



**I hereby give notice that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:**

**Date: Tuesday 8 October 2024**

**Time: 4:00pm**

**Location: Council Chambers  
Cnr Camp & Weddin Streets  
GRENFELL NSW 2810**

# **AGENDA**

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting 8 October 2024**

**Noreen Vu  
General Manager**

## ***“Weddin Shire Council – working for and with the community”***







Council's Mission Statement





## WSC STRATEGIC DIRECTION

To attain the overarching objective of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP), population growth, Council will work together with the Weddin Community to achieve the following strategic objectives, listed in priority order:

No.	Strategic Objective	Key Area
1.	Collaborative wealth building (strong, diverse and resilient local economy)	 Economic
2.	Innovation in service delivery (healthy, safe and educated community)	 Social
3.	Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems	 Civic Leadership
4.	Culturally rich, vibrant and inclusive community	 Social
5.	Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments	 Environment
6.	Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently	 Economic

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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## **1 OPENING**

In accordance with the WSC Code of Meeting Practice, this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of audio-visual livestreaming via Council's website and Facebook page. Those in attendance are asked to refrain from making any defamatory statements and comply with all relevant WSC codes, policies and procedures at all times.

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Weddin Shire Council would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land.

Weddin Shire Council would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of

the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

## **3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SERVICE**

We honour our service personnel who have sacrificed their lives in the defence of our freedom, peace and prosperity.

We acknowledge all of our frontline workers and volunteers who each day provide our essential and non-essential services, especially those within our Weddin Shire Local Government Area.

## **4 ATTENDANCE**

**ATTENDANCE**

**APOLOGIES**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

## **5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**



## 6 GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

### 6.1 OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

**File Number:****Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** 1. ATT 1 | OATH / AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE FORM**CSP Objective:** Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems**Precis:** The oath or affirmation of office must be taken by each Councillor at or before their first meeting of Council after being elected**Budget:** Nil

### RECOMMENDATION

That

1. each elected Councillor take an oath or affirmation of office in accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*
2. each elected Councillor complete the form at Attachment 1 for inclusion in the Minutes.

### PURPOSE

The oath or affirmation of office must be taken by each Councillor at or before their first meeting of Council after being elected.

### BACKGROUND

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993* Councillors are now required to take an oath or affirmation of office. The oath or affirmation of office must be taken by each Councillor at or before their first meeting of Council after being elected.

The General Manager must ensure that a record is kept of the taking of the oath or affirmation. This can be done by way of a signed statement containing the oath or affirmation or by recording the taking of the oath or affirmation by each Councillor in the minutes of the Council meeting.

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath or affirmation of office will not be entitled to attend Council meetings until they do so and will be taken to be absent without leave. If a Councillor is absent without leave for three (3) consecutive Ordinary Council meetings, their office is automatically declared vacant and a by-election must be held. The oath or affirmation Councillors are required to take are listed below. Councillors may choose one of the options which will be duly recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting.

## ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Councillors have the two options below to take an oath or to affirm:

**OATH:**

I [*name of Councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Weddin Shire and the Weddin Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

**AFFIRMATION:**

I [*name of Councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Weddin Shire and the Weddin Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

## POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath or affirmation of office will not be entitled to attend Council meetings until they do so and will be taken to be absent without leave.

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial or resource implications arising from this report.

## INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

There was no internal/external consultation undertaken.

## CONCLUSION

The oath or affirmation of office must be taken by each Councillor at or before their first meeting of Council after being elected.



### OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors are now required to take an oath or affirmation of office. The oath or affirmation of office must be taken by each Councillor at or before their first meeting of Council after being elected.

The General Manager must ensure that a record is kept of the taking of the oath or affirmation. This can be done by way of a signed statement containing the oath or affirmation or by recording the taking of the oath or affirmation by each Councillor in the minutes of the Council meeting.

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath or affirmation of office will not be entitled to attend Council meetings until they do so and will be taken to be absent without leave. If a Councillor is absent without leave for three (3) consecutive Ordinary Council meetings, their office is automatically declared vacant and a by-election must be held. The oath or affirmation Councillors are required to take are listed below. Councillors may choose one of the options which will be duly recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting.

*Please tick either Oath or Affirmation*

☐

**OATH:**

I ..... [insert councillor name] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Weddin Shire and the Weddin Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

☐

**AFFIRMATION:**

I ..... [insert councillor name] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Weddin Shire and the Weddin Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**6.2 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR****File Number:****Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems**Precis:** To seek Council's endorsement to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor a ballot determined by Council**Budget:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION****That Council:**

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Resolve that the method of voting for the position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be determined by \_\_\_\_\_ ballot.

**PURPOSE**

To seek Council's endorsement to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be determined by ballot instructed by Council.

**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with section 290 of the *Local Government Act 1993*

- (1) The election of the mayor by the councillors is to be held
  - (a) if it is the first election after an ordinary election of councillors—within 3 weeks after the ordinary election, or
  - (b) if it is not that first election or an election to fill a casual vacancy—during the month of September, or
  - (c) if it is the first election after the constitution of an area—within 14 days after the appointment of a provisional council or the first election of the council if a provisional council is not appointed, or
  - (d) if the relevant council is a non-functioning council, or a council of which all civic offices have been declared vacant, and the election is the first to be held after the appointment or election of the councillors—within 14 days after the appointment or election of the councillors.
- (2) If the councillors fail to elect a mayor as required by this section, the Governor may appoint one of the councillors as the mayor.

- (3) For the purposes of this section, an election of councillors does not conclude until the declaration of election of all the councillors of the council concerned.

## **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

Councillors are now requested to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by a ballot process determined by Council.

Councillors may also elect a Deputy Mayor.

The election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*. Schedule 7 prescribes three (3) methods of election of mayors:

1. open ballot
2. ordinary ballot
3. preferential ballot

Council must determine by resolution the method of voting for the position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*:

### **(2) Nomination**

- (1) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor.
- (2) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- (3) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.
- (4) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

### **(3) Election**

- (1) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.
- (2) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.
- (3) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting.
- (4) In this section-

"*ballot*" has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

"*open voting*" means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Part 2 - Ordinary ballot or open voting

### **(4) Application of Part**

This Part applies if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

### **(5) Marking of ballot-papers**

- (1) If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the returning officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.
- (2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part must be determined in accordance with [section 345](#) of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.
- (3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

### **(6) Count--2 candidates**

- (1) If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.
- (2) If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

### **(7) Count--3 or more candidates**

- (1) If there are 3 or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is to be excluded.
- (2) If 3 or more candidates then remain, a further vote is to be taken of those candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes from that further vote is to be excluded.
- (3) If, after that, 3 or more candidates still remain, the procedure set out in subsection (2) is to be repeated until only 2 candidates remain.
- (4) A further vote is to be taken of the 2 remaining candidates.
- (5) Section 6 of this Schedule then applies to the determination of the election as if the 2 remaining candidates had been the only candidates.
- (6) If at any stage during a count under subsection (1) or (2), 2 or more candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes, the one excluded is to be chosen by lot.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resource implications arising from this report.

## **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

There are no direct financial or resource implication arising from this report.

## **CONCLUSION**

The election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor may occur with three types of ballots being open, ordinary and preferential. Council is requested to resolve the method of voting for the position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be determined by \_\_\_\_\_ ballot.



**6.3 ELECTION OF MAYOR**

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>C2.1.3</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Executive Assistant to the General Manager</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>General Manager</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>CSP Objective:</b>	<b>Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems</b>
<b>Precis:</b>	The Mayor is to be elected by the Councillors in a method of ballot by the choice of Council
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Following the Local Government Elections, Council elect the Mayor for a two year term of Council to September 2026.
2. The method of ballot for the position of Mayor be by \_\_\_\_\_ ballot pursuant to Schedule 7, Part 1(3) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

**PURPOSE**

To elect the Mayor of Weddin Shire Council who will be elected by Councillors in October 2024 to serve and hold office for the first two (2) years of this Council term to September 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

Nominations for the position of Mayor of Weddin Shire Council are now invited. In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021* two (2) or more Councillors may nominate a Councillor (one of whom may be the nominee) for the position of Mayor. Nominations must be in writing of the approved form and the nominee must consent to their nomination in writing. A Councillor may be nominated without notice for election as Mayor.

As per section 226 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the role of the Mayor is follows:

- (a) to be the leader of the council and a leader in the local community,
- (b) to advance community cohesion and promote civic awareness,
- (c) to be the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body, including representing the views of the council as to its local priorities,
- (d) to exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy-making functions of the governing body of the council between meetings of the council,
- (e) to preside at meetings of the council,
- (f) to ensure that meetings of the council are conducted efficiently, effectively and in accordance with this Act,

- (g) to ensure the timely development and adoption of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council,
- (h) to promote the effective and consistent implementation of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council,
- (i) to promote partnerships between the council and key stakeholders,
- (j) to advise, consult with and provide strategic direction to the general manager in relation to the implementation of the strategic plans and policies of the council,
- (k) in conjunction with the general manager, to ensure adequate opportunities and mechanisms for engagement between the council and the local community,
- (l) to carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office,
- (m) to represent the council on regional organisations and at inter-governmental forums at regional, State and Commonwealth level,
- (n) in consultation with the councillors, to lead performance appraisals of the general manager,
- (o) to exercise any other functions of the council that the council determines.

Schedule 7 prescribes three (3) methods of election of Mayors:

- Open Ballot (show of hands)
- Ordinary Ballot, or
- Preferential Ballot.

Open Ballots can be undertaken remotely where a Council is conducting its meeting by audio visual link.

Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and Councillors will need to attend the meeting in person if the election is to be held by way of an ordinary or preferential ballot.

Traditionally Council has undertaken an ordinary ballot for the position of Mayor.

In deciding which voting method to use for the Mayoral Election, Council's should consider the personal circumstances of their Councillors to ensure that all Councillors can participate in the Mayoral Election.

As per section 226 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, for what period is a mayor elected?

- (1) A mayor elected by the councillors holds the office of mayor for 2 years, subject to this Act.
- (2) A mayor elected by the electors holds the office of mayor for 4 years, subject to this Act.
- (3) The office of mayor—
  - (a) commences on the day the person elected to the office is declared to be so elected, and
  - (b) becomes vacant when the person's successor is declared to be elected to the office, or on the occurrence of a casual vacancy in the office.
- (4) A person elected to fill a casual vacancy in the office of mayor holds the office for the balance of the predecessor's term.

## **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

### **Nominations**

Clause 2 of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* provides that a Councillor may be nominated without notice as mayor. The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee indicated consent to the nomination in writing. The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.

The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the elections is to be held.

### **Returning officer**

Clause 1 of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* provides that the General Manager or their delegate is the returning officer for the election of Mayor.

### **Mayoral Term**

A mid-term Mayoral Election must be held in the September two years after the ordinary election of councillors or the first election of a new council following its establishment.

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The election of the Weddin Shire Council Mayor is being conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resource implications arising from this report.

## **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

Following the declarations of Councillors, all Councillors were sent an email with the nomination forms for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

## **CONCLUSION**

That Council elect the Mayor for the first two (2) years of this Council Term by the ballot determined by Council under the separate report. It is recommended that the same electoral process for the Mayoral position be followed for the Deputy Mayor.



**6.4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>C2.1.3</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Executive Assistant to the General Manager</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>General Manager</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>CSP Objective:</b>	<b>Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems</b>
<b>Precis:</b>	The Deputy Mayor is to be elected by the Councillors in a method of ballot by the choice of Council
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Following the Local Government Elections, Council elect the Deputy Mayor for a two year term of Council to September 2026.
2. The method of ballot for the position of Deputy Mayor be by \_\_\_\_\_ ballot pursuant to Schedule 7, Part 1(3) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

**PURPOSE**

To elect the Deputy Mayor of Weddin Shire Council who will be elected by Councillors in October 2024 to serve and hold office for the first two (2) years of this Council term, in line with the mayoral term.

**BACKGROUND**

As per section 231 of the *Local Government Act, 1993* the Deputy Mayor may exercise any function of the Mayor at the request of the Mayor or if the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor may be elected for the Mayoral term or a shorter term. Usually, the Deputy Mayor of Weddin Shire Council holds office for the same term as that of the Mayor.

Nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor of Weddin Shire Council are now invited. In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021* two (2) or more Councillors may nominate a Councillor (one of whom may be the nominee) for the position of Deputy Mayor. Nominations must be in writing of the approved form and the nominee must consent to their nomination in writing. A Councillor may be nominated without notice for election as Deputy Mayor.

**231 Deputy mayor**

- (1) The councillors may elect a person from among their number to be the deputy mayor.
- (2) The person may be elected for the mayoral term or a shorter term.

- (3) The deputy mayor may exercise any function of the mayor at the request of the mayor or if the mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of mayor.
- (4) The councillors may elect a person from among their number to act as deputy mayor if the deputy mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising a function under this section, or if no deputy mayor has been elected.

A mid-term Mayoral Election must be held in the September two years after the ordinary election of councillors or the first election of a new council following its establishment.

As per the Office of Local Government Circular to Councils '21-24 / 13 August 2021 / A784280' – Attachment 1; Mayoral elections must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (as amended under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*).

Schedule 7 prescribes three (3) methods of election of Deputy Mayors:

- Open Ballot (show of hands)
- Ordinary Ballot, or
- Preferential Ballot.

Open Ballots can be undertaken remotely where a Council is conducting its meeting by audio visual link.

Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and Councillors will need to attend the meeting in person if the election is to be held by way of an ordinary or preferential ballot.

Traditionally Council has undertaken an ordinary ballot.

In deciding which voting method to use for the Deputy Mayoral Election, Council's should consider the personal circumstances of their Councillors to ensure that all Councillors can participate in the Deputy Mayoral Election. It is recommended that the same electoral process for the Mayoral position be followed for the Deputy Mayor.

## **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

### **Nominations**

Clause 2 of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* provides that a Councillor may be nominated without notice as deputy mayor. The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee indicated consent to the nomination in writing. The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.

The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the elections is to be held.

### **Returning officer**

Clause 1 of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* provides that the General Manager or their delegate is the returning officer for the election of Deputy Mayor.

### **Mayoral Term**

A mid-term Mayoral Election must be held in the September two years after the ordinary election of councillors or the first election of a new council following its establishment. At the mid-term Mayoral Election, the position of Deputy Mayor will also be elected.

#### **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The election of the Weddin Shire Council Deputy Mayor is being conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

#### **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resource implications arising from this report.

#### **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

Following the declarations of Councillors, all Councillors were sent an email with the nomination forms for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

#### **CONCLUSION**

That Council elect the Mayor for the first two (2) years of this Council Term by the ballot determined by Council under the separate report. It is recommended that the same electoral process for the Mayoral position be followed for the Deputy Mayor.

**6.5 ELECTION OF CENTRAL TABLELANDS COUNTY COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS****File Number:****Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** 1. ATT 1 | Central Tablelands Water - Board Member Information Sheet**CSP Objective:** Sustainable natural, agricultural and built environments**Precis:** To seek nominations for two (2) Board members to represent Weddin Shire Council on the Central Tablelands County Council.**Budget:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION****That Council:**

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Seeks nominations for two (2) Board Members to represent Weddin Shire Council on the Central Tablelands Water Board.
3. Endorse that Cr \_\_\_\_\_ and Cr \_\_\_\_\_ will represent Weddin Shire council on the Central Tablelands Water Board for a period of four years.

**PURPOSE**

To seek nominations and Council endorsement of two (2) Weddin Shire Councillors to stand as Board Members on the Central Tablelands Water County Council.

**BACKGROUND**

Central Tablelands Water (CTW) is a single-purpose county council responsible for providing water supply services on behalf of its constituent councils; Blayney, Cabonne and Weddin.

The CTW Board is the governing body responsible for managing the affairs of CTW County Council. The Board comprises two (2) elected representatives from each of the three (3) constituent councils.

Ordinary meetings of the CTW Board are currently held six (6) times a year on the third Wednesday of every second month. The next meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 16 October 2024**.

All CTW Board members are paid an annual fee that is determined for county councils by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal. The current CTW Board member fee for 2024 is \$11,280 plus superannuation.

Council's most recent representatives were Cr Paul Best and Ms Michelle Cook.

Further information is available in the attached Information Sheet.

**ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

Nominations for the two (2) positions of CTW Board member are now invited. In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021* two (2) or more Councillors may nominate a Councillor (one of whom may be the nominee) for the position of CTW Board member. Nominations must be in writing of the approved form and the nominee must consent to their nomination in writing. Schedule 9 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021* stipulates that, if the number of candidates is greater than the number of vacancies, a preferential ballot is to be held.

**POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Once elected, the two councillors will remain on the Central Tablelands Water board for the council term.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising for Council, noting that the two Councillors will receive a member fee.

**INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

Central Tablelands Water have provided a Board Member Information sheet for Councillors consideration.

**CONCLUSION**

Weddin Shire Council requires two councillors to stand as Board Members on the Central Tablelands Water County Council.



## Getting on 'Board' with Central Tablelands Water

This information sheet aims to help councillors understand the role of Central Tablelands Water and its Board by answering some frequently asked questions.

### Who is Central Tablelands Water?

Central Tablelands Water (CTW) is a single-purpose county council that has been responsible for providing water supply services to many communities in the Central West since 1944.

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) a county council can be established to undertake one or more functions on behalf of one or more constituent councils within their local government areas.

As a county council, CTW is a unique organisation given it is made up of three constituent councils that each depend on it to deliver an essential service of drinking water for their communities.

### Who are Central Tablelands Water's constituent councils?

CTW's three constituent councils are:

- Blayney Shire Council
- Cabonne Council
- Weddin Shire Council

### What water supply services does Central Tablelands Water deliver?

Currently, CTW supplies drinking water directly to rural, residential, commercial and other properties in the local government areas of Blayney, Cabonne and Weddin.

CTW supplies water to 14 towns and villages including Blayney, Cudal, Mandurama, Canowindra, Eugowra, Millthorpe, Carcoar, Grenfell, Manildra, Cargo, Lyndhurst, Quandialla, Woodstock, Gooloogong, and Cowra Shire Council's rural's and rural properties on Council Trunk Mains.

### Who is Central Tablelands Water's governing body?

The CTW governing body is composed of six members, consisting of two elected representatives from each of the three constituent councils, forming the Board of CTW.

Board members are responsible for representing the strategic perspectives of their respective councils. However, when serving on the CTW Board, they must adopt a network-wide approach to decision-making and strategy.

The Board will elect a Chairperson and Deputy Chair from amongst its members. The Chair holds their position for 2 years, whilst the Deputy is elected on an annual basis.

