



FLINDERS SHIRE COUNCIL

Annual Report 2017-2018

Adopted: 20 November 2018
Resolution Number: 2264

Discovery • Opportunity • Lifestyle



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TRIM Ref: SF18/257 R18/4945

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OUR ANNUAL REPORT

This introductory session of the 2017-2018 Annual report outline information about the Flinders Shire Council and the Shire. It gives summary to our operational and financial performance for the 2017-2018 financial year.

The Annual Report details our performance during the financial year of 2017-2018 in meeting the strategic priorities outlines in our Corporate Plan 2014 – 2019 and our Long Term Financial Plan.

This information is relevant to the Flinders Shire residents, ratepayers, local businesses owners, potential investors, community groups, government agencies, funding bodies, current and potential staff.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

We are reporting according to Flinders Shire Council's Corporate Plan 2014-2019, which focuses on 6 Guiding Principles. Our Corporate Plan identifies our Councillor's long term vision and priority areas over a five year period.

We deliver on our priorities by implementing our Annual Operational Plan, which includes key projects and measures that directly respond to the priority areas from the Corporate Plan.

We focus on developing meaningful performance measures in all areas and creating key performance indicators at the organisational level. This will continue over the coming years as we strive to continuously improve both our internal and external reporting processes and accountability.

A Performance against our 2017-2018 Operational Plan is measured against project milestones and targets set at the beginning of the financial year. The performance is reported to Council and the community on a quarterly basis.

Council produces a quarterly Operational Plan Performance Report, which provides a more detailed analysis of our performance and identifies progress on projects and performance against KPIs during the financial year.

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VISION, MISSION, VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our Vision

Flinders Shire – a place of discovery, opportunity and lifestyle

Our Mission

To promote quality of life through leadership, attitude and respect

Our Values

A Caring Philosophy
Pursuit of Excellence
Teamwork
Local Ownership
Communication
Leadership
Recognition

Our Guiding Principles

At Flinders Shire we are committed to making decisions responsibly and sustainably acting with integrity, honesty and respect.

Our Environment – We will provide stewardship to maintain, protect and enhance our natural environment whilst supporting new and existing industries.

Our Resources – We will encourage sustainable resource utilisation by providing support to businesses and their associated industries.

Our Community – We will work with our community to provide an appealing lifestyle with the available resources to build a healthy, happy and caring community.

Our Economy – We will approach all business aspects of the Shire in a manner that promotes growth and sustainability to achieve the best possible outcome.

Our Infrastructure – We will aim to continuously improve products, services and processes through sustainable management of Council's core assets.

Our Governance – We will work as a team and act with pride, accountability, transparency and integrity to deliver services to our residents.

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OUR SHIRE

Introduction

The Flinders Shire is one of the larger rural shires in Queensland, encompassing Hughenden and the smaller communities of Prairie, Torrens Creek and Stamford. Hughenden being the main centre for the Shire was settled on the banks of the Flinders River, Queensland's longest river. Today, with an estimated population of 1,569 live in the Flinders Shire, which is predominantly a grazing area, was once known as a major rail centre in the outback. Hughenden is the hub of the West having 5 major roads that enter the township.

Located amongst mountainous volcanic basalt country, sweeping black soil plains and rich fossil and dinosaur areas, Hughenden boasts diverse picturesque landscape and sits above the great Artesian Basin relying on sub-artesian bores for its water supply.

The history of Hughenden is a colourful recital of the past, including many explorers and pioneers of the west. The Great Shearers Strike in 1891, the rise and fall of many hotels and businesses, flooding rivers and stories of pioneer's hardship in the outback are just some of the stories known to many locals.

In the Flinders Shire there are four National Parks and a Nature Reserve. Well known for its natural beauty Hughenden also has a much longer history dating back to the Dinosaur era. The outskirts of Hughenden hold many untold secrets from fossils of dinosaurs and marine reptiles.

Statistics

General		Shire Controlled Roads		State Controlled Roads	
Land Area	41,422km ²	Sealed – Rural	89.60km	Sealed	541.63km
Population	1,569	Sealed – Urban	35.49km	Gravelled	96.49km
Metres above sea level	324m	Gravelled – Urban	11.76km	Formed	123.18km
Rateable Valuation	\$265,001,850	Gravelled – Rural	285.0km	Total	761.30km
Net Rate Revenue	\$3,834,000	Formed	1570.15km		
Total Income	\$33,622,000	Total	1992.0km		
Total Expenses	\$26,338,000				

OUR COUNCIL

Organisational Structure

The operational arm of a local government authority consists of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and other staff. They are charged with implementing Council's resolutions (decisions) and reporting on the outcomes of those resolutions. The CEO also provides executive leadership to the Organisation. It is important to note that individual councillors do not have the authority to make decisions. They are made collectively when sitting as a Council.

Council receives its authority from the community through its elected members. Council's administration is lead by the CEO, followed by two Directors and three Line Managers as our leadership team, delivering services through the 10 streams of operations.

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Elected Members

Flinders Shire Council comprising of the Mayor and 6 councillors, is the elected body responsible for the planning for the future of their communities, and developing strategic strategies and policies to achieve those plans. Councillors need to demonstrate strategic vision and leadership by putting in place principles, policies and local laws. A strategic focus helps ensure that the council can plan for and meet the future needs of the community.

Their role also includes other responsibilities such as providing high quality leadership to the community, participating in Council meetings, developing policy and making decisions that in the interests of the whole community. Elected members are bound by a Code of Conduct, with is their public commitment to open, accountability and ethical standards of behaviour.

MAYOR JANE MCNAMARA

Email: mayor@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0429 417 115

Portfolios:

- Governance - Chair
- Finance
- Local and Regional Economic Development and Planning / Communication Systems - Chair
- Tourism and Regional Promotion
- Rural Roads
- South West Sector Flinders Highway – Hughenden Muttaborra Road
- Stamford
- Workshop – Plant and Equipment (Chair)

Standing Committees:

- Mount Isa Townsville Economic Zone (MITEZ) – Mid West Rep
- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Authority Group (NQOQTA)
- Australia Dinosaur Trail
- Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) (Chair)
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN) (Chair)
- Northern Alliance of Councillors
- North West Queensland Regional Roads and Transport Group (NWQRRTG)
- NWQ Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) – Vice Chair
- Overlanders Way

DEPUTY MAYOR SEAN O'NEILL

Email: deputymayor@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0400 174 546

