

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



Murrindindi
Shire Council



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Acknowledgement of Country

Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri peoples as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.





WELCOME

ABOUT THIS ANNUAL REPORT

In the *Murrindindi Shire Council Annual Report 2022/23* we identify our achievements and challenges from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. We report our progress against goals set out in the *Murrindindi Shire Council Plan 2021-2025* and in the *Annual Budget 2022/23*.

The Report contains audited financial and performance statements, as required by the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Report is written for a variety of audiences, including government agencies, the community, ratepayers and businesses.



MURRINDINDI SHIRE **SNAP** SHOT

OUR HISTORY

The Taungurung and Wurundjeri Peoples are the traditional owners of the land known as Murrindindi Shire.

European settlement followed Hume and Hovell's overland exploration in December 1824. Many local towns were established during the 1850s and 1860s after the discovery of gold.

The Murrindindi Shire and Council were established on 18 November 1994, following the amalgamation of the former municipalities of Alexandra and Yea, and the addition of parts of the former municipalities of Healesville, Broadford, Eltham, Whittlesea and Euroa.

COUNCIL SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

- Road Maintenance
- Parks Maintenance
- Arborist Services
- Facilities Maintenance
- Saleyards Management
- Plant and Fleet Management

SUSTAINABILITY AND ASSETS

- Capital Works
- Asset Engineering
- Environmental and Climate Change Programs
- Recycling and Waste Management
- Resource Recovery Centres

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Building Approvals
- Planning Approvals
- Community Safety
- School Crossing Supervision
- Environmental Health

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Business Partnerships
- Strategic Planning
- Investment Attraction
- Events Management
- Tourism Support Services
- Visitor Information Support Services

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

- Children and Family Services – Including Family Day Care
- Community Engagement
- Youth and Recreational Development
- Public Health and Wellbeing
- Access and Inclusion
- Maternal Child Health Services
- Grants Management and Support

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

- Customer Service
- Library Services including Yea, Kinglake, Alexandra & the Mobile Library
- Communications and Online Services

CORPORATE BUSINESS SERVICES

- Financial Management
- Information Management
- Information Technology
- Rates and Revenue
- Digital Futures

GOVERNANCE AND RISK

- People and Culture
- Insurance Management
- Procurement and Contract Management Support
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Integrity and Governance including Freedom of Information (FOI) and Privacy
- Council Governance Support
- Executive Office Support
- Council Property Leases and Licences.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS CONTINUITY

FLOOD RECOVERY

OUR SHIRE

3,879km²

48% Crown Land

15,345

Population

Australian Bureau of Statistics estimate

Seven

Councillors

10,453

Rateable Properties (2023)

492km

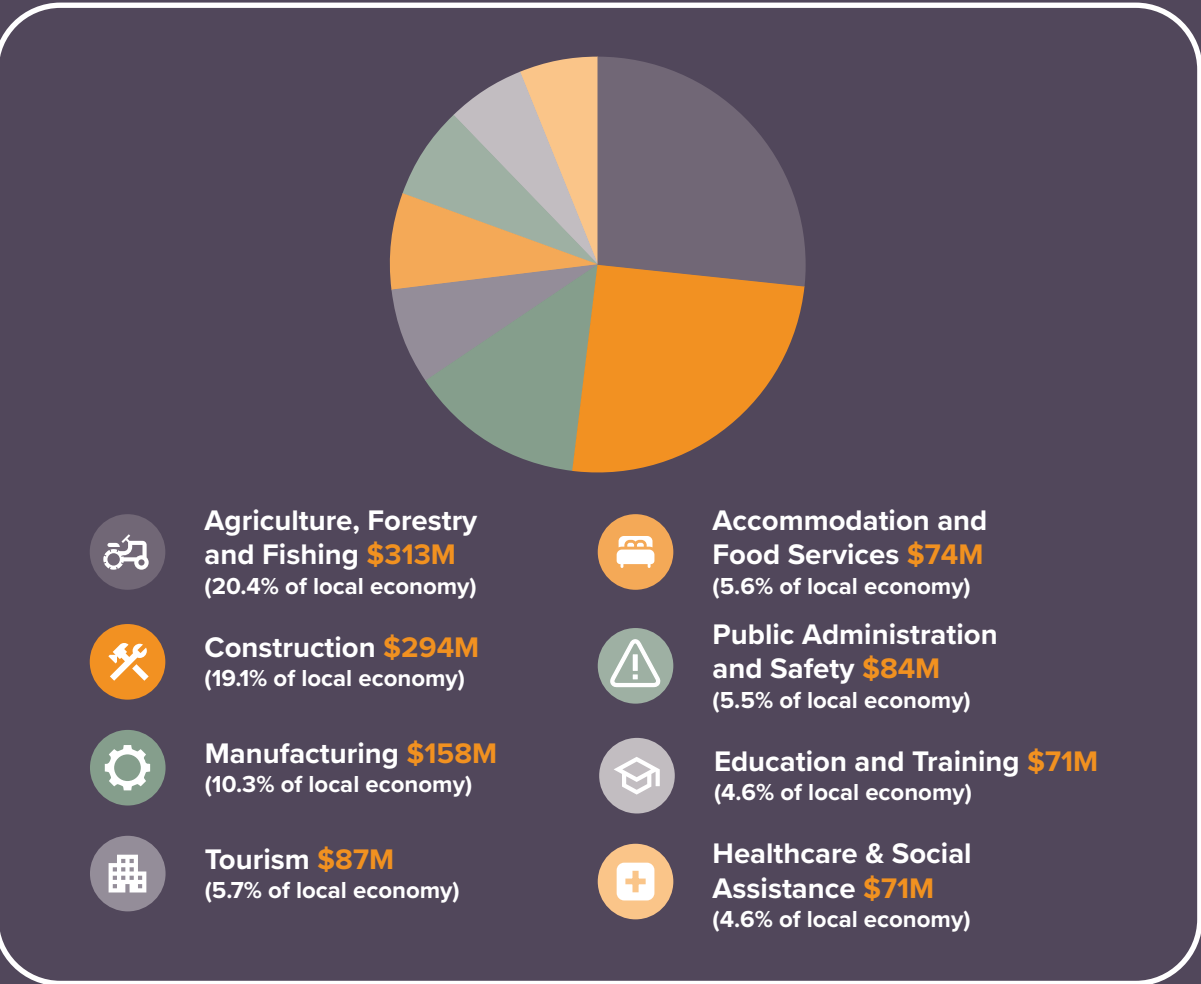
Sealed Roads (2023)

749km

Unsealed Roads (2023)

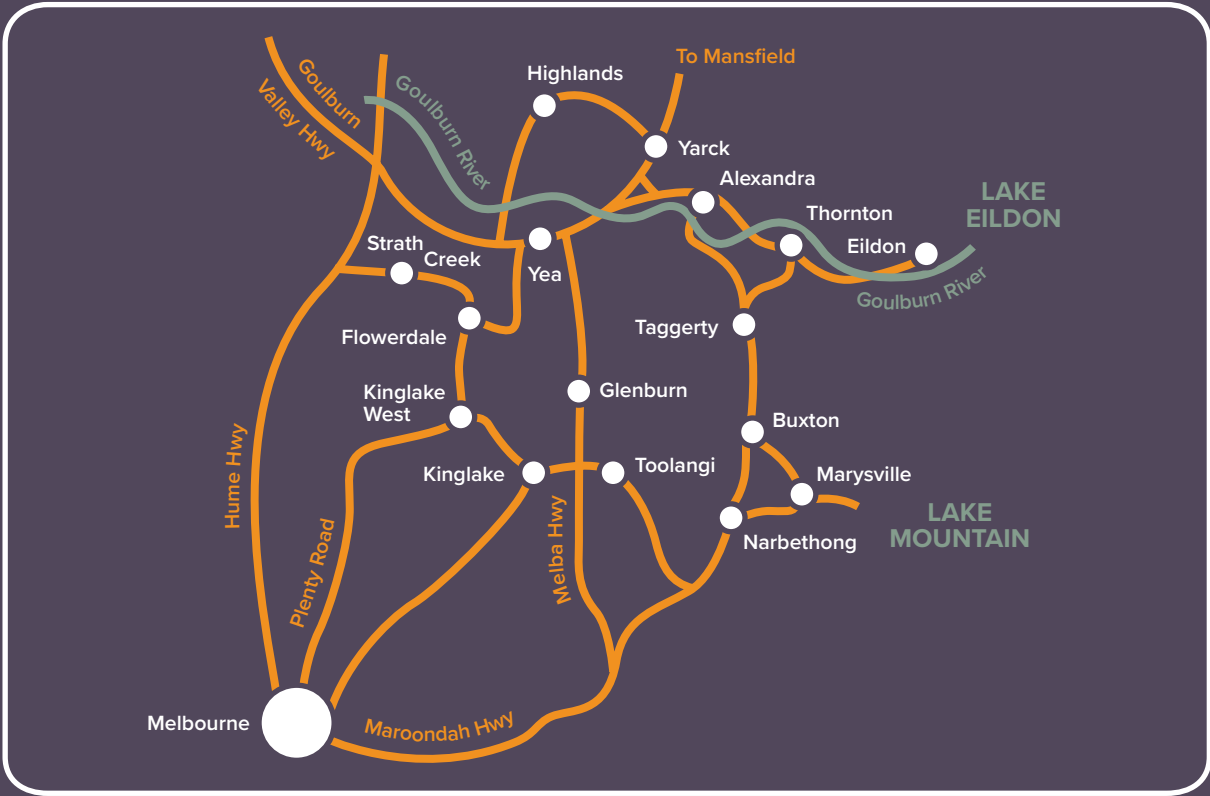
1,245km (Council maintained)

INDUSTRIES



TOWNSHIPS AND LOCALITIES

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| • Acheron | • Fawcett | • Kerrisdale | • Molesworth | • Thornton |
| • Alexandra | • Flowerdale | • Killingworth | • Murrindindi | • Toolangi |
| • Buxton | • Ghin Ghin | • Kinglake | • Narbethong | • Whanregarwen |
| • Cathkin | • Glenburn | • Kinglake Central | • Pheasant Creek | • Woodbourne |
| • Castella | • Gobur | • Kinglake West | • Rubicon | • Yarck |
| • Caveat | • Granton | • Koriella | • Strath Creek | • Yea |
| • Devil's River | • Highlands | • Limestone | • Taggerty | |
| • Dropmore | • Homewood | • Maintongoon | • Taylor Bay | |
| • Eildon | • Kanumbra | • Marysville | • Terip Terip | |



FAST FACTS



124
Birth notices



45,927
Library items borrowed



87km of Rail Trail
Footpaths maintained



749km
Unsealed roads maintained



3,045
Current dog registrations



1430
Maternal and child health consultations



34
Public amenities managed



47
Increase in number of rateable properties



741
Current cat registrations



30
Playgrounds maintained



2,896 tonnes
Garbage collected



249
Planning permits issued



1,544 tonnes
Recycling collected



11 Ovals
(205 Acres of mowing)
Parks and reserves maintained



492km
Sealed roads maintained



597
Immunisations administered



100km of Walking Paths
Footpaths maintained

COUNCIL VALUES AND VISION



COUNCIL VALUES

Upon being elected in October 2021, the seven Murrindindi Shire Councillors established a new Code of Conduct and committed to carrying out their roles in accordance with the following values:

INTEGRITY

We will always act with honesty and integrity and demonstrate high standards of professionalism. We will:

- Be open and honest in all dealings with community, other Councillors and with Council staff
- Follow through on commitments
- Represent our views truthfully
- Support one another and staff if treated unfairly or without respect
- Be open to constructive feedback
- Accept responsibility for mistakes, treating them as a learning opportunity

LEADERSHIP

We will strongly represent and advocate on behalf of the community and exercise courage in our leadership and decision-making.

We:

- Welcome the opinions of the community and respect their right to be heard
- Champion issues on behalf of the community in a constructive and timely manner
- Advocate the interests of the local community to other communities and governments
- Take pride in representing the community and the municipality
- Make decisions based on the perceived best interests of the entire municipality
- Present Council as a cohesive and effective working unit
- Act without fear or favour

RESPECT

We:

- Respect the views, contributions, feelings, wishes and rights of others
- Actively seek to understand others experiences, ideas and perspectives
- Embrace and appreciate diversity of origin, viewpoint, experience and lifestyle
- Recognise the achievements of others

COLLABORATION

We:

- Operate cohesively
- Work together with the community through accessible and inclusive engagement
- Strive to build effective working relationships

INCLUSION

We will value the contribution and individuality of others and commit to develop open and positive working relationships.

We:

- Foster community cohesion and encourage active participation within the community
- Embrace each other's differences, values, culture and perspectives
- Commit to early advice and 'no surprises'
- Freely share information and knowledge with one another
- Cooperate, collaborate with and encourage others
- Be objective and flexible and willing to compromise
- Ensure Council decisions are focussed on the best outcomes for the entire municipality

ACCOUNTABILITY AND HONESTY

We:

- Make our decisions openly and publicly whenever possible
- Take responsibility for our actions and decisions
- Honour our commitments
- Act with integrity and honesty in all our dealings
- Openly report our performance and acknowledge our mistakes

INITIATIVE

We aim to achieve continuous improvements in performance and the highest standards and outcomes for the Murrindindi Shire.

In doing so, we will:

- Question the way things have been done in the past
- Always look for better ways to work together and to achieve outcomes on behalf of the community
- Be result and outcome focused at all times
- Encourage a positive culture focused on results and high quality customer service
- Strive to exceed community expectations
- Adopt straightforward and realistic approaches
- Acknowledge good results to staff when noticed





VISION

Our 10 Year Community Vision describes our community's long-term hopes, dreams and aspirations for Murrindindi Shire. This Vision belongs to both Council and the Murrindindi Shire community and can only be realised through our partnership and collaboration.

Through our combined efforts, our community is vibrant and resilient.

We:

- Are inclusive, embrace diversity and encourage the participation of all
- Welcome new residents and visitors to enjoy and contribute to our Shire
- Respect and celebrate the cultural heritage of our First Nations People and those who have come before us
- Actively support the current and future needs and aspirations of people of all ages and abilities
- Enjoy, participate in and promote culture and the arts, sport and recreation
- Are leaders in waste reduction and combating climate change
- Protect our natural environment and biodiversity and preserve our rural landscapes
- Grow through managed land development, business entrepreneurship and enhancing learning opportunities

A photograph of two people mountain biking on a dirt trail. The person in the foreground is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, black pants, a blue and white helmet, and a backpack. The person behind them is wearing a dark jacket, light-colored pants, and a dark helmet. They are riding on a gravel path that curves through a hilly, wooded area with dry grass and trees. The background shows a valley with more hills under a bright sky. A dark blue banner with white and orange text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

2022

JULY

- Council supported NAIDOC Week events at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre and hosted our own NAIDOC themed Storytime event at the Kinglake Library.
- Council participated in the Plastic Free July challenge, encouraging residents to look at ways to reduce single use plastics in their everyday lives.
- We were successful with grant applications to the state and federal governments totaling \$4,636,800 to progress delivery on the Eildon Splash and Skate Park Project.

AUGUST

- Council adopted its Library Strategy and Action Plan, which will help us enhance our community's library experience over the coming years.

SEPTEMBER

- Council hosted a free two-day Mental Health First Aid Course in Kinglake, focused on youth mental health.
- Council's Children's Services team collaborated with local schools and kindergartens to provide the Early Learning is Fun (ELF) Reading Day celebration in Alexandra and Yea.
- Council adopted its Climate Change Policy, which will guide us to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2035, adapt our operations to climate change, and support our community to act too.

OCTOBER

- Council engaged with community members across the Shire on the future of waste and recycling in Murrindindi Shire, the four-stream waste system, through a survey, information sessions and in person events.
- Council launched the Thornton-Rubicon Community Planning Project with a community dinner at the Rubicon Hotel.



- Emergency services, individuals, local community groups, staff from Murrindindi Shire Council and neighbouring councils, and all tiers of government, came together to respond to the October 2022 Floods, providing relief to our impacted communities.

NOVEMBER

- Cr John Walsh was elected Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council and Cr Karine Haslam was elected Deputy Mayor, both for a 12-month term.
- Construction commenced on the 2.6 km Eildon Shared Trail, following community consultation on the design elements and landscaping.
- Council supported 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

DECEMBER

- Council adopted its Housing and Settlement Strategy, following extensive community engagement and conversations with landowners.
- The Alexandra Youth Precinct Project was completed, which included new playground facilities, pathways, shelters, a skate park, lighting and landscaping.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

2023

JANUARY

- Extensive community consultation to inform the development of Council's Climate Change Action Plan.

FEBRUARY

- Council launched the Glenburn Community Planning Project with a community dinner at the Glenburn Hall.



MARCH

- Over 25,000 visitors were recorded at Council's swimming pools for the season, with eight pool parties hosted.
- The annual Murrindindi Children's Network Early Years Conference was held in Eildon, hosting 75 attendees.
- Functional design completed for the Skyline Road Touring Route Project, with plans progressing for the detailed design.
- Service providers were announced for the delivery of four-stream waste collection and processing services from 1 July 2025.
- Council's Draft Climate Change Action Plan was endorsed by Council for community consultation.
- Participated in the Murrindindi Jobs Expo, engaging with local high school students and job seekers on employment opportunities at Council.
- Members of key volunteer organisations were formally thanked and recognised by Council for their efforts in supporting our communities during the emergency response to the October 2022 Floods.
- Together with OzGreen, Council hosted a workshop with members of Murrindindi Shire's Youth Climate Action Group, to discuss concerns and strategies around our current climate situation.

APRIL

- Council commenced community consultation on its Draft Climate Change Action Plan.

MAY

- In celebration of National Volunteer Week, Council hosted two volunteer appreciation dinners, one in Kinglake and one in Marysville, with Murrindindi Shire Citizen of the Year – Sarah Southam, Senior Citizen of the Year – Bob Emblin and Young Citizens of the Year – Alastair Gerrey and Kirk Mercuri awarded. We also launched an online Volunteer Hub to promote volunteering and connect volunteer organisations with individuals who are interested in volunteering.
- Murrindindi, together with Mansfield and Mitchell Shire Councils, launched the Art on the Great Victorian Rail Trail Project, which saw the official opening of seven large-scale artworks and a series of smaller works placed along the length of the 134 km Rail Trail.
- Supported the launch of 'Shaping Murrindindi's Future', a community-led project assisting the communities of Marysville, Buxton, Taggerty and Alexandra in the transition away from native timber harvesting.
- Council endorsed the Municipal Flood Recovery Action Plan.



- Council launched its 'Reflect' Reconciliation Action Plan during National Reconciliation Week, with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony performed by Taungurung Elder, Aunty Jo Honeysett.
- Council adopted its 2023-2024 Annual Budget.
- To celebrate International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia, Council hosted a public Pride Flag Raising Event in Alexandra.
- Murrindindi Shire's Flood Recovery Committee endorsed the Municipal Flood Recovery Action Plan.

JUNE

- Council launched the new and improved Grants and Sponsorships Program.
- Completion of the Yea Caravan Park bridge replacement project.
- Completion of our Gravel Roads Re-Sheeting Program, re-sheeting 27 km of gravel roads across the Shire.
- A 50 kW Electric Vehicle charging station was installed in Alexandra, with the ability to service two vehicles.
- Launched community consultation to inform the review of Council's Road Asset Management Plan.
- Co-facilitated an emergency exercise discussion with Emergency Management Victoria to develop a better understanding of how emergency relief centres can best support our communities.
- Delivered the Break O'Day Road Bridge Replacement Project in Glenburn.



YEAR IN REVIEW **2022-2023**

STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR

I am pleased to present our Annual Report for 2022/23. The Report marks a significant milestone for Council and provides us with an opportunity to reflect on our achievements and challenges in delivering on the objectives of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and confirm our focus for the remainder of our four-year term.

The last 12 months have seen many challenges for our communities. Higher costs of living combined with floods and fires, and ongoing impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic have tested our community's resilience. Despite these challenges, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together.

We continue to focus on supporting community members, farmers, primary producers and local businesses to recover from the October 2022 Floods. Murrindindi Shire's Flood Recovery Committee developed the Municipal Flood Recovery Action Plan, with input from over 30 agencies, organisations and community members who will continue to support us through the process of recovery. The impacts of the flood events will have a lasting impact on our community.

In November 2022, I was honoured to be elected Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for a 12-month term. I've been grateful to work alongside outgoing mayor, Cr Sue Carpenter and Deputy Mayor Cr Karine Haslam, and my other fellow Councillors during the period.

Through our commitment to promote growth and opportunity in our Shire, we adopted our Housing and Settlement Strategy to help facilitate housing development, growth and affordability.

We adopted our Library Strategy and Action Plan, with the aim of delivering a modern and robust library service for everyone in our Shire, and successfully facilitated two community planning projects, in Glenburn and Thornton.

We completed the Alexandra Youth Precinct Project with locals and visitors enjoying the new playground facilities, pathways, shelters, a skate park, lighting and landscaping. Seven large artworks, as well as a series of smaller works, were placed along the Great Victorian Rail Trail (GVRT) as part of the Art on the GVRT Project, providing more reasons to visit and enjoy this popular trail.

To protect our environment, Council adopted a Climate Change Policy and gathered community feedback on our Draft Climate Change Action Plan. Supporting our community on the path to net-zero emissions will be a key focus for Council over the next few years. We are moving closer to introducing the four-stream waste system from 2025, which includes separate glass recycling and Food Organics and Garden Organics recycling. We are progressively embedding circular economy practices and principles into our work.

We launched our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, which provides a strategic framework to drive Council's contribution to reconciliation and demonstrates our commitment to strengthening relationships with First Nations peoples. We also hosted our inaugural Pride Flag Raising Ceremony in Alexandra to celebrate the International Day Against Homophobia Biphobia and Transphobia.

Together with our community, we celebrated our Citizen of the Year Award recipients and thanked them for their contribution and commitment to making our Shire such a great place to live.

Our advocacy efforts continued during the year and we were successful in gaining funding to deliver a range of important projects, including:

Resilient Communities

- \$14,281 from the Victorian Government's Digital Literacy for Seniors Program to support Council's Libraries to deliver targeted, hands-on digital training for older members of the community.
- \$42,000 from the Victorian Department of Education to support Council to update its Kindergarten Infrastructure and Service Plan to meet the demands and roll-out of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten
- \$40,000 under the Victorian Department of Education's Local Government Workforce Planning Grant to prepare a five-year early years workforce plan.
- \$360,000 through Emergency Recovery Victoria's Community Recovery Hubs grants program to support localised flood recovery efforts and provide impacted community members with access to support and services.
- \$256,000 through the Emergency Recovery Victoria's Community Recovery Officer grants program to employ Community Recovery Officers to ensure community recovery needs are understood and recovery information, events and activities are tailored to meet local needs.
- \$148,586 under the Victorian Government's Building Blocks grants program to carry out planning and design work for future upgrades to kindergartens in Alexandra and Yea.

Beautiful Townships and Rural Settings

- \$30,000 to prepare a Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan, under the TAC Community Road Safety Grant Program.
- \$1,000,000 to support flood related clean-up activities resulting from the October 2022 Floods from the Victorian Government's Council Flood Support Fund.
- \$4,636,800 to progress delivery of the Eildon Splash and Skate Park Project, as part of the Victoria Government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund, Federal Government's Local Road and Community Infrastructure Fund, Sport and Recreation Victoria's Local Sport Infrastructure Fund and the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Changing Places Fund.

Growth and Opportunity

- \$854,063 through Phase 4 of the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund to deliver a range of projects across the Shire.
- \$60,000 to support Murrindindi, Alpine Indigo, Mitchell and Strathbogie Shire Councils, and the Rural City of Wangaratta Council to engage an Environmentally Sustainable Design Planning Officer as a shared resource for the Goulburn Murray region, under the Regional Planning Hub Program.

STATEMENT FROM

THE MAYOR (CONT.)

Our Protected Environment

- \$20,000 to deliver a Domestic Waste Water Education and Engagement Program to promote good wastewater management practises, under the Victorian Government's Onsite Domestic Wastewater Management grants program 2022-24.
- \$373,222 from the Victorian Government's Transfer Station Upgrade Fund to support upgrades to Council's five Resource Recovery Centres to facilitate separate collection of glass recycling.
- \$30,000 under the Victorian Government's Circular Economy Household Education Fund to deliver a local education campaign aimed at improving recycling contamination.
- \$125,000 to complete the Alexandra Flood Scoping Study under the Victorian Government's Risk and Resilience Grants Program.

Transparency, Inclusion and Accountability

- \$125,000 from the Victorian Government's Regulatory Reform Incentive Fund to facilitate the digitisation of hard copy planning and building files.

We continue to advocate on behalf of our community for improved access to health and wellbeing services; economic development opportunities; increased investment in our rural road network; funding to support impacted forestry-industry business, contractors and employees, to help them through the transition away from native-timber harvesting; support to deliver kerbside waste and recycling reforms; the delivery of key recreation infrastructure; kinder and childcare services; and challenges associated with lack of housing availability in our Shire.

On behalf of all Councillors, I would like to thank emergency services, together with individuals, local community groups, Murrindindi Shire Council staff, neighbouring councils and all tiers of government for providing relief and recovery to support our communities through floods and fires.

Thank you to our community for your support and participation; for sharing your valuable insight on issues and projects through various engagement activities; and for working alongside us to achieve our Community Vision and goals as part of the Council Plan.

I look forward to seeing what we achieve over the next 12 months.



Cr John Walsh,
Mayor

STATEMENT FROM

CEO

I am very proud of the dedication and resilience exhibited by our Council staff and the incredible strength of our community throughout the past year. As a small rural Council, we have continued to provide an extensive range of services tailored to meet the diverse needs of our towns and localities. The response of our community to the October 2022 Floods exemplifies the unity and compassion that define us in times of adversity.

I am pleased to reflect on some remarkable achievements aligned with our Council Plan 2021-2025's strategic objectives.