### How often does the Central Tablelands Water Board meet?

Ordinary meetings of the CTW Board are currently held six times a year (on the third Wednesday of every second month).

Meetings are held at each constituent council local government area on a rotational basis.

Board members must be able to travel to and from Board meetings and may also be required to attend approved site inspections, conferences and other official engagements and functions.

Board meetings of CTW are subject to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW). CTW also has a Code of Meeting Practice Policy which provides a model for the convening and conduct of Council and Committee meetings. It establishes policy and guidelines for Council and promotes accountability to the community.



### Are Central Tablelands Water's Board members remunerated?

Yes, all CTW Board members are paid an annual fee that is determined for county councils by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

The Tribunal set both a minimum and maximum fee. The CTW Board then adopt the annual fee to be paid to its members within these limits. Any annual fee that is fixed by the Board must be the same for each member. If the Board does not fix an annual fee, each member must be paid the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal. The current CTW Board member fee for 2024 is 11,280 plus superannuation.

The CTW chairperson is also paid an additional annual fee. Again, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal sets both a minimum and maximum additional fee, which can then be fixed by the Board within these limits. The current CTW Chairpersons fee for 2024 is 18,519.60 plus superannuation.

The CTW Board can resolve to pay the deputy chairperson an additional fee for such time as they act in the office of chairperson.

### Staff and Structure

CTW employs 25 staff throughout the organization and is led by the General Manager.

The organisation has 2 directors. Director Operations and Technical Services – responsible for the water quality and supply across the network. Director Finance & Corporate Services – responsible for the financial management, governance, customer service and human resources.

The corporate and technical staff operate from the head office in Blayney with operational staff depots in Blayney, Canowindra and Grenfell.

### Central Tablelands Water 'Key Stats'

Water Supply System	Assets	2023/24 Draft Financial Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Covers 8,000km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>➤ 6,100 water connections</li> <li>➤ Services 16,000 consumers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Lake Rowlands 4.5GL dam</li> <li>➤ Over 650km of piping (trunk &amp; retic)</li> <li>➤ 46 reservoirs</li> <li>➤ 33 pumping stations</li> <li>➤ 2 water treatment plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Total income \$10.9M</li> <li>➤ Capital expenditure \$5.1M</li> <li>➤ Total expenditure \$8.2M</li> <li>➤ Total assets \$122.3M</li> </ul>

### 2019 Customer Satisfaction Survey



93% overall satisfaction with water supply service



89% had no water quality issues



65% support moderate increases to their water bill for additional water security



56% support higher water restrictions to manage our finite resource

**6.6 ELECTION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE DELEGATES**

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>C2.1.3</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Executive Assistant to the General Manager</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>General Manager</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>1. Council Committees List and Preliminary Review</b>
<b>CSP Objective:</b>	<b>Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems</b>
<b>Precis:</b>	<b>To vote Councillor committee delegates for Council Committees/Boards</b>
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 1) Note the information contained in this report.
- 2) Appoint the Council Committee Councillor positions outlined in this report in Table One and Table Two.
- 3) Appoint the Council Committee Councillor positions outlined in this report in Table One and Table Two for a period of four years.
- 4) Note the General Manager will seek nominations for the Community Members positions for the Bogolong Dam Precinct Committee and will table to the November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting for Council's endorsement.
- 5) Instruct the General Manager to undertake a review of committees that have been deferred for decision and table a report to Council to the November or December 2024 Ordinary Meeting for Council's consideration.

**PURPOSE**

To provide Council a list of Committee Delegates positions that require Councillor appointment.

**BACKGROUND**

In alignment with the Local Government 2024 election and the new term of Council. Delegates are now sought for the different Council Committees, for the four years of the new Council term.

It has previously been resolved in 2016 by Council, that Council and Community representatives be elected for a term of two years.

With the opportunity of a newly elected Council, Council last took a review of its council committees in 2020. A further review and analysis have been undertaken of the Council committees.

**ISSUES AND COMMENTS****Council Committees**



Attachment One outlines the various Council Committees which include:

- Statutory (legislative requirement for them to operate).
- Legislated (defined under the Local Government Act 1993, e.g. Central NSW Joint Organisation and Central Tablelands Water).
- Section 355 committees (under s. 355 of the Local Government Act 1993).
- Peak body memberships
- Community.

A review and analysis have been undertaken by Council's Executive team, and with some guidance from the consultant who previously conducted the Section 355 committee reviews in 2020. As a result, the following committees are recommended to be dealt with today for membership because of their statutory and legislated requirements.

The information relating to the following committees including charters, terms of reference or flyers has been provided to Council under separate cover and link prior to the Council meeting.

<b>TABLE ONE: Legislated/Statutory Committees</b>		
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)	Statutory	1 x Councillor Cr_____
Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO)	Legislated	1 x Mayor (Alternative Deputy Mayor)
Central Tablelands Water	Legislated	2 x Councillors to become Board members (member fees plus super) Cr_____ Cr_____
Country Mayors Association	Peak Body	Mayor
Floodplains Advisory Committee	Statutory	2 x Councillors Cr_____ Cr_____
General Manager's Performance Management Committee	Advisory Statutory	Mayor Deputy 1 x Cr (elected by Council) 1 x Cr (chosen by General Manager) Cr_____ (elected by Council)
NSW Public Libraries Association	Peak Body	1 x Councillor Cr_____
Weddin Local Traffic Committee	Statutory	1 x Councillor Cr_____

In undertaking a preliminary review of the other various committees, a number of committees have been flagged for further review. The preliminary review determined the need for a number of these committees and sentiments expressed included that the committees were meeting for the sake of meeting with no purpose, budget or projects to manage. For example, the formation of the s. 355 Tourism Committee was to assist in developing the Destination Management Plan and therefore questions on the need for a committee or at least in part, the meeting frequency to be reduced have been raised.

Council's team have been directed to undertake ways to look at the committee's charters and governance. In consultation with Council's consultant who undertook the section 355 review, it was noted that a number of community committees that have councillor delegates did not form part of the 2020 review. The consultant recommended that Council's membership on these committees should be resolved by way of new resolution and for Councillor delegates to provide delegate reports for attending these meetings, which could include meeting minutes or a report to Council.

The following Section 355 committees, under the Local Government Act 1993, will also need Councillor delegates which have clear purpose and direction. The information relating to the following committees including charters have been provided to Council under separate cover and link prior to the Council meeting.

<b>TABLE TWO: Section 355 Committees</b>			
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Review and Recommendation</b>
Bogolong Dam Precinct Committee	s. 355	3 x Councillors Cr _____ Cr _____ Cr _____	Overseeing the decommissioning/ Dam Safety studies funded through Stronger Country Communities Fund Required Reduce meeting frequency to Feb, June, October
The Henry Lawson Festival of Arts	s. 355	2 x Councillors Cr _____ Cr _____	Required No change

In addition to the above, Council should also put an expression of interest to the membership of the Bogolong Dam Precinct Committee out to allow the formation of members for a four (4) year period. The current membership includes three community members.

### **Section 355 Committees to be deferred**

Attachment One provides a breakdown of Council Section 355 Committees that require further review and analysis due to the purpose and lack of direction of these meetings. Councillors, staff and community members should avoid meeting, for the sake of having a meeting. This allows for a new opportunity to look at the efficacy of these committees, their requirements and if they remain, how to operate them efficiently and purposefully.

The following Section 355 Committees require further review:

- Heritage Committee
- Quandialla Pool Committee

- Tourism Committee
- Weeds Committee.

**Community committees to be deferred**

A number of community committees where it is unclear about Council's membership has been flagged. This can be resolved with a new resolution for Council's membership. Delegates will be required to table a report to Council on the meeting attended. This will form part of a further review process.

This includes:

- Lachlan Regional Transport
- Weddin Health Council
- Weddin Landcare Steering Committee

**Staff delegated Committees**

A number of committees also have staff only delegates and no Councillors. These are listed for Councillors awareness only. However, noting that previously, Council had membership of Councillors on two RFS committees, being the Mid Lachlan Valley Team Bushfire Management Committee and Weddin Rural Fire Service Management Team. Consultation with the RFS has informed that Councillors should not be attending these meeting and as a result, attendance will be staff only.

**POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct policy or legal implications arising from this report. However, noting that historically, membership was for a period of two years. It is recommended that in moving forward, memberships and commitment to committees is for the council term, of four years. Councillors may request to be removed off a committee for other reasons at a later date.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resource implications arising from this report. A review will be undertaken by Council's Executive Team.

**INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

A preliminary review was undertaken by Council's Executive team of committee memberships. A number of committees have been flagged for deferral until a review is undertaken. There is opportunity now for Council to endorse and approve councillor memberships for:

- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)
- Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO)
- Central Tablelands Water
- Country Mayors Association
- Floodplains Advisory Committee
- General Manager's Performance Management Committee
- NSW Public Libraries Association
- Weddin Local Traffic Committee

- Bogolong Dam Precinct Committee
- The Henry Lawson Festival of Arts

The General Manager will now seek nominations for community membership for the Boolong Dam Precinct Committee and will table a paper to the November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting for Council's endorsement.

The Henry Lawson Festival of Arts Committee community membership is managed by the community members.

The General Manager will provide a further review of committees that have been deferred for delegates until a review is undertaken to the November or December 2024 Council meeting.

## **CONCLUSION**

The report provides a list of committees that require Councillor delegates. A number of committees have been deferred until a review is undertaken by staff which will be tabled in November or December 2024.

WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL   COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP								
DELEGATE TERM		September 2024 to September 2028						
MAYOR								
DEPUTY MAYOR								
COMMITTEE	TYPE	PURPOSE	DELEGATE	STAFF	COMMUNITY MEMBERS	MEMBERSHIP	FREQUENCY	REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
Audit, Risk & Improvement	Statutory	Weddin Shire Council (Council) has established the Internal Audit Function as a key component of the Council's governance and assurance framework and in compliance with the Guidelines for risk management and internal audit in local councils in NSW.	1 x Councillor (not the Mayor)	1 x Staff (General Manager Nil		1 x Councillor 1 x Staff Independent Chair 2 x Independent Members	4 x Ordinary Meetings 2 x Special Meetings (to consider Financial Statements)	Legislated Required No change
Bogolong Dam Precinct	s. 355	To provide key stakeholders input and advice on the use of Bogolong Dam.	3 x Councillors	2 x Staff - General Manager - Director, Infrastructure Services	3 x Community members	3 x Councillors 2 x Staff Members 3 x Community Members	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	Overseeing the decommissioning/ Dam Safety studies funded through Stronger Country Communities Fund Required Reduce meeting frequency to Feb, June, October
Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO)	Legislated	An important example of local government cooperation. Delegates are one elected and one staff member.	Mayor (Alternative Deputy Mayor)	General Manager	Nil	Mayor General Manager	4 x Ordinary Meetings	Legislated Required No change
Central Tablelands Water	Legislated	Single-purpose county council responsible for providing water	2 x Councillors to become Board Members (Member fees plus super)	Nil	Nil	2 x Councillors	6 x Ordinary Meetings (Third Wednesday of the Month)	Legislated Required No change
Country Mayors Association	Peak Body	Member councils are represented by their Mayors and General Managers to discuss regional and rural NSW	Mayor	General Manager	Nil	Various mayors and general managers from across NSW Councils	Every second month	Required No change
Floodplains Advisory	Statutory	To consider and advise on funding programmes regarding Council's Floodplain Risk Management Plans and Studies.	2 x Councillors	2 x Staff Members - Director Infrastructure Services - Director, Environmental Services	Nil	2 x Councillors 2 x Staff Members Local Land Services Travelling Stock Route Ranger Weddin Landcare State Emergency Service NSW Dept of Planning & Environment NSW Dept of Primary Industries & Environment	As required	Legislated Required No change
General Manager's Performance Management (Annually)	Advisory Statutory	To plan and undertake the General Manager's performance review in accordance with the Office of Local Government 'Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers'.	4 x Councillors - Mayor - Deputy Mayor - 1 x Councillor (elected by Council) - 1 x Councillor (chosen by General Manager)	Nil	Nil	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Representative General Manager elected Councillor Representative	Annually	Statutory Required No Change
The Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts	s. 355	To overview the Henry Lawson Festival	2 x Councillors	Nil	Community members (un	2 x Councillors Community Members (undefined)	Monthly meetings with increased frequencies towards June	Required No change



Heritage	s. 355	To review Heritage based decisions and projects within the Shire	3 x Councillors	1 x Staff - Director, Environmental Services	3 x Community members	3 x Councillors 1 x Staff Members Historical Society representative 3 x Community Members Heritage Advisor	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	Need to undertake a review of Charter and its purpose and funding sources Reduce meeting frequency to Feb, June, October
Lachlan Regional Transport	Community	Rail reopening is a priority	2 x Councillors			2 x Councillors		External Committee Council may need to review its membership on this committee given advocacy is addressed with the CNSWJO.
NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA)	Peak Body	The Central West Zone typically meets half yearly at locations throughout the zone.	1 x Councillor	1 x Staff (Librarian)		Weddin Shire Council Librarian 1 x Councillor		State based library association which includes Councillors Required No change
Quandialla Pool Committee	s. 355	To overview the running of the Quandialla Pool Committee	3 x Councillors	1 x Staff Member (Director Environmental Services)	Community members (undefined)	3 x Councillors Director Environmental Services Community Members	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	Need to undertake a review of Charter and its purpose and funding sources
Weddin Health Council	Community		1 x Councillor			1 x Councillor		We acknowledge the importance of Health, however the membership does not fall within the definition of this committee is not a s. 355 Committee of Council, Advisory, Statutory or legislative type of committee. The delegate does not provide a delegate report to Council. Council should undertake a review in alignment of what forms part of a Council committee or where Council joins by way of Council resolution.
Weddin Landcare Steering Committee	TBC		1 x Councillor			1 x Councillor Community Members		Advice on type of membership has been sourced.
Weddin Local Traffic Committee	Statutory	Established by RMS.	1 x Councillor	1 x Staff (Director, Infrastructure Services)	Nil	1 x Staff member (Director, Infrastructure Services) 1 x Councillor Transport for NSW NSW Police (Grenfell and Young) Elected Representative (Steph Cooke MP)	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	Statutory Required No Change
Weddin Shire Council Tourism	s. 355	To review Tourism based decisions and projects within the Shire	4 x Councillors	2 x Staff	3 x community members 1 x village representative	4 x Councillors 2 x Staff 3 x Community Members 1 x Village Representative (optional)	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	At this stage it is recommended that this committee does not continue into future due to Council now resourcing a tourism and events team to oversee the delivery of the DMP in conjunction with economic development function. However, a review of this group is recommended to help Council make an informed decision.
Weddin Shire Weeds	s. 355	To review Weed control based decisions and projects within the Shire	3 x Councillors	2 x Staff (Director Infrastructure Services, Biosecurity Officer)	3 x community members	3 x Councillors 2 x Staff Members incl Biosecurity Officer Weddin Landcare Group Community Members	5 x Ordinary Meetings (Feb, April, June, August, October)	Need to undertake a review of Charter and its purpose and funding sources

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES - STAFF DELEGATES						
Arts Outwest			1 x Staff Member (General Manager / Arts & Tourism Officer)		1 x Staff Member	
Mid Lachlan Valley Team Bushfire Management			1 x Staff Member (Director Infrastructure Services)		1 x Staff member (General Manager / Director Infrastructure Services)Rural Lands Protection Board Country Energy SRA Department Bushfire Services NPWS Department Land and Water Conservation Weddin Bush Fire Service and other bodies. Representative Rural Fire Service acts as Executive Officer. Combined committee with Forbes, Parkes and Lachlan Councils.	
Advisory Statutory			Nil		Previously this included a Councillor but in discussions with the RFS, this is delegated at Director or General Manager level)	
Established by Rural Fire Service						
Local Rescue			1 x Staff Member - Director Infrastructure Services (LEMO)		Weddin Shire Council LEMO NSW Fire & Rescue LEOCON for Weddin Shire Deputy LEOCON for Weddin Shire Local NSW Police Officer REMO NSW Ambulance NSW Rural Fire Service State Emergency Service	
Local Emergency Management			2 x Staff Members - Director, Infrastructure Services (LEMO) - Director, Environmental Services (Deputy LEMO)		Weddin Shire Council LEMO Weddin Shire Council Deputy LEMO Transport for NSW NSW Fire & Rescue Local Health Service Representative NSW Health Representative NSW Ambulance REMO LEOCON for Weddin Shire Deputy LEOCON for Weddin Shire Local Police Officer NSW Rural Fire Service State Emergency Service NSWRA Dept of Communities & Justice Local Land Services Dept of Regional NSW	

**6.7 POLITICAL DONATIONS & ELECTION EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURES****File Number:****Author:** Executive Assistant to the General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems**Precis:** To provide Councillors with information regarding obligations of disclosure of political donations and electoral expenditure.**Budget:** NIL**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Note Councillors obligations regarding disclosure of political donations and electoral expenditure to the NSW Electoral Commission.
3. Note the key timelines for submitting disclosures to the NSW Electoral Commission.

**PURPOSE**

To provide Councillors with information of their obligations and the reporting timelines for political donations and electoral expenditure disclosures.

**BACKGROUND**

All Councillors must submit political donations and electoral expenditure disclosures to the NSW Electoral Commission periodically during their term of office.

There are three (3) types of disclosures to submit each year: two (2) half-yearly disclosures of political donations made and received and an annual disclosure of electoral expenditure incurred.

Councillors must also submit disclosures in relation to their capacity as a candidate in the 2024 local government elections. These being two (2) half-yearly disclosures of political donations made and received and an annual disclosure of electoral expenditure incurred.

All political donations made and received (except those disclosed in a pre-election period disclosure) must be disclosed every six (6) months in a half-yearly donation disclosure. Half-yearly donation disclosures are published on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

**ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

The two half-yearly disclosure periods are:

- first half-yearly donations disclosure period: 1 July to 31 December due by 11 February 2025.



- second half-yearly donations disclosure period: 1 January to 30 June due by 12 August 2025.

You can submit a disclosure online using Funding and Disclosure Online - <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/funding-and-disclosure/funding-and-disclosure-online>. For more information and instructions on how to use Funding and Disclosure Online, please visit the NSW Electoral Commission's website - <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/funding-and-disclosure/funding-and-disclosure-online/how-to-guides>.

The annual electoral expenditure disclosure period:

- starts on 1 July
- ends on 30 June.

A 'nil' disclosure form must be submitted if no electoral expenditure is incurred within the annual period.

All electoral expenditure incurred must be disclosed within 12 weeks after the end of the annual period and is due by 22 September.

