



2012/2013 Annual Report

Central Darling Shire Council

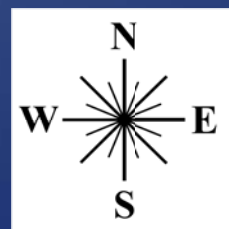




Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Our Shire	3
Our Mission	3
Our Values.....	3
Our Towns.....	4
Elected Council 2012/2013	7
From the Office of the Mayor	8
From the Office of the Acting General Manager	9
Management Team.....	11
Human Resources	12
Corporate Services	17
Total \$13,300	25
Health.....	26
Public Order & Safety.....	28
Bushfire Hazard Reduction	29
Hazard Reduction Programs	29
Hazard Reduction Works	29
Fire Safety Awareness.....	29
Properties & Community Amenities	30
Town Planning.....	36
Environment	37
Domestic Waste Management	38
Community Services.....	39
Indigenous Liaison.....	39
Australia Day in Menindee.....	40
Australia Day Ambassador	41
Ivanhoe MSO.....	41
Medical/Social Trips.....	41
MSO Volunteers	41
Meals on Wheels - Ivanhoe.....	41
Seniors BroadBand.....	42
Social Support	42



Menindee Transaction Centre 42

School Based Trainee 42

Waste to Art 43

Wilcannia Customer Service Centre 44

Economic Development and Tourism 45

Roads & Bridges 46

Water, Sewer & Stormwater 52

Footpaths, Kerb & Guttering 54

Plant & Equipment 55

Business Undertakings 56

Policy: Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors 57

2012/2013 Annual Financials 57



Our Shire

Central Darling Shire encompasses an area of over 53,000 square kilometres, making it the largest Local Government Area (LGA) in New South Wales. Conversely, population figures for the Shire are one of the lowest with 2,108 residents dispersed throughout and surrounding the towns of Ivanhoe, Menindee, Wilcannia and White Cliffs, and its localities of Darnick, Mossgiel, Sunset Strip and Tilpa.



The principal economic activities within the Shire include pastoral, horticultural, agricultural, mining and tourism. Rural grazing properties represent the largest land use within the Shire, accounting for 97% of the entire area.

The Central Darling Shire is bounded by the Shires of Bourke, Cobar, Carrathool, Balranald, Wentworth and the Unincorporated Area.

Our Mission

“Realising quality opportunities for all in the Central Darling Shire through Effective Leadership, Community Involvement and Facilitation of Services”.

Our Values

Through a collaborative approach and strong commitment, the values that will support our mission and guide us in achieving our vision are:

- Energising Leadership
- Customer Service and Contribution to Community
- Innovation and Continuous Improvement
- Equal Opportunity and Caring for Individuals
- Political Harmony
- Teamwork
- Ethical Behaviour



Our Towns

Menindee



Menindee is an oasis in the Outback, a beautiful spot to soak up the outback atmosphere with the convenience of modern services at your fingertips. Dubbed the first town on the Darling River, Menindee has a rich Indigenous and European history. Menindee is located close to Kinchega National Park where visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the Menindee lakes and the Darling River, as well as close encounters with local wildlife.

Menindee is associated with bold explorers of the outback, Burke and Wills, Mitchell and Sturt, and the pastoral tradition of wool production and labouring paddle steamers transporting bales to market. Many travellers today are surprised to find great fields of grapevines and fruit under irrigation beside the Lakes that Major Mitchell originally named "Laidley's Ponds".

Today, Menindee produces much sought after fruits such as table grapes, rock melons, and many varieties of apricots, tomatoes and oranges.

Ivanhoe



Ivanhoe is a town situated on the Cobb Highway 220 kilometres north west of Hay. The township provides visitors with a pleasant break to their journey in an Outback pastoral community. Friendly people, clean amenities, landscaped recreational areas and a self guided Heritage Trail enable visitors to enjoy a short break and gain an insight into the town's interesting past.



Retrace the exploits of bushrangers, the journeys of Cobb & Co and the advent of the railways as you follow the Ivanhoe Heritage Trail. Through tough times and good, flood and crippling drought, towns like Ivanhoe have earned their place in Australian history.

Wilcannia



Wilcannia has a rich and vibrant history. Once known as the "Queen City of the West", it was the third largest shipping port in Australia. In the boom years of the 1880's sandstone was quarried locally for the beautiful buildings that stand today as a reminder of those heady days.

A short drive or walk around town will reveal the great sandstone buildings, historic centre Lift Bridge and old wharf that handled all that cargo so many years ago. Wilcannia has a large Aboriginal community, being the traditional home of the Barkandji people (barka meaning river).

White Cliffs



White Cliffs is unique! Precious seam opal was discovered in White Cliffs in the 1890's and opal from this field was the first to be marketed overseas (giving White Cliffs the distinction of being known as Australia's first Commercial Opal field).

To escape the high summer temperatures, early miners soon began to live in their working mines enjoying the constant underground temperature in the mid twenties all year round. These were known as 'dugouts' and became home for many miners.



Today, modern dugout homes provide a unique housing style for many White Cliffs residents with all the conveniences of any modern home but being environmentally friendly, little heating or cooling is required.

Tilpa



The origin of the name “Tilpa” may be found in the Barkandji word “thulpa”, which means “floodwaters”, for it is in the vicinity of Tilpa that the Darling River floods up to seventy kilometres wide in major floods.

The village of Tilpa came into existence in 1876 when Arthur Cotton opened a store. James Buckley built the Wee Wattah Hotel where the Tilpa Trading Post is now located in the same year.

By 1894, Cotton’s store was owned by David Jones & Co. who sold it to Edmond Perrott who turned it into a hotel named the Royal. This is the existing Tilpa Hotel.

In 1880 a Postal Receiving Office was opened in the store. Tilpa had a school from 1896 till its closure in 1945.

A punt served as the only means of crossing the Darling River at Tilpa until the bridge was completed in December 1963.

Sunset Strip

Sunset Strip was gazetted in 1965 as a village within the Central Darling Shire, 20 km north of Menindee, situated on the northern shore of Lake Menindee. A unique outback take on a holiday by the sea, Sunset Strip is a home-away-from-home for many Broken Hill residents needing a weekend escape. Sunset Strip can boast having its own Post Office and Community Hall with boating, fishing, golf and tennis being some of the activities available.



Elected Council 2012/2013



OW



||

SM



non
r



From the Office of the Mayor



The past 12 months have been both challenging and rewarding for Council and with the Independent Local Government Review Panel having finally handed their report to Honourable Don Page Minister for Local Government, the future of keeping the Local in Local Government remains to be seen.

I take this opportunity in thanking our staff, residents and my fellow Councillors for their contribution to what I believe was a very robust submission to the Independent Panel into the future of Local Government in New South Wales.

The season has been reasonable and the majority of the Council area has remained in good condition with stock numbers increasing and returning to pre drought time. I hasten to add that at the time of writing warmer weather and windy conditions have meant destocking is well and truly happening as we fast approach summer.

Council continues to struggle under the constant burden of being underfunded for the many and varied requests that are received from all our communities, who don't want anything out of the ordinary, just basic and practical requirements for their individual's townships/villages.

We as a Council are ever mindful and respect our duty of care in trying to maintain our vast road network to a safe and trafficable condition at all times. This remains a major challenge to our engineering staff who continue to work diligently whilst working to the confines of a tight budget schedule.

There remains a glimmer of hope for future funding improvements with the FAGS Grants to Council being reviewed and modernized, where the Councils who really need the injection of more funding will become a reality, we hope.

At this point on behalf of my fellow Councillors I would like to thank all of our office and outdoor staff for their respective dedication to Council, for without your input to put it bluntly, "the wheels would fall off".

Raymond Longfellow
Mayor



From the Office of the Acting General Manager



It is with great pleasure I present Council's Annual Report embracing the 2012-2013 financial year, in my thirteenth year as a member of Council staff.

Once again this period presented Council with many challenges in delivering an increased range of services to its residents. Council was required to review and adopt its Community Strategic Plan, setting the strategic direction for the Shire for the next 10 years.

The September 2012 Council elections saw three new Councillors being elected onto Council, these being Clrs Standley, Liversidge, and Astill.

Council continues to struggle with lack of funding and liquidity issues created by lack of cashflow. Ongoing discussions with the State

Government commenced during the reporting period regarding Council's financial situation, it is expected discussions will continue into 2013/14.