Under the banner of Resilient Communities, we have seen a welcome increase in community engagement, with 42 vibrant events supported through our Community Grants Program, fostering unity and economic growth. Our Maternal and Child Health nurses have been a lifeline to 512 families, and our library programs continue to thrive with over 5,395 attendees. Furthermore, our Youth Services team has connected with local young people through 45 diverse events, fostering wellness and community involvement.

Beautiful Townships and Rural Settings have remained at the forefront of our initiatives. Despite the disruptions caused by the October floods, followed by the February grass fires in Flowerdale and Maintongoon, it is pleasing to report that 88% of our \$18,754,000 capital works program was still delivered. Our road crews addressed 30% more community requests, and we're ramping up investment in road maintenance to meet our community's expectations. Several significant projects, including the Alexandra Youth Precinct and the Yea Caravan Park bridge renewal, were successfully completed, enhancing the attraction of our townships.

Livia Bonazzi
CEO

Our commitment to Growth and Opportunity is evident through our proactive advocacy efforts and the onboarding of a Project Manager for the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project, supporting regions transitioning away from native logging. We continue to support local events that boost tourism and prosperity.

In our pursuit of a Protected Environment, we've launched a Climate Change Policy and engaged the community in shaping our Climate Change Action Plan, moving closer to our net-zero emissions goal by 2035. We've also made strides in waste reduction and transition to a new waste and recycling system.

Transparency, Inclusion, and Accountability remain paramount. We stood by our community during the October 2022 Floods, advocating for relief and actively planning for future resilience. We are dedicated to improving emergency relief centres and enhancing gender equality within our organization.

It was pleasing to see an improvement in community satisfaction with our customer service, and our Gender Equality Action Plan made headway too, with a 2.5% gender pay gap, which compares favourably against the 13.4% Victorian state average and 13.3% national average.

Looking ahead, I am excited to build upon the momentum of this year, fostering community resilience, improving our operations, and delivering on our 10-year Community Vision. Together, we will continue to shape a brighter future for our community.

COUNCILLORS



Cr John Walsh
Mayor
Koriella Ward



Cr Karine Haslam
Deputy Mayor
Eildon Ward



Cr Sandice McAulay
Cathedral Ward



Cr Eric Lording
King Parrot Ward



Cr Ilona Gerencser
Kinglake Ward



Cr Sue Carpenter
Cheviot Ward



Cr Damien Gallagher
Red Gate Ward

PORTFOLIOS

Each Councillor, with the exception of the Mayor, is responsible for a specific ‘portfolio’ which focuses on a functional area of Council. This allows each Councillor to maintain a close relationship with staff managing issues associated with their portfolio and to report to Council meetings on points of interest that fall within that portfolio.

COUNCILLOR	PORTFOLIO	APPOINTED
Cr Eric Lording	Planning and Compliance	16 November 2022 to current
Cr Sandice McAulay	Economic Development and Business Support	16 November 2022 to current
Cr Sue Carpenter	Community Engagement and Wellbeing	16 November 2022 to current
Cr Damien Gallagher	Corporate and Governance	16 November 2022 to current
Cr Ilona Gerencser	Community Assets and Emergency Management	16 November 2022 to current
Cr Karine Haslam	Circular Economy and Environment	16 November 2022 to current
Cr John Walsh - Mayor	Mayor	16 November 2022 to current

COUNCILLOR REFLECTIONS

SNAPSHOT

Councillors have reflected on the year and listed some personal highlights, while in their roles working in and with the community.

MAYOR CR JOHN WALSH

- The completion of the Yarck-Gobur Rd Bridge upgrade
- Advocating for improved education and disaster funding at ALGA National Assembly in Canberra
- Conducting Australian Citizenship ceremonies throughout the Shire

CR DAMIEN GALLAGHER

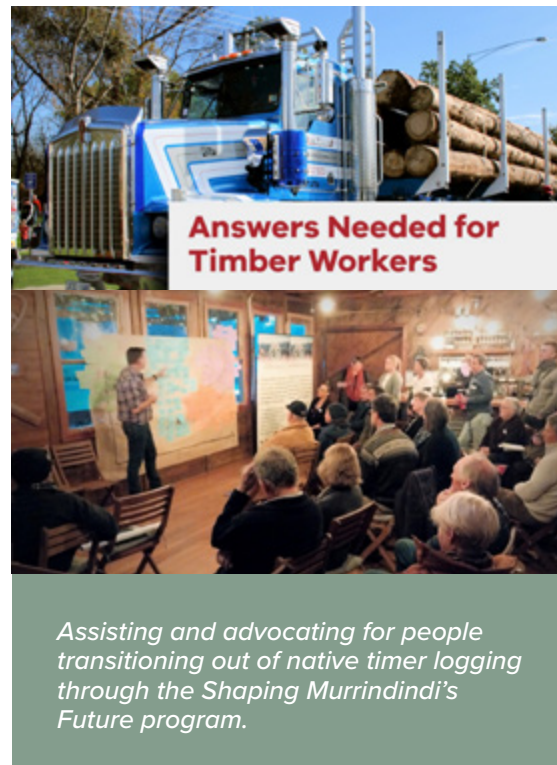
- Assisting and advocating for people transitioning out of native timer logging through the Shaping Murrindindi's Future program.
- Attending the celebrations of the first IDAHOBIT Day Flag raising in the Shire
- Celebrating the completion of the Alexandra Youth Precinct.
- Connecting people, solving problems, and driving great outcomes

CR ILONA GERENCSEK

- Being a part of the new Kinglake Streetscape development
- Increasing awareness and taking action to address the safety of our local and State managed roads
- Increasing community support and sponsorships through the Grants and Contributions Program

CR ERIC LORDING

- Being recognised during a meeting in Glenburn for the work I have contributed in the community
- Having positive community feedback and people's thanks for assisting them
- Helping community members access council services and assisting with applications



DEPUTY MAYOR CR KARINE HASLAM

- Celebrating the opening of The Blue Gums – Eildon recreational trail
- Contributing to Community well-being by advocating for the provision of free entry to local swimming pools in the shire
- Assisting people in the community to navigate through Government bureaucracy by providing additional information on matters that arise
- Assisting with filling sandbags in Thornton during the October floods, which our community could then collect to help secure their homes

CR SUE CARPENTER

- Involvement in the landscaping of the Yea main street.
- Being part of the unveiling of The First Nations statue at the Yea Wetlands.
- Contributing to the Development of the Council's Housing Strategy

CR SANDICE MCAULAY

- The opportunity to advocate on behalf of community members
- Setting Council's strategic direction and implementing changes
- Providing a role model for women in our community



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2022-2023

cafe alex
good food - good people - good times

COURTYARD
←

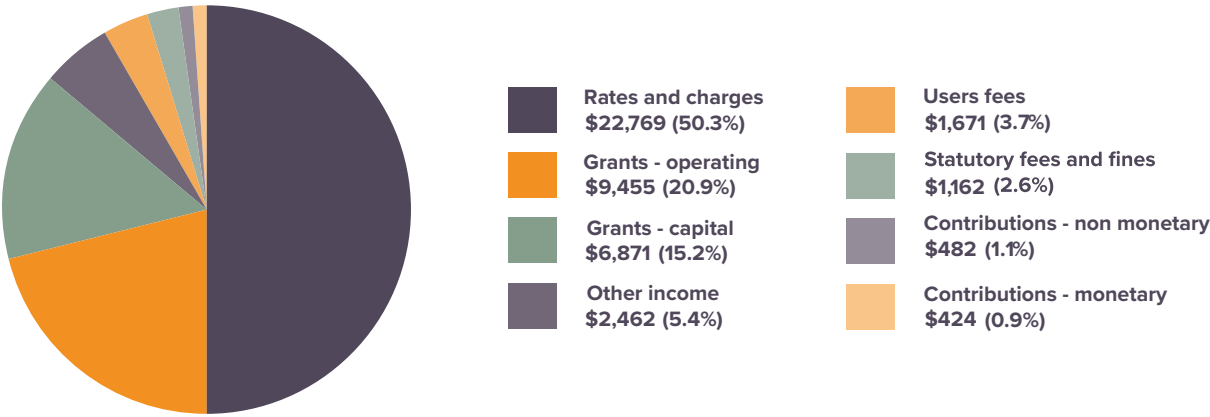


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2022-2023

INCOME BREAKDOWN

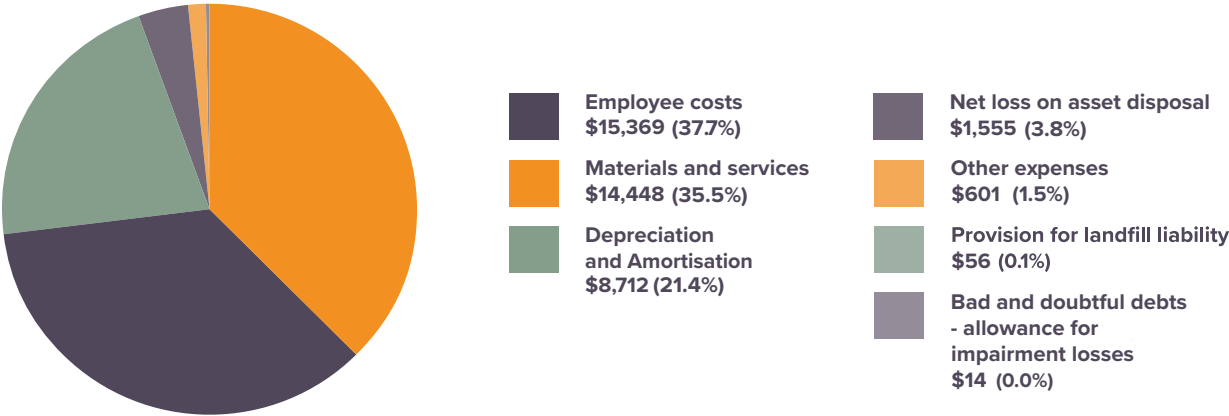
TOTAL INCOME - \$45,295



*\$ figures are \$'000

OPERATING EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE - \$40,755



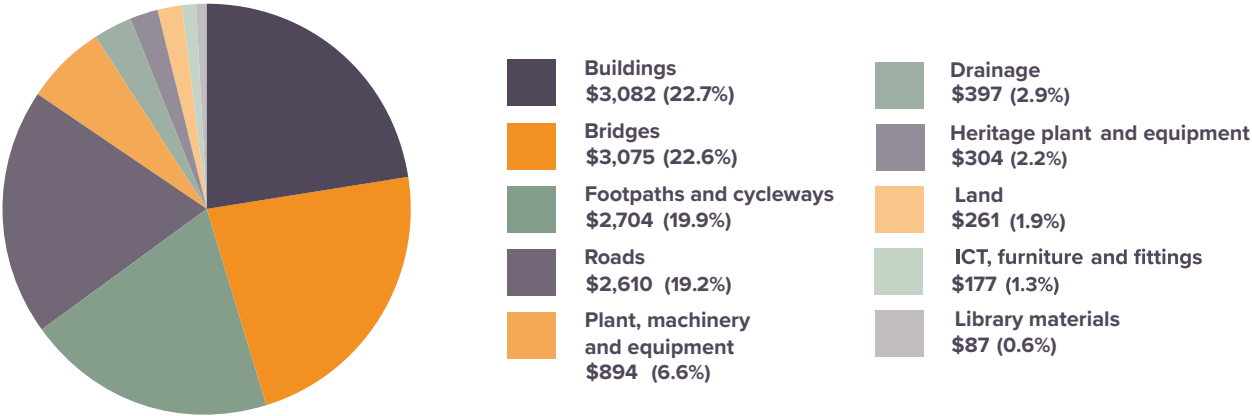
*\$ figures are \$'000

MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE - \$13,591



*\$ figures are \$'000

MURRINDINDI CITIZENS OF THE YEAR **AWARDS**

During National Volunteer Week (15-21 May), Murrindindi Shire Council presented the following awards to citizens in our community to acknowledge and reward their community service.

The 2022-2023 awards were presented to:

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR **SARAH SOUTHAM**



SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR **BOB EMBLIN**



Recipient Bob Emblin, pictured with Cr Sandice McAulay

YOUNG CITIZENS OF THE YEAR **KIRK MERCURI & ALASTAIR GERREY**



Recipient Kirk Mercuri, pictured with Cr Ilona Gerencser

COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE YEAR **THE ALEXANDRA TRUCK SHOW COMMITTEE**



Pictured with Mayor John Walsh and Cr Damien Gallagher



Recipient Alastair Gerrey (Centre), pictured with all award recipients and Mayor John Walsh.



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER LIVIA BONAZZI

Livia commenced in the role of Chief Executive Officer at Murrindindi Shire Council in June 2021. Before taking on this role, Livia was the General Manager Strategy and Planning for 4 years and Strategy and Innovation for 2 years at Western Water.

Livia has over 20 years' experience in senior executive roles, in both private and public sector positions and spanning a diverse range of disciplines, including strategy, governance, planning, asset management and customer service.

Livia holds a Master in Business Administration and Bachelor Degrees in Arts, Architecture and in Planning and Design. Livia completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.



DIRECTOR PEOPLE & CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MICHAEL CHESWORTH

Michael has been with Murrindindi Shire Council since 1997 when he was first appointed as Manager of Organisational Development. Since that time, he has held several senior executive roles and was heavily involved in the recovery and reconstruction efforts following the 2009 bushfires that devastated the municipality.

Michael has significant local government experience and has performed an Acting CEO role on several occasions for the Council. His current role oversees the People & Corporate Performance Group, which includes Business Services (corporate finance, information technology and management) Governance and Risk (corporate governance, risk management and human resources) and Customer Experience (customer services, library services and communications)



DIRECTOR ASSETS AND ENVIRONMENT VITO ALBICINI

Vito has worked in local government for 25 years, with experience working at both metropolitan and rural councils. Vito has more than 30 years' experience in civil engineering. He has a strong commitment to provide exceptional customer service and deliver great outcomes for the community.

Vito was recently awarded the MEF Victoria Municipal Engineering Excellence Award (Cedric Tuxton Medal) for outstanding engineering contributions to local government. Vito leads the Assets and Environment Group which includes Operations & Maintenance and Sustainability & Assets



DIRECTOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - 2022 SHIVAUN MURPHY

Shivaun held the role of Director Community Engagement from November 2018, until departing Council in September 2022, overseeing delivery of Community Wellbeing, Customer Experience, Tourism and Events and Business Development. Kate Seibert joined briefly as Interim Director until Andrew Paxton was appointed Director Community and Development in May 2023



DIRECTOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - CURRENT ANDREW PAXTON

Andrew commenced with Council in May 2023 as Director Community & Development. Andrew has extensive experience as an executive within Local and State Government, leading a diverse range of portfolios to deliver services and outcomes enhancing social, environmental and economic outcomes. Andrew also has board experience at iconic tourism destinations in Victoria.

Andrew leads community wellbeing, development services (planning, building, community safety), economic development and flood recovery.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

AS AT 3 AUG 2023



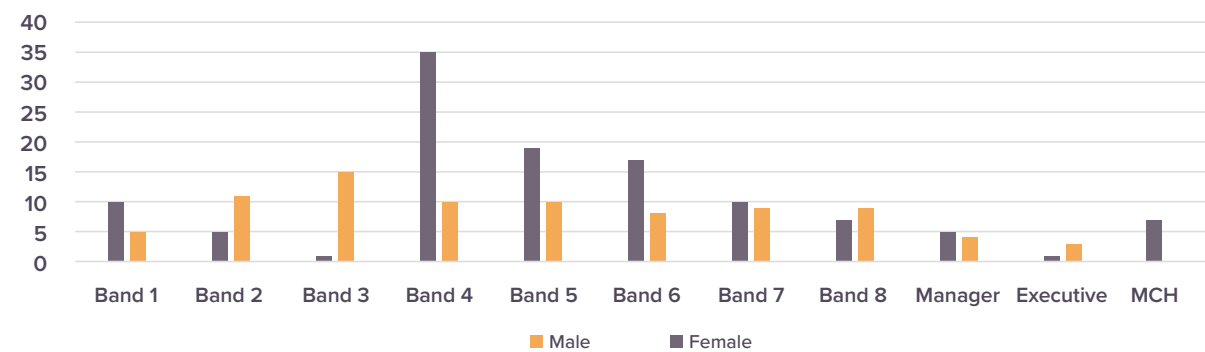
OUR WORKPLACE



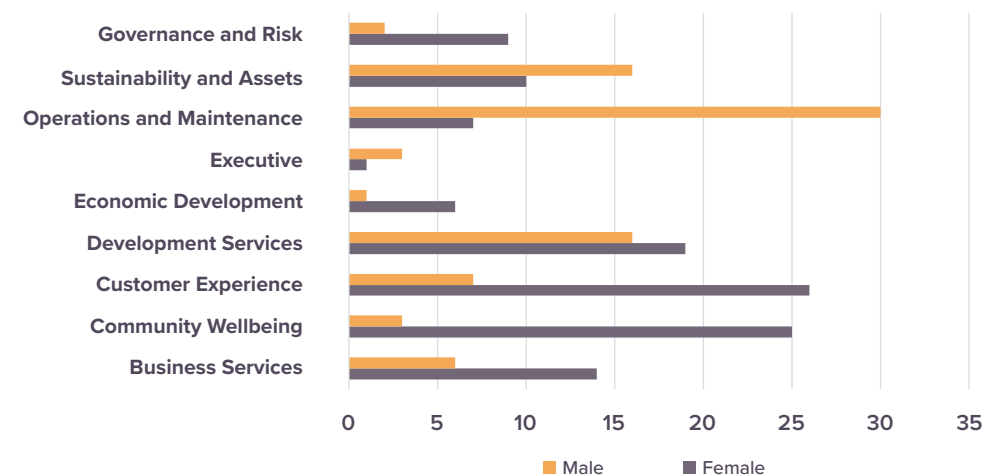
OUR WORKPLACE

Our staff profiles are set out below, expressed by employment classification, gender and department.

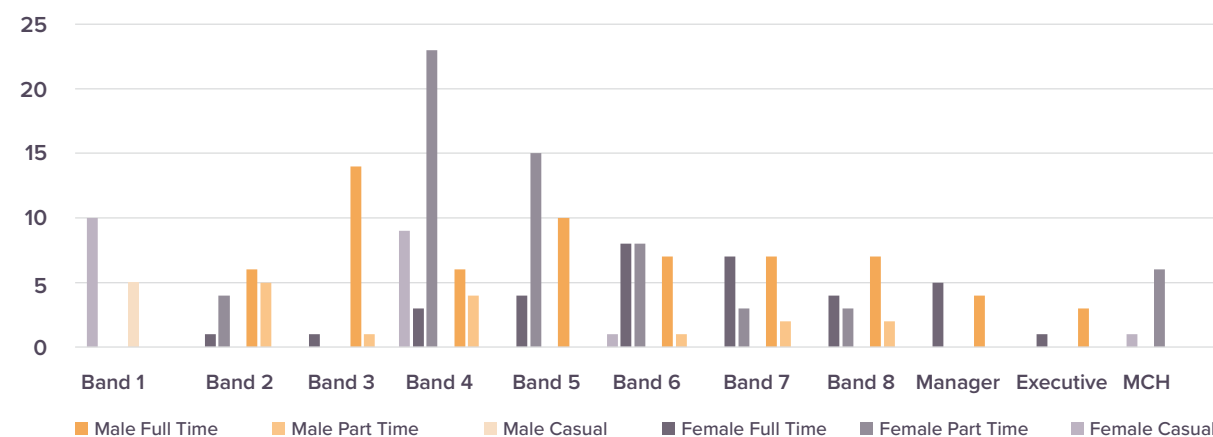
Full Time Equivalent Council Staff by Classification and Gender



Full Time Equivalent Council Staff by Group and Gender



Full Time Equivalent Council Staff by Employment Type, Classification and Gender



Council remains dedicated to attracting and retaining a workforce that consistently provides exceptional service to our community. Our new Enterprise Agreement came into effect in November 2022. We were pleased that the Agreement has been strengthened in a number of ways including incorporating inclusive language throughout the Agreement and enhancing our parental leave offerings. Council also developed and implemented its Flexible Work Policy as part of the return to work after COVID-19, to focus on delivering high levels of service whilst also fostering employee wellbeing.

We implemented a number of wellbeing initiatives and developed an Employee Wellbeing Strategy. Our employee assistance provider delivered online information sessions on wellbeing topics and we commenced an evidence-based resilience program. We reinvigorated our employee performance review and development process to focus on meaningful conversations and ensuring regular feedback as well as opportunities to gather information that guides our future learning and development initiatives.

Our Gender Equality Action Plan implementation progressed and we collaborated with our Free from Violence project team to establish a working group to champion gender equality and violence prevention, commencing with discussions and sessions designed to increase awareness. Council also aims to increase opportunities for students and trainees and we participated in the local community jobs fair and hosted a number of students on work experience from local secondary colleges. Progressing these initiatives will remain a focus in the coming year.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)

Murrindindi Shire Council is committed to providing

- a workplace that is free from bullying, sexual harassment, harassment, discrimination and victimisation and where staff, Councillors, contractors, prospective employees and volunteers treat each other with respect, courtesy and dignity
- an environment where diversity is embraced and employment and promotion decisions are merit-based
- flexible work arrangements to encourage full participation in the workplace
- an organisation that recognises its responsibility to act responsibly within the community
- a workplace where individuals can raise concerns without fear of victimisation

Council adopted its Equal Opportunity Policy on 27 May 2020. The Policy outlines a series of Council and Leadership Team commitments and standards for all staff, contractors and volunteers.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The primary focus for OHS for the 2022/23 financial year was on psychological health and wellbeing in the working environment.

The OHS committee established a sub-committee to drive psychological health and wellbeing across Council.

As part of our induction program for new staff, we delivered a new suite of 10 training modules using our e-learning platform.

23

Workplace inspections

7

Hazards actioned

0

Hazards outstanding

Training to support the focus on staff wellbeing included:

- Mental health first aid and managing interactions with difficult customers for all customer service staff
- Managers, coordinators and team leaders all attended managing team wellness
- Introduction of an App that enables staff to monitor their personal wellbeing and access counselling when needed

Training across the organisation included:

- Emergency procedures and drills
- First aid refreshers for staff
- Snake bite refresher training for Operations and other identified field staff
- OHS refresher training for Health and Safety Representatives
- OHS induction training for 88 new staff and contractors and 40 pool staff

COUNCIL PLAN

The Murrindindi Shire Council Plan 2021- 2025 sets five strategic directions which drive the priority actions for Council over the duration of the plan. Each of the five directions has strategic objectives sitting below and indicators for monitoring achievement of these objectives.

Our five strategic objectives are represented in the diagram below with our Community Vision at the centre of what we do. We acknowledge that all our efforts to deliver a 4-year Council Plan must be with our community and their future in mind.



Each year, an Annual Action Plan is adopted by Council to support the delivery of the strategies. We report quarterly on progress against these actions and finally as part of the Annual Report.



PROGRESS ON OUR OBJECTIVES

The following section outlines our progress over the 2022/23 year against each of the strategic objectives set out in the 2021-2025 Council Plan.

Strategic Objective 1

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Objective: To ensure we are welcoming, inclusive, caring and connected.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE: (Strategies)

1. Celebrate the community's vibrant, diverse and creative people	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Implement an annual calendar that recognises national days and weeks that Council will acknowledge, endorse and promote	During the year we celebrated 35 advocacy days on our social media platforms and ran or supported activities including: International Women's Day, Clean up Australia Day, National Volunteer Week, IDAHOBIT Day, Children's week, Reconciliation Week, 16 days of activism and Senior's week.
2. Deliver activities that recognise and enhance the contribution of Murrindindi Shire Volunteer groups, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community events calendar National Volunteers' Week Citizen of the Year awards to recognise volunteers and be celebrated during Volunteers Week Community bus hire Capacity building 	<p>We received 31 nominations for Citizen of the Year Awards in conjunction with National Volunteer Week. Two appreciation dinners were hosted for volunteers with 230 community members in attendance.</p> <p>We listed 32 events on the Community Events Calendar on Council's website and our Community Buses were used by community for 123 individual trips.</p>
3. Deliver the Grants and Contributions Program to support Council and community priorities	We supported the community via the Grants and Contributions program with 50 successful applications to the value of \$126,184 including to deliver events within the Shire.
2. Deliver, support and promote opportunities for all people to connect with each other collaborate and plan for our future	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Undertake Community Planning for Thornton and Glenburn, and support communities with existing plans to enable community led activities	We supported Community Planning in Thornton and Glenburn, in partnership with community members. The team coordinated 34 events attracting 270 people to progress future planning for their communities. Eleven action-teams were formed by the community to progress priority projects as voted on at the community events.

