

CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

BOUNDARIES

Shires of Bourke, Cobar, Carrathool, Balranald, Wentworth and Unincorporated Area.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

A WARD - WILCANNIA

Cr Peter Sullivan
Cr Paul Brown
Cr Barbara MacMillian
Cr Anthony Pease

B WARD - IVANHOE

Cr Ray Longfellow (Mayor)
Cr Graham Wellings (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Clive Linnett
Cr Robert Vagg

C WARD - MENINDEE

Cr Mick Arandt
Cr Rick Doyle
Cr Moya Reid

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Held on the third Tuesday of each month
Council Chambers, 21 Reid St, Wilcannia
(Varied on occasions)
Meetings commence at: 9.00am

COUNCIL OFFICES & CHAMBERS

21 Reid Street Wilcannia 2836

Telephone (08) 8083 8900
Facsimile (08) 8091 5994
Email council@centraldarwinling.nsw.gov.au
Website www.centraldarwinling.nsw.gov.au
Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

Engineering Services

Office and Works Depot – Myer St. (Barrier Hwy)
Telephone (08) 8091 5927
Facsimile (08) 8091 5175
Email engineer@centraldarwinling.nsw.gov.au

BUSHFIRE CONTACT NUMBERS

Wilcannia	08 8091 5930
Darnick	02 6995 3901
Menindee Town	08 8091 4359
Menindee Rural	08 8091 4475
Ivanhoe	02 6995 1315
White Cliffs	08 8091 6626

SENIOR OFFICERS

General Manager	Bill O'Brien / Vacant
Director Corporate Services	Tim Hazell
Director Engineering Services	Greg Stevens
Manager Environmental Services	Leeanne Ryan
Manager Community and Economic Development	Kym Fuller

ANCILLARY STAFF

For information on the following departments please contact the relevant personnel.

CORPORATE SERVICES

Accountant	Jeff Forster
Accounts Clerk	Daniel Thornycroft / Nicole Sanderson
Debtors Clerk	Nicole Sanderson / Rowan Lawn
Payroll Clerk	Vera Pearson
Rates Clerk	Margaret Sanderson
Information Technology Support	Ben Hanington / Daniel Thornycroft
Manager Banking	Kylie Smith
AO – Executive Support	Mel Brown
Admin Officer – Customer Service	Sissy Thompson

Community and Economic Development

RTC Coordinator- Wilcannia	Mardi-Anne Rogers
RTC Coordinator- Menindee	Margot Muscat
Multi-service Outlet- Ivanhoe	Adrienne Whitchurch

ENGINEERING

Works Engineer	Kane Kreeck /Russell Williams
Contract Administration Engineer	Mahmud Kaiser / Kane Kreeck
Administration Officer	Joyanne Williams
Wilcannia Overseers	Geoff Sutton
Town Gangers	Ivanhoe Menindee White Cliffs Wilcannia
	Stephen Hill Trevor Jones Rod Dillon Jarid Cattermole

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Mandatory Inspections Officer	Mick Williams / Tom Brown
Secretarial Support	Adelaide Middleton
Environmental Health Officer	Fran Scott
Animal Control Officer	Larry Bearman

ROAD CLOSURES

For up to date recorded information on road closures throughout the Shire area, phone 08 8091 5155 - 24 hours.

Road Closures for roads outside the Shire may be obtained by phoning the RTA on 08 8087 0660 or the relevant adjoining Shires.

Council is wasting valuable resources repairing damage done by vehicles using closed or wet roads. Police have been asked to prosecute offenders, who may be liable to a penalty of \$1000 and the cost of repairs.

Some property owners assist Council by using their own equipment to carry out emergency repairs on Council roads, often without advising Council. You should always seek prior approval for this work.

ELECTED MEMBERS OF CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL



Cr Moya Reid



Cr Ray Longfellow



Cr Barbara MacMillan



Cr Clive Linnett



Cr Paul Brown



Cr Mick Arandt



Cr Anthony Pease



Cr Peter Sullivan



Cr Robert Vagg



Cr Graham Wellings



Cr Rick Doyle

SENIOR OFFICERS OF CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL



General Manager
Bill O'Brien



Director of Corporate Services
Tim Hazell



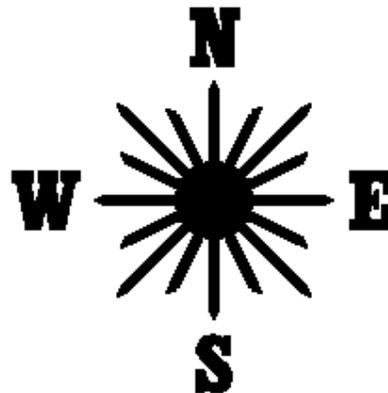
Manager Environmental Services
Leeanne Ryan



Director of Engineering Services
Greg Stephens



Manager Community and Economic
Development
Kym Fuller



GENERAL MANAGER' REPORT

In presenting this annual report to the community I am mindful of the year that has been and the continued drought and harsh economic conditions that continue. As a Council we have endeavored to continue to provide services for the community in the most efficient, effective and economic manner. This is evident in the continuation of a number of significant services to the community. Each of our four towns have made significant strides forward during the year, proving that as a community we can come together, working hard to overcome the hardships that so many have had to bear.

I would like to thank the Council for their support during a year which, at times, has been difficult. We have fare welled a number of staff over the past twelve months and have welcomed new faces to our organization. I would to thank all staff for their continued support, dedication and loyalty. As a team we look forward to the challenges of the next twelve months, confident of working with our communities for the benefit of all.

Tim Hazell

General Manager

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Financial Statements Section 428 (2) (a)

Copies of the audit report, statement of financial performance and statement of financial position for the 2007/2008 financial years are attached as Annexure 'B'.

Further details can be obtained by contacting Council's office.

Performance of Principal Activities Section 428 (2) (b)

A complete report on achievements of the performance targets set out in Council's 2007/2008 Management Plan is set out in Annexure "A"

Corporate Objectives

Council has the following Mission Statement as the focus for its principal activities:

"To promote Central Darling Shire by encouraging development through effective leadership, community involvement and facilitation of services".

State Of The Environment Section 428 (2) (c)

Interested persons are invited to contact the Council's office for details of its comprehensive State of the Environment Report.

PROGRAMS UNDERTAKEN TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, RESTORE AND ENHANCE THE ENVIRONMENT

During the year the following activities aimed at preserving or enhancing the environment were undertaken:

Monitoring of drinking water quality for Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs were undertaken on a regular basis and tested by a specialist laboratory in Sydney for chemical and microbiological analysis.

Fortnightly samples were taken in five locations along the Darling River from Tilpa in the north to "Culpaulin" station in the south, for analysis by the Department of Land and Water Conservation to determine the presence of Blue Green Algae in the river.

Council continue to monitor river heights, water consumption and evaporation, especially during dry periods.

As part of its contribution to the Clean Up Australia campaign, Council acted as co-ordinator of various work groups throughout the Shire.

The annual tree planting program was maintained.

Report On The Condition Of Public Buildings, Infrastructure, and Works Section 428 (2) (d)

Asset Class/ Category	Asset Condition	Written Down Value	Estimated Cost to bring to a satisfactory Standard	Estimated Annual Maintenance Expense	Program Maintenance Works for Current Year
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000

Public Buildings

Council Offices	Average	1132	100	45	70
Cncl Works Depot	Average	1386	153	75	139
Council Halls	Average	818	20	20	58
Council Houses	Unsatisfactory	328	705	135	103
	-	-	-	-	-
Childcare Centre(s)	Average	202	10	10	3
	-	-	-	-	-
Amenities Toilets	Average	956	25	15	65

Public Roads

Sealed Roads	Average	14451	1825	1825	1361
Unsealed Roads	Average	45556	4260	2250	2707
Sealed Rds Structure	-	-	-	-	-
Bridges	Average	1213	518	18	17
Footpaths	Unsatisfactory	450	130	10	8
Aerodromes	Average	1606	20	10	15
Road Furniture	Average	13	-	-	-

Water

Treatment Plants	Good	179	100	45	100
Water Connections	Average	2	5	6	-
Bores	Good	528	-	-	-
Reservoirs	Good	2084	3	1	3
Dams	Good	1874	20	5	8
Hydrants/Stop Valves	Good	1	-	-	-
Pipeline	Average	2669	47	92	21
Pumping Stations	Satisfactory	108	55	16	52

Sewerage

Pump Stations	Unsatisfactory	16	80	65	19
Pipeline	Average	1490	70	10	59
Manholes					
Air Vent Stacks					
Treatment Works	Satisfactory	111	5	1	1
Sewer Connections					

Drainage Works

Retarding Basins					
Outfalls	Average	-			
Stormwater Conduits	Average	150			
Inlet & Junction Pits	Average	46			
Head Walls	Average	10			
Outfall Structures	Average	11	1	1	1
S'water Converters	Average	-		-	-
Total - All Assets	-	77388	8152	4665	4809

Legal Proceedings Section 428 (2) (e)

A total of \$45,854 was expended on legal expenses in the 2007/2008 financial year.

Councillors' Fees And Expenses Section 428 (2) (f)

The following fees and allowances were paid during the year 2007/2008:

Position	\$
Mayoral Allowance	12,201
Councillors' Meeting Attendance Fees	104,436
Delegates Expenses	15,989

No overseas visits were undertaken by either Councillors or staff.