Operationally, Council made a number of achievements over the reporting period; examples are:

- Completion of flood restoration works from previous flood events.
- Sealing of 3km of Cobb Highway within vicinity of White Elephant Tank.
- Commenced Remote Communities Water and Sewer Project with completion of raw water reservoir relining component of the project and commencement of upgrades to the Wilcannia Water Filtration Plant.
- Warrali Mission Footpath Upgrades – new pavement and lighting.
- Old Wilcannia Bridge restoration under a heritage grant received from NSW Heritage Office.
- Ivanhoe-Balranald Road reconstruction works.
- Formal adoption of Council's Local Environmental Plan, Development Control Plan and Landuse Strategy.
- Partnered with Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council to partake in a local Litter Campaign to clean up litter and illegal dumping.
- Replacement of White Cliffs Swimming Pool due to structural failure. Council's insurer generously assisted Council to ensure the pool was installed in place for the 2012/13 swimming season in the hot, harsh environment experienced by White Cliffs during summer months.
- Shade shelters installed at Menindee Playground with assistance and funding from Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation.
- Installed new playground within Baker Park at Wilcannia, and installed new playground within Lions Park, Ivanhoe.
- Supported the Yes I Can, Adult Literacy Program – run by Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council.
- Prepared and adopted Menindee Common Plan of Management.
- RSPCA Animal Health Program held throughout townships.
- Commencement of bridge replacement programs at Talyawalka and Papepabinilla Creeks.
- Work commenced on the Wilcannia Post Office to relocate the post office business back to the original building.

During early 2013, dry weather conditions have seen our unsealed road network deteriorate due to low rainfall and lack of available water supplies to undertake necessary roadworks. As 2013/14 approaches, the dry conditions continue and will likely see the Shire facing drought conditions.



I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mayor Ray Longfellow and Councillors along with all Council staff and many community members for their support and advice throughout this period. I would also like to acknowledge the dedication, persistence and perseverance of all Council staff over the past twelve months, and all should be proud of their achievements and progress made in improving services across the Shire.

Leeanne Ryan
Acting General Manager



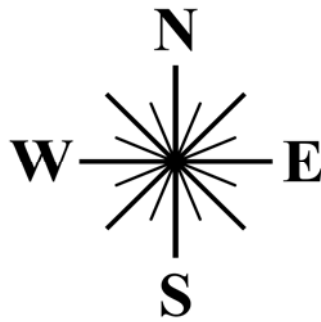
Management Team



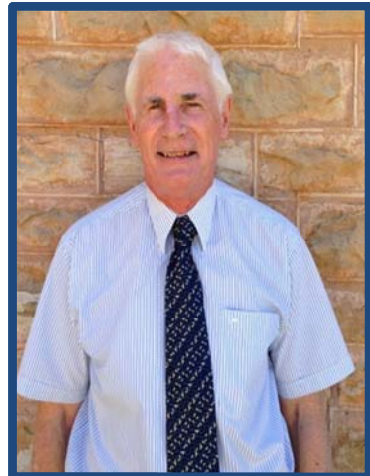
on
cal and
rvices



ager
al Services



ate and
es



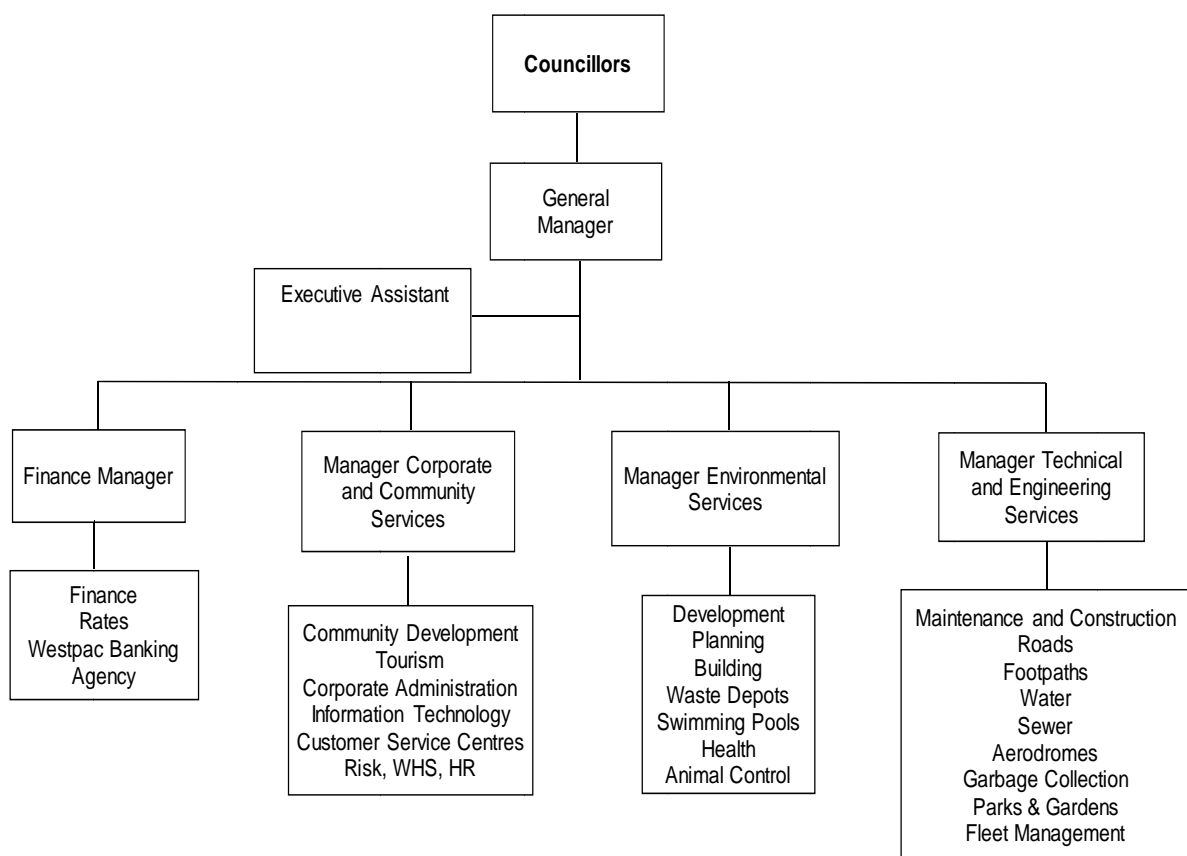
ger



Human Resources

As part of Council’s requirements under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council has prepared a Workforce Management Plan in order to develop the staffing and human resourcing needs to ensure effective and efficient delivery of services.

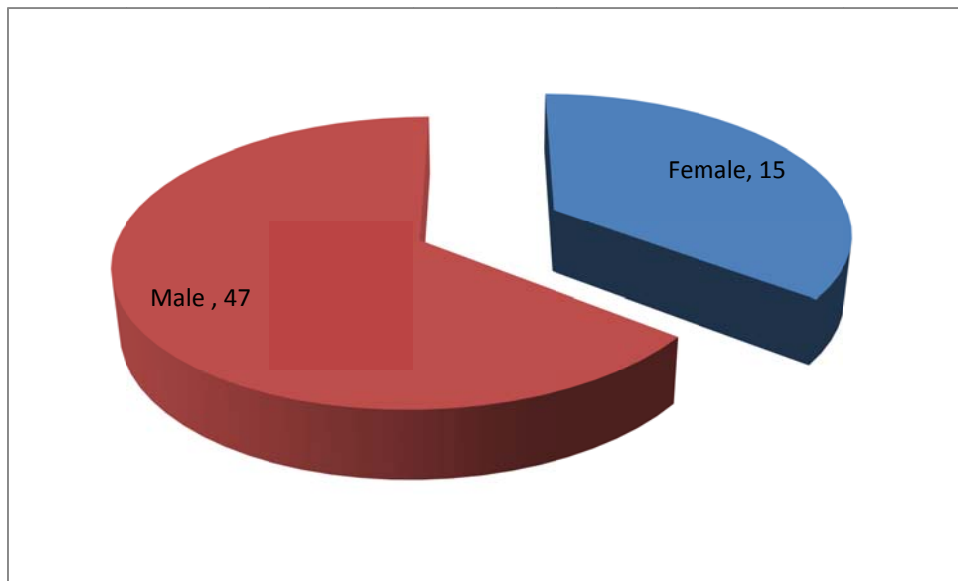
Currently the recruitment and selection process is managed by the Acting General Manager. Formal staff training exercises relating to Work Health & Safety were undertaken by key staff this financial year. Individual staff members undertook various training courses specific to their needs as required.



