comment for at least six weeks. The document covers a range of laws, including Council land, streets and roads, private property, animals and pets, waste and recycling, permits and fees, and enforcement.

Customer service

- Continued to adapt to ensure the provision of high-level customer service to our community during COVID-19 restrictions, including during work-from-home directions.



2022 Longbush Road McIntyre Survey for floodway culvert replacement.

The year in review

Early childhood and early years

- Child Safe Standards Framework V2 and Child Safe Policy V2 adopted.
- Funded three-year-old kindergarten implemented.
- Children aged three and four accessing 15 hours of kindergarten weekly.
- Kindergarten enrolments increased with 98 children attending across the Shire.
- Kindergartens participated in a number of additional programs such as Smiles for Miles, speech screenings and school transition.
- Maternal and Child Health Services continued to adapt throughout the year in response to COVID-19 restrictions, including appointments taking place over Telehealth.
- Three new parent groups were implemented across the Shire.

Economic development

- A number of new investment guides for Loddon Shire were published on Council's website, highlighting the solid opportunities for growth to businesses investing in our region. The guides provide

industry snapshots to investing in specific agribusiness in Loddon Shire: the table egg industry, meat poultry enterprise, lot feeding, pig industry enterprise, and niche and artisanal production.

- Council collated and submitted extensive data, mostly obtained from a survey of the community, to the Connecting Victoria funding program being managed by the State Government. This program has \$300M for mobile connectivity improvements and \$250M for NBN improvements across Victoria. Data about the "lived experience" was important to gain an understanding of what people are actually experiencing with connectivity problems.
- The currently funded stages of Council's caravan park upgrade works to the Wedderburn Pioneer Caravan Park, Pyramid Hill Caravan Park and Boort Lakes Holiday Park are almost complete. New amenities blocks for all three caravan parks, which were constructed off-site, have been installed and are now in use.

Other upgrades to the caravan parks include road and drainage works, powerhead upgrades, and solar lighting.



Pyramid Hill Pre-school.



Wedderburn Caravan Park. Image: Dave Thomas

The final part of this funded project will be upgrades to three cabins at the Wedderburn Pioneer Caravan Park.

The works are being funded by Council, matched by funding from the Commonwealth Government Regional Growth Fund. Loddon Shire is one of a group of seven councils led by Swan Hill Rural City Council that successfully obtained this funding for a collection of projects named "Our Region Our Rivers".

Emergency management

- Council continued to provide support for the pandemic response. This included community messaging, management of funding applications, and provision of advice.
- Adoption of Business Continuity Management Policy.
- Free emergency information provided at Visitor Information Centre.

Finance and rating

- Financial Plan adopted October 2021.
- Audit and Risk Committee meetings held quarterly with the appointment of new member Rachelle Tippett.

Hard waste

The annual kerbside hard waste collection for 2022 commenced on Monday 7 March to coincide with Clean Up Australia Day. The annual hard waste collection of metal, e-waste, furniture and white goods for residents (excluding businesses) within township boundaries was completed over a two-week period with approximately 493 collections, including:

- 266 items of e-waste
- 154 whitegood items
- 140m³ of furniture
- 143m³ of metal
- 303m³ of waste.

306,072 kerbside garbage and recycling collection bin lifts were scheduled during the year with 82 kerbside garbage and recycling collection bins missed.

The year in review



Outdoor exercise equipment at Boort and Wedderburn.

Municipal public health and wellbeing

- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 adopted October 2021.
- Continued to improve and adjust service provision in response to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Continued to deliver the Digital Device Loan Scheme in partnership with Community and Neighbourhood Houses and Goldfields Library, as part of the Community Activation and Social Isolation initiative.
- Supported local Neighbourhood Community Houses to deliver Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food Program over five weeks.
- Supported the Kooyoora Women's Network to establish the Bridgewater Community Garden.
- Delivered fitness classes using Boort and Wedderburn outdoor exercise equipment, to encourage and assist community members to use the equipment.
- Developed downloadable fitness program guides to assist community members to use the outdoor exercise equipment in Pyramid Hill, Boort and Wedderburn in their own time.
- Joined the Central Victorian Local Government Reconciliation Network to work with other councils to improve relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians.
- Participated in the Loddon Mallee regional stakeholder consultation to inform the development of the Victorian Government Anti-Racism Strategy.
- Delivered activities for 16 Days of Activism of prevention of violence against women.
- Appointed experienced leisure management company Belgravia Leisure to manage Council's swimming pools.
- Completion of pool painting at Pyramid Hill, Mitiamo and Inglewood swimming pools.
- The Healthy Heart of Victoria (HHV) was extended for a further 12 months with \$75K in additional funding allocated to the Loddon Shire.
- Community Care team distributed wellbeing packs to all registered Loddon Seniors for the October Seniors Festival.
- Royal Flying Doctor Service free mental health appointments were available for all Loddon Shire residents.

- Mental health and wellbeing services were available in communities throughout the Loddon Shire.
- Loddon Healthy Minds Network activities continued throughout the year, including:
 - supporting local schools to deliver Sunshine Breakfasts during Mental Health Week
 - 2021 Art Competition had over 100 entries, more entries than any other year
 - providing Smoothie Bikes for use by community groups, schools, health providers and sporting clubs.

Parks and townships

- Rectification of 3,619 defects that consisted of maintenance actions on footpaths, street and park trees, garden beds, grass mowing and playgrounds with 93.6 per cent of all defects (3,388 in total) completed before their due date.
- Footpath construction works at locations in Wedderburn, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, Boort and Newbridge.

Tourism

- The Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan was completed in May, offering a concept design and platform for sharing, protecting and realising the potential of this unparalleled site. Council led the development of the Masterplan in close collaboration and support from key stakeholder organisations including the Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation, Parks Victoria, First Peoples - State Relations and the North Central Catchment Management Authority.

The Masterplan's development was made possible with State Government funding support through Regional Development Victoria.

Parks Victoria is responsible for the ongoing management of Lake Boort and its use by various user groups in accordance with the Lake Boort Reserve Management Plan (2018).

Using the Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan as a guide, Parks Victoria will work in partnership with stakeholders on the future development of elements including signage, walking tracks



Maintenance work at Bridgewater playground.

and viewing points around the lake, so that it can be explored in any season, whether it is dry or full of water.

The site at Lake Boort is regarded as internationally significant and one of the most important existing Aboriginal cultural sites, not only in Victoria, but Australia.

- The Loddon Valley Business Network Dinner was held in July at Inglewood Community Neighbourhood House with 16 attendees from various tourism operators. The evening included social media training with Kathie Bolitho from Tough Cookie Marketing. This was assisted by a Regional Development Australia business event sponsorship of \$2,000.
- A Loddon Valley Business Network Dinner was held in March at the Newbridge Recreation Reserve with 20 attendees. The evening was an opportunity for businesses to reconnect and meet new business owners in the region. The keynote speaker, Alex Dekker from Alex Makes Meals discussed his business journey, born out of helping others, embracing change and collaboration. He turned his simple gesture of cooking meals for first responders during the height of the global pandemic into a business.

The year in review



Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan was completed in May.

Other guest speakers on the night included Shelby Hutchinson from Council, Bradd Worrell from Bendigo and Region City of Gastronomy, Gina Pederick from La Trobe University and Chris Earl from the Loddon Herald.

- As part of National Volunteer Week, staff from the Loddon Visitor Information Centre hosted a familiarisation tour to show their appreciation of the dedicated Visitor Information Centre volunteers. The tour provided volunteers and staff the opportunity to team build and learn more about the Loddon Valley area.
- Council held a Customer Service Workshop in June at the Pyramid Hill College with 13 attendees. The workshop, hosted by the Institute of Excellence, addressed a customer centric approach to business, establishing opportunities and creating smart collaborations.

Volunteers

- Adoption of the Volunteer Strategy 2022-2026.
- Council's Re-Engaging Volunteers Project saw the delivery of workshops across the Shire focusing on good governance, how to conduct a meeting and tips for engaging young volunteers.

Waste management

Residents are provided with four vouchers with their rates notices - one for each quarter. Each voucher can be used to dispose of up to four cubic metres of general domestic waste free of charge at Council's landfill and transfer stations. This includes green waste, mixed recyclables, general household waste and e-waste (white goods, TVs, computers, electronic items, etc.).

Tyres, bricks and concrete, and mattresses are not included as these items have additional third party costs associated with their disposal, and are charged as per normal disposal charges.

2513 vouchers were used during the year.

Youth

- Council continued to support the L2P program to assist young people in gaining experience driving and obtaining their drivers licence.
- Council participated in the Strong Youth Strong Communities Steering Committee, working in partnership with Buloke Shire Council, Gannawarra Shire Council, Northern District Community Health and North Central Local Learning and Employment Network to bring together all youth-focused agencies within the region to support young people.



Our Council

Aerial view of Boort.

Shire profile

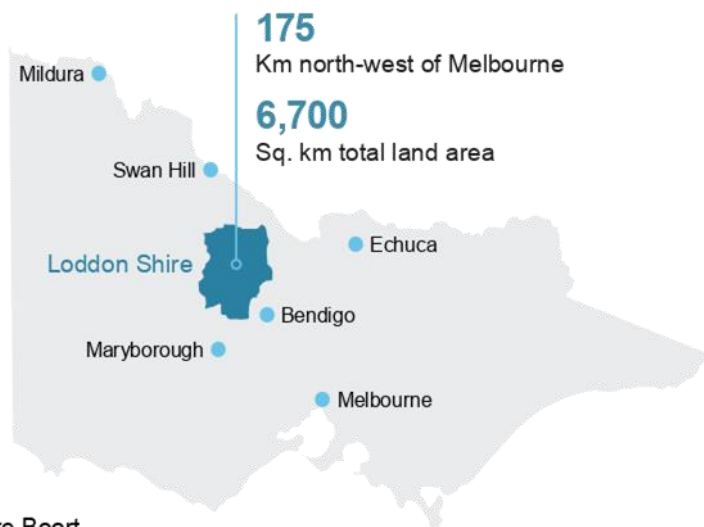
Geography

Loddon Shire is located in central Victoria, about 175 kilometres north-west of Melbourne. It is bounded by Gannawarra Shire in the north, the Shire of Campaspe and the City of Greater Bendigo in the east, Mount Alexander and Central Goldfields shires in the south and Northern Grampians and Buloke shires in the west.

Loddon Shire is a predominantly rural area, with many small towns and communities. The larger towns are Boort, Bridgewater on Loddon, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn.

The Shire encompasses a total land area of approximately 6,700 square kilometres. Land is used mainly for agriculture and horticulture, particularly grain, sheep, wool, beef cattle, dairy, pigs and poultry.

In recent years, there has been an increase in viticulture, olives and fodder crops.



Major features of the Shire include the Loddon River, Terrick Terrick National Park, Leaghur State Park, Kooyoora State Park, Lake Boort, Major Mitchell Trail, Mount Korong, Melville Caves and Laanecoore Reservoir.

Major highways passing through the Shire are the Calder Highway, the Loddon Valley Highway and the Wimmera Highway.



Visitor Information Centre volunteers workshop, Wedderburn in 2021.

Population

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021 Census showed a population of 7,759 in Loddon Shire with an overall median age of 52 years.

During the year, Council recorded 71 births in the Shire.

Family composition

Of the families in Loddon Shire, the ABS 2021 Census shows that 51.8 per cent were a couple family without children and around 34 per cent were a couple family with children, while 12.6 per cent were one-parent families.

Origin

The 2021 Census shows a little over 20 per cent of our residents were born overseas. The percentage of people born overseas has progressively increased from seven per cent in 2001. Other than Australia, the top five countries of birth were England, Philippines, New Zealand, Netherlands and Germany. The Philippines joined the top five most common countries of birth for the first time in 2016.

Median weekly incomes

According to the 2021 Census, the median weekly personal income in Loddon Shire was \$554.

The median weekly family income was \$1,394, while the median weekly household income was \$1,039.

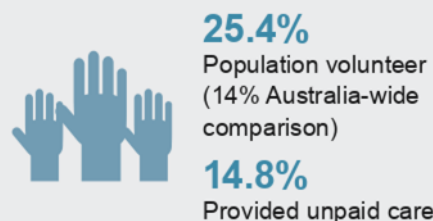
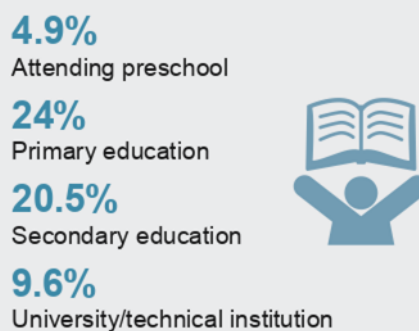
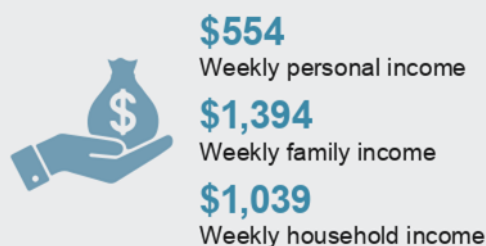
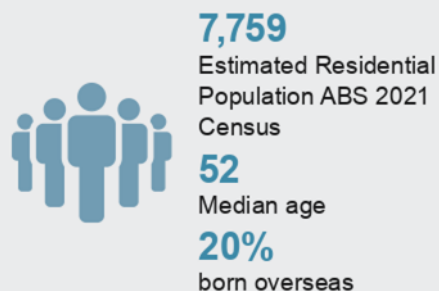
Education

Overall, 4.9 per cent of our youth population were attending preschool, 24 per cent were in primary education and 20.5 per cent were attending secondary education. Furthermore, 9.6 per cent were attending further education, including university or a technical institution.

Volunteers

Loddon Shire has a strong sense of self-reliance and community spirit, and this is reflected in the rate of volunteerism.

The 2021 Census showed 25.4 per cent of the population volunteer and many of those volunteers held roles in a number of community organisations in the previous 12 months. This figure is compared with a total of 14 per cent in Australia. In addition, 14.8 per cent of our people provided unpaid care for others.



Council contacts

Municipal office

41 High Street,
Wedderburn, 3518

Local call: 1300 365 200

Phone: (03) 5494 1200

Fax: (03) 5494 3003

Office hours: 8.15am - 4.45pm
Monday to Friday
(except public
holidays)

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.

- TTY/voice users phone 133 677 then ask for (03) 5494 1200
 - Speak and Listen users phone 1300 555 727, then ask for (03) 5494 1200
- For more information, visit:
www.relayservice.gov.au

Website:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au

Email:

loddon@loddon.vic.gov.au

Library services

Council's library services are provided by:

Goldfields Library Corporation

259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo, 3550
PO Box 887, Bendigo, 3552

Telephone: (03) 5449 2700

Email: helpdesk@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Website: www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/libraryagencies

For enquiries about Loddon's library agencies, telephone (03) 5449 2790.

Library agency locations and opening hours

Boort

Boort Resource and Information Centre,
119 - 121 Godfrey Street, Boort

Hours: Monday to Friday 10.00am - 3.30pm
Closed from 12.30pm - 1.00pm

Dingee

Dingee Railway Station Progress Park, Mack Street, Dingee

Hours: Tuesday 9.00am - 11.00am
Thursday 9.30am - 11.30am

Inglewood

Inglewood Community Neighbourhood House,
Inglewood Town Hall Hub, 20 Verdon Street, Inglewood

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9.00am - 4.30pm

Pyramid Hill

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood House,
5-8/43 - 45 Kelly Street, Pyramid Hill

Hours: Tuesday 10.00am - 6.00pm
Wednesday 10.00am - 6.00pm
Thursday 10.00am - 4.00pm
Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm

Tarnagulla

Tarnagulla Community Centre, 8 Sandy Creek Lane, Tarnagulla

Hours: Monday 2.00pm - 3.00pm
Friday 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Wedderburn

Wedderburn Community Centre, 24 Wilson Street, Wedderburn

Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Maternal and child health centres

Council operates five maternal and child health centres.

Phone: (03) 5494 1201

Email: bookings@loddon.vic.gov.au

Online: www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Live/Services-for-our-younger-residents/Maternal-and-Child-Health-Service

Location / contact and opening hours

Boort		
King Street	M: 0409 166 891	Hours: Thursday 9.00am - 3.30pm
Dingee		
Bush Nursing Centre, King Street	M: 0409 166 891	Hours: Monday (weeks 1 and 3) 9.00am - 4.00pm
Inglewood		
Grant Street	M: 0409 166 891	Hours: Wednesday 8.30am - 4.00pm
Pyramid Hill		
Senior Citizens Centre, McKay Street	M: 0409 166 891	Hours: Monday (weeks 2 and 4) 9.00am - 3.00pm
Wedderburn		
Community Centre, Wilson Street	M: 0409 166 891	Hours: Tuesday (week 2 and 4) 9.00am - 3.30pm



Council's office is open Monday to Friday 8.15am - 4.45pm.

Our Council

Kindergartens

Council operates five kindergartens.

Location/contact and hours

Boort Pre-school

123 - 127 Godfrey Street, Boort, 3537
P: (03) 5455 2292 M: 0498 707 799

Hours: 4 year olds Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

3 year olds Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

Dingee Pre-school

785 Dingee-Serpentine Road, Dingee, 3571
P: (03) 5436 8401 M: 0498 606 345

Hours: 4 year olds Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

3 year olds Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

Inglewood Kindergarten

75A Grant Street, Inglewood, 3517
P: (03) 5438 3533 M: 0498 505 277

Hours: 4 year olds Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.45am - 1.45pm

3 year olds Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.45am - 1.45pm

Pyramid Hill Pre-school

67 Kelly Street, Pyramid Hill, 3575
P: (03) 5455 7230 M: 0498 606 023

Hours: 4 year olds Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

3 year olds Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45am - 1.45pm

Wedderburn Kindergarten

77 Ridge Street, Wedderburn, 3518
M: 0498 707 005

Hours: 4 year olds Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.45am - 1.45pm

3 year olds Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.45am - 1.45pm

Landfill and transfer stations

Council operates three unlicensed landfills and three transfer stations.

Landfills are the most widely utilised solid waste management option. The waste is typically compacted in order to increase its density and stability, and covered to prevent the attraction of pests.

A transfer station is a building or processing site for the temporary disposal of waste.

All transfer stations and landfill facilities are closed on public holidays and Code Red days.

Location and hours

Boort landfill

Off Boort-Quambatook Road

Hours: Tuesday 8.00am - 12.00pm
Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Dingee transfer station

Lawry's Road

Hours: 1 April – 30 September
Third Sunday of month
10.00am - 2.00pm

1 October – 31 March
First Wednesday of month
8.00am - 12.00pm
Third Sunday of month
10.00am - 2.00pm

Inglewood transfer station

Inglewood-Salisbury Road

Hours: Wednesday 8.00am - 12.00pm
Saturday 8.00am - 12.00pm

Newbridge landfill

Ryan Street

Hours: Wednesday 1.00pm - 5.00pm
Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Pyramid Hill landfill

Ballast Road

Hours: Tuesday 1.00pm - 5.00pm
Sunday 8.00am - 12.00pm

Wedderburn transfer station

Godfrey Street

Hours: Thursday 8.00am - 12.00pm
Sunday 8.00am - 12.00pm

Councillors

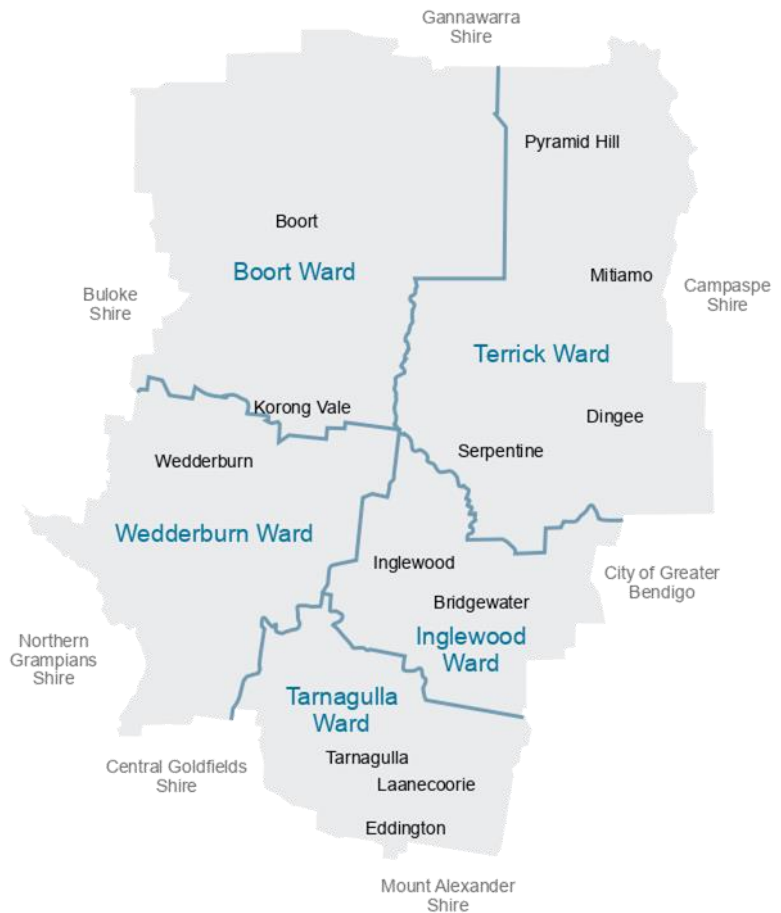
Council elections were held in October 2020.

The Council area is divided into five wards. There is one Councillor for each ward. Councillors have responsibility for setting the strategic direction for the municipality, policy development, identifying service standards and monitoring performance across the organisation.

Representing the community

Councillor representation on committees

Councillors provided representation on many local committees. This representation helps to ensure the community has access to Council and their voices are heard.



Cr Wendy Murphy, Cr Gavan Holt, Mayor Dan Straub, Cr Neil Beattie and Cr Linda Jungwirth.

Our Council



Cr Dan Straub

Terrick Ward

First elected: 2020



Cr Neil Beattie

Boort Ward

First elected: 2005



As a local, choosing Tandarra as the place to start his family and buy a property was an obvious choice for Dan Straub. He believes the rural lifestyle and farming culture is one of the great strengths of Loddon Shire and something that he is passionate about.

Cr Straub has worked within the agricultural and construction industries, and as a husband and father of two young girls, understands the pressures on young families and the importance of local services.

His passions include working and advocating with rural communities on future farming practices, land access issues, recreational use of public land, water and environmental issues and the traditional Australian way of life.

Representation on committees

- Local Government Women’s Charter (substitute)
- Murray River Group of Councils
- Loddon Campaspe Councils
- North Central Goldfields Regional Library
- North Central Local Learning Employment Network

Section 65 Community Asset Committees

- East Loddon Community Centre Community Asset Committee
- Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee

Neil Beattie, now retired from farming, lives on the edge of Lake Boort, enjoying the scenery.

However, Cr Beattie continues to operate a trucking company, and now owns Boort’s newsagency. He credits these businesses, along with all of his community activities, with helping to keep his mind active.

Cr Beattie says that “travel and fishing make life pretty complete”.

Cr Beattie is chair of Grain Co-op, in addition to representing Council on several other committees.

Representation on committees

- Audit and Risk Committee (substitute)
- Municipal Association of Victoria (substitute)
- Rail Freight Alliance

Section 65 Community Asset Committees

- Boort Aerodrome Community Asset Committee
- Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee
- Boort Park Community Asset Committee
- Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Community Asset Committee
- Korong Vale Sports Centre Community Asset Committee
- Little Lake Boort Community Asset Committee
- Yando Public Hall Community Asset Committee



Cr Linda Jungwirth

Tarnagulla Ward

First elected: 2020



Linda Jungwirth lives in Tarnagulla and understands the unique benefits of country life. As a parent, grandparent and carer, Cr Jungwirth has plenty of experience with life's challenges as well as good times.

With a strong belief in the ability of communities to influence their own outcomes, Cr Jungwirth has been involved with many committees and community activities. She was an enthusiastic participant in the 2016 Rivers and Ranges Community Leadership Program, and has continued to learn new skills such as facilitation, community engagement and project management.

Cr Jungwirth loves living in southern Loddon surrounded by history and the natural environment and really enjoys connecting with people in the community. Her favourite pastimes are camping, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

Representation on committees

- Loddon Mallee Local Government Waste Forum
- Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
- Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance



Cr Gavan Holt

Wedderburn Ward

First elected: 2003



Gavan Holt is a fifth-generation resident in the Wedderburn district with an extensive family history of local government involvement.

After completing a commerce degree from the University of Melbourne, he taught for 10 years at various secondary schools across Victoria and he is now a businessman with interests in farming, investment and hotels.

Cr Holt has been appointed a Mayor Emeritus by the Municipal Association of Victoria. He is also an alumnus of the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government.

He lists his personal interests as politics, international affairs, travel and sport.

Representation on committees

- Audit and Risk Committee
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Calder Highway Improvement (substitute)

Section 65 Community Asset Committees

- Donaldson Park Community Asset Committee
- Wedderburn Community Centre Community Asset Committee
- Wedderburn Engine Park and Market Square Reserve Community Asset Committee
- Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Hall Community Asset Committee
- Hard Hill Tourist Reserve Community Asset Committee

Our Council



Cr Wendy Murphy
 Inglewood Ward
 First elected: 2020



A proud sixth generation Inglewood local, Wendy Murphy grew up on her family’s poultry farm and has worked in local vineyards in Kingower, Bridgewater and Serpentine, and as a Laboratory Technician at an Echuca winery. Cr Murphy lives in Kurting with her husband and three children.

Cr Murphy, who has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural Resources Management), works at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, where she has been for over 15 years. Cr Murphy is active in the community, volunteering her time with numerous community groups and organisations. Cricket and local history are her main interests.

Cr Murphy took part in the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program in 2017.

Representation on committees

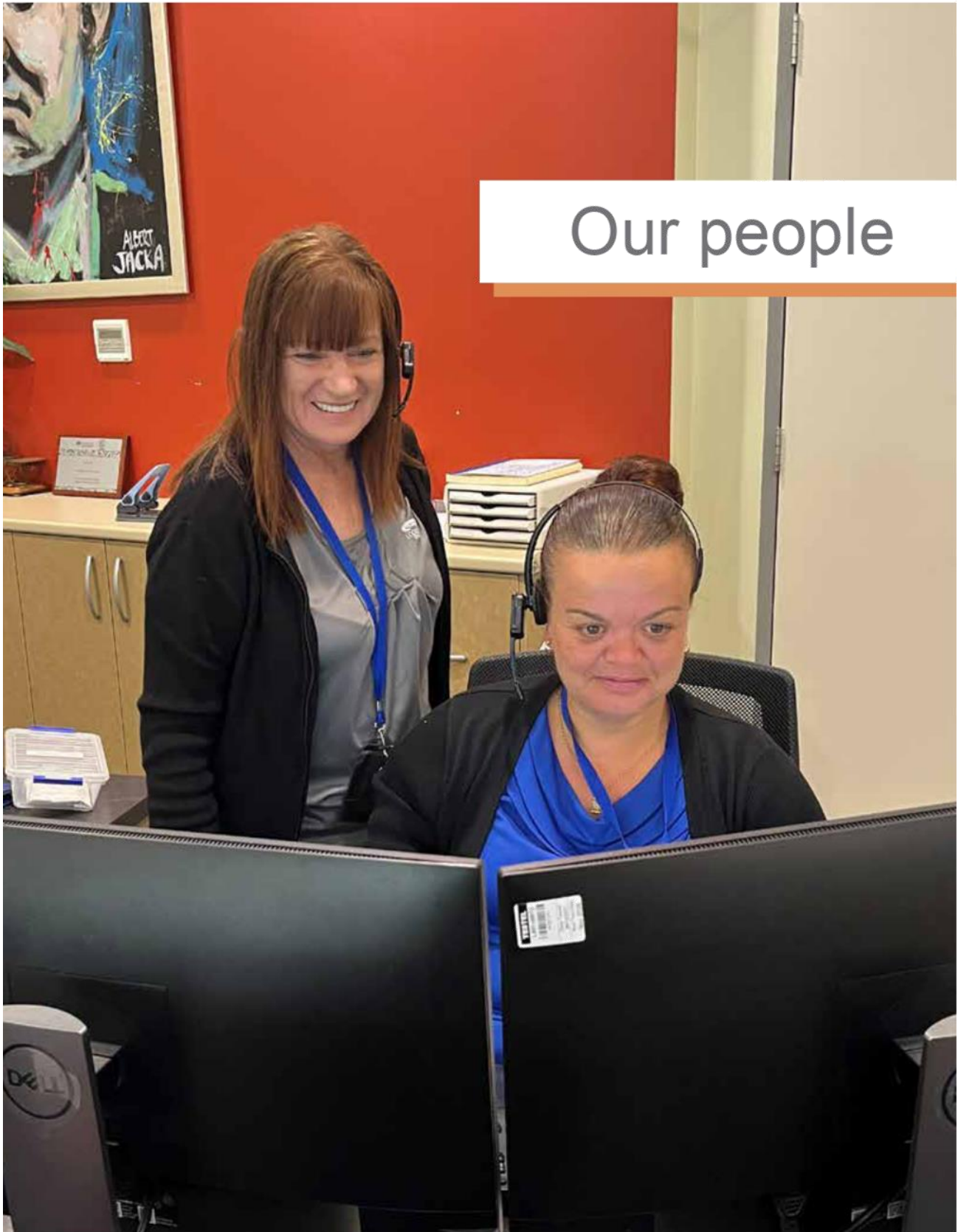
- Australia Day Committee
- Calder Highway Improvement Committee
- Local Government Women’s Charter
- Loddon Healthy Minds Network

Section 65 Community Asset Committees

- Bridgewater on Loddon Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee
- Campbells Forest Hall Community Asset Committee
- Inglewood Community Elderly Persons Units Community Asset Committee
- Inglewood Community Sports Centre Community Asset Committee
- Inglewood Town Hall Hub Community Asset Committee



Councillors represent committees within Loddon Shire, including the Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee and the Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Community Asset Committee, where renovations are taking place.