Mayoral and Councillors Fees are paid in accordance with those scales set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Council Policy

Staff travel and sustenance allowances are paid in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award while Councillor travel and other expenses were paid in accordance with the following Council policy:

- 1.) All Travel on behalf of Council or Council Committees must be as a result of Council resolution. Reimbursements will be made for reasonable out of pocket expenses on the production of receipts for the expenditure concerned. Reasonable out of pocket expenses will be determined by the General Manager. Annual Shires Conference – Mayor or nominated delegate, General Manager and up to two observers and their spouse/partners be authorised to attend. Divisional Meeting Shires Association and Executive – Mayor and General Manager be authorised to attend.
- 2.) Travel, accommodation and meal expenses whilst away on Council business shall follow the following guidelines:
 - a. Travel is to be by car, rail or by air depending on the circumstances and subject to the approval of the Mayor for Councillors and the General Manager for staff.
 - b. Accommodation of an appropriate standard is to be approved by the Mayor or General Manager.
 - c. Meal expenses shall be reimbursed on the production of receipts or a statutory declaration where receipts are unable to be produced or have been lost. Meal

expenses are to be subject to the “reasonable” test applied in (1) above.

3.) Travel at night:

That it be Council's policy that Councillors and Staff generally avoid travelling long distances in this area at night to prevent accidental damage to vehicles and injury occasioned to animals on the road. In this circumstance reasonable accom-odation and meal expenses will be met by Council as determined by the Mayor or General Manager on production of receipts.

4.) Travel costs to Council approved meetings will be calculated using the actual cost of the fare (ie, plane or rail) or otherwise calculated using the prescribed rate per km under the State Award.

Please note it is illegal to claim a travel allowance where you are not the person meeting the cost of operating the vehicle during the journey.

5.) In cases of emergency travel where it is not possible to gain Council approval before travel is required, approval may be sought from the General Manager or the Mayor.

6.) Where a Councillor is travelling to a Council Meeting from a location outside the Shire boundaries, the travel claim will be restricted to the equivalent of travel allowance calculated on the distance travelled from the Shire boundary to the Meeting and return along the shortest possible route (weather permitting). In other cases, a Councillor will be entitled to the travel allowance calculated on the distance travelled from the Councillor's principle place of residence to the Council Meeting and return.

Senior Staff Section 428 (2) (g)

The Senior Staff positions of the Council were as follows:

- General Manager
- Director of Corporate Services
- Director of Engineering Services

The total value of the remuneration packages payable for the positions of General Manager, Director of Corporate Services and Director of Engineering Services during 2007/2008 was \$463,458.

The packages include payment for vehicle leases, house rental, FBT, superannuation and other benefits.

Major Contracts Awarded Section 428 (2) (h)

The Council, apart from its own labour, used plant hire contractors for the implementation of all road works.

Council did not award any contracts in excess of \$150,000 during the year.

Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Activities

Section 428 (2) (i)

Council continues to work towards production of its Bush Fire Management Committee's Fire Management Plan and Fuel Management Plan.

Funding from the Department of Bush Fire Services has allowed further equipment purchases.

Multicultural Services Section 428 (2) (j)

Council is required to report on programs undertaken during the year to promote services and access to services for people with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Council believes that there is little need for these services within Central Darling Shire as there are no established ethnic groups within the Shire.

Council does provide a wide range of services and participates in community activities for and with the Aboriginal communities throughout the Shire.

Involvements include:

- MaariMa Committee delegate in Wilcannia;
- Jobskills programs throughout the Shire;
- Contract works and resources to CDEP groups;
- Provision of administrative services to Wilcannia Women's and Children's Safe House;
- Delegate to Wilcannia Working Party.

Private Works Section 428 (2) (k)

Section 67(3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, requires that Council report on any

works it carried out on private land and any associated costs to Council for such works.

No resolutions were made under Section 67 (3) and no works carried out under subsection 67 (2) (b).

Council Donations And Other Subsidy Payments Section 428 (2) (l)

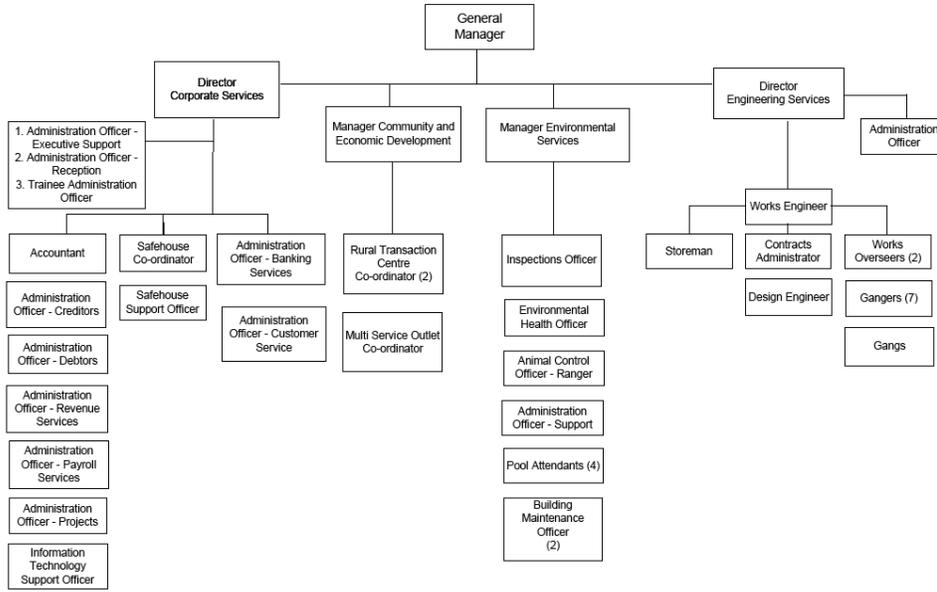
In the reporting period the following donations and subsidies were paid:

Recipient	\$
Donations	6850
Kilfera Field Day	1,000
Darnick Gun Club	3,000
St Therese's Community School	1,000
Menindee Children's Centre	2,785
White Cliffs Hall Committee	468
White Cliffs Swimming Pool	450
West Darling Arts	2,835
Menindee, Sunset Strip Pensioners Association	2,896
White Cliffs Opal Fields Tourist Association	2,000
Total	23,284

Organisation Restructuring

Human Resource Activities Section 428 (2) (m)

With the implementation of the Local Government Act, 1993 Council restructured the organisation and determined those positions within the organisational structure that are senior staff positions (Sec 332,1). Sec 333 of the Act requires Council to re-determine the structure within 12 months after any ordinary election of the Council. The following structure has been refined from that adopted after the 2004 Council elections and represents what is believed to be the best overall structure for our organisation.



The appointment of senior staff follows the requirement under the Local Government Act, 1993 and Council has adopted a performance-based contract for all senior positions. Council has also adopted guidelines for assessing performance and will review these guidelines annually.

Salary Structure

Council engaged a consultant to review its' salary structure in 2000. This review resulted in the development and adoption of a twelve grade, competency based salary structure. This initial twelve grade salary system has been expanded to twenty three grades to allow greater flexibility for staff to move through the salary system. Position descriptions were reviewed and Competency statements developed following extensive consultation with staff and the MEU.

All staff will participate in Council's Staff Performance Appraisal and Development System, with any salary adjustments made effective to April each year.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Management Section 428 (2) (n)

The EEO Management Plan covers all aspects required under legislation. This includes plans for redeployment, retraining, retrenchment, and redundancy.

Specific Responsibilities

Managers

Each manager is required to ensure that this policy and the Award Restructuring program is effectively implemented in his or her area of control and to support supervisors and hold them accountable for their specific responsibility.

Supervisors

Each first-line supervisor is responsible, and will be held accountable, for taking all practical measures to ensure the successful implementation of award restructuring initiatives in his/her area of responsibility.

Employees

All employees have a responsibility to support all H R Activities and co-operate with managers/supervisors in the implementation of all new workplace initiatives.

Council Policy

The Central Darling Shire Council believes it has a responsibility to all members of its community to create an employment environment which is free of discrimination and which reflects the diversity and needs of the community it serves. The Council is formally committed to the principle of equal opportunity in employment for all employees and potential employees. Council therefore

acknowledges its legal obligations under the Local Government Act, 1993 and the State and Federal Anti-Discrimination laws, in that it is unlawful to discriminate on the grounds of:

- Race
- Sex
- Sexuality
- Marital status
- Pregnancy
- Physical or Intellectual impairment
- Age

In the areas of employment, education, accommodation, provision of goods and services, and registered clubs.

Sexual harassment and victimisation are also unlawful.

The Local Government Act, 1993 requires that Council prepare and implement an Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan.

When Developing and implementing this plan Council will:

- Incorporate the plan into its overall Management Plan
- Identify target groups (women, aborigines, people from non-English speaking background, people with physical and intellectual impairments, young people and older people) and processes, measures and schemes to redress any past disadvantages.
- Ensure that recruitment, selection, promotion, transfer and training are based solely on the merit principle. This means that selection will be based on skills, knowledge, qualifications and experience (including community experience), or any acceptable combination of these relevant to the job or situation.

Human Resource Activities

- Review existing training programs and change or develop them as necessary when providing services to residents ensure that they will be delivered in a fair and equitable manner.
- Provide all existing and new employees and elected members with Equal Employment Opportunity information and awareness training and any other training relevant to their position or responsibilities.
- Ensure that all employees and elected members have access to the EEO management plan and are aware of the

goals and objectives Council wants to achieve.