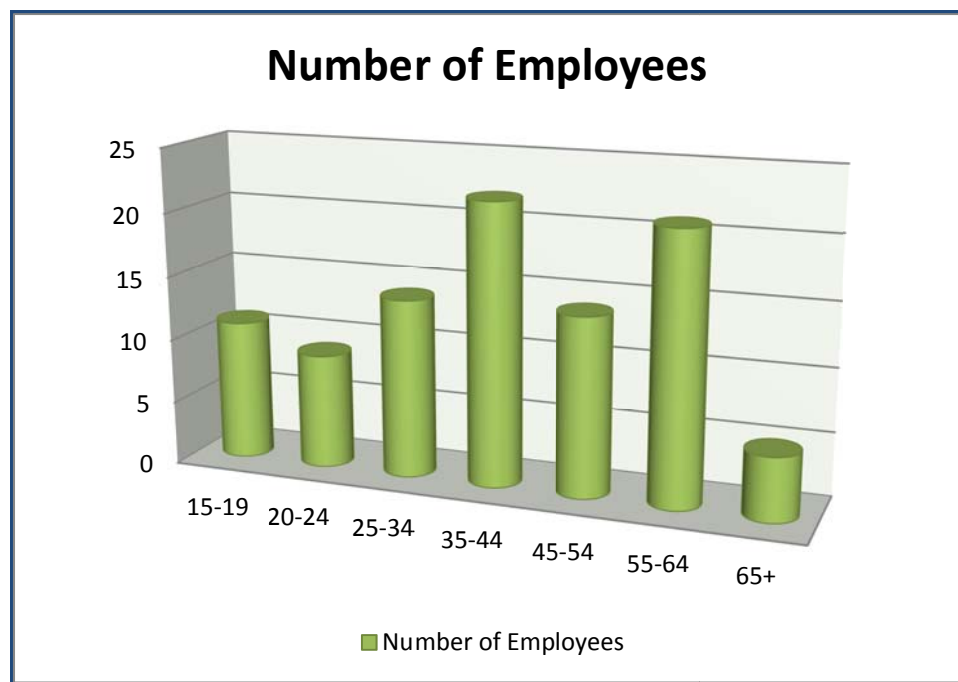


Human Resources

Gender Balance 2012/2013

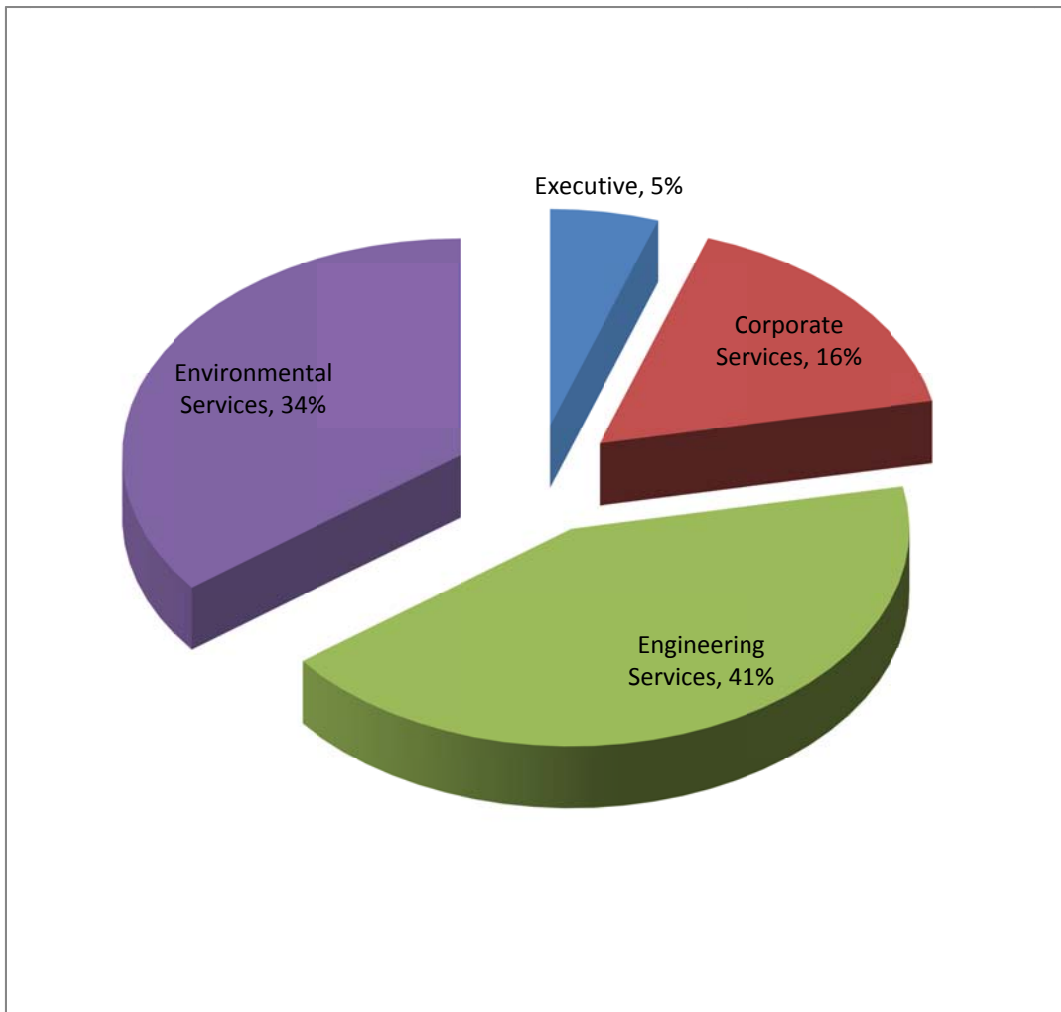


Age of Workforce 2012/2013





Breakdown of Employees per Department 2012/2013





Human Resources

Training and Professional Development

Council values its existing staff and offers traineeships for the professional development of employees.

During the reporting period Council staff also attended a number of training courses as listed:

- Senior First Aid
- Statewide Risk Management Conference
- Rangers Conference
- LGSA Water Management Conference
- Water Treatment Operation
- Yellow, Blue & Red Traffic Control Plan Training
- National Asset Management System Training
- Electrical Appliance Test and Tag Course
- Emergency Management Training
- Chemical Dosing Systems Training
- Asset Edge (Reflect)
- Chemcert Training
- Chainsaw
- CivilCad
- Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion Training

Equal Employment Opportunity

Council's EEO Management Plan covers all aspects required under legislation. This includes plans for redeployment, retraining, retrenchment and redundancy. Council have ensured that the EEO Management Plan has been adhered too; however, no specific activities have been undertaken in relation to this plan.

Corporate Governance	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Ensure pecuniary interest returns are completed	Completed and presented to Council
Complete and present Annual Financial Report	Completed and presented to DLG
Complete and present Annual Management Plan	Completed and adopted by Council
Complete and present Annual Report	Completed and presented to DLG

Legal Proceedings	
30 June 2013	Summary of Legal Proceedings
Total Expenditure	\$22,392

Mayoral & Councillors Fees	
Fee	Amount
Mayoral	\$22,073
Councillors	\$92,155



No Councillors, Council Staff or any other persons representing Council partook in any overseas visits.

Councillors Facilities & Expenses	Amount
(i) Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors	Nil
(ii) Attendance of Councillors at conferences & seminars	\$8,409
(iii) Training of Councillors & provision of skill development	\$3,036
(iv) Interstate visits by Councillors	Nil
(v) Expenses of any spouse or partner	Nil

A copy of Council's S252 policy, Provision of Facilities for use by Councillors and the Payment of Councillors' Expenses can be seen at Appendix A.

Remuneration of the General Manager

The General Manager of Central Darling Shire Council received total remuneration of \$341,199. Included in that remuneration is a one off termination payment of \$145,384, private use of a Council supplied motor vehicle, superannuation, other minor benefits and fringe benefit tax.



Corporate Services

Summary of 2012/2013 operations

As disclosed in Council's Income Statement the year's operations resulted in a deficit from continuing operations after capital amounts of \$968,000 (2012 - \$614,000). Some items of note in the income statement include:

- The operating deficit from continuing operations before capital amounts was \$2,417,000 (2012 – \$1,353,000).
- Rates and annual charges increased by \$54,000 to \$1,329,000 (2012 – \$1,275,000). Ordinary rates increased by \$18,000 to \$652,000 in accordance with rate pegging limits. Annual charges increased by \$32,000 to \$649,000. Domestic waste management services increased by \$15,000 to \$302,000, water supply services increased by \$10,000 to \$258,000 and sewerage services increased by \$7,000 to \$89,000 due to an increase in charges as per the revenue policy.
- User charges and fees increased by \$1,864,000 to \$4,365,000 (2012 - \$2,501,000). Water supply services increased by \$37,000 to \$398,000 due to installation of new water meters and an increase in fees and overall consumption. Private works increased by \$120,000 to \$164,000 due to transport infrastructure works for Warrawong camp grounds for \$42,000, Murray Darling Catchment Authority for \$37,000 to supply and fit box culverts, NSW Office of Water for \$18,000 to construct the river recording station and RMS for \$58,000 for Menindee works. RMS charges – state roads increased by \$1,738,000 to \$3,666,000 due to more works orders from the RMS on state roads being performed during the year.
- Investment revenues increased by \$476,000 to \$564,000 (2012 - \$88,000) due to the fair value of the CDO increasing by \$416,000 compared to a decrease of \$135,000 in the prior year.
- Other revenue increased by \$183,000 to \$564,000 (2012 - \$381,000) due to an increase in insurance claim recoveries of \$165,000 to \$226,000 from the receipt of an insurance claim for damages to the White Cliffs swimming pool for \$155,000.
- Grant and contributions provided for operating purposes decreased by \$451,000 to \$10,232,000 (2012 - \$10,683,000). The financial assistance grant decreased by \$818,000 to \$3,637,000 due to additional instalments being received in the prior year. Flood restoration decreased by \$126,000 to \$2,519,000 due to reduced funding for flood damaged roads during the year. RMS contributions increased by \$404,000 to \$2,718,000 due to more works being performed on repairs and maintenance on local and regional roads. Environmental