Our people

Council customer service staff.

Our people



Organisation

Management Executive Group: Lincoln Fitzgerald, Amanda Wilson, Wendy Gladman and Steven Phillips.

Council is the governing body that appoints a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO has responsibility for the day-to-day management of operations in accordance with applicable legislation and the strategic directions of the Council Plan.

The CEO and three directors form the Management Executive Group (MEG) and lead the organisation.

Chief Executive Officer

Lincoln Fitzgerald

Lincoln has a wealth of experience in local government, coming to Council from the City of Greater Bendigo and having previously worked for Mount Alexander Shire Council.

Lincoln has held diverse roles including project management of major projects, asset management, health promotion, strategy development, contract and facility management. Lincoln's career has focused on building, leading and managing diverse teams and large businesses in the region and overseas.

The Chief Executive Officer role of Council includes prescribed duties in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, providing leadership to the Council, strategic planning, promoting external relationships, and managing the operations of the Council.

Director Corporate

Amanda Wilson

Amanda Wilson joined Council in March 2022, having previously worked in local government for nine years in both Victoria and New South Wales. Prior to local government, Amanda worked in private enterprise and the not-for-profit sector.

Amanda has held diverse roles including financial management, human resources, change management, marketing, governance and occupational health and safety. Amanda has qualifications in accounting, business, human resources, and work health and safety.

The Director Corporate role is responsible for the management of finance, rates, procurement, governance, risk, occupational health and safety, human resources, payroll, records management, customer support and information technology.

Our people

Director Operations

Steven Phillips

Steven Phillips was appointed as Director Operations in November 2017 after holding the position of Manager Works at Loddon Shire Council since 2011.

Steven commenced with Council in 2009 as the Assistant Manager Works. Steven has a Diploma in Forestry from Melbourne University’s School of Forestry, and has worked in the forestry and fire management sector, providing supervision and management of commercial timber harvesting operations, forest road infrastructure and fire management for several years before making the move to local government.

The Director Operations role is responsible for the management and ongoing delivery of a wide range of Council services including infrastructure policy and program development, works and maintenance, strategic and statutory planning, statutory building control, environmental and public health, local laws policy and compliance, contract management and engineering services.

Director Community Wellbeing

Wendy Gladman

Wendy Gladman was appointed as Director Community Wellbeing in July 2013 after holding the position of Manager Community Services since 2010.

Wendy previously held a number of positions in aged and disability services since commencing with Council in 1995.

Wendy has extensive experience in local government, with a particular emphasis on delivery of community services and health and wellbeing.

Wendy has a Diploma of Business Management, a Diploma of Community Services Management, a Diploma of Business (Governance) and is a graduate of the Australian Institute Company Directors (AICD).

As Director Community Wellbeing, Wendy is responsible for the management and delivery of a wide range of community services including early years, youth, aged and disability, sport and recreation, community planning, emergency management, rural access and municipal public health and wellbeing.

Organisation chart



Our people

Management team



Lynne Habner

The MEG is supported by the following leadership team:

Executive Directorate

Manager Executive and Commercial Services, Lynne Habner

Lynne Habner commenced with Council in 2011 as the Executive Assistant to the CEO. Her previous experience has included roles in state and national government organisations, which gave her a breadth of experience including national policy and legislation development, project management, stakeholder engagement and high-level administrative and managerial roles. During her career, Lynne has obtained a Masters in Public Sector Management.

Lynne’s role as Manager Executive and Commercial Services encompasses high-level executive support to the Chief Executive Officer and Councillors as well as managing the media, tourism and economic development functions in the Loddon Shire.



Deanne Caserta



Janine Jackson



Daniel Hirth

Corporate Services Directorate

Manager Financial Services, Deanne Caserta

Deanne Caserta commenced work with Council in 2004 in an administration capacity. In 2007 Deanne was awarded an accounting cadetship through Council’s Scholarship Program. In 2012 she graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce and achieved CPA status in 2016.

Her role involves overseeing the preparation of key finance documents including financial plan, annual budget and financial statements along with regular financial reporting to Council. She is also responsible for reporting to various government departments and the functions of accounts payable, accounts receivable, property/rating and procurement.

Manager Organisation Development, Janine Jackson

Janine Jackson has extensive experience in local government having commenced with Council in 2004 in an administration capacity and from 2005 to 2020 successfully gaining appointment to roles in finance, payroll and human resources. In November 2020 Janine was appointed to the role of Manager Organisation Development.

The role of Manager Organisation Development encompasses human resource management including volunteers, organisation learning and development, occupational health and safety, risk management and payroll services – while providing programs that support the development of a positive, engaging collaborative culture.

Manager Information Technology, Daniel Hirth

Daniel Hirth joined Council in 2022 after working in the private sector, including for a multi-national company with primary offices in the United States and United Kingdom.

Daniel has a Diploma of Information Technology: Networking, and has worked on a number of projects dedicated to digital transformation and improvement.

These projects include delivery of IT infrastructure and security, disaster recovery and business continuity planning, multi-vendor system implementations (supporting a single, unified solution), and testing and implementation delivery of new customer and consumer websites.

The Manager Information Technology role is responsible for implementing key strategies relating to information technology and information management.

Operations Directorate

Manager Assets and Infrastructure, David Southcombe

David Southcombe commenced with Council in 2018 in the Assets and Buildings Coordinator position and was appointed Manager Assets and Infrastructure in 2019.

David's previous experience includes holding positions in asset management, energy efficiency and operations.

His role is responsible for contract and project management, capital works program development and implementation, civil engineering design, and asset management.

Manager Works, Daniel Lloyd

Daniel Lloyd commenced with Council in July 2002 in an administration and GIS capacity for the Technical Services Department. In September 2011 Daniel was appointed as the Assistant Manager Works before being appointed as the Manager Works in December 2017.

The Manager Works role includes the management of Council's day labour workforce and all subcontractors involved in the delivery of maintenance and construction activities on Council's road and township street network as well as Council's parks and gardens network, building maintenance and waste services.

This position is also responsible for Council's maintenance contract with VicRoads, all fleet management activities and Municipal Emergency Response.

Manager Development and Compliance, Glenn Harvey

Glenn Harvey commenced with Council in August 2015 as the Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS), after working in the building industry for 35 years, both in the private sector as a builder and building surveyor, and in building control in local government.

In 2016 Glenn was appointed as the Manager Development and Compliance which resulted in the expansion of his responsibilities to encompass the management and oversight of Council's town planning, public health, local laws,

animal management and building control. With this appointment, Glenn manages the broader portfolio of development and regulatory services which Council provides or administers for the local community.

Community Wellbeing Directorate

Manager Community Support, Paul Scullie (acting)

Paul Scullie commenced at Loddon Shire in 2020 as the Active Loddon Recreation Officer and was appointed Acting Manager Community Support in 2022.

He is currently studying full time, completing a Bachelor of Business, majoring in Sports Management. Paul previously worked for the AFL in Queensland, as well as in retail management.

The Manager Community Support is responsible for the management of Council's grant schemes and swimming pools, strategic planning for community facilities, community planning, project management of capital works projects and emergency management.

Manager Community Wellbeing, Sarah Perry (acting)

Sarah Perry returned to Council in 2019 as Project Liaison Officer in the Community Support Department, and was appointed Manager Community Support in 2021 after 12 months acting in the role.

In 2022, Sarah was seconded into the Manager Community Wellbeing role to provide continuity and support the department. Sarah's previous local government experience has been working for Loddon Shire and Campaspe Shire councils as a Statutory Planner.

The Manager Community Wellbeing is responsible for contributing to improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the Loddon community through the development and implementation of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, delivery of aged and disability services, children and youth services and other community service/wellbeing programs and by developing and culturing partnerships and collaborative working relationships.



David Southcombe



Daniel Lloyd



Glenn Harvey



Paul Scullie



Sarah Perry

Our people

Council staff



Council staff 2022.

Welcome to new staff

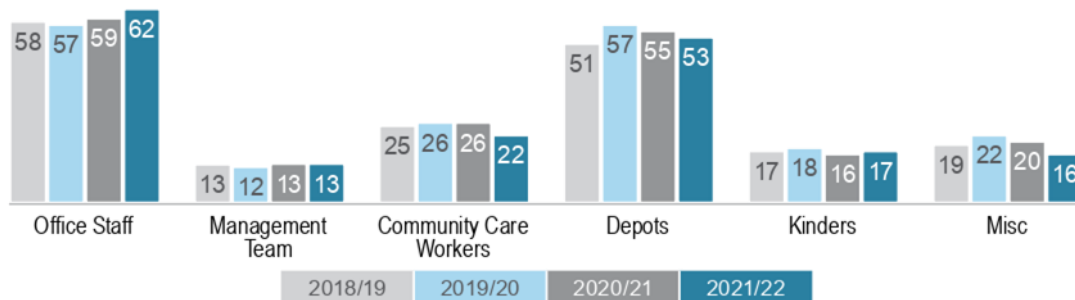
Subash Adhikari	Stacey Edwards	Louise Johnston	Christopher Rorke
Fred Assi	Darrowut Ellis	Susan Keith	Joanne Rossiter
Corey Bathis	Lincoln Fitzgerald	Trudie Malone	Rhiannon Taylor
Abby Benaim	Cheryl Fowler	Martin Mark	Maurice Williams
Katie Brown	Graeme Gilmore	Colin Mills	Amanda Wilson
Megan Crilly	Daniel Hirth	Louise Power	Leonie Wright
Elise Daly	Stuart Hooper	Bridey Pratt	
Tessa Dearlove	Mohammad Hossain	Colin Roberts	



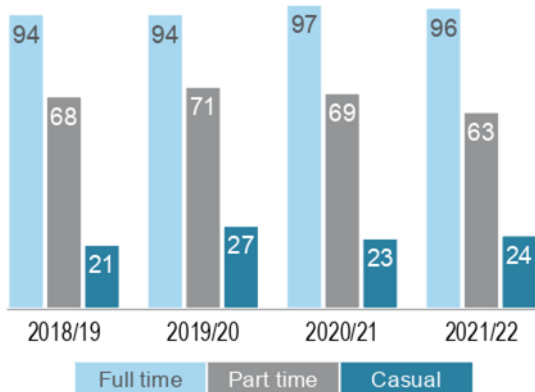
Outdoor staff Scott and Ben in action (left) and Fred on the mower with Brad (right).

Our people

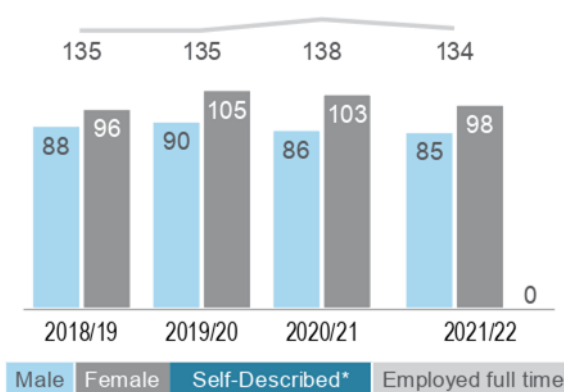
Staff number



Staff status



Staff gender



*Self-Described first detailed in above graph 2021/22.

Staff analysis

Number

As at 30 June 2022, Council employed 183 staff in total, with an effective full-time equivalent staff of 134.47. This is a decrease in the 30 June 2021 total of 18. The slight decrease in staff is reflective of natural attrition.

Most Council staff work from depots, in offices or as Community Care Workers.

Other Council worksites are pre-schools, recycling stations, school crossings and Maternal and Child Health Centres.

Status

Council employs 96 full-time, 63 part-time and 24 casual employees.

Gender

Of the 183 staff employed by Council, 53.55 per cent are female and 46.45 per cent are male.

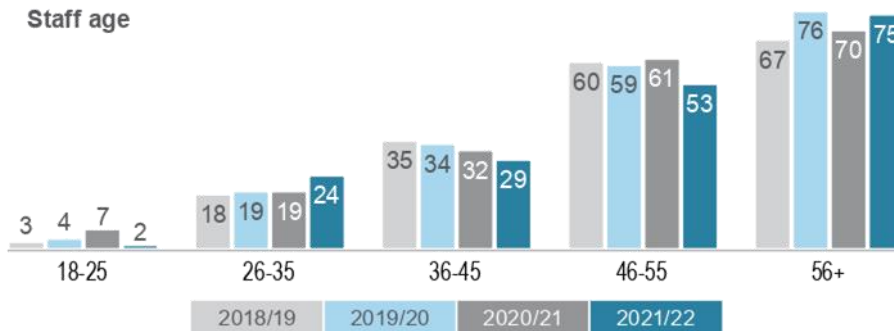
There is a larger percentage of female staff working in areas such as community care, pre-school and administration areas.

A larger percentage of male staff work within Council's five operational depots.

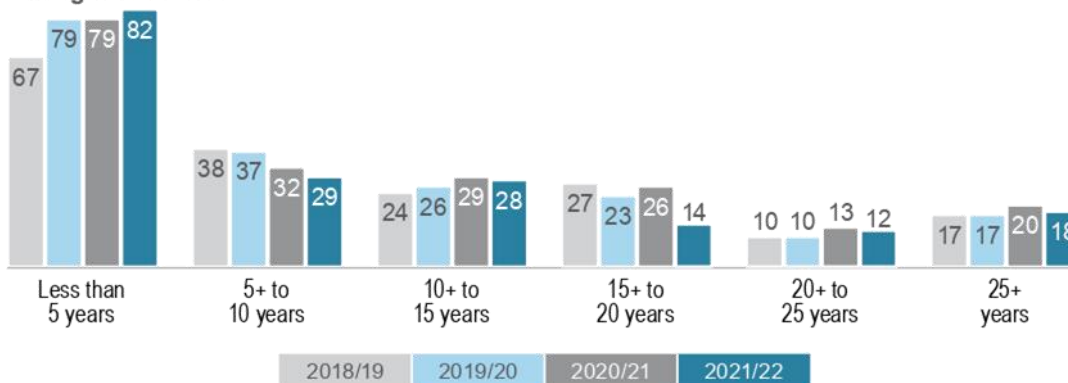
The management team has a slightly higher number of males than females (seven males compared with six females).

Our people

Staff age



Length of service



Council's staff demographic is wide ranging.

Age

Council's age demographic continues to show a large proportion of staff over the age of 46, with an increase of five staff in the 56+ age group. In contrast, the number of staff in the 46 to 55 age group has decreased by seven, and the 36 to 45 age group has decreased by three staff.

There has been considerable growth in the 26 to 35 age group, growing by six employees, however the 18 to 25 age group has seen a reduction of five staff.

This data represents the challenges in workforce planning due to the high proportion of staff over the age of 46 and the decrease in staff under the age of 25. There are some positive signs with the significant increase of staff in the 26 to 35 year age group.

Length of service

Some 48.63 per cent of staff have been employed by Council for less than five years, while 28.97 per cent of staff have been employed for five to 15 years and 22.40 per cent of staff have been employed for over 15 years.

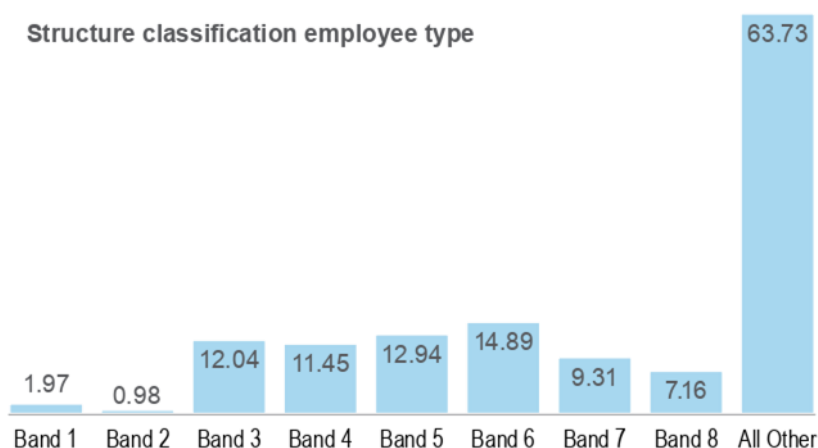
Council staff classification

Structure classification – employee type

A summary of the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff categorised by employment classification and gender is set out below. Employment classifications are Band 1 to 8 as per the Victorian Local Government Award 2001. The column 'all other' includes the CEO, Directors, pre-school staff and nurses. The category 'all other' also includes staff who come under the 'outdoor staff' classification structure.

Structure classification	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	Band 7	Band 8	All other	Total
Permanent FT - F	0	0	0	3	5	4	4	4	0	20
Non-Permanent FT - F	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	4
Permanent FT - M	0	0	0	1	3	7	4	3	50	68
Non-Permanent FT - M	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	5
Permanent FT - X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Permanent PT - F	1.20	0	9.18	5.40	3.94	0.84	1.31	0	6.41	28.28
Non-Permanent PT - F	0	0	0	0.63	0	0.69	0	0	0.76	2.08
Permanent PT - M	0.63	0.88	1.19	0.42	0	0.73	0	0	0	3.85
Non-Permanent PT - M	0	0	0	0	0	0.63	0	0	0	0.63
Permanent PT - X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Casual - F	0.06	0	1.67	0	0	0	0	0.16	0.56	2.45
Casual - M	0.08	0.10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.18
Casual - X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1.97	0.98	12.04	11.45	12.94	14.89	9.31	7.16	63.73	134.47

Structure classification employee type

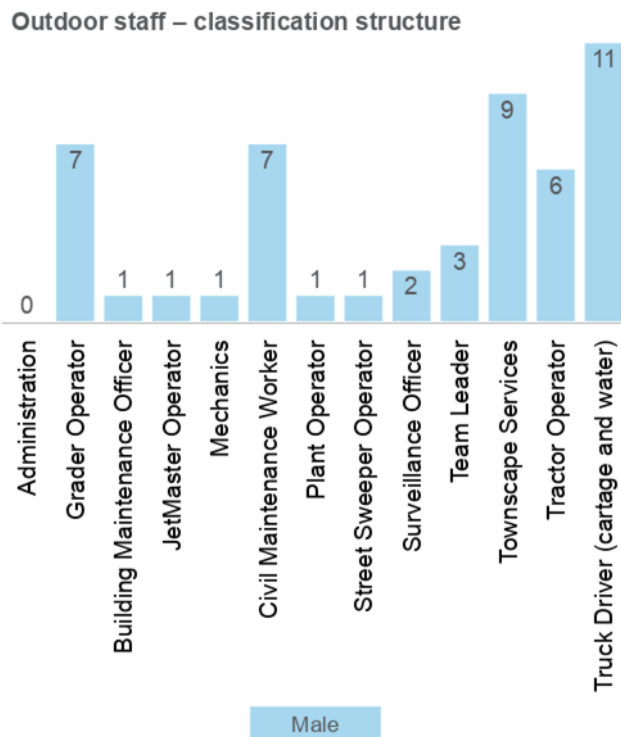


Our people

Outdoor staff – classification structure

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

Position	Males	Females
Administration	0	0
Grader Operator	7	0
Building Maintenance Officer	1	0
JetMaster Operator	1	0
Mechanic	1	0
Civil Maintenance Worker	7	0
Plant Operator	1	0
Street Sweeper Operator	1	0
Surveillance Officer	2	0
Team Leader	3	0
Townscape Services	9	0
Tractor Operator	6	0
Truck Driver (Cartage and Water)	11	0
Total	50	0

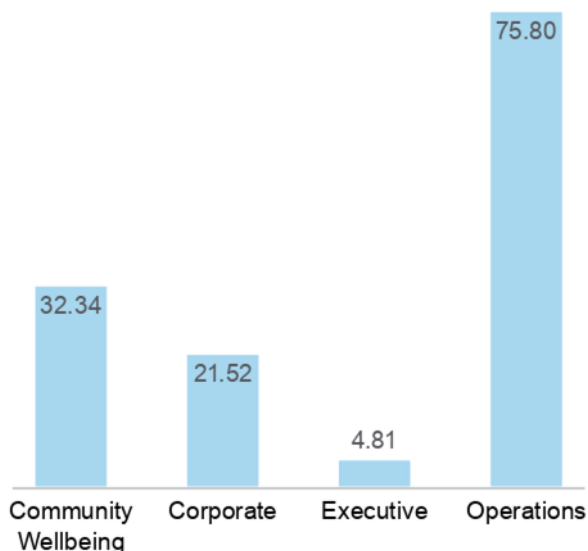


Directorate – employee type/gender

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

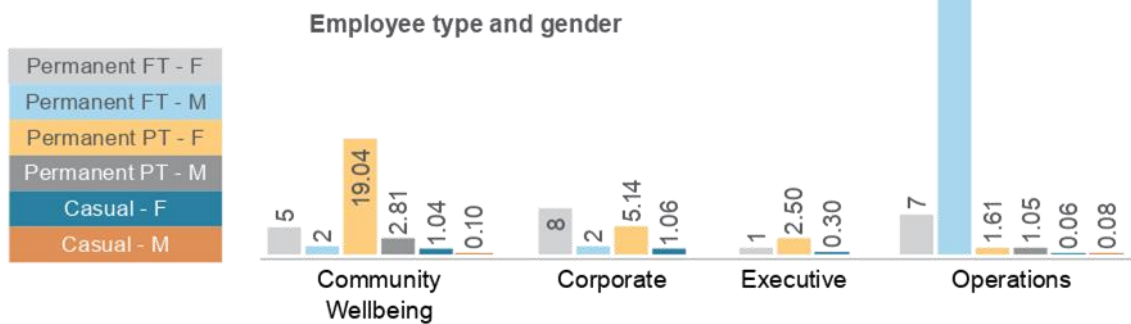
This table does not include any staff who do not have permanent tenure.

Directorate	FTE
Community Wellbeing	32.34
Corporate	21.52
Executive	4.81
Operations	75.80



Our people

Employee type and gender	Directorate			
	Community Wellbeing	Corporate	Executive	Operations
Permanent FT - F	5	8	1	7
Permanent FT - M	2	2	0	64
Permanent PT - F	19.04	5.14	2.50	1.63
Permanent PT - M	2.81	0	0	1.05
Casual - F	1.04	1.06	0.30	0.06
Casual - M	0.10	0	0	0.08



Staff farewells

Over 40 years

Terry Thomas

Over 30 years

Christopher Cox

Neville Mills

Over 20 years

Robyn Vella

Warren Painter

Over 15 years

Andrew Dean

Jean McNish

Julianne Mills

Over 10 years

Carleena Hughes

Heather Christie

Linda Canfield

Ossie Costello

Sandra Grogan

Over 5 years

Michael Ralph

Michelle Edwards

Phil Pinyon

Sharon Morrison

Tina Watts



Above: Terry Thomas.
Right: Robyn Vella (centre) and the tourism team.



Staff recruitment and retention

Onboarding and induction

Council reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring a smooth induction process for new staff by introducing the Pulse induction system. This all-inclusive system allows all commencement and payroll documentation to be submitted electronically, as well as information about Council to be delivered in a modern and engaging way. Feedback has been positive with enhancements continuing to create greater efficiencies.

Staff health and wellbeing

Council is committed to looking after the health and wellbeing of all staff.

Council provides a healthy workplace by:

- developing, in consultation with staff, workplace-specific programs to address lifestyle, health, fitness and safety issues
- encouraging staff wellness and proactively managing risk of illness
- encouraging staff to take periodic annual leave (where relevant) to maintain a positive balance between work, life, family and friends
- actively promoting exercise, healthy eating and a smoke-free environment to improve or maintain staff members' personal wellbeing
- providing targeted health and wellbeing programs
- ensuring all staff have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and regularly promoting its services
- providing relevant resources to staff pertaining to health and wellbeing via Council's dedicated intranet page.

Programs offered to all staff in 2021/22 included:

- Health checks
- Hearing tests
- Flu vaccinations.

Achievement Program

The Achievement Program is a Victorian Government initiative that aims to encourage healthier lifestyles and prevent lifestyle-related diseases. The program provides a framework for promoting health in the workplace. Council's Health and Wellbeing Committee organises regular activities for staff aligned with the goals of the program.

Employee Assistance Program

Council offers a free, confidential Employee Assistance Program for staff who are experiencing difficulties in their personal or professional lives.

Car pooling

Council has a car pooling program for staff travelling to the Wedderburn office from Bendigo.

Senior staff are rostered to drive their cars on specific days or in some instances staff are able to access a pool car to ride share. Staff meet at a central point and return to that point at the end of the day.

Enterprise Agreements

Council staff are employed under two Enterprise Agreements being:

- Loddon Shire Enterprise Agreement
- Early Education Employees Enterprise Agreement.

Loddon Shire Enterprise Agreement

An Enterprise Bargaining Committee was formed in August 2021 to negotiate a new Enterprise Agreement for Council employees.

A consolidate agreement has been drafted and discussed with members. It is anticipated the Agreement will be finalised prior to the end of 2022.

Our people



Following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, all-staff meetings were once again able to be held.

Early Education Employees Enterprise Agreement

Council's early years staff are employed under the Early Education Employees Enterprise Agreement. This agreement is a multi-employer enterprise agreement.

The agreement is negotiated with the Australian Education Union by the Municipal Association of Victoria on behalf of the 22 councils involved.

In April 2021, the Early Education Employees Enterprise Agreement 2020 was approved by the Fair Work Commission, and commenced operation from 28 April 2021.

Communicating with staff

Staff newsletter

A staff newsletter is distributed monthly. The newsletter includes items of interest, upcoming events and personal milestones of staff.

Intranet

Council has an intranet site that is used to communicate information. All staff have access to the intranet.

All-staff meetings

All-staff meetings are an opportunity to inform staff about current events, presentations by external groups and receive training, recognise staff achievements (both personal and professional) and for staff to ask questions of the Management Executive Group.

Following the easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, an all-staff meeting was held 3 May 2022 at the Serpentine Hall.

Our people

Staff years of service recognition

The Staff Recognition of Service Policy provides for staff to receive a Certificate of Service for each five years of service, with a Certificate of Service and badge at each 10-year increment.

Staff who had reached service periods of 10 and 20 years were presented with Certificates of Recognition and a Service Badge, and staff who had reached service periods of five, 15 and 25 years were presented with Certificates of Recognition.

These awards were presented to each staff member in May 2022.

The staff who received recognition for their service in 2022 were:

25 years certificate

- Scott Cunningham
- Susan Smith

20 years certificate and badge

- Anthony Vella
- Daniel Lloyd
- Lorraine Jackson
- Peter Magnone
- Shaun Smith

15 years certificate

- David Shay
- Kaye Leech
- Mark Arnup
- Wendy Howarth

10 years certificate and badge

- Brendan Pickles
- Deanne Storey
- Garry Zanker
- Linda Canfield
- Luke Selby
- Lynne Habner
- Peter Bewley
- Ross Conway
- Sandra Grogan

5 years certificate

- Darren Noble
- Grant Jackson
- Julie Anderson
- Kristin Ferguson
- La Toya Schroeder
- Nicole James
- Robert Stranger
- Russell Gladman



Top left: Celebrating 25 years of service are Susan and Scott. Top right: Daniel commenced with Council in 2002. Above: Lorraine celebrates 20 years of service along with Anthony, Peter and Shaun.

Other staff matters

Equal employment opportunity program

Council supports access and equity for all employees and recognises diversity as a valuable strength that will create benefits for employees and the community.

Council's Equal Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination Policy ensures that any potential breach is resolved impartially and fairly.

Council regularly reviews its policies, procedures and practices to ensure equity and transparency for all staff.

Gender Equality Act 2020

The Gender Equality Act 2020 commenced on 31 March 2021 and requires defined entities such as Victorian councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality.

Requirements of the Act include:

- Develop and implement a Gender Equality Action Plan, which includes:
 - results of a workplace gender audit
 - strategies for achieving workplace gender equality
- Publicly report on progress in relation to gender equality
- Promote gender equality in policies, programs and services that impact the public by completing gender impact assessments.

Professional development

Staff training program

Council enables continuous learning and career growth in line with individual aspirations and Council's goals, and is committed to providing staff with access to development opportunities and training that is required for legislative purposes to keep qualifications current.