The overall responsibility for implementing the EEO Management plan and monitoring the effectiveness of this policy is vested in the General Manager.

All employees have the responsibility to uphold the Equal Employment Opportunity principles outlined in the policy. However, specific responsibility rests with the Managers and Supervisors to promote anti-discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity within the workplace.

Employees are encouraged to raise EEO issues or grievances with the General Manager. Confidentiality will be respected. It should also be noted that it is the right of every person to seek advice or assistance from the Anti-Discrimination Board and the Equal Opportunity Tribunal of NSW.

Council believes that the implementation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan and Policy will result in a more productive workplace and increased job satisfaction and better services to the community.

Occupational Health And Safety

It is the policy of the Central Darling Shire Council to provide for and promote conditions of work which will facilitate a safe and healthy environment for all employees.

To be successful, dedication and co-operation by Council, management, supervisors and the workforce is continuously sought.

Particular attention is given to compliance with statutory requirements, established standards and safety principles and rules. Ongoing review and modification of safety conditions and activities also occurs as necessary.

Council, management, supervisors and employees have a commitment to expedite action and the Council's Safety Officer has the responsibility to co-ordinate the safety program throughout the whole of the organisation, which will ensure that standardisation applies.

It cannot be overstated that the intention of the Council is to provide and maintain:

- A safe place of work
- A safe system of work
- Safe plant and equipment, and
- A safe and competent workforce

Council has appointed, and supports the activities of an Occupational Health and Safety Committee

as is required under the Award. This committee meets regularly and makes recommendations for improvements to further enhance Councils' commitment to safety.

Staff Training

Council is committed to provide adequate internal and external training for all staff and in 2007/2008 had set aside adequate training budgets.

Priority was given to providing training that is necessary to enable a person to fulfil the duties of their position in a safe and effective manner, and to helping people develop the skills that would enable them to further their career with Council.

External bodies which exercised functions delegated by Council Section 428 (2) (o)

Council did not delegate any functions to external bodies.

Companies In Which Council Has A Controlling Interest Section 428 (2) (p)

Council does not have a controlling interest in any Companies.

Partnerships, Co-Operatives Or Other Joint Ventures To Which Council Was A Party Section 428 (2) (q)

Council was not a party to any of the above activities during the reporting period. It was however, an active member of the Barwon/Darling Alliance which is seeking to establish a Credit Union in the areas covered by its members.

Additional Information Section 428 (2) (r)

The Local Government Act, 1993, and other legislation requires Council's annual Report to contain certain information about its operations. This index outlines these requirements and where the relevant information may be located.

- a) details of overseas visits undertaken by Councillors and others representing the Council;
- b) value of the remuneration package payable to each Senior Staff member employed by the Council;
- c) details of the activities undertaken by the Council to develop and promote services and programs that provide for the needs of children; and
- d) a report on the Council's performance in relation to programs undertaken by the Council to promote services and access to

services for residents and other users of those services.

e) Rates and charges written off

In matter (a) Council has reported in 428 (2) (f)

In matter (b) Council has reported in 428 (2) (g)

In matter (c) Council has reported in PA4

In matter (d) Council has reported in PA3, PA4, PA5 and 428 (2) (j)

In matter (e) Council has reported on page 17

Rates & Charges Written Off

Clause 12 of the Rates and Charges Regulation made under the Local Government Act specifies that Council's annual report must include the amount of rates and charges written off during the year.

	\$
Rates and Charges	157,005
Pensioner Concessions	16,551
Sundry Debtors	-
TOTAL	173,556

The amount written off for pensioner concessions is equivalent to forty five percent of the total concession given, with the State Government funding the remaining fifty five percent. The amounts abandoned under Rates and Charges predominately relate to charges being written off as previously formally resolved by Council.

Children's Services

Council maintained children's playgrounds in many parks throughout its area, as well as several swimming pools.

Library services and sporting facilities continued to be provided while a survey of existing sporting and recreational facilities is planned to help determine their adequacy.

The impact of crime prevention strategies on children was also under review.

Access & Equity

The Social Plan has been carefully reviewed and updated. A new social plan has been successfully adopted.

Privacy & Personal Information

In Accordance with Section 33(3) of the Privacy and Personal Information & Protection Act 1998, Council must include in its annual report a statement of the action taken in complying with the requirements of the Act.

Council has adopted the Model Privacy Management Plan and its Public Officer is available for contact on privacy matters. Council

will review the Plan as more experience is gained from its implementation.

FOI Report

The Freedom of Information Act requires council to publish in its Annual Report statistical details of Freedom of Information requests for the reporting period.

For the reporting period only one Freedom of Information request was received and the request was met.

Freedom Of Information Statement – Summary Of Affairs

Policy Documents

Pursuant to the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, 1989, the CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL holds the following documents to be inspected by the general public free of charge:

- Agendas for Council and Committee meetings (except for those meetings closed to the public)
- Annual Financial Statements
- Annual Report
- Auditor's Report
- Australia Day Awards
- Award Restructuring
- Boundary Fencing
- Building Application – Notification to Adjoining Owners
- Building Approvals
- Child Protection Policy
- Closed Roads – Travel
- Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Condolences
- Corporate Credit Cards
- Council Property Rental
- Debt Recovery
- Delegations of Authority
- Disciplinary Procedures
- Disposal of Asbestos Waste
- Dog Control – Caravan Park
- Dogs and Cats Permitted – Number
- Development Applications
- Economic Hardship
- EEO Management Plan
- Election of Both The Mayor And Deputy Mayor
- Electronic Mail Policy
- Emergency Funds
- Employment - Secondary
- Equal Employment Opportunity Program
- Expenses – Councillors
- Expenses - Staff
- Financial Assistance
- Fire Tankers and Tanker Trainers – Use of
- Gates, Grids and Stock Races on Public Roads
- Gifts, Donations – Receipt of
- Graffiti Policy and Action Plan
- Grievance and Dispute Procedures – Staff
- Insurance Excess for Committees of Management
- Internal Reporting
- Interview Expenses
- Investment Policy
- Investments Register
- Land Register
- Loans Register
- Local Approvals Policy
- Management of Barwon-Darling River System
- Management Plan
- Minutes of Council and Committee meetings (except confidential minutes)
- Motor Vehicles - Use of
- Motor Vehicles - Prevention of Injury
- Motor Vehicles – Private Use of
- Natural Disasters – Establishment of an Emergency Fund
- Occupational Rehabilitation
- OHS Code
- Outdoor Settings – Community Land
- Outdoor Staff – Procedures for Employment
- Pecuniary Interest Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons
- Pool Management Guidelines (Wilcannia)
- Privacy Policy
- Protected Disclosures – Internal Reporting Policy
- Purchase Preferences
- Recycling Policy
- References for Staff
- Removal Expenses
- Rental Council Properties
- Risk Management
- Rural Property Water Connections
- Section 355 Committees of Council – Rules Governing
- Senior Staff Selection
- Sewerage Policy
- Smoking in the Work Place
- Special Leave
- Staff Uniforms
- State Emergency Vehicles
- State Emergency Services (SES) Vehicles – Registration and Insurance
- State of the Environment Report
- Telephone Expenses
- Trucks Entering Towns – Dropping of Dust
- Unpaid Rates and Charges
- Use of Council Halls
- Use of Council Halls – Wilcannia
- Use of Council Plant for Emergency Purposes – Authority to Permit
- Use of Council Plant – General
- Vehicle Replacement Policy
- Water Consumption – Shire Properties

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All enquiries and applications under the Freedom of Information Act, 1989, should be directed to:

The Public Officer,
Central Darling Shire Council,
PO Box 165
WILCANNIA NSW 2836

Tel: (08) 8083 8900

Fax: (08) 8091 5994

Email: council@centraldarling.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.centraldarling.nsw.gov.au

Council's office hours are Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm.

PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT 1998 (PPIP)

Appropriate policies have been developed and implemented to ensure Council complies with the PPIP Act. Extensive staff training has also been undertaken to ensure all staff are aware of the provisions of this Act.

To date no review under Part 5 has been deemed necessary.

THE PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND THEIR GOALS

PA1 CORPORATE SERVICES

To provide effective support services for all of Council's operations.

PA2 PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

To have a community that is confident that personal and property safety is assured.

PA3 HEALTH

To maintain standards of safety, public conveniences and community health.

PA4 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EDUCATION

To foster the development of the Shire through the provision of community services and education.

PA5 HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

To have an economically and well-planned community environment by providing staff housing and community amenities that meet the needs of the Shire.

PA6 WATER SUPPLY

To ensure a regular, cost effective and quality water supply within the designated water districts of the Council.

PA7 SEWERAGE SERVICES

To maintain high standards of sewerage collection and treatment in designated locations in the Shire.

PA8 RECREATION AND CULTURE

To maintain the quality and quantity of recreational and cultural facilities at a level that meets public expectations and Council resources available.

PA9 BUILT ENVIRONMENT

To encourage development in line with relevant codes, policies and standards, and to plan for the future development of the Shire.

PA10 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

To provide reliable transport and communication links to the major communities within the Council area.

PA11 TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To enhance economic development and the image of the Shire by actively engaging in tourism, marketing activities and economic development

PA12 STAFF

To have appropriately skilled, motivated and rewarded staff, who feel that they are valued members of the Council's staff and the community.

PA 13 NATURAL RESOURCES and ENVIRONMENT

To observe and monitor relevant environmental issues throughout the Shire.