2. Finalise Library Strategy and Action Plan, and commence delivery of Year 1 actions	<p>Our Library Strategy and Action Plan was adopted by Council on 24 August 2022. Year One delivered actions included: - Optimising operating hours to suit our community needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving our systems to enhance communications and sharing of resources - Implementing year-long programs that improve the skills of our Library Staff - Diversifying our collections, reflective of the unique needs of each community our library sites service
3. Implement pilot project for library outreach into community markets and events	Due to inclement weather, flooding, and capacity constraints, we were only able to attend one event this year. Whilst this project was just a trial, where capacity and resources allow in the new financial year, we will continue to trial attending events, in accordance with community feedback and needs.
4. Collaborate with partners to deliver annual priorities from the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow Well Dindi – active living and healthy eating focus Goulburn Mental Health and Wellbeing Project Free From Violence prevention project Health promotion initiatives 	<p>Our Free From Violence prevention project completed the organisational health check and established an internal working group, supporting staff training to increase awareness and understanding of gender equity and family violence.</p> <p>We supported the Goulburn Mental Health and Wellbeing Project with an annual forum targeting service providers focusing on Shared Care for mental health services.</p> <p>We coordinated two Youth focused Mental Health First Aid training courses in Yea and Kinglake with 26 participants.</p>
5. Progress the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for Council in consultation with Traditional Owners and local Aboriginal community groups, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise development of stage 1 'Reflect' RAP Commence implementation of key priorities identified in the 'Reflect' RAP 	<p>Our first Reconciliation Action Plan was developed by an internal working group and launched during Reconciliation Week in partnership with Taungurung Land and Waters Council.</p> <p>We supported the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre in planning and promoting NAIDOC week events.</p>
6. Enhance public participation through objectives and principles contained within the Community Engagement Policy including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online portal 'Dindi in the loop' Active engagement to support harder to reach groups 	<p>Our online platform "The Loop" continued to be a valuable engagement tool with 34 projects posted on the platform with a total of 19,400 visits to "The Loop" on councils web page.</p> <p>We ran a deliberative engagement process with 25 Eildon community representatives in relation to the Eildon Reserves Redevelopment and proposed land sales, resulting in significant support for an agreed approach and outcomes.</p> <p>We also held 35 pop-up events, public meetings and focus groups enhancing community voice to progress key projects and to support flood recovery.</p>
7. Review future service and infrastructure requirements for childcare across Murrindindi Shire	<p>We delivered a review of future Early Education and Care services and the infrastructure requirements including the Best Start, Best Life reforms for 3 and 4 year old Kindergarten.</p> <p>We have secured funding from State Government to progress the reviewed recommendations and develop appropriate plans to meet the increased capacity needs of the community.</p>

3. Advocate for improved access to health and community services	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Advocate for improved access to health and wellbeing services, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local GPs • Mental Health • Family Violence Services • Hospitals • Public Transport • Social and Affordable Housing • Aged and Disability • Maternal and Child Health (MCH) 	<p>We contributed to State and Regional advocacy for community health outcomes via sector networks including: Maternal Child Health, Community Care, Early Years, Family Violence, Mental Health, Social and Affordable Housing, Community Transport, and October 2022 Flood Recovery programs.</p>
4. In collaboration with our community, support our children and young people to be happy, healthy and engaged	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Provide high quality Children and Maternal Child Health Service programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Day Care • Immunisation and Key Ages and Stages assessments • Supported Playgroups and parent Early Education Partnership • Library Programs 	<p>Our Maternal and Child Health team serviced 512 families including 124 new births and 1,080 Key Age and Stage consultations. 72 vulnerable families were offered extra support through the Enhanced Program and 20 families utilised our Sleep and Settling Outreach program. 580 clients were immunised at our community sessions. New parent group sessions were offered in Kinglake and Alexandra with a total of 50 families participating.</p> <p>Our Family Day Care service increased Educator numbers to 15 and provided 81,000 hours of care to over 200 children. Our supported Playgroups and Parent Early Education Program (PEEP) offered 118 sessions at Eildon and Kinglake, supporting 65 families.</p> <p>Our Murrindindi Children's Network collaborated with local schools and kindergartens to provide the ELF Reading Day celebration in Alexandra and facilitated the Annual Early Year's Conference with 75 attendees.</p>
<p>2. Provide high quality Youth Service including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership activities • Career pathways • Arts programs 	<p>We supported health and wellbeing outcomes across 45 events and programs that engaged 3,839 young people including: Live performances, Pool parties, Community and School events, and Leadership programs including the Youth Climate Action Group.</p> <p>We enhanced career pathways with 35 young people employed as lifeguards and partnered on Job Skills sessions, Jobs Expo, and Industry Immersion Tour.</p>
5. Engage with the community and partner organisations to enable older and vulnerable people to live safely, enjoy good health and stay involved.	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Deliver a plan for rolling townships access audits to inform the capital works program, incorporating 'Access-for-All' principles and the specific needs of older people</p>	<p>We consolidated audit reports completed in Alexandra, Eildon, Kinglake, Marysville and Yea to support prioritising projects for the 20-year capital works program and future grant opportunities.</p>

<p>2. Continue to act as an advocate for older and vulnerable people to access government services to support their health and wellbeing</p>	<p>We supported 113 people to access health and wellbeing services through the DindiLink program, which included 55 people supported to link to aged care and disability services. There were a further 35 people assisted with referrals to mental health, food and material aid relief, and homelessness support.</p> <p>The Moving Murrindindi program supported 244 individual trips for senior citizens, people with disability or financially disadvantaged members of our community, with low-cost transport to access medical appointments, social outings or other transport hubs.</p>
6. Provide and promote safe, passive and active recreational opportunities that will enhance the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors.	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Advocate for funding to deliver key infrastructure and open space initiatives, as supported by the Recreation and Open Space Strategy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yea swimming pool lighting • Eildon swimming pool solar and shade upgrade • Kinglake memorial Reserve netball shelter • Alexandra Leisure Centre development plan 	<p>We completed construction of the Leckie Park cricket nets, Blue Gums trail, Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Activity Precinct, and Thornton Recreation Reserve netball courts projects.</p> <p>We were successful with grant applications to the State and Federal Government totalling \$4,636,800 to progress delivery of the Eildon Reserve Redevelopment Project.</p>
<p>2. Deliver the recommendations from the Aquatics Facilities Audit that will support community participation outcomes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yea main pool liner upgrade • Change room and kiosk refurbishment across all facilities • Shade sail replacement • Marysville toddler pool surface upgrade 	<p>Our outdoor pool season welcomed a total of 25,181 visits across the four facilities, a 6% decrease on the previous season. We delivered the following actions to enhance the pool facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We hosted 8 pool parties to encourage and celebrate participation - The Marysville toddler pool was repainted and pool covers were updated - Bird lasers were added to Yea and Marysville to deter ducks from the pool to maintain water quality.
<p>3. Continue developing a program for Tracks and Trails, including seeking funding to deliver a strategic direction</p>	<p>We commenced planning for promotion and activation of the Eildon Shared Trail.</p> <p>We delivered major artwork installations and signage along the Great Victorian Rail Trail in collaboration with Neighbouring Shires and community.</p> <p>We continued to advocate for funding to promote the development of tracks and trails.</p>

STRATEGIC INDICATORS

The strategic indicators measure our success in achieving our strategic objective under 'Resilient Communities'.

Increased community events supported by Council		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of community events funded under Council's Community Grants Program Index score (maximum = 100) Based on increase from previous FY	Score - 42	42 community events were supported under Council's Community Grants Program. A 16.7% increase from 2021/22.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 36	
Community satisfaction with family support services		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance of family support services	Score - 61	Satisfaction increased from the previous year, but still below State and Small rural averages
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 58	
Maintained a strong position in relation to participation in library programs and provided programs for all ages and stages of life (Local Government Performance Reporting – LGPRF)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Count of attendees at library events	Score – 5395	There has been an increase of 835 attendees at library events run this year, validating the appeal of the program offered.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 4560	
Maintained strong position in relation to active library memberships (LGPRF)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of active library members (have used library card in last 12 months)	Score - 2652	There has been a 57% increase in active library memberships. This can be attributed to online platforms, and people feeling safer in public places and wishing to resume their connection to community and library. Libraries also have seen a rise in their spaces being used for work or meeting venues thanks to free Wi-Fi and desk space.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 1630	
Increased participation by young people in Council activities and services		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of young people attending Council-run events and forums	Score - 3839	Program engagement increased during COVID due to online programming via social media. Participation during 22/23 whilst decreasing by 34% has returned to the benchmark average
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 6062	

Maintain high levels of volunteerism in the municipality (External)		
Measure	Result	Comment
Census comparison	2021: 20.6% 2016: 28.7%	According to the 2021 Census data, 20.6% of residents did unpaid voluntary work for the community. That result outperforms the State average of 13.3% and 14.1% nation-wide.
Increased participation in Council's engagement activities (The Loop)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Internal project delivery and data from The Loop.	Score - 19,400	34 projects generated 19,400 visits to the loop platform. Public participation on the loop has increased by 70% from last year.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 11,351	
Improvements in Maternal Child Health indicators (External)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service	Score - 89%	Participation levels continue to be maintained at high level
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 89.76%	
Improvements in aquatic facilities indicators (LGPRF)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Cost per visit (Operation cost divided by number of visits to facilities)	\$18.27	Visitation in 2022/23 decreased by 6.8% from 27,011 visits in 2021/22 to 25,181 in 2022/23. The cost per visit increased from \$15.50 to \$18.27. This was the third year of free entry to the public.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score \$15.50	

Strategic Objective 2

BEAUTIFUL TOWNSHIPS AND RURAL SETTINGS

To create a better place for our community and visitors to live in harmony with our rural character, natural beauty and heritage.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE: (Strategies)

1. Connect our communities through improved roads, footpaths and public transport	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Prioritise and implement program of works from Disability Discrimination Act Audit 2021/22	We Completed all programmed tasks. Ongoing program of works.
2. Deliver key renewal link pathway projects, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falls Road Marysville, Flowerdale Link Shared Pathway Great Victorian Rail Trail Artwork and upgrades. 	Falls Road Marysville Pathway Project is in construction with completion due August 2023 delayed by wet weather. We completed the Art installation works on the Great Victorian Rail Trail Artwork Project
3. Complete the Functional Design stage of Skyline Road, Eildon	We completed the Functional Design for Skyline Road Eildon by 31 March 2023. Continuing with detail design with approval as an extra deliverable to be completed by 31 July 2023.
4. Improve connectivity and road safety through delivering the Yea Caravan Park Bridge Redevelopment Project and Snobs Creek Road widening	We completed the design phase for the Snobs Creek Road project was in April 2023. Due to significant flood damage construction works will be deferred to another year. We completed the replacement of the Yea Caravan Park bridge in June 2023 in accordance with the agreement with the park operator.
2. Deliver efficient, sustainable land use planning outcomes to enhance livability, protect our unique rural character and natural beauty, and to enable growth	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Embed environmentally sustainable design principles into all planning and development activities.	Following appointment of a dedicated officer in the previous quarter through CASBE, Officers are continuing to work with the Sustainable Subdivisions Officer to undertake assessments for subdivisions. This resource is now being used as part of preapplication discussions to enable the Sustainable Subdivision Framework to be considered earlier in the development process. Additionally, Council's website has also been updated to provide information and tools to assist the community in understanding the purpose and desired outcomes of the framework.

2. Advocate to, and work with, the Victorian Government for a strategic land use assessment to support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sustainable and appropriate rezoning strategy to meet the shire's population needs Economic and environmental demands including residential, commercial and industrial use 	The Housing & Settlement Strategy was adopted by Council 14/12/2022.
3. Provide fit-for-purpose infrastructure that meets current and future service demands and needs of our community	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Deliver the Capital Works Program for 2022/23, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Youth Precinct Complete extension of Blue Gum Rail Trail Eildon Improvement Plan Stage 1 construction 	We progressed the Capital Works Program to schedule during the quarter. This included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Alexandra Youth precinct completed with all features open to the public. - the Blue Gum Trail Eildon is complete. - Design complete and tender issued for the Eildon Improvement Plan Stage 1. Construction will continue in 2023/24.
2. Complete the 2022/23 Renewal Programs, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpaths, Sealed Roads, Gravel Roads, Drainage Buildings 	All contracts let and works are in progress or about to commence for the delivery of renewal works, including gravel roads, sealed roads, drainage and buildings. Some delays due to wet weather to continue into August.
4. Provide spaces within our towns that are vibrant, attractive, safe and accessible	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Activate outdoor spaces as part of the state Government funded COVID-19 recovery initiative	We finalised all projects including upgrades to power infrastructure at Eildon Pondage to support community led events.
2. Complete a concept design for the Alexandra and Thornton Streetscape	The Thornton concept design is currently in progress. The Alexandra concept design is scheduled to commence in April 2023.
3. Undertake the Eildon Pondage Master Planning project in partnership with community and Goulburn Murray Water, including consideration of any grant-funded projects	To inform the project brief and plan, we initiated a review of strategic documents. We are currently engaging in preliminary discussions with Goulburn Murray Water and other partner agencies regarding the next stage of the project. We have commenced the procurement process to develop concept design plans.
4. Roll out a Street Tree replacement and in-fill program across townships	We commenced work in Eildon, Alexandra and Yea. Over 443 street trees have been planted to date. Further locations are being identified.

STRATEGIC INDICATORS

The strategic indicators measure our success in achieving our strategic objective and strategies under 'Beautiful townships and rural settings'.

Delivered >80% of the Annual Capital Works Program		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Percentage of the revised Capital Works Budget at Mid-Year delivered.	Score - 88%	The capital works program was severely impacted by the ongoing wet weather and major floods in the first half of the year. Despite these challenges, Council was able to complete 88% of the budgeted works program in 2022/23 as defined by the mid-year budget review.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 83%	
Reduce number of accidents on roads and footpaths within the municipality		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Search statistics - TAC - Transport Accident Commission Towards 0	Score	We recorded 4 fatality accidents and 31 hospitalisation accidents in our Shire. Council, with funding through the TAC, is developing a Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan to lower road Trauma in Murrindindi Shire. The strategy will be completed in 23/24 year with the action plan then to be implement.
	4 - fatalities	
	31 - claims involving hospitalisation	
	Result 2021/22	
	Score	
	5 - fatalities	
	14 - claims involving hospitalisation	
Increased participation in public transport		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of bus services available within the Municipality	Not Available	Department of Transport is still currently conducting a study on the availability of services. This was discussed at a recent Goulburn Partnerships meeting about the Goulburn Regional Transport Interchanges Plan that is still underway
Increased participation in Moving Murrindindi Community Transportation		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of support trips and volunteer drivers recorded by Community Accessibility	Score - 244	Participation in the Moving Murrindindi program has decreased with challenges in recruiting volunteers
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 273	
Increased community satisfaction with the appearance of public places		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance on appearance of public places	Score - 66	Community's perception of the appearance of public places is consistent with previous years
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 68	

Increased community satisfaction with Council’s (land use) planning policy		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Weighted average ratings of ‘professionalism’ and ‘responsiveness’ of planning staff by planning permit applicants	Score - 88%	88% of planning permit applicants surveyed ranked the professionalism and responsiveness of planning staff as Excellent.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 84%	
Improved Customer Satisfaction Survey and LGPRF results for indicators relating to roads		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance on condition of sealed roads	Score - 40	The reduction in community satisfaction is potentially due to a wetter than average year which led to an increase in requests and workload regarding roads. The significant floods in October lead to major infrastructure damage across the network
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 44	
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance on condition of unsealed roads	Result 2022/23	As above for the sealed roads, the reduction in community satisfaction is potentially due to the significant infrastructure damage across the network.
	Score 34	
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 36	
Increase in number of planning applications		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Total number of planning applications received.	Score - 250	Number of new planning applications was lower than the previous year due to reduced economic activity. Applications received for the year were consistent with pre pandemic numbers.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 304	
>70% of planning applications completed within 60 days (LGPRF)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Percentage of planning applications completed within 60 days.	Score - 72.74	72% of applications were determined within 60 days.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 82%	
Above average results for LGPRF indicator for Aquatic Facilities when compared to similar sized councils		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Health inspections, Visits per head of population, Cost per visit	Score - 1.64 visits per capita	The cost of aquatic facilities per visit was at \$18.27 for 22/23 which increased from \$15.50 in 21/22. This is attributed to lower public visitation.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 1.81 visits per capita	

Strategic Objective 3

GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

To prioritise and promote a culture in which the economy, business and community can grow and thrive.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE: (Strategies)

1. Boost local investment and employment opportunities through activities that encourage businesses, social enterprise, and industry sectors to thrive and grow	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Advocate for the delivery of projects identified in the Lake Eildon Masterplan, including financial support for planning scheme amendments to commence	<p>We continued to advocate for the implementation of projects in the Lake Eildon Master Plan. This included the ongoing role of Council's CEO on the Lake Eildon Drivers Group to pursue avenues of support for the Plan's implementation. The future sealing of Skyline Road to complete a sealed touring route around the lake, the Jerusalem creek sewer connection, plus funding to support strategic planning and rezoning of land to enable tourism-related investment has been the focus of recent advocacy.</p> <p>Our Strategic Planner has been in consultation with the DEECA (DELWP)/ Department of Transport and Planning Regional Office. Progress is being made by the regional office in consultation with Mansfield and Murrindindi Planning teams to establish planning considerations for the referenced projects. This will assist in progressing priority projects.</p> <p>Council has been successful in obtaining approval for assistance from the Regional Planning Hub to undertake the Planning Scheme Review. The review process incorporates four key stages followed by two additional stages dependent on the findings of the review. We will commence stage 3 of the review process in the 2023/24 financial year.</p>
2. Continue to deliver the activities identified in Council's COVID-19 Business Recovery Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop investment prospectus material to attract private sector interest Provide opportunities for businesses to network and collaborate 	<p>We continued to provide information to businesses on grants, training and support services via council's Business and Tourism E-Newsletter. We continued to provide flood recovery support to impacted businesses and to advocate on behalf of businesses impacted by the Victorian Government announcement of the early cessation of native forest logging.</p>

3. Deliver and promote the Better Approvals Program and Business Concierge service as a means to assist businesses to start, grow and thrive	We continued to provide support to new business enquiries through the Better Approvals process.
2. Support and promote our tourism and events sector to boost the economy through increased visitation	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Continue to deliver the activities identified in the Great Victorian Rail Trail Strategic Development Plan, including completion of the \$1.2M Art Installations and Signage Project	We completed this project with all artworks installed. Signage has been designed and manufactured and will be installed during July 2023. We completed updates to the website and finalised a suite of videos documenting the project. We supported a launch event in May and planning is underway for a targeted marketing campaign to commence in spring 2023.
2. Continue to implement the Tourism and Events Strategy 2019-2024, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year 1 recommendations of the Visitor Services Review Develop and promote an inventory of cycling opportunities across Murrindindi Shire 	<p>We produced a suite of new visitor maps and updated the Discover Dindi Visitor Guide. We streamlined Council's Event Notification process to better assist event organisers.</p> <p>A number of events are supported through Council's Community Grants and contributions program, including the Beanie Festival, the Truck, Ute and Rod Show and movie nights.</p>
3. Partner with community members, businesses, and other organisations affected by the state-government-led transition out of native forest harvesting	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Work with the community to deliver a Local Development Strategy that proactively transitions the community and economy through a period of change	<p>We appointed a Project Manager to deliver the 'Shaping Murrindindi's future' project which is funded by the State to plan for the future economy and projects post the cessation of native forest logging.</p> <p>Open community forums, small groups and individual interviews have been undertaken to inform the project. Data captured through the interview process will inform the targeted events and the completion of a Context Analysis.</p>
2. Advocate to ensure all businesses, contractors and employees of the forestry sector are provided with information about funding and resources available through the State Government to support them through forestry industry transition	<p>(As above)A project manager has been appointed to deliver the 'Shaping Murrindindi's future' project which is funded by the State to plan for the future economy and projects post the cessation of native forest logging.</p> <p>Data captured through the interview process will inform the targeted events and the completion of a Context Analysis to attract funding into the Shire for ongoing and sustainable communities.</p>

STRATEGIC INDICATORS

The strategic indicators measure our success in achieving our strategic objective and strategies under ‘Growth and Opportunity’.

Increased interaction with our businesses		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of businesses registered on Council's Electronic Direct Mail list.	Score – 1,831	We have 1,831 businesses registered to receive Council's Business Electronic Direct Mail, which is a 3% increase on 2021/2022, with 19 communication items delivered
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 1,776	
Increased business investment		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Value of commercial building works for building permits issued	Score - \$3,433,048	There has been a downturn in building investment from last year's result of \$4,547,740. This maybe due to the increased cost of building material, availability of builders, uncertain market conditions and impacts of COVID
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – \$4,547,740	
An increased number of new planning approvals		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Total number of planning applications received compared to previous years.	Score – 249	Number of planning applications approved has reduced in line with the reduction in the number of applications received.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 304	

Increased visitation to the Shire		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Estimated domestic overnight visitors to the Shire	Score - 363,476	In the calendar year ending December 2022, Murrindindi Shire received over 1 million visitors, with 30% of those staying overnight in the region.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 376,740	
Visitor Information Centre – annual visitor numbers	Result 2022/23	In the year 2022/23 there was a 1.3% increase in visitors to our Visitor Information Centers. This increase occurred despite the October 2022 floods which impacted on visitor numbers for a number of weeks.
	Score - 70,602	
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 69,719	
75% completion/implementation rate of relevant strategies and plans		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Percentage of actions completed from within identified strategies and plans	Score – 96%	Out of a total of 28 related strategies and plans, 96% are in progress as planned. There are six additional strategies and plans listed in the Council Plan that are used as reference documents. They have either been completed prior to the period of this Council Plan or they have a shared responsibility with other government agencies.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 100%	

Strategic Objective 4

OUR PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT

To protect and enhance our natural environment, supporting environmental sustainability, community resilience, innovation and adaption to climate change to achieve net-zero emissions by 2035.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE: (Strategies)

1. Minimise waste and increase recycling to reduce our environmental footprint	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Implement resourced Year 2 actions from the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the operations of the Resource Recovery Centres, including investigate options for the expansion of Scrap Shack operations Engage with the community on operations for the waste collection service and continue to participate in the collaborative procurement process. Implement education programs to promote recycling and reduced waste to landfill, including school promotions Review involvement with the Container Deposit Scheme program 	<p>We have commenced the review of Resource Recovery Centre operations. Community engagement on the future of waste and recycling collection services, under the State Government's Circular Economy Reforms was completed in October 2022. We also continued our waste and recycling education programs during the quarter. Tender for new 4 stream kerbside services completed.</p>
2. Advocate for grant funding to support the delivery of the kerbside reform transition, including towards the cost of implementing the new services	<p>We received additional grant funding for initial tasks to support the kerbside services transition. Further advocacy is planned.</p>
3. Determine the location and preferred management model for the Yea Resource Recovery Centre	<p>We commenced a review of the Operational Plan for the Yea Resource Recovery Centre however progress has been delayed due to the Waste & Recovery Services Tender. Will be finalised by end of 2023.</p>

2. In partnership with the community, provide education and training to improve ecologically sustainable outcomes	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Work with community and Landcare groups to promote sustainable land use, including conservation for roadside and bushland sites in the municipality, measured through number of meetings held and hectares planted/managed	<p>We completed Fire management works to remove significant fire risk and replanting on Council controlled bushland in Kinglake West, with the assistance of the LandCare groups.</p>
2. Implement bushland management actions on key Council sites to manage fire risk, pests and weeds and protect biodiversity	<p>Our progress on the roadside pest and weed management programs was slightly delayed due to wet weather. Although all tasks have been completed.</p>
3. Review and update Rural Roadside Management Plan, Rural Roadside Code of Practice and associated documents	<p>We commenced a review of the Rural Roadside Management Plan including a review of better practice examples.</p>

3. In partnership with the community, develop and deliver climate adaptation and mitigation programs and practices to reduce our environmental impact	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Adopt a Climate Change Policy for the Shire to achieve the goal of carbon neutrality by 2035	Our Climate Change Policy was adopted by Council in September 2022. A Draft Climate Action Plan has been completed and is currently out for public comment.
2. Undertake round two of community consultation that includes advise on carbon credits prior to finalising and adopting the Climate Change Action Plan	We completed the second round of community consultation. Draft Climate Change Action Plan adopted by Council in March 2023.
3. Implement resourced year one actions of the Climate Change Action Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community feasibility studies for renewable energy projects and determine future Council involvement • Develop an electric vehicle public charging stations policy • Develop a fleet procurement policy that acts on the feasibility study into migrating Council's vehicle fleet to electric vehicles. • Coordinate with Ausnet Services to plan the replacement of outdated mercury vapour streetlights with LED lamps. 	We continued to support community feasibility studies underway for renewable energy projects in Yea and Marysville. We commenced development of an Electric Vehicle Public Charging Policy and a Fleet Procurement Policy for Electric Vehicles. One pair of EV charging stations was installed in Alexandra. The Conversion to LED for public and streetlights was placed on hold due to unexpected Ausnet services delays.
4. Investigate business management model and finalise the direction of the Farm Forestry project	We progressed development of the Business Management Model which will provide direction for the future of Council's proposed Forestry Project which was presented to Council in December 2022.

4. Protect our waterways and improve associated human health outcomes	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Advocate to State and Federal Governments to fund the construction of Stage 1 Thornton Drainage improvement works that include the construction of a Water Urban Sensitive Design solution to improve drainage water quality before it enters the Goulburn River	We listed the item for two rounds of Integrated Water Management funding, this has been unsuccessful so far. The scope will need to be adjusted due to the recent flooding in Thornton. and Township streetscape planned works. Installation of flood gates have been completed.
2. Continue to be involved with the Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum to seek support to Integrated Water Management principles in Council's drainage upgrade and new works	We are an active member of the Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management advisory group. Meetings continue and the scope for projects is currently being identified. Thornton Drainage upgrade works are listed as a possible project. IWM (Integrated water management officer) has been appointed as a shared resource for the group. Ongoing multi year project

STRATEGIC INDICATORS

The strategic indicators measure our success in achieving our strategic objective and strategies under 'Our Protected Environment'.

Increased waste diversion from landfill (LGPRF)		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Proportion of waste diverted from landfill (%)	Score – 35%	Waste diversion at the kerbside has remained steady at 35%.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 34%	
Maintained high levels of community satisfaction with Waste Services		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of waste services.	Score - 59	The reduction in satisfaction from the previous year is most likely due to the reintroduction of fees for the disposal of green waste at the Resources and Recovery Centres. Several complaints were received in response to the fees.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 64	
Strengthened community engagement in safety planning and preparation		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Number of engagement sessions with the community	Score - 3	We continued to plan and undertake engagement sessions for the LEAPing into Resilience project, we have formed a working group and met twice with the Marysville community, and Toolangi community being much further ahead. Although progress has steadied over the past few months. These working groups have been formed in Toolangi and Marysville to support the project.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 3	

Reduce Council's emissions		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Greenhouse emissions CO2-e (t) produced by Council's operations (scope 1 and 2, part scope 3), expressed as a percentage change from the base year of 2016/17	Score - 16% reduction	Council greenhouse gas emissions 2022/23 were 6550 (tCO2-e) compared to 7,026 in 2021/22
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 10% reduction	
Increased expenditure on recycled products as a percentage of overall expenditure		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Expenditure on recycled products as a percentage of overall expenditure, expressed as a percentage change from the previous year	Not Available	Current procurement system is not configured to accurately measure this. The issue has been raised as part of the Digital Futures project in 2023.
Reduction of Co2 emissions from Council's fleet		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Greenhouse emissions CO2-e (t) produced by Council's fleet operations expressed as a percentage change from the base year of 2016/17	Score – 22%	Council has purchased its first Electric vehicle. Estimated delivery is November 2023. Council is working with industry on best practice relating to Electric Vehicles and servicing the Murrindindi Community.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 12% decrease	Charging stations are being rolled out and council continues to work with electricity suppliers on best locations available.