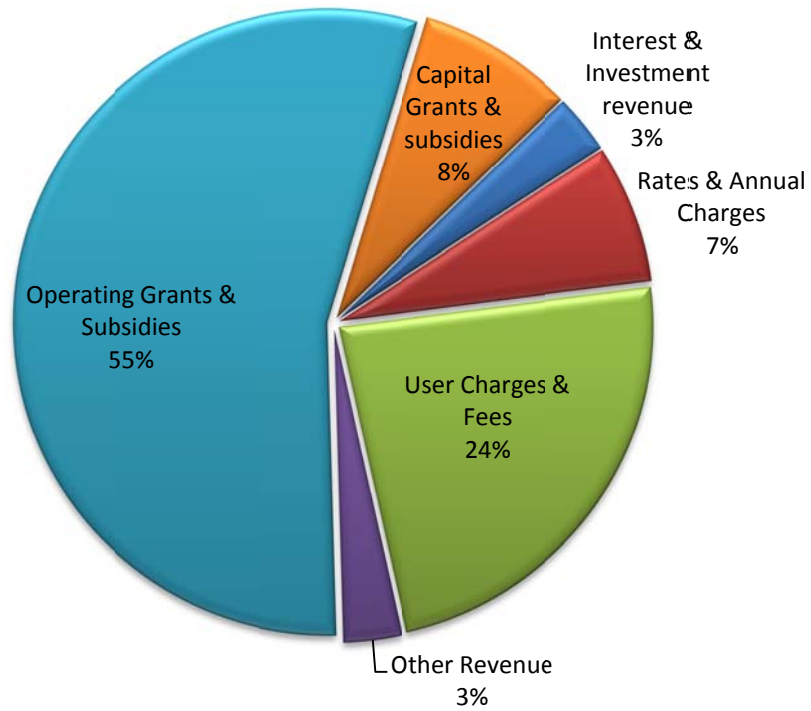


protection increased by \$106,000 to \$167,000 due to the Strengthening Communities' Base program.

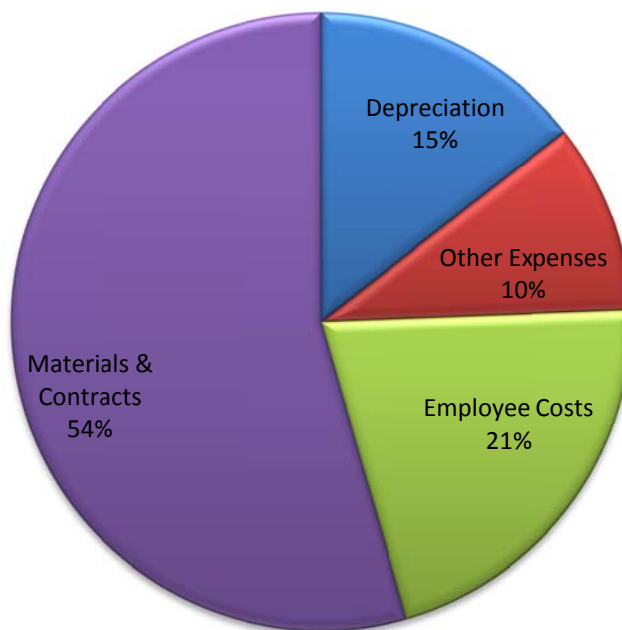
- Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes increased by \$764,000 to \$1,503,000 (2012 - \$739,000). Roads and bridges increased by \$160,000 due to funding for footpaths at Warrallii Mission. Water and sewer increased to \$549,000 due to the reservoir improvement projects.
- Employee benefits and on-costs decreased by \$475,000 to \$4,127,000 (2012 - \$4,602,000). Salaries and wages decreased by \$574,000 to \$3,153,000 due to vacant positions not being filled during the year. Workers' compensation insurance decreased by \$46,000 to \$112,000 due to an improved rolling claims history over the past three years and lower salaries and wages. Training cost decreased by \$74,000 to \$112,000 due less training being provided during the year. Employee termination cost increased to \$148,000 due to the payout of the former general manger.
- Borrowing cost increased by \$116,000 to \$153,000 (2012 - \$37,000) due to the drawdown of the overdraft and new loan facilities resulting in an increase in interest expenses.
- Depreciation expense increased by \$130,000 to \$2,824,000 (2012 - \$2,694,000). The major depreciation expenses were for roads, bridges and footpaths for \$1,389,000, water supply network for \$524,000 and buildings for \$366,000.
- Materials and contracts increased by \$3,200,000 to \$10,634,000 (2012 - \$7,434,000). This was consistent with Council's maintenance programme and impacted by flood damaged road works during the year.
- Other expenses increased by \$301,000 to \$1,644,000 (2012 - \$1,343,000). This was due to an increase in bad and doubtful debts of \$160,000 as the provision for impairment was increased due to a change in the assessment of the certainty over the collection of some receivables. Electricity and heating increased by \$68,000 to \$227,000 due to an increase in tariff charges and consumption. Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations increased by \$93,000 to \$108,000 due to a \$50,000 community contribution and \$40,000 tourism contribution.