ANNEXURE A

The Principal Activities are presented in the following order: -

Principal Activity

1.1	Goal or Objective	Responsibility:
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1.1.1	Strategy or Outcome	
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Performance Measure

The officer responsible is indicated in the right hand column as follows:

GM	–	General Manager
DCS	–	Director of Corporate Services
DES	–	Director of Engineering Services
MES	–	Manager of Environmental Services
MCED	–	Manager of Community and Economic Development

PA1 – Corporate Services.

1.1	To provide efficient, effective and economic administrative support to Councillors and the organisation.	Responsibility:	DCS/ GM
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1.1.1	Provide support for Council Meetings		
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	<i>Agendas are distributed in a timely and appropriate manner</i>	Achieved
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	<i>Minutes are available within 7 working days of each meeting</i>	Achieved
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	<i>All Council resolutions are acted upon in a timely manner</i>	Achieved
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1.2	To provide sound financial management to Council.	Responsibility:	GM/ DCS
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1.2.1	Ensure that Council adopts an Annual Management Plan		
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	<i>Plan complies with all legislative requirements</i>	Achieved
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	<i>Quarterly reviews are provided to Council for adoption</i>	Q4 – Attached
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1.2.2	Ensure that Council adopts the completed Annual Financial Report		
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	<i>Report completed in accordance with legislative provisions</i>	Achieved
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	<i>Unqualified external audit report is received</i>	Achieved
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1.2.3	Ensure that Council adopts the completed Annual Report		
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ANNEXURE A

	<i>Report completed in accordance with legislative provisions</i>	Achieved
1.3	To provide Customer Service Centre operations in Wilcannia.	Responsibility: DCS
1.3.1	Ensure that the Westpac In-Store Agency is maintained in accordance with the formal agreement. <i>Agency to retain accreditation as measured by the Model Operation Procedures each quarter</i>	Achieved
1.3.2	Ensure that in-house agency for the RTA and Country Link services are maintained. <i>Contract conditions are adhered to.</i>	Achieved
1.3.3	Provide professional office space and meeting and training rooms for external hire. <i>Completion of a business plan for Council consideration</i>	To be completed
1.4	To provide support to Council's section 355 Committees.	Responsibility: DCS/M CED
1.4.1	Ensure that all S355 Committees comply with the guidelines of being a function of the Council. <i>Complete an audit of all S355 Committees</i>	Completed
	<i>Each Committee to submit regular minutes of meetings</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Provide ongoing support and advice as required</i>	Ongoing
1.5	To provide support to the Barwon Darling Alliance.	Responsibility: GM /DCS
1.5.1	Provide ongoing support to the Alliance <i>Meetings attended and initiatives supported</i>	Achieved
1.5.2	Further develop plans for the integration of banking facilities within each community <i>Plans presented to Council for formal adoption</i>	To be deleted
1.7	Continued Liaison with adjoining Councils to investigate and encourage ongoing development.	Responsibility: GM
1.7.1	Continued liaison with adjoining Councils	

ANNEXURE A

Investigate the Roads to Recovery Program for funding priorities

Ongoing

Support ongoing meetings with adjoining Councils

Ongoing

ANNEXURE A

PA2 – Public Order and Safety

2.1	To keep companion animals under effective control.	Responsibility:	MES
2.1.1	Ensure companion animals are registered and effectively controlled		
	<i>Ongoing program of animal registration and control</i>		Ongoing
	<i>Maintain and accurate animal register</i>		Ongoing
2.2	Support and assist emergency service organisations in the preparation for and delivery of emergency services.	Responsibility:	GM/DES
2.2.1	Rural Bush Fire Service		
	<i>Support regular meetings of the Fire Liaison Committee</i>		Achieved
	<i>Make provision as per resolution for the Emergency Fund</i>		Achieved
2.2.2	Emergency Management		
	<i>Support regular Emergency Management meetings</i>		Ongoing
2.2.3	State Emergency Service		
	<i>Continue to provide support and assist with funding programs</i>		Ongoing
2.3	Liaise with the Police Services to develop a co-operative approach to address crime prevention and public safety issues.	Responsibility:	GM
2.3.1	Police Accountability Community Team (PACT)		
	<i>Support meetings of the PACT with separate delegates from each Town.</i>		Ongoing
2.3.2	Aboriginal Police Liaison Committee.		
	<i>Support meetings of the Aboriginal Police Liaison Committee</i>		Ongoing
	<i>Provide feedback to Council on issues discussed at Aboriginal Police Liaison Committee meetings</i>		Ongoing
2.4	Implement a Drug Action Plan	Responsibility:	MCED
2.4.1	Develop and Implement a Drug Action Plan		Ongoing
	<i>Develop and Implement a Drug Action Plan, providing support where appropriate</i>		To be completed

ANNEXURE A

PA3 – Health

3.1	To maintain high standards of public health in the Shire.	Responsibility: MES
3.1.1	Maintain program of health inspections	
	<i>Number of complaints not actioned within twenty-one days of receipt.</i>	Nil
3.2	Foster waste management strategies aimed at reducing waste and addressing the environmental impact of waste disposal.	Responsibility: MES
3.2.1	Ensure that appropriate waste management strategies are developed for each waste disposal area.	
	<i>Continue to implement in Menindee</i>	Implemented
	<i>Develop, cost and implement in Wilcannia</i>	Operating as planned New strategy for Ivanhoe to commence

PA4 - Community Service and Education

4.1	Actively encourage resident's involvement and participation in Community Events.	Responsibility: MCED
4.1.1	Ensure Council Community Donations process is maintained.	
	<i>Advertise for Community donations and financial assistance grants on an annual basis.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Collate community requests for donations.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Submit priority list of community requests for donations to Council.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Ensure agreed donations are remitted as required.</i>	Achieved
4.2	Ensure that the Menindee Community Housing is managed and maintained.	Responsibility: MES
4.2.1	Homes managed and maintained as required.	
	<i>Ensure annual maintenance program is developed and maintenance provided</i>	Achieved
	<i>Ensure rentals are collected on an annual basis as required</i>	Achieved
4.3	To support access to community services for all residents within the Shire.	Responsibility: MES
4.3.1	Provide opportunities for fair and equitable access to community facilities for all Shire residents.	
	<i>Ensure that all policies of Council provide for equitable access for all residents.</i>	Not yet commenced
	<i>Policies to be reviewed on an annual basis and amended as appropriate.</i>	Not yet commenced
	<i>Complete an audit on disabled access and prepare a maintenance program to ensure compliance</i>	
4.4	Support services where victims can seek respite from domestic violence and gain personal development opportunities.	Responsibility: DCS
4.4.1	Ensure that the Wilcannia Women's and Children's Safehouse is operational.	

ANNEXURE A

	<i>Annual program is developed to Departmental requirements.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Ensure annual budget is developed and submitted to Council, with the aim for pre-funding.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Ensure agreement is complied with.</i>	Achieved
4.5	Implement the Community and Social Plans for the Shire.	Responsibility: MCED
4.5.1	Ensure that Council's Community and Social Plans are relevant and meet the needs of the community.	
	<i>Assist communities to further develop Community and Social Plans for adoption.</i>	Achieved
4.6	To encourage the development of services for the youth of the Shire.	Responsibility: MCED
4.6.1	Support development of youth services throughout the Shire.	
	<i>Support community driven youth development.</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Complete an assessment of the Youth Services throughout the Shire</i>	Ongoing
4.7	Support community access bus program for Wilcannia and Menindee.	Responsibility: MCED
4.7.1	Provide continued support to facilitate the provision of the two Health buses.	
	<i>Ensure service is maintained to agreed levels.</i>	Ongoing
4.7.2	Provide continued support to facilitate the provision of the Community bus	
	<i>Ensure service is maintained to agreed levels</i>	Ongoing
4.8	Support the operation of the Transaction Centre in Menindee	Responsibility: MCED
4.8.1	Ensure that the TC is maintained to community expectations.	
	<i>Provide support to the TC's generally.</i>	Ongoing
4.8.2	Provide professional office space and meeting/training rooms for external hire.	