Detailed information about political donations and electoral expenditure disclosures is available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

Section 328A of the *Local Government Act 1993* stipulates that the General Manager must keep a register of copies of current declarations of disclosures of political donations lodged with the NSW Electoral Commission by or on behalf of Councillors. Council will provide Councillors a link on its website to the NSW Electoral Commission's website, which facilitates access to declarations of disclosures. The link satisfies the requirements of the aforementioned section of the Act.

Under separate item to this report, Councillors must note that they have obligations to submit other forms to Council for our own legislated purposes. This includes the Related Party Disclosures and the Written Returns of Interest. These processes should not be confused as the same.

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

A disclosure is the reporting of political donations and electoral expenditure to the NSW Electoral Commission. Penalties apply for non-compliance. The NSW Electoral Commission may issue warnings, penalties or prosecute offences including failure to lodge by the due date.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The NSW Electoral Commission may issue warnings, penalties or prosecute offences including failure to lodge by the due date.

## **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

Councillors are obligated to provide their own submissions directly to the NSW Electoral Commission. Council staff will not be sending reminders regarding the NSW Electoral Commission's requirements. This will be the first and last reminder of Councillors' obligations outside of Weddin Shire Council processes.

**CONCLUSION**

That Councillors note their obligations and due dates for submitting the disclosures to the NSW Electoral Commission. Under separate item to this report, Councillors must note that they have obligations to submit other forms to Council for our own legislated purposes.

**6.8 WRITTEN RETURN OF INTERESTS AND RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>C2.2.2</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Executive Assistant to the General Manager</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>General Manager</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>1. ATT 1   1.1.8_Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025 2. ATT 2   Completing Returns of Interest Forms 3. ATT 3   1.1.7_ Councillors_Designated Staff - Related Party Disclosure Form_2024 - 2025</b>
<b>CSP Objective:</b>	<b>Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently</b>
<b>Precis:</b>	<b>Written Return of Interests and Related Party Disclosures following Council elections</b>
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>\$ Nil.</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Note the requirement to lodge Written Return of Interest form within three (3) months of being an elected Councillor.
3. Note that Key Management Personnel review their personal circumstances and determine if they are required to lodge a Related Party Transaction Notification within 30 days of being elected.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors and Designated persons a formal reminder on their requirement to lodge a Written Return of Interest within three months of being an elected Councillor and a Related Party Disclosures within 30 days of being an elected Councillor.

**BACKGROUND****Written Returns of Interest**

Under the 'Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW' (the Model Code of Conduct), all Councillors and Designated persons are required to disclose their personal interests in publically available returns of interests. These operate as a key transparency mechanism for promoting community confidence in Council decision-making.

Councillors must make and lodge with the General Manager a return in the attached form, disclosing their interests within three (3) months after:

- (a) becoming a Councillor; and
- (b) 30 June each year; and
- (c) becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 of the Model Code of Conduct that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under (a) or (b).

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has released its Post Election Guide, an external website that assists Councillors with their post-election life. This includes the information pertaining to the Written Returns of Interest. As per the OLG Audit, Weddin Shire Councillors need to ensure that all questions are answered, if the question is not applicable to the individual Councillor then please write 'not applicable' or 'does not apply'. In addition, Councillors must provide their place of residence in question 1; this applies to all Councillors.

### **Related Party Disclosures**

The Related Party Disclosure Policy requires Weddin Shire Council's financial statements to contain disclosures necessary to comply with the Australian Accounting Standards AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosure.

Related party relationships are a normal feature of commerce and business. A related party relationship could have an effect on the profit or loss and financial position of Council. Related parties may enter into transactions that unrelated parties would not. For example, an entity that sells goods to its parent at cost might not sell on those terms to another customer.

In addition, the profit or loss and financial position of an entity may be affected by a related party relationship even if related party transactions do not occur. The mere existence of the relationship may be sufficient to affect the transactions of the entity with other parties.

Council is committed to responsible corporate governance, including compliance with the laws and regulations governing related party transactions.

In accordance with Council's Related Party Disclosures Policy, Councillors are required to submit this form within 30 days of being elected (declaration date).

## **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

### **Written Returns of Interest**

Council must make all returns of interests publically available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act, 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation, 2018* and relevant guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner.

Information Access Guideline 1 states that Councillors' returns of interests must be made publicly available free of charge on Council's website, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information contained in them or to do so would impose unreasonable additional costs on Council. It is open to Council to redact information from returns of interests (e.g. a person's signature and residential address) when publishing returns on its website where there is an overriding public interest against the disclosure that information.

The returns specifically referenced in this Council report is for Councillors must make and lodge with the General Manager a return in the attached form, disclosing their interests within three (3) months after becoming a Councillor.

As such the Written Return of Interest form (Attachment 1) is due to be lodged by 8 January 2025 for tabling at the Ordinary Council Meeting in February 2025.

Councillors also have obligations regarding political donations and electoral expenditure to the NSW Electoral Commission and provided under a separate report. These processes should not be confused as the same..

**Related Party Disclosure**

The Related Party Disclosure Notifications must be submitted by key management personnel within 30 days of being elected. Key Management Personnel must proactively notify of any new or potential related party transactions that the person knows of, or any changes to previously notified related party relationships or transactions, relevant to the subject financial year by providing this to the General Manager.

The Related Party Disclosure Notification in this Council report is for the period of the financial year (i.e. since 1 July 2024 to the declaration date).

A copy of the form can be found in Attachment 3.

**POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no direct policy or legal implication with this report. However, failure to submit the Written Return of Interests within the three (3) months of becoming an elected official of Council – 8 January 2025, will be in breach of the Model Code of Conduct and breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government.

Failure to lodge the Related Party Disclosure Notification will result in a breach of the Related Party Disclosure Policy and the Australian Accounting Standards AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial or resourcing implications arising from this report.

**INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

This report is being brought to Council for information and does not require consultation. Councillors may also visit the OLG Website for post-election information: <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/local-government-elections/>

In relation to the Written Returns of Interest Forms and the Related Party Disclosure, Council staff will send reminders to Councillors to ensure they lodge it with Council by the required date.

Council Officers are unable to fill these forms out for Councillors.

**CONCLUSION**

Under the 'Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW' (the Model Code of Conduct), all Councillors and Designated persons are required to disclose their personal interests in publically available returns of interests. These operate as a key transparency mechanism for promoting community confidence in Council decision making.

Under Council's Related Party Disclosure Policy and in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures, key management personnel are required to submit their Related Party Disclosure Notification.

**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2**

1. **FORM CATEGORY:** New Councillor – Post 2024 Local Government Election
2. **FORM NUMBER:** 1.1.8
3. **FORM NAME:** Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025
4. **VERSION DATE:** 17 September 2024

**WRITTEN RETURN OF INTERESTS DISCLOSED BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS**

The pecuniary interests and other matters to be disclosed in this return are prescribed by Schedule 1 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct).

This form is set out according to Schedule 2 of the Model Code of Conduct and in accordance with the Office of Local Government's "Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW – A Guide to Completing Returns of Interest".

**DIRECTIVES**

**If this is the first return you have been required to lodge** with the General Manager after becoming a Councillor or designated person, do not complete Parts C, D and I of the return. All other parts of the return should be completed with appropriate information based on your circumstances at the return date, that is, the date on which you became a Councillor or designated person.

**If you have previously lodged a return** with the General Manager and you are completing this return for the purposes of **disclosing a new interest** that was not disclosed in the last return you lodged with the General Manager, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the period from 30 June of the previous financial year or the date on which you became a Councillor or designated person, (whichever is the later date), to the return date which is the date you became aware of the new interest to be disclosed in your updated return.

**If you have previously lodged a return** with the General Manager and are submitting a **new return for the new financial year**, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the 12-month period commencing on 30 June of the previous year to 30 June this year [30 June 2024 -30 June 2025].

**This form must be completed using block letters or typed.**

If there is insufficient space for all the information you are required to disclose, you must attach an appendix which is to be properly identified and signed by you.

If there are no pecuniary interests or other matters of the kind required to be disclosed under a heading in this form, the word "NIL" is to be placed in an appropriate space under that heading.

**Further information and guidelines** in regards to the matters to be disclosed in this form is available from The Office of Local Government's website

<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/governance/model-code-of-conduct/model-code-of-conduct-and-procedures-2018/>. A copy of the "Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW – A Guide to Completing Returns of Interest" will also be provided with this form.



**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2****IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This information is being collected for the purpose of complying with clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct.

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular (see clause 4.23 of the Model Code of Conduct). Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government and may result in disciplinary action by the Council, the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

The information collected on this form will be kept by the General Manager at the Council Chambers in a register of returns. The General Manager is required to table all returns at a Council meeting.

Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.21 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

You have an obligation to keep the information contained in this return up to date. If you become aware of a new interest that must be disclosed in this return, or an interest that you have previously failed to disclose, you must submit an updated return within three months of becoming aware of the previously undisclosed interest.

**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2****DISCLOSURE FORM**

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

\_\_\_\_\_  
[full name of Councillor or designated person]as at \_\_\_\_\_ in respect of the period from 30 June 2024 to 30 June 2025.  
[return date]\_\_\_\_\_  
[signature of Councillor or designated person]\_\_\_\_\_  
[date]**A. REAL PROPERTY**Street address of each parcel of real property  
in which I had an interest at the return date  
and at any time since 1 July 2024  
[30 June 2024 - 30 June 2025]Nature of interest  
*Provide Details*




**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2****B. SOURCES OF INCOME****1. Sources of income I :**

- Reasonable expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- Received from an occupation at any time since 30 June 2024
- [30 June 2024 -30 June 2025]

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)

**2. Sources of income I:**

- Reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- Received from a trust since 30 June 2024
- [30 June 2024 -30 June 2025]

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

- 3. Sources of other income I reasonably expect to receive at any time during the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June [30 June 2024 -30 June 2025]**  
 (Include description sufficient to identify the person from whom or the circumstances in which that income was received)


**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2**

<b>C. GIFTS</b>	
Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June 2024	Name and address of donor

<b>D. CONTRIBUTIONS TO TRAVEL</b>		
Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June 2024	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken

**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2****E. INTERESTS AND POSITIONS IN CORPORATIONS**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date and at any time since 30 June 2024	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)

**F. PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT**

Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date [30 June 2024 -30 June 2025] [Yes/No {if yes provide details}]


**G. POSITIONS IN TRADE UNIONS AND PROFESSIONAL OR BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date and at any time since 30 June 2024	Description of position

**H. DEBTS**

**COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025****C2.2.2**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date and at any time since 30 June 2024


**I. DISPOSITIONS OF PROPERTY**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June 2024 as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time.


2. Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June 2024, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property.


**J. DISCRETIONARY DISCLOSURES**

COUNCILLOR FORM 1.1.8: Written Return of Interests 2024 - 2025

C2.2.2


# MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN NSW

## A GUIDE TO COMPLETING RETURNS OF INTEREST

### Introduction

Under the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct), certain council officials are required to disclose their personal interests in publicly available returns of interests.

These operate as a key transparency mechanism for promoting community confidence in council decision making, whether by councillors or by staff or others under delegation.

You must complete and lodge your return of interests in accordance with the requirements in the Model Code of Conduct.

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought to know is false or misleading in a material particular.

Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government (OLG) and may result in disciplinary action by the council, the Departmental Chief Executive, or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

exercising functions that could give rise to a conflict of interest.

### When must I submit a written return of interests?

You must submit a return of interests within three months of being elected or becoming a designated person and submit a new return annually (within three months of the start of each financial year).

You do not need to submit a return of interests if you have already submitted a return in the three months preceding 30 June, or if you ceased to be a councillor or designated person in the three months preceding 30 June.

If, at any time, you become aware of any new interests that need to be disclosed, you must submit a new return within three months of becoming aware of the interests.

### Who must I lodge my return of interests with?

All returns of interests are to be lodged with the council's general manager.

A return lodged within 3 months of 30 June must be tabled at the first council meeting after the last day the return was required to be lodged.

A return lodged at any other time must be tabled at the first council meeting after the return was lodged.

### Important information

#### Who must submit a return of interests?

You must complete and lodge a return of interests if you are a councillor or designated person.

Designated persons include:

- the general manager
- senior staff, and
- staff, delegates of councils or members of committees who the council identify as



### Must my return of interests be made publicly available?

Yes. Councils must make all returns of interests publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner.

The Information Commissioner has issued Information Access Guideline 1 in relation to the publication of information contained in returns of interests. Guideline 1 states that councillors' and designated persons' returns of interests must be made publicly available free of charge on councils' websites, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information contained in them or to do so would impose unreasonable additional costs on the council.

It is open to councils to redact information from returns of interests (eg a person's signature and residential address) when publishing returns on their websites where there is an overriding public interest against the disclosure that information.

For more information, see Guideline 1 which is available [here](#) and OLG's guidance on the implementation of Guideline 1 which is available [here](#).

### Is there a standard form for submitting a return of interests?

Yes. Written returns of interests are to be in the form set out in Schedule 2 of the Model Code of Conduct.

A copy is attached to this Guide.

## How do I complete a return of interests?

### For those who are lodging their first return

If you are lodging a return for the first time, you do not need to complete Parts C, D and I of the return.

All other parts should be completed with information based on your circumstances at the date when you became a councillor or designated person.

#### Note:

- If you are lodging your first return:
- the 'return date' is the date you became a councillor or designated person, and
  - leave the return 'period' at the top of the form blank

If you have acquired any new interests that need to be disclosed in the return in the period between the return date and the date on which you are completing a return for the first time, you should also disclose these in the return to avoid the need to complete a further return disclosing the new interests.

### For those who are lodging their annual return

Complete all parts of the return if you are lodging a new return for the new financial year.

The return should be completed with information based on your circumstances for the 12-month period beginning on 30 June of the previous year to 30 June of this year.

#### Note:

- If you are lodging your annual return:
- the 'return date' is 30 June of the calendar year in which the return is made, and
  - the return 'period' is from 30 June of the previous year to 30 June of the current year.

### For those who are disclosing new interests

Complete all parts of the return if you are disclosing a new interest that was not disclosed in the last return you lodged with the general manager.

The form should be completed with information based on your circumstances from either 30 June of the previous financial year **or** the date you became a councillor or designated person (**whichever is later**), to the date you became aware of the new interest you are disclosing.

#### Note:

- **If you are disclosing new interests:**
- the 'return date' is the date you became aware of the interest(s), and
  - the return 'period' is from 30 June of the previous financial year, or the date on which you became a councillor or designated person (whichever is later) to the date you became aware of the interest(s).

## What interests do I need to disclose?

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought to know is false or misleading in a material particular.

In completing your return, you must disclose all relevant interests whether or not they are acquired or held in NSW or Australia.

In the case of interests in real property, you must disclose all interests in real property you hold in Australia.

### Part A – Real property

In this section, you must disclose the:

- street address of each parcel of real property you had an interest in:
  - on the return date, and
  - since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
- nature of the interest (eg freehold, lease, option to purchase etc).

You do not need to disclose an interest in a parcel of real property if you ceased to have the interest prior to becoming a councillor or designated person.

You also do not need to disclose an interest in a parcel of real property if your interest was:

- as executor of a will, or administrator of an estate, of a deceased person, **and** you were not a beneficiary under the will or intestacy, or
- as a trustee, if the interest was acquired in the course of an occupation that was not related to your duties as a councillor or designated person.

#### Note:

- **'Address' is defined in clause 1 of schedule 1 of the Model Code of Conduct**
- **'Real property' refers to any real property in Australia.**

### Part B – Sources of income

In this section you must disclose each source of income you:

- reasonably expect to receive from the first day after the return date to 30 June, and
- received in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

In disclosing sources of income from your occupation, you must disclose:

- a description of your occupation, and
- if you are employed or the holder of an office, the name and address of your employer, or a description of the office, and
- if you have entered into a partnership with other persons, the name (if any) of the partnership.

In disclosing sources of income from a trust, you must disclose the name and address of the settlor and trustee.

In disclosing the sources of any other income, you must provide a description that identifies the person you received or reasonably expect to receive the income from, or the circumstances in which you received or reasonably expect to receive the income.

You do not need to disclose a source of income if:



- it did not exceed, or you do not reasonably expect it to exceed, \$500
- you ceased to receive income from that source prior to becoming a councillor or designated person, or
- it is your fee as a councillor.

### Part C – Gifts

In this section, you must disclose all gifts you have received since 30 June of the previous financial year.

Gifts include any item, property or money you have been given without consideration or with inadequate consideration, unless it was received under a will.

You must provide a description of the gift and the name and address of the person/organisation that gave you the gift.

You do not need to disclose gifts if:

- they did not exceed \$500 in value, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$500 from the same person/organisation within the last 12 months
- it was given to you by a relative (see below for a definition of “relative”)
- it was a political donation that has been disclosed or is required to be disclosed under the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
- it was received prior to you becoming a councillor or designated person (unless you have received a subsequent gift from the same person/organisation since becoming a councillor/designated person and within a 12-month period and the gifts total more than \$500).

#### Note:

- **The amount of a gift (other than money) is equal to the monetary value of the gift**
- **‘Relative’ is defined in clause 1 of schedule 1 of the Model Code of Conduct. Relatives include your:**
  - spouse or de facto partner
  - parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, lineal descendants or adopted children and any of those persons’ spouses or de facto partners, and
  - spouse’s or de facto partner’s parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles,

**aunts, nephews, nieces, lineal descendants or adopted children and any of those persons’ spouses or de facto partners.**

### Part D – Contributions to travel

In this section you must disclose the:

- name and address of any person who has made a financial or other contribution to the expenses of any travel you have undertaken since 30 June of the previous financial year
- dates on which you undertook the travel, and
- names of the states and territories and of the overseas countries where the travel was undertaken.

You do not need to disclose a contribution to travel if:

- it was made from public funds
- it was made by a relative (see above for a definition of “relative”)
- it was made in the ordinary course of your occupation that was not related to your functions as a councillor or designated person
- it was under \$250, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$250 from the same person/organisation within the last 12 months
- it was a political donation that has been disclosed or is required to be disclosed under the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*
- it was made by a political party you are a member of and you undertook the travel for the purpose of political activity of the party in NSW, or to represent the party within Australia, or
- you received the contribution prior to becoming a councillor or designated person (unless you have received a subsequent gift or contribution from the same person/organisation since becoming a councillor/designated person and within a 12 month period and the gifts/contributions total more than \$250).

#### Note:

- **The amount of a contribution (other than money) is equal to the monetary value of the contribution.**

## Part E – Interests and positions in corporations

In this section, you must disclose:

- the name and address of each corporation in which you held an interest or position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date and since 30 June of the previous financial year
- the nature of the interests or positions held in each corporation, and
- a description of the principal objects (if any) of each corporation, except if it is a listed company.