Every year, staff members identify job-related training they would like to undertake in the following year as part of their annual review.

Council also offers study support to permanent staff with more than 12 months service.

During the year, Council staff undertook training courses in the following areas:

Managing risk

Cyber Safety Awareness

Cyber Security (Phishing)

Emergency First Aid Response in Education and Care Setting

Health and Safety Representative Initial and Refresher Training

Privacy Awareness

Health and Wellbeing

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Training – Level 2

Collaborative Communications sessions

Mental Health First Aid

Loddon leadership and personal effectiveness

Birkman Training

Local Government Act 2020 - new provisions, property practice and procedures

Loddon Leaders Workshop

Media and Presentation Skills Training for Councillors and Directors

Workplace Manslaughter Legislation Awareness

Working productively

Microsoft Office 365 and Adobe Acrobat

Our people



Job-related training

- AgVet Chemical Users Refresher and Full Course
- Asbestos Awareness Training
- Asset Edge Conference
- Australian Road Research Board (ARRB) Bridge Inspection Training
- Corporate PA Summit
- Customer Service Management Skill Set
- Elder Abuse Awareness Training
- Ezitracker Electronic Timesheets
- FinPro Conferences
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Fire Prevention Training
- Fringe Benefits Tax Roadshow
- Health and Safety Representative 5-day Course and Refresher
- Loddon Induction
- Maddocks Probity
- Manual Handling
- Municipal Works and Engineering Conference
- Municipal Works of Australia Conference
- Revenue Manager Association Conference
- Taxation and Payroll
- Traffic Control and Management Refresher
- VicParks Conference
- Victorian Tourism Industry Council Summit
- Visitor Information Services Summit (VTIC)



From top: Staff CPR training group. Practising are Lorraine, Martin with Stacey, and Steven.

Return to work information

Council actively supports injured workers to return to work by providing support such as:

- A dedicated Return To Work Coordinator
- Regular contact and support
- Collaboration in creating a return to work plan
- Identifying alternative duties.

Study support

Assistance is provided in the form of subsidies for course fees, examination and assignment leave and some leave for attending classes.

During the year, one employee had their application approved to undertake further study:

- Paul Scullie - Bachelor of Business (majoring in Sports Management).

ELearning

Council partnered with Horsham Rural City Council, Gannawarra Shire Council and Central Goldfields Shire Council to purchase eLearning Compliance Modules. All staff are required to complete the following compliance modules:

- Child Safe Standards
- Disability Awareness
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Fraud and Corruption Awareness
- Gender Equality
- Human Rights and Responsibilities
- Information Privacy
- MAV – Procurement
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Workplace Bullying and Harassment.

Traineeships

Council supports staff who are prepared to undertake traineeships in their field. The traineeship program was not accessed during the year.

Qualifications

The following staff graduated with qualifications during the year:

- Amber King - Graduate Certificate in Information Management
- Casey Shelton - Graduate Certificate in Organisational Change
- Faith Cooper - Bachelor of Business (majoring in Event Management and Marketing)
- Jayden Baber - Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety and Ergonomics
- Sara Nesbit - Diploma in Leadership and Management.

Council's support is provided in the form of time to attend required classes and in financial assistance for some of the cost of the course.

Staff scholarship program

Council has a staff scholarship program aimed at reducing the financial burden of undertaking university education and providing relevant work experience in a local government setting.

This was accessed by two staff members during the past 12 months.

Work experience program

Council supports work experience programs and hosts students from Years 10, 11 and 12, and students undertaking tertiary studies.

During the year, Council hosted the following students:

Secondary school students

- Amy Tomic
- Conrad Sugden
- Tahlia Bolwell
- Carissa Haw
- Gina Pacubas
- Tayah Ellis.

Tertiary student

- Martin Gulan.

School-based apprenticeships and work placements

Over the years, Council has hosted many students under school-based apprenticeships. This program provides a learning environment in the workplace while students remain at school. During 2021/22 Council did not host any students under this program.

Our people

Health and safety

Council recognises its moral and legal responsibility to provide, as far as it is reasonably practicable, a safe and healthy work environment for employees, contractors, customers and visitors.

This commitment extends to ensuring that the organisation’s operations do not place the local community at risk of injury, illness or property damage. Council continues its commitment of consultation and cooperation between management and employees through Council’s Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

This committee consists of staff and management representatives and meets quarterly, with all areas of the organisation represented.

All occupational health and safety obligations continue to be met in a systematic, proactive and consultative manner.

Policies and procedures continue to be developed or reviewed to reflect new legislative requirements and better practice.

Volunteers

Council was successful in obtaining funding from Regional Development Victoria (RDV) in June 2021 to embark on a range of activities to support the re-engagement and development of volunteers following the pandemic.

The purpose of the Re-Engaging Volunteers in Rural Towns Project (the project) is to support the community to maintain high levels of volunteerism which are critical to the achievement of Council’s vision and strategic objectives.

The strategy was strongly informed by the community with 300 people engaged during community consultation. The strategy provides the framework for how to attract, support, retain, recruit, celebrate and recognise volunteers.

The consultation revealed a number of strengths of volunteering in the Loddon Shire such as strengthened community spirit and a sense of satisfaction. It also revealed a number of current and future barriers such as red tape, ageing volunteers and burnout.

The Volunteer Strategy aims to address these results with commitments included in four strategic directions:

- Promote and Recruit
- Support and Develop
- Recognise, Celebrate and Value
- Quality and Culture.

The high level strategic direction of this strategy allows for implementation to be achievable with existing resources.



Top: Volunteers with Mayor Dan Straub. Above: Some of the volunteers within the Loddon Shire.



Our performance

A growing and vibrant community, Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool.

Our performance

Integrated strategic planning and reporting framework

Part 4 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires councils to prepare the following:

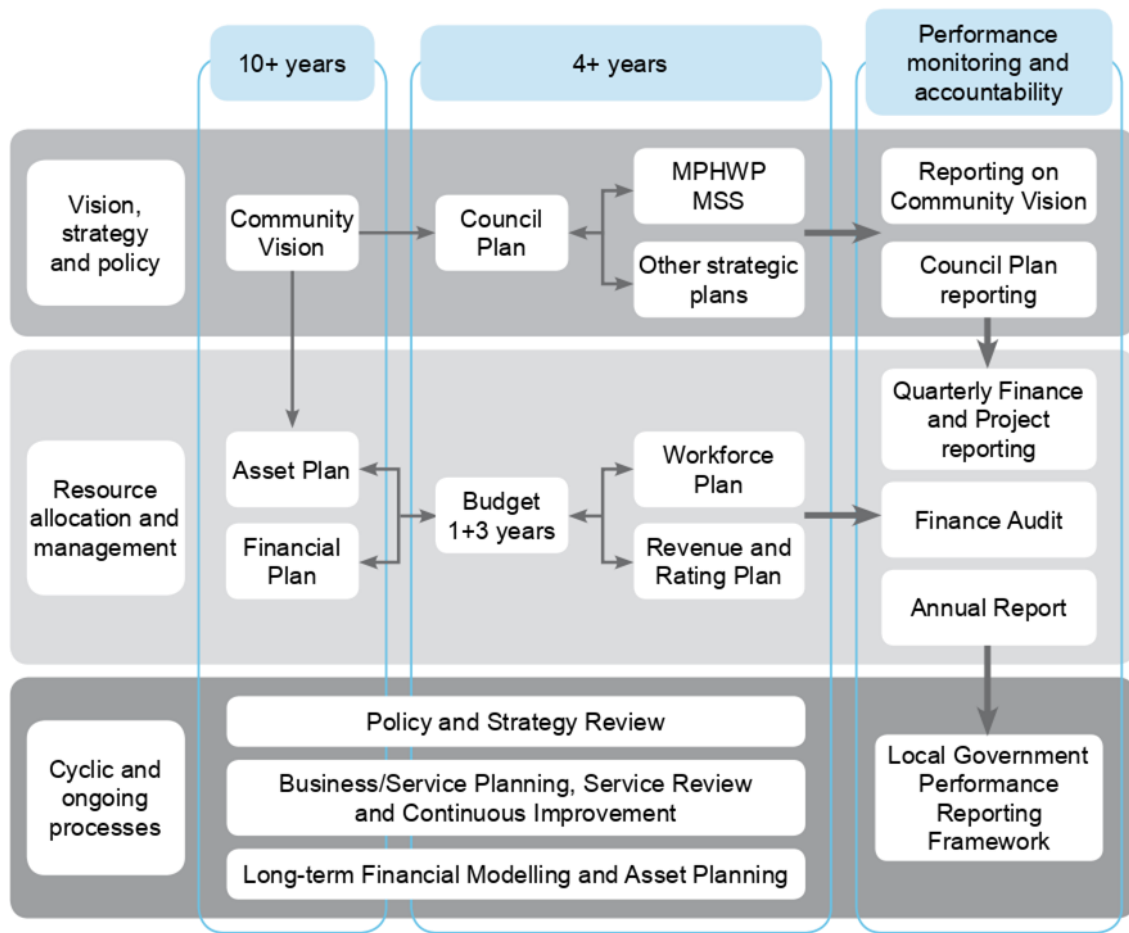
- A Community Vision (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- A Council Plan (for at least the next 4 financial years)
- A Financial Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- An Asset Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years)
- A Revenue and Rating Plan (for at least the next 4 financial years)
- An Annual Budget (for the next 4 financial years)

- A Quarterly Budget Report
- An Annual Report (for each financial year)
- Financial Policies.

The Act also requires councils to prepare:

- A Workforce Plan (including projected staffing requirements for at least 4 years).

The following diagram shows the relationships between the key planning and reporting documents that make up the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework for local government. It also shows that there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input and feedback.



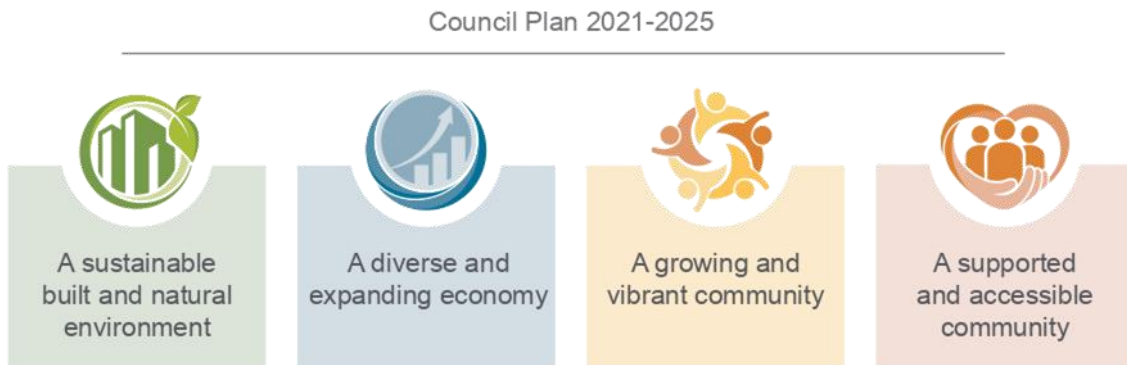
MPHWP Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan MSS Municipal Strategic Statement

Our performance

Council Plan

The Council Plan 2021-2025 includes strategic objectives, strategies for achieving these objectives for the four-year period, strategic indicators for monitoring achievement of the strategic objectives and a Strategic Resource Plan.

The following are Council's five strategic themes, with their strategic objectives as listed in the Council Plan:



Performance against the Council Plan 2021-2025

Council's performance for the 2021/22 has been reported against each strategic objective to demonstrate how Council is performing in achieving the Council Plan 2021-2025. Performance has been measured as follows:

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

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



Looking across the Buckrabanyule plains.

Our performance



A sustainable built and natural environment

Finalise asset management plans and long term strategies for Council assets	
Review and implement the Building Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan has been completed and was adopted at the March 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Review and implement the Road Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for roads has been completed and adopted at March 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Review and implement the Bridges Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for bridges was completed and adopted at February 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Review and implement the Footpaths Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for footpaths was completed and adopted at November 2021 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Develop and implement the Tracks and Trails Asset Management Plan	
Development of the Asset Management Plan for tracks and trails is planned for 2022/23.	Not started
Develop and implement an Urban Drainage Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for urban drainage was completed and adopted at February 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Develop a Recreational Leisure and Community Facilities Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for recreational leisure and community facilities was completed and adopted at January 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing
Review and implement the Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes Asset Management Plan	
The Asset Management Plan for parks, streetscape and open spaces was completed and adopted at January 2022 Council meeting.	Completed
Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement projects in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule.	Ongoing

Our performance

Develop an Asset Plan that has been informed by the completed asset management plans

The Asset Plan was completed and adopted at June 2022 Council meeting. Completed

Council is operating in accordance with the new plan, the improvement project in the plan will be delivered as per the schedule. Ongoing

Develop and implement a Recreation, Open Space and Aquatic Strategy

Council was successful in obtaining \$30K funding through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund to develop this strategy. In progress

Embed long term planning into project management framework

Develop a register which documents all projects from concept through to delivery and post project evaluation to provide information about timing of projects that can be incorporated into grant applications and the Financial Plan

Work has commenced on this by the Project Management Working Group. In progress

Review Project Management Framework to embed project register model including assessment matrices used to identify priority projects

Work has commenced by the Project Management Working Group. In progress



Woodstock on Loddon Tennis Club, tennis courts resurfacing.

Our performance

Incorporate assessment of alternative energy and innovative design in planning for, or repurposing, Council facilities and infrastructure

Planned for 2023/24.

Not started

Provide resources for the development and delivery of projects through the Project Management Framework

Planned for 2023/24.

Not started

Work with communities to understand their strategic projects for consideration in long term planning

Consultation with the community planning groups and relevant community organisations is ongoing.

Ongoing

Complete funded major infrastructure projects in the planning phase

Construct Pyramid Hill Community Centre Stage 1

Consultation with relevant user groups has been ongoing with the concept designs for the Community Centre to be finalised in August 2022.

In progress

The Victorian Government has provided \$2.4M towards this project through the Regional Infrastructure Fund.

Construct Donaldson Park Community Hub

Council completed the tender process for the Donaldson Park Community Hub project. A recommendation for a preferred tenderer will be provided to Council at the July 2022 meeting.

In progress

It is anticipated that works on this facility will commence in August/September 2022, with construction to be completed in late 2023.

Deliver Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project

The Pyramid Hill Streetscape Revitalisation Project has been funded by the Victorian Government Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (\$800K).

In progress

Council went to tender in April 2022, which resulted in a preferred contractor being recommended to Council at the May 2022 meeting. Capeng Pty Ltd was awarded the contract, with works to commence in August 2022.

Deliver the Little Lake Boort Foreshore Recreation Precinct

Stage 1 of project works have commenced with the redevelopment of the Boort Bowling Club bowling green surface. The surface is being converted into a synthetic green with works to be completed in August 2022.

In progress

Ensure Council assets are accessible

Review and implement actions in Access and Inclusion Plan

Actions were reviewed in consultation with Council staff and in March 2022 the plan was extended for 12 months. An annual action plan was adopted, including rolled over actions deemed feasible. Actions will again be reviewed during development of next Access and Inclusion Plan.

Ongoing

Our performance



Electric charging stations at Inglewood and Wedderburn.

Ensure new infrastructure projects consider opportunities to improve accessibility and convenience for all ages, abilities and stages of life

All projects utilise the Design for Everyone Guide to ensure inclusiveness in design. Ongoing

Ensure community facility use is maximised

Work with community facility managers to identify new ways of expanding use of their facilities such as co-location opportunities

Facility user groups will be involved in the consultation to inform the development of the Recreation Open Space Aquatic Strategy (ROSA) in 2022/23. Not started

Undertake an audit of current masterplans for all community facilities to identify any gaps

Audits will commence in 2022/23 in accordance with the Annual Action Plan. Not started

Prepare business cases to develop masterplans for community facilities without a plan

Work will commence in accordance with the Annual Action Plan. Not started

Implement masterplans developed for various community facilities

Work will commence in accordance with the Annual Action Plan. Not started

Participate with regional groups to implement environmental priorities

Partner with Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance to support the community to take advantage of opportunities around renewable energy

Council promoted the More Australian Solar Home Program in collaboration with the CVGA which is a community solar bulk-buy program for homes and businesses in Central Victoria. Council also collaborated with the CVGA to participate in the Victorian Electricity Collaboration project to renew Council's electricity contracts. This was the largest emissions reduction project by the local government sector in Australia and resulted in 100% green energy for Council as well as competitive electricity rates for community groups that utilise Council owned or managed buildings. Ongoing

Our performance

Implement the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan items related to mitigating the impacts of climate change on health and wellbeing.

Items implemented during the reporting year include routine maintenance of the vulnerable persons register, delivery of the Community Based Emergency Management Project and consideration of shade options. Review of Council's Heatwave Plan by the Northern Victorian Integrated Emergency Management Cluster will be undertaken in the second half of 2022.

Ongoing

Participate with regional groups to maximise opportunities to support biodiversity and habitat

Partner with North Central Catchment Management Authority to implement the priorities in the North Central Catchment Partnership Agreement to protect and improve land, water and biodiversity

Partnership with North Central Catchment Management Authority is ongoing to explore all options.

Ongoing

Participate in the Integrated Water Management Forum for the region

Partnership with North Central Catchment Management Authority is ongoing to explore all options.

Ongoing

Advocate for funding for weed management programs to support the natural environment

Council staff successfully completed the Department of Jobs, Precincts, and Regions Roadside Weeds and Pests Program and will continue to seek support to fund programs.

Ongoing

Deliver effective waste management

Deliver actions in Council's Waste Management Strategy 2020-2030

Council completed the annual hard waste collection and continued to roll out waste vouchers.

Ongoing

Actively participate in the regional waste and recycling management group



Melville Caves.

Our performance

Council staff continue to participate in regional group meetings.	Ongoing
Investigate and implement where practical, the use of recycled or reclaimed products for Council's operations	
When practical Council continues to purchase recycled and reclaimed products including bollards and park furniture that have been installed within parks and gardens.	Ongoing
Promote the three R's – "Reuse, Reduce, Recycle" to the community	
Council staff continue to work with Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to promote Victorian Government's circular economy plan, including the establishment of Recycling Victoria.	Ongoing
Prepare for adverse weather events	
Advocate for funding for the continuation of the Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program (MERP)	
Included in Council's 2022 Priorities document and advocacy occurs as opportunities arise.	Completed
Participate in the Northern Victorian Integrated Emergency Management Planning Committee (NVIEMPC)	
Commenced and ongoing. Director Community Wellbeing and Emergency Management Coordinator attend NVIEMPC meetings and undertake associated strategic and operation tasks.	Ongoing
Develop a process for capturing infrastructure information to facilitate applications for grant funding from National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements	
Council continually reviews and updates infrastructure information processes to capture infrastructure information to facilitate applications for grant funding from the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.	Ongoing
Council received funding under the Rural Roads Support Package Phase 3 Funding which will be directed to identifying the required data, then capturing the data required for these applications.	
Implement infrastructure to protect towns	
Complete delivery of flood mitigation works in Boort	
Design complete, construction yet to commence.	In progress
Complete delivery of flood mitigation works in Pyramid Hill	
Design complete, construction yet to commence.	In progress
Source funding to deliver flood mitigation works in Serpentine	
Flood mitigation works in Serpentine have not commenced.	Not started

Our performance

A sustainable built and natural environment



Services:

These Council services have directly contributed to being able to meet the following Council Plan objectives:

We will implement financially and environmentally sustainable infrastructure that supports our social and economic needs.

We will work with our partners to preserve and protect our local environment. We will support our community to respond to the impacts of climate change.

Service	Description
Building surveyor services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: building permit and occupancy approvals and administering the Building Act.
Community planning	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: support in building Loddon communities through facilitation, logistical and financial means to improve the aesthetic of communities and develop key community assets, supporting communities to identify their strengths and opportunities, and facilitating novel approaches and solutions to local issues.
Infrastructure management	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: long-term asset management planning for roads, buildings, recreational facilities, pools, parks, waste facilities and bridges, development and delivery of annual infrastructure projects and programs, contract administration, survey and design and digital mapping.
Town planning services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: planning permit and subdivision approvals, planning scheme compliance and enforcement, changes to the planning scheme and protection of significant heritage, cultural and environmental assets within the Shire.



Bridge across the Loddon River, Bridgewater on Loddon.



A growing and vibrant community

Pursue development opportunities	
Implement remaining actions in Settlement Strategy	
Industrial Strategy commenced. Draft Heritage Policy completed. Wedderburn Ridge Street Stage 2 feasibility completed.	In progress
Work with the community to lobby government to provide reticulated sewerage and water for Newbridge	
Advocating for water and sewerage is ongoing as opportunities arise, including discussions with local Members of Parliament and inclusion in the Loddon 2022 Priorities document.	Ongoing
Undertake detailed assessment and costing of Wedderburn Housing Estate Stage 2	
A detailed assessment and costing of Wedderburn Ridge Street Stage 2 has been completed.	Completed
Promote our Shire as a great place to live	
In conjunction with regional partners, investigate opportunities to increase residential housing stock	
This is an ongoing process working with Regional Development Victoria housing project July 2022.	Ongoing
As opportunities arise, work with local partners, including employers and real estate, to develop a coordinated approach to marketing the municipality for new residents	
This is an ongoing process as opportunities arise. Examples include investment attraction website and marketing material designed in conjunction with Loddon Mallee Regional Development Victoria.	Ongoing
Deliver marketing campaigns and media content that attract new residents and clearly positions Loddon Shire as a great place to live and work	
This is an ongoing process as opportunities arise. Examples include updating the Invest in Loddon website page and new documents for investment attraction.	Ongoing
Support Community Asset Committees	
Allocate a Council resource as the key contact for Community Asset Committees	
Administration Officer for Corporate Services is available to assist and support community asset committee volunteers.	In progress
Implement a governance framework for Community Asset Committees that is manageable for our volunteers	
This will be developed by the newly established Governance department.	Ongoing
Provide support documentation to the Community Asset Committees to help them understand their responsibilities to Council	
An Instrument of Delegation was provided to each community asset committee to assist them to understand their responsibilities as well as a volunteer handbook.	Completed

Our performance



Inglewood streetscape.

Support volunteers	
Deliver the Re-Engaging Volunteers in Rural Towns Projects	
Council’s Re-Engaging Volunteers Project saw the delivery of workshops across the Shire focusing on good governance, how to conduct a meeting and tips for engaging young volunteers.	Completed
Facilitate an event to celebrate our volunteers annually during National Volunteer Week	
Visitor Information Centre volunteers celebrated with a tour in May 2022 during Volunteers Week.	Completed
Support community groups	
Provide in-kind and financial support to community planning groups	
Council provides in-kind and financial support to community groups such as community planning, community grants, funding for public halls and recreation reserves, interest-free loans, events sponsorship, sports and recreation grants.	Ongoing
Provide financial support to community groups through our policies and programs	
Council allocates \$50K funding to each ward for Community Planning projects identified by the relevant Community Planning committees.	Ongoing
Promote community safety	
Work with Victoria Police to identify ways to promote community safety	
Council has a volunteer register that allows community members to be screened prior to working in the community.	Not started
Review the Child Safe Standards Framework	
Council has undertaken a review of the Child Safe Standards Framework and the Child Safe Policy to align with the new Child Safe Standards.	Completed

Our performance

Promote a welcoming and inclusive environment for all	
Promote reconciliation through respect, relationship building and promotion of opportunities with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through the review and implementation of the Community Aboriginal Partnership Plan	
The current plan has been extended by 12 months. A full review is to commence in 2023.	In progress
Participate with the Loddon Campaspe Local Government Regional Settlement Network which provides a strategic platform to ensure migrants are supported within, attracted to and retained in the region.	
This Network, coordinated by City of Greater Bendigo has not met for some time, and it is being reviewed to determine how best to add value for participating councils.	Ongoing
Promote local events on social media and other media to ensure all members of the community are informed and have the opportunity to connect	
Council is proactive in promoting local events on the Loddon Shire website, and promotion on social media are via the Visit Loddon Valley Facebook pages.	Ongoing
Deliver official Citizenship Ceremonies to welcome and celebrate new Australian citizens in our community	
Five citizenship ceremonies were conducted during the year, granting citizenship to a total of 18 people.	Ongoing



Australia Day celebrations at Wedderburn, Serpentine and Bridgewater in January 2022.

Our performance



Mayor Dan Straub officiated at a Citizenship Ceremony 26 April 2022.

Improve local learning and employment pathway opportunities through strategic partnerships	
Partner with schools to promote the work experience program	
Focus on existing relationships with Wedderburn College and East Loddon P12.	Ongoing
Partner with and support organisations to provide employment opportunities for young people in the Shire	
Council partner with training group providers for example Central Victorian Group Training (CGVT) funded opportunities for entry level positions at Council.	Ongoing
Support young people to join our workforce by providing programs in our Workforce Strategy	
There is a specific action in the Workforce Plan around understanding the motivations of younger people to attract them to seek career opportunities in local government.	Not started
Maintain Councillor representation on the North Central Local Learning and Employment Network board to support pathways for employment opportunities and skill investment of our young people	
Mayor Straub is currently the representative for Council.	Ongoing
Develop connections for our young people	
Finalise the Strong Youth Strong Communities Program model	
The Strong Youth Strong Communities Program model has been completed. The municipalities involved are working with NCLLEN and other partners to progress implementation of the model.	Completed
Work with other youth funded agencies to provide youth services and programs in the Shire	
Loddon is partnering in a collaborative arrangement with neighbouring municipalities and local agencies to provide youth programs into Loddon with FReeZA and Engage funding.	Ongoing

A growing and vibrant community



Services:

These Council services have directly contributed to being able to meet the following Council Plan objectives:

We will promote population growth to support a growing and diverse community.

We will support a connected and inclusive community that provides opportunities for current and new community members at all ages, abilities, and stages of their life.

We will support our youth to access pathways for education and employment and the ability to connect to their community.

Service	Description
Community grants scheme	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: administration of various community grants.
Environmental health services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: septic tank and waste water management approvals, food safety inspections and certification, monitoring of tobacco and alcohol sales, compliance with the Public Health and Wellbeing Act and Environment Protection Act and their enforcement.
Library service	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: in collaboration with Goldfields Library Corporation, providing a wide range of relevant, contemporary library collections and services in library agencies and online, providing community spaces for individual and group study, reflection, activity and discovery, providing family, children and adult library programs and activities.
Local Laws services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: stock and domestic animal management permits, management of unsightly premises, roadside bushfire management works and local laws enforcement and compliance.
Loddon Healthy Minds Network	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: involvement in meetings and activities designed to boost mental health awareness and personal support for residents of Loddon Shire.
Recreation services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: financial and administrative support to sporting clubs, management of Council's swimming pools, applications for government grants and assistance with long-term strategies for recreation facilities.
Youth support services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: facilitating youth events, financial support for youth-related initiatives and long-term planning for youth development and retention.

Our performance



Coach House Gallery and Museum Wedderburn. Image: Dave Thomas



A diverse and expanding economy

Leverage tourism opportunities

Undertake a review of visitor information services and implement any recommendation from the review

A draft brief has been developed and is awaiting the appointment of Manager Tourism and Economic Development.

Not started

Support local businesses, events and activities that contribute to the tourism economy

Support for local business, events and activities is ongoing by Tourism and Marketing staff. Examples include ongoing media promotion of events and experiences, inclusion of businesses and events on the Loddon Valley section of the Bendigo Tourism website, and assistance with regional tourism promotion.

Ongoing

Support Loddon communities in their efforts to facilitate tourism activities in their areas

Support for local business, events and activities is ongoing by Tourism and Marketing staff. Examples include ongoing media promotion of events and experiences, inclusion of businesses and events on the Loddon Valley section of the Bendigo Tourism website, and assistance with regional tourism promotion.

Ongoing

Promote and support tourism products and experiences for Loddon, including cultural, food and nature tourism

Support for local business, events and activities is ongoing by Tourism and Marketing staff. Examples include providing specific support such as coordination of the Loddon Arts Trail, inclusion of Loddon Valley attractions in Bendigo Region tourism itineraries and promotions, and encouraging niche producers to join The Loddon Shed.