ANNEXURE A

	<i>Completion of a business plan</i>	Ongoing
4.9	Support the operation of the Multi Services Outlet in Ivanhoe	Responsibility: MCED
4.9.1	Ensure that the MSO is maintained to community expectations.	
	<i>Provide support to the MSO and the Community generally.</i>	Ongoing
4.9.2	Provide professional office space and meeting/training rooms for external hire	
	<i>Completion of a business plan</i>	Ongoing
4.10	Provide support and development to the Murdi Paaki Partnership Project.	Responsibility: GM
4.10.1	Liaise with Wilcannia Community Working Party to facilitate the program.	
	<i>Maintain representation of Reference Group to manage the project.</i>	Achieved
4.11	Provide support for all Community Working Parties in the Shire.	Responsibility: GM
4.11.1	Ensure continued membership of the Community Working Parties	
	<i>Liaise with the Chairman of each Community Working Party in the Shire</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Support initiatives of each Community Working Party in the Shire</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Provide reports of Council's activities to each Community Working Party in the Shire</i>	Ongoing

PA5 – Housing and Community Amenities

5.1	To implement town planning that is environmentally compatible.	Responsibility: MES
5.1.1	Ensure that Local Environment Plan remains relevant. <i>Review LEP in conjunction with implementation of Development Control Plans.</i> <i>Ensure Council policies support environmental sustainability where possible.</i>	To be undertaken with comprehensive LEP Achieved
5.2	To maintain public cemeteries to an appropriate standard.	Responsibility: MES
5.2.1	Ensure that each town cemetery is managed and maintained to acceptable community standards. <i>Support management committees to maintain each cemetery to an acceptable standard.</i>	Achieved
5.3	To provide adequate housing for Council staff.	Responsibility: MES
5.3.1	Ensure that appropriate housing is available for all Council staff and is maintained to an acceptable standard. <i>Develop a housing plan</i>	To be completed

ANNEXURE A

PA6 – Water Supply

6.1	To ensure that potable and raw water supplies are provided within designated water districts of Ivanhoe and Wilcannia.	Responsibility:	DCS/ DES
6.1.1	Develop financial management plans for each water supply. <i>Plans developed to Department of Land and Water Conservation standard.</i>		In progress
6.2.1	Maintain consistency of water supply to community expectations. <i>Ensure adequate maintenance is carried out to the system to ensure continuing quality of supply.</i>		Achieved
6.2.3	Develop an Integrated Water Management Plan. <i>Implement and develop</i>		In progress
6.2	To ensure that primary treated water is supplied within the designated water district of White Cliffs.	Responsibility:	DES
6.2.1	Maintain consistency of water supply to community expectations. <i>Ensure adequate maintenance is carried out to the system to ensure continuing quality of supply</i>		Achieved
6.3	To ensure that potable water quality meets the guidelines as set out by NSW Health.	Responsibility:	MES
6.3.1	Ensure that water samples are taken on a regular basis and submitted for analysis. <i>Continually monitor the service with a view to minimising non-compliance.</i>		Monitoring and Ongoing

ANNEXURE A

PA7 – Sewerage Services

7.1	Maintain the standard of sewerage collection and treatment for Wilcannia.	Responsibility: DES
7.1.1	Ensure that the current standard of sewerage collection is maintained. <i>Minimise complaints relating to odour and unacceptable service standard ensuring complaints are attended to within two days of receipt</i>	Achieved
7.2	Upgrade the sewerage system in Menindee and Ivanhoe	Responsibility: DES
7.2.1	Ensure that an acceptable standard of sewerage system is maintained. <i>Liaise with Country Energy to ensure that the sewerage system is upgraded</i>	Ongoing – Funding application in progress

PA8 – Recreation and Culture

8.1	Foster the preservation and promotion of local heritage and indigenous Australian traditions.	Responsibility: MCED
8.1.1	Encourage the use of the Athenaeum and Rural Transaction Centres to display art works.	
	<i>Regular displays are conducted throughout the year.</i>	Achieved/Ongoing
8.2	Provide facilities for community functions.	Responsibility: MES
8.2.1	Ensure that each community is provided with a community hall.	
	<i>Each hall is managed in accordance with acceptable community standards.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Investigate alternate funding sources</i>	Commenced
8.3	Ensure that swimming pool facilities are provided throughout the Shire towns.	Responsibility: MES
8.3.1	Ensure each swimming pool facility is managed to community standards.	
	<i>Each pool is managed in accordance with acceptable community standards.</i>	Ongoing – to the best of our ability
	<i>Opening of the Wilcannia Pool from the 1st October through to the 20th April.</i>	Achieved where possible
	<i>The Wilcannia Pool to be opened for a minimum of 4 hours after school on school days.</i>	Achieved where possible
	<i>The Wilcannia Pool to be opened for a minimum of 6 hours on non-school days.</i>	Achieved where possible
	<i>The Wilcannia Pool to be closed on days forecast <30 degrees Celsius.</i>	Achieved where possible
8.4	Ensure that sporting facilities are provided and maintained.	Responsibility: DES/MCED
8.4.1	Provide and maintain all sporting facilities to a level acceptable to the community.	
	<i>Maintain sporting facilities.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Conduct an audit of all sporting facilities within the Shire</i>	Not yet commenced
8.5	Ensure that adequate public parks are provided to meet the expectations of the community and visitors.	Responsibility: MCED
8.5.1	Ensure that public parks are provided and maintained, to a level acceptable to the community.	

ANNEXURE A

	<i>Provide and maintain amenities.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Conduct and audit of all playground equipment in the Shire.</i>	Commenced
8.6	Maintain and control Crown Reserves throughout the Shire for which the Shire is the Trustee.	Responsibility: DCS
8.6.1	Identify all Crown Reserves within the Shire that Council is responsible for. <i>Complete database of all Crown Reserves for which the Shire is Trustee.</i>	Achieved

ANNEXURE A

PA9 – Built Environment

9.1	Ensure that all activities requiring Council approval are processed to meet relevant codes and regulations.	Responsibility:	MES
9.1.1	Maintain a register of all applications. <i>Ensure that the register is maintained.</i>		Achieved
9.1.2	Provide information to developers as required. <i>Information supplied with all approvals.</i>		Achieved
9.1.3	Provide a system of inspections as required by legislation. <i>Inspections carried out on a timely basis.</i>		Achieved
9.2	To monitor development charges.	Responsibility:	MES
9.2.1	Ensure that all development charges are in accordance with the appropriate legislation. <i>Full cost recovery methods to be utilised in setting development charges where permitted.</i> <i>Investigate concept of developer contribution plans.</i>		Yet to be commenced
9.3	To develop Council policies and plans to maintain development throughout the Shire.	Responsibility:	MES
9.3.1	Ensure that all policies, plans and procedures are updated and appropriate. <i>Review all policies, plans and procedures in conjunction with the Annual Management Plan.</i>		Where able and required achieved
9.4	To encourage development throughout the Shire.	Responsibility:	MES
9.4.1	Facilitate sound ecologically sustainable development throughout the Shire. <i>Apply the principles of ecologically sustainable development to any proposal put forward.</i> <i>Actively encourage development, working with the developer to achieve a balanced outcome.</i> <i>Seek appropriate public consultation on any proposal being developed as required.</i>		Achieved Achieved Achieved

ANNEXURE A

9.5	Develop Development Control Plans for Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs.	Responsibility:	MES
9.5.1	Ensure that appropriate Development Control Plans are developed.		
	<i>Conduct appropriate workshops with local Councillors to develop Development Control Plans.</i>		
	<i>Provide for an extensive period of public consultation with each plan.</i>		To be undertaken in conjunction with comprehensive LEP
	<i>Ensure that each plan is consistent with the Local Environmental Plan.</i>		
	<i>Plans presented for formal Council resolution.</i>		
9.6	Provide support for the public gazettal of roads within the White Cliffs town precinct.	Responsibility:	DES
9.6.1	Investigate the issue of public roads in White Cliffs.		
	<i>Develop submission to have roads publicly gazetted.</i>		Waiting on survey design
	<i>Exhibit details for public submissions.</i>		Ongoing into 2007/2008
	<i>Present to Council for formal resolution.</i>		Ongoing into 2007/2008
	<i>Submit for gazettal and plan gazetted.</i>		Ongoing into 2007/2008
9.7	Provide support for the preservation of Heritage Buildings within the Shire.	Responsibility:	MES/ GM
9.7.1	Maintain a register of all appropriate buildings within the Shire.		
	<i>Register is reviewed.</i>		Achieved, listed in LEP
	<i>Register is maintained.</i>		Achieved, updated in LEP Amendment
9.7.2	Ensure all listed heritage buildings are maintained.		
	<i>Identify funding for preservation of Council owned heritage buildings.</i>		Achieved where possible
	<i>Implement policy on preservation of all heritage listed buildings.</i>		Heritage Strategy in place
9.7.3	Wilcannia Post Office		
	<i>Continue to pursue funding options for repairs and maintenance of the Wilcannia Post Office.</i>		Ongoing

ANNEXURE A

PA10 – Transport and Communication

10.1	Provide a safe and reliable network of roads throughout the Shire.	Responsibility:	DES/ GM
10.1.1	Cobb Highway.		
	<i>Advocate for funding for the upgrading of the Cobb Highway to an all-weather surface.</i>	Ongoing	
	<i>Liaison with Cobb Highway Action Group.</i>	Ongoing	
	<i>Continue to advocate for the Mount Manara deviation.</i>	<i>Survey completed for proposed new alignment</i>	
10.1.2	Pooncarie Road.		
	<i>Advocate for funding for the upgrading of the Pooncarie Road to bitumen standard.</i>	Ongoing	
	<i>Support regular meetings of the Menindee/Pooncarie Road Committee.</i>	Ongoing	
10.2.3	Regional and Local Roads.		
	<i>Develop maintenance program for the entire road network.</i>	Ongoing	
	<i>Ensure all roads made all weather where possible.</i>	Ongoing	
	<i>Ensure all roads within the Shire are maintained to an appropriate standard.</i>	Ongoing	
10.2	Ensure that aerodromes are provided to meet minimum aviation standards.	Responsibility:	DES
10.2.1	Maintain all airstrips to minimum aviation standards.		
	<i>Undertake periodic maintenance to all strips as required.</i>	Ongoing	
10.3	Ensure footpaths and walkways are provided.	Responsibility:	DES
10.3.1	Maintain the network of footpaths to current standard.		
	<i>Ensure network is maintained.</i>	Ongoing	
10.3.2	Identify existing walking trails within Wilcannia.		
	<i>Trails identified and a concept plan developed as appropriate</i>	To be completed	