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance - Chair
- Audit - Chair
- Tourism and Regional Promotion - Chair
- Town Street
- Residential / Council Owned Facilities
- Sport Recreation and Parks - Chair
- Saleyards
- Community Care and Aged Care
- Community Relations
- Arts and Culture
- Environmental Health / Nuisance Control

Standing Committees:

- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Association (Overlander's Way) (NWOQTA)
- North Queensland Games Foundation
- Australia Dinosaur Trail
- Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) (Deputy Chair)
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN)
- Northern Alliance of Councils



COUNCILLOR GRAHAM SEALY

Email: Cr.sealy@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0427 417 312

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance
- Audit
- Local and Regional Economic Development and Planning / Communication Systems
- Rural Roads
- North and South Sector Prairie – Huhenden Muttaborra Road across to Prairie Muttaborra Road
- Prairie - Chair
- Workshop – Plant and Equipment
- Residential / Council Owned Facilities - Chair
- Rural Lands – Wild Dogs, Pests Permits to Occupy and Leases
- Utilities – Water, Sewerage and Refuse - Chair

Standing Committees:

- Mount Isa Townsville Economic Zone (MITEZ)
- Flinders River Ag Precinct (FRAP)
- Pest Management Advisory Committee
- North West Queensland Regional Roads and Transport Group (NWQRRTG)
- Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC)
- Western Queensland Local Government Association (WQLGA)
- Chamber of Commerce

COUNCILLOR KELLY CARTER

Email: Cr.carter@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0429 411 689

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance
- Local and Regional Economic Development and Planning / Communication Systems
- Town Streets - Chair
- Sport Recreation and Parks
- Community Care and Aged Care - Chair
- Community Relations - Chair
- Youth Relations / Education
- Arts and Culture

Standing Committees:

- North Queensland Games Foundation
- Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG)
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN)
- Regional Arts and Development Fund (RADF)
- Chamber of Commerce

COUNCILLOR KATE DOWNIE

Email: Cr.downie@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0408 742 833

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance
- Tourism and Regional Promotion
- Town Streets
- Residential / Council Owned Facilities
- Community Relations
- Youth Relations / Education - Chair
- Arts and Culture - Chair
- Environmental Health / Nuisance Control

Standing Committees:

- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Authority Group (NQOQTA)
- Australia Dinosaur Trail
- Western Queensland Local Government Association (WQLGA)
- Regional Arts and Development Fund (RADF)
- Chamber of Commerce



COUNCILLOR ARTHUR (BILL) BODE

Email: Cr.bode@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0428 719 579

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance
- Rural Street and Roads
- North and South of Torrens Creek – Torrens Creek to Aramac Road across to Prairie to Muttaborra
- Torrens Creek – Chair
- Workshop – Plant and Equipment
- Rural Lands – Wild Dogs, Pests, Permits to Occupy and Leases - Chair
- Saleyards
- Utilities – Water, Sewerage and Refuse
- Cemeteries / Undertaker

Standing Committees

- Flinders River Ag Precinct (FRAP)
- Pest Management Advisory Committee (Chair)
- North Queensland Local Government Association (NQLGA)
- Western Queensland Local Government Association (WQLGA)
- Wild Dog Advisory Group
- Lake Eyre Basin Advisory Group
- Great Artesian Basin (GABAC)

COUNCILLOR KIM (CLANCY) MIDDLETON

Email: Cr.middleton@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0427 411 281

Portfolios:

- Governance
- Finance
- Rural Roads
- North and North West Sector from Hughenden – Hann Highway – Basalt Byways
- Workshop Plant and Equipment
- Sport Recreation and Parks
- Rural Lands – Wild Dogs, Pests, Permit to Occupy and Leases
- Saleyards (Chair)
- Youth Relations / Education
- Utilities – Water, Sewerage and Refuse
- Environmental Health / Nuisance Control - Chair

Standing Committees:

- Flinders River Ag Precinct (FRAP)
- Pest Management Advisory Committee
- Chamber of Commerce

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On behalf of all Councillors and the Management Team, we are pleased to present the Flinders Shire Council 2017-2018 Annual Report.

The past financial year has been a very positive one for Hughenden and the Shire generally. With very significant progress with both the Kennedy Energy Park Stage 1 and the Hughenden recreational lake it has been great to see these projects finally in the construction stage.

Flinders Shire Council's focus continues to be to drive economic development in the Shire. The focus for Council has been on diversification of industry within the Flinders Shire and Hughenden.

Projects that are being progressed through the Flinders Shire Council and the Management Team are listed below:

- Hann Highway upgrades through funding secured from Federal Northern Australia Road Program and Queensland State Government - \$53.6 million between Flinders and Etheridge Shires. Sealing and widening works of some 21.8 kms have been completed to date with a further 16kms currently underway. A further 12kms of sealing works are expected to be completed by June 2019 which will complete 46.4kms in total on budget and on time.



- Hughenden Meat Processing Facility and Feedlot – Council continues to work with CNVM Investments Pty Ltd to progress this project.
- 15 Mile Irrigation Project – Council has undertaken an extensive drilling program to identify the water resources needed for this project. The Council has been able to gain Coordinated Project Status from the Coordinator General for the 15 Mile Irrigation Project, a small but very significant step in bringing this high value irrigated agriculture project to fruition and creating much needed local employment.

- Hughenden Recreational Lake – Construction of the lake is well underway, with total construction cost estimated at \$8million. Funding of \$4.1million was secured from the Federal Government Building Better Regions Fund with the Council funding the balance. Construction is due for completion by mid-2019.
- Promoting the Flinders Shire as a Tourist destination by completing a Tourism Plan, Flinders Discovery Centre Plan and Porcupine Gorge Development Plan. It is only with planning that our vision for the Shire's tourism development can be achieved.



- Construction of the new cell at the Hughenden Landfill is almost completed.

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- Renewable Energy Projects. Flinders Shire has assisted both Hughenden Solar Farm and Kennedy Energy Park with planning and construction needs. The local economic benefits during construction have been well received by our local businesses.
- Completed the stabilisation of the Flinders River Bank and the upgrade of the Hughenden Sewerage Treatment Plant from Class B to Class A. Completed the construction of the STP Park between the Driver Reviver and Lights on the Hill Roadhouse.



Kennedy Energy Park – August 2018

- Encouraged construction of the Holliman's Poly Pipe Factory in the Industrial Estate.
- Planning for the extension of the Medium Industry Industrial Estate and planning for a Heavy Industry area in the Industrial Estate.

Council has and will continue to be proactive in achieving these important projects to ensure our Shire has a long term sustainable future.

Some Highlights for the period 2017/18:

In addition to the above projects, our Shire continues to grow and develop through the provision of much valued and loved services and facilities.