You do not need to disclose an interest or position in a corporation if the corporation:

- is formed for the purpose of providing recreation or amusement, or for promoting commerce, industry, art, science, religion or charity, or for any other community purpose, **and**
- it is required to apply its profits or other income for the purpose of promoting its objects, **and**
- it is prohibited from paying any dividend to its members.

You also do not need to disclose an interest in a corporation if it is a beneficial interest in shares in the corporation that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the corporation.

You also do not need to disclose an interest or position in a corporation if you ceased to hold the interest or position prior to becoming a councillor or designated person.

## Part F – Are you a property developer or close associate of a property developer?

In this section, you must disclose if you are a 'property developer' or a close associate of an individual or corporation that is a 'property developer' for the purposes of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

A person or a corporation is a 'property developer' if they carry out a business mainly concerned with the residential or commercial development of land, with the ultimate purpose of the sale or lease of the land for profit, **and** in the course of that business:

- one 'relevant planning application' has been made by or on behalf of the individual or corporation and is pending, or
- three or more 'relevant planning applications' made by or on behalf of the individual or corporation have been determined within the preceding seven years.

You will be a close associate of a person who is a property developer if:

- you are the spouse of the person, or
- where the person has made a 'relevant planning application' that is pending, you are in a joint venture or partnership with the person in connection with the 'relevant planning application' and you are likely to obtain a financial gain if it is approved or carried out.

You will be a close associate of a corporation that is a property developer if:

- you or your spouse are a director or officer of the corporation
- you or your spouse have voting power in the corporation or a related body corporate of the corporation that is greater than 20%
- where the corporation is a trustee, manager or responsible entity in relation to a trust, you hold more than 20% of the units in the trust (in the case of a unit trust) or you are a beneficiary of the trust (in the case of a discretionary trust), or
- where the corporation has made a 'relevant planning application' that is pending, you are in a joint venture or partnership with the corporation in connection with the 'relevant planning application' and you are likely to obtain a financial gain if it is approved or carried out.

**Note:**

→ **'Relevant planning application' is defined in section 10.4 (Disclosure of political donations and gifts) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.**

## Part G – Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

In this section, you must disclose:

- the name of each trade union and of each professional or business association in which you held any position (whether remunerated

or not) on the return date and since 30 June of the previous financial year, and

- a description of the position.

You do not need to disclose a position in a trade union or a professional or business association if you ceased to hold that position prior to becoming a councillor or designated person.

### Part H – Debts

In this section, you must disclose the name and address of each person you are/were liable to pay a debt to on the return date, and at any time since 30 June of the previous financial year.

You must disclose a liability to pay a debt whether or not the amount, or any part of the amount, to be paid was due and payable on the return date or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

You do not need to disclose a liability to pay a debt if:

- the debt arose from a loan you have with a deposit taking institution (eg a bank) or other authorised deposit taking institution which lends money, and the loan was part of the institution's ordinary course of business
- the amount to be paid did not exceed \$500, **unless** the debt was one of two or more debts owed to the same person, and the combined value of the debts exceed \$500.
- the debt was owed to a relative (see above for a definition of "relative")
- in the case of a debt for the supply of goods or services:
  - the goods or services were supplied to you within the 12 months before the return date, or at any time since 30 June of the previous financial year, or
  - the goods or services were supplied to you in the ordinary course your occupation that is not related to your duties as a councillor or designated person, or
- the debt was discharged prior to you becoming a councillor or designated person, unless the debt was one of two or more debts you owe to the same person, and the value of the combine debts exceeds \$500.

### Part I – Dispositions of real property

In this section you must disclose details of each disposition of real property by you (including the street address of the property) since 30 June of the previous financial year if you wholly or partly retained the use and benefit of the property, or the right to re-acquire it.

You must also disclose details of each disposition of real property to another person under an arrangement with you (including the street address of the property), since 30 June of the previous financial year under which you obtained wholly or partly the use of the property.

You do not need to disclose a disposition of real property if it was made prior to you becoming a councillor or designated person.

### Part J – Discretionary disclosures

In this section, you may voluntarily disclose any other interests, benefits, advantages or liabilities you may have, whether or not they are pecuniary, which you have not been required to disclose elsewhere in the return.

# DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21  
OF THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR  
LOCAL COUNCILS IN NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by *[full name of councillor or designated person]*  
as at *[return date]* in respect to the period from *[date]* to *[date]*.

Signed: *[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

Date: *[date]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
<i>[address]</i>	<i>[details]</i>

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- received from an occupation at any time since 30 June:

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
<i>[description]</i>	<i>[name and address]</i>	<i>[name]</i>



## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- received from a trust since 30 June:

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
<i>[name and address]</i>	<i>[name and address]</i>

## 3. Sources of other income I:

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- received at any time since 30 June:

Sources of other income
<i>[Include description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, that income was received]</i>

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
<i>[details]</i>	<i>[name and address]</i>

**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Names of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
<i>[name and address]</i>	<i>[dates]</i>	<i>[names]</i>

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
<i>[name and address]</i>	<i>[details]</i>	<i>[details]</i>	<i>[details]</i>

**F. Property development**

Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date?

*[Yes/No]*

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
<i>[name]</i>	<i>[details]</i>

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debts at the return date/at any time since 30 June
<i>[name]</i>

**I. Disposition of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

*[details]*

2. Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

*[details]*

**J. Discretionary disclosures**

*[details]*

**FORM 1.1.47: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE****C2.2.2**

1. **FORM CATEGORY:** Councillors and Designated Staff
2. **FORM NUMBER:** 1.1.7
3. **FORM NAME:** Related Party Disclosure Form 2024 - 2025
4. **VERSION DATE:** 30 September 2024

**RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE – COUNCILLORS & DESIGNATED STAFF****PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Related Party Declaration by Key Management Personnel (KMP)	
Name of Councillor/Designated Staff:	
Position:	
List details of close family member, entities that are controlled/jointly controlled by you and entities that are controlled/jointly controlled by close family members	
Name of person or entity	Relationship
I ..... (insert full name), ..... (insert position) declare that that the above list includes all my close family members and the entities controlled, or jointly controlled, by myself or my close family members. I make this declaration after reading the Council's Related Party <b>Disclosures</b> Policy which details the meaning of the words 'close family members' and 'entities controlled, or jointly controlled, by myself or my close family members'.	
Declared at:	(insert place)
on the	(insert date)
Signature of <b>KMP</b> :	



FORM 1.1.47: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

C2.2.2

ATTACHMENT A

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS  
NOTIFICATION BY

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Name of Key Management Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Position of Key Management Person: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please read the Related Party Disclosure Policy which explains what a related party transaction is and the purposes for which Council is collecting, and will use and disclose, the related party information provided by you in this notification.*

*Please Complete either Section 1 or Section 2*

**Section 1 (Please tick if applicable)**

☐

No related party transactions have been carried out in the past 6-month period and I am not aware of any related party transactions anticipated in the future.

**Section 2**

Please complete the table attached for each related party transaction with Council that you, or a close member of your family, or an entity related to you or a close member of your family:

- a) has previously entered into and which will continue in the future, or
- b) has entered into, or is reasonably likely to enter into, in the future.

**Notification**

I, (Name) \_\_\_\_\_, (Position) \_\_\_\_\_ notify that, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, as at the date of this notification, the above list and attachments, if any, includes all existing and potential related party transactions with Council involving myself, close members of my family, or entities controlled or jointly controlled by me or close members of my family, relevant to the reporting period.

I make this notification after reading the Related Party Disclosure Policy provided by Weddin Shire Council, which details the meaning of the words "related party", "Related party transaction", "close members of the family of a person" and, in relation to an entity, "control" or "joint control" and the purposes for which this information will be used and disclosed.

I permit access to this information for the purpose of compliance with Council's legal obligations and disclosure.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FORM 1.1.47: RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

C2.2.2

Description of Related Party Transaction	Is transaction existing or potential?	Tick box if transaction is financial in nature	Related Party's Name (Individual or Entity) Include ABN if known	Relationship with Related Party	Description of Transaction Documents or Changes to the Related Party Relationship
		<input type="checkbox"/>			
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**Note:** Please attach additional pages if not enough room supplied above as well as any supporting information that would be useful in the assessment of these related party transactions.

**6.9 FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES OCCURRING IN THE OFFICES OF COUNCILLORS****File Number:****Author:** General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems**Precis:** Filling of casual vacancies in the offices of Councillors by by-election or countback.**Budget:****RECOMMENDATION****That Council:**

1. Note the information contained in this report.

**Option 1**

2. Pursuant to section 291A(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* Weddin Shire Council declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a councillor within 18 months after the last ordinary election of for the Council on 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act and directs the General Manager to notify the Election Manager of the Council's decision within 7 days of the decision.

**Option 2**

2. Pursuant to section 291 of the *Local Government Act 1993* Weddin Shire Council declares that if a casual vacancy occurs in civic office, the office is to be filled by a by-election.

**PURPOSE**

To seek Council's direction on a by-election or a countback process to fill casual vacancies occurring in the first 18 months.

**BACKGROUND**

A casual vacancy can occur when a Councillor cannot complete their term. To fill the vacancy, a by-election or countback process can occur.

A countback is held when a vacating councillor was elected by proportional representation. All candidates who were not elected at the original election (14 September 2024) and who are eligible to still be a councillor are automatically participants in the countback within the specified time period.

A by election is where people vote to elect a new councillor within the specified time period.

Section 291A of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides an opportunity for Council to consider a countback of votes cast at the last ordinary election to be used instead of a by-election should a casual vacancy occur in the office of a Councillor if: -

- the casual vacancy occurs within eighteen (18) months after the date of the last ordinary election of the Councillors for the area; and
- Council has at its first meeting following that ordinary election of Councillors, by resolution, declared that any such casual vacancy is to be filled by a countback of votes cast at the last election for that office.

## **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

If Council resolves that a countback election is to be held to fill any casual vacancies, the General Manager is required under the Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021 to notify the election manager of the ordinary election within seven (7) days of the resolution.

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Council is required to consider the process of casual vacancies by countback at its first meeting.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Casual vacancies filled by countback process can be lower in costs than holding a by-election. The cost of the election was approximately \$52,000. Council's prior countback election on 26 April 2022 was charged at \$16,000. A dispute was lodged and subsequently the revised cost was reduced to \$4,150. A by-election cost would be similar to the full election cost. In considering this matter, the Council must consider the option of allowing electors to vote for a new councillor or to go to a countback process.

## **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

This is currently a matter for the Council to decide at its first meeting.

## **CONCLUSION**

A casual vacancy can occur when a Councillor cannot complete their term. To fill the vacancy, a by-election or countback process can occur. Council will now have to consider the options under section 291A of the Local Government Act 1993 at its first meeting.

**6.10 COUNCILLOR INDUCTION PROGRAM AND CAPABILITY PLAN****File Number:****Author:** General Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** Nil**CSP Objective:** Democratic and engaged community supported by efficient internal systems**Precis:** The following provides information on the Councillor Induction processes.**Budget:** Approximately \$4,750.00 (GST exclusive) plus travel costs and disbursements**RECOMMENDATION****That Council:**

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Note the Councillor induction on the Weddin Shire Council – Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook occurred on 4 October 2024.
3. Note the Councillor induction (two-day program) with an independent facilitator will occur on 31 October and 1 November 2024.
4. Note and action the Councillor Capability Plan.
5. Note the Councillor induction programs are mandatory under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

**PURPOSE**

To provide Council a formal notification of the Councillor Induction processes and Capability Plan.

**BACKGROUND**

An induction program is a process used within many businesses, government agencies and non-government bodies to welcome new people to an organisation and to prepare them for their new roles. In the local government context, a good councillor induction program can build early positive relationships and teamwork between councillors, increase productivity and provide essential knowledge from the moment a mayor or councillor is elected. This can ensure newly elected mayors and councillors become more productive in a shorter period of time. Councillor induction programs are mandatory under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

This report provides Councillors an understanding of the Councillor Induction Program which incorporates a number of activities to induct Councillors in over the next six months.

Councillors were inducted into the Weddin Shire Council – Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook ('Handbook') on 4 October 2024 and circulated to Councillors. The Handbook is intended to be an introduction to the work, health and safety

processes of Council. The Councillor Arrangement section gives a brief overview of the Weddin Shire Council arrangements we make, to assist Councillors in carrying out your role. It provides an understanding and oversight of how Council operates and the role of a Councillor within it, key policies, protocols and expectations as a Councillor.

It is important to note that the Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook is not intended to be a complete list of requirements as the Councillor role but as a broad snapshot of Weddin Shire Council's processes. **The Office of Local Government (OLG) has released the [Councillor Handbook](#) (September 2024) and this is the 'go-to' handbook.**

The Councillor's Capability Plan assist our Weddin Shire Councillors with their learning and development in their role as a Councillor for the 2024-2028 period. The Plan was developed utilising the Office of Local Government's Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines (2018). In 2016, an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 saw an additional responsibility added to the role of Councillors to include *"to make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a councillor"*.

## ISSUES AND COMMENTS

### **Councillor Induction (4 October) – Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook**

The Handbook is intended to be an introduction to the work, health and safety processes of Council. The Councillor Arrangement section gives a brief overview of the Weddin Shire Council arrangements we make, to assist Councillors in carrying out your role. It provides an understanding and oversight of how Council operates and your role as a Councillor within it, key policies, protocols and expectations as a Councillor.

Section 8A(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) provides as a guiding principle that Councils 'should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supporting work environment for staff.' This reflects the importance of obtaining robust advice from staff to support collective decision making by Councillors, as well as the legal duty of care under other legislation. Councillors should be mindful of the duties they have under Section 4 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act), to 'take reasonable care that his or her act or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons.'

This duty is reflected in the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (Model Code), and by extension, the Council's own adopted code of conduct. The Model Code also places obligations on Councillors not to engage in conduct that causes, comprises or involves intimidation or verbal abuse, or that constitutes harassment or bullying behaviour, or is unlawfully discriminatory.

The OLG and SafeWork NSW have released a video relating to [Local Government Councillor Work Health and Safety Duties and Behaviours](#).

The Arrangements section included information on a number of administration information like the use of the Councillor laptops, the council vehicle, how to contact staff etc. The Arrangements section clearly states that:

Councillors are entitled to make claims for reimbursement of expenses that are in accordance with the [Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy](#).

Forms will be available on LG Hub or at the back of the [Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy](#).

**Expenses claimed outside of the adopted policy of Council and/or the *Local Government Act 1993* will not be processed and reported through the appropriate avenues.**

### **Councillor Induction (Two-day program)**

A two-day councillor induction will occur on 31 October and 1 November 2024 by an independent facilitator. The program will include:

- What is local government?
- Local government in NSW
- NSW councils
- Principles of local government
- Roles and responsibilities
- The importance and dynamics of councillor relationships
- Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework
- Town planning
- Financial management oversight
- Specifics on Weddin Shire Council's governance and key planning and policy documents.
- 'Line in the sand' on the policy/operational distinction
- Appointment and oversight of the General Manager
- Joint organisations and regional context of local government
- Media and communications
- The realism of local government
- The art of the effective Mayor and the art of the effective Councillor
- Support for Councillors

### **Councillor Capability Plan**

The Councillor's Capability Plan assist Weddin Shire Councillors with their learning and development in their role as a Councillor for the 2024-2028 period. The Plan was developed utilising the Office of Local Government's Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines (2018). In 2016, an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 saw an additional responsibility added to the role of Councillors to include *"to make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a councillor"*.

To ensure that Councillors get the best opportunities with capability development within our allocated operating budget, Councillors are asked to read through the OLG's guidelines and through this plan. Please also visit websites that provide training for Councillors such as the LGNSW training portal and other service providers and come up with some ideas.

Once Councillors have completed a copy of the initial assessment, Councillors are asked to meet with the General Manager and the Mayor to go through the initial assessment. The plan is for the rest of Council term, there is opportunity to go back and amend the plan, however bearing in mind, that any expenditure will require approval from the General Manager.

Delegations to conferences or seminars representing Weddin Shire Council, requires Council approval prior to registration and attendance. Failure to do so will render the Councillor responsible to cover their own expenses.

The underpinnings to make this Capability Plan a success also includes complying with the provisions set out in the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy.

The process is to allow Councillors to develop their plans and work together as a team to share resources wherever possible.

The Capability Plan also outlines indicative workshops which will be carried out over the next 12 months. For transparency, the document has been online since 2 July 2024 to allow candidates and the public to understand the Councillors training and development needs and the intended workshops that are not livestreamed.

The Capability Plan also outlines training and learning opportunities that will be undertaken by the CNSWJO that will invite member councillors to attend their various workshops. This allows cost effective approaches to training and development and networking opportunities for our Council.

A folder of print out with documents mentioned as well as additional policies and copies of forms was provided to Councillors on 4 October 2024.

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The information complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and the information provided in the relevant guidelines from the OLG.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The Councillor Two-day induction process will cost approximately \$4,750.00 (GST exclusive) plus travelling costs and disbursements. This will come out of the Councillor vote for training and development. Councillors have a training and development budget of \$15,000 for FY2025. The Mayor has a separate training budget of \$5,000 to cover such costs like Country Mayors and the CNSWJO Board meetings. This has been partly utilised for this financial year with the previous council term.

## **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

In developing the resources for Councillors, consultation was undertaken with the Central NSW Joint Organisation member councils. The Weddin Shire Council – Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook and the Weddin Shire Capability Plan will be used as a model template by the CNSWJO and other councils.



**CONCLUSION**

Councillors were formally inducted into the Weddin Shire Council – Councillor WHS Induction and Councillor Arrangement Handbook on 4 October 2024. This included the sharing of a number of resources, an induction on work, health and safety and the inclusion of a number of tools for Councillors in undertaking their role. The comprehensive two-day induction process has been booked for the new Council on 31 October 2024 and 1 November 2024. Councillors will also be supported to fill out their Councillor Capability Plan. A folder of print out with documents mentioned as well as additional policies and copies of forms was provided to Councillors on 4 October 2024.