Strategic Objective 5

TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

To ensure our services, people and systems deliver the best possible outcomes for our communities now and into the future.

WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE: (Strategies)

1. Put the customer first in everything we do

WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Implement the recommendations of the 2021 internal review of our customer service systems and processes to improve our management of requests and feedback including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assetic reporting • Further training of Customer Service and Operations Teams • Improving our complaints processes through automation where appropriate 	<p>A working group was formed to undertake a redesign of the complaints process, aligned with the findings of the 2021 internal review. This project is underway and has met its first milestone in an update to the MSC leadership team, next step is to implement the approved changes to the process, impacting internal workflow and improving customer experience.</p> <p>Assetic reporting – this project has now been completed. We meet monthly as an opportunity to share information and identify continual improvement opportunities.</p> <p>Our annual Customer Service training day was held on 7 June. This was an opportunity for the entire team of staff to refresh their knowledge as well as gain an understanding of new process improvements, and upcoming continual improvement initiatives within the greater organisation. We are currently working on improving our induction process and better documenting/ formalising our training and development programs.</p> <p>As part of the complaints process review, we are implementing automated responses, setting clear expectations with the customer on the process and next steps. This not only replaces manual responses but also ensures the customer is receiving feedback in a timely and consistent manner.</p>

2. Ensure Council remains financially sustainable through sound management, forward planning, innovative service delivery and asset consolidation as appropriate

WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>Establish decision-making framework to prioritise future expenditure on projects, including grant funding and community buy-in</p>	<p>We engaged a consultant to assist with development of this framework, this item is due for completion at the end of the 2023 calendar year.</p>
<p>2. Conduct asset condition audits to support development of the Open Space Asset Management Plan</p>	<p>We completed the bridge audit and final report being completed. Building / Open space audit tender documentation is out for tender and will be completed by the end of 2023.</p>

<p>3. Complete the review of Council's Road Asset Management Plan to enhance and maintain our road network and meet our community's needs</p>	<p>We commenced the planning stage for the review of the Road Asset Management Plan. Although this project has been put on hold due to resource constraints, the project will continue into 2023/24.</p>
<p>4. Continue to increase innovation in Council's service delivery through the collaborative project with the Lower North-East Regional Councils Collaboration group</p>	<p>We have continued to collaborate with the Lower North-East Regional Councils (Mansfield, Strathbogie and Benalla) to plan for the implementation of the digital transformation project funded by the State Government. Tender specifications for the business systems' replacement were developed and a procurement package prepared and the opportunity provided to the open market. The procurement evaluation was completed and the tender decision was scheduled for the July 2023 meetings of each of the four councils.</p>
<p>5. Review Rating Strategy with a focus on equitable and sustainable outcomes</p>	<p>We commenced planning for the rating strategy review, with the aim to have the review completed by the end of 2023/24</p>
3. Evaluate and pursue new commercial opportunities	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Develop a framework to implement actions with a focus on commercial opportunities</p>	<p>The project is on track to be completed by the end of the financial year. We engaged a consultant to assist with this project due to staffing shortages.</p>
<p>2. Commence the delivery of the Yea Saleyards 10-year Business Plan Year 1 action items including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The feasibility of a truck wash bay • Investigate options to address potential expansion 	<p>We scoped year-one actions and works on the front gates and fencing works are planned to commence late 2023 (currently out for tender). The feasibility study for a truck wash bay is due to commence in late September 2023. Front fencing replacement works currently underway due for completion September 2023. Further works being identified and scoping for future years.</p>
<p>3. Investigate specific commercial opportunities (e.g. affordable housing and retirement living options)</p>	<p>Council at its March 2023 Scheduled Meeting resolved to initiate the preparatory steps for the sale of 3 parcels of land in Eildon with the intention of selling for residential purposes with a focus on key worker housing.</p>

4. Provide a workplace that is flexible and inclusive to support the health and wellbeing of our employees	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Implement the Gender Equality Action Plan Year 1 actions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a gender Equality Statement for Council • Develop a Gender Impact Assessment Framework • Review the Enterprise Agreement to incorporate neutral language and support action plan objectives • Implement a Health and wellbeing Committee • Develop an organisational communications and advocacy strategy promoting Council's commitment to Gender Equality 	<p>We reviewed the Enterprise Agreement to include neutral language and support action plan objectives.</p> <p>We implemented a Health and Wellbeing Committee to oversee the delivery of the Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>We worked on the development of a draft Gender Equality Statement. This process has included researching best practice and analysing the intent of the language used in the statement to foster a commitment to gender equity. The draft statement will now progress to consultation with our employees and leadership team before it is more widely imbedded via our communication channels including our website.</p> <p>Further work on developing a Gender Impact Assessment Framework will be carried into the next year as Council continues to explore a Gender Impact Assessment framework that will be most effective based on Council's size and needs. Activities to support this to date have been Council officer participation in the Gender Equity Commission Community of Practice and Gender Equality Act Peer Network to understand the experiences of other Councils, what has worked well and what has been their challenges.</p>
<p>2. Implement the Workforce Management Strategy actions due in the 2022/23 year including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising our approach to recruitment including our use of technology and media • Increasing opportunities for apprenticeships and traineeships across Council • Annual skill assessment and providing development opportunities 	<p>In response to the increasingly tight labour market we increased the use and targeting of social media in the promotion of recruitment opportunities. This has included utilising platforms including Facebook, Seek and LinkedIn and combining these tools to target candidates and increase Council's presence as an employer of choice.</p> <p>We participated in the local Murrindindi Jobs Expo engaging with high school students and job seekers on employment opportunities at Council. Connections were also made with Apprenticeship and Traineeship service providers at this event. During the year, we continued to host local students as part of the Victorian Work Experience program for both year 10 students (week placements) as well as Year 11 and 12 VCAL students (1 day per week during Semester 1 & 2 placement). We also hosted a local Deakin University student as part of a degree qualification vocational placement with a focus on environment.</p> <p>We reviewed and re-launched our Performance Review and Development Plan process in which all employees participate to review skills and development opportunities based on role requirements and upcoming planned deliverables. Upon completion of the review process, employee needs will be analysed to determine what development is required and how this will be delivered including training programs, study assistance and on the job activities.</p>

3. Develop an organisational Health and Wellbeing Strategy	The Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan was developed in collaboration with staff across departments who participate in Council's Wellbeing Committee. The draft received additional feedback as part of a consultation process, and it was endorsed by the CEO. Implementation has been led by the Wellbeing Committee and management.
4. Undertake a review of Council's Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan and implement regular reporting	We completed the review of Council's Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan in collaboration with the OHS Committee, Management Team and Staff. Regular reporting will be undertaken as part of the OHS Committee meetings.
5. Maintain transparent, inclusive and accountable governance practices	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
1. Develop a Sustainable Procurement Action Plan to provide a structure for how Council will enhance local economic, environmental and social outcomes within its procurement processes	<p>The finalisation of the Sustainable Procurement Action Plan will continue in the following year as part of the 2023/24 Priority Action Plan. Meanwhile, we continue our commitment to Sustainable Procurement in other forms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuing to transition to a zero-emissions Council fleet. - Continuing to operate on 100% renewable electricity and installing solar and batteries where appropriate.
2. Investigate opportunities to increase community participation in Council decision-making including the review of the Governance Rules to enable virtual access to meetings	<p>We adopted the reviewed Governance Rules at Council's August 2022 Scheduled Meeting. The revised rules include the ability for meetings to be conducted in a remote/virtual, hybrid or in-person environment. This also includes the ability for the community to participate in public participation through virtual means as well.</p> <p>We continue to stream Council meetings to the public via social media and Council's website.</p> <p>Our Council held open Community meetings in Flowerdale on 30 November 2022, Murrindindi on 29 March 2023, and Narbethong on 31 May, encouraging local residents to present to Council on any topics they wish. These sessions will continue to rotate across the municipality in future years.</p>
3. Implement the Workforce management Strategy actions due in the 2022/23 year including:	This project was deferred to the 2023/24 financial year due to priorities shifting to support recruitment following the flood crises and a minor organisational restructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising our approach to recruitment including our use of technology and media • Increasing opportunities for apprenticeships and traineeships across Council • Annual skill assessments and providing development opportunities 	

6. Communicate effectively using multiple methods with our customers and communities about our work and services

WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Continue to implement the 2019 Communication Strategy and 2020 Social Media Strategy actions, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjusting the balance of traditional and digital media by increasing resources dedicated to digital communication, including through social media and video Streamlining communication content creation to increase efficiencies for Council Prepare for the role out of Electronic Direct Mail (EDM) for newsletters 	<p>Over the course of the year we,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered monthly print advertising to all local media outlets Delivered quarterly printed newsletter for all residents Developed and implemented a council Flood Recovery e-newsletter + printed version available throughout our Libraries and Customer Service Centres. Exceeded performance goals of Council's Facebook page during 2022-2023 compared to the previous year, achieving a 23.4% increase in organic reach, an increase of 100% in paid reach, an increase of 51% in new page likes, an increase in messaging conversations of 100%, and achieving 500+ posts across the year. This is a great demonstration of the evolution to how our community chooses to engage with Council. Commenced gathering data for our community noticeboard database to make use of the noticeboards in our five major townships, Kinglake, Yea, Alexandra, Eildon, and Marysville Began planning for the introduction of a monthly Council Meeting highlights video with the Mayor for social media Commenced discussions with the website provider to explore ways to optimise and refresh our current platform which is scheduled for 2023/24 <p>The implementation of the community electronic newsletter was deferred to the next financial year due to the impact of flood recovery on our resources. The electronic newsletter will be implemented by October 2023.</p>

7. Improve emergency readiness through active emergency management planning to enhance community preparedness and resilience

WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Working with Emergency Management Victoria, establish a group with the community to design an emergency management exercise</p>	<p>We worked in partnership with Emergency Management Victoria to facilitate a discussion exercise on 28 June 2023 at the Yea Shire Hall. In attendance were the Emergency Management Commissioner and a Deputy, Councillors and the CEO along with representatives of relief agencies and the community. Over 30 participants took part in the exercise.</p> <p>The aim of the discussion exercise was to develop a better understanding of how emergency relief centres can best support our communities in Murrindindi. Discussions covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the voice of community can inform the relief priorities and efforts Building a better understanding of the needs of our communities at emergency relief centres How we can improve to better service our community. <p>The outcomes of the exercise will help inform future emergency planning, as led by the multi-agency Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)</p>

<p>2. As part of the Local Emergency Action Plan Project in collaboration with neighbouring Councils, deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project plan including communications and engagement plan A risk management Framework Identification of at-risk communities to be part of the project 	<p>A resource was secured to assist with the delivery of this project.</p> <p>We have commenced consultation with various communities to develop their Local Emergency Action Plan.</p>
<p>3. Coordinate flood response, relief and recovery efforts following October 2022 severe weather and flood event, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate response and relief efforts together with government, agencies, community organisations and community Coordinate flood recovery efforts together with government, agencies, community organisations and community 	<p>This year, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continued to provide support to people impacted by the floods - supported local business and agriculture to access support, grants and information - continued to host the Municipal Flood Recovery Committee as the overarching body, comprised of over 30 agencies to guide the flood recovery priorities and activities for two years - drafted the Municipal Flood Recovery Action Plan, which outlines the priorities outcomes, actions, and responsible agencies - recruited a Flood Recovery Manager, Community Recovery Officer role and project managers to deliver the program of repair and reinstatement works - continued to advocate to state government for funding to clean-up and rebuild community assets that are not insured or claimable under Commonwealth-funding arrangements - secured funding to reduce the costs of the emergency response from Emergency Management Victoria - Developing a detailed program for recovery and repair of damaged assets. - Secured funding to support community hubs and community support activities
<h2>8. Establish a team approach in partnership with our communities to represent our collective interest to the State and Federal Governments</h2>	
WHAT WE DID (ACTIONS)	COMMENTS
<p>1. Work in partnership with our community to deliver strategic advocacy activities in the lead up to the State Government elections</p>	<p>This year we undertook advocacy in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stopping the proposed bank branch closure in Alexandra and ensure our community has ongoing access to the full suite of banking services - flood mitigation and policy review specifically relating to the controlled release of water from Lake Eildon - people who are flood-impacted not being supported by the State Government's flood recovery initiatives - the planned transition away from native forest logging becoming a cessation of the industry in January 2024 and the flow on impacts to business, individuals and community. - the urgent need to address the failing state of our major roads which are funded and maintained by the State. - the investment needed to active Lake Eildon to activate this valuable asset - the provision of additional services and funding for kinder and childcare programs

STRATEGIC INDICATORS

The strategic indicators measure our success in achieving our strategic objective and strategies under 'Transparency, inclusion and accountability'.

Increased community satisfaction with our consultation and engagement		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance on consultation and engagement	Score - 55	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement remains at a stable level in line with previous years. Council continues to look for opportunities to improve our engagement initiatives, such as recent community panels to support decision-making.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 54	
Increased community satisfaction with our lobbying on behalf of the community		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of lobbying on behalf of the community	Score - 50	Improving the conditions of major roads such as the Melba Hwy, access to affordable housing and education and ensuring Council receives its fair share of government financial assistance grants have been key topics in Council's advocacy efforts to the State Government during the year.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 52	
Increased community satisfaction with our customer service		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Index score (maximum = 100) based on resident perceptions of performance of customer service	Score – 69	This shows a positive trend towards our highest results reported in 2019/20 which was a score of 74
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 64	

Positive trends in the Victorian Auditor General’s ratings of Council’s financial sustainability		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Data & Comment
Ratios for working capital, unrestricted cash and indebtedness performance declared in Council’s audited performance statement	Score	Council has a strong position of financial sustainability.
	Working Capital 320%	Working capital has decreased slightly but remains strong. Current liabilities increased due to the increase in unearned grants and the accrual of capital works expenditure. Unearned grants are grants Council has received; however, the matching expenditure will be incurred in future years. Current Assets also increased due to accrued income relating to capital grants, funding the capital works projects.
	Unrestricted Cash (44%)	
	Indebtedness 28%	
	Result 2021/22	
	Score –	Unrestricted cash has decreased due to the recognition of investments being recorded as ‘financial assets’ in the balance sheet. These investments are term deposits over 90 days and are excluded from the calculation of this indicator. The negative result should not be read unfavourably. Funds backing future planned expenditure is invested in the term deposits.
	Working Capital 330.89%	
Unrestricted Cash 32.61%		
	Indebtedness 29.98%	
Maintain high levels of staff satisfaction working at Council		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Data & Comment
Staff satisfaction survey	Not Available	The results from the People Matters Survey led by the State Government are due to be released early in the new financial year. However, ensuring staff satisfaction is a key organisational priority to ensure we attract, retain and develop our staff. This year we standardised the Performance Development Process, which includes sections such as health and wellbeing and career development.
Completed all annual items in the Gender Equality Action Plan		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Data & Comment
Year one actions complete	Score - 40%	Council continues its commitment to the implementation of the Gender Equality Action Plan. However, recent challenges in meeting the recruitment needs of the organisation have impacted on our ability to advance implementation of the Plan. Efforts will continue in 2023/24 to fulfill our commitment.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – NA	

Continuous improvements in condition index of Asset Categories		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Average Condition Index result for the year compared to minimal Average Condition Index to maintain current levels of service:	Score -	Average Condition to be less than 3.
• Unsealed Roads	1.52	51.4% increase from previous year
• Sealed Roads	1.10	21.4% increase from previous year
• Buildings	2.40	4.3% decrease from previous year
• Drainage	1.74	1.2% decrease from previous year
• Footpath and Shared Paths	1.95	15.2% decrease from previous year
• Kerb and Channels	1.61	5.0% decrease from previous year
• Bridges and Culver	1.35	29.6% increase from previous year
• Other Structures	2.39	2.6% decrease from previous year
Improvements in relevant LGPRF indicators when compared to similar councils		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
The LGPRF Governance Indicators - including Transparency, Attendance, Service Cost and Satisfaction.	Qualitative measure – no single number to report	The LGPRF Governance Indicators, including Transparency, Attendance, Service Cost and Satisfaction remain at a stable result within the expected range year on year. Councillor attendance at Council meetings remains high at over 90% attendance rate, along with improvements in satisfaction with Council decisions and community engagement.

Improved results for our Gender Equality Audit indicators		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Data & Comment
Gender Equality Audit Indicators – median annualised base salary gap for women.	Score - 2.5%	Council submitted its first Gender Equality Audit data entry in 2022. The Audit will be conducted every 2 years. The median annualised base salary gap for women (pay gap) was 2.5%.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score – 2.5%	
Reduced Lost Time Injury Rates		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Data & Comment
Average monthly % lost time injury rate.	Score - 0.17%	Lost time injuries decreased significantly from 150 hours in July down to 4 hours in October 2022.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 1.14%	From November 2022 to June 2023 there have been no lost time injuries recorded.
100% completion of training programs		
Measure	Result 2022/23	Comment
Completion rate (%) of mandatory training.	Score - 100%	137 staff were assigned the compliance training modules in the 22/23 Financial Year and completed 783 modules between them.
	Result 2021/22	
	Score - 100%	Compliance modules were also delivered face to face to the school crossing supervisors by People and Culture and OHS staff.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK (LGPRF)

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is a mandatory system of performance reporting for all Victorian councils. This enables councils to measure and report on their performance in a consistent way to promote transparency and accountability in the local government sector.

The framework comprises a range of measures, including for roads, planning, animal management and waste.

It is complemented by a Governance and Management checklist of 24 items, which shows the policies, plans and procedures in place at each council. Together, they build a comprehensive picture of council performance which can be viewed at www.knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au (currently under development by Vic Gov)

In this section we have grouped each of the service performance measures under the relevant strategic objective of the Council Plan 2021-2025

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This section provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under ‘Resilient Communities’. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government’s ‘Know Your Council’ website. (currently under development by Vic Gov)

AQUATIC FACILITIES	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
SERVICE STANDARD: Health inspections of aquatic facilities <i>[Number of authorised officer inspections of Council aquatic facilities / Number of Council aquatic facilities]</i>	0	2	1	1	1	
UTILISATION: Utilisation of aquatic facilities <i>[Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]</i>	1.53	0.97	1.51	1.81	1.64	Council's pools are all open-air pools. Utilisation had increased post Covid-19. The 2022/23 year decreased by 9.4% due to a cooler summer period, reduced opening days and lower demand.
SERVICE COST: Cost of aquatic facilities <i>Direct cost of aquatic facilities less income received / Number of visits to aquatic facilities]</i>	New in 2020	\$20.27	\$16.49	\$15.50	\$21.91	The increase in cost per visit 2022/23 is due to lower attendance at the pools due to cooler summer weather.
LIBRARIES	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
UTILISATION: Physical library collection usage <i>[Number of physical library collection item loans / Number of physical library collection items]</i>	2.2	2.06	1.17	1.95	1.48	We have recently conducted a review with the aim of improving the appeal of our library collection. This will ensure that new materials added to the collection over the next 12 months will be better aligned with the needs and requests of our customers.
RESOURCE STANDARD: Recently purchased library collection <i>[Number of library collection items purchased in the last 5 years/ Number of library collection items] x 100</i>	51.77%	55.52%	58.58%	56.16%	57.90%	
PARTICIPATION: Active library borrowers in municipality <i>[The sum of the number of active library borrowers in the last 3 financial years*/The sum of the population in the last 3 financial years*] x 100</i>	22.08%	20.04%	18.03%	14.31%	9.26%	This indicator is an average over the past 3 years. Whilst our active borrowers have increased over the last financial year, the average increase is below the average rate of population increases.
SERVICE COST: Cost of library service per population <i>[Direct cost of the library service / Population]</i>	New in 2020	\$33.13	\$35.45	\$38.89	\$38.66	

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
SERVICE STANDARD: Infant enrolments in the MCH service <i>[Number of infants enrolled in the MCH service / Number of birth notifications received] x100</i>	102.04%	100.93%	97.54%	99.28%	99.19%	
SERVICE COST: Cost of the MCH service <i>[Cost of the MCH service / Hours worked by MCH nurses]</i>	\$73.63	\$71.02	\$71.74	\$69.26	\$81.35	The increase in cost in 2022/23 is due to an increase is due to the expansion of the service and increased hours associated with the addition of a Social Worker to assist parents to access support services.
PARTICIPATION: Participation in the MCH service <i>[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100</i>	86.75%	82.11%	87.20%	89.89%	89.00%	
PARTICIPATION: Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children <i>[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100</i>	89.19%	89.47%	100.00%	91.11%	92.86%	
SATISFACTION: Participation in 4-week Key Age and Stage visit <i>[Number of 4-week key age and stage visits / Number of birth notifications received] x100</i>	New in 2020	95.37%	104.92%	89.21%	99.19%	Participation in the 4 week visit increased by 11%, returning to the pre COVID levels.

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This report provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under ‘Beautiful Townships and Rural Settings’. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government’s ‘Know Your Council’ website. (currently under development by Vic Gov)

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
TIMELINESS: Time taken to action animal management requests <i>[Number of days between receipt and first response action for all animal management requests / Number of animal management requests]</i>	3	3	1	2	2	
SERVICE STANDARD: Animals reclaimed <i>[Number of animals reclaimed / Number of animals collected] x100</i>	30.48%	50.32%	32.88%	47.83%	39.85%	A total of 133 animals were collected and 53 were reclaimed by their owner. The percentage of animal reclaimed varies each year due to factors outside Council's control.
SERVICE STANDARD: Animals rehomed <i>[Number of animals rehomed / Number of animals collected] x100</i>	New in 2020	42.04%	20.72%	15.65%	26.32%	Coldstream Animal Aid continue to facilitate the rehoming of animals collected by Council where the animal is assessed as suitable for rehoming. An increase in the number of unclaimed animals has resulted in the increase in number of animals rehomed.
SERVICE COST: Cost of animal management service per population <i>[Direct cost of the animal management service / Population]</i>	New in 2020	\$11.35	\$12.87	\$12.11	\$12.17	
HEALTH & SAFETY: Animal management prosecutions <i>[Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100</i>	New in 2020	0%	0%	100%	100%	The single animal management prosecutions in 2021/22 and 2022/23 were both successful. There were no prosecutions in the previous years.