- Continued upgrades to facilities in the townships of Prairie, Torrens Creek and Stamford, including upgrades to the Prairie Hall and working on improvements to the Torrens Creek water supply.
- Support for Community Care Services within our Communities and upgrading to the current Federal and State programs. Working to improve the delivery of our Community Care Programs.
- Continuing improved pest management throughout the Shire including additional resources for dog trapping; promotion of the Good Neighbour Program and Biosecurity Plan.
- The upgrade of the Flinders Highway on the eastern approach to Hughenden. New signage on the approaches to Hughenden.
- 2.5 kilometre seal on the Torrens Creek to Aramac Road, sealing of the Strathroy Jump up and 3.5 kilometre seal on the Prairievale Road.
- Drought Funding projects including shelter and BBQ facilities, toilets and signage on Mount Walker.
- Upgrades to the Football Field – grand stands, PA system and lighting.



Strathroy Road (Jump up) Upgrades – May 2018

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Financial Performance

While driving economic development is critical, it is also critical that Council's financial management is strong and supports our growth and development. Included in the Annual Report is a compressive outline of Council's financial statements for the 2017/18 financial year.

Council ended the 2017/18 Financial Year with an operating surplus of \$2.674 million. Contributing to this result was the prepayment of 2018/19 Financial Assistance Grants of \$3.316 million. However, this is a sound operating position for the financial year.

Capital expenditure of just over \$10 million on new assets as well as asset renewals to ensure that important infrastructure will meet the future demands. Areas of capital expenditure include Flinders River bank stabilisation; road assets; sewerage; plant and commencement on the new cell at the Hughenden refuse tip and the Hughenden recreational lake.

Council's Cash Reserves continue to be strong with Council ensuring that it has appropriate financial control to maintain an adequate cash balance.

Council is required each year in its Annual Report to publish long term financial sustainability indicators. The required reporting ratios of operating surplus; asset sustainability and net financial liabilities, are all meeting the recommended targets.

As in past years, Council's financial sustainability depends on securing government grants and contract works, particularly from the Department of Transport and Main Roads. These two items in 2017/18 represented 78 per cent of Council's total operating revenues with the balance 22 per cent representing Council's own source revenue. This high dependence on external funding is always a risk for Council's operations should such grants and contract works not be available. Contract works from the Department of Transport and Main Roads totalled \$14.744 million this financial year compared to \$5.178 million in 2015/16. This has had a big bearing on Council finishing the year with a sound operating result.

In closing the 2017/18 financial year has been an exciting year for Flinders Shire and sincere thanks goes to all Councillors and staff in providing sound leadership, direction and dedication for the service to our community.



Cr Jane McNamara
MAYOR



Mr Graham King
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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BENEFICIAL ENTERPRISES AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

(Local Government Act 2009 section 41 & 45(a))

Beneficial Enterprises

Section 41 of the act requires that the Annual Report contain a list of all beneficial enterprises conducted during the year.

Flinders Shire Council has had no beneficial enterprises that the Council conducted during 2017-2018.

Significant Business Activities

Section 45(a) of the act requires that the Annual Report contain a list of all the business activities the local government conducted during the financial year.

Flinders Shire Council conducted no Significant Business Activities during 2017-2018. Due to no significant business activities the competitive neutrality principle is not applicable for 2017-2018.

SENIOR STAFF REMUNERATION

(Local Government Act 2009 section 201)

Remuneration levels for council executives take many factors into account, including work value and the complexity of the job. This ensures remuneration levels for executives are appropriate and that Council is well placed to retain and attract executives with skills necessary to help deliver value for money services to the community. In accordance with s201 of the Act, the total number of remuneration packages available to senior management during the period was:

Package Band	Number of Employees
\$100,000 to \$199,999	3
\$200,000 to \$299,999	0

Public Service Ethics 1994 (section 23)

Council has implemented the Code of Conduct and undertaken regular education, training and review of procedures.

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 183)

Please see attached Flinders Shire Council's Annual Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018.

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT

(section 184 Local Government Regulation 2012)

The Community Financial Report is designed to give interested parties a better understanding of the financial performance and financial position of Council for the financial year. The information presents a summary of the financial results for the 2017-2018 year.

Revenue

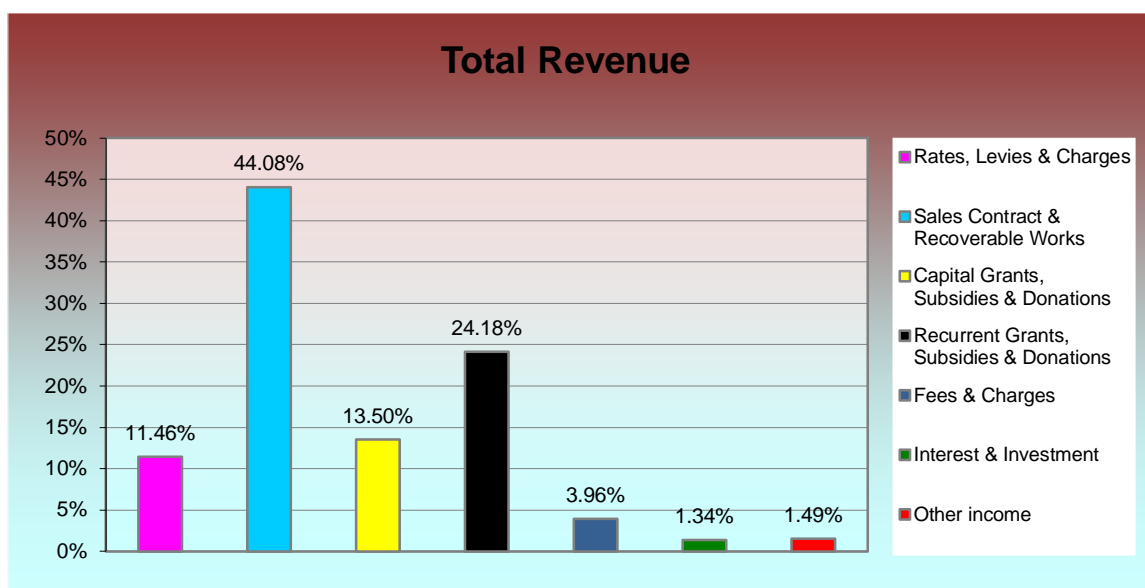
The two main categories of revenue are recurrent revenue and capital revenue. Council's recurrent revenue is money raised that is used to fund the operations of Council. Council raises recurrent revenue from income sources such as rates, levies and charges, grants, subsidies and donations, contract and recoverable works revenue, interest, fees and charges, rents and other income. Council's capital revenue is sourced for the purpose of constructing and/or reconstructing Council's assets now and into the future. Capital revenue consists of grants, subsidies and donations, as well as gains/losses on disposal of assets.