Income by Category \$18,557,000

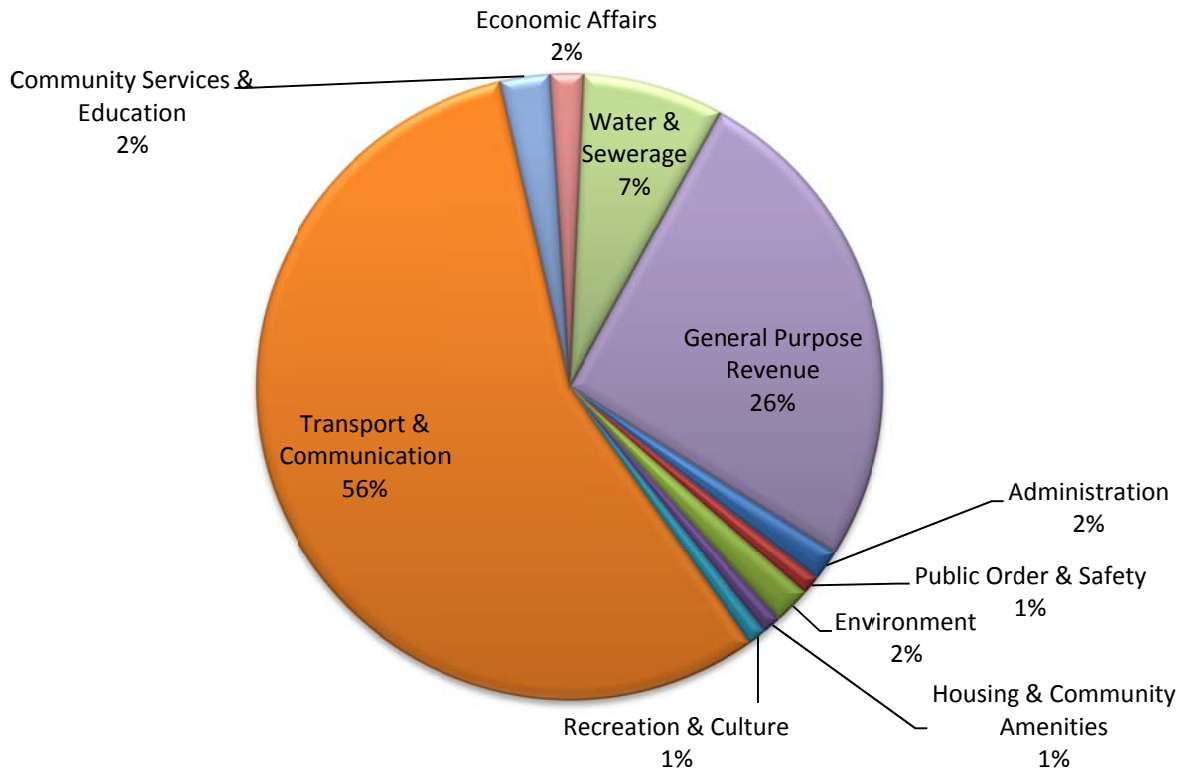


Expenditure by Category \$19,525,000

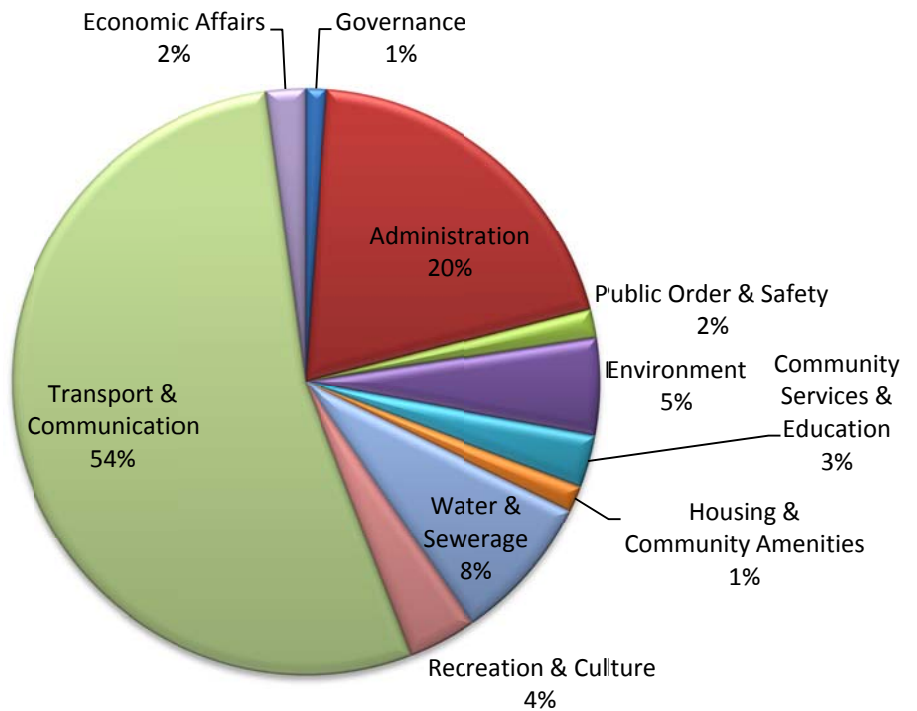




Income by Function \$18,557,000



Expenditure by Function \$19,525,000





Corporate Services

Corporate Services	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Complete Grants Commission return	Completed
Complete FBT Returns	Completed
Complete all GST Returns	Completed
Complete Pensioner Concession Claims	Completed
Submit salary details for workers compensation	Completed
Submit details for annual insurance assessment	Completed and submitted to Jardine Lloyd Thompson
Maintain solid relations with local media	Press releases, public notices, information and newsletters distributed as and when required to all local media authorised by Mayor or Acting General Manager
Meeting of targets within Management Plan	All targets met as required
Levy Rates	Rates levied quarterly
Levy water accounts	Water accounts levied quarterly
Levy sundry debtor accounts	Accounts levied monthly

Copy of Council's Audited Financial Reports

See Appendix B: Audited Financial Statements 2012/2013

Rates & Charges written off during the 2012/2013 period = \$31,469



Corporate Services

Central Darling Shire Council Awarded Contracts 2012/2013

Track Serv Limited , three garbage compactor trucks, \$1,004,640

PPIP Act S33 Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998

In accordance with Section 33 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.

Sched1 Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (GIPA) Act

Council received no applications under the Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (GIPA) Act. There was no contravention by Council of an information protection principle or of a privacy code of practice, or disclosure of personal information kept in a public register under Part 5 Section 33. there were no Freedom of Information activities outstanding from the 2012/2013 financial year.

Details of programs to promote services and access for people with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds consistent with principles of multiculturalism.

At the 2011 Census, Central Darling Shire's population totalled 2,108 with 38% of the population being from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage. This is a significant number compared to the 6.8% of residents who are from a non-English speaking background. Due to this low number it is neither practical nor economically viable for Council to place a strong emphasis on the non-English speaking community.

Throughout the Council towns there are a number of State and Federal Government funded services who provide for the Indigenous population and Council has over the 2012/2013 reporting year has received funding to auspice the services of the Community Buses, Meals on Wheels and Home Care.



Corporate Services

Requirement	Assessment
Statement of external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council	Council has 12 s355 Committees that exercise functions of Council
Statement of all companies in which Council held a controlling interest	Nil
Statement of partnerships, co-operatives and other joint ventures	<p>Council has a number of partnerships with varying groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryde City Council • Netwaste • Regional Development Australia • West Darling Arts • Regional Arts NSW • Western Shires of NSW • Westpac • RTA • CountryLink
Details of activities to develop and promote services and programs that provide for the needs of children	Whilst Council support all local Schools and Youth Groups, the Council's Social Plan expired in 2009. The needs of activities and services for the youth of the Shire will be identified as part of the Community Strategic Planning Process.
Report on the Council's performance in relation to access and equity activities to meet residents' needs outlined in Council's Management Plan	Principal Activity achievements listed throughout report.

Special Variation Expenditure

Council has no special variation.



Financial Assistance Grants 2013		
Applicant	Description & Purpose of Grant	Amount Granted
Wilcannia News Committee Inc	Purchase 20 Cartons of A3 Paper, this is approximately 6 months supply.	\$500
Kilfera Field Day	The "Kilfera" Field Day is an Annual event and funds that will be kindly given will be spent on marques, seating and catering facilities.	\$1,000
Ivanhoe Golf Club	The funds will be spent repairing the septic system and cisterns in the amenities block at the golf club	\$750
Menindee CWA Branch	To purchase a bain marie for catering purposes	\$300
Barbara Frances Ministries	To tutor 2-3 young people in piano/keyboard/music theory, to purchase music and resources, to establish a choir/singing group.	\$500
Gone Bush	To establish a library in Ivanhoe, at the Craft Shop.	\$750
Menindee Children's Centre	The funds would be used to purchase new resources for the children dramatic play area.	\$1,000
Ivanhoe Quilters & Needlework Group	Purchase quilt display boards, chairs, cutting table, quilt patterns, hire of a specialized instructor for a quilting and needlework workshop.	\$750
White Cliffs Public School	The funding would be used to cover the cost of travel and accommodation costs of their major school excursion.	\$1,000
Wilcannia River Radio	Travel, accommodation and incidentals for a person to travel to Sydney to gain further training to improve their radio announcing skills.	\$500
Menindee Friends of the Cenotaph	Erection of a new colour bond fence on eastern side of the cenotaph. This will replace the old fence which is in a state of	\$1,000



	disrepair	
Menindee Shed	An air filter for getting dust out of the shed and five sheets of water proofing plywood for making two sailing yachts for the community.	\$500
White Cliffs Sporting Club for the White Cliffs Music Festival	To assist with the general running costs of the White Cliffs Music Festival including such activities as, the hiring of sound and light equipment and appropriate technicians for the concert, workshops and Poets breakfast. Advertising and promotional materials to encourage both resident and visitor attendance, public liability insurance.	\$1,000
Menindee Charities Inc	Repairs to ceiling. Back door, roof& walls in urgent need of repairs and ceiling panels, had fallen and there are massive cracks in brick external walls.	\$1,000
Sunset Strip Progress Assoc Inc	To purchase a 5000ltr rainwater tank to be placed alongside the Landcare shed to collect rainwater	\$1,000
Ivanhoe Campdraft Association Inc	Sponsorship towards purchase of Ribbons and Cattle Cartage	\$1,000
Menindee Quilters	Help towards the cost of quilting workshop	\$750
Fantastic Wedgies, NSW State Health Challenge	The funds will be put towards paying for the use of either the CWA hall or the Community Hall for a fitness group class.	In Kind Donation use of the Community Hall
Total		\$13,300



Health

Drinking Water Quality Testing

Health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Undertake water samples (microbiology) for potable water supplies	Samples taken weekly/fortnightly
Undertake water samples (microbiology) for swimming pools	Taken monthly during swimming season
Undertake routine chlorine residual readings	Weekly
Undertake blue-green algae sampling along river	As required

Sampling of drinking water quality is carried out within the towns of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs. The frequency of sampling is different in each town however the sample parameters are the same, with most samples tested for microbiology and chemistry. The below tables demonstrate the sampling pattern, the number of samples collected and the number of non-compliant results identified.

<u>Town</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>No of Sites Sampled</u>	<u>Samples Collected</u>
Wilcannia	Weekly	12	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
Ivanhoe	Fortnightly	7	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
White Cliffs	Fortnightly	7	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
Wilcannia - Aboriginal Water and Sewage Program	Monthly	2	- Microbiology-Finishes Ongoing - Chemistry -Finished - Disinfection-by-products-Finished - Pesticide-Finished

<u>No of Samples Collected</u>	<u>Microbiology</u>	<u>Chemistry</u>
Wilcannia	52	1
Ivanhoe	17	1
White Cliffs	19	1
<u>No of Non-Compliant Results</u>	<u>Microbiology</u>	<u>Chemistry</u>
Wilcannia	0	0
Ivanhoe	0	0
White Cliffs	0	0



Food Inspections

health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
To provide level of services as per Category B	Ongoing task
To implement food premises inspections to Category B level	Completed in 4 th Quarter
To investigate complaints to Category B level	Ongoing task

Central Darling Shire Council is classified as Category B under the Food Regulation Partnership as per agreements with NSW Food Authority. Under this arrangement food premises are inspected annually.