Ongoing

Our performance

Participate in the Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid	
Council's involvement with the World Heritage Bid project team is ongoing, including participation in workshops and seminars, provision of relevant local information as input to the project, and connecting local historians with the project team.	Ongoing
Enhance Loddon's visitor accommodation through well-managed, well-appointed and competitive caravan parks	
Implement upgrades to Boort, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn Caravan Parks	
Amenities, lighting and some road works completed in 2021. Cabins and office in Wedderburn yet to be tendered. Boort power and sewerage upgrades to be programmed.	In progress
Complete purchase of Bridgewater and Wedderburn caravan parks from the Crown	
The purchase from Crown of the Bridgewater and Wedderburn caravan parks has been completed.	Completed
Implement leasing arrangements for Bridgewater and Wedderburn caravan parks	
Leasing arrangements and expression of interest (EOI) documents are being developed and caravan parks are expected to be leased by early 2023.	In progress
Deliver ongoing supervision, support and maintenance or operations at Council's caravan parks	
Ongoing support is provided, including arranging repairs or replacement of infrastructure, undertaking inspections, providing advice and approvals where required, implementing management arrangements and answering day to day enquiries from managers.	Ongoing
Implement strategic plans related to tourism activities	
Develop Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan and pursue opportunities for responsible parties to implement recommendations	
Masterplan completed May 2022. Funding opportunities will continue to be monitored for Parks Victoria to implement as landowner.	Ongoing
Pursue opportunities to implement recommendations from Skinners Flat Reservoir Master Plan	
This action is dependent on structural issues for Skinners Flat Reservoir being implemented first.	Not started
Leverage partnership opportunities to promote and support the local economy	
Collaborate with regional economic development and tourism development organisations to capitalise on broader opportunities	
Staff participate with regional groups and meetings as they occur. Examples include workshops and information provision for projects such as regional housing availability, regional investment websites, and regional advocacy for digital and mobile phone connectivity.	Ongoing
In recognition of economic reliance on agriculture, advocate for water security (Murray Darling Basin Authority environmental water, potable water for townships) and right to farm	
This is mainly done by the CEO and Mayor via the Murray River Group of Councils.	Ongoing

Our performance

Maximise opportunities for economic growth	
Implement the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2019-2024 and develop a new strategy for beyond 2024	
Implementation of various activities is underway. A few examples include data collection and development of submissions for digital connectivity, development of investment attraction guides for specific areas of agribusiness, completion of the Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan, and upgrades to Council caravan parks.	In progress
The development Economic Development and Tourism Strategy will commence in 2023.	Not started
Develop and implement an Industrial Land Strategy	
Industrial Land Strategy is in developmental stages. Research has been undertaken and a draft discussion paper has been prepared. Implementation will commence on completion of the strategy.	In progress
Manage sale, purchase and leasing of Council's vacant land, residential and industrial property	
Ongoing as opportunities arise. One example is the sale of a property in the Serpentine Industrial Estate, Treloar Street Serpentine.	Ongoing
Support initiatives to improve employment opportunities for Loddon residents and employers	
Businesses looking to expand or start up are supported by officers via concierge process to assist with implementing initiatives. Marketing prospectus details through Invest Loddon Mallee is a platform developed with Regional Development Victoria to promote opportunities for investment.	Ongoing
Facilitate emerging niche food and beverages businesses into an integrated artisan food network	
The City of Gastronomy and Loddon Shed provide a platform for niche food and beverage businesses to promote their products. An investment prospectus has been developed to assist new businesses looking to start up in Loddon Shire.	Ongoing



The crowd at the Serpentine Air Show.

Our performance



Gold panning competition at Wedderburn Detector Jamboree.

<p>Continue to support the management of The Loddon Shed and promotion of this initiative</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>The Loddon Shed is provided with financial support for digital marketing and is promoted through social media, media releases and tourism adverts in tourist marketing editorials.</p>	
<p>Promote better mobile and digital connectivity</p>	
<p>Work with regional partners to advocate for faster and more stable mobile and digital connectivity across the region</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>NBN roll outs continue across the Shire including upgrade to both the Wedderburn and Serpentine offices.</p>	
<p>Provide support to current and future local businesses</p>	
<p>Deliver information, programs, workshops and training that support our local business capacity and capability</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Tourism and Marketing officers develop and deliver Business Network Dinners regularly (usually each quarter), these dinners include guest speakers to provide skill updates in the areas of customer service, marketing, digital platforms and to discuss opportunities to improve and expand their businesses.</p>	
<p>Provide supportive services for new, existing and expanding businesses, including staff “facilitators” for investors, partnering with businesses as opportunities arise, and investigating business support packages for businesses</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Council officers support new and existing businesses, an example being connections to Council staff in compliance roles able to address statutory requirements and referral to external stakeholders.</p>	

Our performance

A diverse and expanding economy



Services:

These Council services have directly contributed to being able to meet the following Council Plan objectives:

We will promote our unique tourism opportunities and support our local tourism industry to increase visitation to our area.

We will support established businesses and seek to attract new businesses to grow our local economy.

Service	Description
Economic development	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: support to new and existing businesses through direct facilitation, development of networking opportunities, provision of information, leadership development, promotion and marketing of opportunities within the Shire, referral to internal and external agencies to encourage access to Shire, State and Federal development programs.
Industrial development	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: support to industry with access to infrastructure in developed and zoned industrial land which is appropriately located and priced to encourage the sustainable growth of industry.
Loddon Discovery Tours	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: assistance to the Loddon tourism industry, public speaking, marketing, promotion and booking of group tours, program delivery to improve customer service and business development, and financial support for promotion.
Tourism development	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: services, including facilitation of strategic projects, assistance to small business, development of marketing and promotional material, assistance with advertising, direct financial support of key projects, provision and maintenance of tourism promotional signage, advice to new and existing tourism businesses, developing tourism linkages between regional communities and key tourism bodies such as Tourism Victoria, Tourism Alliance, Goldfields Committee and Bendigo Tourism, and administrative support to the Loddon Visitor Information Centre.



Tamagulla streetscape.

Our performance



A supported and accessible community

Support and advocate for services that provide every child with the opportunities to have the best start in life

Advocate for the options identified in the Childcare Feasibility Study

Council is working in collaboration with neighbouring municipalities and Regional Development Victoria on an advocacy platform. Council has identified childcare as its highest priority in its 2022 Priorities document. Ongoing

Participate in, and advocate for funding to continue, the Strong Families Strong Children Program

Council staff continue to participate in the Strong Families Strong Children Network, and have identified two priority areas of focus, childcare and local antenatal care. Council continues to participate in the Comprehensive Monitoring Project. Funding for Strong Families Strong Children has been identified in Council's 2022 Priorities document. Ongoing

Develop and implement Municipal Early Years and Youth Plan

Development of the Plan will commence in 2023. Ongoing

Support the community to access maternal and child health and kindergarten services

Kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health services are operating across the municipality. Council is awaiting more information from Victoria Government on fully funded kindergarten for 2023. Ongoing



Pyramid Hill Playground.

Our performance

Support and advocate for activities that provide older residents with access to the services they need to age in place in Loddon

Guide Council and the community through the transition to the new Commonwealth Support in the Home aged care program

Council is maintaining a watching brief on the Commonwealth Home Support Program transition to the new model of care from July 2023. Ongoing

Support and promote activities that encourage positive ageing

The annual Seniors Week (October) activities program focused on positive ageing. Ongoing

Participate in and deliver activities during the annual Victorian Seniors Festival

The annual Seniors Week (October) activities program focused on positive ageing. In progress

Advocate for high priority, significant services and projects to attract state and federal government funding

Develop a community priority document to ensure Council can advocate for projects and maximise opportunities for funding

Initial meetings with Community Support staff have commenced. The community priority document will be developed in a future year. In progress

In conjunction with regional partners, advocate for increased roads funding

This is happening through the Loddon Campaspe Transport Working Group. Ongoing

In conjunction with regional partners, advocate for the Murray Basin Rail Project

This has been done at Councillor level with assistance from economic development. Ongoing

In conjunction with regional partners, advocate for water and sewerage for our towns where a positive business case has been developed

Officers continue to advocate for improved water and sewerage as opportunities arise. The Newbridge Water and Sewer business case is discussed with Coliban Water, Regional Development Victoria and stakeholders when required. Ongoing

In conjunction with regional partners, advocate for broader and more reliable mobile phone and internet services across the Shire

Advocacy is provided to organisations and community groups seeking improved mobile connectivity along with black spot identification notification across the Loddon Shire. Council has supported NBNC0 with upgraded fibre to premise applications. Ongoing

Review Council processes

Improve long term financial forecasting through the development of the Financial Plan model that is reviewed annually

Model developed and adopted late 2021, this same template was used for the 2022/23-2031/32 adopted Financial Plan. Completed

Develop and implement a risk management framework to effectively manage the opportunities and risks across Council's operations and projects

Risk Management Framework is due for review in 2022. Not started

Our performance



Business Network Dinner meeting.

Review and implement the Information Technology Strategy	
New Information Technology Strategy, currently under development, is expected to be finalised October 2022.	In progress
Review and implement the Records Management Strategy	
Review of the Records Management Strategy is due to commence by the end of 2022 followed by the implementation of the reviewed strategy.	In progress
Develop and implement a Digitisation Plan to progress operating in an electronic records environment	
The Digitisation Plan will be incorporated into the reviewed Records Management Strategy.	In progress
Review Council's Governance Rules to ensure they are operating effectively for Council Meetings	
Review of Governance rules to commence by end of 2022.	Completed
Review Council's services	
Upgrade Council's information technology services to increase security and efficiency	
Updated security tools were implemented in late 2021. Still to come are additional security processes and tools to continue to support Council's information structure.	Ongoing
Develop a Workforce Plan to understand the current and future needs of workforce	
A workforce plan has been completed for 2021-2025 and is reviewed annually to ensure workforce needs remain current.	Completed

Our performance

Undertake service reviews for internal services to understand the service levels required to support service delivery to the community

Some service reviews and business impact analysis have been completed.

In progress

Undertake service reviews for key services delivered to the community to understand the service level and the cost of service delivery to inform the Financial Plan

Service reviews and business impact analysis have been completed and further reviews are to be completed in the coming year.

In progress

Implement initiatives and advocate for services to support overall health and wellbeing of the community

Facilitate the local mental health partnership, the Loddon Healthy Minds Network, to advocate for mental health supports and implement the actions in the Loddon Healthy Minds Network annual action plan to improve wellbeing outcomes for our community

Council continues to facilitate the Loddon Healthy Minds Network, coordinating bi-monthly meetings, distribution of information to member agencies and social media sharing of information. Preparations for the LHMN Suicide Prevention Forum 2022 - Thursday 20 October 2022 are progressing. Registrations opening on 1 July 2022.

Ongoing

Deliver and implement the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025

Delivery component complete, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was adopted by Council October 2021.

Completed

Implementation component commenced. Four pillars operating: Family Violence Network, Strong Families Strong Children, Loddon Healthy Minds Network, Healthy Eating Active Living. Annual update on activities to be provided to Council October 2022.

Ongoing

Promote health promotion initiatives, such as Walk to School, Ride2Work, Smiles for Miles, etc

More than 20 initiatives were promoted during the year. Some additional promotions were: Japanese Encephalitis response, Respect Victoria Respect Women: Call It Out campaign, Thunderstorm asthma and Rural Flying Doctor Service telehealth services.

Ongoing

Promote activities delivered through our library hubs within the Shire

Council continues to promote activities delivered through our library hubs via social and other media, one example being monthly reminders of Story Time sessions.

Ongoing

Promote local events through social media to provide community members with the opportunity to connect

Council's tourism department regularly promotes events held throughout the year through the Visit Loddon Valley social media platform, for example Open Garden tours, markets and engine rallies.

Ongoing

Advocate for mental health services that are available to residents when and where they need them

Advocacy opportunities arise during service level consultation/discussions via the Loddon Healthy Minds Network and the Buloke Loddon Gannawarra Health and Wellbeing Network.

Ongoing

Our performance

Partner with agencies in the Shire to promote good health and wellbeing

Participate in the Loddon Healthy Eating Active Living & Smoking Prevention (HEAL-SP) group and support implementation of actions in the HEAL-SP annual action plan

Council is an active member of the Healthy Eating Active Living & Smoking Prevention (HEAL-SP) group, and is support of and actively engaged in implementing the actions identified by this group.

Ongoing

Participate in the Buloke Loddon Gannawarra Health and Wellbeing Network

Council continues to participate in the Buloke Loddon Gannawarra Health and Wellbeing Network. Director Community Wellbeing currently chairs this Network.

Ongoing

Participate in and advocate for ongoing funding of the Healthy Heart of Victoria project

Healthy Heart of Victoria has been extended and funded for a further four years. Loddon continues to participate. Planning for next four years is underway.

Completed

Provide informative media

Have an active and informative social media presence

Council is activity engaged in social media with timely and informative updates.

Ongoing

Utilise local media to provide important messages to the community

Council proactively circulates information to local media outlets, including community newsletters, and posts on social media posts on social media regularly, this is ongoing.

Ongoing

Ensure Council's website has up to date and relevant information to inform the community about Council's activities

Procedures are in place across Council departments to regularly update the website.

Ongoing

Review engagement activities to ensure continuous improvement

Work with the Community Reference Group to understand the needs of the community around engagement

Community Reference Group is consulted for key changes, budget and strategies to inform the work of Council.

Ongoing

Review and implement the Community Engagement Policy, including the deliberative engagement process

The Community Engagement Policy is undergoing a further review to ensure the adaptive ways deliverable engagement was undertaken during COVID-19 is built upon in the overarching policy position.

In progress

Explore options for community engagement that other councils in the region are using to identify opportunities to expand our community engagement methods

Options have been considered, and a combination of a direct approach to cohorts, as well as an open expressions of interest, will be utilised going forward. This will ensure community engagement is representative across the Shire.

In progress

Our performance



Goods at local markets.

Undertake evaluation process following key community engagement activities	
Evaluation of community engagement is a focus of the community.	Ongoing
Review the Community Satisfaction Survey to understand the community's wants and needs around communication	
Discussions have been held regarding the latest Community Satisfaction Survey.	Ongoing
Investigate an online community engagement portal	
Online software program Better Impact is a volunteer portal for volunteers to register their interests and volunteer hours.	Completed
Review and implement the Customer Service Strategy	
Customer Service Strategy actions continue to be implemented in 2022.	Ongoing
Investigate the ability to increase online forms to facilitate easier processes	
Ongoing investigations into what and how we can implement online forms continues.	Ongoing
Engage with community groups	
Engage with key stakeholder groups on projects they have an interest in	
Community engagement is undertaken with key stakeholders for community projects and initiatives.	Ongoing
Represent Council at community group meetings to communicate current topics and to hear from community groups about their interests	
Councillors and staff have delegated roles for a number of community groups and attend many meetings.	Ongoing
Represent Council on Community Asset Committees	
At the Special Meeting of Council November 2021, Councillors were appointed to Community Asset Committees as representatives. This is ongoing with Councillors reappointed yearly.	Ongoing

Our performance

A supported and accessible community



Services:

These Council services have directly contributed to being able to meet the following Council Plan objectives:

We will deliver our core services and advocate for access to other services for our community.

We will listen to our community about how they wish to communicate with us and implement effective communication methods to achieve this. We will provide our community with opportunities to engage with us.

Service	Description
Access programs	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: disability access to improve accessibility in and around the Shire.
Aged services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: home, personal and respite care, property maintenance, senior citizens' centres, elderly persons' units and planned activity groups.
Communication	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: enhancing and protecting the Council's reputation, developing communication plans for key initiatives linked to the Council Plan, delivering advocacy campaigns in collaboration with the responsible officer/Councillor.
Council administration	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: customer service and administrative support, records management, municipal building and equipment provision.
Council committees	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: administrative support for Section 86 committees in managing compliance with the Local Government Act 1989.
Early years services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: Maternal and Child Health, immunisations and cluster management of kindergartens.
Environmental management services	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: weed management on Council property and development and implementation of Loddon's response to climate change.
Financial management	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: preparation and management of the Council budget, preparation of financial statements and government statistical returns, collection of various revenue sources and payment of employees and suppliers.

Our performance

Service	Description
Governance	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: Council, Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer and the Management Executive Group and administrative support, administering the conduct of Council meetings and elections, managing Freedom of Information, Information Privacy, protected disclosures and internal ombudsman functions, maintaining statutory registers, authorisations and delegations, coordinating civic events and citizenship ceremonies, administering the risk management framework.
Rating and valuations	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: management of valuations of properties in the Shire, contract management relating to the revaluation process and raising annual rates and charges.
Recovery	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: working with Council's emergency management team to deliver initial relief measures, then aid in ongoing recovery work. Also includes response to single incidents of personal trauma.
Recovery	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: working with Council's emergency management team to deliver initial relief measures, then aid in ongoing recovery work. Also includes response to single incidents of personal trauma.
Staff management	Provision of the following to support Council's direct service delivery areas: recruitment, development, wellbeing program and occupational health and safety.
Works delivery	Provision of the following to the municipal community as a whole: maintenance and construction of roads, bridges, road reserves, footpaths, parks, gardens, rest areas, toilet facilities, playgrounds, buildings and pools, depot, plant and fleet maintenance and management, response to infrastructure-related customer requests; and waste management.



Inglewood Alive Festival, Inglewood.

Performance against major initiatives in the 2021/22 budget

Service Performance Indicators

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

Service Measure

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance	
Aquatic Facilities							
AF2	Health inspections of aquatic facilities	1 to 4 inspections	1.60	1.40	1.00	1.80	80.00%
	Comment With the change in contractor a number of pools within each complex required a second visit to confirm that the water quality was correct.						
AF6	Utilisation of aquatic facilities	1 to 10 visits	2.93	2.60	2.08	1.76	-15.14%
	Comment A cooler summer and COVID-19 related contractor staffing issues has resulted in more pool closures, affecting visitation numbers.						
AF7	Cost of aquatic facilities	\$0 to \$30		\$28.98	\$22.34	\$59.06	164.40%
	Comment Due to the COVID-19 related staffing impacts the pools were closed in more instances than in previous years directly affecting the number of visits to our pools.						
Animal Management							
AM1	Time taken to action animal management requests	1 to 10 days	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00%
	Comment Council has remained highly responsive to animal management requests responding within one day.						
AM2	Animals reclaimed	30% to 90%	40.58%	52.50%	41.38%	25.35%	-38.73%
	Comment Of the 43 cats that were impounded, 3 were returned to their owner. Although reclaiming numbers were low the rehoming numbers increased with 40 cats being rehomed.						
AM5	Animals rehomed	20% to 80%		45.00%	58.62%	67.61%	15.33%
	Comment Of the 43 cats that were impounded, 40 were rehomed and 3 were returned to their owner. The rehoming figures include a targeted program to capture stray and community cat populations, which has meant that many cats known to have been previously unowned were actually homed for the first time.						
AM6	Cost of animal management service per population	\$3 to \$40	\$11.20	\$8.99	\$10.67	\$8.02	-24.89%
	Comment Role vacancies, variance due to direct salary costs						

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
AM7 Animal management prosecutions	0% to 200%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Comment There were no cases brought before the Magistrates Court. The RSPCA major investigations team now takes a lead role in illegal puppy farm activity.						
Food Safety						
FS1 Time taken to action food complaints	1 to 10 days	1.00	1.67	1.25	1.67	33.33%
Comment Of the three complaints received, one complaint was received by Council via email on a Saturday of a long weekend, therefore the earliest Council could respond was the Tuesday.						
FS2 Food safety assessments	50% to 120%	90.63%	111.46%	24.74%	46.88%	89.45%
Comment A contractor was engaged at the end of 2021 to assist with undertaking inspections, this increased the inspection rate which was down as the result of the Public Health staff undertaking the pandemic response.						
FS3 Cost of food safety service	\$300 to \$1,200	\$112.34	\$538.07	\$69.44	\$104.36	50.29%
Comment The cost of food safety in this reporting period appears to have increased however that is directly due to the year prior having very few food assessments due to staff involvement in the pandemic response.						
FS4 Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications	60% to 100%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	66.67%	-33.33%
Comment A contractor was engaged to under take inspections, there was a delay in Council's public health staff following up one of the major non-compliances.						
Governance						
G1 Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public	0% to 30%	9.29%	10.36%	10.62%	10.12%	-4.72%
Comment Council maintained a focus on listing as many reports as possible at meetings open to the public. Only 25 out of 247 resolutions were made in closed meetings.						
G2 Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement	40 to 70	52.00	57.00	58.00	56.00	-3.45%
Comment Council maintain a focus on further developing engagement practices to assist with the management of community consultation and engagement across Council.						
G3 Councillor attendance at council meetings	80% to 100%	98.92%	100.00%	100.00%	99.49%	-0.51%
Comment Councillors attended 39 meetings during the year including monthly forums, monthly briefings and monthly Council meetings most months as well as special meetings. One Councillor was an apology for the March 2022 Ordinary meeting						

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance	
G4	Cost of elected representation	\$30,000 to \$80,000	\$44,406.40	\$45,372.20	\$58,413.00	\$44,495.60	-23.83%
	Comment The cost of elected representation was reduced this year for the Councillor cohort.						
G5	Satisfaction with council decisions	40 to 70	50.00	57.00	61.00	58.00	-4.92%
	Comment Over the past year community satisfaction has remained within the expected range, however decreasing slightly 61 to 58.						
Libraries							
LB1	Physical library collection usage	1 to 9 items	2.83	2.57	2.54	2.60	2.35%
	Comment The physical library collection usage has remained consistent this year and within the expected range.						
LB2	Recently purchased library collection	40% to 90%	72.00%	72.00%	72.00%	72.00%	0.00%
	Comment No variance.						
LB4	Active library borrowers in municipality	10% to 40%	7.01%	7.30%	6.35%	5.50%	-13.39%
	Comment There was a small increase in the number of active library borrowers in the municipality after the COVID-19 pandemic.						
LB5	Cost of library service per population	\$10 to \$90	\$27.63	\$28.23	\$28.85	\$27.43	-4.92%
	Comment The cost of library service per population has decreased by \$1.42. Costs remain within expected range.						
Maternal and Child Health (MCH)							
MC2	Infant enrolments in the MCH service	90% to 110%	100.00%	101.64%	103.70%	100.00%	-3.57%
	Comment Infant enrolments exceed 100% where enrolment numbers are greater than the number of births for the financial year. Last financial year there was one more infant enrolled in the service than was born within the Shire. All children born in the Loddon Shire have enrolled in the MCH service this financial year giving a 100% participation rate. Therefore, in this instance, the minor percentage decrease is not of concern.						
MC3	Cost of the MCH service	\$50 to \$200	\$73.25	\$76.80	\$78.74	\$105.81	34.38%
	Comment The cost of the service has risen per hour due to a number of factors including the increase in cost to run the service and the decrease in annual total service hours. Due to COVID-19 restrictions there were 14% more telephone consults in the previous financial year. This financial year the face-to-face visits increased 14%. Face-to-face visits are more efficient and effective which shows as a reduction of service hours (approximately 9%) while there is an increase in the numbers of infant requiring services (21%).						
MC4	Participation in the MCH service	70% to 100%	65.54%	83.37%	85.11%	87.30%	2.57%
	Comment Council have worked very hard over the last four years to increase participation in the MCH service, with an increase of nearly 22% across the MCH service across the four years.						



Council maintains 955 kms of roads in the Shire.

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
MC5 Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children	60% to 100%	56.67%	85.71%	89.47%	77.78%	-13.07%
<p>Comment The 2020/21 financial year had 9.5 Aboriginal children enrolled with 8.5 children attending the MCH service at least once. This year nine (9) Aboriginal children enrolled and seven (7) children attended. Our very small numbers distorts reporting where a small variance of non-attending infants has put Council outside of the threshold. Council will continue to work closely with other services to increase participation of Aboriginal children in the MCH service.</p>						
MC6 Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit	90% to 110%		91.80%	90.74%	95.77%	5.55%
<p>Comment Council have worked hard with the community to increase participation in the 4 week Key Age and Stage visit year on year.</p>						
Roads						
R1 Sealed local road requests	10 to 120 requests	9.52	11.95	7.90	9.41	19.04%
<p>Comment Increased to 89 from 75 requests in the past year.</p>						
R2 Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards	80% to 100%	100.00%	99.90%	100.00%	99.99%	-0.01%
<p>Comment Sealed local roads continued to be maintained to condition standards.</p>						
R3 Cost of sealed local road reconstruction	\$20 to \$200	\$40.24	\$42.05	\$38.62	\$43.19	11.85%
<p>Comment Unit rates for sealed local road reconstruction increased due to one project requiring chemical stabilisation of the subbase. This greatly increased the unit rate for this one project which resulted in an overall increase for sealed local road reconstruction in 2021/22 of 11.85% compared to 2020/21.</p>						

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance	
R4	Cost of sealed local road resealing	\$4 to \$30	\$4.01	\$4.93	\$4.14	\$3.74	-9.86%
	Comment There was reduction in unit rates for the reseal contract in 2021/22 compared to last financial year. For example, the most common sealing undertaken was for a 10mm SAM seal which had a unit rate reduction of 11.23% compared to last financial year.						
R5	Satisfaction with sealed local roads	50 to 100	52.00	47.00	50.00	50.00	0.00%
	Comment Satisfaction with sealed local roads has remained consistent.						
Statutory Planning							
SP1	Time taken to decide planning applications	30 to 110 days	40.50	48.50	39.00	42.00	7.69%
	Comment Council endeavours to process and resolve planning applications in the most constructive way possible. The size and complexity of applications can vary greatly impacting on the time taken to decide planning applications. Council is committed to providing the most efficient planning service as possible.						
SP2	Planning applications decided within required time frames	40% to 100%	72.45%	78.76%	83.46%	85.04%	1.89%
	Comment Planning applications decided within required timeframes has continued to improve each year which is reflected in the 85.04% of applications decided within required timeframes this year.						
SP3	Cost of statutory planning service	\$500 to \$4,000	\$1,922.90	\$1,224.29	\$833.20	\$1,362.68	63.55%
	Comment Council is committed to providing an efficient and cost effective statutory planning service that it possibly can within its limited resources. From time to time it is required to engage external services that can significantly impact its usual costs.						
SP4	Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT	0% to 100%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Comment There were no applications before VCAT						
Waste Collection							
WC1	Kerbside bin collection requests	10 to 300 requests	100.15	69.63	61.62	59.74	-3.05%
	Comment The introduction of a new customer service request tracking and reporting system and ongoing contract surveillance has resulted in better services for residents.						
WC2	Kerbside collection bins missed	1 to 20 bins	5.70	2.19	1.05	2.68	154.14%
	Comment Inconsistent waste collection drivers has resulted in higher than expected missed bin count. Staff continue to work with the contractor to improve mapping.						
WC3	Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service	\$40 to \$150	\$121.68	\$138.75	\$143.89	\$151.04	4.97%
	Comment Increase in number of kerbside bins as well as increases in fuel prices impacts on cost of service.						

Service measure	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
WC4 Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service	\$10 to \$80	\$90.43	\$78.86	\$83.82	\$93.60	11.67%
Comment Increased numbers of recycling bins along with increases of fuel prices drives service costs.						
WC5 Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill	20% to 60%	26.38%	28.12%	29.59%	27.52%	-7.01%
Comment The introduction of a new software and reporting system has allowed for more accurate reporting and this is captured in this years reportable data.						

Financial Performance Measures

Financial Performance Measures	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
Efficiency						
E2 Expenses per property assessment	\$2,000 to \$5,000	\$5,685.05	\$3,948.74	\$4,190.23	\$3,938.48	-6.01%
Comment Consolidations of properties and the rate in the dollar have seen the expenses per property assessment decrease slightly this year.						
E4 Average rate per property assessment	\$700 to \$2,000		\$1,226.81	\$1,244.14	\$1,256.83	1.02%
Comment Property numbers remain constant with rate income increasing gradually.						
Liquidity						
L1 Current assets compared to current liabilities	100% to 400%	503.88%	744.86%	506.54%	604.47%	19.33%
Comment Main variations occur within this indicator due to the amount of cash on hand for that projected year, this is expected to decrease as delayed capital works program catches up. The only cash on hand is expected to be that available for the current year. The other components are fairly constant.						
L2 Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities	10% to 300%	-156.79%	3.10%	125.63%	53.31%	-57.56%
Comment Council has a large amount of cash on hand in some years, however forecasted years this decreases.						
Obligations						
O2 Loans and borrowings compared to rates	0% to 70%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Comment Council made the last payment of outstanding loans during early 2016.						
O3 Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates	0% to 20%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Comment Council made the last payment of outstanding loans during early 2016.						



Walking track at Bridgewater on Loddon with new bin designs.

Financial Performance Measures	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
O4 Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue	2% to 70%	12.57%	11.85%	10.17%	8.32%	-18.20%
Comment Council's non-current liabilities increase slightly each year in line with enterprise agreement increases, own source revenue also increases slightly each year.						
O5 Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation	40% to 130%		57.71%	79.27%	60.11%	-24.17%
Comment Variations can occur within this indicator depending on the capital works program delivered for the year. In 2019 there was a large flood program which resulted in a reduced capital works program.						
Operating position						
OP1 Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	-20% to 20%	-2.87%	-8.06%	-5.44%	3.94%	-172.43%
Comment Future year projections include the costs expected to address the renewal gap, however based upon current forecasting Council will not have enough available funds to address the gap without reducing other levels of service.						
Stability						
S1 Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue	30% to 80%	24.87%	38.60%	36.59%	36.34%	-0.68%
Comment Council has continued to apply the legislated rate cap to rates and charges for all forecast years. The main variation between years for this indicator is the operating grants.						
S2 Rates compared to property values	0.15% to 0.75%	0.52%	0.49%	0.43%	0.44%	2.38%
Comment There were no material variations this year.						