Total recurrent revenue has decreased slightly by \$0.471M from \$29.577M in 2016-17 to \$29.106M in 2017-18. Whilst there were overall increases in rates and charges, fees and charges and sales contract and recoverable works revenue these were offset by a significant reduction in recurrent grants revenue received in 2017-18 as a result of the partial prepayment of Financial Assistance Grants in 2016-17. The main source of income for the year was sales contract and recoverable works revenue comprising 50.65% of recurrent revenue and 43.85% of Council's total revenue.

It is important to note that sales contract and recoverable works revenue is almost all related to Transport and Main Roads contract works on state owned assets. An analysis of income shows these works have increased by \$1.433M compared to the previous financial year. Council is heavily reliant on both sales contract and recoverable works and grant revenue.

Capital revenue of \$4.516M decreased marginally compared to the previous year. Capital revenue is sourced for the purpose of constructing assets, including upgrades and renewals.

Council's ability to raise income from rates, levies and charges is limited. The income generated from this source is 11.4% of total revenue, a slight increase from 10.41% in the previous year.



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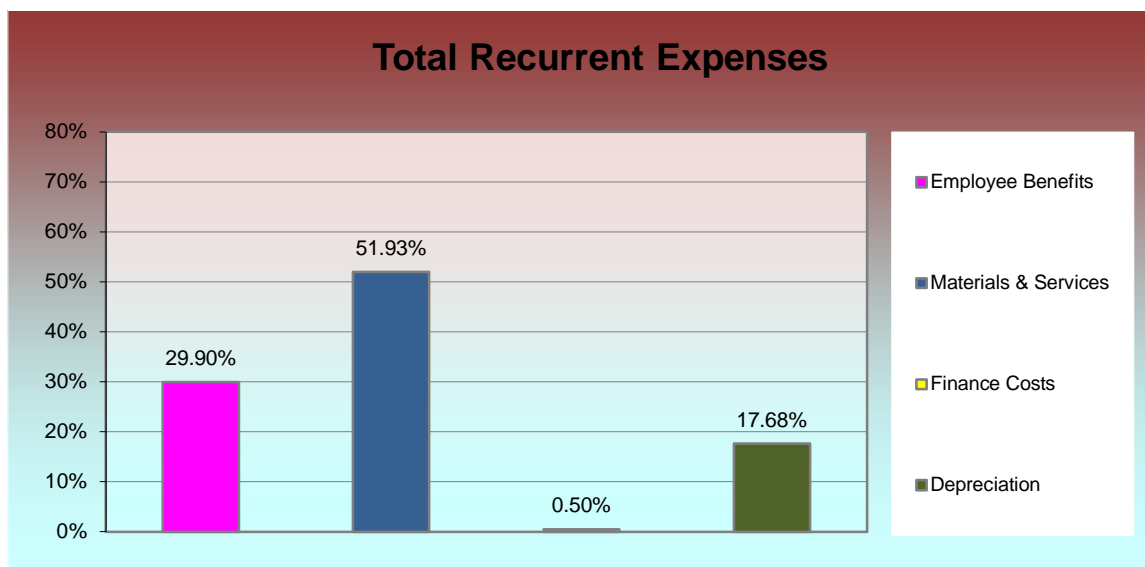
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Expenses

Council's recurrent expenses include employee benefits, materials and services, finance costs and depreciation. These line items represent the cost to Council of providing services, operating facilities and maintaining assets.

Council's recurrent expenditure increased by \$3.634M compared to the previous year. This was not surprising given the significant increase in sales contract and recoverable works.



The Statement of Financial Position

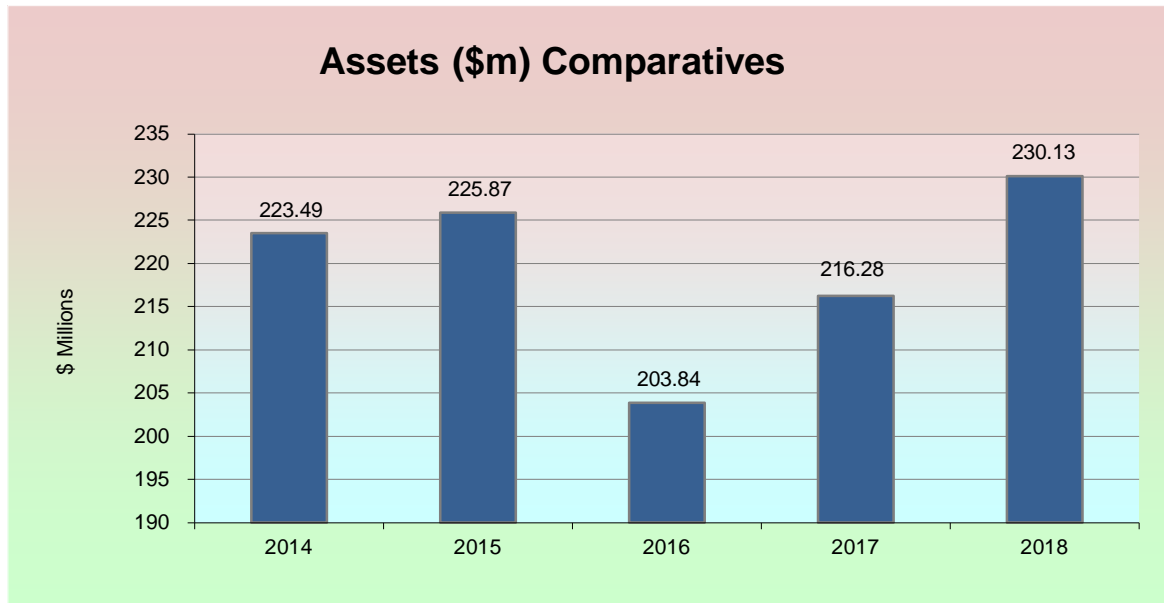
This statement is often referred to as the balance sheet and summarises the financial position of Council at the end of the financial year. The statement measures what Council owns (assets) and what Council owes (liabilities) at the end of the financial year with the difference between these two components being the net community wealth (equity of Council).

Assets

Property plant and equipment increased by \$11.685M which is the net result of asset purchases/additions, disposals, depreciation and revaluations. Trade and other receivables reduced by \$1.761M largely due to the nature of previous receivables as there was significant sales contract and recoverable works underway at year end.