The following table demonstrates Council food premises activities over the past 12 months. During the reporting period two businesses required a second inspection and were found to be satisfactory. On re-inspection they both complied with the Food Act 2003 and Food Regulation 2010.

Key issues in this reporting period were rodents. This was due to the mouse plague which was a wide spread problem.

No of inspections undertaken	No of food outlets	No of non-compliance	No of food business requiring re-inspection
22	23	1	1



Public Order & Safety

Companion Animals

Health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
To implement companion animal control measures	Ongoing task
To encourage registrations and microchipping	Ongoing task
To assist with de-sexing clinics and education programs as required	RSPCA de-sexing clinic

Animal Control in Central Darling is an ongoing issue. Constant monitoring and control measures are needed to deal with roaming and straying animals including both dogs and cats. Council partnered with RSPCA, NSW Health and Remote Service Delivery providers to undertake a Dog Health & Desexing Program. This program provided a free service to community members located in Wilcannia to treat companion animals in the form of worming, flea treatments and desexing. During the program held in April 2013, 60 -70 dogs and cats were treated and desexed. This was an excellent achievement and greatly assists Council to control companion animals through less puppies being born and left to roam around the township.

Other activities Council has undertaken to assist animal control within the Shire include provision of dog and cat traps to local residents (on a loan basis) to capture roaming animals, assist residents to surrender animals and rehome/remove as required, tend to injured animals and seek veterinary care as required through RSPCA in Broken Hill. Information items have been provided to educate local residents on animal control matters per the local newspaper and on rates notices.

Council has lodged relevant returns to the Department of Local Government as required being pound data collection returns and dog attack data. The amount of funding spent relating to companion animal management and activities was \$99,938. At this stage it has not be deemed necessary to allocate specific off leash areas within any Shire towns.

Animal Control Statistics for 2012/2013								
Month	Seized & Impounded	Returned to owner	Surrendered	Dumped	Euthanased	Stolen	Re-homed	In Pound at end of month
July 2012	8	0	2	0	2	0	6	0
Aug 2012	7	0	0	5	3	0	2	0
Sept 2012	5	0	0	5	1	0	4	0
Oct 2012	8	0	0	7	2	0	5	0
Nov 2012	10	0	4	5	7	0	2	0
Dec 2012	7	0	0	7	5	0	2	0
Jan 2013	16	0	13	3	11	0	5	0
Feb 2013	23	0	13	10	9	0	13	0
Mar 2013	21	0	5	16	12	0	9	0
April 2013	11	0	3	8	7	0	4	0
May 2013	11	0	4	6	5	0	4	0
June 2013	21	0	13	8	12	0	7	0
Total	148	0	57	80	76	0	63	0



Bushfire Hazard Reduction

Bushfire Hazard Reduction

Hazard Reduction Programs

The Central Darling Bush Fire Management Committee has a significant role to play in the development of hazard reduction activities and funding priorities and holds regular meetings to discuss any issues or concerns. The Central Darling District Bush Fire Risk Management Plan was last reviewed in 2011 and has been approved by the Bushfire Coordinating Committee

Hazard reduction work carried out in the Central Darling Shire over the past year included mechanical works, such as grading and slashing, as well as a number of prescribed burns. The priority for works will be around villages and towns.

Hazard Reduction Works

NSW Rural Fire Service – Far West Team (Incorporating Central Darling District)

- Asset protection zones maintained around all townships and villages, including Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Tilpa, White Cliffs, Menindee, as well as small communities such as Sunset Strip and Copi Hollow.
- Asset protection zones implemented around the 2 Wilcannia discrete Aboriginal communities.
- Fire trail maintenance works within the Mallee Bush Fire Prevention Scheme area and other registered fire trails.

A total of \$45,800 of external hazard reduction funds were sought and allocated through the Government funding process, with an additional \$56,000 allocated through the local government bid process.

Central Darling Shire Council

- Roadside slashing.
- Maintained asset protection zone around Central Darling Waste depots.

National Parks

- Reserve fire trail maintenance.
- Strip burning along strategic fire trails.

Fire Safety Awareness

Community awareness activities are carried out as part of the NSW Rural Fire Service community education program; this is updated annually with community events, media activities and other activities carried out in accordance with Service protocols. Some examples include:

- Display at the Kilfera Field Day with information available.
- School & Community groups visits
- Brigade open day activities.



Properties & Community Amenities

Properties

Environmental	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Issue temporary licences for Crown Land as required	2 temporary licences issued in reporting period
Submit financial statements for Crown Land as required	Financial statements submitted
Support National Tree Day through tree allocations to local communities	Tree Day held in all Shire communities
Maintain all public parks, sporting facilities and public toilets to an acceptable community standard	All amenities maintained as per budgetary allocations
Manage Local Heritage Funding Program pending funding support from NSW Heritage Office	Continuing program with 5 projects funded in reporting period

Crown Land – Council is Trust Manager of a large portfolio of Crown Land within the Central Darling LGA. This land has been gazetted for many differing purposes of use. At this stage, Council is responsible for 52 Crown land parcels scattered across all towns, villages and localities.

Crown Land Properties Managed by Council in 2012/13 – facility and purpose of use			
<u>Reserve/Facility</u>	<u>Reserve Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose of use</u>
Bourke & Wills Park	28962	Menindee	Oval, swimming pool
Burke Park	630012	Wilcannia	Showground
Crick Park	82520	Menindee	Public Recreation
Darnick Community Reserve	230084	Darnick	Community Purposes
Emmdale Emergency Reserve	1001363	Emmdale	Airstrip
Ivanhoe Aerodrome	85153	Ivanhoe	Aviation
Ivanhoe Bushfire Brigade	83244	Ivanhoe	Bushfire Brigade
Ivanhoe Recreation Grounds	83596	Ivanhoe	Recreation
Ivanhoe Regeneration Reserve	85989	Ivanhoe	Regeneration
Ivanhoe Rubbish Depot	84487	Ivanhoe	Rubbish Depot
Ivanhoe Water Supply	78333	Ivanhoe	Water Supply
Lake Menindee Plantation Res.	86859	Sunset Strip	Plantation, tourism purposes
Menindee Aerodrome	230056	Menindee	Aviation
Menindee Common Reserve	64609	Menindee	Camping, access
Menindee Common Reserve	64899	Menindee	Addition – commonage
Menindee Common Reserve	71522	Menindee	Common
Menindee Fire Brigade	78117	Menindee	Fire Station
Menindee Racecourse	84041	Menindee	Racecourse
Menindee Regeneration Res.	88474	Menindee	Regeneration
Tilpa Reserve	1004528	Tilpa	Cemetery
Menindee Reserve	13524	Menindee	Works Depot
Wilcannia Reserve	19334	Wilcannia	Common
White Cliffs Reserve	24554	White Cliffs	Cemetery
Menindee Reserve	28978	Menindee	Cemetery


Crown Land Properties Managed by Council in 2012/13 – facility and purpose of use

<u>Reserve/Facility</u>	<u>Reserve Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose of use</u>
White Cliffs Reserve	38958	White Cliffs	Not Known
Ivanhoe Reserve	3966	Ivanhoe	Plantation & Cemetery
Ivanhoe Reserve	3967	Ivanhoe	Not Known
Menindee Reserve	87753	Menindee	Rubbish Depot
Ivanhoe Reserve	87826	Ivanhoe	Trucking & stock yards
Tilpa Reserve	88701	Tilpa	Public Recreation
White Cliffs Reserve	91119	White Cliffs	Rubbish Depot
Menindee Rubbish Depot	90833	Menindee	Rubbish Depot
White Cliffs Rubbish Depot	97755	White Cliffs	Rubbish Depot
Wilcannia Rubbish Depot	90899	Wilcannia	Rubbish Depot
Sturt Park Reserve	630016	Wilcannia	Recreation
Sunset Strip Bushfire Brigade	230091	Sunset Strip	Bushfire Brigade purposes
Sunset Strip Rubbish Depot	97736	Sunset Strip	Rubbish Depot
Tilpa Airport	96846	Tilpa	Aviation
Trida Public Hall	85640	Trida	Public Hall
Victory Park Caravan Park	1004988	Wilcannia	Recreation
White Cliffs Aerodrome	86808	White Cliffs	Aviation purposes
White Cliffs Gymkhana Res	30642	White Cliffs	Racecourse
White Cliffs Regeneration Res	89857	White Cliffs	Regeneration
White Cliffs Water Supply	97857	White Cliffs	Water Supply
Wilcannia Common Reserve	77322	Wilcannia	Commonage
Wilcannia Effluent Ponds	91299	Wilcannia	Sanitary Purpose
Wilcannia Golf Course	87463	Wilcannia	Golf Course
Wilcannia Public Recreation Res	85567	Wilcannia	Recreation
Wilcannia Regeneration Res	87409	Wilcannia	Regeneration
Wilcannia Septic Tank Pumpout	90900	Wilcannia	Sanitary Depot
Wilcannia Urban Services	230082	Wilcannia	Fire Brigade
William Murray Memorial Park		Menindee	Recreation

Public Buildings/Council Owned or Managed Facilities – Council owns many buildings across the Shire primarily related directly to its operations and staff accommodation. There are 211 buildings and structures in total. These buildings consist of houses, flats, work depots, administration buildings, Rural Transaction Centres, Community Halls, bushfire sheds and buildings, SES buildings, public toilets, sporting ovals, swimming pool amenities, roadside shelters, animal pounds, filtration plants and various other sheds.