## 7 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

### 7.1 PRESENTATION OF DRAFT 2023-2024 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**File Number:**

**Author:** General Manager

**Authoriser:** General Manager

**Attachments:**

1. ATT 1 | Weddin Shire Council General Purpose Financial Statements
2. ATT 2 | Weddin Shire Council Special Purpose Financial Statements

**CSP Objective:** Shire assets and services delivered effectively and efficiently

**Precis:** To present the Draft 2023-2024 Annual Financial Statements to the Council for adoption to refer to the Auditors

**Budget:** Nil

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Note the information contained in this report.
2. Note that statement in accordance with Section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 215 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, for the General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2024 be made.
3. Note the statement in requirements of the Code of Accounting Practice in relation to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2024 be made.
4. Note the statement to be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager, and Responsible Accounting Officer.
5. Approve for the Draft General Purpose Financial Statements, Special Purpose Financial Statements, and Special Schedules be referred for audit.
6. Note the Council's reaffirmation on its position on the non-recognition of Rural Fire Service assets in the Financial Statements.
7. Note that the audit opinion to be issue by the Audit Office of NSW will likely be a qualified opinion for the non-recognition of Rural Fire Service assets in the Financial Statements;
8. Endorse that all statements present fairly the operating result and the financial position for the year and Council is not aware of any matter that would render the statements false or misleading in any way.
9. Note that the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) at a Special Meeting on 23 September 2024 reviewed the working Draft Annual Financial Statements noting some minor adjustments (to be made prior to council's review) which have now been made.

10. Note that following the audit, that the Audited Draft Financial Statements, will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 7 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.
11. Note that following endorsement or noting the above 10 points that Council will provide these draft financial statements to Crowe as our contract Auditors for the NSW Audit Office for auditing.
12. Note that Crowe will be commencing their audit on site from Tuesday 8 October 2024.
13. Note that following the declaration of the Weddin Shire Council, that the Council will consider the draft 2023-2024 Draft Annual Financial Statements at its 8 October 2024 Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council the Draft Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 and for the Council to refer all accounts to the Audit Office of NSW for the 2023-2024 period. *The report also provides the Council an overview of the likely situation that Council may receive a Qualified Audit.*

## BACKGROUND

In accordance with Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, under s. 428, within five months after the end of year financial year, a Council must prepare an annual report highlighting its achievements for implementing its deliver program and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives at which those principal activities are directed.

Under s. 428 (4), an annual report must contain:

- (a) a copy of the council's audited financial reports prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting* published by the Department, as in force from time to time,
- (b) such other information or material as the regulations or the guidelines under section 406 may require,
- (c) a statement of the action taken by the council in relation to any issue raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of the council and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue,
- (d) a statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the council during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the [Modern Slavery Act 2018](#).

The presentation relates to the Draft Annual Financial Statements for the period of 2023-2024. The Draft Annual Report will be provided to the Council with the Audited Financial Statements following the audit.

A working draft of the 2023 Annual Financial Statements was prepared and presented to Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) on 23 September 2024. A presentation of the working draft statements was provided by Council's external contractor, Luka Group.

## ISSUES AND COMMENTS

Weddin Shire Council would like to thank Luka Group, the Director of Corporate Services and the Management Accountant for their assistance in preparation of the 2023-2024

Annual Financial Statements. Please note the following information from the Draft Annual Financial Statements.

### **‘Red Fleet’ Rural Fire Service**

At the July 2022 Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved not to recognise the “Red Fleet”, the Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets on the balance sheet. The Council are asked to reconfirm this position at its 17 October 2024 Council Meeting. This position will likely result in a ‘qualified audit opinion’ for the non-recognition of the RFS assets. A position paper has been written to justify our position however, it is likely to still result in a ‘qualified audit opinion’. A summary on the ‘red fleet’ issue can be found here:

[https://www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/content/uploads/221111\\_Red-Fleet-Assets\\_Final.pdf](https://www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/content/uploads/221111_Red-Fleet-Assets_Final.pdf)

### **2023/2024 Comments**

Council will be provided a pre-briefing summary on 4 October 2024 including a printed copy of the Draft 2023-2024 Financial Statements. A page-turn will also occur on 8 October 2024 with Council’s contractor – Luka Group.

In preparing the draft Annual Financial Statements, Council is likely to receive a qualified audit opinion. This includes the position on the “Red Fleet” of the Rural Fire Service.

Other main highlights to comment on are as follows:

- Our net operating surplus was approximately \$1.072 Million and excluding capital grants it was a deficit of \$1.392 Million (capital grants being \$2.464 Mil).
- Rates, Interest Income, and net gain from Capital Proceeds were similar to last year.
- User Charges and Fees were significantly less. Last year included a significantly higher amount from RMCC revenue which was not received this year. This amount is entirely dependent upon what Transport for NSW deems it will spend on highways across the Shire by council and does vary from year to year.
- The main differences from last year were firstly Operating Grant revenue (up by up by about \$1.901 Million from last year to \$14.499 Million this year), Capital Grants for capital purposes on the other hand were lower by about \$7.654 Million to \$2.464 Mil. Most of the grant funding received this year was for operational purposes only (disaster recovery flood repairs) and not for capital purposes.
- Other Revenue was \$1.039 Million (up by about \$0.566 Million due in most part to the unrealised increase in council’s third share in the value of Central Tablelands Water.
- Employee expenses has increased to \$7.0 Million this year and this increase is mainly due to increased casuals due to road grant funded activities. Last year we outsourced a lot more of our road and traffic controller functions while this year we did these in house with additional casual staff. However in line with Award increases and Superannuation increases that Council is obligated to do under the law, this was also part of this consideration.
- Materials and services of \$13.889 Million was commensurate with the increase in the Operating Grants received.
- Depreciation increased by \$0.568 Million due in the main to the increase in the revaluation of IPP&E.
- Other expenses and Borrowing expenses were both similar to last year.

In terms of the Position Statement, we note the following:

- Total cash this year is a lot higher than last year due mainly to the receipt of 85% up front on the 2024-2025 Financial Assistance Grant (\$3.376 Mil), as well as a 205 Tri-Partite flood repair funds (\$4.571 Mil).
- External Restrictions are about \$9.646 Mil, and Internal Allocations are \$7.762 Million and these can be seen in detail at Note C1-2. Unrestricted cash is about \$1.081K.
- Total IPP&E is \$265.935 Million which is up by about \$10 Million from last year (a combination of an increase in Indexation and also a decline in value from Depreciation). There were no notable asset increases this year as most road works were operational (not capital). Work in Progress (WIP) is \$7.257 Mil. Most of this related to the Main Street which was largely but still not fully completed (some lighting still to be completed) as at 30 June and as such has not yet been transferred to assets. Other WIP includes Greenethorpe to Koorawatha Road that remains in progress at 30 June 2024.

Contract Assets are notably less this year at about \$2.269 Million (down from \$11.258 Million last year). The unusually high figure last year was due to a lot of completed work not acquitted and converted to unrestricted cash, hence the breach in Restricted Cash last year. This year we have focused on acquitting as soon as grant works have been completed to avoid a recurrence of this incident.

In terms of ratios, please see the following:

- Own Performance Ratio is a NON-MET at -9.65%. This is expected given the net deficit before capital grants this year.
- Own source operating revenue is a NON-MET at 37.86% which is similar to the last 2 financial years. This means does not meet all its operational costs based on its own revenue. That is it relies on grants and contributions, namely the financial assistance grant.
- Unrestricted Current ratio is 2.83 X which is a HAS MET.
- Debt Services Cover ratio is 6.14 X which is a HAS MET
- Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding ratio has deteriorated from 10.51% to 12.15%. This needs to be below 10% and is a NON-MET. Focus needs to be on collecting old debts.
- Cash Expenses Cover Ratio is a HAS MET at 9.39 X however this will vary due to the actual cash balance in the account which is high as at year end.

The Audit Office's contractor will be on site to undertake an audit, week commencing Tuesday 8 October (after the October long weekend).

## **POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The *Local Government Act 1993*, requires that Council must prepare and endorse an Annual Report within five months of the end of the financial year. The working Draft Annual Financial Statement was presented to the ARIC on 23 September 2024 who provided 'in-principle support' to refer to the Weddin Shire Council. The Annual Report's statutory reporting requirements will need to be presented on Council's website within five months of the end of the financial year. Council will finalise the draft Annual Report to place on the website with the audited financial statements to comply with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

At 30 June 2024, Council had \$18.019 million in cash in the bank. There is no restricted cash breach this year. Refer to earlier commentary on the external cash restrictions and internal allocations. This year, the council has a very sound cash position as compared to the prior year. This demonstrates the actions completed by the staff at Weddin Shire Council in implementing the Self-Initiated Improvement Management Plan to return to a strong position.

**INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION**

The audit report is expected to be issued on or around 29 or 30 October 2024. Once the Audit Office NSW has audited the Draft Financial Statements, the Annual Financial Statements will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 7 days for the purpose of inviting submissions from the community.

**CONCLUSION**

The draft Annual Financial Statements for 2023-2024 period is now presented to Council for endorsement to refer to the Auditors for audit. Noting that Council had a very sound cash position when compared to the prior year.

# Weddin Shire Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2024





## Weddin Shire Council

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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## Overview

Weddin Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

Corner Camp & Weddin Streets  
Grenfell NSW 2810

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note B1-2.

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: [www.weddin.nsw.gov.au](http://www.weddin.nsw.gov.au).

## Weddin Shire Council

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 08 October 2024.

[Mayor]

Mayor

08 October 2024

[Councillor]

Councillor

08 October 2024

Noreen Vu

General Manager

08 October 2024

John Thompson

Responsible Accounting Officer

08 October 2024

Weddin Shire Council | Income Statement | for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Original unaudited budget 2024	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
<b>Income from continuing operations</b>				
4,476	Rates and annual charges	B2-1	4,348	4,194
2,998	User charges and fees	B2-2	5,349	9,626
225	Other revenues	B2-3	181	347
5,095	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-4	14,499	12,590
130	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	B2-4	2,464	10,118
270	Interest and investment income	B2-5	309	280
184	Other income	B2-6	1,039	473
25	Net gain from the disposal of assets	B4-1	113	42
13,403	<b>Total income from continuing operations</b>		<b>28,302</b>	<b>37,670</b>
<b>Expenses from continuing operations</b>				
4,198	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	7,001	5,462
3,370	Materials and services	B3-2	13,889	12,092
169	Borrowing costs	B3-3	172	186
3,700	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	B3-4	5,779	5,211
1,267	Other expenses	B3-5	389	376
12,704	<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>		<b>27,230</b>	<b>23,327</b>
699	<b>Operating result from continuing operations</b>		<b>1,072</b>	<b>14,343</b>
699	<b>Net operating result for the year attributable to Council</b>		<b>1,072</b>	<b>14,343</b>
<b>Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes</b>				
569			(1,392)	4,225

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Weddin Shire Council | Statement of Comprehensive Income | for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement</b>		<b>1,072</b>	<b>14,343</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	<b>13,659</b>	17,317
Impairment (loss) reversal / (revaluation decrement) relating to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	<b>1,014</b>	(5,073)
Other comprehensive income – joint ventures and associates		<b>1,589</b>	2,476
<b>Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result</b>		<b>16,262</b>	<b>14,720</b>
<b>Total other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>16,262</b>	<b>14,720</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council</b>		<b>17,334</b>	<b>29,063</b>

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Weddin Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position | as at 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	18,089	6,146
Receivables	C1-3	1,005	1,350
Inventories	C1-4	221	225
Contract assets and contract cost assets	C1-5	2,269	11,258
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>21,584</b>	<b>18,979</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Receivables	C1-3	26	79
Inventories	C1-4	83	83
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	265,935	254,614
Investments accounted for using the equity method	D2-1	40,055	37,574
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>306,099</b>	<b>292,350</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>327,683</b>	<b>311,329</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables	C3-1	3,514	3,222
Contract liabilities	C3-2	3,067	4,120
Borrowings	C3-3	419	407
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	1,079	1,086
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>8,079</b>	<b>8,835</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Payables	C3-1	6	4
Borrowings	C3-3	3,256	3,675
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	144	85
Provisions	C3-5	695	561
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>4,101</b>	<b>4,325</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>12,180</b>	<b>13,160</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>315,503</b>	<b>298,169</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus	C4-1	193,750	191,089
IPPE revaluation reserve	C4-1	121,753	107,080
<b>Council equity interest</b>		<b>315,503</b>	<b>298,169</b>
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>315,503</b>	<b>298,169</b>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Weddin Shire Council | Statement of Changes in Equity | for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024			2023		
		Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity	Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity
Opening balance at 1 July		191,089	107,080	298,169	174,270	94,836	269,106
<b>Restated opening balance</b>		<b>191,089</b>	<b>107,080</b>	<b>298,169</b>	<b>174,270</b>	<b>94,836</b>	<b>269,106</b>
Net operating result for the year		1,072	–	1,072	14,343	–	14,343
<b>Restated net operating result for the period</b>		<b>1,072</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>14,343</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>14,343</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	13,659	13,659	–	17,317	17,317
Impairment (loss) reversal relating to IPP&E	C1-6	–	1,014	1,014	–	(5,073)	(5,073)
Joint ventures and associates	D2-1	1,589	–	1,589	2,476	–	2,476
<b>Restated other comprehensive income</b>		<b>1,589</b>	<b>14,673</b>	<b>16,262</b>	<b>2,476</b>	<b>12,244</b>	<b>14,720</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>2,661</b>	<b>14,673</b>	<b>17,334</b>	<b>16,819</b>	<b>12,244</b>	<b>29,063</b>
<b>Closing balance at 30 June</b>		<b>193,750</b>	<b>121,753</b>	<b>315,503</b>	<b>191,089</b>	<b>107,080</b>	<b>298,169</b>

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Weddin Shire Council | Statement of Cash Flows | for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Original unaudited budget 2024	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2024	Actual 2023
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
4,476	Rates and annual charges		4,262	4,110
2,998	User charges and fees		11,636	3,654
270	Interest received		309	280
5,226	Grants and contributions		24,899	7,991
–	Bonds, deposits and retentions received		111	–
434	Other		(3,886)	6,035
<i>Payments:</i>				
(4,198)	Payments to employees		(6,943)	(5,346)
(3,370)	Payments for materials and services		(13,734)	(10,120)
(169)	Borrowing costs		(149)	(142)
–	Bonds, deposits and retentions refunded		–	(17)
(1,267)	Other		(1,889)	(394)
4,400	<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	G1-1	<b>14,616</b>	<b>6,051</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
–	Redemption of term deposits		–	1,000
–	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		473	42
–	Deferred debtors receipts		48	81
<i>Payments:</i>				
(3,435)	Payments for IPPE		(2,787)	(13,471)
(3,435)	<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>		<b>(2,266)</b>	<b>(12,348)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>				
<i>Payments:</i>				
(408)	Repayment of borrowings		(407)	(398)
–	Principal component of lease payments		–	(9)
(408)	<b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>		<b>(407)</b>	<b>(407)</b>
557	<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>11,943</b>	<b>(6,704)</b>
6,146	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		6,146	12,850
6,703	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	C1-1	<b>18,089</b>	<b>6,146</b>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



## Weddin Shire Council

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## Weddin Shire Council

## Contents for the notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

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## A About Council and these financial statements

### A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 08 October 2024. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation)*, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

#### **Historical cost convention**

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property.

#### **Significant accounting estimates and judgements**

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### **Critical accounting estimates and assumptions**

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- (i) estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-7.
- (ii) estimated tip remediation provisions – refer Note C3-5.
- (iii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4.

#### **Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies**

- (i) Impairment of receivables – refer Note C1-4.
- (ii) Determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific and whether the contract is within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and / or AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* – refer to Notes B2-2 – B2-4.
- (iii) Determination of the lease term, discount rate (when not implicit in the lease) and whether an arrangement contains a lease – refer to Note C2-1.
- (iv) Estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Council has made significant judgements in calculating the fair value of its infrastructure, property, plant and equipment - refer Note C1-7.

- (v) Estimated tip remediation liabilities

Council has made significant judgements in calculating the timing and value of its tip remediation liabilities - refer Note C3-5.

- (vi) Employee benefit provisions

Council has made significant judgements concerning the timing of its Employee benefit provisions - refer Note C3-4.

#### **Monies and other assets received by Council**

continued on next page

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## A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

### The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following activities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations
- Sewerage service

### The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and property received by the council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with, the trusts relating to those monies.

Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

The following Trust monies and properties are held by Council but not considered to be under the control of Council and therefore are excluded from these financial statements:

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the council office by any person free of charge

### Volunteer services

Council does not make use of volunteer services.

### New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2024 reporting period. Council has not applied any pronouncements before its operative date in the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2023.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

### New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time at 30 June 2024.

Those newly adopted standards had no impact on Council's reported financial position, financial performance and/or associated financial statement.

## B Financial Performance

### B1 Functions or activities

#### B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

\$ '000	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Functions or activities</b>										
Community and Culture	281	269	527	866	(246)	(597)	265	190	15,268	14,729
Local Economy	276	298	605	563	(329)	(265)	148	179	–	–
Environmental	2,931	4,005	2,153	2,480	778	1,525	61	40	17,509	15,989
Infrastructure	19,987	28,377	19,096	15,215	891	13,162	12,670	19,209	208,707	198,853
Government and Representation	3,285	3,651	3,462	3,069	(177)	582	3,793	3,046	24,436	22,673
Share of Central Tablelands Water	892	376	–	–	892	376	–	–	40,055	37,754
Sewer Services	768	694	1,387	1,134	(619)	(440)	26	44	21,708	21,331
<b>Total functions and activities</b>	<b>28,420</b>	<b>37,670</b>	<b>27,230</b>	<b>23,327</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>14,343</b>	<b>16,963</b>	<b>22,708</b>	<b>327,683</b>	<b>311,329</b>

## B1-2 Components of functions or activities

---

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

### Community and Culture

- Art Gallery
- Community Technology Centre
- Emergency Services
- Library
- Taxi

### Local Economy

- Caravan Park
- Economic Development
- Tourism

### Environmental

- Animal Control
- Council Buildings & Property
- Heritage
- Planning & Building
- Swimmings Pools
- Waste
- Weeds

### Infrastructure

- Cemeteries
- Depot
- Engineering
- Parks & Gardens
- Plant
- Private Works
- Public Conveniences
- Transport for NSW
- Roads & Transportation
- Stormwater

### Government and Representation

- Corporate
- General Revenue
- Governance

### Sewer Fund

- Sewer

### Central Tablelands Water

- Councils share of Central Tablelands Water



## B2 Sources of income

### B2-1 Rates and annual charges

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Ordinary rates</b>		
Residential	1,031	1,028
Farmland	1,834	1,808
Mining	7	7
Business	137	138
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(108)	(110)
<b>Rates levied to ratepayers</b>	<b>2,901</b>	<b>2,871</b>
Pensioner rate subsidies received	60	60
<b>Total ordinary rates</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>2,931</b>
<b>Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 &amp; 611)</b>		
Domestic waste management services	533	497
Sewerage services	688	619
Waste management services (non-domestic)	178	159
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(26)	(27)
<b>Annual charges levied</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>1,248</b>
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
– Sewerage	14	15
<b>Total annual charges</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,263</b>
<b>Total rates and annual charges</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>4,194</b>
<b>Timing of revenue recognition for rates and annual charges</b>		
Rates and annual charges recognised at a point in time	4,348	4,194
<b>Total rates and annual charges</b>	<b>4,348</b>	<b>4,194</b>

Council has used 2022 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

#### Material accounting policy information

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.