There was an increase in the cash balance of \$3.890M, the significant reduction in trade receivables contributed to this result.

Council had \$24.286M invested in a cash management account with Queensland Treasury Corporation. A short term deposit amounting to \$3M was also held with the National Australia Bank. Interest received on cash investments for the year was \$0.619M.



Property plant and equipment is the largest asset type comprising \$198.5M. Property plant and equipment is made up of Council asset classes including land, buildings, recreation facilities, plant and equipment, corporate and IT, road network, water network, sewer network, stormwater drainage network, waste / landfill and works in progress. Council's road network assets are the largest component of property plant and equipment amounting to \$118.2M.

Liabilities

Council's liabilities comprise amounts owing for provisions, borrowings and trade and other payables. The provisions balance comprises employee entitlements for long service leave and the restoration of the tip in future years. Trade and other payables is made up of annual leave entitlements in future years.

Borrowings of \$2.186M relate to loans from Queensland Treasury Corporation. Council has not had any borrowings for many years and these loans have been taken out to construct a new sewer network in North Hughenden, upgrade the Sewerage Treatment Plant and replace Caravan Park Infrastructure.



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The Statement of Changes in Equity

Community equity is represented by Council's net worth. This is calculated by what Council own, minus what Council owes.

Total Assets **\$230.130M** – Total Liabilities **\$5.869M** = Community Equity **\$224.261M**

Community equity increased by \$14.072M compared to the previous year. An annual condition assessment of Council's undertaken by Council's engineers and external valuers resulted in a \$6.788M increment in the asset revaluation surplus.

Council's retained surplus represents amounts which have been invested into assets to provide services. The asset revaluation surplus comprises amounts representing the asset retained capital and other change in the value of Council's assets over time.

The Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows identifies the cash received and cash spent throughout the year. The statement shows Council's ability to cover its expenditures and where those funds are derived. Council's cash balance increased by \$3.890M compared to the previous year.

Council's cash flows from operating activities incorporate the recurrent activities of Council. The cash flows from investing activities shows Council spent \$10.126M investing in property plant and equipment. This includes capital works on Council's road network assets and other asset classes.

Cash flows from financing activities shows that Council made principal repayments of \$265 thousand on all loans during the year.

Financial Ratios

Section 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the inclusion of the relevant measures of financial sustainability. These ratios are also included in Council's long term financial plan with reviews conducted on a regular basis. The targets have been set by the Department of Local Government and Planning.

The Operating Surplus Ratio

The operating surplus ratio measures the extent to which revenue raised (excluding capital grants and contributions) covers operational expenses.

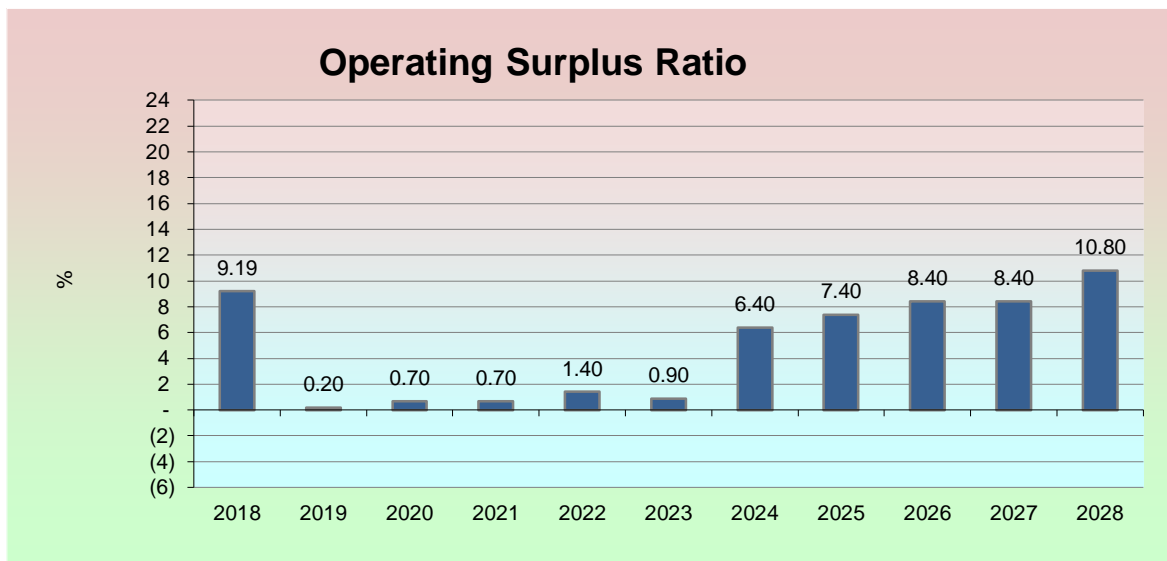
Net Result (excluding Capital items)

Total Operating Revenue (excluding Capital items)

The target for the operating surplus ratio is between 0 and 10%.

At the end of the financial year Council's operating surplus ratio was 9.19%.

In future years' forecasts indicate Council will operate close to break even, with small surpluses through to 2028. Council is mindful that changes can occur during the year, and Management regularly conducts reviews to ensure any budget variances are address as soon as possible. Council is aware of the need to conduct service level reviews to ensure operational expenses are going to be sustainable in the longer term.



Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio measures the amount of capital expenditure on renewal of existing assets compared to the depreciation expense.

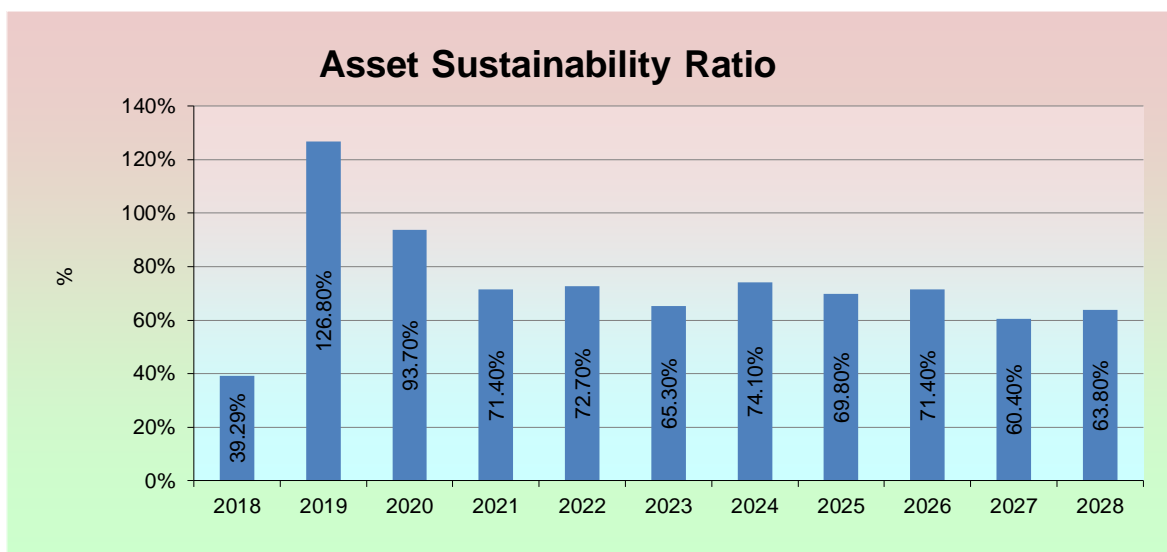
Capital Expenditure on the replacement of Assets (Renewals)