Council Owned or Managed Facilities

<u>Facility Type</u>	<u>Number of Buildings</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Staff Houses and flats	15	Wilcannia
Community Housing	6	Menindee
Community Halls	7	Darnick, Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee, White Cliffs, Sunset Strip, Tilpa
ATCO's	3	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe
SES Sheds	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, White Cliffs



Bushfire Brigade	6	Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee, White Cliffs, Sunset Strip, Tilpa
Rural Transaction Centres	1	Menindee
Council Owned or Managed Facilities		
<u>Facility Type</u>	<u>Number of Buildings</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Multiservice Outlets	1	Ivanhoe
Administration Buildings	1	Wilcannia (Council Chambers – heritage listed)
Customer Service Centre	1	Wilcannia
Works Depots	4	Menindee, Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs
Womens & Children Safehouse	1	Wilcannia
Athenaeum	1	Wilcannia
Old Heritage Buildings/Sites	2	Wilcannia (Post Office, Knox & Downs)
Caravan Parks	2	Wilcannia and White Cliffs
Public Toilets	6	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe
Ovals, sports grounds	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, Tilpa
Swimming Pools	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs
Cemeteries	5	White Cliffs, Tilpa, Menindee, Ivanhoe & Wilcannia
Water Filtration Plants	3	Wilcannia, White Cliffs & Ivanhoe
Waste Depots	7	White Cliffs, Tilpa, Ivanhoe, Wilcannia, Menindee, Sunset Strip & Copi Hollow

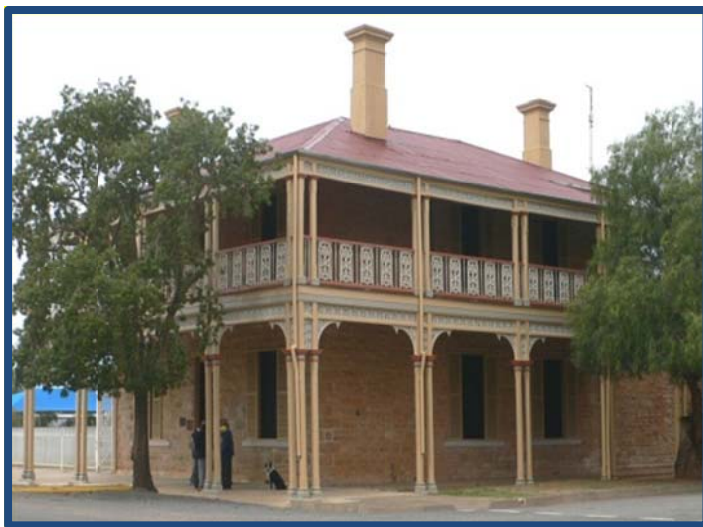
The above list is not exhaustive and does not include smaller buildings attached or associated with these main facilities. Three of the above listed items notably the Old Wilcannia Post Office, the Wilcannia Council Chambers and the Knox & Downs building are heritage listed sites within Wilcannia.

The Old Wilcannia Post Office building has had some renovations undertaken to the exterior of the building and inside the main front room, however still requires extensive works to the residential section and to the yard. Funding to continue the works is required, and to date Council has not been successful in obtaining funding to undertake these works to make the building useable.

Photos of the Old Wilcannia Post Office, Wilcannia Council Chambers are provided below. No specific future use has been found for this site, nor has a suitable funding stream been identified. Considerable clean-up and either rebuild or demolition works are required before this site could be utilised for any specific purpose.



Wilcannia Post Office, located on the corner Myer & Reid Streets, Wilcannia



Generally, the condition of public buildings varies from building to building. Those directly accessed by the public are of good, sound condition. Works undertaken to these buildings are of a standard suitable for acceptable use by the public. To date, Council has undertaken limited work on asset management planning to be able to give a good indication of the funds required to bring all Council owned and operated buildings up to a satisfactory standard.



Caravan Parks

Victory Park Caravan Park, Wilcannia

Situated on the banks of the Darling River at Wilcannia is Victory Park Caravan Park, set amongst majestic gum trees. During the reporting period this caravan park was under lease agreement by Griffith Skills Training Centre - Summit Employment.

Opal Pioneers Caravan Park, White Cliffs



Situated in the opal mining town of White Cliffs is Central Darling Shire Council's Opal Pioneer Caravan Park. The park has had upgrades to its power system and a dump point has been installed due to the increase in tourism numbers. The park has modern amenities. Rainwater tanks have also been installed at various locations within the grounds. This park is managed by a S355 Committee of Council being the White Cliffs Community Association.

Heritage

Council is actively involved in preservation of heritage items and assisting owners of local heritage items to retain and conserve buildings and items of heritage significance on a regular basis. Council has a Heritage Strategy that includes the provision of a Heritage Advisory Service and a Local Heritage Fund. Council receives funding from the NSW Heritage Office for these programs and during 2012/13 allocations were as follows:

Heritage Advisory Program - \$17,500

Local Heritage Fund - \$15,000

During 2012/13, Council's Heritage Advisor visited the Shire and met with local residents on 7 occasions at no cost to the residents.

The Local Heritage Fund attracted 5 projects across the Shire in Menindee and Wilcannia. From these 5 projects a total of \$22,829 was spent by residents on their own buildings. Council supplemented out of the Local Heritage Fund a total of \$13,150 towards these projects.

The Heritage Strategy continues to be a worthwhile program for delivery across the Shire and has been in progress since 2008.



Swimming Pools

Council owns, manages and operates 4 public swimming pool facilities across the Shire. These facilities are located in Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs. Within each facility is a large pool and a small toddlers wading pool, apart from White Cliffs which only has one large pool. Council's public swimming pools are relatively aged, and require ongoing works to keep operational. White Cliffs has the newest pool being constructed in late 2012. Council employs Casual Pool Lifeguards each year to supervise its swimming pools. These employees are trained in First Aid, Bronze Medallion and Royal Lifeguard Licence. Extensive works have been undertaken to manage risks at our pools in the areas of signage and supervisory activities.

Council is mindful of the extensive summer heat, and has installed large shade sails over its pools in all locations. The amenities are all in average condition, apart from Ivanhoe which requires extensive works in the near future.

The pools are open from mid- November to March/April each year. The hours of operation are limited to 3pm to 6pm on school days, and 3pm to 8pm on weekends and school holidays.

Tree Day

Council holds a tree day every year in conjunction with National Tree Day. Council has been participating in this event since 1993 and purchases trees (as seedlings) to give away to our ratepayers and community members. Trees are free on a first in basis, with two free trees being given to each resident that attends the distribution point in each town/locality. This program is held in Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Menindee, Ivanhoe, Sunset Strip and Tilpa. Schools from all towns also participate and are given free trees to plant on School Tree Day, generally held at the same time as National Tree Day.



ig

d

i



Town Planning

Development Applications

Council receives a number of Development Applications (DAs) each year for a wide range of development varying from residential to commercial work. Council receives in the vicinity of 20-50 DAs per year, in the 2012-13 reporting period Council has received 48 DAs. The table below provides a breakdown on the types of DAs received, and the total value of these three main categories of development. Development in the Central Darling LGA is mainly in the townships of Wilcannia and Menindee, however development in the other towns and in rural settings has occurred as well. Most DAs lodged with Council are for smaller residential developments, however at least a couple of times a year Council receive applications for larger developments. Council supports Complying Development Certificates when possible. Over the reporting period 0 Complying Development Certificate applications were lodged with Council for development in Wilcannia. As part of the DA process Council has also issued 28 Construction Certificates and 8 Occupation Certificates.

DA Categories and Values for 2012/13 reporting period		
<u>Development Category</u>	<u>Number of DAs related to this Category</u>	<u>Total Value of Category</u>
Residential	24	\$1,418,00
Commercial	23	\$594,450
Rural	1	\$35,000
TOTAL	48	\$2,047,612

Information about planning agreements

Central Darling Shire Council has not entered into any planning agreements for the reporting period.

Section 67 – Work Carried out on Private Land

Central Darling Shire council has had no Section 67 works completed for the reporting period.



Environment

Climate Change

Over recent years increased focus is being placed on climate change and what this means for the local environment and local communities. To date, Council has had minimal input into climate change and the possible effects on the local area and the operations of Council, due to lack of funding & resources.