ANNEXURE A

10.4	Provide kerb and gutter and stormwater drainage.	Responsibility: DES
10.4.1	Maintain network of kerb, gutter and stormwater drainage.	
	<i>Develop an inventory of kerb, gutter and stormwater drainage assets.</i>	In progress
	<i>Ensure network is maintained to current standards.</i>	Achieved
10.4.2	Investigate the possibility of kerb and gutter upgrades at Menindee	
	<i>Investigate upgrades of kerb and gutter at Menindee.</i>	In progress
10.5	Provide roadside facilities to a standard to meet the expectations of the community and visitors.	Responsibility: DES
10.5.1	Maintain the network of roadside facilities to a standard to meet the expectations of the community and visitors.	
	<i>Ensure network is maintained.</i>	Achieved
10.5.2	Establish community seats where appropriate throughout the shire	
	<i>Number of community seats established.</i>	Achieved
10.5.3	Construct an appropriate bus shelter in Wilcannia.	
	<i>Ensure that an appropriate facility is developed.</i>	Not yet achieved

PA11 – Economic Development

11.1	Provide continued support to regional economic development and marketing activities.	Responsibility: MCED
11.1.1	Maintain appropriate membership on Boards and Committee's. <i>Continue membership and provide support as required to appropriate local and regional projects and committees.</i>	Achieved
11.2	Develop and support new community capacity building initiatives throughout the Shire.	Responsibility: MCED
11.2.1	Assist each Community with initiatives as they arise. <i>Implement Community Strategic Plans</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Encourage and support community volunteers in gaining and developing appropriate skills.</i>	Ongoing
11.2.2	Communicate the benefits of tourism to Shire residents and ratepayers. <i>Develop a community educational program for Shire residents and ratepayers to communicate the benefits of tourism for the Shire.</i>	Ongoing
11.3	Advocate and Develop town improvement throughout the Shire.	Responsibility: MCED/DES
11.3.1	Facilitate town improvement throughout the Shire. <i>Develop town beautification plans for the Shire.</i>	In progress
11.4	Advocate for and support where able, new education and training initiatives for Shire residents.	Responsibility: MCED
11.4.1	Provide support to Communities to gain training opportunities as appropriate. <i>Encourage and support community volunteers in developing appropriate skills.</i>	Ongoing

ANNEXURE A

PA12 – Staff

12.1	Ensure that safe work practices are adhered to.	Responsibility:	GM
12.1.1	Ensure that regular meetings of the Occupational Safety and Health Committee are supported. <i>Regular committee meetings held with minutes presented to MANEX for formal adoption.</i>	Achieved	
12.2	Support the Staff Consultative Committee.	Responsibility:	GM
12.2.1	Provide continued support for the Staff Consultative Committee. <i>Ensure regular meetings are held with minutes presented to MANEX for formal adoption.</i>	Achieved	
12.3	Maintain a staffing and salary structure that provides for performance review and progression.	Responsibility:	GM
12.3.1	Ensure that the staffing structure is appropriate for the organisation. <i>Staff structure reviewed on an annual basis in conjunction with the Annual Management Plan.</i>	Completed	
12.3.2	Ensure that Council has an appropriate salary structure for the attraction and retention of staff. <i>A salary system is maintained to meet the requirements of the Local Government Award.</i>	Ongoing	
12.4	Support sound Management Practices	Responsibility:	GM
12.4.1	Ensure regular MANEX meetings are held <i>Hold regular meetings.</i>	Achieved	
	<i>Minutes distributed to Council and staff.</i>	Achieved	

PA 13 – Natural Resources and Environment

13.1	Ensure environmental pollution issues are addressed according to relevant legislation.	Responsibility: MES
13.1.1	Enforce the requirements of environmental pollution legislation.	
	<i>Ensure that any instances of environmental pollution are notified and rectified on a timely basis.</i>	Achieved
	<i>Inform Public as required.</i>	Achieved
13.2	Maintain Blue Green Algae and Salinity monitoring of Darling River.	Responsibility: MES
13.2.1	Provide an effective monitoring and control program for Algae and Salinity of the Darling River.	
	<i>Ensure that regular samples of river water and bore water are collected and submitted for analysis and provide timely advice to users.</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Provide for continual monitoring of the Algae and Salinity levels of the river.</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Provide public warnings as required by the NSW Health Department.</i>	Ongoing
13.3	Maintain fruit fly monitoring and trapping.	Responsibility: MES
13.3.1	Provide an effective monitoring and control program for fruit fly.	
	<i>Liaise with the Department of Agriculture to provide appropriate monitoring program.</i>	Ongoing as required
	<i>Liaise with the Department of Agriculture to conduct a public awareness program.</i>	Ongoing as required
	<i>Liaise with the Department of Agriculture to control any fruit fly outbreak.</i>	Ongoing as required
	<i>Support Fruit Fly Research Project conducted by University of Sydney</i>	Ongoing as required
	<i>Inform Public as required.</i>	Ongoing as required
13.4	To encourage public participation to care for the environment.	Responsibility: MES
13.4.1	Ensure that the general public is aware of and actively supports environmental issues.	

ANNEXURE A

	<i>Ensure that information on applicable environmental issues is presented in the public arena.</i>	Achieved
13.5	Develop and maintain positive working relationships with the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service.	Responsibility: MCED
13.5.1	Develop and maintain a positive working relationship with the NPWS.	
	<i>Meet quarterly with NPWS regional staff to exchange information.</i>	Ongoing
	<i>Develop a positive and co-operative working relationship between the two organisations.</i>	Ongoing

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED / FACILITATED BY COUNCIL

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY	SERVICES PROVIDED
Corporate Services	Administration Customer Service Financial Management
Public Order and Safety	Bush Fire Control Animal Control Emergency Services Police Liaison
Health	Health Inspections Food Control Water Quality Testing Health Services Liaison
Community Services and Education	Aged and Disabled Services Aboriginal Services Women's Services Youth Services Social Planning Community Consultation
Housing and Community Amenities	Staff Housing Town Planning Streetscapes Waste Management Urban Stormwater Drainage Public Cemeteries Public Conveniences Saleyards
Water Supplies	Water Supply Wilcannia Weir White Cliffs Storage Tank
Sewerage Services	Sewerage Collection Sewerage Treatment Sewerage Re-use
Recreation and Culture	Heritage Public Halls Swimming Pools Sporting Facilities Parks and Gardens Caravan Parks

ANNEXURE A

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY	SERVICES PROVIDED
Built Environment	Building Control Activity Approvals Designated Industrial Areas
Transport and Communication	Roads Bridges Aerodromes Kerbing and Guttering Road and Traffic Signs Television Transmission Media Relations Telecommunications Fleet Management Private Works
Tourism and Economic Development	Tourism Development Economic Development Banking Services Partnerships with other organizations Asset Management
Staff	Occupational Health and Safety Consultative Committee Staff Training Recognition Progression Corporate Image Flexible Working Hours
Natural Resources and Environment	River Health Pollution (River and Air) Fruit Fly Noxious Weeds Fauna and Flora Public Awareness of Environmental issues

PROPOSED CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY	COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Administration Services	Ongoing	Plant Replacement Program
Housing and Community Amenities	Ongoing	Council Housing, Wilcannia
	Ongoing	Upgrade footpaths, Menindee
Recreation & Culture	Ongoing	Continued Restoration – Athenaeum Museum, Wilcannia BBQ's for Crick Park Crick Park Upgrade
Transport and Communication	Ongoing	Construct and seal further 17kms of MR 435, Wilcannia to White Cliffs MR435 Grid Construction Program

Central Darling Shire Council

Income Statement

for the financial year ended 30 June 2008

Budget ⁽¹⁾			Actual	Actual
2008	\$ '000	Notes	2008	2007
Income from Continuing Operations				
Revenue:				
1,100	Rates & Annual Charges	3a	1,112	1,084
2,700	User Charges & Fees	3b	3,102	1,899
280	Interest & Investment Revenue	3c	327	335
200	Other Revenues	3d	296	274
6,060	Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	3e,f	5,941	5,527
1,440	Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	3e,f	1,483	826
Other Income:				
-	Net gains from the disposal of assets	5	14	17
11,780	Total Income from Continuing Operations		12,275	9,962
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
3,500	Employee Benefits & On-Costs	4a	4,055	3,770
60	Borrowing Costs	4b	59	64
5,000	Materials & Contracts	4c	5,078	4,064
1,500	Depreciation & Amortisation	4d	1,546	1,568
1,700	Other Expenses	4e	1,651	860
11,760	Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		12,389	10,326
20	Operating Result from Continuing Operations		(114)	(364)
20	Net Operating Result for the Year		(114)	(364)
20	Net Operating Result attributable to Council		(114)	(364)
(1,420)	Net Operating Result for the year before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes		(1,597)	(1,190)

(1) Original Budget as approved by Council - refer Note 16

Central Darling Shire Council

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2008

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2008	Actual 2007
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6a	2,387	2,649
Investments	6b	925	1,500
Receivables	7	1,081	316
Inventories	8	165	148
Other	8	250	183
Total Current Assets		4,808	4,796
Non-Current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	9	83,428	83,358
Total Non-Current Assets		83,428	83,358
TOTAL ASSETS		88,236	88,154
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	10	725	469
Borrowings	10	48	45
Provisions	10	656	631
Total Current Liabilities		1,429	1,145
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	10	290	337
Provisions	10	500	541
Total Non-Current Liabilities		790	878
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,219	2,023
Net Assets		86,017	86,131
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings	20	84,132	84,246
Revaluation Reserves	20	1,885	1,885
Total Equity		86,017	86,131