Depreciation Expense

The target for this ratio is for it to be greater than 90%.

Council's 2017-18 Asset Sustainability Ratio was 39.29%.

The long term forecast indicates that Council may not meet this target in all of the coming years. It should be noted that Council's assumptions in its long term forecast were to be conservative in capital expenditure given the reliance on grant funding for large capital projects, therefore it is probable actual expenditure on asset renewals will be higher than predicted.



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Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

This ratio measures the extent to which Council can fund its liabilities through its operating revenues.

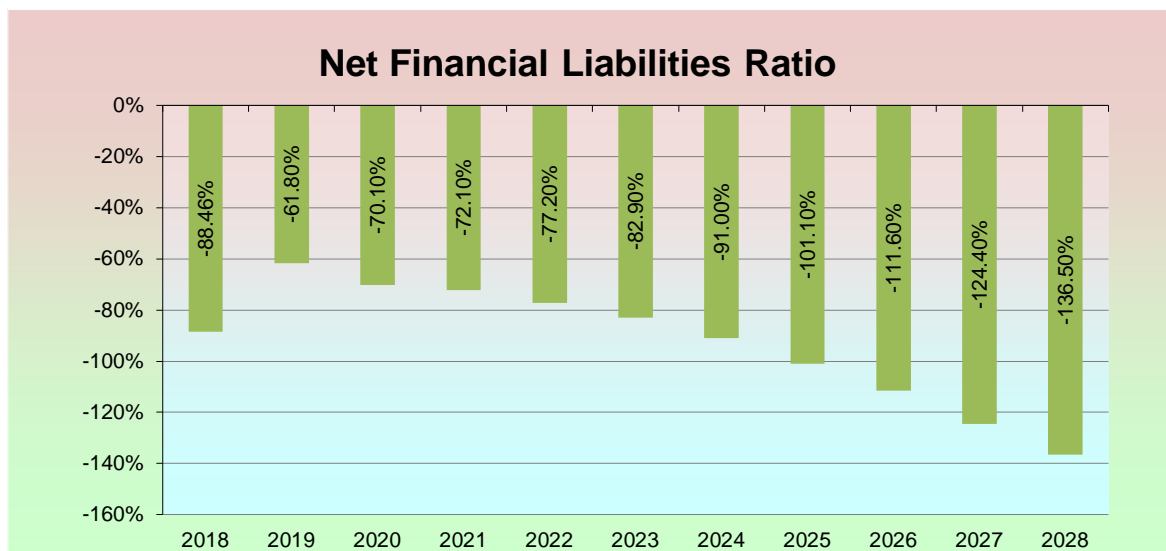
Total Liabilities less Current Assets

Total Operating Revenue (excluding Capital items)

The target for this ratio is less than 60%.

Council's current Net Financial liabilities ratio is -88.46%.

Council has very little borrowings of \$2.186M and trade and other payables of \$2.491M and has few other liabilities, which is why the ratio is so low.



PRATICULAR RESOLUTIONS

(Local Government Regulations 2012 section 185)

Expenses Reimbursement Policy

Councillor Expenses Reimbursement Policy:

Council did not resolve to make any changes to the policy referred to in section 250(1) of the Regulation during the 2017-2018 financial year.

Asset Accounting

Asset and Services Management Policy:

Council did not resolve to make any changes to the policy referred to in section 206(2) of the Regulation during the 2017-2018 financial year.

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COUNCILLORS

(Local Government Regulations 2012 section 186)

Remuneration Schedule

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186(a))

Pursuant to Section 247 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* the following remuneration rates are set for Council.

From 1 July 2017:

Position	Annual Remuneration*	Meeting Allowance**	Total Allowance
Mayor Allowance	\$101,631.00	Nil	\$101,631.00
Deputy Mayor Allowance	\$58,683.00	Nil	\$58,683.00
Councillor Allowance	\$33,876.68	\$16,938.34	\$50,815.00

From 1 July 2018:

Position	Annual Remuneration*	Meeting Allowance**	Total Allowance
Mayor Allowance	\$103,918.00	Nil	\$103,918.00
Deputy Mayor Allowance	\$59,952.00	Nil	\$59,952.00
Councillor Allowance	\$34,638.68	\$17,319.34	\$51,958.00

* The allowance is paid in twelve equal instalments at the end of each calendar month.

** One twelfth of the meeting allowance is paid for each monthly meeting attended.

Councillor Remuneration, Meeting Attendance, Expenses and Facilities

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186 (b) and(c))

Councillor remuneration and meeting attendance: – 01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Councillor	General Meeting Attendance	Special Meeting Attendance	Annual Remuneration	Meeting Allowance	Vehicle Allowance	TOTAL
Mayor J McNamara	10	1	\$101,631.00	N/A		\$101,631.00
Deputy Mayor S O'Neill	11	1	\$58,632.00	N/A		\$58,632.00
Cr G Sealy	11	1	\$34,534.04	\$16,279.92		\$50,813.96
Cr K Carter	12	1	\$34,534.04	\$16,279.92		\$50,813.96
Cr K Downie	10	1	\$34,534.04	\$16,279.92		\$50,813.96
Cr A Bode	9	1	\$34,534.04	\$16,279.92	\$5,467.00	\$56,280.96
Cr K Middleton	11	1	\$34,534.04	\$16,279.92	\$904.75	\$51,718.71

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Superannuation:

That pursuant to Section 226 of the *Local Government Act 2009* no voluntary superannuation payments be made to Councillors.