FOOD SAFETY	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
TIMELINESS: Time taken to action food complaints <i>[Number of days between receipt and first response action for all food complaints / Number of food complaints]</i>	2	3	2	2	3	Food complaints are acknowledged on receipt and actioned on average within three business days. This result is inside the acceptable range.
SERVICE STANDARD: Food safety assessments <i>[Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that receive an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984 / Number of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that require an annual food safety assessment in accordance with the Food Act 1984] x100</i>	86.84%	100%	88.24%	100%	111.38%	All Class 1 and Class 2 Food premises received an annual food safety assessment throughout the 2023 calendar year.
SERVICE COST: Cost of food safety service <i>[Direct cost of the food safety service / Number of food premises registered or notified in accordance with the Food Act 1984]</i>	\$1,124.23	\$963.33	\$1,034.48	\$1,007.99	\$782.48	The 23% decrease in the cost of food safety service reflects a correction in the measurement for this indicator. Previous years' measurements included additional costs unrelated to food safety services .
HEALTH & SAFETY: Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications <i>[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This report provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under ‘Beautiful Townships and Rural Settings’. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government’s ‘Know Your Council’ website. (currently under development by Vic Gov)

ROADS	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
SATISFACTION: Sealed local road requests <i>[Number of sealed local road requests / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x 100</i>	8.79	59.55	65.52	44.96	315.45	<i>The increase in the number of requests was due to the severe flood damage experienced across the Shire in late 2022 and extended wet weather, delaying remediating works.</i>
CONDITION: Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards <i>[Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x 100</i>	91.62%	95.01%	96.41%	97.88%	97.87%	
SERVICE COST: Cost of sealed local road reconstruction <i>[Direct cost of sealed local road reconstruction / Square metres of sealed local roads reconstructed]</i>	\$57.18	\$59.64	\$59.60	\$70.09	\$165.00	<i>The increase in cost was due to a lack of contractor availability and a significant increase to construction and material costs.</i>
SERVICE COST: Cost of sealed local road resealing <i>[Direct cost of sealed local road resealing / Square metres of sealed local roads resealed]</i>	\$4.18	\$5.29	\$5.87	\$6.14	\$0.00	<i>The 2022/23 resealing program was deferred to 2023/24 due to severe flood damage to roads and ongoing wet weather.</i>
SATISFACTION: Satisfaction with sealed local roads <i>[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]</i>	48	50	48	44	40	<i>The decrease in satisfaction was a consequence of the damage to the sealed road network caused by the major floods of late 2022 , and further deterioration due to ongoing wet weather delaying remediation works.</i>

STATUTORY PLANNING	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
TIMELINESS: Time taken to decide planning applications <i>[The median number of days between receipt of a planning application and a decision on the application]</i>	60	84	59	54	47.25	<i>The reduction in time taken to determine planning applications reflected several process improvement initiatives undertaken during the year.</i>
SERVICE STANDARD: Planning applications decided within required time frames <i>[Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits/ Number of planning application decisions made] x100</i>	69.52%	59.45%	75.47%	75.68%	77.91%	
SERVICE COST: Cost of statutory planning service <i>[Direct cost of the statutory planning service / Number of planning applications received]</i>	\$1,630.19	\$1,750.57	\$1,457.08	\$1,790.61	\$1,404.36	<i>The decrease in cost reflected a reduction in labour costs due to delays in filling vacant positions.</i>
DECISION MAKING: Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT <i>[Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100</i>	100%	0%	50%	50%	50%	<i>Council had two applications determined by VCAT. One of these matters was upheld and the second item was set aside by consent orders following the gazettal of amendment C72 which removed the requirement for a planning permit.</i>

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This report provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under 'Growth and opportunity'. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government's 'Know Your Council' website. (currently under development by Vic Gov)

GOVERNANCE	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
TRANSPARENCY: Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public <i>[Number of Council resolutions made at ordinary or special meetings of Council, or at meetings of a special committee consisting only of Councillors, closed to the public / Number of Council resolutions made at ordinary or special meetings of Council or at meetings of a special committee consisting only of Councillors] x100</i>	15.34%	14.88%	4.11%	0.00%	0.63%	<i>In 2022/23 there was one resolution made at a meeting closed to the public. In line with section 66(2) of the Local Government Act 2020, the content is deemed confidential as it relates to an personnel matter.</i>
CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT: Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement <i>[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement]</i>	55	55	56	54	55	

ATTENDANCE: Councillor attendance at Council meetings <i>[The sum of the number of Councillors who attended each ordinary and special Council meeting / (Number of ordinary and special Council meetings) x (Number of Councillors elected at the last Council general election)] x100</i>	92.86%	92.44%	98.41%	90.11%	94.29%	
SERVICE COST: Cost of elected representation <i>[Direct cost of the governance service / Number of Councillors elected at the last Council general election]</i>	\$40,094.43	\$355,687.92	\$36,447.14	\$41,141.29	\$44,958.14	<i>Councillor allowances are determined by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal.</i>
SATISFACTION: Satisfaction with Council decisions <i>[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]</i>	55	53	54	51	52	<i>This result is consistent with previous years, slightly higher than the state-wide average and in line with small rural councils.</i>

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This report of operations provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under ‘Our Protected Environment’. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government’s ‘Know Your Council’ website. (currently under development by Vic Gov)

WASTE COLLECTION	RESULTS					
INDICATOR (Measure)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Comments
SATISFACTION - Kerbside bin collection requests <i>[Number of kerbside garbage and recycling bin collection requests / Number of kerbside bin collection households] x1000</i>	85.18	64.55	53.33	105.38	64.37	This result reflects a reduction in requests for bin repairs and replacements.
SERVICE STANDARD - Kerbside collection bins missed <i>[Number of kerbside garbage and recycling collection bins missed / Number of scheduled kerbside garbage and recycling collection bin lifts] x10,000</i>	0.98	1.35	0.89	0.75	0.83	Missed bins are relatively low in frequency in Murrindindi compared to statewide averages. The result for 2022/23 is consistent with previous years.
SERVICE COST - Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service <i>[Direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service / Number of kerbside garbage collection bins]</i>	\$70.42	\$72.60	\$74.64	\$110.44	\$163.52	The contract rates for waste collection have increased by 15%per annum. The waste disposal costs have also increased steeply as a result of EPA compliance requirements and need to manage excess leachate arising from consecutive wetter than average years.
SERVICE COST - Cost of kerbside recyclables bin collection service <i>[Direct cost of the kerbside recyclables bin collection service / Number of kerbside recyclables collection bins]</i>	\$62.76	\$72.72	\$71.99	\$75.91	\$84.40	The kerbside recycling collection costs have increased 15% per annum, while the contract unit rate for processing of recyclable materials has also increased over the past year.
WASTE DIVERSION - Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill <i>[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100</i>	34.09%	33.59%	34.43%	33.82%	34.77%	

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

This report of operations provides the results of the prescribed performance indicators that relate to the strategies under ‘Transparency, Inclusion and Accountability’. These indicators are also published on the Victorian Government’s ‘Know Your Council’ website.(currently under development by Vic Gov)

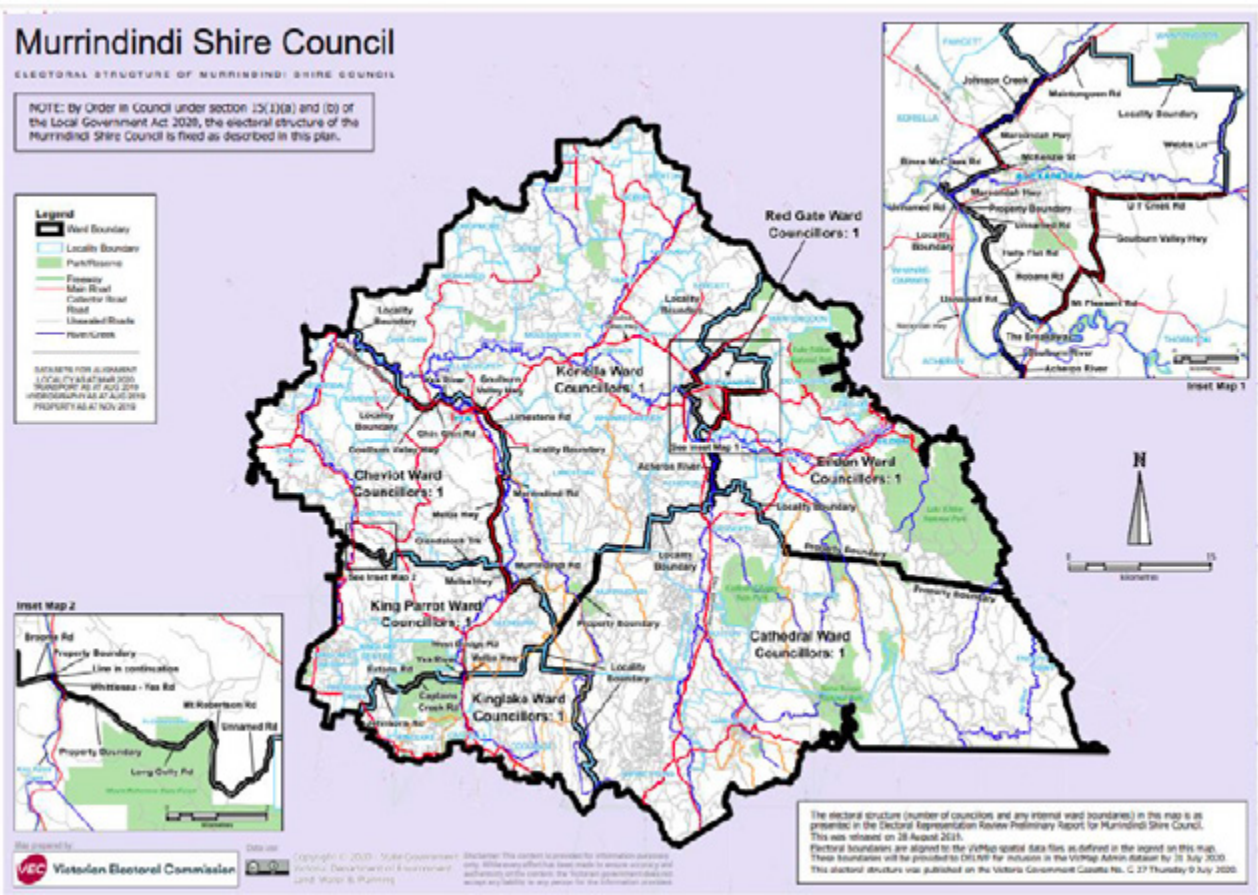
NIL to report



OUR COUNCIL

OUR COUNCIL

COUNCIL ELECTORAL STRUCTURE



COUNCILLOR SUPPORT AND REMUNERATION

An important reform of the Local Government Act 2020 is the transfer of responsibilities for determining mayoral, deputy mayoral and councillor allowances to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal). On 7 March 2021, in accordance with section 23A of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019 (Vic) (VIRTIPS Act), the Tribunal made the Allowance payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors (Victoria) Determination No. 01/2022. The determination took effect from 18 December 2021. The major change under the new structure was the introduction of a Deputy Mayor allowance.

As of 18 December 2022 the allowance rates for small rural councils (Category1) were set as follows (inclusive of a payment in lieu of superannuation):

- Mayor - \$77,933 per annum
- Deputy Mayor - \$38,967 per annum
- Councillors - \$25,147 per annum

COUNCILLOR EXPENSES

Council adopted the Councillor Expenses and Support Policy on 22 July 2020. This Policy establishes the resources and support necessary to enable councillors and members of delegated committees to perform their role, as defined under the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*.

The expenses are set out in the following categories:

- Travel expenses** – includes any taxi fares, public transport costs, remote travel allowance and reimbursement for kilometres travelled in their private vehicles associated with Council-related travel.
- Childcare expenses** – includes any childcare costs associated with enabling councillors to undertake their councillor role.
- Information and Communication expenses** – includes capital costs, monthly fees and usage costs associated with councillor mobile phones and information technology equipment or software. This exclude any personal use costs.
- Conference and Training expenses** – includes any registration fees, travel, accommodation and incidental costs associated with attendance or participation in conferences or professional development programs related to councillors performing their councillor role.
- Other expenses** – includes any subscriptions, uniform, name badge, business cards and other incidental expenditure related to councillors performing their role

	Allowances	Travel Expenses	Childcare Expenses	Information & Communications Expenses	Conference & Training Expenses	Other Expenses
Cr Walsh	\$ 57,491.23	\$ 6,534.70	\$ -	\$ 1,256.64	\$ 2,481.22	\$ 2,986.31
Cr Haslam	\$ 33,386.48	\$ 6,598.28	\$ -	\$ 1,256.64	\$ 74.08	\$ 3,047.96
Cr Carpenter	\$ 43,776.14	\$ 5,758.32	\$ -	\$ 1,262.90	\$ 750.05	\$ 2,977.82
Cr Gallagher	\$ 28,743.26	\$ 7,634.54	\$ -	\$ 1,256.64	\$ 4,589.18	\$ 2,957.96
Cr Gerencser	\$ 24,835.08	\$ 4,445.34	\$ -	\$ 1,262.90	\$ -	\$ 2,957.96
Cr Lording	\$ 24,835.08	\$ 3,582.28	\$ -	\$ 1,365.64	\$ -	\$ 2,957.96
Cr McAulay	\$ 24,835.08	\$ 3,922.44	\$ -	\$ 1,256.64	\$ 672.54	\$ 2,957.96

OUR COUNCIL

COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES AND DELEGATED COMMITTEES

In accordance with section 65 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council may establish Community Asset Committees, which are delegated certain powers by the Chief Executive Officer. These committees were previously known as Council Committees of Management under Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Council has the following Community Asset Committees in place:

- The Gallipoli Park Precinct Community Asset Committee
- The Glenburn Community Centre Community Asset Committee
- The Yea Recreation Reserve and Showgrounds Community Asset Committee
- The Yea Saleyards Community Asset Committee
- The Yea Wetlands Community Asset Committee

These Committees' main responsibilities include:

- To manage and maintain the facilities in an efficient and effective manner, in the best interests of the Council, community and users.
- Act as a coordinating body between the Council and the community, clubs, schools, users and potential users of the facilities.
- To promote the use of the facilities within the community and to work with Council to actively promote use.
- To manage agreements on behalf of the Council with casual hires of the facility in accordance with any conditions of hire

Under section 63 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council may establish Delegated Committees of Council. Council does not currently have any Delegated Committees.

AUDITING

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Audit and Risk Committee is an independent committee to Council, established under sections 53 and 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Section 54 of the Act requires Council to prepare and adopt a Committee Charter (the Charter) governing the functions and responsibilities of the Committee, which are to

- monitor the compliance of Council policies and procedures with the overarching governance principles in the Act (refer appendix 1), the Act itself and any regulations and ministerial directions
- monitor Council financial and performance reporting
- monitor and provide advice on risk management and fraud prevention systems and controls, and
- oversee internal and external audit functions.

For the 2022/23 financial year, the Audit and Risk Committee comprised the following members

- **Craig Nisbet (1 July 2020 - 30 June 2023) (Current Chair from 15 September 2022 Meeting)**
- **Claude Baxter (1 July 2020 - 30 June 2022) (Chair from 9 May 2019 to 15 September 2022 Meeting)**
- **Steve Schinck (24 August 2022 - 30 June 2023)**
- **Cr Damian Gallagher (17 November 2021 – 30 June 2023)**
- **Cr Sandice McAulay (17 November 2021 – 16 November 2022)**
- **Cr Sue Carpenter (16 November 2022 – 30 June 2023)**

The Chief Executive Officer and a representative of the internal auditor are also invited to attend Audit and Risk Advisory Committee meetings in a non-voting capacity. A representative of the external auditor is also required to attend where the year-end financial statements or external audit reports are to be considered.

The Audit and Risk Committee met on four occasions during the 2022/23 financial year, providing invaluable advice to Council on a number of important issues, including reviews of Council's Enterprise Risk Management Policy & Risk Appetite Statement, Cyber-security Risks and Controls, Council Asset Building Maintenance, Customer Requests and Complaints, Credit Card Policy and Financial Reserves

Recommendations from the audit program are prioritised and addressed as opportunities for improvement across the organisation.

INTERNAL AUDITS

Murrindindi Shire Council's internal audit function was contracted to HLB Mann Judd for a term of four years beginning January 2019.

During 2022/23 Council's Internal Auditors conducted the following components of the audit program

- Review of Cybersecurity (Essential Eight) – 16 September 2022 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Review of Council Asset Maintenance – 8 December 2022 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Review of Customer Requests and Complaints – 9 March 2023 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Follow up Review – Final Report – 18 May 2023 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Follow up Review of Previous Audit Recommendations

EXTERNAL AUDITS

During 2022/23 the external auditor appointed by the Victorian Auditor General was RSD Audit, who were initially appointed in 2018/19. The main audit for the 2022/23 financial year is conducted in August 2023 with interim audits conducted during the year.

PRIVACY

Council is committed to the responsible collection, handling and protection of the personal privacy of residents, ratepayers and the community as a whole. Council has policies in place to ensure adherence with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and will only collect, use or disclose information where it is necessary to perform Council functions or where required by law.

Murrindindi Shire Council will take all reasonable steps to keep any information held about individuals secure.

OUR COUNCIL

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* gives the community a legally-enforceable right to information held by Council.

Applications under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* must be made in writing and a fee of \$31.80 (as of 1 July 2023) must be paid. Information regarding Council's Freedom of Information (FOI) application process can be found on Council's website or available from any of the Council offices.

Community members are encouraged to contact Council's FOI Officer before lodging an application to seek advice regarding what information that is accessible under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

In 2022-2023 14 Freedom of Information requests were received by Council. One appeal was received against the Freedom of Information Officer's decisions.

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES

On 5 March 2019, the Victorian Parliament passed legislation making changes to Victoria's integrity system. The legislation established a new parliamentary oversight committee, the Integrity and Oversight Committee, consolidating the oversight and performance review of a number of Victorian integrity agencies, including the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC).

The legislation also introduced changes to support people making disclosures which are in the public interest. Effective from 1 January 2020, these changes replaced previous 'protected disclosure' arrangements with 'public interest disclosures' under the updated Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 (Vic).

Murrindindi Shire Council is committed to the aims and objectives of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 and has in place procedures to facilitate the making of disclosures. Council does not tolerate improper conduct by its employees, officers or members, nor acts of reprisal against those who come forward to disclose such conduct.

Relevant Council contact details are listed below

Public Interest Disclosure Coordinator
Michael Chesworth
Director, Corporate and Shared Services
Murrindindi Shire Council
PO Box 138 Alexandra 3714
or phone 03 5772 0335

Public Interest Disclosure Officer
David Echeverry
Acting Manager Governance and Risk
Murrindindi Shire Council
PO Box 138 Alexandra 3714
or phone 03 5772 0347

ALTERNATIVE CONTACTS

Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC),
Address: IBAC, GPO Box 24234, Melbourne Victoria 3001,
website: www.ibac.vic.gov.au ; Phone: 1300 735 135

Note: All public interest disclosures about Councillors should be directed to IBAC.

DOCUMENTS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

These documents and registers are available for public inspection as required by Regulation 12 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015.

Item	Way In Which Available to the Public
The certified voters' roll for a Council election - for the period beginning on the certification date and ending 30 days after election day	Available at the Council Offices
Councillor Code of Conduct	Council's website
All Local Laws adopted by Council	Council's website
Copies of Council's Council Plan, Strategic Resource Plan, Budget and Annual Report	Council's website
Rating Strategy	Council's website
Election Campaign Donation Returns summary	Council's website
Details of overseas or interstate travel (with the exception of interstate travel by land for less than 3 days) undertaken in an official capacity by Councillors or any member of Council staff in the previous 12 months, including the names of the Councillors or members of Council staff and the date, destination, purpose and total cost of the overseas or interstate travel	Available upon request
Councillor Expenses and Support Policy	Council's website
Agendas for council meetings - except parts of meetings closed to the public	Council's website
Minutes of council meetings - except parts of the meetings closed to the public	Council's website
Council Delegations	Available upon request and as part of Council Minutes on Council's website
Lease Register	Available upon request
A register of authorised officers appointed	Available upon request
Council's Procurement Policy	Council's website
A list of donations and grants made by the council during the financial year	Council's website
Personal Interest Returns	Council's website
All Council Policies	Council's website

www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Your-Council/Governance/Documents-for-Public-Inspection

OUR COUNCIL

CONTRACTS

In the period from 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023 Murrindindi Shire Council entered into the below contracts all with values above Council's Procurement Policy contract value for invitation to tender:

File / Document Number	Date of Council	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signature of Person Sealing	Date	Minute Reference Authority
CONT22/12	14 December 2022	22 December 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and M.T. Mechanical Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	22 December 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 4.1
CONT22/12	14 December 2022	22 December 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Diverse Diesel Services & Repairs	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	22 December 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 4.1
CONT21/33	25 May 2022	28 July 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Warrandale Industries PL	Michael Chesworth Cr Sue Carpenter	28 July 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council 25 May 2022 council meeting, item 9
CONT21/38	28 September 2022	3 March 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Prestige Paving Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	3 March 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 29 September 2022 item 4.3
CONT22/10	14 December 2022	24 January 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and CT Management Group Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	24 January 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 6.2
CONT22/10	14 December 2022	31 January 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Public Sector People as part of Design & Build Recruitment Unit Trust PTY LTD	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	31 January 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 6.2
CONT22/10	14 December 2022	24 January 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Work Solutions (Melb) Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	24 January 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 6.2
CONT22/10	14 December 2022	31 January 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Zancott Recruitment (VIC) Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	31 January 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 6.2

File / Document Number	Date of Council	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signature of Person Sealing	Date	Minute Reference Authority
CONT22/12	14 December 2022	1 February 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Fetch Personnel Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	1 February 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 6.2
CONT22/17	14 December 2022	16 March 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council & Fineblade Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	16 March 2023	Scheduled meeting of Council, 14 December 2022 item 4.2
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	18 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Leaf and Limb Tree Services	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	18 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	2 June 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Total Tree Stump Removal	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	2 June 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	22 June 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and G&T Weed Management	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	22 June 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	9 June 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Advanced Tree Care Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	9 June 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	22 June 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Steven's Specialist Tree Service Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	22 June 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	2 June 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Practical Ecology Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	2 June 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	5 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and GTC Environmental Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	5 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4

CONTRACTS CONT.

In the period from 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023 Murrindindi Shire Council entered into the below contracts all with values above Council's Procurement Policy contract value for invitation to tender:

File / Document Number	Date of Council	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signature of Person Sealing	Date	Minute Reference Authority
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	9 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Hillside Fencing and Weed Spraying	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	9 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	18 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Brennan Contracting	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	18 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	18 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and TREC	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	18 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	18 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Woods Environmental Services	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	18 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	24 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Habitat Land Management	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	24 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	25 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Landlinks Environmental Services Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	25 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	24 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Morgan's Tree Services Pty Ltd	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	24 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4

File / Document Number	Date of Council	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signature of Person Sealing	Date	Minute Reference Authority
CONT22/19	22 March 2023	18 May 2023	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Antler Environmental	Livia Bonazzi Cr John Walsh	18 May 2023	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4
CONT22/4	27 July 2022	18 August 2022	Formal Instrument of Delegation between Murrindindi Shire Council and Specialised Pavement Services Pty Ltd for Street Sweeping Services	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter	18 August 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 27 July 2022, item 4.2
CONT22/2	14 September 2022	8 November 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and Fineblade Blue Gums Caravan Park To Eildon Recreational Trail	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter	8 November 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 28 August 2022 Confidential item 4, 4.1
CONT22/7	24 August 2022	9 September	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and MMP Projects for Panel Contract Builders	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter	9 September 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 24 August 2022 Confidential item 4, 4.1
CONT22/7	24 August 2022	26 September 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and AWS Services Pty Ltd for Panel Contract Builders	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter	26 September 2022	Scheduled meeting of Council, 28 August 2022 Confidential item 4, 4.1
CONT22/7	24 August 2022	9 September	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and M & A Dean Builders for Panel Contract Builders	Livia Bonazzi Cr Sue Carpenter	9 September 2022	Council meeting on 22 March 2023 item 4.4

All contracts that were above Council's public tender threshold involved a public invitation for tender or expression of interest in compliance with Council's Procurement Policy.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

The following are the results of Council's assessments against the prescribed governance and management checklist.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment	Check Box
1. Community Engagement Policy (policy outlining Council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest)	Adopted in accordance with section 55 of the Act: 24 February 2021	✓
2. Community Engagement Guidelines (guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community)	Current guidelines in operation 24 February 2021	✓
3. Financial Plan (plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non-financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years)	Plan adopted in accordance with section 91 of the Act: 27 October 2021	✓
4. Asset Plan (plan that sets out the asset maintenance and renewal needs for the key infrastructure asset classes for at least the next 10 years)	Plan adopted in accordance with section 92 of the Act: in 2012, Adopted: 22 June 2022	✓
5. Revenue and Rating Plan (plan setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges)	Adopted in accordance with section 93 of the Act: 28 April 2022	✓
6. Annual Budget (plan setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required)	Budget adopted in accordance with s94 of the Act Adopted: 24 May 2023	✓
7. Risk Policy (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations)	Current policy in operation 25 May 2022	✓
8. Fraud Policy (policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud)	Current policy in operation 22 September 2021	✓
9. Municipal Emergency Management Plan (plan under section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 for emergency prevention, response and recovery)	Prepared and maintained in accordance with s20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 31 October 2023	✓
10. Procurement Policy (policy under section 186A of the Local Government Act 1989 outlining the matters, practices and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods, services and works)	Adopted in accordance with section 108 of the Act 30 October 2022	✓

Governance and Management Items	Assessment	Check Box
11. Business Continuity Plan (plan setting out the actions that will be taken to ensure that key services continue to operate in the event of a disaster)	Current plan in operation 7 March 2022	✓
12. Disaster Recovery Plan (plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster)	Current plan in operation 5 May 2022	✓
13. Risk Management Framework (framework outlining Council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations)	Current framework in operation 30 April 2023	✓
14. Audit and Risk Committee (advisory committee of Council under section 53 and 54 of the Act)	Established in accordance with section 53 of the Act 22 July 2020	✓
15. Internal Audit (independent accounting professionals engaged by the Council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving Council's governance, risk and management controls)	Internal auditor engaged 8 January 2019	✓
16. Performance Reporting Framework (a set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989)	Current framework in operation 1 July 2014	✓
17. Council Plan Report (report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year)	Council reports its performance against the Council Plan on a quarterly basis at the November, February and April meetings and as part of the Annual Report Council Plan adopted 27 October 2021 Priority Action Plan adopted 24 May 2023	✓
18. Quarterly Budget Reports (quarterly reports to Council under section 97 of the Act, comparing actual and budgeted results and an explanation of any material variations)	Council reports its financial performance against the budget on a quarterly basis at the October, February, April and August meetings. 23 August 2023	✓

OUR COUNCIL

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST CONT.

The following are the results of Council's assessments against the prescribed governance and management checklist.

Governance and Management Items	Assessment	Check Box
19. Risk Reporting (six-monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring risk minimisation strategies)	Reported to Council's Audit and Risk Committee Meetings on a quarterly basis in September, December, March and May. Minutes of the meetings are formally presented to Council.	✓
20. Performance Reporting (six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred section 131 of the 1989 Act)	Council reports its performance against key indicators of both financial and non-financial performance on a quarterly basis at the November, February, April and August meetings.	✓
21. Annual Report (annual report under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the Local Government Act 1989 to the community containing a report of operations and audited financial performance statements)	Annual report presented at a meeting of Council in accordance with section 100 of the Act 26 October 2022	✓
22. Councillor Code of Conduct (Code setting out the standards of conduct to be followed Councillors and other matters)	Code of conduct reviewed and adopted in accordance with s139 of the Act 24 February 2021	✓
23. Delegations (documents setting out the powers, duties and functions of Council and the Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff)	Delegations reviewed in accordance with section 11(7) of the Act and a register kept in accordance with section 11(8) and 47(7) of the Act 15 May 2023	✓
24. Meeting Procedures (Governance Rules governing the conduct of meetings of Council and delegated committees)	Governance Rules adopted in accordance with section 60 of the Act 24 August 2022	✓

I certify that this information presents fairly the status of Council's governance and management arrangements.

Livia Bonazzi

Livia Bonazzi
Chief Executive Officer

Date:
25 October 2023

John Walsh

John Walsh
Mayor

Date:
25 October 2023



The image shows two women, Eliza and Lisa, working in a cafe. Eliza, on the left, has her hair in a bun and wears glasses and a grey shirt. Lisa, on the right, has short red hair and wears a grey polka-dot shirt. They are both smiling and looking at a laptop. In the background, there is a chalkboard sign that says 'ORDER HERE', a coffee grinder, and shelves with various items. A sign on the counter reads 'Our feature local jam on toast today is...'. There are also jars of jam and a small sign that says 'Small \$4.00 & 30ml'.

FINANCIAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION TO THE FINANCIALS

UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Murrindindi Shire Council's Financial Report is a general purpose financial report that consists of an Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity and a Cash Flow Statement, together with explanatory notes.