**B2-2 User charges and fees**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Specific user charges (per s502 - specific 'actual use' charges)</b>		
Sewerage services	35	23
Other	2	–
<b>Total specific user charges</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Other user charges and fees</b>		
<b>(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608)</b>		
Building regulation	52	41
Private works – section 67	5	23
Town planning	44	50
<b>Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s608))</b>		
Caravan park	61	107
Cemeteries	94	76
Leaseback fees – Council vehicles	29	26
Transport for NSW works (state roads not controlled by Council)	4,805	9,083
Swimming centres	51	46
Waste disposal tipping fees	14	10
Community technology centre	7	63
Other	150	78
<b>Total fees and charges – other</b>	<b>5,211</b>	<b>9,489</b>
<b>Total other user charges and fees</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>9,603</b>
<b>Total user charges and fees</b>	<b>5,349</b>	<b>9,626</b>
<b>Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees</b>		
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time	5,349	9,626
<b>Total user charges and fees</b>	<b>5,349</b>	<b>9,626</b>

**Material accounting policy information**

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases such as caravan parks, the customer is required to pay on arrival or a deposit in advance. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

**B2-3 Other revenues**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)	2	8
Commissions and agency fees	66	62
Diesel rebate	36	29
Insurance claims recoveries	11	–
Recycling income (non-domestic)	19	61
Insurance rebates	–	46
Other	47	141
<b>Total other revenue</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>347</b>

**Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue**

Other revenue recognised at a point in time	181	347
<b>Total other revenue</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>347</b>

**Material accounting policy information for other revenue**

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Statutory fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

Fines are recognised as revenue when the penalty is paid.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

## B2-4 Grants and contributions

\$ '000	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
<b>General purpose grants and non-developer contributions (untied)</b>				
<b>General purpose (untied)</b>				
<b>Current year allocation</b>				
Financial assistance – general component	194	653	–	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	51	326	–	–
<b>Payment in advance - future year allocation</b>				
Financial assistance – general component	2,246	2,379	–	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	1,129	1,271	–	–
<b>Amount recognised as income during current year</b>	<b>3,620</b>	<b>4,629</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)</b>				
<b>Cash contributions</b>				
Bushfire and emergency services	84	119	–	–
Employment and training programs	–	25	–	–
Environmental programs	–	–	–	7
Heritage and cultural	13	11	–	10
Library – per capita	76	71	–	–
Noxious weeds	61	42	–	–
Storm/flood damage	8,656	5,265	–	–
Stronger Country Communities	–	–	366	644
Street lighting	35	35	–	–
Drought Communities	–	–	149	59
Transport (roads to recovery)	698	763	–	–
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	–	–	314	1,376
Planning portal	–	84	–	–
Fixing local roads	–	370	902	7,048
Local roads and community infrastructure	–	–	707	930
Recreation and culture	148	189	–	–
Other specific grants	265	161	–	–
Transport for NSW contributions (regional roads, block grant)	843	826	–	–
<b>Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash</b>	<b>10,879</b>	<b>7,961</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>10,074</b>
<b>Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)</b>	<b>10,879</b>	<b>7,961</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>10,074</b>
<b>Total grants and non-developer contributions</b>	<b>14,499</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>10,074</b>
<b>Comprising:</b>				
– Commonwealth funding	717	5,392	882	1,239
– State funding	13,782	7,198	1,556	8,835
	<b>14,499</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>10,074</b>

continued on next page

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## B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

## Developer contributions

\$ '000	Notes	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
<b>Developer contributions:</b>					
<b>(s7.4 &amp; s7.11 - EP&amp;A Act, s64 of the LGA):</b>					
<b>Cash contributions</b>					
S 64 – sewerage service contributions	G3	–	–	26	44
<b>Total developer contributions – cash</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Total developer contributions</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Total contributions</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Total grants and contributions</b>		<b>14,499</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>10,118</b>
<b>Timing of revenue recognition for grants and contributions</b>					
Grants and contributions recognised over time		–	370	902	7,590
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time		14,499	12,220	1,562	2,528
<b>Total grants and contributions</b>		<b>14,499</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>10,118</b>

continued on next page

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## B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

### Unspent grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

\$ '000	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
<b>Unspent grants and contributions</b>				
Unspent funds at 1 July	2,308	28	4,120	7,579
<b>Add:</b> Funds received and not recognised as revenue in the current year	–	–	395	1,848
Add: Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions				
<b>Add:</b> Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	4,046	2,308	–	–
<b>Less:</b> Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	(256)	(28)	–	–
<b>Less:</b> Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	–	–	(1,448)	(5,307)
<b>Unspent Grants at 30 June</b>	<b>6,098</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>3,067</b>	<b>4,120</b>

Unspent capital grants for the construction of assets and unspent operating grants for provision of goods and services.

### Contributions

Unspent funds at 1 July	–	–	102	58
<b>Add:</b> contributions recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	–	–	26	44
<b>Less:</b> contributions recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	–	–	–	–
<b>Unspent contributions at 30 June</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>102</b>

Unspent Section 64 contributions.

### Material accounting policy information

#### Grants and contributions – enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement but include such things as milestones. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

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## B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

### Capital grants

Capital grants received by Council under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

### Developer contributions

Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of sections 7.4, 7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

While Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and, accordingly, would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required, but Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules for the contribution plan.

### Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

**B2-5 Interest and investment income**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost</b>		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	39	21
– Cash and investments	270	259
<b>Total interest and investment income (losses)</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>280</b>

**B2-6 Other income**

<b>\$ '000</b>	Notes	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Rental income</b>			
<b>Other lease income</b>			
Residential rental		74	15
Commercial rental		73	82
<b>Total other lease income</b>		<b>147</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Total rental income</b>	C2-2	<b>147</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method</b>			
Associates		892	376
<b>Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method</b>	D2-1	<b>892</b>	<b>376</b>
<b>Total other income</b>		<b>1,039</b>	<b>473</b>



**B3 Costs of providing services****B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Salaries and wages	6,048	4,561
Superannuation	675	602
Workers' compensation insurance	281	254
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	(3)	45
<b>Total employee costs</b>	<b>7,001</b>	<b>5,462</b>
<b>Total employee costs expensed</b>	<b>7,001</b>	<b>5,462</b>

**Material accounting policy information**

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note E3-1 for more information.

**B3-2 Materials and services**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Raw materials and consumables		<b>2,544</b>	2,599
Contractor costs		<b>10,027</b>	8,462
Audit Fees	F2-1	<b>76</b>	45
<b>Previously other expenses:</b>			
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	F1-2	<b>166</b>	156
Advertising		<b>44</b>	27
Electricity and heating		<b>148</b>	164
Insurance		<b>548</b>	375
Postage		<b>12</b>	12
Street lighting		<b>107</b>	97
Telephone and communications		<b>36</b>	41
Travel expenses		<b>26</b>	21
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)		<b>108</b>	65
<b>Legal expenses:</b>			
– Legal expenses: other		<b>37</b>	12
Expenses from leases of low value assets		<b>10</b>	16
<b>Total materials and services</b>		<b>13,889</b>	12,092
<b>Total materials and services</b>		<b>13,889</b>	12,092

**B3-3 Borrowing costs**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>(i) Interest bearing liability costs</b>			
Interest on loans		<b>148</b>	163
<b>Total interest bearing liability costs</b>		<b>148</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>Total interest bearing liability costs expensed</b>		<b>148</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>(ii) Other borrowing costs</b>			
Discount adjustments relating to movements in provisions (other than ELE)			
– Remediation liabilities	C3-5	<b>24</b>	23
<b>Total other borrowing costs</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Total borrowing costs expensed</b>		<b>172</b>	<b>186</b>

**B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets**

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Depreciation and amortisation</b>			
Plant and equipment		508	533
Office equipment		47	48
Furniture and fittings		8	8
<b>Infrastructure:</b>	C1-6		
– Buildings – non-specialised		496	511
– Buildings – specialised		281	186
– Other structures		130	115
– Roads		3,220	2,796
– Bridges		433	409
– Footpaths		23	22
– Stormwater drainage		123	103
– Sewerage network		283	258
– Swimming pools		181	165
Right of use assets	C2-1	–	8
<b>Other assets:</b>			
– Library books		29	28
– Other		1	1
<b>Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets:</b>			
– Asset reinstatement costs	C3-5, C1-6	16	20
<b>Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs</b>		<b>5,779</b>	<b>5,211</b>
<b>Total depreciation and amortisation costs</b>		<b>5,779</b>	<b>5,211</b>
<b>Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets</b>		<b>5,779</b>	<b>5,211</b>

**Material accounting policy information****Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

**Impairment of non-financial assets**

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are not tested for impairment since these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Intangible assets not yet available for use, are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

Other non-financial assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units).

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

**B3-5 Other expenses**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Other</b>		
Contributions/levies to other levels of government		
– Emergency services levy	17	10
– NSW fire brigade levy	38	32
– NSW rural fire service levy	318	318
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)	16	16
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>376</b>

**B4 Gains or losses****B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Gain (or loss) on disposal of property (excl. investment property)</b>		
Proceeds from disposal – property	473	42
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off	(360)	–
<b>Gain (or loss) on disposal</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>42</b>

## B5 Performance against budget

### B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 29 June 2023 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

**Material variations of more than 10%** between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

**Variation Key:** **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2024 ----- Variance -----	
<b>Revenues</b>				
<b>User charges and fees</b>	<b>2,998</b>	<b>5,349</b>	<b>2,351</b>	<b>78% F</b>
Transport for NSW works were significantly higher than budget due to flood damage on State Highways.				
<b>Other revenues</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>(44)</b>	<b>(20)% U</b>
Council received more other revenue than budgeted, due to the budget being conservative.				
<b>Operating grants and contributions</b>	<b>5,095</b>	<b>14,499</b>	<b>9,404</b>	<b>185% F</b>
Operating grants and contributions were significantly higher than budget due to the storm and flood damage grants of \$8.6 million and receiving 85% allocation of the 2024/25 financial assistance grant this year.				
<b>Capital grants and contributions</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>1,795% F</b>
Capital grants and contributions were significantly higher than budget due to funding under the Fixing Local Roads program of \$907,000 and LRCI program of \$707,000.				
<b>Interest and investment revenue</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14% F</b>
Interest revenue was significantly higher than budget due to higher interest rates on investments during the year.				
<b>Net gains from disposal of assets</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>352% F</b>
Council disposed of a property during the year which created a gain on disposal greater than the budgeted amount.				
<b>Other income</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>465% F</b>
Other income was significantly higher than budget due to Council's share of the Central Tablelands joint venture.				
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Employee benefits and on-costs</b>	<b>4,198</b>	<b>7,001</b>	<b>(2,803)</b>	<b>(67)% U</b>
Employee expenses were significantly higher than budget due to the filling of key positions and an increase in staff to meet Council's road work commitments.				
<b>Materials and services</b>	<b>3,370</b>	<b>13,889</b>	<b>(10,519)</b>	<b>(312)% U</b>
Materials and services were significantly higher than budget due to increased contractor costs and raw materials used in the repairing of road assets after flood damage.				
<b>Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>5,779</b>	<b>(2,079)</b>	<b>(56)% U</b>
Depreciation was significantly higher than budget due to increased depreciation on infrastructure assets from revaluation and indexation.				

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**B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)**

\$ '000	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2024 ----- Variance -----	
<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>69% F</b>
Other expenses were significantly lower than budget due to misallocations within the budget for items that should have been disclosed within materials and services.				

**Statement of cash flows**

<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>14,616</b>	<b>10,216</b>	<b>232% F</b>
Cash flows from operating activities were significantly higher than budget due to increased user charges and fess, increased grant income and increased payments to employees and materials and services due to the repairing of flood damaged roads.				
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	<b>(3,435)</b>	<b>(2,266)</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>(34)% F</b>
Cash out flows from investing activities were significantly lower than budget due to less capitalisation of IPPE than anticipated.				



**C Financial position****C1 Assets we manage****C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Cash assets</b>		
Cash on hand and at bank	<b>11,089</b>	3,646
Cash equivalent assets		
– Short-term deposits	<b>7,000</b>	2,500
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>18,089</b>	<b>6,146</b>
<b>Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	<b>18,089</b>	6,146
<b>Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows</b>	<b>18,089</b>	<b>6,146</b>

**C1-2 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
(a) Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments		
<b>Total cash, cash equivalents and investments</b>	<b>18,089</b>	<b>6,146</b>
<b>Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions</b>	<b>8,443</b>	<b>(1,108)</b>
<b>External restrictions</b>		
<b>External restrictions – included in liabilities</b>		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Specific purpose unexpended grants – general fund	3,067	4,120
<b>External restrictions – included in liabilities</b>	<b>3,067</b>	<b>4,120</b>
<b>External restrictions – other</b>		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Developer contributions – sewer fund	128	102
Specific purpose unexpended grants - general fund	6,098	2,308
Sewer fund	353	724
<b>External restrictions – other</b>	<b>6,579</b>	<b>3,134</b>
<b>Total external restrictions</b>	<b>9,646</b>	<b>7,254</b>

Cash, cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which are only available for specific use by Council due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement.

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
(b) Internal allocations		
<b>Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions</b>	<b>8,443</b>	<b>(1,108)</b>
<b>Internal allocations</b>		
At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:		
Plant and vehicle replacement	325	–
Employees leave entitlement	1,223	–
Domestic Waste Management	250	–
Development projects	81	–
Gravel pits	36	–
Office equipment	40	–
Town and shire works	2,432	–
Financial Assistance Grant advance payment	3,375	–
<b>Total internal allocations</b>	<b>7,762</b>	<b>–</b>

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

### C1-3 Receivables

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
Rates and annual charges	592	–	485	–
User charges and fees	43	–	362	–
Private works	1	–	1	–
Accrued revenues				
– Other income accruals	27	–	8	–
Deferred debtors	65	26	60	79
Net GST receivable	291	–	448	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Less: provision for impairment</b>				
User charges and fees	(14)	–	(14)	–
<b>Total provision for impairment – receivables</b>	<b>(14)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(14)</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total net receivables</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>79</b>

#### Material accounting policy information

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

#### Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When estimating ECL, Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

When considering the ECL for rates and annual charges debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Credit losses are measured at the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Council writes off a receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings.

None of the receivables that have been written off are subject to enforcement activity.

Where Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

## C1-4 Inventories

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
<b>(i) Inventories at cost</b>				
Real estate for resale	–	83	–	83
Stores and materials	221	–	225	–
<b>Total inventories at cost</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>83</b>

**(i) Other disclosures**

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
<b>(a) Details for real estate development</b>				
Industrial/commercial	–	83	–	83
<b>Total real estate for resale</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>83</b>

**Material accounting policy information****Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods**

Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs.

**Land held for resale**

Cost is assigned by specific identification and includes the cost of acquisition, and development and borrowing costs during development.

**C1-5 Contract assets and Contract cost assets**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2024 Current</b>	<b>2023 Current</b>
Contract assets	<u>2,269</u>	<u>11,258</u>
<b>Total contract assets</b>	<b><u>2,269</u></b>	<b><u>11,258</u></b>

**Contract assets**

Infrastructure grants	<u>2,144</u>	<u>5,746</u>
RMCC works	<u>125</u>	<u>5,512</u>
<b>Total contract assets</b>	<b><u>2,269</u></b>	<b><u>11,258</u></b>

**Material accounting policy information****Contract assets**

Contract assets represent Council's right to payment in exchange for goods or services the Council has transferred to a customer when that right is conditional on something other than the passage of time.

Contract assets arise when the amounts billed to customers are based on the achievement of various milestones established in the contract and therefore the amounts recognised as revenue in a given period do not necessarily coincide with the amounts billed to or certified by the customer. Once an invoice or payment claim is raised or the relevant milestone is reached, Council recognises a receivable.

Impairment of contract assets is assessed using the simplified expected credit loss model where lifetime credit losses are recognised on initial recognition.