Central Darling Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the financial year ended 30 June 2008

\$ '000	Notes			Council		Total Equity
		Retained Earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Equity Interest	Minority Interest	
2008						
Opening Balance (as per Last Year's Audited Accounts)		84,246	1,885	86,131	-	86,131
a. Net Operating Result for the Year		(114)	-	(114)	-	(114)
Total Recognised Income & Expenses (c&d)		(114)	-	(114)	-	(114)
Equity - Balance at end of the reporting period		84,132	1,885	86,017	-	86,017

\$ '000	Notes			Council		Total Equity
		Retained Earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Equity Interest	Minority Interest	
2007						
Opening Balance (as per Last Year's Audited Accounts)		84,610	-	84,610	-	84,610
a. Current Year Income & Expenses Recognised direct to Equity						
- Transfers to/(from) Asset Revaluation Reserve	20b (ii)	-	1,885	1,885	-	1,885
Net Income Recognised Directly in Equity		-	1,885	1,885	-	1,885
b. Net Operating Result for the Year		(364)	-	(364)	-	(364)
Total Recognised Income & Expenses (c&d)		(364)	1,885	1,521	-	1,521
Equity - Balance at end of the reporting period		84,246	1,885	86,131	-	86,131

Central Darling Shire Council

Cash Flow Statement

for the financial year ended 30 June 2008

Budget 2008	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2008	Actual 2007
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
Receipts:				
1,100	Rates & Annual Charges		1,132	1,013
2,000	User Charges & Fees		2,671	2,129
300	Interest & Investment Revenue Received		347	332
7,000	Grants & Contributions		7,111	7,080
-	Other		305	298
Payments:				
(3,800)	Employee Benefits & On-Costs		(3,864)	(3,743)
(4,000)	Materials & Contracts		(4,920)	(4,474)
(78)	Borrowing Costs		(76)	(27)
(1,500)	Other		(1,826)	(1,324)
<u>1,022</u>	Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities	11b	<u>880</u>	<u>1,284</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Receipts:				
-	Sale of Investment Securities		575	-
150	Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		177	114
Payments:				
(500)	Purchase of Investment Securities		-	-
(1,500)	Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		(1,850)	(1,618)
<u>(1,850)</u>	Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities		<u>(1,098)</u>	<u>(1,504)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities				
Payments:				
(40)	Repayment of Borrowings & Advances		(44)	(42)
<u>(40)</u>	Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities		<u>(44)</u>	<u>(42)</u>
(868)	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		(262)	(262)
2,000	plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	11a	2,649	2,911
<u>1,132</u>	Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	11a	<u>2,387</u>	<u>2,649</u>

Please refer to Note 11 for information on the following:

- Non Cash Financing & Investing Activities.
- Financing Arrangements.
- Net cash flow disclosures relating to any Discontinued Operations

MORSE | GROUP
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

JMS:804762

16 October 2008

General Manager
Central Darling Shire Council
PO Box 165
WILCANNIA NSW 2836

Dear Tim

RE: AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

We advise having completed our audit of the Council's financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2008 and enclose the following:

- Our independent auditor's report on the general purpose financial report of Council;
- Our independent auditor's report on the special purpose financial report of Council; and
- Our independent auditor's report on the conduct of the audit of Council.

As required by the Act we have forwarded a copy of our Auditor's Reports directly to the Department of Local Government.

If we can be of further assistance to you in relation to any of the above matters, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

MORSE GROUP

Per:



JEFF SHANKS
PARTNER



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MORSE | GROUP

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT OF CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial report of Central Darling Shire Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2008. The financial report comprises the Statement by Council, Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement and accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the original budget figures included in the Income Statement and Cash Flow Statement, the original budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16, and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.



Chartered Accountants



COVER OF EXCELLENCE

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Basis for Qualified Auditor's Opinion

Since July 2007, global financial markets have experienced a period of high volatility led by events in the US housing market, particularly sub prime loans, which has impacted the value, recoverability, liquidity, cash flows and rates of return of many financial assets including Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDO's), Equity Linked Notes (ELN's) and certain other Managed Funds.

As at 30 June 2008, Central Darling Shire Council's investment portfolio totalled \$3,312,000 and included securities totalling \$925,000 that have been impacted by this market volatility. The impact on individual securities varies depending on their degree of exposed to affected markets.

Many of these securities do not have market values that are independently quoted and they are not widely traded. Independent market valuations are not readily available and in many cases, values are assessed based on estimates from issuers and/or evaluation models for which there is limited market evidence available to verify their reasonableness. Further, the ongoing volatility of financial markets creates greater uncertainty to the valuation process.

These circumstances have resulted in our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to satisfy ourselves as to the fair value and recoverability of \$925,000 of Council's total investment portfolio.

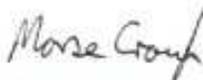
Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the paragraph above titled Basis for Qualified Auditor's Opinion,

- (a) the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2;
- (b) the Council's financial report:
 - (i) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of this Division;
 - (ii) is consistent with the Council's accounting records;
 - (iii) presents fairly the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and cashflows; and
 - (iv) is in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
- (c) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained; and
- (d) there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial report that have come to light in the course of the audit.

Application of the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2

Without further qualification to the opinion expressed above, attention is drawn to Note 1(j) of the financial statements. Council have advised that the revaluation of its operational land and building assets to fair value has not occurred this financial year and as a result will be performed in the 2009 financial year. While the financial statements are in compliance with Australian Accounting Standards, they do not comply with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Guidelines) Update 16 which forms part of the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2. Update 16 of the requirements specified that the revaluation to fair value take place in the 2008 financial year.



MORSE GROUP

2 River Street
Dubbo
Dated: 16 October 2008



JM SHANKS
PARTNER

MORSE | GROUP

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT OF CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the special purpose financial report of Central Darling Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2008, comprising the Statement by Council, Income Statement by Business Activities, Balance Sheet by Business Activities and accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the best practice management disclosures in Notes 2 and 3 and accordingly we express no opinion on them.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Council and the Department of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. The Council's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the Council. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the Council and the Department of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the Council or the Department of Local Government or for any purpose other than for which the report was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



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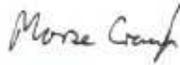
ANNEXURE B

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the special purpose financial report of Central Darling Shire Council is presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of those applicable accounting policies detailed in Note 1, the accounting requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.



MORSE GROUP

2 River Street
Dubbo
Dated: 16 October 2008



JM SHANKS
PARTNER

MORSE | GROUP

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE CONDUCT OF THE AUDIT OF CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

We have audited the financial reports of Central Darling Shire Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2008. The financial reports include the general purpose consolidated accounts of the economic entity comprising the Council and its controlled entities and the special purpose financial report, detailing the income and expenditure of Council's business units and their financial position at balance date. The contents of both of these reports include the Council's Certificate as required by section 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993. The Council is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial reports and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial reports in order to express an opinion on them to the Council.

In accordance with Section 417 of the Local Government Act 1993 we submit our report on the conduct of the audit of Central Darling Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2008. Our audit reports on the general purpose financial statements of Council and the special purpose financial statements on Council's business units outline the legislative framework of our audit and should be referred to in order to establish the context in which our comments are made.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



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Review of the Financial Statements

(a) Result from Continuing Operations

As disclosed in Council's Income Statement the year's operations resulted in a deficit from continuing operations after capital amounts of \$114,000 (2007 - \$364,000). Some items of note in the income statement include:

- The operating deficit from continuing operations *before* capital amounts was \$1,597,000 (2007 - \$1,190,000).
- Rates and annual charges increased by \$28,000 to \$1,112,000 (2007 - \$1,084,000) consistent with the approved rating structure and movements in land values.
- User charges and fees increased by \$1,203,000 to \$3,102,000 (2007 - \$1,899,000). This was mainly due to private works increasing by \$788,000 to \$831,000 for work performed on behalf of the Catchment Management Authority in relation to wetland projects. RTA charges – state roads increased by \$438,000 to \$1,876,000 due to more works orders from the RTA on state roads being performed during the year.
- Grant and contributions provided for operating purposes increased by \$414,000 to \$5,941,000 (2007 - \$5,527,000). Community centres increased by \$186,000 due to additional funding being provided for the Health Buses. Community care services increased by \$71,000 due to additional funding for the Ivanhoe multi service grant.
- Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes increased by \$657,000 to \$1,483,000 (2007 - \$826,000). Transport – roads to recovery increased by \$626,000 due to Council receiving two instalments of the roads to recovery funding during the year. Community centres decreased by \$53,000 due to a grant being received in the prior year for restoration of the Wilcannia Post Office. RTA contributions increased by \$82,000 due to road works on the Ivanhoe to Cobar road being capitalised during the year.
- Employee benefits and on-costs increased by \$285,000 to \$4,055,000 (2007 - \$3,770,000). Salaries and wages increased by \$262,000 to \$3,211,000 due to filling previously vacant management positions during the year and normal movements in gradings and skill steps. Workers' compensation insurance increased by \$84,000 to \$208,000 based on a worsening of the rolling claims history of the Council over the past three years.
- Materials and contracts increased by \$1,014,000 to \$5,078,000 (2007 - \$4,064,000). This was consistent with Council's maintenance programme.
- Other expenses increased by \$791,000 to \$1,651,000 (2007 - \$860,000). This was primarily due to the write down of the CDO investment which decreased by \$575,000 to \$925,000 as a result of exposure to the volatility in the global financial markets. Bad and doubtful debts increased by \$30,000 to \$107,000 due to the write off of rates following the sale of land for unpaid rates during the year.