This general purpose Financial Report has been prepared to comply with the provisions of the *Local Government Act, 2020*, *Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2014*, applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Particular terms required by the Standards may not be familiar to some readers. Further, Council is a 'not for profit' public organisation and some of the generally recognised terms used in private sector company reports are not appropriate for Council's reports.

Council is committed to accountability and transparency. It is in this context that the plain English guide has been developed to assist readers to understand and analyse the financial report.

WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT?

Council's financial report has two sets of Statements:

1. Financial Statements

2. Performance Statement

Each of these statements is prepared by Council staff, examined by Council's Audit and Risk Committee, examined by Council and is then audited by the Victorian Auditor-General.

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT

The Income Statement sets out the movement in relation to revenue, expenses and other adjustments from all activities and compares these figures to the previous financial year. It provides a view of Council's operating performance. The Income Statement requires revenues to be separately disclosed where the item is of such a size, nature and incidence, that its disclosure is relevant in explaining the performance of Council.

THE BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet shows a snapshot of Council's financial position as at 30 June 2023. It shows the total of what is owned (assets) less what is owed (liabilities). The assets and liabilities are separated into 'current' and 'non-current'. 'Current' means those assets or liabilities that fall due in the next 12 months. The bottom line of this statement is net assets, which reflect the net worth of the Council. The change in net assets between the two years shows how the financial position has changed over the period. Net assets are made up of the total current and non-current assets less the current and non-current liabilities.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

During the course of the year, the value of 'Total Equity' as set out in the Balance Sheet changes. This Statement shows the values of such changes and how these changes arose.

The main reasons for a change in equity stem from

- the 'surplus or deficit' from operations, described in the Comprehensive Income Statement as the Comprehensive Result for the year
- the use of monies from Council's reserves
- a revaluation of the assets which takes place on a regular basis to ensure the most up-to-date value is included in Council's books. It also occurs when existing assets are taken up in the books for the first time.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The Cash Flow Statement summarises Council's cash payments and cash receipts for the year. This Statement is presented according to a very specific Accounting Standard and needs some care in analysis. The values may differ from those shown in the Comprehensive Income Statement because the Comprehensive Income Statement is prepared on an accrual accounting basis.

Cash in this Statement refers to bank deposits and other forms of highly-liquid investments that can be readily converted to cash. Council's cash arises from, and is used in, three main areas.

1. Cash flows from operating activities

- Receipts – all cash received into Council's bank account from ratepayers and others who owe money to Council. Receipts also include the interest earnings from Council's cash investments. It does not include the costs associated with the sale of assets.
- Payments – all cash paid by Council from its bank account to employees, creditors and other persons. It does not include the costs associated with the creation of assets.

2. Cash flows from investing activities

- This section shows the cash invested in the creation or purchase of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment assets and the cash received from the sale of these assets.

3. Cash flows from financing activities

- This is where the receipt and repayment of borrowed funds are recorded.

The bottom line of the Cash Flow Statement is the cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year. This shows the capacity of Council to meet its cash debts and other liabilities.

INTRODUCTION TO THE FINANCIALS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Notes are a very important and informative section of the Report. The Australian Accounting Standards are not prescriptive on some matters. Therefore, to enable the reader to understand the basis upon which the values shown in the Statements are established, it is necessary to provide details of Council's significant accounting policies.

Apart from the accounting policies, the Notes also give details behind many of the summary figures contained in the Statements. The Note numbers are shown beside the relevant items in the Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement.

The Notes also include information that Council wishes to disclose but which cannot be incorporated into the Statements.

Other notes include:

- the cost of the various functions/activities of Council
- the breakdown of expenses, revenues, reserves and other assets
- contingent liabilities
- transactions with persons related to Council
- financial performance indicators (ratios).

The Notes should be read in conjunction with the other parts of the Financial Statements to get a clear picture of the accounts.

PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

The Performance Statement shows the results that were achieved for the year across a number of performance indicators.

The document is then certified by the Principal Accounting Officer, the person responsible for the financial management of Council. This certification shows that the Financial Statements have met all the statutory and professional reporting requirements.

The Performance Statement is also certified by the Chief Executive Officer and two Councillors on behalf of Council that, in their opinion, the Financial Statements are fair and not misleading or inaccurate.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Independent Audit Report provides the reader with an external and independent opinion on the Financial Statements. It confirms that the Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with relevant legislation and professional standards and that it represents a fair picture of the financial affairs of the Council.

DONATIONS AND GRANTS PROVIDED BY COUNCIL 2022/23

RECEIVED BY	AMOUNT
Alexandra Community Christmas	\$2,000.00
Alexandra Community Shed	\$2,500.00
Alexandra District Health	\$5,000.00
Alexandra Events Corporation	\$6,188.00
Alexandra Football Netball Club	\$2,200.00
Alexandra Secondary College	\$600.00
Alexandra Traders & Tourism	\$5,450.00
Aquatics & Recreation Victoria	\$1,000.00
Buxton Progress Association	\$1,000.00
Creative Bytes Inc	\$1,688.00
Eildon Action Inc	\$5,000.00
Eildon Primary School	\$4,700.00
Eltham Lacrosse Club Inc	\$1,000.00
Flowerdale Community House	\$3,700.00
Glenburn Hall & Progress Association	\$400.00
Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness	\$2,250.00
Kellock Lodge Alexandra Inc	\$60.00
Kinglake Distillery Pty Ltd	\$1,904.64
Kinglake District Cricket Club	\$2,000.00
Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House	\$978.00
Kinglake Senior Citizens Centre	\$2,980.00
Koori Kids Pty Ltd	\$500.00
Lions Club of Eildon	\$500.00
Lions Club of Marysville & District Inc	\$2,400.00
Mothers Day Classic Foundation	\$1,000.00
Mt Lilydale Basketball Club	\$1,000.00
Murrindindi Beanie Festival	\$600.00
Murrindindi-Woodbourne Community	\$5,000.00
Rotary Club of Alexandra	\$3,125.00
Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges	\$1,000.00
Rotary Club of Yea	\$3,210.00
Strath Creek Progress Association	\$450.00
Triangle Arts Group	\$9,500.00
UGFM Community Radio	\$2,500.00
Ukrainian Youth Association	\$2,200.00
Upper Goulburn Landcare Network	\$1,000.00
Whittlesea & Kinglake Anglican Church	\$4,300.00
Yarra Valley Yurts Pty Ltd	\$1,500.00
Yea Community House	\$6,100.00
Yea Fire Brigade Group	\$270.00
Yea Primary School	\$855.00
Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre	\$6,449.00
Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre	\$3,200.00
TOTAL	\$106,057.64

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

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**CERTIFICATION OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Cheryl Nickels-Beattie
Principal Accounting
Officer

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Murrindindi Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify the financial statements in their final form.



John Walsh
Mayor

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra



Damien Gallagher
Councillor

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra

Livia Bonazzi

Livia Bonazzi
Chief Executive Officer

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra

VICTORIAN AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE REPORT



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Murrindindi Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the financial report of Murrindindi Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• balance sheet as at 30 June 2023• comprehensive income statement for the year then ended• statement of changes in equity for the year then ended• statement of cash flows for the year then ended• statement of capital works for the year then ended• notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies• certification of the financial statements. <p>In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2023 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's <i>APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report	<p>The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.</p>

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

MELBOURNE
6 October 2023

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023	2022
INCOME / REVENUE		\$'000	\$'000
Rates and charges	3.1	22,769	22,105
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	1,162	1,346
User fees	3.3	1,671	1,288
Gants - operating	3.4	9,455	8,907
Grants - capital	3.4	6,871	3,510
Contributions - monetary	3.5	424	394
Contributions - non monetary	3.5	482	1,204
Other income	3.6	2,462	1,486
TOTAL INCOME / REVENUE		45,295	40,240
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	4.1	15,369	14,785
Materials and services	4.2	14,448	12,369
Depreciation	4.3	8,174	7,953
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.4	538	488
Bad and doubtful debts – allowance for impairment losses	4.5	14	9
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	4.6	1,555	229
Other expenses	4.7	601	543
Increase in provision for landfill liability	5.4	56	277
TOTAL EXPENSES		40,755	36,653
Surplus/ (deficit) for the year		4,540	3,588
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME -			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment	6.1	43,453	23,046
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE RESULTS		43,453	23,046
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		47,993	26,633

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023	2022
ASSETS		\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1 (a)	7,408	13,400
Trade and other receivables	5.1 (c)	5,665	3,783
Other financial assets	5.1 (b)	33,600	29,400
Inventories	5.2(a)	37	45
Other assets	5.2(b)	2,797	253
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		49,507	46,881
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables	5.1(c)	1	1
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	481,331	434,115
Intangible assets	5.2(c)	931	1,469
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		482,263	435,585
Total assets		531,770	482,466
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	5.3(a)	3,999	2,564
Trust funds and deposits	5.3(b)	1,894	1,695
Unearned income / revenue	5.3(c)	6,269	6,495
Provisions	5.4(a)	3,331	3,414
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		15,493	14,168
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	5.5	7,808	7,822
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		7,808	7,822
Total liabilities		23,301	21,990
NET ASSETS		508,469	460,476
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		138,374	133,519
Reserves	9.1	370,095	326,957
TOTAL EQUITY		508,469	460,476

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Total	Accumulated Surplus	Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves
2023		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		460,476	133,519	307,915	19,042
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		4,540	4,540	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment	9.1	43,453	-	43,453	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1(b)	-	(5,912)	-	5,912
Transfers from other reserves	9.1(b)	-	6,227	-	(6,227)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		508,469	138,374	351,368	18,727
2022		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		433,843	128,739	284,870	20,234
Surplus / (deficit) for the financial year		3,588	3,588	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment	9.1	23,045	-	23,045	-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1(b)	-	(1,455)	-	1,455
Transfers from other reserves	9.1(b)	-	2,647	-	(2,647)
BALANCE AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		460,476	133,519	307,915	19,042

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000	Inflows/ (Outflows) \$'000
Rates and charges		22,531	22,186
Statutory fees and fines		1,195	1,364
User fees		246	991
Grants - operating		11,382	9,650
Grants - capital		2,796	4,912
Contributions - monetary		460	420
Interest received		941	333
Other receipts		895	1,036
Net Fire Services Property Levy received (remitted)		22	1
Net GST refund		1,914	1,802
Trust funds and deposits repaid		177	345
Materials and services		(14,879)	(14,604)
Employee costs		(15,793)	(14,460)
Other Payments		(356)	(352)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	9.2	11,530	13,624
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(13,724)	(12,483)
Payments for intangible assets		-	(8)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		402	385
Payments / (payments) for investments		(4,200)	900
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(17,522)	(11,206)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(5,992)	2,418
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		13,400	10,982
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	5.1(a)	7,408	13,400

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Murrindindi Shire Council 2022/2023 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023	2022
PROPERTY		\$'000	\$'000
Land		261	681
TOTAL LAND		261	681
Buildings		3,082	1,592
TOTAL BUILDINGS		3,082	1,592
TOTAL PROPERTY		3,343	2,273
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
Heritage plant and equipment		304	175
Plant, machinery and equipment		894	1,701
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		177	174
Library books		87	101
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		1,462	2,151
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Roads		2,610	4,910
Bridges		3,075	1,534
Footpaths and cycleways		2,704	1,065
Drainage		397	395
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE		8,786	7,904
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE		13,591	12,329
REPRESENTED BY			
New asset expenditure		2,659	1,092
Asset renewal expenditure		5,796	7,213
Asset expansion expenditure		720	615
Asset upgrade expenditure		4,416	3,408
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE		13,591	12,329

The above statement of capital works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



NOTE 1

OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Murrindindi Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 18 November 1994 and is a body corporate.
The Council's main office is located at Perkins Street, Alexandra.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with the *Australian Accounting Standards (AAS)*, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.
The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. Accounting policies applied are disclosed in sections where the related balance or financial statement matter is disclosed.
The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, except for cashflow information, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.
The financial statements are based on the historical cost convention unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements are in Australian dollars. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand unless otherwise specified. Minor discrepancies in tables between totals and the sum of components are due to rounding.
Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.4)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (refer to Note 3)
- the determination, in accordance with AASB 16 Leases, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.6)
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

GOODS & SERVICES TAX (GST)

Income and expenses are recognised net of the amount of associated GST. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

1.2 IMPACT OF COVID-19

During 2022-23 the COVID-19 pandemic has not had any significant impact on Council's operations or financials.

NOTE 2

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

2.1 – PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET

The performance against budget notes compare Council’s financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. *The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or \$500,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

2.1.1 INCOME / REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE	Budget 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
INCOME / REVENUE					
Rates and charges	22,676	22,769	93	0%	
Statutory fees and fines	1,453	1,162	(291)	(20%)	1
User fees	1,374	1,671	297	22%	2
Grants - operating	6,648	9,455	2,807	42%	3
Grants - capital	7,730	6,871	(859)	(11%)	4
Contributions - monetary	452	424	(28)	(6%)	
Contributions - non monetary	600	482	(118)	(20%)	5
Other income	1,180	2,462	1,282	109%	6
TOTAL INCOME / REVENUE	42,413	45,295	3,182	8%	
EXPENSES					
Employee costs	16,538	15,369	1,169	(7%)	7
Materials and service	11,607	14,448	(2,841)	24%	8
Bad and doubtful debts – allowance for impairment losses	-	14	(14)	100%	
Depreciation	8,045	8,174	(129)	2%	
Amortisation - intangible assets	361	538	(177)	49%	9
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	600	1,555	(955)	159%	10
Other expenses	500	601	(101)	20%	11
Increase in provision for landfill liability	-	56	(56)	100%	12
TOTAL EXPENSES	37,651	40,755	(3,104)	8%	
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	4,462	4,540	78	2%	

NOTE 2.1 – PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET (CONT)

(i) EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL VARIATIONS

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Statutory fees and fines	Unfavourable variances in Planning \$95k, Building \$65k and Project Delivery \$55k. The amount of statutory fees raised is reflective of the economic development activities.
2	User fees	The impact of October 2022 floods on the community resulted in an increase in Waste (Landfill) \$271k and reduction in SaleYards income \$37k.
3	Grants - operating	New grants and 2021/22 carry forwards not included in 2022/23 Original Budget: Leaping into Resilience, Oct 2022 Floods, Forestry and other projects.
4	Grants - capital	Budgeted grants deferred to unearned income as outcomes not delivered. Eg: Roads to Recovery Program \$1.1million.
5	Contributions – non monetary	Council receives contributions in the form of infrastructure as a result of subdivisions and developments. The timing and amount of such contributions is largely outside Council's control. Details of contributions are shown at Note 3.5.
6	Other income	Interest on investments \$1.1 million favourable due to higher interest rates. Volunteer services higher than budgeted (offset by corresponding expenditure) \$132k.
7	Employee costs	Various staff vacancies across the organisation, filled with short term contractors (materials and services).
8	Materials and services	Capital Works Projects included operating expenditure on non-Council assets \$773k. This included projects such as Rail Trail Art Project and Maintongoon Road where each project extended into other Councils and therefore are not Murrindindi Council Assets. This expenditure has been reported as operating materials and services.
9	Amortisation – intangible assets	Oct 2022 Flood Recovery costs were not expected at the time of the 2022/23 Annual Budget.
10	Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	When assets are replaced, renewed or upgraded, the underlying book value of the asset must be written out of the asset register. This value is recorded as an expense. The amount of the expense depends on the time of completion of works scheduled in the Capital Works Program.
11	Other expenses	Volunteers Services (offset by income) \$132k.
12	Increase in provision for landfill liability	Landfill provision (not budgeted) has increased following the annual review and alignment of the Environmental Protection Authority Assurance requirement.

Murrindindi Shire Council
2022/2023 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 2.1.2 – CAPITAL WORKS

2.1.2 CAPITAL WORKS	Budget 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Ref
PROPERTY LAND	257	261	4	2%	
Total Land	257	261	4	2%	
BUILDINGS	8,956	3,082	(5,874)	(66%)	1
Total Buildings	8,956	3,082	(5,874)	(66%)	
Total Property	9,213	3,343	(5,870)	(64%)	
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
Heritage plant and equipment	1,100	304	(796)	100%	2
Plant, machinery and equipment	1,020	894	(126)	(12%)	3
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	480	177	(303)	(63%)	4
Library books	100	87	(13)	(13%)	5
Total Plant and Equipment	2,700	1,462	(1,238)	(46%)	
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Roads	4,318	2,610	(1,708)	(40%)	6
Bridges	540	3,075	2,535	469%	7
Footpaths and cycleways	1,953	2,704	751	38%	8
Drainage	30	397	367	1223%	9
Total Infrastructure	6,841	8,786	1,945	28%	
Total Capital Works Expenditure	18,754	13,591	(5,163)	(28%)	
REPRESENTED BY:					
New asset expenditure	3,730	2,659	(1,071)	(29%)	
Asset renewal expenditure	7,234	5,796	(1,438)	(20%)	
Asset expansion expenditure	3,520	720	(2,800)	(80%)	
Asset upgrade expenditure	4,270	4,416	146	3%	
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE	18,754	13,591	(5,163)	(28%)	

NOTE 2.1.2 – CAPITAL WORKS (CONT)

(I) EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL VARIATIONS

Variance Ref	Item	Explanation
1	Buildings	Landfill cell construction and capping of yet to be closed cells was delayed. Works at the Eildon, Marysville and Yea pools have been scheduled for 2023/24. Eildon Splash park works will continue in 2023/24.
2	Heritage plant and equipment	The original budget included the Great Victorian Rail Trail Artworks project. This was in joint project with Mitchell and Mansfield Shire Councils. The budget was for the entire project, however actual the capital expenditure reported relates to only those assets within Murrindindi. The balance was transferred to operating expenditure.
3	Plant, machinery and equipment	Delays in delivery.
4	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Collaborative Digitalisation (CODI) Transformation Project delayed.
5	Library books	Minor underspend in annual book stock allocation.
6	Roads	October flooding caused delay in access and diverted resources. Difficulties in obtaining internal and external resources result in some works being deferred to 2023/24.
7	Bridges	3 Bridges initially scheduled for completion in 2021/22 were carried over and completed in this year.
8	Footpaths and cycleways	Works continued on the Blue Gums to Eildon Trail. Funds were carried forward from the 2021/22 budget.
9	Drainage	Drainage trouble spots Alexandra program funds were carried forward from 2021/22 budget and completed in the current year.

Murrindindi Shire Council
2022/2023 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 2.2 – ANALYSIS OF COUNCIL RESULTS BY PROGRAM

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

2.2.1 RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

To ensure we are welcoming, inclusive, caring and connected

We recognise that resilient communities are connected communities with access to services that support physical and mental health in a safe environment. We value the community's diversity and are committed to inclusion, access and equity for everyone. We will build on this quality by encouraging participation and involvement. These principles foster cohesiveness, empower people and improve resilience and the wellbeing of the community.

Resilient communities includes, children and family services, library services, community services, community development and engagement

BEAUTIFUL TOWNSHIPS AND RURAL SETTINGS

To create a better place for our community and visitors to live in harmony with our rural character, natural beauty and heritage.

The unique character, history, scenic beauty and ambience of our places and spaces and the health of our natural environment are highly valued by our communities. We will ensure our built environments are well planned to enable sensible growth that does not compromise the natural environment, nor the liveability, accessibility and character of our towns and localities.

Beautiful township and rural settings includes, building control, community safety, development approvals, environmental health, infrastructure maintenance, parks, gardens and open space management.

GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

To prioritise and promote a culture in which the economy, businesses and community can grow and thrive.

We recognise that growth and opportunity are key to supporting individual aspirations and our communities. We will ensure that opportunities to encourage our businesses, social enterprises and industry sectors to grow and thrive are pursued. We will support businesses to start, grow or transition, promote tourism, facilitate access to support and training, and embrace activities that help boost local employment and investment.

Growth and opportunity includes tourism and business development services and saleyards management.

OUR PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT

To protect and enhance our natural environment, supporting environmental sustainability, community resilience, innovation and adaptation to climate change to achieve net-zero emissions by 2035.

We are fortunate to live in one of the most diverse and beautiful places in the world. We recognise that the prosperity and wellbeing of our communities depends on a healthy environment, and a healthy environment depends on us making ecologically-sustainable choices. We will continue to value our natural landscapes and biodiversity and share the responsibility of being climate ready and leaders in resource management to help our Shire grow and thrive.

Our protected environment includes, environmental and waste management.

TRANSPARENCY, INCLUSION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

To ensure our services, people and systems deliver the best possible outcomes for our communities now and into the future.

Our organisation will be innovative, accountable and focused on achieving the community's needs and priorities. Our workplace is equitable, flexible and focused on health, safety and wellbeing, as our staff are integral in effective and responsive service delivery. We value working with our communities to prioritise, plan and advocate for the needs now and into the future.

Transparency, inclusion and accountability includes, councillors, chief executive and executive team, communications and publications, financial services, corporate services, human resources, customer services, emergency services, asset planning and management.

2.2.2 SUMMARY OF INCOME / REVENUE, EXPENSES, ASSETS AND CAPITAL EXPENSES BY PROGRAM	Income/ Revenue	Expenses	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Grants included in Income / Revenue	Total Assets
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Resilient communities	2,038	5,458	(3,420)	1,688	25,819
Beautiful townships and rural settings	11,732	10,606	1,127	9,761	389,166
Growth and opportunity	710	1,478	(768)	30	6,990
Our protected environment	5,476	5,234	242	144	24,758
Transparency, inclusion and accountability	1,701	7,498	(5,798)	120	35,468
General rates	19,054	-	19,054	-	-
Unattributed	4,583	10,480	(5,896)	4,583	49,570
	45,295	40,755	4,540	16,326	531,770
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Resilient communities	1,971	4,912	(2,941)	1,544	24,947
Beautiful townships and rural settings	8,880	8,553	326	6,081	339,757
Growth and opportunity	1,088	1,716	(629)	379	8,717
Our protected environment	4,895	4,912	(17)	46	24,946
Transparency, inclusion and accountability	644	8,684	(8,040)	117	44,103
General rates	18,513	-	18,513	-	-
Unattributed	4,249	7,875	(3,626)	4,250	39,996
	40,240	36,653	3,588	12,417	482,466

Unattributed income includes Victorian Grants Commission funding and proceeds from sale of assets.
Unattributed expenses include depreciation, amortisation and the written down value of the asset disposed.
Rates income is also reported separately, in line with the 2022/23 Annual Budget.

NOTE 3

FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES

3.1 RATES AND CHARGES

Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV of a property is its total value of land plus buildings and improvements.

The valuation base used to calculate the general rates for 2022/2023 was \$7,804 million (2021/2022 \$6,007 million). The 2022/2023 rate in the dollar for general rate was 0.002117 of the capital improved value of the property (2021/2022 0.002658).

The 2022/2023 Municipal Charge was \$352 (2021/2022 \$346) per rateable assessment. In 2022/2023 the Garbage Service Charge was \$402.73 (2021/2022 \$395.80) and Recycling Charge was \$123.12 (2021/2022 \$121.00).

3.1 RATES AND CHARGES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Residential	6,895	6,890
Commercial	824	859
Rural 1	3,575	3,317
Rural 2	3,461	3,325
Vacant Land - residential	640	625
Vacant Land - commercial	32	36
Municipal charge	3,469	3,395
Garbage charge	2,833	2,739
Recycling	881	852
Revenue in lieu of rates	159	67
TOTAL RATES AND CHARGES	22,769	22,105

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2022, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2022.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

3.2 STATUTORY FEES AND FINES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Building inspection and permits	391	430
Community safety – including companion animal registrations	172	208
Environmental health inspections and permits	163	152
Planning and development permits	314	391
Infrastructure inspections and permits	104	124
Other	18	41
TOTAL STATUTORY FEES AND FINES	1,162	1,346

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

3.3 USER FEES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Halls and community centres	34	20
Saleyard fees	459	521
Recreation pools and leisure centres	17	23
Waste - transfer stations & landfill fees	1,101	708
Other fees and charges	60	16
TOTAL USER FEES	1,671	1,288

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, or over time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

USER FEES BY TIMING OF REVENUE RECOGNITION	\$'000	\$'000
User fees recognised at a point in time	1,671	1,288
TOTAL USER FEES	1,671	1,288

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 3 – FUNDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES (CONT)

3.4 FUNDING FROM OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT Grants were received in respect of the following:	2023	2022
SUMMARY OF GRANTS	\$'000	\$'000
Commonwealth funded grants	8,400	9,869
State funded grants	7,926	2,548
TOTAL GRANTS RECEIVED	16,326	12,417
(A) OPERATING GRANTS	\$'000	\$'000
RECURRENT - COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT		
Financial Assistance Grants	7,113	6,584
Aged and disability	29	57
Children services	608	702
RECURRENT - STATE GOVERNMENT		
Aged and disability	25	23
Children services	332	309
Public health	14	11
Library services	166	163
Road safety	44	37
TOTAL RECURRENT OPERATING GRANTS	8,331	7,886
NON-RECURRENT - COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT		
Emergency management	224	28
Infrastructure	-	67
NON-RECURRENT - STATE GOVERNMENT		
Children services	63	60
Community	81	121
Development approvals	40	79
Economic development	134	379
Emergency management	247	73
Environmental services	172	36
Public health	56	80
Road safety	-	10
Tourism	12	-
Youth services	96	78
Waste and recycling	-	10
TOTAL NON-RECURRENT OPERATING GRANTS	1,124	1,021
TOTAL OPERATING GRANTS	9,455	8,907

	2023	2022
(B) CAPITAL GRANTS	\$'000	\$'000
RECURRENT - COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT		
Roads to Recovery	-	1,162
RECURRENT - STATE GOVERNMENT		
Library materials	6	6
TOTAL RECURRENT CAPITAL GRANTS	6	1,168
NON-RECURRENT - COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT		
Bridges	1,961	-
Buildings	-	356
Footpaths and cycleways	-	4
Roads	426	910
NON-RECURRENT - STATE GOVERNMENT		
Buildings	1,366	456
Cultural and heritage	1,050	150
Footpaths and cycleways	1,689	166
Roads	372	300
TOTAL NON-RECURRENT CAPITAL GRANTS	6,864	2,342
TOTAL CAPITAL GRANTS	6,871	3,510

Murrindindi Shire Council

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

3.4 FUNDING FROM OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT (CONT)

(C) RECOGNITION OF GRANT INCOME

Before recognising funding from government grants as revenue the Council assesses whether there is a contract that is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to revenue under the contract/agreement
- determines the transaction price
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations, at the time or over time when services are rendered.