Sustainable Capacity Indicators

Sustainable Capacity Indicators	Expected Range	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	Variance
C1 Expenses per head of municipal population	\$800 to \$4,000	\$5,918.86	\$4,121.86	\$4,442.56	\$4,192.75	-5.62%
Comment Population remains steady with the main variation being expenses, this is dependant on the program of works set for the year.						
C2 Infrastructure per head of municipal population	\$3,000 to \$40,000	\$45,810.32	\$47,011.57	\$46,350.15	\$43,982.82	-5.11%
Comment Slight decrease in the infrastructure valuation with population remaining steady.						
C3 Population density per length of road	1 to 300 people	1.59	1.59	1.58	1.59	0.24%
Comment No material variations.						
C4 Own-source revenue per head of municipal population	\$700 to \$2,000	\$1,903.92	\$1,930.36	\$1,990.76	\$1,998.78	0.40%
Comment There is a gradual increase to own-source revenue over time with population remaining steady.						
C5 Recurrent grants per head of municipal population	\$100 to \$2,000	\$1,851.41	\$1,771.22	\$1,850.13	\$2,244.69	21.33%
Comment Recurrent grants have increased due to the 75% upfront payment from the Grants Commission.						
C6 Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage	1 to 10 decile	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00%
Comment No material variations.						
C7 Staff turnover rate	5% to 20%	10.32%	13.59%	12.82%	21.33%	66.40%
Comment There has been an increase in staff turnover due to resignations and retirements throughout the year. Resignations due to career progression was the highest reason for staff turnover.						

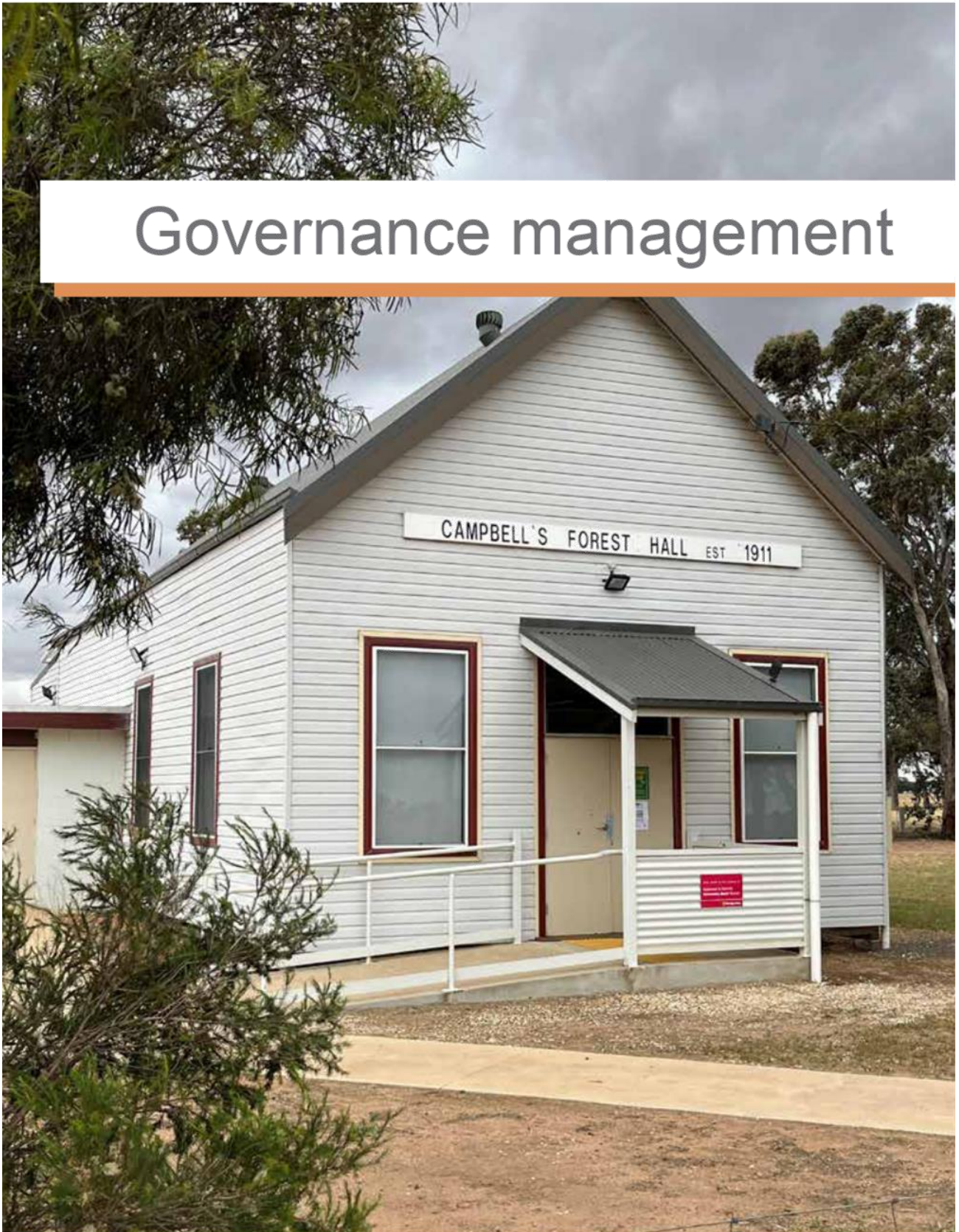
Community Satisfaction Survey

Council has been involved in the annual Community Satisfaction Survey undertaken by the sector since 1998.

The survey provides Council with important information about how the community perceives Council's performance in the current year, as well as providing Council with the ability to assess the trends in results.

Further details are available at www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Community-Satisfaction-Surveys

Governance management



Campbells Forest Hall Community Asset Committee oversees the management of the local hall.

Governance

Introduction

Loddon Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 2020 to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipal district and the local community. Council has a number of roles including:

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

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

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

Meetings of Council

Council conducts open public meetings generally on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Members of the community are welcome to attend these meetings and observe from the gallery or online. Council meetings also provide the opportunity for community members to submit a question to the Council, make a submission or speak to an item. For the 2021/22 financial year Council held 12 Council and special meetings.

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During 2020/21, the Victorian Government's COVID-19 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Act 2020 introduced a change to the Local Government Act 2020 to allow for virtual council meetings so Council could continue to make decisions during the coronavirus pandemic.

Attendances at Council functions

During the year, the Mayor and Councillors attended various functions on behalf of Loddon Shire.

Some of the functions were related to Councillors' representation on committees while others arose from invitations from community groups, local government bodies, politicians and other stakeholders.

In total, the Mayor attended 135 functions while the other Councillors combined attended 432.

Community Asset Committees

Under Section 65 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council may establish Community Asset Committees for the purpose of managing community assets throughout the Shire.

Council's Community Asset Committees are made up of dedicated community members who give their time and energy to the committees they represent.

By instrument of delegation, the Chief Executive Officer may delegate certain powers, duties or functions of the Council that have been delegated to him or her by the Council. That delegation applies to members of a Community Asset Committee.

Council respects and appreciates the contribution made by our volunteers which enriches our community, and provides a much broader range of services and activities than Council could provide without this support.

Council's current Section 65 Community Asset Committees:

Community Asset Committee	Purpose
Boort Aerodrome Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Boort Aerodrome.
Boort Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Boort Memorial Hall.
Boort Park Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as Boort Park.
Campbells Forest Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Campbells Forest Hall.
Donaldson Park Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as Donaldson Park.
East Loddon Community Centre Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the East Loddon Community Centre.
Hard Hill Tourist Reserve Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control Government Battery, Hard Hill Wedderburn and to administer, manage, maintain and control Hard Hill Tourist Reserve, a Crown land reserve delegated to the committee by Council, the Crown land committee.
Inglewood Community Elderly Persons Units Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Inglewood Community Elderly Persons Units.
Inglewood Community Sports Centre Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Inglewood Community Sports Centre.
Inglewood Town Hall Hub Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Inglewood Town Hall Hub.
Korong Vale Mechanics Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Korong Vale Mechanics Hall.
Korong Vale Sports Centre Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Korong Vale Sports Centre.
Little Lake Boort Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as Little Lake Boort.
Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Pyramid Hill Memorial Hall.
Wedderburn Community Centre Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Wedderburn Community Centre.
Wedderburn Engine Park and Market Square Reserve Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Wedderburn Engine Park and Market Square Reserve.
Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Wedderburn Mechanics and Literary Institute Hall.
Yando Public Hall Community Asset Committee	To administer, manage and control the facility known as the Yando Public Hall.

Governance management



Works being undertaken on the new Wedderburn township sign.

Council revoked the instrument of delegation for the following CACs during the year.

- Bridgewater on Loddon Development Committee is now under a management agreement to manage the Memorial Hall and provide tourism support to the Bridgewater on Loddon community.
- Inglewood Eucalyptus Distillery Museum (formally known as Jones Eucalyptus Distillery Site) is now under a management agreement.
- Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool Kiosk.

Code of conduct

The Local Government Act 2020 requires councils to develop and approve a Councillor Code of Conduct within 12 months after each general election.

On 27 April 2021, Council adopted a revised Councillor Code of Conduct which is designed to:

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

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

- other conduct definitions under the Act, such as those relating to misuse of position, improper direction, breach of confidentiality and conflict of interest
- roles and relationships
- dispute resolution procedures.

Conflict of interest

Councillors are elected by the residents and ratepayers to act in the best interests of the community. This is a position of trust that requires Councillors to act in the public interest. When a Council delegates its powers to a Council officer or a committee, the committee or officer also needs to act in the public interest.

A conflict of interest occurs when a personal or private interest might compromise the ability to act in the public interest. A conflict of interest exists even if no improper act results from it. Council has a comprehensive procedure in place to accommodate the disclosure of a conflict of interest.

Declaration of a conflict of interest is a standard agenda item for all Council and committee meetings.

Governance management

While the procedure varies depending on the particular role and circumstances, in general it involves disclosing the relevant interests in a specific way and then stepping aside from the relevant decision-making process or from the exercise of the public duty.

For example, Council’s template for Council reports includes a declaration of conflict of interest by the authors and Council’s template for Council Meeting agendas contains a declaration of conflict of interest agenda item.

Councillor allowances

In accordance with section 39 of the Local Government Act 2020, Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance for performing their duties as a Councillor. The Mayor is entitled to receive a higher allowance.

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

In March 2022, the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal completed a formal review of ‘Allowance payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors’. This review did not apply a set percentage increase to existing amounts, however reset the base for allowances going forward. This allowance also no longer refers to the Superannuation Guarantee, this is now all in one allowance component, making the determination simpler going into the future.

The following table contains a summary of the allowances relating to each Councillor during the year.

Name of Councillor	Councillor allowance paid 2021/22
Cr Dan Straub (Mayor)	\$55,789.02
Cr Neil Beattie	\$40,014.48
Cr Gavan Holt	\$23,652.15
Cr Linda Jungwirth	\$23,652.15
Cr Wendy Murphy	\$23,652.15
Total	\$166,759.95



Council staff sorting records from the archive room as part of the digitalisation strategy.

Governance management

Councillor expenses

In accordance with section 40 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to reimburse a Councillor for expenses incurred while performing his or her duties as a Councillor. Council is also required to adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors. The Councillors Support and Reimbursement of Expenses Policy provides guidance for the reimbursement of expenses and the provision

of resources, facilities and other support to the Mayor and Councillors to enable them to discharge their duties. Council publishes in its Annual Report the details of the expenses, including reimbursement of expenses for each Councillor and members of a Council committee.

The details of the expenses including reimbursement of expenses for each Councillor for the 2021/22 year are set out in the following table:

Name of Councillor	Travel	Car mileage	Child care	Information and communication expenses	Conferences and training expenses	Total expenses
Cr D Straub (Mayor 2021/22)	\$0	\$12,771.00	\$0	\$925.86	\$2,703.78	\$16,400.64
Cr N Beattie	\$0	\$6,520.00	\$0	\$925.86	\$0	\$7,445.86
Cr G Holt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,163.41	\$1,836.07	\$2,999.48
Cr L Jungwirth	\$0	\$6,985.00	\$0	\$925.86	\$4,185.95	\$12,096.81
Cr W Murphy	\$0	\$985.00	\$0	\$925.86	\$2,391.21	\$4,302.07
Total	\$0	\$27,261.00	\$0	\$4,866.85	\$11,117.01	\$43,244.86

* Car mileage includes mileage while a Councillor up to the election as Mayor and the provision of car since elected as Mayor November 2021.



June Corporate Directorate staff meeting.

Management

About the management framework

Council has implemented a number of statutory and better practice items to strengthen its management framework. Having strong governance and management frameworks leads to better decision making by Council.

The Local Government Act (the Act) requires Council to undertake an assessment against the prescribed Governance and Management Checklist and include this in its report of operations. Council's Governance and Management Checklist results are set out in the section on page 95.

The following items have been highlighted as important components of the management framework.

Audit and Risk Committee

Section 54(2) of the Local Government Act 2020 states that the Audit and Risk Committee Charter must specify the functions and responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Committee including the following:

- (a) monitor the compliance of Council policies and procedures with:
 - (i) the overarching governance principles; and
 - (ii) this Act and the regulations and any Ministerial directions
- (b) monitor Council financial and performance reporting
- (c) monitor and provide advice on risk management and fraud prevention systems and controls
- (d) oversee internal and external audit functions.

Membership

Council's Audit and Risk Committee comprises five members – one Councillor (and an alternate Councillor) and four external independent persons. The current membership consists of:

Councillor:

- Cr Gavan Holt (Cr Neil Beattie as alternate)

Cr Holt was reappointed to the committee at the Special Meeting of Council held 9 November 2021.

Independent external persons:

- Mr Rodney Baker (Chair)
- Ms Rachelle Tippett
- Mr Rod Poxon
- Mr Jarrah O'Shea.

Mr Baker was recommended as Chair of the committee for 2022 at the meeting held 24 February 2022 and Council endorsed that recommendation at the Council Meeting held 22 March 2022.

Meetings

Meetings are held generally on the first Monday in August, November, February and May. Council's Chief Executive Officer and Director Corporate attend the meetings in an advisory capacity. Recommendations from each Audit and Risk Committee meeting are subsequently reported to, and considered by Council.

Internal audit

Council's internal audit function provides independent and objective assurance that the appropriate processes and controls are in place across Council. The function is jointly resourced by an in-house governance staff member who has extensive local government experience and an external provider, HLB Mann Judd. A risk based rolling four-year Strategic Internal Audit Plan (SIAP) is revised annually to ensure the audit resources remain focused on the appropriate areas. The review process considers Council's Risk Management Framework, the Council Plan, the impact of any change to operations, systems or the business environment; prior audit coverage and outcomes and management input. The updated SIAP is reviewed and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee annually. The Director Corporate

Governance management



Council staff evacuation drill.

attends each Audit and Risk Committee meeting to report on the status of the SIAP to provide an update on the implementation of audit recommendations and to present findings of completed reviews.

All audit issues identified are risk rated. Recommendations are assigned to the responsible Manager and tracked in Council's audit management system. Managers provide quarterly status updates that are reviewed by the Internal Auditor and reported to the Management Executive Group and the Audit and Risk Committee. Quality assurance is measured through the annual Audit and Risk Committee self-assessment and completion of the internal audit plan. The SIAP for 2021/22 was completed with the following reviews conducted:

- Asset Management and Maintenance (July 2021)
- Management Recreation Reserves (August 2021)
- Management of Caravan Parks (November 2021)
- Fleet Management (April 2022).

External audit

Council is externally audited by the Victorian Auditor-General. For the year 2021/22 the annual external audit of Council's Financial Statements and Performance Statement was conducted by the Victorian Auditor-General's representative, RSD Audit.

The external auditors presented the draft External Audit Strategy to the February meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee, while the External Audit Interim Management Letter was presented to the June meeting.

Actions arising from the external audit are included on the Audit and Risk Committee's outstanding action list to be completed in the timeframe included in the report.

Council's strategic documents

Activating Open Space Strategy
2019-2024

Annual Plan 2021-2025

Asset Plan 2022

Asset Management Strategy

Audit and Risk Committee Charter

Bridges and Major Culverts Asset
Management Plan

Building Asset Management Plan

Business Continuity Management Framework

Child Safe Standards Framework

Community Care Strategy

Community Planning Framework

Complaint Handling Framework

Council Plan Community Vision

Councillor Code of Conduct

Customer Service Strategy 2018-2022

Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2021

Domestic Animal Management Plan

Domestic Wastewater Management Plan

Economic Development and Tourism Strategy

Environmental Sustainability Strategy
Action Plan

Emergency Animal Welfare Plan

Event Management - a Guide for Organisers
of Events

Fees and Charges 2021/22

Financial Plan

Footpath Asset Management Plan

Freedom of Information Statement

Gender Equity Action Plan 2021-2025

Gender Equity Strategy

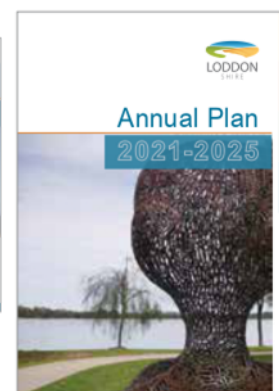
Governance Rules

Lake Boort Scarred Trees Masterplan

Loddon Aboriginal Community Partnership
Plan 2019-2021

Loddon Healthy Minds Network Strategic Plan

Municipal Early Years Plan



Municipal Emergency Management Plan

Municipal Fire Management Plan

Municipal Heatwave Plan

Municipal Pandemic Plan

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan

Northern Victorian Integrated Municipal
Emergency Management Plan

Parks Open Spaces and Streetscape Asset
Management Plan

Procurement Strategy

Recreation Strategy

Recreational Leisure and Community
Facilities Asset Management Plan

Revenue and Rating Plan

Risk Management Framework

Road Asset Management Plan

Road Management Plan

Roadside Management Plan

Rural Zones Review

Settlement Strategy

Skidders Flat Reservoir Master Plan

Staff Code of Conduct

Stormwater Drainage Asset Management
Plan

Swimming Pool Improvement Plan

Volunteer Strategy

Waste Management Strategy

Youth Strategy

Governance management

Strategic documents and Council policies adopted during 2021/22

Strategic documents and Council policies adopted	Meeting
Compliance Management Policy V2	July 2021
Fees and Charges - Waiver or Reduction Policy V1	July 2021
Business Continuity Management Policy V3	July 2021
Media and Social Media Policy V2	August 2021
Financial Management Policy V4	August 2021
Revenue and Debt Collection Policy V4	August 2021
Borrowing Policy V1	August 2021
Rateable Properties with Environment Covenants V3	August 2021
Financial Plan 2020/21 to 2030/31	August 2021
Community Vision 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025	August 2021
Neighbourhood Safer Places Plan September 2021	August 2021
Employee Leave Entitlement Financing Policy V4	November 2021
Annual Plan 2021-2025 V1	November 2021
Footpath Asset Management Plan V2	January 2022
Privacy Self-assessment Checklist V2	January 2022
Workforce Plan 2021-2025 V2	January 2022
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025	January 2022
Audit and Risk Committee Charter V10	January 2022
Community Action Plan 2021/22	January 2022
Councillor Expenses and Support Policy V7	January 2022
Procurement Policy V11	January 2022
Business Continuity Management Framework V3	January 2022
Business Continuity Management Plan V4	January 2022
Complaint Handling Policy V1	February 2022
Related Party Disclosures Policy V3	February 2022
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2021	February 2022
Gender Equality Plan	February 2022
Road Asset Management Plan	March 2022
Building Asset Management Plan	March 2022
Disposal of Council Assets Policy V2	April 2022
Aboriginal Community Partnership Plan	April 2022
Risk Management Policy	May 2022
Risk Management Framework	May 2022
Risk Appetite Statement	May 2022
Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32	June 2022
Budget 2022/23	June 2022
Fees and Charges Schedule	June 2022
Volunteer Strategy	June 2022

Risk management

In May 2022, Council adopted an updated suite of risk management documents in line with current best practice in the management of business enterprise risks and current AS/NZS 31000 guidelines:

- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Management Framework
- Risk Appetite Statement
- Risk Management Implementation Plan

The suite of documents articulates how Council will identify and record risks, and the roles and responsibilities associated with risk management throughout the Council.

They document the reporting structure to ensure that the Council, as the authority with ultimate responsibility for risk at Council, is provided with information at all levels of the risk management process.

Council is committed to proactive risk management and ensures it continues to prevent or minimise risks occurring that will have an adverse impact on the achievement of Council's objectives.

Governance and management checklist

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

	Governance and Management Item	YES or NO	Date if YES (single item/ date)	Supporting comments (multiple items/dates)
GC1	Community Engagement Policy	YES	23/02/2021	Community Engagement Policy adopted by Council
GC2	Community Engagement Guidelines	YES	3/04/2019	Internal document
GC3	Financial Plan	YES	28/06/2022	Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32 adopted by Council
GC4	Asset Plan	YES	28/06/2022	Asset Plan 2022 adopted by Council
GC5	Revenue and Rating Plan	YES	24/06/2021	Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 adopted by Council
GC6	Annual Budget	YES	23/06/2022	Draft Annual Budget 2022/23 adopted by Council
GC7	Risk Policy	YES	24/05/2022	Risk Management Policy V6 Risk Management Framework V3 Risk Management Implementation Plan V1 adopted by Council

Governance management

	Governance and Management Item	YES or NO	Date if YES (single item/date)	Date if YES (multiple items/dates)
GC8	Fraud Policy	YES	25/06/2019	Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy adopted by Council
GC9	Municipal Emergency Management Plan	YES	23/06/2020	Northern Victorian Integrated Municipal Emergency Management Plan; Loddon Shire v7.0 endorsed by Council
GC10	Procurement Policy	YES	14/12/2021	Procurement Policy adopted by Council
GC11	Business Continuity Plan	YES	11/05/2021	Business Continuity Plan adopted by Council
GC12	Disaster Recovery Plan	YES	11/09/2019	Information Technology Disaster Recovery Plan (IT DRP) 2019 adopted by the Management Executive Group is an internal document
GC13	Risk Management Framework	YES	24/05/2022	Risk Management Framework adopted by Council
GC14	Audit and Risk Committee	YES	23/11/2021	Audit and Risk Committee Charter v10 endorsed by Council
GC15	Internal audit	YES	1/07/2019	contract concludes 30 June 2023
GC16	Performance Reporting Framework	YES	15/12/2020	Results of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) presented to Council briefing
GC17	Council Plan report	YES	26/10/2021	Community Vision 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025 adopted by Council



Flooding at Godfrey Street, Wedderburn, November 2021.

Governance management

	Governance and Management Item	YES or NO	Date if YES (single item/ date)	Date if YES (multiple items/dates)
GC18	Financial reporting	YES		Finance quarterly reports adopted by Council where timing allowed. 27/07/2021 26/10/2021 25/01/2022 31/03/2022
GC19	Risk reporting	YES		Risk Management reporting with the endorsement of the Risk Management Policy, Risk Management Framework and Risk Management Implementation Plan to Audit and Risk Committee 2/05/2022, adopted and noted by Council 24/05/2022
GC20	Performance reporting	YES		2020/21 Financial and Performance Statements in Principle report 24/08/2021 2021/22 Financial and Performance Statements in Principle report 23/08/2022
GC21	Annual Report	YES	26/10/2021	Consideration of the Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2021 adopted by Council
GC22	Councillor Code of Conduct	YES	27/04/2021	Councillor Code of Conduct v6 adopted by Council
GC23	Delegations	YES	28/06/2022	Review of delegations adopted by Council
GC24	Meeting procedures	YES	26/07/2022	Review of Governance Rules 12/07/2022 at Council Forum Governance Rules adopted by Council 26/07/2022



Lincoln Fitzgerald
Chief Executive Officer

Dated: 30/6/2022



Cr Dan Straub
Mayor

Statutory information

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

Documents Publicly Available

In accordance with regulation 10(k) of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 the following is a summary of information that is publicly available for the purposes of the Council's public transparency policy adopted under section 57 of the Act and the ways in which that information can be accessed:

- a document containing details of overseas or interstate travel (other than interstate travel by land for less than three days) undertaken in an official capacity by a Councillor or member of Council staff in the previous 12 months, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- minutes of meetings held in the previous 12 months, other than those agendas and minutes relating to a part of a meeting which was closed to members of the public in accordance with section 66 of the Act, accessed through Council's website
- Council's Governance Rules in accordance with section 60 of the Act, accessed through Council's website
- a document containing details of all leases involving land which were entered into by Council as lessor, including the lessee and the terms and the value of the lease, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- Council's Budget, Annual Report, Council Plan, Community Vision and Public Transparency Policy, accessed through Council's website
- a list of donations and grants made by Council in the previous 12 months, including the names of persons who, or bodies which, have received a donation or grant and the amount of each donation or grant, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- summary of election campaign donation returns, accessed through Council's website
- summary document of Personal Interests Returns, accessed through Council's website
- reporting from Advisory Committees to Council, accessed via Council Minutes on Council's website
- the Audit and Risk Committee Performance Report, accessed via Council Minutes on Council's website
- terms of reference or charters for Advisory Committees, accessed through Council's website or by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- registers of Conflicts of Interest disclosed by Councillors or Council staff, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- register of gifts, benefits and hospitality offered to Councillors or Council staff, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- public submissions made by Council, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- register of donations and grants made by Council, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- register of leases entered into by Council, as lessor and lessee, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- register of Delegations, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- register of authorised officers, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn



Fun at Melville Caves. Image Dave Thomas



Exploring Pyramid Hill Tracks and Trails.

- submissions received under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 until its repeal, or received through a community engagement process undertaken by Council (where submitters were made aware submissions would be made available), accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn
- any other Registers or records required to be available on Council's website by legislation or determined to be in the public interest, accessed by visiting or contacting Council at 41 High Street Wedderburn

Health Records Act 2001

Council collects health data, particularly in the community service area, to be used solely for the primary purpose for which it is collected or directly related purposes.

Council may disclose this information to other allied health professionals for continuity of care. If a referral to an allied health professional is required, consent is obtained unless exempted by other legislation.

Carers Recognition Act 2012

The Carers Recognition Act 2012 defines every council in Victoria as a 'public service care agency' and therefore a 'care support organisation'. As a consequence, councils are required to comply with the Act and to report on this in their annual reports from 2012/13 and thereafter.

This reporting requirement impacts across a wide range of Council activities, including human resources, home and community care, aged and disability services, leisure and recreation, community services, and family and children's services.

Council has taken all practicable measures to comply with its responsibilities outlined in the Act. Council has promoted the principles of the Act to people in care relationships and to the wider community by distributing printed material through relevant Council services, displaying posters at Council community venues and providing information to organisations represented in Council and community networks.

Council has also taken all practicable measures to ensure that staff, Council agents and volunteers working for us are informed about the principles and obligations of the Act by including information on the care relationship in Council induction and training programs for staff working in home and community care and disability services.

Governance management

Council has made continuous efforts to review and modify policies, procedures and supports to include recognition of the carer relationship.

Child Safe Standards

Council is committed to protecting the interests and safety of children. Council has zero tolerance for child abuse. As part of its commitment, an organisational-wide approach has been developed to embed a child safe environment. In November 2017 Council adopted the Child Safe Standards Statement of Commitment. In June 2022 Council adopted an updated Child Safe Standards Policy and Child Safe Standards Framework.

Contracts

During the year Council did not enter into any contracts valued at \$150,000 or more for services or \$200,000 or more for works or more of a kind specified in section 185(5)(a) and (c) of the Act without first engaging in a competitive process.

Disability Action Plan

In accordance with the Victorian Disability Act 2006, Council adopted its fourth Disability Action Plan in February 2018. The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2021, now known as the Access and Inclusion Plan (AIP), has been extended for a period of 12 months to March 2023, while development of a new plan is undertaken.

The AIP strengthens Council’s acknowledgment that all citizens are valuable members of the community and therefore should have equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

The plan was developed through extensive community and staff consultation which indicated that the community was generally satisfied with the services provided by Council. The community also thought that Council was making some good improvements to the accessibility of the Loddon Shire. However, Council understands that it must continue to improve access and inclusion in order to achieve a community that is liveable for everyone.

The AIP has six guiding outcomes that Council, in partnership with its citizens, State and Federal governments and other organisations, will work towards to build a truly inclusive community:

1. People with a disability have the same opportunities to participate in services, programs and events in the Loddon Shire as everyone else.
2. The Loddon Shire’s built and natural environments are accessible, and people with a disability are able to move around and get to the places they want to go.
3. People with a disability are engaged in flexible and sustainable employment within the Loddon Shire and have opportunities to develop and succeed.
4. People with a disability can access the information they need to make informed decisions and choices and contribute to leading, shaping and influencing the Loddon Shire.



The trail rider allows people with a disability to enjoy Loddon Shire’s natural environments.

5. People with a disability, their families and carers are able to connect and participate in activities that are aligned to their interests and identities, and experience a high level of wellbeing in all aspects of their life.
6. People with a disability feel welcome and safe, and are as recognised and respected as any other resident in the Loddon Shire.

Council has identified 15 strategies that state how Council will work to achieve each of these outcomes and an action plan has been developed to guide Council on what needs to be done to achieve each strategy.