## C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2023			Asset movements during the reporting period							At 30 June 2024		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals <sup>1</sup>	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in equity)	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000													
Capital work in progress	5,245	—	5,245	2,012	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,257	—	7,257
Plant and equipment	7,738	(5,016)	2,722	—	437	(38)	(508)	—	—	—	8,134	(5,521)	2,613
Office equipment	1,382	(1,088)	294	—	—	—	(47)	—	—	—	1,382	(1,135)	247
Furniture and fittings	186	(150)	36	—	—	(3)	(8)	—	—	—	176	(151)	25
<b>Land:</b>													
– Operational land	1,868	—	1,868	—	—	(100)	—	—	—	67	1,835	—	1,835
– Community land	1,636	—	1,636	—	—	—	—	—	—	62	1,698	—	1,698
<b>Infrastructure:</b>													
– Buildings – non-specialised	17,392	(8,843)	8,549	—	—	(210)	(496)	—	—	422	17,752	(9,487)	8,265
– Buildings – specialised	9,502	(3,053)	6,449	—	—	—	(281)	—	—	428	10,162	(3,566)	6,596
– Other structures	4,016	(912)	3,104	—	—	(9)	(130)	—	—	206	4,285	(1,114)	3,171
– Roads	146,628	(71,502)	75,126	—	—	—	(3,220)	1,014	—	4,134	154,502	(77,448)	77,054
– Bridges	51,991	(16,642)	35,349	—	—	—	(433)	—	—	1,874	54,783	(17,993)	36,790
– Footpaths	2,347	(806)	1,541	—	—	—	(23)	—	—	81	2,473	(874)	1,599
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	76,010	—	76,010	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,082	80,092	—	80,092
– Stormwater drainage	14,691	(5,377)	9,314	—	—	—	(123)	—	—	466	15,436	(5,779)	9,657
– Sewerage network	27,670	(7,353)	20,317	—	—	—	(283)	—	—	1,016	29,073	(8,023)	21,050
– Swimming pools	8,452	(1,816)	6,636	—	229	—	(181)	—	—	449	9,269	(2,136)	7,133
<b>Other assets:</b>													
– Library books	668	(518)	150	—	—	—	(29)	—	—	—	668	(547)	121
– Other	84	(44)	40	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	2	90	(49)	41
<b>Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):</b>													
– Tip assets	580	(352)	228	—	—	—	(16)	—	109	370	691	—	691
<b>Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>378,086</b>	<b>(123,472)</b>	<b>254,614</b>	<b>2,012</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>(360)</b>	<b>(5,779)</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>13,659</b>	<b>399,758</b>	<b>(133,823)</b>	<b>265,935</b>

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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## C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2022			Asset movements during the reporting period						At 30 June 2023		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals <sup>1</sup>	Additions new assets	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in equity)	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
<b>\$ '000</b>												
Capital work in progress	4,292	–	4,292	2,385	–	–	–	(1,432)	–	5,245	–	5,245
Plant and equipment	7,412	(4,483)	2,929	–	326	(533)	–	–	–	7,738	(5,016)	2,722
Office equipment	1,352	(1,040)	312	–	30	(48)	–	–	–	1,382	(1,088)	294
Furniture and fittings	186	(142)	44	–	–	(8)	–	–	–	186	(150)	36
<b>Land:</b>												
– Operational land	1,573	–	1,573	–	–	–	–	–	295	1,868	–	1,868
– Community land	1,558	–	1,558	–	–	–	–	–	78	1,636	–	1,636
<b>Infrastructure:</b>												
– Buildings – non-specialised	15,772	(9,137)	6,635	–	1,485	(511)	–	–	940	17,392	(8,843)	8,549
– Buildings – specialised	6,561	(3,008)	3,553	–	–	(186)	–	–	3,082	9,502	(3,053)	6,449
– Other structures	3,585	(737)	2,848	175	–	(115)	–	–	195	4,016	(912)	3,104
– Roads	131,606	(59,926)	71,680	5,813	–	(2,796)	(5,073)	1,432	4,070	146,628	(71,502)	75,126
– Bridges	49,090	(15,305)	33,785	–	–	(409)	–	–	1,973	51,991	(16,642)	35,349
– Footpaths	2,216	(739)	1,477	–	–	(22)	–	–	86	2,347	(806)	1,541
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	70,317	–	70,317	1,537	–	–	–	–	4,156	76,010	–	76,010
– Stormwater drainage	12,367	(4,889)	7,478	1,371	–	(103)	–	–	568	14,691	(5,377)	9,314
– Sewerage network	25,399	(6,569)	18,830	–	313	(258)	–	–	1,432	27,670	(7,353)	20,317
– Swimming pools	7,832	(1,530)	6,302	60	–	(165)	–	–	439	8,452	(1,816)	6,636
<b>Other assets:</b>												
– Library books	646	(489)	157	–	21	(28)	–	–	–	668	(518)	150
– Other	79	(40)	39	–	–	(1)	–	–	3	84	(44)	40
<b>Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):</b>												
– Tip assets	625	(332)	293	–	–	(20)	–	(45)	–	580	(352)	228
<b>Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>342,468</b>	<b>(108,366)</b>	<b>234,102</b>	<b>11,341</b>	<b>2,175</b>	<b>(5,203)</b>	<b>(5,073)</b>	<b>(45)</b>	<b>17,317</b>	<b>378,086</b>	<b>(123,472)</b>	<b>254,614</b>

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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## C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

### Material accounting policy information

#### Useful lives of IPPE

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

	Useful lives
Plant, office equipment, furniture and fittings	10
Infrastructure:	
– Buildings and other structures	20 to 40
– Roads, bridges and footpaths	19 to 160
– Bulk earthworks	infinite
– Stormwater drainage	109 to 120
– Sewerage network	15 to 85
– Open space / recreational assets	10 to 80
– Swimming pools	15 to 50
Library Books	10
Playground equipment, benches	5 to 20
Tip assets	25

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

#### Revaluation model

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Comprehensive valuations are performed at least every 5 years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Water and sewerage network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Water.

#### Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008 in accordance with AASB 1051 Land Under Roads.

#### Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

#### Rural Fire Service assets

Under Section 119 of the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997 (NSW)*, "all firefighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the firefighting equipment has been purchased or constructed".

Council have made the position that legislated ownership is not an Accounting Standard for the recognition of Property, Plant, and Equipment assets. Council will not be recognising Rural Fire Service Assets.

## C2 Leasing activities

### C2-1 Council as a lessee

Council has no leases in 2024 but had a plant lease in 2023. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

#### Terms and conditions of leases

##### Plant

Council leases an item of plant with lease terms of 5 years; the lease payments are fixed during the lease term and there is no renewal option.

#### (a) Right of use assets

\$ '000	Plant & Equipment	Total
<b>2024</b>		
Depreciation charge	—	—
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	—	—
<b>2023</b>		
Opening balance at 1 July	8	8
Depreciation charge	(8)	(8)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	—	—

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## C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)

### (b) Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Depreciation of right of use assets	–	8
Expenses relating to leases of low-value assets	10	16
	<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>

### (c) Statement of Cash Flows

Total cash outflow for leases	–	9
	<b>–</b>	<b>9</b>

### (d) Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases

Council has leases at significantly below market for a buildings which are used for:

- community arts centre
- railway station, used for recreation

The leases are generally varying terms and require payments of a maximum amount of \$500 per year. The use of the right-to-use asset is restricted by the lessors to specified community services which Council must provide, these services are detailed in the leases.

Council does not believe that any of the leases in place are individually material from a statement of financial position or performance perspective.

### Material accounting policy information

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives received. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

## C2-2 Council as a lessor

### Operating leases

Council leases out a number of properties to community groups and for medical services; these leases have been classified as operating leases for financial reporting purposes and the assets are included in the Statement of Financial Position as:

– property, plant and equipment – where the rental is incidental, or the asset is held to meet Councils service delivery objective (refer note C1-6).

\$ '000	2024	2023
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#### (ii) Assets held as property, plant and equipment

Council provides operating leases on Council buildings for the purpose of medical services and community groups,

Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	147	97
<b>Total income relating to operating leases for Council assets</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>97</b>

#### Material accounting policy information

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

When Council has a sub-lease over an asset and is the intermediate lessor then the head lease and sub-lease are accounted for separately. The classification of the sub-lease is based on the right-of-use asset which arises from the head lease rather than the useful life of the underlying asset.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components, the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term for an operating lease and as finance income using amortised cost basis for finance leases.

## C3 Liabilities of Council

### C3-1 Payables

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
Goods and services – operating expenditure	2,796	–	2,645	–
Accrued expenses:				
– Borrowings	18	–	19	–
– Salaries and wages	201	6	197	4
– Other expenditure accruals	52	–	46	–
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	329	–	218	–
Prepaid rates	118	–	97	–
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>3,514</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3,222</b>	<b>4</b>

#### Payables

Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

## C3-2 Contract Liabilities

\$ '000	Notes	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
<b>Grants and contributions received in advance:</b>					
Unexpended capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	(i)	3,067	–	4,106	–
Unexpended operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	(ii)	–	–	14	–
<b>Total grants received in advance</b>		<b>3,067</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,120</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total contract liabilities</b>		<b>3,067</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,120</b>	<b>–</b>

### Notes

(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion. The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

(ii) The contract liability relates to grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria in AASB 15 being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

### Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Grants and contributions received in advance:</b>		
Capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	1,434	5,189
Operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	14	339
<b>Total revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>5,528</b>

### Material accounting policy information

Contract liabilities are recorded when consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to Council transferring a good or service to the customer, Council presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability.

### C3-3 Borrowings

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
Loans – secured <sup>1</sup>	419	3,256	407	3,675
<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>3,256</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>3,675</b>

(1) Loans for infrastructure are secured over the general rating income of Council, loans for plant purchases are secured against the plant item.

Disclosures on liability interest rate risk exposures, fair value disclosures and security can be found in Note E1-1.

#### (a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

\$ '000	2023		Non-cash movements				2024
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy	Other non-cash movement	Closing balance
Loans – secured	4,082	(407)	–	–	–	–	3,675
Lease liability (Note C2-1b)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total liabilities from financing activities</b>	<b>4,082</b>	<b>(407)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3,675</b>

\$ '000	2022		Non-cash movements				2023
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy	Other non-cash movement	Closing balance
Loans – secured	4,480	(398)	–	–	–	–	4,082
Lease liability (Note C2-1b)	9	(9)	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total liabilities from financing activities</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>(407)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,082</b>

#### (b) Financing arrangements

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Total facilities</b>		
Total financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
Bank overdraft facilities <sup>1</sup>	1,000	250
Credit cards/purchase cards	50	50
<b>Total financing arrangements</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Drawn facilities</b>		
Financing facilities drawn down at the reporting date are:		
– Credit cards/purchase cards	15	12
<b>Total drawn financing arrangements</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Undrawn facilities</b>		
Undrawn financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
– Bank overdraft facilities	1,000	250
– Credit cards/purchase cards	35	38
<b>Total undrawn financing arrangements</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>288</b>

(1) The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.



### C3-4 Employee benefit provisions

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-current	2023 Current	2023 Non-current
Annual leave	538	–	466	–
Long service leave	541	144	620	85
<b>Total employee benefit provisions</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>85</b>

#### Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

\$ '000	2024	2023
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	799	885
	<b>799</b>	<b>885</b>

#### Material accounting policy information

##### Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

### C3-5 Provisions

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non-Current	2023 Current	2023 Non-Current
<b>Asset remediation/restoration:</b>				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	–	695	–	561
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>561</b>

### Description of and movements in provisions

\$ '000	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation	Total
<b>2024</b>		
At beginning of year	561	561
Unwinding of discount	24	24
Additional provisions	161	161
Remeasurement effects	(51)	(51)
Total other provisions at end of year	695	695
<b>2023</b>		
At beginning of year	581	581
Unwinding of discount	23	23
Remeasurement effects	(43)	(43)
Total other provisions at end of year	561	561

### Nature and purpose of provisions

#### Asset remediation

Council has a legal/public obligation to make, restore, rehabilitate and reinstate the council tip and quarry.

#### Material accounting policy information

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a borrowing cost.

#### Asset remediation – tips and quarries

Close-down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close-down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs. Provisions for close-down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, e.g. updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

The ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors, including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques, or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production rates. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean-up, which would affect future financial results.

Other movements in the provisions for close-down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations, and revisions to discount rates, are capitalised within infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

## C4 Reserves

### C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

#### **IPPE Revaluation reserve**

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

## D Council structure

### D1 Results by fund

General fund refers to all Council activities other than water and sewer. All amounts disclosed in this note are gross i.e. inclusive of internal charges and recoveries made between the funds. Assets and liabilities shown in the water and sewer columns are restricted for use for these activities.

#### D1-1 Income Statement by fund

\$ '000	General 2024	Sewer 2024
<b>Income from continuing operations</b>		
Rates and annual charges	3,654	694
User charges and fees	5,308	41
Interest and investment income	302	7
Other revenues	181	–
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	14,499	–
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,438	26
Net gains from disposal of assets	113	–
Other income	1,039	–
<b>Total income from continuing operations</b>	<b>27,534</b>	<b>768</b>
<b>Expenses from continuing operations</b>		
Employee benefits and on-costs	6,479	522
Materials and services	13,307	582
Borrowing costs	172	–
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	5,496	283
Other expenses	389	–
<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>	<b>25,843</b>	<b>1,387</b>
<b>Operating result from continuing operations</b>	<b>1,691</b>	<b>(619)</b>
<b>Net operating result for the year</b>	<b>1,691</b>	<b>(619)</b>
<b>Net operating result attributable to each council fund</b>	<b>1,691</b>	<b>(619)</b>
<b>Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes</b>	<b>(747)</b>	<b>(645)</b>

**D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund**

<b>\$ '000</b>	<b>General 2024</b>	<b>Sewer 2024</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	17,608	481
Receivables	904	101
Inventories	221	–
Contract assets and contract cost assets	2,269	–
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>21,002</b>	<b>582</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Receivables	26	–
Inventories	83	–
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	244,774	21,161
Investments accounted for using the equity method	40,055	–
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>284,938</b>	<b>21,161</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>305,940</b>	<b>21,743</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Payables	3,514	–
Contract liabilities	3,067	–
Borrowings	419	–
Employee benefit provision	1,044	35
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>8,044</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Payables	6	–
Borrowings	3,256	–
Employee benefit provision	144	–
Provisions	695	–
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>4,101</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>12,145</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>293,795</b>	<b>21,708</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated surplus	179,601	14,149
Revaluation reserves	114,194	7,559
<b>Council equity interest</b>	<b>293,795</b>	<b>21,708</b>
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>293,795</b>	<b>21,708</b>

## D2 Interests in other entities

\$ '000	Council's share of net assets	
	2024	2023
<b>Council's share of net assets</b>		
<b>Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets</b>		
Associates	40,055	37,574
<b>Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets</b>	<b>40,055</b>	<b>37,574</b>
<b>Total Council's share of net assets</b>	<b>40,055</b>	<b>37,574</b>

### Interests in associates

#### Net carrying amounts – Council's share

\$ '000	Place of business	Nature of relationship	Interest in ownership			
			2024	2023	2024	2023
Central Tablelands Water County Council	Blayney	Associate	33%	33%	40,055	37,574
<b>Total carrying amounts – material associates</b>					<b>40,055</b>	<b>37,574</b>

#### Central Tablelands Water County Council

Central Tablelands Water County Council is a water authority supplying water to the shires of Blayney, Weddin and Cabonne.

Council has incorporated the following associates into its consolidated financial statements. Note this information is based upon financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 being the most recent financial statements available.

#### Details

	Principal activity	Measurement method
Central Tablelands Water County Council	Maintains and administers water supply schemes	Equity method

#### Relevant interests and fair values

	Interest in outputs		Proportion of voting power	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Central Tablelands Water County Council	33%	33%	33%	33%

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## D2-1 Interests in associates (continued)

## Summarised financial information for associates

	Central Tablelands Water County Council	
\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Statement of financial position</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,658	2,268
Other current assets	10,867	8,958
<b>Non-current assets</b>	109,780	103,097
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Other current liabilities	2,101	1,569
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Non-current financial liabilities (excluding trade and other payables and provisions)	27	21
<b>Net assets</b>	120,177	112,733
<b>Statement of comprehensive income</b>		
Income	10,373	8,639
Interest income	546	289
Depreciation and amortisation	(3,014)	(2,727)
Other expenses	(5,228)	(5,073)
<b>Profit/(loss) from continuing operations</b>	2,677	1,128
<b>Profit/(loss) for period</b>	2,677	1,128
Other comprehensive income	4,767	7,430
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	7,444	8,558
<b>Share of income – Council (%)</b>	33%	33%
<b>Profit/(loss) – Council (\$)</b>	892	376
<b>Total comprehensive income – Council (\$)</b>	2,481	2,852
<b>Reconciliation of the carrying amount</b>		
Opening net assets (1 July)	112,733	104,175
Profit/(loss) for the period	2,677	1,128
Other comprehensive income – revaluations	4,767	7,430
<b>Closing net assets</b>	120,177	112,733
<b>Council's share of net assets (%)</b>	33%	33%
<b>Council's share of net assets (\$)</b>	40,055	37,574



## E Risks and accounting uncertainties

### E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital. The finance team manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors. Council has an investment policy which complies with the s 625 of the Act and the Ministerial Investment Order. The policy is regularly reviewed by Council and a monthly investment report is provided to Council setting out the make-up performance of the portfolio as required by local government regulations.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by the finance team under policies approved by the Councillors.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

The risks associated with the financial instruments held are:

- interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns
- liquidity risk – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- credit risk – the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to the Council.

Council manages these risks by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

#### (a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

\$ '000	2024	2023
The impact on result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.		
Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates		
– Equity / Income Statement	82	57

#### (b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

## E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

### Credit risk profile

#### Receivables – rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	overdue rates and annual charges < 5 years	≥ 5 years	Total
<b>2024</b>				
Gross carrying amount	–	458	134	592
<b>2023</b>				
Gross carrying amount	–	364	121	485

#### Receivables - non-rates and annual charges and contract assets

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	<30 days overdue	30 - 60 days overdue	60 - 90 days overdue	> 90 days overdue	Total
<b>2024</b>						
Gross carrying amount	2,584	91	5	11	31	2,722
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.00%	0.51%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	14	14
<b>2023</b>						
Gross carrying amount	12,097	82	3	7	27	12,216
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	53.00%	0.12%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	14	14

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## E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

### (c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities (refer to Note C2-1(b) for lease liabilities) and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

\$ '000	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	≤ 1 Year	payable in:		Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
				1 - 5 Years	> 5 Years		
<b>2024</b>							
Payables	0.00%	329	3,191	–	–	3,520	3,520
Borrowings	3.83%	–	552	2,253	1,920	4,725	3,675
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<b>329</b>	<b>3,743</b>	<b>2,253</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>8,245</b>	<b>7,195</b>
<b>2023</b>							
Payables	0.00%	218	3,008	–	–	3,226	3,226
Borrowings	3.83%	–	556	2,554	2,045	5,155	4,082
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<b>218</b>	<b>3,564</b>	<b>2,554</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>8,381</b>	<b>7,308</b>

## E2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment
- Financial assets

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

**Level 1:** Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

**Level 2:** Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

**Level 3:** Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

		Fair value measurement hierarchy					
\$ '000	Notes	Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
		2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Recurring fair value measurements							
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-7						
Plant and equipment		—	—	2,613	2,722	2,613	2,722
Office equipment		—	—	247	294	247	294
Furniture and fittings		—	—	25	36	25	36
Operational land		—	—	1,835	1,868	1,835	1,868
Community land		—	—	1,698	1,636	1,698	1,636
Buildings – non specialised		—	—	8,265	8,549	8,265	8,549
Buildings – specialised		—	—	6,596	6,449	6,596	6,449
Other structures		—	—	3,171	3,104	3,171	3,104
Roads		—	—	77,054	75,126	77,054	75,126
Bridges		—	—	36,790	35,349	36,790	35,349
Footpaths		—	—	1,599	1,541	1,599	1,541
Bulk earthworks		—	—	80,092	76,010	80,092	76,010
Stormwater drainage		—	—	9,657	9,314	9,657	9,314
Sewerage network		—	—	21,050	20,317	21,050	20,317
Swimming pools		—	—	7,133	6,636	7,133	6,636
Library books		—	—	121	150	121	150
Other assets		—	—	41	40	41	40
Reinstatement tip assets		—	—	691	228	691	228
Work in Progress		—	—	7,257	5,245	7,257	5,245
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		—	—	265,935	254,614	265,935	254,614

### Valuation techniques

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

#### Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture & Fittings

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## E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture & Fittings are valued at cost. The carrying amount of these assets is assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items.

Examples of assets within these classes are as follows:

- Plant and Equipment - Graders, trucks, rollers, tractors and motor vehicles.
- Office Equipment - Computers, photocopiers, calculators etc.
- Furniture & Fittings - Chairs, desks etc.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

### Operational & Community Land

The valuation of Council's operational land was undertaken at 30 June 2023 by Shepherd Asset Management Services with the direct comparison method.

Community land values are based on the Land Value provided by the Valuer-General as these are considered representative of the actual market values in the Weddin Shire LGA. The valuations have been updated as at 30 June 2024.