Other Expenses Incurred:

Councillor	Travel Expenses (Accom, Meals, Flights, ect)	Registrations	iPad Allowance	TOTAL
Mayor J McNamara	\$13,289.59	\$6,257.18	\$746.04	\$20,292.81
Deputy Mayor S O'Neill	\$7,097.67	\$6,508.41	\$495.70	\$14,101.78
Cr G Sealy	\$8,241.48	\$3,575.36	\$504.68	\$12,321.52
Cr K Carter	\$1,736.64	\$2,304.05	\$538.70	\$4,579.39
Cr K Downie	\$5,351.23	\$5,516.69	\$545.82	\$11,413.74
Cr A Bode	\$6,240.38	\$4,493.62	\$475.85	\$11,209.85
Cr K Middleton	\$2,748.16	\$4,653.05	\$465.56	\$7,866.77

Facilities Provided:

The Mayor was provided with the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laptop• 2 x Printers• iPad• Car	All Councillors were provided with the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laptop• Printer• iPad
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Conduct and Performance of Councillors

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186 (d), (e), (f))

Description	Number
Total number of breaches of the local government's code of conduct committed by Councillors as decided during the year by the local government.	Nil
The name of each Councillor decided during the year by the local government to have breached the code, and details of any penalty imposed.	N/A
The number of complaints about alleged code of conduct breaches by Councillors, other than frivolous or vexatious complaints, that were referred to the conduct review panel during the year by the local government or the Chief Executive Officer under chapter 3, part 3A.	Nil
The number of recommendations made to the local government by the conduct review panel during the year that were adopted, or not adopted, by the local government.	Nil

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The number of complaints resolved under the local government's general complaints process during the year and the number of those complaints that related to a breach by a Councillor of the local government's code of conduct.	N/A
The number of complaints made to the ombudsman, and notified to the local government, during the year about decisions made by the local government in relation to enforcement of its code of conduct.	Nil

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION COMPLAINTS

(Local Government Regulations 2012 section 187)

The following is a brief summary of the Council adopted policy "Complaints Management Policy".

Objective:

The role of Council is to provide open and accountable local government. An effective and transparent method of responding to complaints regarding its services, administrative actions, competitive neutrality, the conduct and performance of councillors and staff behaviour and misconduct better enables council to undertake this role.

Principles:

Council is committed to a complaints management process which ensures the transparent, effective and timely resolution of complaints.

Scope:

This policy has been established to provide a clear administrative method of handling and resolving of all complaints made by affected persons

Administrative complaints made during the 2017-2018 financial year	Nil
Number of complaints resolved under the complaints management process	Nil
Number of complaints not resolved under the complaints management process	Nil
Number of administrative action complaints that were made in a previous financial year	Nil

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 188)

During the 2017-2018 period there was one overseas trip undertaken, in an official capacity, by a Councillor or Council employee or representative.

Position	Name	Destination	Purpose	Cost
Mayor	Jane McNamara	China	Invitation from the organising committee of China Overseas Investment Fair (COIFAIR)	\$2,551.77
Councillor	Kate Downie	China	Invitation from the organising committee of China Overseas Investment Fair (COIFAIR)	\$ 2,862.27

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EXPENDITURE ON GRANTS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 189)

Council is required under Section 189 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to provide a summary of the expenditure for the Financial Year on grants to community organisations and from each Councillor's discretionary funds.

Council provides assistance to community organisations by way of grants, sponsorship or donations.

Councillor's Discretionary Fund

In accordance with s189, the Annual Report must contain a summary of the expenditure from each Councillor's discretionary fund. Flinders Shire does not have discretionary funds and therefore there is no report for 2017-2018 for the purpose of allocation as community grants.

Community Small Grants

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Hughenden Amateur Swimming Assoc	Purchase new lane ropes and training Equipment	\$ 4,975.38
Returned Services League of Australia (Qld Branch) Hden Sub Branch	RSL Hall upgrade	\$ 8,000.00
Prairie Jockey Club	Renovations of Secretary & Tote Room	\$ 963.00
Hughenden Gymnastics Club Inc	Purchase and Install of Tumbletrack and Safety matting in the Gymnasium	\$ 4,524.50
Flinders River Roping Association Inc	Purchase of Speaker for Events	\$ 1,384.00
TOTAL		\$ 19,847.28

Regional Arts Development Fund

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Hughenden Show Society	Watercolour Workshop-Chelsea Smith	\$ 2,000.00
Flinders Shire Public Library	Children's Book and how to self publish	\$ 3,900.00
Queensland Country Women's Assoc – Hden Branch	Hand Painted Mural of Local industries and tourist Attractions	\$ 3,250.00
Flinders Shire Council	Flip Side Circus	\$ 12,500.00
TOTAL		\$ 21,650.00

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Donations

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Hughenden Country Music Association Inc.	Restore and Renew Signage	\$ 500.00
Kooroorinya Ladies Day Inc.	Goddess Within 2017 Ladies Day - Advertising and Pamper Day	\$ 500.00
Hughenden State School P&C	Hughenden Deb Ball - Facility Hire	\$ 500.00
Hughenden State School P&C	Primary Citizenship Award - Speech Night 2017	\$ 100.00
Queensland Police Service	National Police Remembrance Day	\$ 500.00
Hughenden Country Music Association Inc. .	Upgrade existing roadside signs	\$ 500.00
Campdraft 4 A Cause Inc	Campdraft 4 A Cause	\$ 500.00
Cancer Council	Relay for Life Support	\$ 1,000.00
Hughenden Kindergarten	Assist Wages	\$ 10,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 14,100.00

Sponsorship

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Hughenden State School P&C	Lead Workshops	\$ 2,000.00
Stamford Race Club Inc	Stamford Races & Community Fun day	\$ 2,000.00
Flinders River Roping	Flinders River Roping Fun and Development Day	\$ 2,000.00
Cameron Downs State School P & C Ass	Cameron Downs State School 50 year Celebrations	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Railway Social Club	Christmas Tree Party	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Town & Country	Rugby 7's game in Hughenden	\$ 2,000.00
Flinders Tennis Club	Junior Tennis Coaching	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Jockey Club	Hughenden Races – May Race Day	\$ 2,200.00
Coal Herrod	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Angus Ford	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Riley Flute	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Riley Flute	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00