Achievements to date include:

- Implementation of Community Engagement Policy and Procedure to support staff to engage respectfully and inclusively with, and consider the needs of, community members during engagement processes
- Delivery of disability awareness training during staff induction
- Delivery of training to increase awareness and understanding of universal design principles for relevant staff
- Continued consideration of universal design principles in all applicable infrastructure projects. Examples include the Bridgewater Foreshore and Inglewood Swimming Pool projects; Activating Open Spaces Strategy; Healthy Heart of Victoria projects such as the Boort, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn outdoor exercise equipment; and the Donaldson Park play space project plans
- Partnering with the City of Greater Bendigo to implement the Inclusive Towns project to encourage and support local businesses to make changes to increase their accessibility
- Updating Council website software to ensure compatibility with the latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
- Delivery of training to relevant staff on how to write in easy English
- Implementation of a Communication Plan Template to support staff to consider which media or method to use to suit the needs of the intended audience, such as audio, video, visual, Braille, easy English, or face-to-face
- Partnering with City of Greater Bendigo to implement the Champions for Change project to increase supports for persons living with a disability to secure employment
- Delivery of community and staff campaigns raising awareness of International Day of People with Disability.

Domestic Animal Management Plan

In accordance with section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994, Council is required to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan at four-yearly intervals and evaluate its implementation in the annual report.

Services continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in a variety of ways. Residents experiencing financial hardship were offered alternative payment plans for dog and cat registrations, and to help meet impounding costs incurred in their recovery of any wandering unregistered animals.

Council's continued initiative in promoting the benefits of 'register your dog/cat, get it back for free' was particularly advantageous throughout this time, with several successful pet returns to owners reducing costs to pet owners and ultimately reducing instances of impounded animals.

The occurrence of stray and feral cat populations continues to be a source of complaints from residents. A limited but targeted program in Inglewood was beneficial, with several feral cats trapped and other stray/unclaimed cats finding new forever homes.

Other actions have included:

- inspecting domestic animal businesses
- conducting joint inspections with RSPCA officers regarding various dog breeding activities
- investigating and resolving potential dangerous or menacing dog complaints, including dog attacks
- participating in online animal welfare forums and workshops
- assisting in the implementation of the Victorian Government Pet Exchange Register
- undertaking appropriate staff training and development programs.

Governance management

Freedom of Information Act 1982

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

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

- be in writing
- identify as clearly as possible which document is being requested
- be accompanied by the appropriate application fee (the fee may be reduced or waived on hardship grounds).

The prescribed fee for applications under the Act is outlined in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule which can be found on Council's website:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-documents/Current-fees-and-charges

Requests for access to information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act should be lodged on the FOI application form and sent to:

Ms Amanda Wilson

Director Corporate and Freedom of Information Officer

PO Box 21

Wedderburn 3518

Telephone: (03) 5494 1207

Email: foi@loddon.vic.gov.au

Requests can also be lodged online or by email. Access charges may apply once documents have been processed and a decision on access is made (e.g. photocopying and search and retrieval charges).

During the year Council received no requests under the FOI Act.

Food Act Ministerial Directions

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

No such Ministerial Directions were received by Council during the 2021/22 year.

Protected disclosure procedures

In accordance with section 69 of the Protected Disclosure Act 2021, a council must include in its annual report information about how to access the procedures established by the council under Part 9 of that Act. It is also required to provide certain information about the number and types of protected disclosure complaints investigated during the financial year.

Council has a Public Interest (Protected Disclosure) Policy available to the public on Council's website:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/About-us/Our-Council/Governance/Public-Interest-disclosure

During 2021/22 there were no disclosures notified to Council officers appointed to receive disclosures, and no known disclosures to Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission.

Road Management Act Ministerial Directions

In accordance with section 22 of the Road Management Act 2004, Council must publish a copy or summary of any Ministerial Direction in its annual report.

No Ministerial Directions were received by Council during the 2021/22 year.

Infrastructure and development contributions

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

For the 2021/22 year there were no infrastructure and development contributions.

Performance statement

Year ending 30 June 2022



Tourism landmarks – Uniting Church Wedderburn.

DESCRIPTION OF MUNICIPALITY

Loddon Shire Council is located in central Victoria, about 175 kilometres north-west of Melbourne. It is bounded by the Gannawarra Shire in the north, Shire of Campaspe and City of Greater Bendigo in the east, Mount Alexander Shire and Central Goldfields Shire in the south, and Northern Grampians Shire and Buloke Shire in the west.

Loddon Shire Council is a predominantly rural area, with many small towns and communities. The largest towns are Boort, Bridgewater on Loddon, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill, and Wedderburn.

The Shire encompasses a total land area of about 6,700 square kilometres. Land is used mainly for agriculture and horticulture, particularly grain, sheep, wool, beef cattle, dairy, pigs and poultry. In recent years, there has also been an increase in viticulture, olives, and fodder crops.

The primary source of employment in the Shire is agriculture, forestry and fishing with 37 per cent of employed residents working in those fields, while 10 per cent work in health care and social assistance, seven per cent in retail trade, and five per cent in public administration and safety.

SUSTAINABILITY CAPACITY INDICATORS

Indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021	2022
Indicator: Population <i>Measure:</i> Expenses per head of municipal population <i>Computation:</i> Total expenses/Municipal population	\$5,919	\$4,122	\$4,443	\$4,193
Material variations: Population remains steady with the main variation being expenses, this is dependant on the program of works set for the year.				
Indicator: Population <i>Measure:</i> Infrastructure per head of municipal population <i>Computation:</i> Value of infrastructure/Municipal population	\$45,810	\$47,012	\$46,350	\$43,983
Material variations: Slight decrease in the infrastructure valuation with population remaining steady.				
Indicator: Population <i>Measure:</i> Population density per length of road <i>Computation:</i> Municipal population/Kilometres of local roads	1.59	1.59	1.58	1.59
Material variations: No material variations.				
Indicator: Own-source revenue <i>Measure:</i> Own source revenue per head of municipal population <i>Computation:</i> Own-source revenue/Municipal population	\$1,904	\$1,930	\$1,991	\$1,999
Material variations: Gradual increase to own source revenue over time with population remaining steady.				
Indicator: Recurrent grants <i>Measure:</i> Recurrent grants per head of municipal population <i>Computation:</i> Recurrent grants/Municipal population	\$1,851	\$1,771	\$1,850	\$2,245
Material variations: Recurrent grants have increased due to the 75% upfront payment from the Grants Commission.				
Indicator: Disadvantage <i>Measure:</i> Relative socio-economic disadvantage <i>Computation:</i> Index of relative socio-economic disadvantage by decile	2	2	2	2
Material variations: No material variations.				
Efficiency Indicator: Workforce turnover <i>Measure:</i> Resignations and terminations compared to average staff <i>Computation:</i> [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations/Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	10.32%	13.59%	12.82%	21.33%
Material variations: Increase in this indicator with higher resignations throughout the year.				

Definitions:

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than:

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

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

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

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

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

"relative socio-economic disadvantage", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA

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

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

Performance Statement - Year ending 30 June 2022

SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Service/indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021	2022
Aquatic facilities Indicator: Utilisation <i>Measure:</i> Utilisation of aquatic facilities <i>Computation:</i> Number of visits to aquatic facilities/Municipal population	3	3	2	2
Material variations: Contractor staffing issues has resulted in more pool closures and a cooler summer has made pool visits less attractive to Loddon residents.				
Animal management Indicator: Health and safety <i>Measure:</i> Animal management prosecutions <i>Computation:</i> Number of successful animal management prosecutions	New in 2020.	0%	0%	0%
Material variations: No cases that required prosecution during the reporting period.				
Food Safety Indicator: Health and safety <i>Measure:</i> Critical and major non-compliance notifications <i>Computation:</i> Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up/Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about food premises x100	100%	100%	100%	67%
Material variations: A contractor was engaged to undertake inspections, Council's public health staff missed following up on one major non-compliance as they were unaware of it.				
Governance Indicator: Satisfaction <i>Measure:</i> Satisfaction with Council decisions <i>Computation:</i> Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community	50	57	61	58
Material variations: In accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, Council was required to adopt a Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy, both were adopted in 2020/21 and this guides the performance of Council.				
Libraries Indicator: Participation <i>Measure:</i> Active library members <i>Computation:</i> [Number of active library members for last three years/Municipal population for last three years] x100	7%	7%	6%	5%
Material variations: Number of active library members have gradually decreased with the municipal population remaining steady.				
Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Indicator: Participation <i>Measure:</i> Participation in MCH service <i>Computation:</i> [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year)/Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	66%	83%	85%	87%
Material variations: 189 attended out of the 216 enrolled.				

SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (Continued)

Service/indicator/measure	2019	2020	2021	2022
Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Indicator: Participation <i>Measure:</i> Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children <i>Computation:</i> [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year)/Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100 Material variations: Seven children attended out of the nine enrolled.	57%	86%	89%	78%
Roads Indicator: Satisfaction <i>Measure:</i> Satisfaction with sealed local roads <i>Computation:</i> Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads Material variations: This indicator has remained steady and in line with the average over the last four years.	52	47	50	50
Indicator: Decision making <i>Measure:</i> Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT <i>Computation:</i> [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application/Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100 Material variations: Nil for the financial year	100%	0%	0%	0%
Indicator: Waste diversion <i>Measure:</i> Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill <i>Computation:</i> [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins/Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100 Material variations: Overall weight collected has slightly increased offset by a decrease in waste diversion.	26%	28%	30%	28%

SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (Continued)

Definitions:

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

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

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

"annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under section 98 of the Act

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Dimension/indicator/ measure	Actuals				Forecasts			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Efficiency Indicator: Expenditure level <i>Measure:</i> Expenses per property assessment Computation: Total expenses/Number of property assessments	\$5,685.05	\$3,948.74	\$4,190.23	\$3,938.48	\$4,635.12	\$4,610.12	\$4,714.35	\$4,809.65
Material variations: Property numbers slightly increase with expenditure levels the main variance. During 2020, 2021 and 2022 COVID-19 has impacted the delivery of some services resulting in lower than expected expenditure levels. During 2019 significant flood restoration works were undertaken.								
Efficiency Indicator: Revenue level <i>Measure:</i> Average rate per property assessment Computation: General rates and municipal charges/Number of property assessments	New in 2020	\$1,226.81	\$1,244.14	\$1,256.83	\$1,284.84	\$1,310.54	\$1,336.75	\$1,363.48
Material variations: Property numbers remain constant with rate income increasing gradually.								
Liquidity Indicator: Working capital <i>Measure:</i> Current assets compared to current liabilities Computation: [Current assets/Current liabilities] x100	503.88%	744.86%	506.54%	604.47%	379.03%	283.92%	188.05%	102.10%
Material variations: Main variations occur within this indicator due to the amount of cash on hand for that projected year, this is expected to decrease as delayed capital works program catches up. The only cash on hand is expected to be that available for the current year. The other components are fairly constant.								
Liquidity Indicator: Unrestricted cash <i>Measure:</i> Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities Computation: [Unrestricted cash/Current liabilities] x100	-156.79%	3.10%	125.63%	-111.49%	350.73%	250.52%	153.80%	66.93%
Material variations: Council has a large amount of cash on hand in some years, however in forecasted years this decreases. For 2022 there is cash on hand but majority within term deposits greater than 90 days.								

Performance Statement - Year ending 30 June 2022

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (Continued)

Dimension/indicator/ measure	Actuals				Forecasts			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Obligations Indicator: Loans and borrowings <i>Measure:</i> Loans and borrowings compared to rates Computation: [Interest bearing loans and borrowings/Rate revenue] x100	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Material variations: Council made the last payment of outstanding loans during early 2016.								
Obligations Indicator: Loans and borrowings <i>Measure:</i> Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates Computation: [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings/Rate revenue] x100	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Material variations: Council made the last payment of outstanding loans during early 2016.								
Obligations Indicator: Indebtedness <i>Measure:</i> Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue Computation: [Non-current liabilities/Own source revenue] x100	12.57%	11.85%	10.17%	8.32%	14.29%	16.00%	17.62%	19.12%
Material variations: Council's non current liabilities increase slightly each year in line with Enterprise Agreement increases, own source revenue also increases slightly each year.								
Obligations Indicator: Asset renewal <i>Measure:</i> Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation Computation: [Asset renewal and upgrade expenses/Asset depreciation] x100	19.86%	57.71%	79.27%	60.11%	45.90%	46.76%	46.70%	49.33%
Material variations: Variations can occur within this indicator depending on the capital works program delivered for the year. In 2019 there was a large flood program which resulted in a reduced capital works program.								

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (Continued)

Dimension/indicator/ measure	Actuals				Forecasts			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Operating position Indicator: Adjusted underlying result <i>Measure:</i> Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) <i>Computation:</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	-2.87%	-8.06%	-5.44%	3.94%	-70.88%	-24.07%	-23.49%	-22.84%
Material variations: Future year projections include the costs expected to address the renewal gap, however based upon current forecasting Council, will not have enough available funds to address the gap without reducing other levels of service. Actions within the Financial Plan will assist in addressing and improving this indicator moving forward.								
Stability Indicator: Rates concentration <i>Measure:</i> Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue <i>Computation:</i> [Rate revenue/Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	24.87%	38.60%	36.59%	36.34%	56.62%	42.25%	42.13%	42.30%
Material variations: Council has continued to apply the legislated rate cap to rates and charges for all forecast years. The main variation between years for this indicator is the operating grants.								
Stability Indicator: Rates effort <i>Measure:</i> Rates compared to property values <i>Computation:</i> [Rate revenue/Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.52%	0.49%	0.43%	0.44%	0.35%	0.35%	0.35%	0.36%
Material variations: No material variations.								

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (Continued)**Definitions:**

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than:

(a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and

(b) non-monetary asset contributions; and

(c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

"rate revenue" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges

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

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a Performance Statement within its Annual Report. The Performance Statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainability capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

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

The Performance Statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by Council's Strategic Resource Plan. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the Performance Statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the Performance Statement are those adopted by Council in its Financial Plan on 28 June 2022 which forms part of the Council Plan. The Financial Plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The Financial Plan can be obtained by contacting Council.

Performance Statement - Year ending 30 June 2022

CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

In my opinion the accompanying Performance Statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
AMANDA KAYE WILSON, BBus (Acc), DipHR, CertWHS, PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER
Wedderburn, Victoria 3518

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

The Performance Statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainability capacity.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the Performance Statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to certify this Performance Statement in its final form.



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
DANIEL ALLAN STRAUB, MAYOR
Wedderburn, Victoria, 3518



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
NEIL EDWARD BEATTIE, COUNCILLOR
Wedderburn, Victoria, 3518



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
LINCOLN WILLIAM FITZGERALD, BA (Nature Tourism), GAICD, CertTAA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Wedderburn, Victoria 3518



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Loddon Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Loddon Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2022 • sustainability capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022 • other information and • certification of performance statement. <p>In my opinion, the performance statement of Loddon Shire Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2022 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement	<p>The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p>

Performance Statement - Year ending 30 June 2022

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement.

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

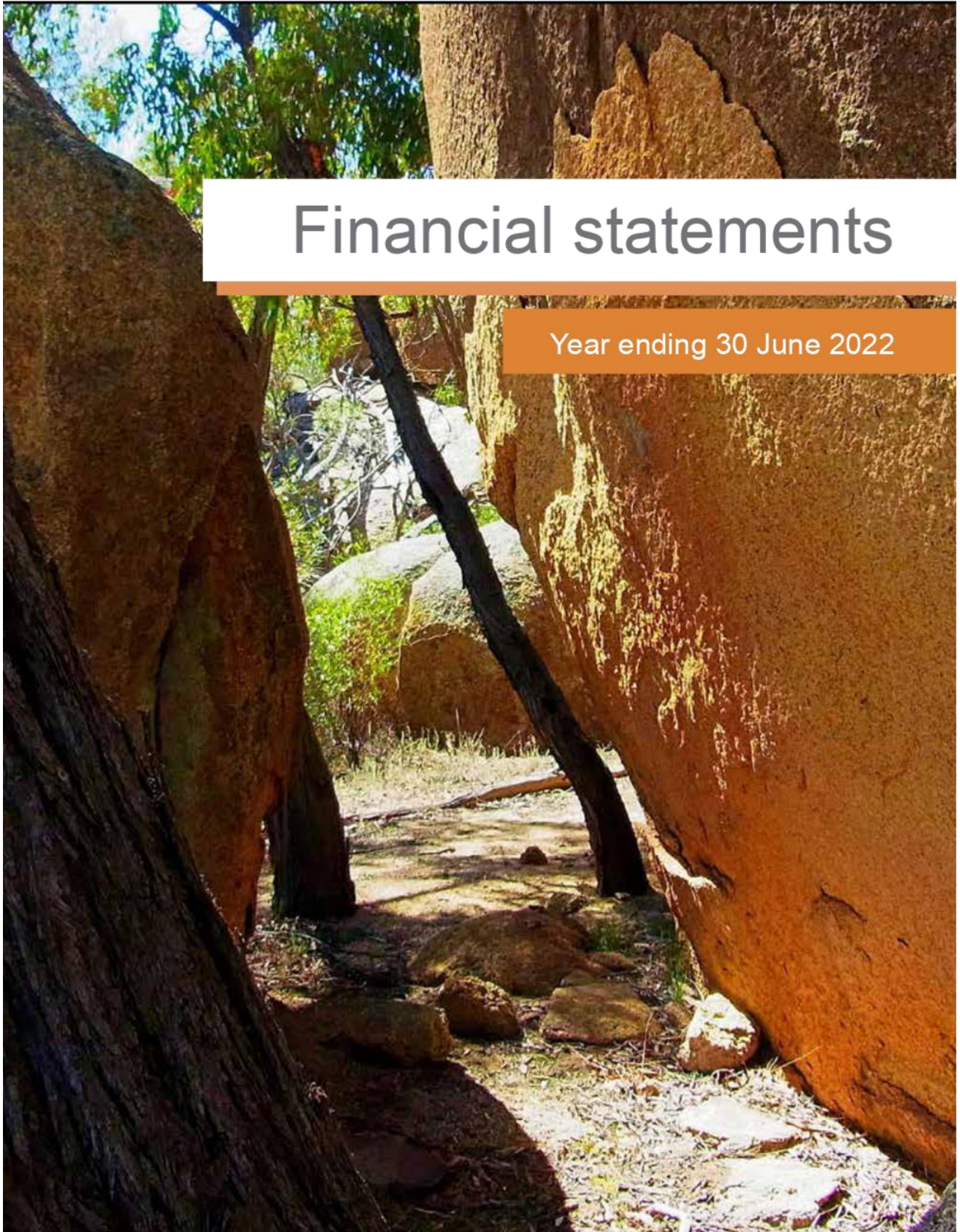
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

MELBOURNE
19 September 2022



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria



Financial statements

Year ending 30 June 2022

Natural environments – Kooyora State Park. Image: Dave Thomas

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CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
AMANDA KAYE WILSON, BBus (Acc), DipHR, CertWHS, PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER
Wedderburn, Victoria 3518

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

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

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
DANIEL ALLAN STRAUB, MAYOR
Wedderburn, Victoria, 3518



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
NEIL EDWARD BEATTIE, COUNCILLOR
Wedderburn, Victoria, 3518



Signed: Date: **7 / September / 2022**
LINCOLN WILLIAM FITZGERALD, BA (Nature Tourism), GAICD, CertTAA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Wedderburn, Victoria 3518



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Loddon Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the financial report of Loddon Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • balance sheet as at 30 June 2022 • comprehensive income statement for the year then ended • statement of changes in equity for the year then ended • statement of cash flows for the year then ended • statement of capital works for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies • certification of financial statements. <p>In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2022 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's <i>APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report	<p>The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.</p>

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Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

MELBOURNE
19 September 2022



Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income			
Rates and charges	3.1	11,890,953	11,521,260
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	383,610	423,057
User fees	3.3	1,538,812	1,745,588
Grants - operating	3.4	15,211,241	14,011,856
Grants - capital	3.4	2,965,192	6,979,510
Contributions - monetary	3.5	273,925	81,375
Reimbursements and subsidies	3.6	859,314	805,709
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.7	34,433	88,633
Interest received	3.8	263,296	279,462
Share of net profits of associates and joint ventures	6.3	14,446	13,233
Other income	3.9	-	32
Total income		33,435,222	35,949,715
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	12,857,975	13,516,241
Materials and services	4.2	8,971,351	9,415,750
Depreciation	4.3	9,270,237	9,959,894
Bad debts expense	4.4	40,478	2,891
Other expenses	4.5	292,978	304,449
Total expenses		31,433,019	33,199,225
Surplus (or deficit) for year		2,002,203	2,750,490
Other comprehensive income			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods</i>			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1(a)	(10,365,945)	(5,840,410)
Share of other comprehensive income of associates and joint ventures accounted for by the equity method	6.3	(4,075)	(3,886)
Total other comprehensive income		(10,370,020)	(5,844,296)
Total comprehensive result		(8,367,817)	(3,093,806)

The above Comprehensive Income Statement should be read with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	3,727,157	20,262,389
Other financial assets	5.1	36,684,402	17,183,417
Trade and other receivables	5.1	1,063,989	1,350,744
Other assets	5.2	393,485	235,646
Inventories	5.2	-	24,120
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	6.1	311,958	222,784
Total current assets		42,180,991	39,279,100
Non-current assets			
Other financial assets	5.1	-	-
Other assets	5.2	100	100
Trade and other receivables	5.1	-	-
Investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries	6.3	295,054	284,683
Intangible assets	5.2	2,713,090	2,674,570
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	343,749,861	356,110,941
Total non-current assets		346,758,105	359,070,294
Total assets		388,939,096	398,349,394
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3(a)	692,750	1,471,993
Trust funds and deposits	5.3(b)	367,782	365,171
Unearned income	5.3(c)	3,076,276	2,976,276
Provisions	5.4	2,841,411	2,940,884
Total current liabilities		6,978,219	7,754,324
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	1,246,284	1,512,661
Lease liabilities	5.7	-	-
Total non-current liabilities		1,246,284	1,512,661
Total liabilities		8,224,503	9,266,985
Net assets		380,714,592	389,082,409
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		91,667,547	90,938,554
Reserves	9	289,047,045	298,143,855
Total equity		380,714,592	389,082,409

The above Balance Sheet should be read with the accompanying notes.

Financial Statements - Year ending 30 June 2022

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

2022

	Note	Total 2022 \$	Accumulated surplus 2022 \$	Revaluation reserve 2022 \$	Other reserves 2022 \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		389,082,409	90,938,554	272,598,734	25,545,121
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		2,002,203	2,002,203	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1(a)	(10,365,945)	-	(10,365,945)	-
Transfer to reserves	9.1(b)	-	(19,065,147)	-	19,065,147
Transfer from reserves	9.1(b)	-	17,796,012	-	(17,796,012)
Share of other comprehensive income		(4,075)	(4,075)	-	-
Balance at end of financial year		380,714,592	91,667,547	262,232,789	26,814,256

2021

	Note	Total 2021 \$	Accumulated surplus 2021 \$	Revaluation reserve 2021 \$	Other reserves 2021 \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		392,176,215	90,918,332	278,439,144	22,818,739
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		2,750,490	2,750,490	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1(a)	(5,840,410)	-	(5,840,410)	-
Transfer to reserves	9.1(b)	-	(19,622,115)	-	19,622,115
Transfer from reserves	9.1(b)	-	16,895,733	-	(16,895,733)
Share of other comprehensive income		(3,886)	(3,886)	-	-
Balance at end of financial year		389,082,409	90,938,554	272,598,734	25,545,121

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 Inflows/ (outflows) \$	2021 Inflows/ (outflows) \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges		11,936,398	11,542,848
Statutory fees and fines		356,251	412,961
User fees		1,632,691	1,518,000
Grants - operating		15,326,794	13,715,848
Grants - capital		3,065,192	9,250,786
Contributions - monetary		273,925	81,375
Reimbursements and subsidies		859,314	875,205
Interest received		196,033	272,751
Net GST refund		1,268,707	1,449,161
Trust funds and deposits taken		2,611	8,791
Employee costs		(12,960,079)	(13,124,062)
Material and services		(11,623,720)	(10,477,527)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	9.2	10,334,117	15,526,137
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	(7,579,652)	(9,455,472)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.7	211,938	1,046,295
Payments for intangible assets		(650)	-
Payments from / (for) investments		(19,500,985)	4,816,583
Repayment of loans and advances from community organisations		-	2,400
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(26,869,349)	(3,590,194)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(16,535,232)	11,935,943
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		20,262,389	8,326,446
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	5.1	3,727,157	20,262,389

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Land and buildings			
Land		840,934	-
Buildings - specialised		288,337	433,496
Work in progress		444,855	1,178,769
Total buildings		1,574,126	1,612,265
Plant and fittings			
Plant, machinery and equipment		749,230	1,344,845
Office furniture and equipment		90,326	114,858
Total plant and equipment		839,556	1,459,703
Infrastructure			
Roads		3,514,155	3,770,911
Bridges		920,762	1,102,159
Footpaths and cycleways		353,946	562,886
Kerb and channel		169,544	-
Drainage		207,563	202,930
Street furniture		-	17,480
Work in progress		-	727,138
Total infrastructure		5,165,970	6,383,504
Intangible assets			
Water rights		23,200	-
Total intangible assets		23,200	-
Total capital works expenditure		7,602,852	9,455,472
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		1,697,932	1,361,445
Asset renewal expenditure		5,451,463	5,783,378
Asset expansion expenditure		332,338	198,842
Asset upgrade expenditure		121,119	2,111,807
Total capital works expenditure		7,602,852	9,455,472

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

NOTE 1 OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Loddon Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 19 January 1995 and is a body corporate. The Council's main office is located at 41 High Street, Wedderburn.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consist of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

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

Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

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

The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention, going concern basis, currency and rounding as well as accrual accounting has been used, except for cash flow information, unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

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

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

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

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or *AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3)
- whether or not *AASB 1059 Service Concession Agreements: Grantors* is applicable
- other areas requiring judgements.

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

(b) Impact of COVID-19

During 2021/22 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact on Council's operations. Council has noted only minor interruptions and no impacts of a material nature on its financial operations.

NOTE 2**2.1 Performance against budget**

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Management has adopted a materiality threshold of 20 percent and \$50,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 24 June 2021.

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

2.1.1 Income and expenditure

	Budget 2022 \$	Actual 2022 \$	Variance \$	Variance %	Ref
Income					
Rates and charges	11,841,819	11,890,953	(49,134)	0.4%	
Statutory fees and fines	279,467	383,610	(104,143)	37.3%	1
User fees	1,496,306	1,538,812	(42,506)	2.8%	
Grants - operating	6,350,499	15,211,241	(8,860,742)	139.5%	2
Grants - capital	2,387,726	2,965,192	(577,466)	24.2%	3
Contributions - monetary	-	273,925	(273,925)	100.0%	4
Reimbursements and subsidies	762,964	859,314	(96,350)	12.6%	
Interest earnings	300,000	263,296	36,704	-12.2%	
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	34,433	(34,433)	100.0%	
Share of net profits/(losses) of associates and joint ventures	-	14,446	(14,446)	100.0%	
Other income	-	-	-	100.0%	
Total income	23,418,781	33,435,222	(10,016,441)	42.8%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	13,649,014	12,857,975	791,039	-5.8%	
Materials and services	10,519,882	8,971,351	1,548,531	-14.7%	
Depreciation	9,908,459	9,270,237	638,222	-6.4%	
Bad and doubtful debts	-	40,478	(40,478)	100.0%	
Other expenses	336,449	292,978	43,471	-12.9%	
Total expenses	34,413,804	31,433,019	2,980,785	-8.7%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(10,995,023)	2,002,203	(12,997,226)	-118.2%	

(i) Explanation of material variations

- 1 The increase in statutory fees and fines relate mainly to the additional income received for planning services.
- 2 Operating grants had a financial position higher than budget mainly due to the upfront payments from the grants commission with 50% of 20/21 income received upfront and 75% of 21/22 income received upfront.
- 3 Capital grant income was higher than budgeted due to additional road and infrastructure program grants that were received during 2021/22.
- 4 There was no contributions included within the 2021/22 budget, however these commitments were carried forward from 2020/21, resulting in a variation.