Since extensive professional judgements were required to determine the inputs these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

### Buildings Non Specialised & Specialised

The valuation of Council's Buildings – Non-Specialised & Specialised was undertaken at 30 June 2023 by Shepherd Asset Management Services using the cost approach to determine Depreciated Replacement Cost.

Since extensive professional judgements were required to determine the inputs these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Other Structures

Other Structures were valued by Shepherd Asset Management Services Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2021. Examples of assets within this class are fencing, lighting, playground equipment etc. Since extensive professional judgements were required to determine the inputs these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Roads

Roads comprise road carriageway, roadside shoulders & kerb & gutter. The Cost Approach using Level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. Valuations for this asset class were undertaken by Shepherd Asset Management Services as at 30 June 2020 based on actual costs and assumptions from Council's Engineering Department. No market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Bridges

The Cost Approach using Level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. Valuations for this asset class were undertaken by Shepherd Asset Management Services as at 30 June 2020 based on actual costs and assumptions from Council's Engineering Department. While all bridges were physically inspected and unit rates based on square metres were other inputs (such as estimates of residual value and pattern of consumption) require extensive professional judgement that impacts significantly on the final determination of fair value. No market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Footpaths

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## E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

The Cost Approach using Level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. Valuations for this asset class were undertaken by Shepherd Asset Management Services as at 30 June 2020 based on actual costs and assumptions from Council's Engineering Department. No market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Bulk Earthworks

The Cost Approach using Level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. Valuations for this asset class were undertaken by Shepherd Asset Management Services as at 30 June 2020 based on actual costs and assumptions from Council's Engineering Department. No market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Storm Water Drainage

Assets within this class comprise pits and pipes.

The 'Cost Approach' estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres of certain diameter pipes and prices per pit or similar could be supported from market evidence (Level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value.

These assets were valued by Shepherd Asset Management Services as at 30 June 2020.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Sewerage Network

Assets within this class comprise treatment works, pumping stations and, sewerage mains.

The 'Cost Approach' estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres of certain diameter pipes and prices per pit or similar may be supported from market evidence (Level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Additionally, due to limitations in the historical records of very long-lived assets there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets.

The Sewerage Network was valued by Shepherd Asset Management Services Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2022.

These assets are indexed each year in line with the NSW Reference Rates Manual as published by the Department of Primary Industries Water.

### Swimming Pools

Other Structures including Swimming Pools were internally accessed as at 30 June 2021.

Since extensive professional judgements were required to determine the inputs these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Library Books

Library Books were valued using the cost approach. The carrying amount of these assets is assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items. No market based evidence (Level 2) could be supported as such these assets were all classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

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## E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

### Other Assets

This asset class relates to the town clock which was valued by Shepherd Asset Management Services Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2021.

Since extensive professional judgements were required to determine the inputs these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

In June 2024, Council has undertaken a fair value assessment to index this asset class to ensure the carrying approximates the fair value.

### Reinstatement Tip Assets

Valuation Techniques: 'Cost approach'

Inputs Used (Level 3): Unit rates, useful life, asset condition, dimensions and specifications.

It has been recognised that there will be significant costs associated with the closure and post closure management of tip/landfill sites. Closure of the landfill sites will involve a wide range of activities including final capping of the landfill waste and site re-vegetation, monitoring of landfill gas, revision of the surface water management system and leachate management infrastructure to suit post-closure operation.

Valuations are based on actual timing of costs and future management requirements.

## Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

### Significant unobservable valuation inputs used (for level 3 asset classes) and their relationship to fair value.

The following table summarises the quantitative information relating to the significant unobservable inputs used in deriving the various level 3 asset class fair values.

\$ '000	Fair value (30/6/24) 2024	Valuation technique/s	Unobservable inputs
<b>Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>			
Plant, equipment, furniture, fittings and office equipment	2,885	Refer to Note E2-1	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent, asset condition, useful life, increase/decrease in cost of unit or useful life
Operational land	1,835	Refer to Note E2-1	Land value, land area, price per square metre
Community land	1,698	Refer to Note E2-1	Land value, land area, restrictions
Buildings	14,861	Refer to Note E2-1	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent using componentisation, asset condition, remaining useful lives
Roads, Bridges, Footpaths, Earthworks	195,535	Refer to Note E2-1	Asset condition, remaining useful lives using componentisation, increase/decrease in cost of unit
Other Structures, Pools, Library Assets, Town Clock, Work in Progress	17,723	Refer to Note E2-1	Asset condition, remaining useful lives using componentisation, increase/decrease in cost of unit
Drainage Network	9,657	Refer to Note E2-1	Asset condition, remaining lives, increase/decrease in cost of unit
Sewerage Network	21,050	Refer to Note E2-1	Asset condition, remaining useful lives using componentisation, increase/decrease in cost of unit
Reinstatement Tip Assets	691	Refer to Note E2-1	Environmental legislation, timing of expected cash outflows, asset condition, increase/decrease in cost of unit

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## E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy is provided below:

\$ '000	Total IPP&E	
	2024	2023
Opening balance	254,614	234,102
Total gains or losses for the period		
Recognised in other comprehensive income – revaluation surplus	14,673	17,317
Other movements		
Purchases (GBV)	2,678	13,516
Disposals (WDV)	(360)	–
Depreciation and impairment	(5,779)	(10,276)
Other movement - Adjustments & Transfers	109	(45)
Closing balance	265,935	254,614

Information relating to the transfers into and out of the level 3 fair valuation hierarchy includes:

No transfers were made in or out of the Level 3 Fair value Hierarchy

### Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

## E3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

### LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

#### 1. Guarantees

##### (i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

##### *Description of the funding arrangements.*

Pooled Employers are required to pay future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the Fund.

The future service employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current future service employer contribution rates are::

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

\* For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 8.0% of salaries for the year ending 30 June 2023 (increasing to 8.5% in line with the increase in the Superannuation Guarantee) to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of \$20.0 million for 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024, apportioned according to each employee's share of the accrued liabilities as at the 30 June 2022. These past service contributions are used to maintain the adequacy of the funding position for accrued liabilities..

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

##### *Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the plan for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan*

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of an employer.

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### E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2023 was \$39,756.33. The last valuation of the Scheme was performed by fund actuary, Richard Boyfield, FIAA as at 30 June 2022.

Council's expected contribution to the plan for the next annual reporting period is \$27,361.80.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2023 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,290.9	
Past Service Liabilities	2,236.1	102.4%
Vested Benefits	2,253.6	101.7%

\* excluding member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of any funding surplus or deficit that can be attributed to Council is 0.11%

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	6.0% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	6.0% for FY 22/23 2.5% per annum thereafter

\* Plus promotional increases

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group.

Please note that the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation, and once all the relevant information has been received by the Funds Actuary, the final end of year review, which will be a triennial actuarial investigation will be completed by December 2023.

#### (ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

#### (iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

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## E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

### (iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

## 2. Other liabilities

### (i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

### (ii) Potential land acquisitions due to planning restrictions imposed by Council

Council has classified a number of privately owned land parcels as local open space or bushland.

As a result, where notified in writing by the various owners, Council will be required to purchase these land parcels.

At reporting date, reliable estimates as to the value of any potential liability (and subsequent land asset) from such potential acquisitions has not been possible.

## ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED

### (i) Land under roads

As permitted under AASB 1051, Council has elected not to bring to account land under roads that it owned or controlled up to and including 30/6/08.

### (ii) Infringement notices/fines

Fines and penalty income, the result of Council issuing infringement notices is followed up and collected by the Infringement Processing Bureau.

Council's revenue recognition policy for such income is to account for it as revenue on receipt.

Accordingly, at year end, there is a potential asset due to Council representing issued but unpaid infringement notices.

Due to the limited information available on the status, value and duration of outstanding notices, Council is unable to determine the value of outstanding income.

### (iii) Rural Fire Service Assets

Throughout the shire there are numerous rural fire appliances and associated rural fire fighting equipment.

These assets are under the control of the Rural Fire Services to enable that Department to provide bushfire protection defences set out in their Service Level Agreement with Council. As Council does not have control over these assets Council does not recognise these as assets in our financial statements.

In accordance with normal Rural Fire Service funding arrangements, Council continues to contribute to the costs of maintenance of this equipment.

F People and relationships

F1 Related party disclosures

F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	843	851
Other long-term benefits	73	70
Termination benefits	-	65
Total	916	986

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

With the exception of the purchase of water from Central Tablelands Water Council has determined that transactions at arm's length between KMP and Council as part of Council delivering a public service objective (e.g. access to library or Council swimming pool by KMP) will not be disclosed. Further information in relation to transactions with Central Tablelands Water is disclosed below.

Council has significant influence over Central Tablelands Water as it retains 33.33% of it's voting power. During the financial year transactions totalling \$93,774 (2023 - \$156,593) were undertaken with Central Tablelands Water for the purchase of water. These transactions were undertaken on the same terms and conditions as those offered to the General Public.

## F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

\$ '000	2024	2023
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The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:

Mayoral fee	28	27
Councillors' fees	117	115
Other Councillors' expenses (including Mayor)	21	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>156</b>

## F2 Other relationships

### F2-1 Audit fees

\$ '000	2024	2023
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During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

#### Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:

##### (i) Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements	67	45
<b>Total Auditor-General remuneration</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>45</b>

##### (i) Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements	9	—
<b>Total remuneration of non NSW Auditor-General audit firms</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>—</b>

<b>Total audit fees</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>45</b>
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## G Other matters

### G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

#### (a) Reconciliation of Operating Result

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Net operating result from Income Statement</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>14,343</b>
<b>Add / (less) non-cash items:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	5,779	5,211
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	(113)	(42)
Unwinding of discount rates on reinstatement provisions	24	23
Share of net (profits)/losses of associates/joint ventures using the equity method	(892)	(376)
<b>Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:</b>		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	350	(473)
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	4	101
(Increase) / decrease of contract asset	8,989	(11,258)
Increase / (decrease) in payables	151	1,871
Increase / (decrease) in accrued interest payable	(1)	21
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	12	69
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	132	(9)
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	(1,053)	(3,459)
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	52	72
Increase / (decrease) in other provisions	110	(43)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>14,616</b>	<b>6,051</b>

#### (b) Non-cash investing and financing activities

Non Cash Movement in Garbage Tip Asset	109	(43)
<b>Total non-cash investing and financing activities</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>(43)</b>



## G2-1 Commitments

### Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

\$ '000	2024	2023
---------	------	------

Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:

#### Property, plant and equipment

Road infrastructure	5,380	33,922
<b>Total commitments</b>	<b>5,380</b>	<b>33,922</b>

#### These expenditures are payable as follows:

Within the next year	4,265	16,961
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,115	16,961
<b>Total payable</b>	<b>5,380</b>	<b>33,922</b>

#### Sources for funding of capital commitments:

Externally restricted reserves	–	6,429
Future grants and contributions	5,380	27,493
<b>Total sources of funding</b>	<b>5,380</b>	<b>33,922</b>

G3 Statement of developer contributions as at 30 June 2024

G3-1 Summary of developer contributions

\$ '000	Opening balance at 1 July 2023	Contributions received during the year			Interest and investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	Held as restricted asset at 30 June 2024	Cumulative balance of internal borrowings (to)/from
		Cash	Non-cash Land	Non-cash Other					
S64 contributions	102	26	-	-	-	-	-	128	-
Total contributions	102	26	-	-	-	-	-	128	-

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, Council has significant obligations to provide Section 7.11 (contributions towards provision or improvement of amenities or services) infrastructure in new release areas. It is possible that the funds contributed may be less than the cost of this infrastructure, requiring Council to borrow or use general revenue to fund the difference.

## G4 Statement of performance measures

### G4-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2024	Indicator 2024	Indicators 2023      2022		Benchmark
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses <sup>1,2</sup>	(2,397)	(9.65)%	14.03%	(14.09)%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions <sup>1</sup>	24,833				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions <sup>1</sup>	10,334	37.86%	39.04%	38.27%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue <sup>1</sup>	27,297				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	11,837	2.83x	3.06x	3.37x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	4,178				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation <sup>1</sup>	3,554	6.14x	15.52x	4.71x	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	579				
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	592	12.15%	10.51%	9.02%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable	4,874				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	18,089	9.39	4.49	13.46	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	1,927	months	months	months	months

(1) Excludes fair value increments on investment properties, reversal of revaluation decrements, reversal of impairment losses on receivables, net gain on sale of assets and net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method and includes pensioner rate subsidies

(2) Excludes impairment/revaluation decrements of IPPE, fair value decrements on investment properties, net loss on disposal of assets and net loss on share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method

## G4-2 Statement of performance measures by fund

\$ '000	General Indicators <sup>3</sup>		Sewer Indicators		Benchmark
	2024	2023	2024	2023	
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses <sup>1, 2</sup>	(7.27)%	16.20%	(86.93)%	(74.42)%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions <sup>1</sup>					
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions <sup>1</sup>	36.16%	38.01%	96.61%	93.65%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue <sup>1</sup>					
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	2.83x	3.06x	16.63x	47.58x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities					
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation <sup>1</sup>	6.76x	15.90x	∞	∞	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)					
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	11.99%	12.14%	12.97%	0.00%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable					
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	9.60	4.10	5.23	11.34	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	months	months	months	months	months

(1) - (2) Refer to Notes at Note G4-1 above.

(3) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its sewer activities which are listed separately.

**End of the audited financial statements**

## H Additional Council disclosures (unaudited)

### H1-1 Council information and contact details

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**Principal place of business:**  
Corner of Camp & Weddin Streets  
Grenfell NSW 2810

#### Contact details

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 125  
GRENFELL NSW 2810

**Telephone:** 02 6343 1212

**Opening hours:**  
8.30 am - 4.00 pm Monday - Friday  
Grenfell Waste Depot:  
Tue, Thurs, Sat, Sun: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

**Internet:** [www.weddin.nsw.gov.au](http://www.weddin.nsw.gov.au)  
**Email:** [mail@weddin.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@weddin.nsw.gov.au)

#### Officers

**General Manager**  
Noreen Vu

**Responsible Accounting Officer**  
John Thompson

**Public Officer**  
John Thompson

**Auditors**  
Audit Office of NSW  
GPO Box 12  
Sydney NSW 2001

#### Elected members

##### Mayor

[Mayor]

##### Councillors

Cr Colleen Gorman  
Cr John Niven  
Cr Jeanne Montgomery  
Cr Simon Rolls  
Cr Michael Neill  
Cr Wezley Markin  
Cr Chad White  
Cr Paul Best  
Cr Jan Parlett

#### Other information

**ABN:** 73 819 323 291

## Weddin Shire Council

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Independent Auditor's Reports:

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On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [2])

#### Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).



## Weddin Shire Council

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Independent Auditor's Reports: (continued)

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#### On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [3])

#### Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (commentary) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).

# Weddin Shire Council

## SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2024

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## Weddin Shire Council

### Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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#### Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

## Weddin Shire Council

### Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- NSW Government Policy Statement, *Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*
- Division of Local Government Guidelines, *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- Sections 3 and 4 of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's (DCCEEW) *Regulatory and assurance framework for local water utilities, July 2022*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year,
- accord with Council's accounting and other records; and
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 08 October 2024.

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[Mayor]

**Mayor**

08 October 2024

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[Councillor]

**Councillor**

08 October 2024

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Noreen Vu

**General Manager**

08 October 2024

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John Thompson

**Responsible Accounting Officer**

08 October 2024

Weddin Shire Council | Income Statement of sewerage business activity | for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

Income Statement of sewerage business activity  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Income from continuing operations</b>		
Access charges	694	621
User charges	41	25
Interest and investment income	7	3
<b>Total income from continuing operations</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>649</b>
<b>Expenses from continuing operations</b>		
Employee benefits and on-costs	522	362
Materials and services	582	512
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	283	258
<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,132</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts</b>	<b>(645)</b>	<b>(483)</b>
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	26	44
<b>Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts</b>	<b>(619)</b>	<b>(439)</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax</b>	<b>(619)</b>	<b>(439)</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) after tax</b>	<b>(619)</b>	<b>(439)</b>
<b>Plus accumulated surplus</b>	<b>14,772</b>	<b>15,211</b>
<b>Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:</b>		
<b>Closing accumulated surplus</b>	<b>14,153</b>	<b>14,772</b>
<b>Return on capital %</b>	<b>(3.0)%</b>	<b>(2.4)%</b>
<b>Subsidy from Council</b>	<b>1,555</b>	<b>1,304</b>
<b>Calculation of dividend payable:</b>		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	(619)	(439)
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(26)	(44)
<b>Surplus for dividend calculation purposes</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Potential dividend calculated from surplus</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Weddin Shire Council | Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity | as at 30 June 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

## Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity

as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	481	826
Receivables	101	78
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>904</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	21,161	20,427
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>21,161</b>	<b>20,427</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>21,743</b>	<b>21,331</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Employee benefit provisions	35	19
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>21,708</b>	<b>21,312</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated surplus	14,149	14,769
Revaluation reserves	7,559	6,543
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>21,708</b>	<b>21,312</b>

## Note – Material accounting policy information

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2022* (Regulation) and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

### National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

### Declared business activities

In accordance with *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

#### Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

Nil

#### Category 2

(where gross operating turnover is less than \$2 million)

##### a. Grenfell Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the operations & net assets of the sewerage reticulation & treatment system servicing the town of Grenfell.

### Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs. However, where Council does not pay some taxes, which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in special purpose financial statements. For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

#### Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – 25% (LY 25%)



## Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

**Land tax** – the first \$1,075,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of \$1,075,000 up to \$6,571,000 the rate is **\$100 + 1.6%**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$6,571,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

**Payroll tax** – **5.45%** on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$1,200,000.

### Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities. Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested. Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level – gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the relevant corporate income tax rate, currently 25% (LY 25%).

Income tax is only applied where a gain from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved. Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to the 'Council' as the owner of business operations – it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council.

Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS. The rate applied of 25% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

### Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

### Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

#### (i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

#### (ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies. The rate of return is disclosed for each of Council's business activities on the Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

**Operating result before capital income + interest expense**

**Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June**

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 4.30% at 30/6/24.

#### (iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself as owner of a range of businesses, or to any external entities.

A local government water supply and sewerage business is permitted to pay annual dividends from their water supply or sewerage business surpluses. Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DPIE – Water guidelines and must not exceed 50% of the relevant surplus in any one year, or the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2024 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

### Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

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In accordance with the Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewer Guidelines, a Dividend Payment form, Statement of Compliance, Unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are submitted to DPIE – Water.

Weddin Shire Council | Special Purpose Financial Statements 2024

## Weddin Shire Council

### Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

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- 9      REPORT ON CLOSED COUNCIL**
- 10     CLOSURE**