(b) Financial Position

The Balance Sheet disclosed that for the year ended 30 June 2008 Council's net assets stood at \$86,017,000 (2007 - \$86,131,000) which represents a decrease of \$114,000 being the deficit from continuing operations after capital amounts.

To assess the appropriateness or otherwise of Council's net current asset position (available working capital) it is necessary to review the level of restrictions placed against the use of Council's assets. The notes to the financial statements indicate clearly where restrictions exist and the effect of the restrictions is summarised as follows:-

ANNEXURE B

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Net current assets	3,379	3,651
Less: Amounts externally restricted for special purposes (refer Notes 6; 7; & 8 of financial statements)	(1,870)	(2,575)
Less: Council internally imposed restrictions (refer Notes 6 of financial statements)	(1,296)	(1,318)
Add: Applicable liabilities (refer Note 10)		
- Water	50	54
- Sewerage	30	31
Add: Employee leave entitlements classified as current, but not expected to be settled within 12 months	246	176
Unrestricted net current asset surplus/(deficit)	539	19
Unrestricted net current assets comprise:		
<i>Unrestricted Current Assets</i>		
Cash and Investments	327	451
Receivables	900	121
Inventories	165	148
Other assets	250	183
Less:	1,642	903
<i>Unrestricted Current Liabilities</i>		
Payables	(725)	(464)
Provisions	(576)	(551)
Interest Bearing Liabilities	(48)	(45)
Unrestricted net current asset surplus/(deficit)	(1,349)	(1,060)
Add: Employee leave entitlements classified as current but not expected to be settled within 12 months	246	176
	539	19

Council's surplus of net assets to cover the restrictions in place has increased over the past year to \$539,000.

Since July 2007, global financial markets have experienced a period of high volatility led by events in the US housing market, particularly sub prime loans, which has impacted the value, recoverability, liquidity, cash flows and rates of return of many financial assets including Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDO's), Equity Linked Notes (ELN's) and certain other Managed Funds.

As at 30 June 2008, Central Darling Shire Council's investment portfolio totalled \$3,312,000 and included securities totalling \$925,000 that have been impacted by this market volatility. The impact on individual securities varies depending on their degree of exposed to affected markets.

Many of these securities do not have market values that are independently quoted and they are not widely traded. Independent market valuations are not readily available and in many cases, values are assessed based on estimates from issuers and/or evaluation models for which there is limited market evidence available to verify their reasonableness. Further, the ongoing volatility of financial markets creates greater uncertainty to the valuation process.

These circumstances have resulted in our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to satisfy ourselves as to the fair value and recoverability of \$925,000 of Council's total investment portfolio. Accordingly we have issued a qualified auditor's opinion on Council's general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008.

Liquidity

Note 6 to the accounts discloses total cash and investments of \$3,312,000 (2007 - \$4,149,000). Of this amount \$1,689,000 (2007 - \$2,380,000) is subject to external restrictions requiring Council to commit those funds to the purposes for which they were provided and \$1,296,000 (2007 - \$1,318,000) is subject to internal restrictions agreed upon by Council for designated purposes which may be altered at the discretion of Council, consistent with their management plan.

The unrestricted balance of \$327,000 (2007 - \$451,000) represents funds available to cover non-budgeted discretionary expenditure and short-term cash flow requirements and reflects Council's solid financial position.

(c) Performance Indicators

Note 13 to the Financial Statements provides a measure of Council's performance using a number of selected ratios as follows:

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The unrestricted current ratio is a measure of Council's liquidity and demonstrates Council's ability to satisfy obligations out of short-term and immediate asset balances. Council's ratio of 2.66:1 (2007 - 2.51:1) is considered sound. We stress the importance of considering these ratios in conjunction with other performance indicators and not in isolation.

Debt Service Ratio

The cost of repaying debt is reflected in the debt service ratio, which expresses that cost as a percentage of revenue from ordinary activities. Whilst there is no definitive guide on what constitutes an acceptable ratio it is generally accepted that a ratio of 10% to 20% is considered tolerable depending on the level of long-term development (infrastructure) plans and funding of entrepreneurial activities. At 0.87% (2007 - 1.05%), Central Darling Shire Council's ratio is well below these industry benchmarks.

Rate Coverage Ratio

The rate coverage ratio indicates the proportion of total revenue that is generated by rates. A changing ratio may indicate a change in the mix of Council's revenue streams. These revenue streams would include rates, user charges, grants, contributions and income from entrepreneurial activities.

Council's ratio of 9.06% (2007 - 10.88%) is lower than the previous year. This ratio is extremely low in relation to other Council's due to the shires' location and population demographics. As a result it highlights Council's dependence on grant revenues and is critical in terms of the perspective that it places on Council's unrestricted current and debt service ratios.

Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio

The rates and annual charges outstanding percentage is a measure of management efficiency. Whilst prevailing economic conditions may influence Council's ability to collect revenue, the efficiency and application of collection procedures are still the largest determinant of this ratio.

ANNEXURE B

Central Darling Shire Council's rates and annual charges outstanding percentage of 5.98% has decreased since the prior year (2007 - 8.02%). While the ratio falls within acceptable limits, it is due to the level of the provision for doubtful debts. Council's provision for doubtful debts in relation to rates and annual charges is \$715,000 (2007 - \$735,000) and represents 90% of the outstanding rates and annual charges. This is due to the poor financial position of many of Council's ratepayers who have continued to be adversely affected by the drought, as well as the high level of unemployment in the Shire's towns.

(d) Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement reports a net decrease in cash assets held of \$262,000 (2007 - \$262,000) as follows:

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000	Movement \$'000
Cash flow provided by / (used in)			
Operating activities	880	1,284	(404)
Investing activities	(1,098)	(1,504)	406
Financing activities	(44)	(42)	(2)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held during the year	(262)	(262)	-

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

The net cash flow provided by operating activities totalled \$880,000 (2007 - \$1,284,000). The decrease of \$404,000 was largely as a result of increased employee benefits and materials and contracts.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

The net cash flow used in investing activities totalled \$406,000 (2007 - \$1,504,000). The major cash outflow related to the purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment of \$1,850,000.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

The net cash flow used in financing activities was \$44,000 (2007 - \$42,000). This represents normal repayments of the loan during the year.

(e) Comparison of Actual and Budgeted Performance

Council's change in net assets from operations for the year of was a deficit of \$114,000 compared to a balance budget.

The purpose of this report is not to provide detailed analysis of individual budget variations. Council's financial statements include Note 16, which addressed the contributing factors to these variations in detail.

Other Matters

(a) National Competition Policy

In accordance with the requirements of National Competition Policy guidelines, Central Darling Shire Council has prepared a special purpose financial report on its business units for the year ended 30 June 2008. Council has determined that it has two business units within its operations: Water and Sewerage.

ANNEXURE B

The Department of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality' outlines the process for identifying and allocating costs of activities and provide a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, rate of return on investments in business units and dividends paid.

An unqualified audit report on the special purpose reports for the year ended 30 June 2008 has been issued.

(b) Management Letters

An interim management letter was issued on 10 May 2008, whilst a final report will be issued within the next few weeks.

(c) Revaluation of Water and Sewerage Assets

Attention is drawn to the emphasis of matter in the general purpose audit report regarding the revaluation of water and sewerage infrastructure assets. In Note 1(j) of the financial statements, Council have advised that the revaluation of its operational land and building assets to fair value has not occurred this financial year and as a result will be performed in the 2009 financial year. While the financial statements are in compliance with Australian Accounting Standards, they do not comply with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Guidelines) Update 16 which forms part of the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2. Update 16 of the requirements specified that the revaluation to fair value take place in the 2007 financial year.

(d) Legislative Compliance

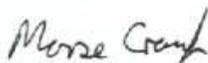
As a result of our audit we advise that there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial reports that have come to our attention during the conduct of the audit and that Central Darling Shire Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993 and regulations.

(e) Qualified Auditor's Opinion on Councils General Purpose Financial Report

Council's general purpose financial report was issued subject to a qualified auditor's opinion in relation to our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to satisfy ourselves as to the fair value and recoverability of \$925,000 of Council's total investment portfolio.

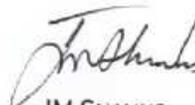
Conclusion

- (a) Central Darling Shire Council's accounting records have been kept in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation of the general purpose financial report and allowed proper and effective audit of this report;
- (b) Central Darling Shire Council's accounting records have been kept in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation of the special purpose financial reports and allowed proper and effective audit of this report; and
- (c) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained.



MORSE GROUP

2 River Street
Dubbo
Dated: 16 October 2008



JM SHANKS
PARTNER

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS 2007	
Applicant	Recommended Grant Amount
Kilfera Field Day	\$1000
Darnick Gun Club	\$3000
St Therese's Community School	\$1000
Menindee Children's Centre	\$2785
White Cliffs Hall Committee	\$468
White Cliffs Swimming Pool	\$450
* West Darling Arts Inc. Wilcannia Arts	\$2835
* Menindee, Sunset Strip Pensioners Assoc	\$2896
White Cliffs Opal fields Tourist Association	\$2000
White Cliffs Public School	\$200
Number of applications received	Recommended program \$ to be allocated
10	\$16634