NOTE 2 (CONTINUED)**2.1 Performance against budget (continued)****2.1.2 Capital works**

	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Variance	Variance	
	\$	\$	\$	%	Ref
Property					
Land	-	835,176	(835,176)	100.0%	5
Land improvements	5,000	136,491	(131,491)	2629.8%	5
Total land	5,000	971,667	(966,667)	19333.3%	
Buildings	-	70,247	(70,247)	100.0%	5
Building improvements	272,500	171,592	100,908	-37.0%	5
Total buildings	272,500	241,839	30,661	-11.3%	
Total property	277,500	1,213,506	(936,006)	337.3%	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,427,920	749,230	678,690	-47.5%	6
Office furniture and equipment	175,000	90,326	84,674	-48.4%	7
Total plant and equipment	1,602,920	839,556	763,364	-47.6%	
Infrastructure					
Roads	2,922,503	3,514,153	(591,650)	20.2%	8
Bridges	146,701	920,762	(774,061)	527.6%	8
Footpaths and cycleways	240,814	523,490	(282,676)	117.4%	8
Drainage	350,000	207,563	142,437	-40.7%	8
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	1,330,000	197,719	1,132,281	-85.1%	8
Parks, open space and streetscapes	50,000	162,903	(112,903)	225.8%	8
Water rights	-	23,200	(23,200)	0.0%	9
Total infrastructure	5,040,018	5,549,790	(509,772)	10.1%	
Total capital works expenditure	6,920,438	7,602,852	(682,414)	9.9%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	1,602,920	1,697,932	(95,012)	5.9%	
Asset renewal expenditure	3,987,518	5,451,463	(1,463,945)	36.7%	
Asset expansion expenditure	100,000	332,338	(232,338)	100.0%	
Asset upgrade expenditure	1,230,000	121,119	1,108,881	-90.2%	
Total capital works expenditure	6,920,438	7,602,852	(682,414)	9.9%	

(i) Explanation of material variations

- 5 The total capital works program for the year was originally budgeted at \$278K. This was increased to \$2.4M by the end of 2021/22 due to a large amount of carry over incomplete works and only \$1.2M delivered.
- 6 The replacement program has faced significant delivery wait times due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19.
- 7 The decrease in spend is a result of lower capital purchases with a \$3,000 capitalisation threshold.
- 8 The capital works program for the 2021/22 was originally budgeted at \$5.0M. This was increased to \$22.0M by the end of 2021/22 due to a large amount of carry over incomplete works and new grants throughout the year. Major items that were not delivered and have been carried over to 2022/23 includes Donaldson Park aPvilion \$3.3M, Pyramid Hill Community Centre of \$2.6M, footpaths of \$0.73M, Pyramid Hill streetscape of \$1.47M and road construction works of \$1.2M.
- 9 Water right movements are not budgeted and the actual reflects the adjusted need of water allocations.

NOTE 2 (CONTINUED)**2.2 Analysis of Council results by program**

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs:

2.2.1 Programs**A sustainable built and natural environment**

Infrastructure: We will implement financially and environmentally sustainable infrastructure that supports our social and economic needs.

Environment: We will work with our partners to preserve and protect our local environment. We will support our community to respond to the impacts of climate change.

A growing and vibrant community

Population: We will promote population growth to support a growing and diverse community.

Community: We will support a connected and inclusive community that provides opportunities for current and new community members at all ages, abilities, and stages of their life.

Youth: We will support our youth to access pathways for education and employment and the ability to connect and actively engage with their community.

A diverse and expanding economy

Tourism: We will promote our unique tourism opportunities and support our local tourism industry to increase visitation to our area.

Economy: We will support established businesses and seek to attract new businesses to grow our local economy.

A supported and accessible community

Services: We will deliver our core services and advocate for access to other services for our community that support the health, wellbeing and liveability of our community.

Communication: We will listen to our community about how they wish to communicate with us and implement effective communication methods to achieve this. We will provide our community with opportunities to engage with us.

2.2.2 Summary of income, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program**2022 - Updated Council Plan**

	Income \$	Expenses \$	Surplus / (Deficit) \$	Grants included in income \$	Total assets \$
Sustainable built and natural environment	5,534,698	3,945,574	1,589,124	3,338,206	338,949,869
Growing and vibrant community	592,635	1,382,673	(790,038)	134,160	-
Diverse and expanding economy	1,015,660	971,524	44,136	337,844	311,958
Supported and accessible community	26,292,229	25,133,248	1,158,981	14,366,223	49,677,269
Total	33,435,222	31,433,019	2,002,203	18,176,433	388,939,096

2021 - Previous Council Plan

	Income \$	Expenses \$	Surplus / (Deficit) \$	Grants included in income \$	Total assets \$
Economic development and tourism	761,287	1,436,970	(675,683)	112,709	5,923,551
Leadership	1,095,213	4,408,989	(3,313,776)	1,092,908	39,081,333
Works and infrastructure	8,709,289	6,139,035	2,570,254	7,879,855	298,998,293
Good management	17,005,296	14,253,502	2,751,794	6,222,261	6,005,886
Environment	2,329,926	1,761,854	568,072	330,543	13,071,158
Community services and recreation	6,048,704	5,198,875	849,829	5,353,090	35,269,173
Total	35,949,715	33,199,225	2,750,490	20,991,366	398,349,394

NOTE 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES**3.1 Rates and charges**

Council uses Capital Improved Value (C.I.V.) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The C.I.V. of a property includes the value of the land and all improvements on the land.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2021/22 was \$2,672,413,100. The valuation base used in 2020/21 was \$2,390,287,700.

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
General rates	2,506,374	2,506,891
Rural production rates	6,205,467	6,074,324
Municipal charges	1,318,915	1,276,081
Kerbside recycling charges	476,727	432,071
Garbage charges	1,336,289	1,203,059
Interest on rates and charges	47,181	28,834
Total rates and garbage charges	11,890,953	11,521,260

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2021, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2021.

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

3.2 Statutory fees and fines

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Statutory fees and fines		
Rates and property	12,164	12,932
Risk management	6,099	6,282
Building regulation	76,676	83,229
Local laws and animal management	82,769	83,622
Public health	58,973	60,460
Strategic and statutory planning	146,929	176,532
Total statutory fees and fines	383,610	423,057

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

NOTE 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES (Continued)**3.3 User fees**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
User fees		
Caravan parks	635,256	552,685
Loddon Discovery Tours	675	7,389
Tourism	2,350	3,564
Aged care services	478,471	507,726
Seniors	1,897	-
Emergency management	3,675	11,202
Preschools	56,866	19,062
Corporate governance	6,328	-
Financial services	949	1,076
Human resources and development	51,371	41,221
Risk management	-	2,188
Council engineering and technical services	50,072	52,619
Building regulation	1,162	3,593
Local laws and animal management	472	2,112
Building and property management	37,475	65,302
Gravel pits	34,155	173,488
Parks and townships	102	13,838
Roads	13,278	-
Waste management	61,314	190,765
Other	6,654	6,597
Rent received		
Elderly persons units	56,755	55,941
Economic development	39,535	35,220
Total user fees	1,538,812	1,745,588
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised over time	-	-
User fees recognised at a point in time	1,538,812	1,745,588
Total user fees	1,538,812	1,745,588

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

3.4 Funding from other levels of government

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	14,595,172	11,787,331
State funded grants	3,581,261	9,204,035
Total grants received	18,176,433	20,991,366

	2022 \$	2021 \$
(a) Operating grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government:		
Financial Assistance Grant - general purpose grant	7,020,658	5,666,426
Financial Assistance Grant - local roads	5,186,788	3,733,180
Total operating Commonwealth Government grants	12,207,446	9,399,606

NOTE 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES (Continued)**3.4 Funding from other levels of government (continued)**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Recurrent - State Government:		
Aged care services	916,875	857,189
Seniors	6,700	51,453
Maternal and child health	277,885	262,045
Early years	161,029	74,607
Preschools	549,334	477,417
Youth	12,250	24,500
Rates and property	45,599	44,595
Roads	75,000	75,000
Waste management	27,252	-
Other	33,514	31,152
Non recurrent - State Government:		
Administration and management	(85,550)	1,092,908
Economic development	210,000	-
Aged services	-	82,434
Community wellbeing projects	94,044	-
Community support	36,106	155,370
Emergency management	30,000	75,000
Grants and community planning	100,000	50,000
Early years	119,936	153,635
Preschools	69,968	113,164
Human resources and development	2,601	147,000
Project and contract management	296,000	564,500
Local laws and animal management	-	250,000
Waste management	-	8,280
Other	25,252	22,001
Total operating State Government grants	3,003,795	4,612,250
Total operating grants	15,211,241	14,011,856
(b) Capital grants		
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government:		
Roads to Recovery	2,387,726	2,387,725
Total capital Commonwealth Government grants	2,387,726	2,387,725
Recurrent - State Government:		
Caravan parks	127,844	90,710
Waste management	-	50,000
Non recurrent - State Government:		
Grants and community planning	90,000	-
Information technology	-	98,470
Project and contract management	359,622	4,095,725
Waste management	-	256,880
Waterways management	-	-
Total capital State Government grants	577,466	4,591,785
Total capital grants	2,965,192	6,979,510

NOTE 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES (Continued)**3.4 Funding from other levels of government (continued)****(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Operating		
Balance at start of year	7,350,767	6,722,845
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	5,539,277	5,809,742
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(5,752,227)	(5,181,820)
Balance at year end	7,137,817	7,350,767
Capital		
Balance at start of year	3,509,637	1,286,702
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	3,933,445	3,561,471
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(3,244,464)	(1,338,536)
Balance at year end	4,198,618	3,509,637

(d) Recognition of grant income

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

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

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

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

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income recognised under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities		
General purpose	12,288,338	9,425,711
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	2,195,821	2,542,517
Other specific purpose grants	11,500	11,220
Revenue recognised under AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers		
Specific purpose grants	3,680,774	9,011,918
Total grants recognised in income statement	18,176,433	20,991,366

3.5 Contributions

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Contributions - operating - monetary	9,948	70,000
Contributions - capital - monetary	263,977	11,375
Total contributions	273,925	81,375

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

NOTE 3 FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES (Continued)**3.6 Reimbursements and subsidies**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Council administration	55,000	47,925
Aged care services	12,860	-
Grants and community planning	17,753	-
Risk management	85,395	41,998
Swimming pools	-	11,300
Plant and fleet	121,338	140,970
Department of Transport routine maintenance contract	566,968	563,516
Other	-	-
Total reimbursements and subsidies	859,314	805,709

Reimbursements and subsidies are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or Council has otherwise earned the income.

3.7 Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Proceeds from sale	211,938	1,046,295
Written down value of assets disposed	(177,505)	(957,662)
Total net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	34,433	88,633

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

3.8 Interest received

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Interest on investments	216,115	250,628
Rates interest	47,181	28,834
Total interest received	263,296	279,462

3.9 Other income

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Reversal of impairment of assets	-	32
Total other income	-	32

NOTE 4 THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES**4.1 (a) Employee costs**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Salaries and wages	10,184,666	11,114,023
Annual leave and long service leave	1,298,849	915,838
Superannuation	1,127,908	1,116,829
Fringe benefits	84,049	57,163
Workcover	162,503	312,388
Total employee costs	12,857,975	13,516,241

(b) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	94,428	71,017
Total defined benefit fund	94,428	71,017

Employer contributions payable at reporting date is NIL.

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	492,304	539,760
Employer contributions - Australian Super	94,595	100,840
Employer contributions - VicSuper	58,185	58,111
Employer contributions - Hesta	47,946	39,443
Employer contributions - Cbus	47,057	51,558
Employer contributions - other funds	293,393	256,100
Total accumulated funds	1,033,480	1,045,812

Employer contributions payable at reporting date is NIL.

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

4.2 Materials and services

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Major contracts		
Caravan parks	222,292	173,291
Swimming pools	529,900	238,482
Building and property maintenance	229,310	150,378
Waste management operations	1,209,526	1,009,321
Other contracts	73,051	12,231
Valuations	65,335	15,126
Other materials and services		
Cleaning	1,674	3,962
Insurance	516,998	474,203
Administration and management	343,910	490,470
Economic development	163,589	106,075
Council administration	162,865	193,653
Library services	205,661	206,563

NOTE 4 THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES (Continued)**4.2 Materials and services (continued)**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Media	83,730	38,567
Caravan parks	151,208	138,740
Tourism	82,147	70,218
Aged care services	272,089	229,864
Elderly persons units	51,389	29,206
Seniors	25,072	13,006
Community wellbeing	27,536	-
Community support	265,158	310,485
Grants and community planning	564,597	686,456
Emergency management	30,511	-
Municipal health and wellbeing	45,156	52,851
Swimming pools	109,856	100,949
Early years	77,865	41,980
Preschools	92,867	79,995
Corporate governance	-	92,514
Financial services	43,886	44,536
Customer service	32,697	50,419
Information technology	137,599	87,059
Human resources and management	280,333	165,432
Risk management	159,874	77,025
Council engineering and technical services	63,504	128,595
Project and contract management	7,193	74,759
Building regulation	34,491	13,147
Local laws and animal management	31,987	200,968
Public health	42,637	61,256
Building and property maintenance	354,867	256,191
Plant and fleet	212,964	1,044,234
Gravel pits	(15,402)	(6,782)
Parks and townships	189,064	158,956
Roads	193,591	307,433
Department of Transport routine maintenance contract	158,349	41,930
Waste management	11,651	423,367
Waterways management	21,998	26,900
Software	668,941	728,095
Utilities	548,608	491,984
Other	189,227	81,660
Total materials and services	8,971,351	9,415,750

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

Financial Statements - Year ending 30 June 2022

NOTE 4 THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES (Continued)**4.3 Depreciation**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Roads	5,735,048	6,479,294
Buildings	1,504,207	1,504,207
Plant and equipment	886,211	932,651
Bridges	486,245	391,248
Urban drains	224,057	212,151
Furniture and equipment	125,220	131,077
Footpaths	158,066	158,342
Kerb and channel	108,243	97,374
Landfills	10,163	25,640
Street furniture	31,629	26,685
Quarries	1,148	1,225
Total depreciation	9,270,237	9,959,894

Refer to Note 5.2 (c) and 6.2 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges and accounting policy.

4.4 Bad and doubtful debts

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Rates debtors	34,668	1,189
Sundry debtors	5,810	1,702
Total bad debts expense	40,478	2,891

Movement in provisions for doubtful debts

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Balance at beginning of the year	122,528	127,248
New provisions recognised during the year	40,743	8,090
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectible	(11,818)	(8,001)
Amounts provided for but recovered during the year	(265)	(4,809)
Balance at end of year	151,188	122,528

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

4.5 Other expenses

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Councillors' allowances	210,005	228,869
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	37,264	34,980
Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - Audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	45,709	40,600
Total other expenses	292,978	304,449

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION**5.1 Financial assets****(a) Cash and cash equivalents**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	2,450	2,578
Cash at bank (CEO's advance account)	4,000	4,000
Cash at bank (general account)	3,720,707	14,255,811
Term deposits (less than 90 days)	-	6,000,000
Cash and cash equivalents	3,727,157	20,262,389

(b) Other financial assets

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Term deposits (current)	36,500,000	17,000,000
Cash at bank (trust account)	184,402	183,417
Term deposits (non-current)	-	-
Total other financial assets	36,684,402	17,183,417

Council's other financial assets are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Restricted funds		
Trust funds (Note 5.3)	367,782	365,171
Total restricted funds	367,782	365,171
Total unrestricted funds	36,316,620	16,818,246

Intended allocations

Although not externally restricted the intended allocations above have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council.

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Unspent grants (refer to Note 9.1)	11,336,434	10,860,404
Long service leave (refer to Note 5.4)	1,999,063	2,032,984
Total restricted and intended allocation funds	13,335,497	12,893,388

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

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

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

Financial Statements - Year ending 30 June 2022

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.1 Financial assets (continued)****(c) Trade and other receivables**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current		
<i>Statutory receivables</i>		
Rates debtors	208,520	253,965
LESS provision for doubtful debts	(81,642)	(22,405)
	126,878	231,560
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Sundry debtors	718,994	815,776
Other debtors	107,209	107,524
LESS provision for doubtful debts	(69,546)	(100,123)
Net receivable GST	180,454	296,007
Loans and advances to community organisations	-	-
	937,111	1,119,184
Total current	1,063,989	1,350,744
Non-current		
<i>Non statutory receivables</i>		
Loans and advances to community organisations	-	-
Total non-current	-	-
Total trade and other receivables	1,063,989	1,350,744

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

(i) Ageing of receivables

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

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current (not yet due)	484,070	606,678
Past due by up to 30 days	19,342	91,836
Past due between 31 and 180 days	31,530	102,426
Past due between 181 and 365 days	977	14,836
Past due over 365 days	290,284	107,524
Total trade and other receivables	826,203	923,300

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.1 Financial assets (continued)****(c) Trade and other receivables (continued)****(ii) Ageing of individually impaired receivables**

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$69,546 (2021: \$100,123) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$69,546 (2021: \$100,123). They individually have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.

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

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current (not yet due)	-	-
Past due by up to 30 days	-	-
Past due between 31 and 180 days	-	-
Past due between 181 and 365 days	69,546	100,123
Past due by more than 1 year	-	-
Total trade and other receivables	69,546	100,123

5.2 Non-financial assets**(a) Inventories**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Inventories held for distribution	-	24,120
Inventories held for sale	-	-
Total inventories	-	24,120

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

(b) Other assets

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current		
Accrued income	130,642	63,379
Prepayments	262,843	172,267
Total current	393,485	235,646
Non-current		
Procurement Australia Pty Ltd Shares	100	100
Total non-current	100	100
Total other assets	393,585	235,746

Financial Statements - Year ending 30 June 2022

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.2 Non-financial assets (continued)****(c) Intangible assets**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Non-current		
Water rights	2,713,090	2,674,570
Total intangible assets	2,713,090	2,674,570

Reconciliation of movements in intangible assets for the reporting period

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Water rights		
Gross carrying amount at beginning of period	2,674,570	2,979,650
Additional water rights obtained during the period	23,200	-
Water rights disposed of during the period	(22,500)	-
Revaluation increment / (decrement)	37,820	(305,080)
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-
Gross carrying amount at end of period	2,713,090	2,674,570

Water rights are revalued annually and are deemed to have a infinite life.

Water rights are revalued at 30 June 2022 to the published water trade market rate applying at that date.

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue****(a) Trade and other payables**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<i>Non-statutory payables</i>		
Trade payables	305,999	1,137,128
Accrued wages and salaries	340,881	300,976
Accrued expenses	45,870	33,889
<i>Statutory payables</i>		
Net GST payable	-	-
Total trade and other payables	692,750	1,471,993

(b) Trust funds and deposits

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Contract retentions	78,788	71,837
Fire services property levy	75,282	75,378
Building deposits	27,340	32,340
Unclaimed monies	1,672	1,223
Other refundable deposits:		
St Andrews church repair fund	298	976
Wedderburn Pre-school investment	184,402	183,417
Total trust funds and deposits	367,782	365,171

(c) Unearned income

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Grants received in advance - operating	-	-
Grants received in advance - capital	3,076,276	2,976,276
Total unearned income	3,076,276	2,976,276

Unearned income/revenue, where applicable, represents contract liabilities and reflect consideration received in advance from customers. Unearned income/revenue are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer.

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

Purpose and nature of items**Contract retentions**

Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or a related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with council's contractual obligations.

Fire Services Property Levy

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

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue (continued)****Purpose and nature of items*****Building deposits***

Under the provisions of the Building Act 1993, Council may issue a Building Permit subject to a condition that the applicant must deposit with the Council a bond, for an amount determined in accordance with the regulations, to secure the complete and satisfactory carrying out of the work authorised by the Building Permit.

St Andrews church repair fund

These funds were held by a Section 86 committee which was disbanded in 2012. The funds were returned to Council to use for repairs to the building.

Wedderburn Pre-school investment

Council is holding funds on behalf of the Wedderburn Pre-school. These funds are invested by Council according to the instructions of the pre-school.

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.4 Provisions**

2022	Employee					Total
	Annual leave	Long service leave	RDOs	Landfill rehabilitation	Gravel pit rehabilitation	
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,119,702	2,032,984	125,504	1,089,327	86,028	4,453,545
Additional provisions	862,822	325,304	532,809	(202,911)	(20,930)	1,497,094
Amounts used	(939,624)	(359,225)	(564,095)	-	-	(1,862,944)
Variation in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at the end of the financial year	1,042,900	1,999,063	94,218	886,416	65,098	4,087,695

2021	Employee					Total
	Annual leave	Long service leave	RDOs	Landfill rehabilitation	Gravel pit rehabilitation	
Balance at beginning of the financial year	915,385	1,866,223	114,069	1,347,799	94,972	4,338,448
Additional provisions	970,519	316,396	602,529	(258,472)	(8,944)	1,622,028
Amounts used	(766,202)	(149,635)	(591,094)	-	-	(1,506,931)
Variation in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at the end of the financial year	1,119,702	2,032,984	125,504	1,089,327	86,028	4,453,545

(a) Employee provisions

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	834,320	895,762
Long service leave	215,797	213,358
RDOs	94,218	125,504
Total	1,144,335	1,234,624
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Annual leave	208,580	223,940
Long service leave	1,444,175	1,427,854
Total	1,652,755	1,651,794
Total current employee provisions	2,797,090	2,886,418
Non-current		
Long service leave	339,091	391,772
Total non-current employee provisions	339,091	391,772
Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions		
Current	2,797,090	2,886,418
Non-current	339,091	391,772
Total aggregate amount of employee provisions	3,136,181	3,278,190

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.4 Provisions (continued)****(a) Employee provisions (continued)**

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

Annual leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:

- nominal value if the Council expected to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

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

Long service leave

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

Key assumptions:	2022	2021
Weighted average increase in employee costs	2.48%	3.57%
Weighted average discount rates	4.30%	0.67%
Weighted average settlement period	19 months	21 months

(b) Landfill restoration

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current	44,321	54,466
Non-current	842,095	1,034,861
Total landfill restoration	886,416	1,089,327

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

Key assumptions:	2022	2021
Weighted average increase in costs	2.52%	1.62%
Weighted average discount rates	3.65%	0.70%
Weighted average settlement period	42 years	16 years

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.4 Provisions (continued)****(c) Gravel pit rehabilitation**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current	-	-
Non-current	65,098	86,028
Total gravel pit rehabilitation	65,098	86,028

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

Key assumptions:	2022	2021
Weighted average increase in costs	2.52%	1.62%
Weighted average discount rates	3.57%	0.83%
Weighted average settlement period	17 years	18 years

Summary of provisions

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current	2,841,411	2,940,884
Non-current	1,246,284	1,512,661
Total provisions	4,087,695	4,453,545

5.5 Financing arrangements

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Bank overdraft - Westpac	500,000	500,000
Credit card facilities	100,000	100,000
Total facilities	600,000	600,000
Used facilities	-	-
Unused facilities	600,000	600,000

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NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)

5.6 Commitments

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

(a) Commitments for expenditure

2022

	Not later than 1 year \$	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$	Later than 5 years \$	Total \$
Operating					
Environmental services	972,385	972,385	2,917,155	972,385	5,834,310
Insurance services	550,855	-	-	-	550,855
Library corporation	221,288	-	-	-	221,288
Workcover	210,719	-	-	-	210,719
Internal audit	26,000	-	-	-	26,000
Other minor orders committed	34,100	-	-	-	34,100
Total	2,015,347	972,385	2,917,155	972,385	6,877,272
Capital					
Donaldson Park	147,830	-	-	-	147,830
Footpath contracted works	191,382	-	-	-	191,382
Bridge and culvert contracted works	220,000	-	-	-	220,000
Major plant items	530,331	-	-	-	530,331
Fleet items	63,865	-	-	-	63,865
Various computer equipment	96,505	-	-	-	96,505
Total	1,249,913	-	-	-	1,249,913
	3,265,260	972,385	2,917,155	972,385	8,127,185

2021

	Not later than 1 year \$	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$	Later than 5 years \$	Total \$
Operating					
Environment services	973,285	972,385	2,917,155	1,974,770	6,837,595
Insurance services	509,171	-	-	-	509,171
Workcover	162,437	-	-	-	162,437
Library corporation	218,018	-	-	-	218,018
Internal audit	26,000	26,000	26,000	-	78,000
Bridgewater change rooms	234,415	-	-	-	234,415
Other minor orders committed	55,544	-	-	-	55,544
Total	2,178,870	998,385	2,943,155	1,974,770	8,095,180
Capital					
Laanecoorie Newbridge Road works	784,302	-	-	-	784,302
Donaldson Park planning	125,180	-	-	-	125,180
Baileys Road works	838,794	-	-	-	838,794
Wedderburn - High Street works	90,681	-	-	-	90,681
Lake View and Andrews Street works	189,963	-	-	-	189,963
Godfrey Street works	220,000	-	-	-	220,000
Contract 488 - various works	520,300	-	-	-	520,300
Total	2,769,220	-	-	-	2,769,220
	4,948,090	998,385	2,943,155	1,974,770	10,864,400

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.6 Commitments (continued)****(b) Operating lease receivables**

Council has entered into commercial property leases on its investment property and caravan parks. These properties held under operating leases have remaining non-cancellation lease terms between 1 and 10 years. All leases include a CPI based revision of the rental charge annually. Both properties are due for lease renew in 2022/23.

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Lease receivable		
No later than one year	-	214,302
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	-
Later than five years	-	-
	-	214,302

5.7 Leases

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.7 Leases (continued)**

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

Council has concessionary leases covering crown land parcels as outlined below:

- caravan parks at Wedderburn, Bridgewater, Boort and Pyramid Hill
- office space at Serpentine
- various other community recreation and hall / centre facilities.

There is no cost for the lease of these properties, however Council is responsible for all maintenance, utility and relevant insurance costs associated with the land. No lease term has been determined for the properties outlined.

Right of use assets	Property \$	Vehicles \$	Other \$	Total \$
Balance as at 1 July 2021	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Amortisation charge	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2022	-	-	-	-

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Lease liabilities		
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows	-	-
Less than one year	-	-
One to five years	-	-
More than five years	-	-
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June	-	-
Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet as at 30 June		
Current	-	-
Non-current	-	-
Total lease liabilities	-	-

Short-term and low value leases

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

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	-	-
Leases of low value assets	24,390	27,237
Total	24,390	27,237

Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)

- -

NOTE 5 OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**5.7 Leases (continued)****Non-cancellable lease commitments - Short-term and low-value leases**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:		
Payable:		
Within one year	3,518	5,780
Later than 1 year but no later than 5 years	20,872	21,457
Total lease commitments	24,390	27,237

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE**6.1 Non current assets classified as held for sale**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Non current		
Land at valuation	323,273	230,864
Capitalised development costs	-	-
Borrowing costs capitalised during development	-	-
LESS selling costs	(11,315)	(8,080)
Total non current assets held for sale	311,958	222,784

Capitalisation rate used in the allocation of borrowing costs

N/A %

N/A %

Non-current assets classified as held for sale (including disposal groups) are measured at the lower of its carrying amount and fair value less costs to disposal, and are not subject to depreciation. Non-current assets, disposal groups and related liabilities and assets are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale (or disposal group sale) is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment****Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment**

	Carrying amount 30 June 2021 \$	Additions \$	Revaluation / transfers \$	Depreciation \$	Disposals \$	Carrying amount 30 June 2022 \$
Land	9,736,262	835,934	3,438,473	-	-	14,010,669
Buildings	47,987,159	288,337	6,149,995	(1,504,207)	-	52,921,284
Plant and equipment	7,435,109	839,556	-	(1,011,431)	(98,589)	7,164,645
Infrastructure	288,539,953	5,165,970	(20,149,616)	(6,754,599)	-	266,801,707
Work in progress	2,412,458	444,855	(5,758)	-	-	2,851,555
Total	356,110,941	7,574,652	(10,566,906)	(9,270,237)	(98,589)	343,749,861

Summary of work in progress

	Opening WIP \$	Additions \$	Transfers \$	Write-off \$	Closing WIP \$
Buildings	1,532,500	444,855	(5,758)	-	1,971,597
Infrastructure	879,958	-	-	-	879,958
Total	2,412,458	444,855	(5,758)	-	2,851,555

(a) Property

	Land	Buildings - specialised	Work in progress	Total land and buildings
Land and Buildings				
At fair value 1 July 2021	9,736,263	89,597,251	1,532,500	100,582,059
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	-	(41,610,092)	-	(41,326,138)
	9,736,263	47,987,159	1,532,500	59,255,921
Movements in fair value				
Additions	835,934	288,337	444,855	1,569,126
Contributions	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	3,438,473	3,782,700	-	7,221,173
Disposal	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-
	4,274,407	4,071,037	444,855	8,790,299
Movements in accumulated depreciation				
Depreciation and amortisation	-	(1,504,207)	-	(1,504,207)
Revaluation	-	2,361,537	-	2,361,537
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	5,758	(5,758)	-
	-	863,088	(5,758)	857,330
At fair value 30 June 2022	14,010,670	93,668,288	1,971,597	109,372,358
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	-	(40,747,004)	-	(40,468,808)
Carrying amount	14,010,670	52,921,284	1,971,597	68,903,550

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)****(b) Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment	Plant machinery and equipment	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Total plant and equipment
At fair value 1 July 2021	13,727,298	1,892,139	15,619,437
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(6,836,005)	(1,348,322)	(8,184,327)
	6,891,293	543,817	7,435,109
Movements in fair value			
Additions	749,230	90,326	839,556
Contributions	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-
Disposal	(430,446)	(133,889)	(564,335)
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-
	318,784	(43,563)	275,221
Movements in accumulated depreciation			
Depreciation and amortisation	(886,211)	(125,220)	(1,011,431)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	331,857	133,889	465,746
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-
	(554,354)	8,669	(545,685)
At fair value 30 June 2022	14,046,082	1,848,576	15,894,658
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(7,390,359)	(1,339,653)	(8,730,012)
Carrying amount	6,655,723	508,923	7,164,646

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)****(c) Infrastructure**

Infrastructure	Roads	Bridges	Footpaths and cycleways	Kerb and channel	Drainage
At fair value 1 July 2021	369,332,401	38,599,332	7,463,191	5,896,235	15,978,485
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(117,960,600)	(18,975,556)	(1,989,899)	(2,272,340)	(8,359,410)
	251,371,801	19,623,776	5,473,292	3,623,895	7,619,075
Movements in fair value					
Additions	3,514,155	920,762	353,946	169,544	207,563
Revaluation	(50,970,521)	8,451,361	(413,257)	421,722	689,189
	(47,456,366)	9,372,123	(59,311)	591,266	896,752
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(5,735,048)	(486,245)	(158,066)	(108,243)	(224,057)
Revaluation (increments)/decrements	25,791,714	(4,121,120)	299,192	(138,092)	(245,094)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	20,056,666	(4,607,365)	141,126	(246,335)	(469,151)
At fair value 30 June 2022	321,876,035	47,971,455	7,403,880	6,487,501	16,875,237
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(97,903,934)	(23,582,921)	(1,848,773)	(2,518,675)	(8,828,561)
Carrying amount	223,972,101	24,388,534	5,555,107	3,968,826	8,046,676

Infrastructure (continued)	Quarries	Street Furniture	Landfills	Work In Progress	Total Infrastructure
At fair value 1 July 2021	58,507	649,790	1,994,306	879,958	440,852,206
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(28,334)	(181,425)	(1,664,731)	-	(151,432,295)
	30,173	468,365	329,575	879,958	289,419,911
Movements in fair value					
Additions	-	-	-	-	5,165,970
Revaluation	-	85,878	-	-	(41,735,628)
	-	85,878	-	-	(36,569,658)
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,148)	(31,629)	(10,163)	-	(6,754,599)
Revaluation (increments)/decrements	-	(588)	-	-	21,586,012
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	(1,148)	(32,217)	(10,163)	-	14,831,413
At fair value 30 June 2022	58,507	735,668	1,994,306	879,958	404,282,548
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(29,482)	(213,642)	(1,674,894)	-	(136,600,882)
Carrying amount	29,025	522,026	319,412	879,958	267,681,666

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)****Acquisition**

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

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

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

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods

	Depreciation period Years	Threshold limit \$
Property		
land	-	3,000
leasehold improvements	10 to 30	3,000
Buildings		
buildings	33 to 100	3,000
building and leasehold improvements	10 to 30	3,000
Plant and equipment		
plant, machinery, minor plant and equipment	2.5 to 20	3,000
motor vehicles	5	3,000
fixtures fittings and furniture	5 to 50	3,000
computers and telecommunications	3	3,000
Infrastructure		
road seals	10 to 45	3,000
road pavements - sealed	80	3,000
road pavements - unsealed	100 to 500	3,000
road formation and earthworks	-	3,000
road kerb, channel and minor culverts	60	3,000
bridges deck and substructure	80 to 100	3,000
footpaths and cycle ways	15 to 50	3,000
drainage	50 to 80	3,000
recreational, leisure and community facilities	50 to 80	3,000
waste management assets	20	3,000
parks, open space and streetscapes	15 to 50	3,000
off street car parks	80	3,000
aerodromes	30 to 80	3,000
Intangible assets - water rights	-	3,000

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)

Depreciation and amortisation

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and methods are reviewed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

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

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

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

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

Repairs and maintenance

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

Leasehold improvements

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

Valuation of land and buildings

The valuation of land and buildings was undertaken by LG Valuation Services a qualified independent valuation firm. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the Comprehensive Income Statement.