Where the contract is not enforceable and/or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council applies AASB 1058 *Income for Not-for-Profit Entities*.

Grant revenue with sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised over time as the performance obligations specified in the underlying agreement are met. Where performance obligations are not sufficiently specific, grants are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when an unconditional right to receipt has been established. Grants relating to capital projects are generally recognised progressively as the capital project is completed. The following table provides a summary of the accounting framework under which grants are recognised.

(C) RECOGNITION OF GRANT INCOME	2023	2022
INCOME RECOGNISED UNDER AASB 1058 INCOME OF NOT-FOR-PROFIT ENTITIES	\$'000	\$'000
General purpose	8,331	7,886
Specific purpose grants to acquire non-financial assets	6,874	3,510
Other specific purpose grants	466	782
REVENUE RECOGNISED UNDER AASB 15 REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS	\$'000	\$'000
Specific purpose grants	658	239
	16,326	12,417
(D) UNSPENT GRANTS RECEIVED ON CONDITION THAT THEY BE SPENT IN A SPECIFIC MANNER	2023	2022
OPERATING	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at start of year	1,026	425
Adjustment for prior years	(394)	-
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	2,790	949
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(716)	(348)
BALANCE AT YEAR END	2,705	1,026
CAPITAL		
Balance at start of year	5,802	4,550
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	2,926	2,375
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(5,164)	(1,124)
BALANCE AT YEAR END	3,564	5,802

Unspent grants are determined and disclosed on a cash basis.

3.5 CONTRIBUTIONS	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Monetary - operating	313	228
Monetary - capital	111	166
Non-monetary - capital	482	1,204
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	906	1,598

Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes

Land	-	289
Land under roads	6	38
Plant and equipment	5	-
Drainage	178	257
Footpaths and cycleways	49	171
Roads	244	449
TOTAL NON-MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS	482	1,204

Monetary and non-monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

3.6 OTHER INCOME	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest	1,234	188
Interest on rates	182	178
Rental	275	278
Reimbursements	313	305
Volunteer services	252	201
Other	206	336
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	2,462	1,486

Interest and rent are recognised as it is earned. Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

NOTE 4

THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES

4.1 (A) EMPLOYEE COSTS	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Wages and salaries	13,642	13,199
Fringe benefits tax	35	19
Superannuation	1,461	1,286
Workcover	231	281
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS	15,369	14,785

4.1 (B) SUPERANNUATION	2023	2022
COUNCIL MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:	\$'000	\$'000
DEFINED BENEFIT FUND		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	27	20
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE AT REPORTING DATE	\$'000	\$'000
ACCUMULATION FUNDS - EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO:		
Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	770	688
Australian Super	125	97
Hostplus	76	56
Other funds	463	425
	1,461	1,286
EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE AT REPORTING DATE	\$'000	\$'000
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	16	12
Employer contributions - other funds	13	8

Contributions made exclude amounts accrued at balance date.

Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

4.2 MATERIALS AND SERVICES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Consultants	258	190
Contractors	10,255	9,055
Contributions	693	588
Insurance	704	603
Legal expenses	270	193
Materials	1,220	793
Information technology and software	536	498
Utilities	512	449
TOTAL MATERIALS AND SERVICES	14,448	12,369

Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

4.3 DEPRECIATION	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Property	1,686	1,995
Plant and equipment	1,116	1,083
Infrastructure	5,372	4,875
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	8,174	7,953

Refer to Note 6.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and accounting policy.

4.4 AMORTISATION - INTANGIBLE ASSETS	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Landfill airspace	476	423
Software	62	65
TOTAL AMORTISATION	538	488

Refer to Note 5.2(b) for a more detailed breakdown of amortisation charges and accounting policy.

Murrindindi Shire Council

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 4 – THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES (CONT)

4.5 BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS – ALLOWANCE FOR IMPAIRMENT LOSSES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Debtors - Infringements	14	9
TOTAL BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS	14	9
MOVEMENT IN ALLOWANCE FOR IMPAIRMENT LOSSES IN RESPECT OF DEBTORS		
Balance at the beginning of the year	76	67
New provisions recognised during the year	14	9
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectible	-	-
Amounts provided for but recovered during the year	(5)	-
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	85	76

An allowance for impairment losses in respect of debtors is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

4.6 NET LOSS ON DISPOSAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Written down value of assets disposed	1,957	614
Less proceeds from sales	(402)	(385)
TOTAL	1,555	229

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer. Refer to Note 6 for additional details.

4.7 OTHER EXPENSES	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Auditors remuneration - VAGO- audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	48	51
Auditors remuneration - internal audit	34	45
Councillors allowances	238	228
Volunteer services	252	201
Other	29	18
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	601	543

NOTE 5

OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

5.1 FINANCIAL ASSETS	2023	2022
(A) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$'000	\$'000
Cash on hand	1	1
Cash at bank	1,607	2,555
Term deposits and at call	5,800	10,844
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	7,408	13,400
(B) OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$'000	\$'000
Term deposit - current	33,600	29,400
TOTAL OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS	33,600	29,400
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	41,008	42,800

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value at balance date. Term Deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

Other financial assets include term deposits and those with original maturity dates of three to 12 months are classified as current, whilst term deposits with maturity dates greater than 12 months are classified as non-current.

5.1 FINANCIAL ASSETS (CONT.)	2023	2022
(C) TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT		
STATUTORY RECEIVABLES		
Rates debtors	2,442	2,244
Provision for doubtful rate debts	(61)	(52)
Garbage and recycling debtors	513	465
Special rate scheme	6	6
Infringement debtors	81	78
Provision for doubtful debts - infringements	(24)	(23)
Net GST receivable	134	384
NON STATUTORY RECEIVABLES		
Other debtors	2,377	549
Government grants	197	132
TOTAL CURRENT TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	5,665	3,783
NON - CURRENT		
STATUTORY RECEIVABLES		
Special rate scheme	1	1
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	5,665	3,784

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Murrindindi Shire Council

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 5 – OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (CONT)

5.1 FINANCIAL ASSETS (CONT.)	2023	2022
(D) AGEING OF RECEIVABLES	\$'000	\$'000
THE AGEING OF THE COUNCIL'S TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (EXCLUDING STATUTORY RECEIVABLES) THAT ARE NOT IMPAIRED WAS:		
Current (not yet due)	2,441	337
Past due by up to 30 days	87	138
Past due between 31 and 180 days	28	44
Past due between 181 and 365 days	9	6
Past due by more than 1 year	9	157
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	2,574	682

5.2 NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS	2023	2022
(A) INVENTORIES	\$'000	\$'000
Inventories held for distribution	37	45
TOTAL INVENTORIES	37	45

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential.

All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

(B) OTHER ASSETS	\$'000	\$'000
Accrued income	2,074	-
Accrued interest income	551	76
Prepayments	172	177
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	2,797	253
(C) INTANGIBLE ASSETS	\$'000	\$'000
Landfill airspace	688	1,164
Software	243	305
TOTAL INTANGIBLE ASSETS	931	1,469

	Software	Landfill	Total
GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	518	4,470	4,988
Other Additions	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	518	4,470	4,988
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	(213)	(3,306)	(3,519)
Amortisation expense	(62)	(476)	(538)
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2023	(275)	(3,782)	(4,057)

NET BOOK VALUE AT 30 JUNE 2022	305	1,164	1,469
NET BOOK VALUE AT 30 JUNE 2023	243	688	931

Landfill air space represents the unused capacity of the Alexandra landfill. The value of this asset is based on the corresponding landfill restoration provision (refer to Note 5.4) adjusted to reflect the portion of unused air space remaining within this landfill. Amortisation is on the basis of the assets useful life and amortisation method is reviewed at least annually, and adjustments made where appropriate.

Software assets are amortised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life.

5.3 PAYABLES, TRUST FUNDS AND DEPOSITS AND UNEARNED INCOME / REVENUE	2023	2022
(A) TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT		
NON STATUTORY PAYABLES		
Trade payables	2,086	1,851
Accrued wages	383	670
Accrued expenses	1,530	43
TOTAL CURRENT TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	3,999	2,564
(B) TRUST FUNDS AND DEPOSITS	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT		
Refundable building deposits	50	51
Refundable planning permit bonds	251	199
Retention contract deposits	909	752
Fire Service Property Levy	82	60
Other refundable deposits	602	634
TOTAL CURRENT TRUST FUNDS AND DEPOSITS	1,894	1,695
(C) UNEARNED INCOME / REVENUE	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT		
Grants received in advance - operating	2,705	693
Grants received in advance - capital	3,564	5,802
TOTAL CURRENT UNEARNED INCOME / REVENUE	6,269	6,495

Murrindindi Shire Council

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 5 – OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (CONT)

Unearned income/revenue represents contract liabilities and reflect consideration received in advance from customers. Unearned income/revenue are derecognised and recorded as revenue when promised goods and services are transferred to the customer. Refer to Note 3.

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeited, resulting in Council gaining control of the funds, are recognised as revenue at the time of the forfeit.

PURPOSE AND NATURE OF ITEMS:

Refundable building deposits and planning permit bonds - These amounts have been received from individuals or companies to guarantee performance of obligations under various building permits, planning permits and contract agreements.

Fire Service Property Levy - Council is the collection agent for this levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the State Government in line with this process.

Retention Amounts - Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with Council's contractual obligations.

5.4 PROVISIONS	Employee	Land restoration	Total
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	3,698	7,838	11,236
Additional provisions	1,180	56	1,236
Amounts used	(1,318)	-	(1,318)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of the time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	(15)	(15)
BALANCE AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	3,560	7,579	11,139
Provisions - current	3,331	-	3,331
Provisions – non current	229	7,579	7,808
TOTAL PROVISIONS	3,560	7,579	11,139
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	3,693	7,279	10,972
Additional provisions	1,056	277	1,333
Amounts used	(1,051)	-	(1,051)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of the time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	-	(18)	(18)
BALANCE AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	3,698	7,538	11,236
Provisions - current	3,414	-	3,414
Provisions – non current	284	7,538	7,822
TOTAL PROVISIONS	3,698	7,538	11,236

5.4 PROVISIONS CONT.	2023	2022
(A) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT PROVISION EXPECTED TO BE WHOLLY SETTLED WITHIN 12 MONTHS		
Annual leave	858	909
Long service leave	333	146
	1,191	1,055
CURRENT PROVISION EXPECTED TO BE WHOLLY SETTLED AFTER 12 MONTHS		
Annual leave	476	567
Long service leave	1,664	1,791
	2,140	2,358
TOTAL CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROVISIONS	3,331	3,414
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	229	284
TOTAL NON-CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROVISIONS	229	284
AGGREGATE CARRYING AMOUNT OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:		
Current	3,331	3,414
Non-current	229	284
TOTAL AGGREGATE CARRYING AMOUNT OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,560	3,698

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Murrindindi Shire Council

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

NOTE 5 – OUR FINANCIAL POSITION (CONT)

ANNUAL LEAVE

A liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits as a current liability because the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability. Liabilities for annual leave are measured at:

- nominal value if the Council expects to wholly settle the liability within 12 months
- present value if the Council does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement.

Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

KEY ASSUMPTIONS	2023	2022
- discount rate	4.38%	3.25%
- inflation rate	2.75%	2.75%

5.4 PROVISIONS CONT.	2023	2022
(B) PROVISIONS - LANDFILL RESTORATION	\$'000	\$'000
NON-CURRENT		
Landfill restoration	7,579	7,538
	7,579	7,538

Council is obligated to restore the landfill site to a particular standard. The forecast life of the site is based on current estimates of remaining capacity and the forecast rate of infill. The provision for landfill restoration has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to reinstate the site to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

Council reviews the landfill restoration provision on an annual basis, including the key assumptions listed below.

KEY ASSUMPTIONS	2023	2022
- discount rate	4.38%	3.95%
- inflation rate	7.10%	5.00%

5.5 FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

5.5 FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS	2023	2022
THE COUNCIL HAS THE FOLLOWING FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE AS AT 30 JUNE 2023	\$'000	\$'000
Bank overdraft	-	-
Credit card facilities	100	100
TOTAL FACILITIES	100	100
Used facilities	-	-
UNUSED FACILITIES	100	100

5.6 COMMITMENTS

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

5.6 COMMITMENTS	No later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
(A) COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2023					
OPERATING					
Cleaning buildings services	243	249	-	-	492
Garbage and recycling collection	1,192	-	-	-	1,192
Landfill	33	-	-	-	33
Library	68	67	-	-	135
Street sweeping	93	94	-	-	187
Photocopiers and printers	31	32	79	-	142
Software	125	33	-	-	158
Telecommunications	113	106	107	-	326
Yea Lawn Cemetery	124	-	-	-	124
Rubicon waste water	30	-	-	-	30
TOTAL	2,052	581	186	-	2,819
CAPITAL					
Bridges	265	-	-	-	265
Buildings and improvements	906	-	-	-	906
Drainage	126	-	-	-	126
Paths and cycleways	304	-	-	-	304
Plant and equipment	686	-	-	-	686
Roads	460	-	-	-	460
Vegetation	2	-	-	-	2
Waste management	59	-	-	-	59
Intangibles	27	-	-	-	27
Library materials	52	-	-	-	52
TOTAL	2,887			-	2,887

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

5.6 COMMITMENTS (CONT.)

5.6 COMMITMENTS	No later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
OPERATING					
Cleaning buildings services	237	243	249	-	729
Garbage and recycling collection	1,135	1,207	-	-	2,342
Landfill	45	33	-	-	78
Library	66	-	-	-	66
Photocopiers and printers	29	-	-	-	29
Software	181	120	52	-	353
Telecommunications	6	-	-	-	6
TOTAL	1,699	1,603	301	-	3,603
CAPITAL					
Bridges	2,760	-	-	-	2,760
Buildings and improvements	1,940	-	-	-	1,940
Drainage	145	-	-	-	145
Heritage and cultural	30	-	-	-	30
Paths and cycleways	529	-	-	-	529
Plant and equipment	545	-	-	-	545
Roads	307	-	-	-	307
TOTAL	6,256	-	-	-	6,256

B) OPERATING LEASE RECEIVABLES

The Council has entered into commercial property leases of its Caravan Parks and other property assets. These properties held under operating leases have remaining non-cancellable lease terms of between 1 and 99 years.

Future minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Not later than one year	206	223
Later than one year and not later than five years	769	801
Later than five years	1,303	1,485
TOTAL	2,278	2,509

5.7 LEASES

Council has not recognised any right-of-use assets and lease liabilities on the Balance Sheet, in accordance with *AASB 16 Leases*. All assets held by Council have been assessed as either short term or low value.

SHORT-TERM AND LOW VALUE LEASES

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than existing capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of AUD\$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

5.7 LEASES	2023	2022
EXPENSES RELATION TO:	\$'000	\$'000
Leases of low value assets	-	3
TOTAL NON- CANCELLABLE LEASE COMMITMENTS – SHORT TERM AND LOW-VALUE LEASES	-	3
COMMITMENTS FOR MINIMUM LEASE PAYMENTS FOR SHORT-TERM AND LOW-VALUE LEASES ARE PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:	\$'000	\$'000
PAYABLE:		
Within one year	-	1
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	2
TOTAL LEASE COMMITMENTS	-	3

NOTE 6

ASSETS WE MANAGE

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT								
SUMMARY OF PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT								
	Carrying amount 30 June 2022 \$'000	Acquisitions \$'000	Contributions \$'000	Revaluations \$'000	Depreciation \$'000	Disposals \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Carrying amount 30 June 2023 \$'000
Property	127,253	143	6	2,729	(1,686)	(75)	411	128,781
Plant and equipment	7,061	1,462	5	-	(1,116)	(134)	168	7,446
Infrastructure	289,011	2,241	471	40,724	(5,372)	(1,748)	4,760	330,087
Works in progress	10,790	9,745	-	-	-	-	(5,518)	15,017
TOTAL	434,115	13,591	482	43,453	(8,174)	(1,957)	(179)	481,331

SUMMARY OF WORKS IN PROGRESS (WIP)

	Opening WIP \$'000	Additions \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Closing WIP \$'000
Property	3,308	3,200	(429)	6,079
Plant and equipment	175	-	(150)	25
Infrastructure	7,307	6,545	(4,939)	8,913
Total	10,790	9,745	(5,518)	15,017

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT								
(A) PROPERTY								
	Land - Non specialised \$'000	Land Under Roads \$'000	Total Land \$'000	Buildings - Specialised \$'000	Buildings - Non specialised \$'000	Total Buildings \$'000	Work In Progress \$'000	Total Property \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	40,726	17,891	58,617	108,885	-	108,885	3,308	170,810
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	-	-	-	(40,248)	-	(40,248)	-	(40,248)
	40,726	17,891	58,617	68,637	-	68,637	3,308	130,562
MOVEMENTS IN FAIR VALUE								
Additions	-	-	-	143	-	143	3,20	3,343
Contributions	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	6
Revaluation	-	-	-	4,426	-	4,426	-	4,426
Disposals	-	-	-	(185)	-	(185)	-	(185)
Transfers - Works in progress asset to plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	(18)	(18)
Transfers	(156)	156	-	411	-	411	(411)	-
	(156)	162	6	4,795	-	4,795	2,771	7,572
MOVEMENTS IN ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION								
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	(1,686)	-	(1,686)	-	(1,686)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	110	-	110	-	110
Revaluation	-	-	-	(1,697)	-	(1,697)	-	(1,697)
	-	-	-	(3,273)	-	(3,273)	-	(3,273)
At fair value 30 June 2023	40,570	18,053	58,623	113,680	-	113,680	6,079	178,382
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	-	-	-	(43,521)	-	(43,521)	-	(43,521)
CARRYING AMOUNT	40,570	18,053	58,623	70,159	-	70,159	6,079	134,861

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

6 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT						
(B) PLANT AND EQUIPMENT						
	Heritage plant and equipment	Plant machinery and equipment	Fixtures fittings and furniture	Library books	Works in progress	Total plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	358	10,819	2,524	926	175	14,801
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(49)	(5,053)	(2,024)	(440)	-	(7,566)
	309	5,766	500	486	175	7,235
MOVEMENT IN FAIR VALUE						
Additions	303	894	178	87	-	1,462
Disposals	-	(1,022)	(45)	(90)	-	(1,157)
Contributions	-	30	-	-	-	30
Transfer - Works in progress asset from buildings	-	-	-	-	18	18
Transfers	150	18	-	-	(168)	-
	453	(80)	133	(3)	(150)	353
MOVEMENTS IN ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION						
Depreciation and amortisation	(2)	(838)	(182)	(94)	-	(1,116)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	889	44	90	-	1,023
Contributions	-	(25)	-	-	-	(25)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(2)	26	(138)	(4)	-	(118)
At fair value 30 June 2023	811	10,739	2,657	923	25	15,155
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	(51)	(5,027)	(2,162)	(444)	-	(7,684)
CARRYING AMOUNT	760	5,712	495	479	25	7,471

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT						
(C) INFRASTRUCTURE						
	Roads	Bridges	Footpaths and cycleways	Drainage	Works in progress	Total Infrastructure
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2022	226,758	78,842	19,397	22,820	7,307	355,124
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2022	(17,019)	(29,487)	(5,836)	(6,464)	-	(58,806)
	209,739	49,355	13,561	16,356	7,307	296,318
MOVEMENTS IN FAIR VALUE						
Additions	1,850	135	56	200	6,545	8,786
Contributions	243	-	49	178	-	470
Revaluation	15,870	24,731	1,400	1,617	-	43,618
Disposals	(3,277)	(410)	(8)	(49)	-	(3,744)
Transfer - Works in progress asset expensed	-	-	-	-	(179)	(179)
Transfers	3,187	1,248	267	58	(4,760)	-
	17,873	25,704	1,764	2,004	1,606	48,951
MOVEMENTS IN ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION						
Depreciation and amortisation	(3,490)	(854)	(782)	(246)	-	(5,372)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	1,792	174	4	26	-	1,996
Revaluation	(1,296)	(653)	(470)	(475)	-	(2,894)
	(2,994)	(1,333)	(1,248)	(695)	-	(6,270)
At fair value 30 June 2023	244,631	104,546	21,161	24,824	8,913	404,075
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2023	(20,013)	(30,820)	(7,084)	(7,159)	-	(65,076)
CARRYING AMOUNT	224,618	73,726	14,077	17,665	8,913	338,999

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

ACQUISITION

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits detailed below have been applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class. These are consistent with the prior year.

ASSET RECOGNITION THRESHOLDS AND DEPRECIATION PERIODS	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit
LAND & LAND IMPROVEMENTS	Years	\$'000
land	-	1
land improvements	-	1
BUILDINGS		
buildings	30 to 80	5,000
buildings and leasehold improvements	-	-
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
fixtures ,fittings and furniture	3 to 20	2,000
heritage plant and equipment	20 to 200	1,000
library material	5 to 10	1,000
plant, machinery and equipment	3 to 20	2,000
INFRASTRUCTURE		
bridges	35 to 100	7,500
drainage	50 to 100	5,000
footpaths and cycleways	15 to 80	5,000
roads – formation and earthworks	80 to 200	5,000
roads - pavements	20 to 40	5,000

LAND UNDER ROADS

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION

Buildings, plant and equipment, infrastructure and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where infrastructure assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Straight line depreciation is charged, based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

VALUATION OF LAND AND BUILDINGS

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken at 30 June 2019 by a qualified independent valuers Lacklan Black APV Valuers and Asset Management valuer registration number 66132 and Josh Franklin valuer registration number 102257. An indexed based revaluation was conducted using Valuer General Victoria (VGV) data for all land and building asset classes in June 2023. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. A full revaluation of these assets will be conducted in 2023/24.

Details of the Council’s land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation	Valuer
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		
Land	-	40,570	-	31/03/2023	Indexed Valuation Valuer General Victoria (VGV)
Specialised land	-	-	18,053	31/03/2023	Indexed Valuation Valuer General Victoria (VGV)
Buildings	-	-	70,159	31/03/2023	Indexed Valuation Valuer General Victoria (VGV)
TOTAL	-	40,570	88,212		

VALUATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Valuation of infrastructure assets has been determined in accordance with a valuation undertaken as detailed in the following table.

The date and type of the current valuation is detailed in the following table.

The valuation is at fair value based on current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Details of the Council’s infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Date of Valuation	Valuer
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		
Roads	-	-	224,618	30/06/2023	Indexed Valuation ABS Producer Price Index
Bridges	-	-	73,726	31/05/2023	Revaluation, Joshua Baulch - Qualified VicRoads Bridge Inspector. Reviewed Chris Morton Principal Bridge Engineer. Pitt and Sherry
Footpaths and cycleway	-	-	14,077	30/06/2023	Indexed Valuation ABS Producer Price Index
Drainage	-	-	17,664	30/06/2023	Indexed Valuation ABS Producer Price Index
TOTAL	-	-	330,085		

6.1 PROPERTY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS INTO LEVEL 3 VALUATIONS

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 25% and 95%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$1 and \$295 per square metre.

Specialised buildings are valued using a depreciated replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement cost is calculated on a square metre basis and range from \$100 to \$15,000 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 8 years to 80 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 20 - 200 years. Replacement cost are sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

RECONCILIATION OF SPECIALISED LAND	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Land under roads	18,053	17,891
TOTAL SPECIALISED LAND	18,053	17,891

NOTE 7

PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS

7.1 COUNCIL AND KEY MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION

(A) RELATED PARTIES

Parent entity

Murrindindi Shire Council is the parent entity

Subsidiaries and Associates

There are no subsidiaries and associates

(B) KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Key management personnel (KMP) are those people with the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling Council's activities. The Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Directors are deemed KMP.

Details of KMP at any time during the year are:

COUNCILLORS

Councillor – John Walsh – Mayor from 17/11/2022
Councillor – Karine Haslam – Deputy Mayor from 17/11/2022
Councillor – Sue Carpenter Mayor to 16/11/22
Councillor - Damien Gallagher – Deputy Mayor to 16/11/2022
Councillor - Eric Lording
Councillor – Ilona Gerencer
Councillor - Sandice McAulay

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer - Livia Bonazzi
Director Assets and Environment - Vito Albicini
Director People and Corporate Performance - Michael Chesworth
Director Community Engagement - Shivaun Brown – until 16/09/2022
Interim Director Community Engagement – Natascha Powne (Siebert) from 12/09/2022 to 29/05/2023
Director Community & Development – Andrew Paxton from 1/05/2023

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Total number of Councillors	7	7
Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	6	4
TOTAL KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL	13	11

(C) REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Remuneration comprises employee benefits including all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by Council, or on behalf of the Council, in exchange for services rendered. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel and other senior staff is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Other long-term employee benefits include long service leave, other long service benefits or deferred compensation.