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Joe Bode	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Bailey Nebbia	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Hughenden Bulls Rugby League Club	Football Game –April/May 2018	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Jockey Club	Hughenden Races - July Race Day	\$ 2,200.00
Hughenden Campdraft Ass. Inc.	Hughenden Campdraft	\$ 2,000.00
Flinders Horse Sports Inc	Fun at Flinders	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Gymnastics Club Inc	Attend Congress GYM QLD event	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Amateur Swimming Ass	HASA Swimming Carnival	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Junior Rugby League	Purchase new uniforms	\$ 2,000.00
Cameron Downs State School P & C Assoc	Learn to Swim	\$ 2,000.00
RSL - Hughenden Sub Branch	ANZAC Day - Celebrations and Luncheon	\$ 2,000.00
Hughenden Golf Club	Hughenden Golf Club Open Championships	\$ 2,000.00
Dominique Wiggins	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Danielle Sladden	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Tristan Creagh	Sporting Excellence	\$ 450.00
Scripture Union Queensland	Hughenden State School Chaplaincy and Outreach Service	\$ 11,000.00
Heart of Australia	Heart of Australia Van	\$ 8,560.00
TOTAL		\$ 41,110.00

In-Kind Support

Nil

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OTHER CONTENTS

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190)

Corporate and Operational Plans

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(a)(b))

Council is required to adopt a Corporate Plan to guide Council's decision making. This document establishes the framework and identifies goals, objectives and strategies to be pursued by Council to meet the aspirations and needs of the community. The plan is developed in consultation with the community and can be revised at any time during the life of the plan to ensure council is following its strategic direction.

The Operational Plan is prepared annually and outlines Council's work program for the next financial year including costs and completion timelines. This document is subject to quarterly reviews and must be consistent with the Council's Corporate Plan.

In accordance with legislative requirements, Council reviewed the operational plan on four occasions relevant to the financial period and on each occasion Council considered an assessment of its progress in the implementation of the operational plan as being satisfactory. Council receives a written assessment of the implementation of the operational plan at the end of each quarter.

Council's Corporate Plan, Operation Plan and Quarterly Reports on the Operational Plan can be found on Council's website www.flinders.qld.gov.au.

Commercial Business

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(c))

In accordance with s190 (1) of the regulation Council must provide an annual operations report for each commercial business unit. Council had no commercial business units over the course of the 2017-2018 year.

Joint Government Activities

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(d)(i))

As required by s190 of the Regulation, Council must outline details on any action taken for, and expenditure on, a service, facility or activity supplied by another local government under an agreement for conducting a joint government activity. No joint activities were undertaken for the financial year ending 30 June 2018.

Details of Special Rates and Charges

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(d)(ii))

In accordance with s190 of the regulation, Flinders Shire Council levies a special rates and charges for Wild Dog Control applicable to Rate Code 4 – Rural Categories only.

Contracts

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(e))

As required by s190 of the Regulation, the number of invitations to change tenders under s228(7) during the financial year was zero.

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Registers and Public Documents

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(f))

Item	Description	Access
Councillor Register of Interest	To record certain financial and other personal interests of relevant individuals.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Register of personal interest of Chief Executive Officer and other specified employees	To record certain financial and other personal interests of the Chief Executive Officer and certain other employees.	Available only to Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer or a person permitted by law
Councillor's Material Personal Interest	A record of when a councillor identifies that they have, or may be perceived to have, a 'material personal interest' the councillor is required to disclose the interest and leave the meeting for consideration of the relevant matter.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Councillor's Conflict of Interest	A record of when a councillor identifies that they may have or may be perceived to have a 'conflict of interest'; the councillor is required to disclose the interest to council. Where the other councillors determine, by vote, that a conflict of interest does exist, they must direct that councillor to leave the meeting.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Conflict of Interest Register & Material Personal Interest Register for Executive Staff	To record any interests that an executive staff member has declared in Council Meeting.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Delegations Register	To record all delegations / authorisations made during Council Meetings.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Register of Delegations of Authority by Council	To record all powers delegated by the Local Government or the Chief Executive Officer's delegated powers.	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Delegations of Authority by the CEO	To record all powers delegated by the CEO	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Local Laws	To record all local laws set by Council	Available on Council's website
Register of Regulatory Fees and Charges	To record all charges levied by Council	Available on Council's website
Register of Policies	To record the current policies as set by Council	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Roads	To record the details of the shire roads	Available for viewing by members of the public on request

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Contract Register	To record the details of all Tenders over \$200,000	Available on Council's website
Cemetery Register	To record all burial sites	Available on Council's website
Building Application Register	To record the details of all applications	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Corporate & Operational Plan	To document the goals and strategies set by Council for the period specified in each plan	Available on Council's website
Annual Report	To document the financial position and report on attainment of goals specified in the Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.	Available on Council's website

Council also makes available other information, including copies of Minutes of Council Meetings on the website www.flinders.qld.gov.au

Concessions for Rates and Charges Granted by Council

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(g))

Rating Rebates and Concessions

Flinders Shire has a policy with reference to rebate concessions, as detailed below:

Pensioner Rate Concessions Policy

Council continued its current Pensioner Rate Concession policy. This policy provided a 50 per cent concession to ratepayers in a residential category on General, Garbage, Sewerage and Water Rates up to a maximum of \$475 per year for all eligible pensioners. A copy of Council's Pensioner Rate Concession Policy is available at the Shire Office.

Internal Audit

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(h))

Council's Audit Committee is an advisory committee established under the Audit Policy. The objectives of the Audit Committee are to provide advice to Council on audit matters and provide oversight of the Internal Audit process.

As provided under the Audit Committee Charter, the Audit Committee will review the following and make recommendations to Council:

- Internal Audit Plan and how that plan relates to the risks identified in Council's Risk Registers;
- Progress on matters raised in the internal audit reports;
- Matters raised by the Queensland Audit Office audit and resolution of those matters;
- Draft financial statements before adoption by Council
- The financial implications of the Council's financial position;
- The trend indicated in the Financial Sustainability Statement;
- The Council's annual report before adoption by Council;
- Implications of the budget on the long term financial sustainability of the Council;
- The process of risk identification, assessment and treatment;

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- Matters identified as being outside of the scope of the current internal audit plan that have or have the potential to create additional risk for Council.

The Audit Committee met in October, 2017; April, 2018; and September, 2018 and recommended the adoption of the 2017-18 Financial Statements in October, 2018.

Council's Independent Chair of the Audit Committee is Mr Brendan Macrae B.Comm AMIIA FCPA and Council's Internal Auditors are Pacifica Chartered Accountants, Cairns.

Competitive Neutrality

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(i)(j))

In accordance with s49 of the regulation, there were no investigation notices for competitive neutrality complaints nor were there any required responses to the Queensland Competition Authority.

ATTACHMENTS

Annual Financial Statements

Please see attached Flinders Shire Council's Annual Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018.