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

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

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. A full revaluation of these was conducted in 2021/22, this valuation was based on land values and market sales.

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)****Valuation of land and buildings (continued)**

Council values all land and building assets every two years. The next full revaluation is due on 30 June 2024. Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation
Land	-	2,004,567	12,006,103	30/6/2022
Specialised land	-	-	-	30/6/2022
Buildings	-	-	-	30/6/2022
Specialised buildings	-	-	52,921,284	30/6/2022
TOTAL	-	2,004,567	64,927,387	

Valuation of infrastructure

A valuation of Council's infrastructure assets was performed by David Southcombe, Manager Assets and Infrastructure of the Loddon Shire Council, as at 30 June 2022.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. An indexed based revaluation was conducted in the current year. This valuation was based on current unit rates and sample analysis of condition ratings. Full revaluation of all assets are coordinated on a cyclic timeframe.

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

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

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of valuation
Unsealed roads formation	-	-	17,302,753	30/6/2022
Unsealed roads pavement	-	-	49,563,211	30/6/2022
Road seal	-	-	11,552,296	30/6/2022
Sealed roads pavement	-	-	114,389,870	30/6/2022
Sealed road formation	-	-	11,256,268	30/6/2022
Footpaths	-	-	5,555,107	30/6/2022
Culverts	-	-	19,907,703	30/6/2022
Bridges	-	-	24,388,534	30/6/2022
Kerb and channel	-	-	3,968,826	30/6/2022
Urban drains	-	-	8,046,676	30/6/2022
Street furniture	-	-	522,026	30/6/2022
Landfills	-	-	319,412	30/6/2022
Quarries	-	-	29,025	30/6/2022
TOTAL	-	-	266,801,707	

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (continued)****Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations**

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 5% and 95%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$0 and \$71.50 per square metre.

Specialised buildings are valued using a depreciated replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement cost is calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$45 to \$3,780 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 1 year to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 2 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

Reconciliation of specialised land

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Land under roads	-	-
Parks and reserves	-	-
TOTAL	-	-

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.3 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries****(a) Investments in associates****North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation**

The Council is a member of the North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation. At 30 June 2022 Council's equity was \$295,054. At 30 June 2021 Council's equity in the corporation was \$284,683.

Loddon has a 4.82 per cent share of the net assets, and this is calculated on the same ratio as Council contributes to the operating costs of the service. At 30 June 2021 Council's share of the net assets was 4.89 per cent. Any adjustments required due to the reduction in the share of net assets from 2021 to 2022 is reflected as Variation Account - Change in Equity in the following schedules.

Fair value of Council's share in its ownership

	295,054	284,683
	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at start of year	109,764	90,566
Reported surplus/(deficit) for year	14,446	13,233
Variation account - change in equity	(2,344)	5,965
Council's share of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at end of year	121,866	109,764
Council's share of reserves		
Council's share of reserves at start of year	174,920	184,771
Variation account - change in equity	(1,731)	(9,851)
Council's share of reserves at end of year	173,189	174,920
Movement in carrying value of share in library		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	284,683	275,336
Share of surplus/(deficit) for the year	14,446	13,233
Variation account - change in equity	(4,075)	(3,886)
Carrying value of investment at end of year	295,054	284,683
Council's share of expenditure commitments		
Operating commitments	3,925	7,832
Capital commitments	-	-
Council's share of expenditure commitments	3,925	7,832
Council's share of contingent liabilities and contingent assets		
Nil	-	-
Council's share of contingent liabilities and contingent assets	-	-

Adjustment to the carrying value of North Central Goldfields Regional Library

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Adjustment to the carrying value of North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation	10,371	9,347
Total adjustment to the carrying value of North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation	10,371	9,347

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

NOTE 6 ASSETS WE MANAGE (Continued)**6.3 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries (continued)**

Investments in joint arrangements are classified as either joint operations or joint ventures depending on the contractual rights and obligations each investor has, rather than the legal structure of the joint arrangement.

For joint operations, Council recognises the right to its share of jointly held assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of joint operations. Council has no joint arrangements at reporting date.

Interests in joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method. Under this method, the interests are initially recognised in the consolidated balance sheet at cost and adjusted thereafter to recognise Council's share of the post-acquisition profits or losses and movements in other comprehensive income in profit or loss and other comprehensive income respectively.

The consolidated financial statements of Council incorporate all entities controlled by Council as at 30 June 2022, and their income and expenses for that part of the reporting period in which control existed.

Subsidiaries are all entities over which Council has control. Council control an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to Council. They are deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

Where dissimilar accounting policies are adopted by entities and their effect is considered material, adjustments are made to ensure consistent policies are adopted in these financial statements.

Council has no consolidated entities.

Community Asset Committee

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

NOTE 7 PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS**7.1 Council and key management remuneration****(a) Related parties**

Loddon Shire Council is the parent entity. There are no further interests in subsidiaries and associates.

(b) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and other members of the Management Executive Group are deemed KMP.

Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of Key Management Personnel at any time during the year were:

Councillors:	2022 No.	2021 No.
Cr Cheryl McKinnon (Mayor from July 2020 to November 2020)		
Cr Neil Beattie (Councillor from July 2020 to June 2022 (Mayor from November 2020 to November 2021))		
Cr Geoff Curnow (Councillor from July 2020 to November 2020)		
Cr Gavan Holt (Councillor from July 2020 to June 2022)		
Cr Colleen Condliffe (Councillor from July 2020 to November 2020)		
Cr Dan Straub (Councillor from November 2020 to June 2022) (Mayor from November 2021 to June 2022))		
Cr Wendy Murphy (Councillor from November 2020 to June 2022)		
Cr Linda Jungwirth (Councillor from November 2020 to June 2022)		
Key Management Personnel:		
Mr Phil Pinyon (Chief Executive Officer from July 2020 to June 2021)		
Mrs Wendy Gladman (Director Community and Wellbeing July 2020 to June 2022)		
Mrs Sharon Morrison (Director Corporate Services July 2020 to February 2022)		
Mr Steven Phillips (Director Operations July 2020 to June 2022)		
Ms Lynne Habner (Manager Executive and Commercial Services July 2020 to June 2022)		
Mr Lincoln Fitzgerald (Chief Executive Officer November 2021 to June 2022)		
Mrs Amanda Wilson (Director Corporate March 2022 to June 2022)		
Mrs Jude Holt (Acting Chief Executive Officer, Acting Director Corporate Services, Acting Director Community Wellbeing (July 2021 to June 2022)		
Total number of Councillors	5	8
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel:	8	5
Total Key Management Personnel	13	13

(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Total remuneration of Key Management Personnel was as follows:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Short-term benefits	1,248,049	1,141,549
Long-term benefits	16,114	17,325
Post employment benefits	114,557	88,051
TOTAL	1,378,720	1,246,925

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NOTE 7 PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS (Continued)**7.1 Council and key management remuneration (continued)****(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel (continued)**

The numbers of Key Management Personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:

Income range	2022 number	2021 number
\$0,000 - \$9,999	-	2
\$10,000 - \$19,999	1	-
\$20,000 - \$29,999	2	4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	1	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	-
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	-
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1	1
\$120,000 - \$129,999	2	1
\$130,000 - \$139,999	-	-
\$150,000 - \$159,999	1	-
\$160,000 - \$169,999	1	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	-	1
\$190,000 - \$199,999	-	1
\$200,000 - \$209,999	-	1
\$210,000 - \$219,999	1	-
\$300,000 - \$309,999	1	-
\$310,000 - \$319,999	-	1
	13	13

(d) Senior officer remuneration

A Senior Officer is an officer of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- (a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer: or
- (b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000.

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

Income range	2022 number	2021 number
\$150,000 - \$159,999	1	-
\$160,000 - \$169,999	1	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	2	-
	4	-

Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Senior Officers included above, amounted to:

\$ 662,342	-
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NOTE 7 PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS (Continued)**7.2 Related party disclosure****(a) Transactions with related parties**

No transactions other than remuneration payments or the reimbursement of approved expenses were entered into by Council with responsible persons or related parties of such responsible persons during the reporting year (Nil in 2020/21).

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

There are no outstanding balances outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties (Nil in 2020/21).

(c) Loans to/from related parties

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a responsible person of the Council during the reporting year (Nil in 2020/21).

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

No commitments have been made, guaranteed or secured by Council to a responsible person of the Council during the reporting year (Nil in 2020/21).

NOTE 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

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

(a) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of Council.

Council has no contingent assets.

(b) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:

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

Superannuation

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

Future superannuation contributions

In addition to the disclosed contributions, Council has not paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$Nil (2020/21 \$Nil). There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2022. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 are \$Nil.

Landfill

Council operates landfills. Council will have to carry out site rehabilitation works in the future. At balance date Council assesses the financial implications of such works using the estimates provided by relevant Council staff.

Liability Mutual Insurance

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

8.2 Change in accounting standards

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

NOTE 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES (Continued)

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

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

(b) Market risk

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

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk. Council repaid the balance of its loan borrowings in 2015/16, thereby reducing the risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its levels of cash and deposits that are at a floating rate.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 2020*. Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

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

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

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

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in our balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations.

To help manage this risk:

- Council has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities council deals with;
- Council may require bank guarantees or security deposits for contracts where appropriate; and
- Council will only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in Council's investment policy.

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

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

NOTE 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES (Continued)**8.3 Financial instruments (continued)****(c) Credit risk (continued)**

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when we provide a guarantee for another party. Council has no such guarantees in place at 30 June 2022.

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

(d) Liquidity risk

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

To help reduce these risks Council:

- has historically minimised borrowings in the short to medium term
- reduced its reliance on borrowings with repayment of all borrowings occurring in 2015/16
- has readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place
- ensures that surplus funds are invested within various bands of liquid investments
- monitors budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- sets limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

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

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

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

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

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

- A parallel shift of + 1.0% and -1.5% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 3.85%.

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

NOTE 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES (Continued)

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Revaluation

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment and furniture and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 1 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

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

NOTE 8 MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES (Continued)**8.4 Fair value measurement (continued)****Impairment of assets**

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

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

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

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS**9.1 Reserves****(a) Asset revaluation reserve****2022**

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$	Increment / (decrement) \$	Balance at end of reporting period \$
Property			
Land and land improvements	9,107,674	4,268,649	13,376,323
Buildings	33,682,511	5,477,152	39,159,663
	42,790,185	9,745,801	52,535,986
Infrastructure assets			
Sealed roads	150,523,917	(33,455,232)	117,068,685
Unsealed roads	65,141,194	8,276,426	73,417,620
Footpaths	923,263	(114,065)	809,198
Street furniture	86,156	85,290	171,446
Kerbs	1,052,018	283,630	1,335,648
Bridges	9,805,444	4,330,240	14,135,684
Drains	539,034	444,095	983,129
Other infrastructure	228,071,026	(20,149,616)	207,921,410
Total tangible assets	270,861,211	(10,403,815)	260,457,396
Intangible assets			
Water rights	1,737,524	37,870	1,775,394
Total	272,598,734	(10,365,945)	262,232,789

2021

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$	Increment / (decrement) \$	Balance at end of reporting period \$
Property			
Land and land improvements	9,096,167	11,507	9,107,674
Buildings	33,682,511	-	33,682,511
	42,778,678	11,507	42,790,185
Infrastructure assets			
Sealed roads	154,235,638	(3,711,721)	150,523,917
Unsealed roads	65,893,905	(752,711)	65,141,194
Footpaths	1,231,885	(308,622)	923,263
Street furniture	94,671	(8,515)	86,156
Kerbs	932,542	119,476	1,052,018
Bridges	10,603,668	(798,224)	9,805,444
Drains	625,554	(86,520)	539,034
Other infrastructure	233,617,863	(5,546,837)	228,071,026
Total tangible assets	276,396,541	(5,535,330)	270,861,211
Intangible assets			
Water rights	2,042,604	(305,080)	1,737,524
Total	278,439,144	(5,840,410)	272,598,734

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

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NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.1 Reserves (continued)****(b) General reserves**

2022

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$	Transfer from accumulated surplus \$	Transfer to accumulated surplus \$	Balance at end of reporting period \$
Land and buildings reserve	455,274	283,736	(5,000)	734,010
Boundary and township signage reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Capital expenditure reserve	4,282,325	3,746,399	(4,282,325)	3,746,399
Caravan park development reserve	188,073	148,247	(6,100)	330,220
Community planning reserve	2,628,720	1,760,608	(1,357,720)	3,031,608
Economic development reserve	431,182	100,000	(17,600)	513,582
Fleet replacement reserve	713,468	200,000	(103,462)	810,006
Gravel and sand pit restoration reserve	400,000	-	-	400,000
Heritage loan scheme reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Information technology reserve	810,803	150,000	(271,965)	688,838
Little Lake Boort water reserve	17,604	-	-	17,604
Waste management reserve	300,000	-	-	300,000
Major projects reserve	233,996	84,489	-	318,485
Plant replacement reserve	1,574,210	900,000	(494,812)	1,979,398
Professional development reserve	15,619	5,233	(4,596)	16,256
Recreation facilities improvement reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Swimming pool major projects reserve	200,000	-	-	200,000
Unfunded superannuation liability reserve	1,200,000	-	(200,000)	1,000,000
Units reserve	60,000	-	(29,250)	30,750
Unightly premises enforcement provision reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Unspent contributions reserve	-	-	-	-
Unspent grants reserve	10,860,404	11,336,435	(10,860,405)	11,336,434
Urban drainage reserve	773,443	350,000	(162,777)	960,666
Total	25,545,121	19,065,147	(17,796,012)	26,814,256

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.1 Reserves (continued)****(b) General reserves (continued)**

2021

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$	Transfer from accumulated surplus \$	Transfer to accumulated surplus \$	Balance at end of reporting period \$
Land and buildings reserve	(15,070)	470,344	-	455,274
Boundary and township signage reserve	83,206	16,794	-	100,000
Capital expenditure reserve	6,244,527	4,282,325	(6,244,527)	4,282,325
Caravan park development reserve	49,393	138,680	-	188,073
Community planning reserve	2,007,039	1,857,720	(1,236,039)	2,628,720
Economic development reserve	371,740	100,000	(40,558)	431,182
Fleet replacement reserve	640,954	227,380	(154,866)	713,468
Gravel and sand pit restoration reserve	400,000	-	-	400,000
Heritage loan scheme reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Information technology reserve	800,000	185,000	(174,197)	810,803
Little Lake Boort water reserve	24,069	3,535	(10,000)	17,604
Waste management reserve	300,000	-	-	300,000
Major projects reserve	153,996	80,000	-	233,996
Plant replacement reserve	1,486,953	917,741	(830,484)	1,574,210
Professional development reserve	9,619	6,000	-	15,619
Recreation facilities improvement reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Swimming pool major projects reserve	150,000	50,000	-	200,000
Unfunded superannuation liability reserve	898,808	301,192	-	1,200,000
Units reserve	60,000	-	-	60,000
Unightly premises enforcement provision reserve	100,000	-	-	100,000
Unspent contributions reserve	-	-	-	-
Unspent grants reserve	8,009,547	10,860,404	(8,009,547)	10,860,404
Urban drainage reserve	843,958	125,000	(195,515)	773,443
Total	22,818,739	19,622,115	(16,895,733)	25,545,121

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.1 Reserves (continued)****(b) General reserves (continued)****Purpose of general reserves*****Land and buildings reserve***

The land and buildings reserve is used to fund the purchase and improvement of land and buildings. Proceeds received from the sale of Council owned land and buildings are transferred to the reserve.

Boundary and township signage reserve

The Boundary and Township Signage Reserve is used to fund replacement of Council's boundary and township signage. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund the boundary and township signage replacement program, to a maximum reserve level of \$100K. The net cost of boundary and township signage purchases and installation for the year is transferred from the reserve.

Capital expenditure reserve

The capital expenditure reserve is used to set aside funds that have been budgeted for capital works projects in one financial year but will not be expended by the end of that year. Council transfers to the reserve annually the unexpended budget amounts for capital works and other projects that will be undertaken in the following financial year.

Caravan park development reserve

The caravan park development reserve is used to set aside surpluses made from the operations of council's caravan parks to assist with financing major works carried out at those caravan parks. The annual surplus made on the operations of Council's caravan parks is transferred to the reserve annually, and the funds required to finance major works undertaken at Council's caravan parks are transferred from the reserve.

Community planning reserve

The community planning reserve is used to set aside unspent funds for community planning projects. Council transfers to the reserve annually cumulative unspent funds for each ward's community planning projects. Council transfers from the reserve the amount placed into the reserve at the end of the previous financial year.

Economic development reserve

The economic development reserve is used to assist with economic development initiatives that council wishes to financially support. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund economic development initiatives, and proceeds from the sale of industrial land along with the cost of economic development initiatives during the financial year are transferred from the reserve.

Fleet replacement reserve

The fleet replacement reserve is used to fund the replacement of passenger vehicles. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund the fleet replacement program, and transfers from the reserve the net cost of fleet purchases for the year.

Gravel and sand pit (GSP) restoration reserve

The gravel and sand pit (GSP) restoration reserve is used to fund land purchase, development and restoration of gravel and sand pits used by council for the extraction of road building materials. Council transfers from the reserve the cost of purchasing new sites and development and restoration of gravel and sand pits, and transfers to the reserve annual surplus on operations of gravel and sand pits.

Heritage loan scheme reserve

The heritage loan scheme reserve is used to provide loans to owners of properties located in significant heritage precincts, heritage registered buildings or structures of local heritage significance, to enable repair and maintenance of those buildings with the aims of quality appearance and public safety.

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.1 Reserves (continued)****(b) General reserves (continued)****Purpose of general reserves (continued)*****Information technology reserve***

The information technology reserve is used to assist with the purchase of information technology assets. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund information technology assets, and transfers from the reserve the net cost of information technology assets.

Little Lake Boort water

The Little Lake Boort water reserve is used to secure the proceeds from sale of temporary water rights relating to Little Lake Boort. Council transfers to the reserve the proceeds from the sale of temporary water rights and unexpended amounts from annual expenditure budget, and transfers from the reserve the amounts required to purchase water rights or for any other expenditure relating to Little Lake Boort.

Waste management reserve

The waste management reserve is used to assist with the cost of strategic projects, compliance and long term planning for Council's landfills and transfer stations. Council transfers to the reserve annually \$10 per kerbside collection levy (or a pro-rated amount for a pro-rated collection). Council transfers from the reserve the cost of strategic projects, compliance and long term planning within Council landfills and transfer stations.

Major projects reserve

The major projects reserve is used to assist with the funding of major projects identified by Council. An annual allocation determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund major projects is transferred to the reserve. When a major project is identified and approved, an amount will be transferred from the reserve to assist with funding the project.

Plant replacement reserve

The plant replacement reserve is used to fund plant purchases. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund the plant replacement program. Council transfers from the reserve the net cost of plant purchases for the year.

Professional development reserve

The professional development reserve is used to fund the professional development undertaken by executive officers of Council. An annual allocation is provided to each executive officer in accordance with their contract of employment, while the cost of the professional development undertaken during the year is transferred from the reserve.

Recreation facilities improvement reserve

The recreation facilities improvement reserve is an allocation of funds used to provide interest free loans to community groups for improvements at council reserves.

Swimming pool major projects reserve

The Swimming Pool Major Projects Reserve is used to fund unplanned major repairs and capital works on the various swimming pool sites across the Shire. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process, to a maximum reserve level of \$200K. Council transfers from the reserve the net cost of unplanned major repairs and capital works.

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.1 Reserves (continued)****(b) General reserves (continued)****Purpose of general reserves (continued)*****Unfunded superannuation liability reserve***

The unfunded superannuation liability reserve is used to assist with funding any call that may be made on council as a result of shortfall in the Local Authorities' Superannuation Defined Benefits Plan. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process as sufficient to fund potential future calls by the superannuation authority in relation to an unfunded superannuation liability. Council transfers from the reserve any funds required to finance a call made upon Council by the superannuation authority.

Units reserve

The units reserve is used to fund the purchase or improvement of council owned elderly persons' units. The net surplus generated from rental income is transferred to the reserve annually. Funds are transferred out of the reserve to cover the cost of capital works undertaken at elderly persons' units.

Unightly premises enforcement provision reserve

The Unightly Premises Enforcement Provision Reserve is used to provide funds to assist with the enforcement and rectification works on identified unightly premises with costs recouped via legal or other action.

Unspent contributions reserve

The unspent contributions reserve is used to set aside contributions received for a specific purpose in one financial year that will not be expended until a later financial year. Council transfers to the reserve contributions received during the financial year that have not been expended, and transfers from the reserve the amount placed into the reserve at the end of the previous financial year.

Unspent grants reserve

The unspent grants reserve is used to set aside grants received in one financial year that will not be expended until a later financial year. Council transfers to the reserve grants received during the financial year that have not been expended, and transfers from the reserve the amount placed into the reserve at the end of the previous financial year.

Urban drainage reserve

The urban drainage reserve is used to fund urban drainage works in the towns within the Shire. Council transfers to the reserve annually an amount determined during the budget process sufficient to fund the urban drainage program, and transfers from the reserve the annual cost of urban drainage work.

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)**

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Surplus / (deficit) for the period	2,002,203	2,750,490
Depreciation	9,270,237	9,959,894
(Profit) / loss on disposal of assets	(34,433)	(88,633)
Impairment of financial assets	-	-
Reversal of impairment of assets	-	(32)
Bad debts expense	18,759	(4,720)
Share of other comprehensive income of associates	(4,075)	(3,886)
Change in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables (net of advances)	286,756	(539,818)
(Increase) / decrease in accrued income	(67,263)	97,823
(Increase) / decrease in prepayments	(90,576)	128,743
(Increase) / decrease in other assets and liabilities	-	-
Increase / (decrease) in unearned income	100,000	2,271,276
Increase / (decrease) in trust funds and deposits	2,611	8,791
(Increase) / decrease in inventories	24,120	2,662
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(798,001)	837,797
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefits	(142,009)	382,513
Increase / (decrease) in other provisions	(223,841)	(267,416)
(Increase) / decrease in library equity	(10,371)	(9,347)
Net cash provided by / used by operating activities	10,334,117	15,526,137

9.3 Superannuation

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

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation categories, Vision MySuper / Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2022, this was 10.0% required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) Legislation, for 2021 this was 9.5%).

Defined benefit

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

There is no proportional split of the define benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB119.

Funding arrangements

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

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.3 Superannuation (continued)****Defined benefit (continued)****Funding arrangements (continued)**

As at 30 June 2021, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefits category.

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

Net investment returns	4.75% pa
Salary information	2.75% pa
Price inflation (CPI)	2.25% pa

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

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

Net investment returns	5.5% pa
Salary information	2.5% pa to 30 June 2023, and 3.5% pa thereafter
Price inflation (CPI)	3.0% pa

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the June 2021 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer contributions (regular contributions)

On the basis of the results of the 2021 full actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2022, this rate was 10.0% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2020/21). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

Funding calls

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

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

NOTE 9 OTHER MATTERS (Continued)**9.3 Superannuation (continued)****Funding calls (continued)**

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers. In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

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

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

	2021 (Interim)	2020 (Triennial)
	\$M	\$M
- A VBI surplus	214.70	100.00
- A total service liability surplus	270.30	200.00
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	285.20	217.80

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

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2020.

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

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

The 2022 interim actuarial investigation

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

Superannuation contributions

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

Scheme - Type of Scheme - Rate	2022 \$	2021 \$
Vision super - Defined Benefit - 10.0% (2021: 9.50%)	94,428	71,017
Vision super - Accumulation fund - 10.0% (2021: 9.50%)	492,304	539,760
Other super funds	293,393	256,100

There were no contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2022. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 is \$Nil.

NOTE 10 CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

There have been no changes to accounting policies for the 2021/22 year.

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





Loddon Shire Council

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11 INFORMATION REPORTS

Nil

12 COMPLIANCE REPORTS

Nil

13 URGENT BUSINESS

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, Clause 53 provides that at a scheduled or special meeting of Council, business that is not included in the agenda notice must only be considered if no more than one Councillor is absent and the Council resolves that the matter is urgent.

Despite this requirement, a matter that is not included in the agenda notice must not be considered at a Council meeting if it will:

- (a) directly and significantly affect the exercise of a person's rights;
- (b) alter the Council Plan or the budget; or
- (c) commit the Council to expenditure exceeding \$20,000.

14 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020:

14.1 Finalisation of Sale of Properties for Rate Recovery Under Section 181 of the Local Government Act 1989

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1)(f) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

This report contains personal information relating to unpaid rates and charges on a property.

14.2 Contract 545 - Annual Reseal Program 2022-2023

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1)(a) and (g(ii)) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Pursuant to Section 66 (5)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item, may prejudice the commercial position of Council and/or disadvantage a private business, as various negotiations remain pending.

14.3 Contract 511 - Quarrying & Production of 20mm Crushed Rock

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1)(a) and (g(ii)) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Pursuant to section 65(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item, may prejudice the commercial position of Council and/or disadvantage a private business.

14.4 SCHEDULING OF SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF MAYOR

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1)(a) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

The discussion will determine matters of Council that will remain confidential until announcement of the formal election of the Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION

That the meeting be closed to the public.

NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 22 November 2022 at Wedderburn commencing at at 3pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at [enter time](#).

Confirmed this.....day of..... 2022

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