Post-employment benefits include pensions, and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

7.1 COUNCIL AND KEY MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION	2023	2022
(C) REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL		
TOTAL REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL WAS AS FOLLOWS:	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	1,044	1,030
Other long-term employee benefits	15	18
Post-employment benefits	72	77
TOTAL	1,131	1,125
THE NUMBERS OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL WHOSE TOTAL REMUNERATION FROM COUNCIL AND ANY RELATED ENTITIES, FALL WITHIN THE FOLLOWING BANDS:	No.	No.
\$20,000 - \$29,999	5	4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	1	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	1
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1	-
\$60,000 - \$69,999	-	1
\$90,000 - \$99,999	2	-
\$190,000 - \$199,999	1	1
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	2
\$280,000 - \$289,999	1	-
\$290,000 - \$300,000	-	1
	13	11

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

7.1 COUNCIL AND KEY MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION (CONT.)

(D) REMUNERATION OF OTHER SENIOR STAFF

Other senior staff are officers of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, whose total remuneration exceeds \$160,000 and who report directly to a member of the KMP. *

The number of other senior staff are shown below in their relevant income bands:

INCOME RANGE:	2023	2022 No.
	No.	No.
\$150,000 - \$159,999	-	3
\$160,000 - \$169,999	4	-
\$170,000 - \$179,999	1	-
	5	3
	\$'000	\$'000
TOTAL REMUNERATION FOR THE REPORTING YEAR FOR OTHER SENIOR STAFF INCLUDED ABOVE, AMOUNTED TO:	\$829	\$461

7.2 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

(A) TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the period, Council entered into the following transactions with related parties.

Eildon Events Inc

1 transaction totalling \$10,000 relating to payment for CovidSafe Activation funding for Eildon outdoor stage.

Tourism North East

1 transaction totalling \$142,166.20 relating to the payment for 22/23 Tourism North East annual membership, tourism marketing and activities.

1 transaction totalling \$5,500.00 relating to payment received for Gravel Cycling Photography.

All transactions relate to entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by Key Management Personnel or close family members. These transactions were made at arm's length with the appropriate delegation, and any conflict of interest appropriately declared and reported.

(B) OUTSTANDING BALANCES WITH RELATED PARTIES

No balances were outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties.

(C) LOANS TO/FROM RELATED PARTIES

No loans are in existence as at 30 June 2023 between Council and any related party, nor were any loan transactions entered into during the 2022/23 financial year.

(D) COMMITMENTS TO/FROM RELATED PARTIES

No commitments are in existence as at 30 June 2023 between Council and any related party, nor were any commitments made during the financial year.

NOTE 8

MANAGING UNCERTAINTIES

8.1 CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

(A) CONTINGENT ASSETS

There were no contingent assets as at 30 June 2023 (2022 Nil)

(B) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Contingent liabilities are:

- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council; or
- present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
 - it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or
 - the amount of the obligation cannot be measured sufficiently reliably.

SUPERANNUATION

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme. Matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined in Note 9.3. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

INSURANCE CLAIMS

Council has three major insurance claims that are yet to be finalised.

LEGAL LIABILITIES

The Council is presently involved in three confidential legal matters, which are being conducted through Council's insurers. These matters are yet to be finalised and the financial outcomes are anticipated to be in the region of \$60,000. Any additional costs will be covered by Council's insurer. As at 30 June 2023 there is no contingent liability identified by Council. (2022:nil).

LANDFILL

Council operates a landfill. Council will have to carry out site rehabilitation works in the future. At balance date Council is unable to precisely assess the financial implications of such works.

LIABILITY MUTUAL INSURANCE

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

MAV WORKCARE

Council was a participant of the MAV WorkCare Scheme. The MAV WorkCare Scheme provided workers compensation insurance. MAV WorkCare commenced business on 1 November 2017 and the last day the Scheme operated as a self-insurer was 30 June 2021. In accordance with the Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013, there is a six year liability period following the cessation of the Scheme (to 30 June 2027). During the liability period, adjustment payments may be required, or received. The determination of any adjustment payments is dependent upon revised actuarial assessments of the Scheme's tail claims liabilities as undertaken by Work Safe Victoria. If required, adjustments will occur at the 3-year and 6-year points during the liability period, and will affect participating members.

Council is currently managing their WorkCover insurance through the WorkSafe agent DXC. Council have not processed a claim since October 2022 due to management of injuries in house where applicable.

ASSET IMPAIRMENT

In October 2022 parts of the Murrindindi Shire were impacted by floods. These floods have resulted in damage to a number of Council's infrastructure assets. Several sealed roads, unsealed roads, bridges, footpaths and recreational areas in low lying areas will require repair or replacement. Initial costs were incurred to provide emergency response to the affected areas. Council is in the process of submitting funding claims for reimbursement of these costs.

Council has commenced assessment of the damage. At the 30 June 2023 Council was unable to reliably estimate the value of the asset impairments. At the date of signing this financial report Council is still reviewing consultant reports and is unable to accurately report the value of asset impairments.

8.2 CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2023 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2023 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2023 that are expected to impact Council.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

8.3 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(A) OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables) and payables, (excluding statutory payables). Details of the significant accounting policies and methods are disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(B) MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of our financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposures to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

INTEREST RATE RISK

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 2020*. Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- diversification of investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment, and
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

(C) CREDIT RISK

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss.

Council has exposure to credit risk on all financial assets included in the balance sheet. Council have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- Council has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities it deals with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- Council only invests surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in the investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the consumer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the major debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provides a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

(D) LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of Council's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- has an investment policy which requires that only surplus funds are invested in financial assets;
- has readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- has a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitors budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- sets limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

Council's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

All financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amount of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

8.3 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT.)

(E) SENSITIVITY DISCLOSURE ANALYSIS

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

- A parallel shift of + 2% and -2% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 3.95%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

8.4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY

Council's financial assets liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy. Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole at the end of each reporting period.

REVALUATION

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. (For plant and equipment carrying amount is considered to approximate fair value given short useful lives). At balance date, Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 3 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts. The following table sets out the frequency of revaluations by asset class.

ASSET CLASS	REVALUATION
	Frequency
Land	3 to 5 years
Buildings	3 to 5 years
Roads	3 to 5 years
Bridges	3 to 5 years
Footpaths and cycleways	3 to 5 years
Drainage	3 to 5 years

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense. In this case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

8.5 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER BALANCE DATE

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.

NOTE 9

OTHER MATTERS

9.1 RESERVES

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Asset revaluation reserves (a)	351,368	307,915
Other reserves (b)	18,727	19,042
TOTAL RESERVES	370,095	326,958

9.1 RESERVES	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Increment (decrement)	Balance at end of reporting period
A) ASSET REVALUATION RESERVES			
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
PROPERTY			
Land	35,740	-	35,740
Land under roads	14,236	-	14,236
Buildings	37,719	2,729	40,447
	87,694	2,729	90,423
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Bridges	19,551	24,078	43,629
Drainage	10,677	1,142	11,819
Footpaths and cycleways	11,263	930	12,193
Roads	178,730	14,574	193,304
	220,221	40,724	260,945
TOTAL ASSET REVALUATION RESERVES	307,916	43,453	351,368

2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
PROPERTY			
Land	30,234	5,507	35,740
Land under roads	11,468	2,768	14,236
Buildings	35,038	2,681	37,719
	76,740	10,955	87,694
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Bridges	11,120	8,431	19,551
Drainage	10,677	-	10,677
Footpaths and cycleways	7,603	3,660	11,263
Roads	178,730	-	178,730
	208,130	12,091	220,221
TOTAL ASSET REVALUATION RESERVES	284,870	23,046	307,916

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increase in (net) value of Council's assets over time.

9.1 RESERVES	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Transfer from accumulated surplus	Transfer to accumulated surplus	Balance at end of reporting period
B) OTHER RESERVES				
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
STATUTORY RESERVES				
Public Open Space	590	-	(200)	390
DISCRETIONARY RESERVES				
Defined Benefits Superannuation	1,020	-	-	1,020
Gifted and Novated Assets	701	-	-	701
Infrastructure Contributions Parking	41	-	-	41
Infrastructure Balance MAP funding	46	-	-	46
Infrastructure Maintenance	1,040	-	-	1,040
Infrastructure	3,533	-	(958)	2,575
Landfill and Waste Management	11,496	5,287	(4,598)	12,184
Marysville Caravan Park	213	90	(57)	247
Shaw Avenue Redevelopment	44	-	-	44
Yea Caravan Park	40	56	(90)	6
Yea Saleyards	280	479	(325)	435
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES	19,042	5,912	(6,227)	18,727

2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
STATUTORY RESERVES				
Public Open Space	576	98	(84)	590
DISCRETIONARY RESERVES				
Defined Benefits Superannuation	1,200	-	(180)	1,020
Gifted and Novated Assets	701	-	-	701
Infrastructure Contributions Parking	41	-	-	41
Infrastructure Balance MAP funding	-	46	-	46
Infrastructure Maintenance	1,040	-	-	1,040
Infrastructure	4,915	127	(1,509)	3,533
Landfill and Waste Management	11,418	879	(801)	11,496
Marysville Caravan Park	137	76	-	213
Shaw Avenue Redevelopment	44	-	-	44
Yea Caravan Park	(21)	60	-	40
Yea Saleyards	183	170	(74)	280
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES	20,235	1,455	(2,647)	19,042

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

9.1 RESERVES (CONT.)

Public Open Space; represents payments from subdividers as specified under the Subdivisions Act, to fund future creation of areas of recreational land.

Defined Benefits; been created to assist in meeting obligations for future funding calls from the Vision Super Defined Benefits Superannuation Fund.

Gifted and Novated Assets; contains the balance of funds that were held by (VBRRA) the Victorian Bushfire Recovery and Reconstruction Authority for reconstruction projects in Murrindindi Shire when the Authority closed. The funds (also known as VBBRA Cessation funds) were transferred by the State Government to Council as further assistance for the new assets gifted after the 2009 bushfires.

Infrastructure Contributions; represents payments from Subdividers set aside for future infrastructure works relating to provision of car parking.

Infrastructure Balance MAP Funding; represents the final payment received from State Government related to the Murrindindi Assistance Package. Funds have been utilised in the current period to support the Covid support package.

Infrastructure Maintenance; represents funds set aside for addressing council's long term infrastructure renewal obligations.

Infrastructure; has been established as an accumulation fund to plan for the future investment in community infrastructure. Any unallocated savings from the annual capital works program will be transferred to this reserve. The reserve is the consolidation of two previous reserves which had similar objectives – the Infrastructure Unexpended Capital Works reserve and the New and Expanded Assets Reserve.

Landfill and Waste Management; is to be utilised for future works, including site rehabilitation and ongoing monitoring followings the sites closer.

Marysville Caravan Park; is surplus operational funds (rental) set aside for future capital works or operational requirements.

Shaw Avenue; represents remaining funds from Council land sales at Shaw Avenue in 2003.

Yea Caravan Park; is surplus operational funds (rental) set aside for future capital works or operational requirements.

Yea Saleyards; is surplus operational funds set aside for future capital works or operational requirements.

9.2 RECONCILIATIONS OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO SURPLUS

9.2 RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Surplus for the financial year	4,540	3,588
Depreciation and amortisation	8,712	8,441
Bad and doubtful debts	-	-
Contributions - non-monetary	(482)	(1,204)
Finance costs	-	-
Works in progress asset expensed	179	-
(Gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment, infrastructure	1,555	229
CHANGE IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:		
Decrease in trade and other receivables	(1,882)	(201)
(Increase) /decrease in inventories	8	(7)
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	(2,544)	(52)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	1,568	410
Increase / (decrease) in trust funds and deposits	199	346
Increase unearned income	(226)	1,812
Increase in provisions	(97)	263
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	11,530	13,624

9.3 SUPERANNUATION

Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

ACCUMULATION

The Fund's accumulation category, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2023, this was 10.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2022: 10.0%)).

DEFINED BENEFIT

Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan.

There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

9.3 SUPERANNUATION (CONT.)

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary.

A triennial actuarial investigation is currently underway for the Defined Benefit category which is expected to be completed by 31 December 2023. Council was notified of the 30 June 2023 VBI during August 2023 (2022: August 2022). The financial assumptions used to calculate the 30 June 2023 VBI were:

- Net investment returns 5.7% pa
- Salary information 3.5% pa
- Price inflation (CPI) 2.8% pa

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 102.2%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

- Net investment returns 5.5% pa
- Salary information 2.5% pa to 30 June 2023, and 3.5% pa thereafter.
- Price inflation (CPI) 3.0% pa

Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021).

Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at June 2023 was 104.1%.

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2022 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category’s funding arrangements from prior years.

EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

A) REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

On the basis of the results of the 2022 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund’s Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund’s Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2023, this rate was 10.5% of members' salaries (10.0% in 2021/22). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2022 interim valuation.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

B) FUNDING CALLS

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category’s VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund’s participating employers including Council are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund’s Defined Benefit category, together with the employer’s payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer’s successor.

THE 2022 INTERIM ACTUARIAL INVESTIGATION SURPLUS AMOUNTS.

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2022 and the last full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund’s actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2022 Interim	2021 Triennial
	\$m	\$m
A VBI Surplus	44.6	214.7
A total service liability surplus	105.8	270.3
A discounted accrued benefits surplus	111.9	285.2

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund’s assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2022.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund’s Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2022.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund’s Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2022.

9.3 SUPERANNUATION (CONT.)

THE 2023 TRIENNIAL ACTUARIAL INVESTIGATION

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund’s position as at 30 June 2023 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by 31 December 2023. The financial assumptions for the purposes of this investigation are:

	2023 Triennial Investigation	2020 Triennial Investigation
Net investment return	5.7% pa	5.6% pa
Salary inflation	3.5% pa	2.5% pa for the first two years and 2.75% pa thereafter
Price inflation	2.8%	2.0%

ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Staff employed under Council’s Enterprise Bargaining Agreement are entitled to additional superannuation depending on years of service as outlined below;

Years of service between 10- 15	1%
Years of service greater than 15	2%

NOTE 10

CHANGE IN

ACCOUNTING POLICY

10.1 CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2022-23 year.
There are no pending accounting standards that are likely to have a material impact on Council.



MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2023

DESCRIPTION OF MUNICIPALITY

Murrindindi Shire Council ("the Council") is situated 150 kms or 90 minutes north-east of Melbourne.

The Wurundjeri tribe and the Taungurung are the traditional owners of the land known as the Shire of Murrindindi. European settlement followed Hume and Hovell's overland exploration in December 1824. Many local towns were established during the 1850s and 1860s following the discovery of gold.

The Murrindindi Shire Council was declared on 18 November 1994 by the amalgamation of the former municipalities of Alexandra and Yea, and the addition of parts of the former municipalities of Healesville, Broadford, Eltham, Whittlesea and Euroa.

The main industries of the Shire include agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture, tourism and hospitality, light manufacturing and engineering, retail and trades services, education and public services.

The municipality covers an area of 3,873 square kilometres, of which 48% is Crown land, and has a population of 15,345 as of the most recent Australian Bureau of Statistics update.

OVERVIEW OF 2023

During the financial year Council experienced growth in population and demand for services.

While extensive works were undertaken to improve infrastructure, some operating project expenditure and capital works projects were delayed due to factors such as:

- Grant funding for projects received later than expected, delaying project commencement.
- Reallocation of resources to respond to the October 2022 flood emergency and February 2023 Flowerdale and Maintongoon fires.
- Staff movements and delays in filling vacancies.
- Lack of contractor availability.
- Inclement weather impacting commencement of projects.

Highlights of the 2022/23 Capital Works Program include:

- Replacement of McDonalds Bridge Gobur (\$475k this year).
- Replaced Yea Caravan Park bridge Yea (\$1.27 million)
- Replaced Break O'Day Road bridge Glenburn in six weeks (\$1.65 million)
- Completion of the Great Victorian Rail Trail (\$1.1 million - \$673k transferred as above).
- Completion of the Eildon Shared Trail (\$2.05 million)

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 **PERFORMANCE STATEMENT**

SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY INDICATORS					
Indicator / measure [formula]	Results				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	
POPULATION					
Expenses per head of municipal population [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$2,636	\$2,770	\$2,462	\$2,656	The higher expenses per capita in 2019/20 and 2020/21 were due to increases in labour costs due to the Working with Victoria grant funded program. Higher costs in 2023 were due to expenditure being transferred from capital to operating and a higher landfill provision.
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$20,697	\$24,288	\$26,425	\$27,547	The increase in the cost of infrastructure per capita is due to the addition of new assets during the year and the annual revaluation of Council's assets.
Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	12	12	12	12	The result for this measure has remained constant over the 4 year period from 2019/20 to 2022/23 and shows the relatively low population density in the Murrindindi Shire.
OWN-SOURCE REVENUE					
Own-source revenue per head of municipal population [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$1,765	\$1,709	\$1,762	\$1,829	The 2020/21 result reflected the decision of Council not to increase rates revenue in that year to COVID impacts. In 2021/22 and 2022/23 the rates and charges increased in accordance with the rate cap and supplementary rates. There was also an increase in waste user fee income attributed to the reinstatement of green waste disposal fees.
RECURRENT GRANTS					
Recurrent grants per head of municipal population [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$570	\$505	\$608	\$543	The significant increase in 2021/22 was mainly due to the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants received in advance. In 2022/23 total recurrent funding was maintained at the same level whilst the population increased, resulting in a lower level of recurrent grants per capita.
DISADVANTAGE					
Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage [Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage by decile]	6	6	6	6	Council is ranked in the top 20% in the SEIFA index suggesting low levels of disadvantage, but at a more localised level, there are several pockets of high levels of disadvantage.
WORKFORCE TURNOVER					
Percentage of staff turnover [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	31.8%	33.8%	14.1%	20.3%	Staff turnover during 2022/2023 includes several retirements as well as an increase in resignations consistent with employment market trends following COVID, which saw increased movement of employees across most sectors.

SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS					
Indicator / measure [formula]	Results				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	
AQUATIC FACILITIES UTILISATION					
Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	1.0	1.5	1.8	1.6	Council's pools are all open-air pools. Utilisation had increased post Covid-19. The 2022/23 year decreased by 9.4% due in part to a cooler summer period, reduced opening days and lower demand.
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT HEALTH AND SAFETY					
Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Number of animal management prosecutions] x 100	0.00%	0.00%	100%	100%	The animal management prosecutions in 2021/22 and 2022/23 were successful. There were no prosecutions in the previous years.
FOOD SAFETY HEALTH AND SAFETY					
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100	100%	100%	100%	100%	
GOVERNANCE SATISFACTION					
Satisfaction with council decisions [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	53	54	51	52	This result is consistent with previous years, slightly higher than the state-wide average and in line with small rural councils.
LIBRARIES PARTICIPATION					
Active library borrowers in municipality [Number of active library borrowers in the last three years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100	20%	18%	14%	14%	
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PARTICIPATION					
Participation in the MCH service [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	82%	87%	90%	89%	
Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	89%	100%	91%	93%	
ROADS SATISFACTION					
Satisfaction with sealed local roads [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	50	48	44	40	The decrease in satisfaction was a consequence of the damage to the sealed road network caused by the major floods of late 2022, and further deterioration due to ongoing wet weather delaying remediation works.
STATUTORY PLANNING DECISION MAKING					
Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	0%	50%	50%	50%	Council had two applications determined by VCAT. One of these matters was upheld and the second item was set aside by consent orders following the gazettal of amendment C72 which removed the requirement for a planning permit.
WASTE COLLECTION WASTE DIVERSION					
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	34%	34%	34%	35%	

Murrindindi Shire Council

2022/2023 **PERFORMANCE STATEMENT**

Financial Performance Indicators									
Dimension / Indicator / Measure	Results				Forecasts				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Efficiency Expenditure Level									
Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$3,849	\$4,032	\$3,593	\$3,996	\$3,918	\$3,995	\$3,989	\$4,020	Expenditure in 2019/20 and 2020/21 years was high due to Covid-19 pandemic costs and the staffing increase via the Working for Victoria Program. 2022/23 expenditure includes one-off capital transfers to operating, including non-capital work in progress (WIP) and capital works program projects which were operating in nature or did not generate a Council Asset.
Revenue Level									
Average rate per property assessment [General rates and Municipal charges / Number of property assessments]	\$1,802	\$1,784	\$1,808	\$1,853	\$1,935	\$2,008	\$2,078	\$2,129	The rate cap was set at 2.75% for 2022/23, and 1.5% for 2021/22. Council did not increase rates for the 2020/21 year, resulting in a lower average rate in that year.
Liquidity Working Capital									
Current assets compared to current liabilities [Current assets / Current liabilities]x100	521%	382%	331%	320%	358%	327%	292%	251%	Council's ability to meet its current liabilities remains strong. Current liabilities increased due to accrued capital works expenditure and unearned income received in advance. Current Assets increased due to accrued income relating to capital works grants.
Unrestricted Cash									
Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities]x100	186%	35%	33%	(44%)	210%	245%	204%	165%	The negative result should not be read as an unfavourable movement in Council's cash holdings. Council has significant term deposits, classified as 'financial assets' in our Balance Sheet. Although these term deposits are liquid, they are required to be excluded from the calculation.
Obligations Loans and Borrowings									
Loans and borrowings compared to rates [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	2%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%	3%	3%	Council currently have no loans or borrowings
Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings/ Rate revenue]x100	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	Council currently have no loans or borrowings
Indebtedness									
Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	25%	30%	30%	28%	31%	30%	28%	27%	Non-current liabilities include provisions for landfill, which increase each year due to EPA compliance requirements and increased utilisation of our landfill sites.
Asset Renewal and Upgrade									
Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation [Asset renewal and upgrade expense/Asset depreciation] x100	80%	80%	134%	125%	123%	117%	127%	112%	This indicator is at the high end of the expected range. It will vary from year to year as projects are undertaken over financial years and assets are revalued.
Operating Position Adjusted Underlying Result									
Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	(8%)	(17%)	0%	(8%)	(8%)	(8%)	(5%)	(5%)	The Underlying Result excludes capital income. The underlying deficit is as a result of an increase in costs due to the October 2022 Flood event and other capital works projects which do not result in a Council asset but are funded by capital income.

Financial Performance Indicators									
Dimension / Indicator / Measure	Results				Forecasts				Material Variations
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Stability Rates Concentration									
Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue [Rate revenue/Adjusted underlying revenue]x100	60%	62%	61%	60%	64%	65%	66%	66%	Rates revenue is increased in line with the rate cap, which in 2022/23 was 2.75%. The underlying revenue was low mainly due to the delay in Roads-to-Recovery works as a result of October 2022 floods.
Rates Effort									
Rates compared to property values [Rate revenue/Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	Property values have increased at a greater rate than rate income. CIV increases annually. The increase from 2021/22 to 2022/23 was \$721m or 11.8%. Rates are capped at 2.75% rates revenue.

DEFINITIONS

"**Aboriginal child**" means a child who is an Aboriginal person

"**Aboriginal person**" has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

"**active library member**" means a member of a library who has borrowed a book from the library

"**adjusted underlying revenue**" means total income other than -

- (a) non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- (b) non-monetary asset contributions; and
- (c) contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above

"**adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)**" means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure

"**annual report**" means an annual report prepared by a Council under sections 98 of the Act

"**asset renewal expenditure**" means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability

"**class 1 food premises**" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984 that have been declared as class 1 food premises under section 19C of the Act

"**class 2 food premises**" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984 that have been declared as class 2 food premises under section 19C of the Act

"**critical non-compliance outcome notification**" means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health

"**current assets**" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"**current liabilities**" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"**food premises**" has the same meaning as in the Food Act 1984

"**infrastructure**" means non-current property, plant and equipment excluding land

"**local road**" means a sealed or unsealed road for which Council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004

"**major non-compliance outcome notification**" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken

"**MCH**" means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by Council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age

"**non-current assets**" means all assets other than current assets

"**non-current liabilities**" means all liabilities other than current liabilities

"**non-recurrent grant**" means a grant obtained on the condition that it be expended in a specified manner and is not expected to be received again during the period covered by a council's Strategic Resource Plan

"**own-source revenue**" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of Council (including government grants)

"**population**" means the resident population estimated by Council

"**rate revenue**" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges

"**recurrent grant**" means a grant other than a non-recurrent grant

"**relative socio-economic disadvantage**", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA

"**residential rates**" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges levied on residential properties

"**restricted cash**" means cash and cash equivalents, within the meaning of the AAS that are not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year

"**SEIFA**" means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet website

"**unrestricted cash**" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash

BASIS OF PREPARATION

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. Other results are based on data drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance indicators and measures, the results forecast by the council's Financial Plan. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are taken from the revised 2023/24 financial plan. The original financial plan, which forms part of the council plan, was adopted on 27 October 2021 and includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption. These assumptions are reviewed each year as part of the annual budget development. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General-Purpose Financial Statements. The adopted financial plan can be obtained by contacting council.

**CERTIFICATION OF THE
PERFORMANCE STATEMENT**

In my opinion, the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.



Cheryl Nickels-Beattie
Principal Accounting
Officer

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Murrindindi Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures, and results in relation to service performance, financial performance, and sustainable capacity.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the council and by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* to certify this performance statement in its final form.



John Walsh
Mayor

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra



Damien Gallagher
Councillor

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra



Livia Bonazzi
Chief Executive Officer

Date:
28 September 2023
Alexandra

VICTORIAN AUDITOR
GENERAL'S OFFICE REPORT



Independent Auditor’s Report

To the Councillors of Murrindindi Shire Council

Opinion	<p>I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Murrindindi Shire Council (the council) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2023overview of 2023sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2023significant accounting policiescertification of the performance statement. <p>In my opinion, the performance statement of Murrindindi Shire Council in respect of the year ended 30 June 2023 presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 4 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i>.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s <i>APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement	<p>The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and the <i>Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020</i> and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p>

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance statement. As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council’s internal control
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance statement, including the disclosures, and whether performance statement represents the underlying events and results in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE
6 October 2023

Travis Derricott
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria



THANK YOU

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Copies of this Report are available at Council offices or online at www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au

If you would like additional copies of this Report or if you have any questions or feedback about this Report, please get in touch with us.

CONTACT US

VISIT US

Alexandra: 28 Perkins Street

Yea: 15 The Semi Circle

Kinglake: 19 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road

Mobile Library and Customer Service:
visit our website for locations and times

CONTACT US

Phone: 5772 0333

Email: customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Website: www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au

[@murrindindishirecouncil](#)

MAIL US

Murrindindi Shire Council

PO Box 138

Alexandra VIC 3714



murrindindi.vic.gov.au