Domestic Waste Management

Waste Management

S428(2)(b) Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Continue to improve Menindee & Wilcannia Waste Depots	Ongoing
Implement improvements to Ivanhoe Waste Depot	Completed
Source contracts through Netwaste for sale of recyclables	Contracts continually being sourced.

Council manages and operates 7 waste depots across the Shire. Each waste depot consists of a landfill, with Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe also having broader recycling streams. Council's waste depots are located in Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, Sunset Strip, White Cliffs and Tilpa. Due to numerous complaints regarding illegal burning over past years, Council introduced restricted access to its waste depots in Menindee, Wilcannia & Ivanhoe. This means these waste depots are manned by a Waste Operator during opening hours and open 4 days a week on Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday for 3 hours per day with an extra 2 hours on Saturday afternoons. The larger recycling streams provide for separation of large wastes, such as scrap metal, tyres, green waste, timber products, concrete products. It is often difficult to keep these lines defined, as many dumpers do not segregate their wastes, and often the wrong materials end up in the wrong areas. This is an ongoing challenge for Council.

Future recycling opportunities are very difficult to secure due to distance and freight costs. The option to further refine recycling lines into glass, plastic, cans and other streams is not currently viable and Council does not have available funds to introduce these changes.

Council provides kerbside collection services to the towns of Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe. Collection is via 240L wheelie bins and garbage trucks and is provided to 795 residential and commercial properties.



Community Services

Community Services	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Provide continued support to facilitate the provision of health buses to Wilcannia and Menindee	Ongoing
Ensure the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet is operated to funding guidelines	Ongoing
Ensure the Menindee Transaction Centre is maintained to community expectations	Ongoing
Continue to support the Community Working Parties of the Shire in achieving their action plans	Attendance at monthly Community Working Party meetings where possible
Assist community groups to stage regular and ongoing events	Assistance given on an as needs basis

Indigenous Liaison

Wilcannia is one of 29 aboriginal communities in Australia and one of only 2 in NSW that were selected for the Remote Service Delivery (RSD) program aimed at closing the gap on Aboriginal disadvantage. Closing the Gap is linked to a wider reform of Commonwealth-State financial relations. COAG's national agreements and partnerships, in areas such as education, housing and health, have a clear focus on overcoming Indigenous disadvantage. COAG has agreed to specific timeframes for achieving six Closing the Gap targets, relating to Indigenous life expectancy, infant mortality, early childhood development, education and employment.

Underpinning Closing the Gap is a new way of working across government and of engaging with Indigenous communities. Governments are cooperating to better coordinate their services and funding. Clear responsibilities, specific targets and rigorous reporting will help to keep governments on track.

As part of that framework, Council has a role to play in the RSD program. The RSD program is guided by a Local Implementation Plan (LIP), which has the specific purpose of improving government services in Wilcannia. Whilst not a signatory to the LIP, Council is a partner organisation and has an important role to play in the RSD program.

Community working parties (CWP) are another important mechanism through which Council is able to maintain direct communication with its Indigenous population. CWPs have been established by the State Government as part of its Two Ways Together Partnership Community Program. The CWPs are a way of working together to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people on the ground. 40 Partnership Communities have been established in towns across NSW, including Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee.



Australia Day in Menindee

Family, friends and community members attended the annual Australia Day Awards Ceremony at the Menindee Civic Hall. A morning tea provided by the Menindee Pensioners Association followed the ceremony where the following presentations were made by Ward Councillors and previous year Australia Day recipients:



(Photos clockwise: locals at ceremony; Friends of the Menindee Cenotaph – Mick Moroney and Bill Campbell being presented with the Event of the Year Award from Michael Minns and Councillor Garry Astill; Collin Radford, Citizen of the Year recipient, with Dorothy Rudd and Councillor Ron Page;

Anthony Cicak (senior) Citizen of the Year presented by Maria D'Detorre; Young Citizen of the Year awardees were Kerri-Lee Briar and Anthony Cicak.



Anthony was also presented with a special award later in the year after meeting with Australia Day Ambassador, Paul Featherstone. Paul was most impressed to hear of Anthony's endeavours to collect packages for the SAS Canine Unit in Afghanistan that he made personal contact with the SAS Unit for a 'pack' to be sent to Anthony. It is moments like these that should be recognised so that our young community members see that they are appreciated and valued.



Australia Day Ambassador

Ivanhoe hosted the Ambassador this year with a ceremony and luncheon at the RSL Club where Ambassador Paul Featherstone presented the Ivanhoe Australia Day Award recipients with their certificates and gave a very motivational talk on his 'expertise'. The Menindee community was also very fortunate to meet with Paul at an informal gathering at the Menindee Swimming Pool in the evening.

Ivanhoe MSO

Throughout the last financial year the Ivanhoe MSO has continued to provide support services to our MSO/HACC Clients and the wider Ivanhoe community by providing Community Transport (local and distance), Social Support, Meals on Wheels, and Yard Maintenance Services along with the general day to day CDSC enquiries at the Office.

The MSO Office is a friendly place where our MSO Clients and Ivanhoe residents or travellers can get information on various subjects ranging from community services, local road conditions to native flora and fauna, maps and local history Brochures. All CDSC Public Notices are displayed and general CDSC information is available. There is also a small lending library of magazines, novels, CDs, DVDs and videos for everyone.

We have recently been approved to have the Centrelink Access Point for this area operating in the MSO Office which provides direct online Centrelink Services and telephone service to Centrelink. Our staff are on hand to help any of our customers who may find it difficult to speak over the phone or have lengthy forms to fill in.

Medical/Social Trips

Our CDSC MSO Community Bus is an essential service and a popular trip away for clients as well as other community members for shopping, medical appointments, and social outings to Griffith and Hay. Local shopping trips are available each day of the week with the most popular days being Tuesdays and Thursdays. Community Transport for NSW and ADHC (HACC) NSW fund all these services for remote and isolated Communities and CDSC auspice this funding.

MSO Volunteers

Special mention must go to Ron Maiden who has been the regular Volunteer BUS driver for over four years and has done a great job looking after the clients on the distance trips. Unfortunately he was no able to continue to volunteer in the second half of this year and is missed. Keith Anderson has since taken on the Volunteer Bus Driver position and we welcome him to the MSO team.

We have had 2 Volunteers this year to help with Meals On Wheels and driving for the Medical Trips to Specialist appointments in Griffith, Broken Hill, Hay and Mildura. Many thanks go to Fay Johnstone(M.O.W) and Lili Kitione (M.O.W.) and Keith Anderson and Peter Robertson for being Volunteer Drivers.

Meals on Wheels - Ivanhoe

Meals On Wheels is available from the Correctional Services kitchen Mondays to Fridays (even Christmas and Easter Day and other public holidays). Meals are being delivered between 4 and 5 pm each day. This important service is funded by ADHAC (HACC) and auspiced by CDSC.



Seniors BroadBand

Again this year we have been able to supply two Seniors Broadband Computers which are available for use by our clients and the Ivanhoe Community. Our volunteer tutors are Ashley Bourke, Tammie McMaster and Margie Barter.

Social Support

The MSO Office has offered homecare and social support to the elderly and other people that are in need of help in this area.

Our MSO/HACC clients enjoy morning teas on a regular basis which gives them a chance to chat and catch up with friends. Ivanhoe MSO always celebrates Seniors Week with the MSO having a special morning tea for local Seniors. At the end of the year we have a Christmas Luncheon which is always a lot of fun and a good way celebrate together.

Menindee Transaction Centre



The Centre remains a hive of activity with community

Centrelink Agency for lodgement of forms, phone contact, and identification needs etc. 9.30am-12.30pm Monday — Friday

Room Hire - available for meetings or appointments

Hall Hire - Menindee Civic Hall for meetings, functions and courses

All secretarial needs – Word processing, laminating, photocopying, shredding, printing

Community Library – All of the books available have been donated by the community

Community Access Bus - Monday to Friday Priority Health Patients booked by Health Service - free travel. \$7.50 single trip to Broken Hill \$15 return trip to Menindee

School Based Trainee

Shire continues to support students with their education and transition to work by hosting a School-Based Trainee. Deanna Pinal is a Year 11 student at Menindee Central School based at the Menindee Transaction Centre undertaking Business Studies over 2years. Deanna is required to do 100 days of on-the-job training which she is becoming a valued member of staff at the Centre. Deanna's love of books and writing bode well with the (physical) set up and cataloguing of the 1300 donated books in the Community Library. Deanna's assistance with this was very much appreciated which left Centre staff able to carry on general office duties.



The Community Library is offering a more inviting look to avid readers with new bookcases being added this year. The library runs on an honesty system where borrowers record their own loans and



returns allowing for Centre staff to continue with general Council office duties. The new look library compliments the computer lab, which now totals 8 computers, with many community members and (multi-national) visitors making full usage of the free internet access.

The Centre also now hosts the Remote Jobs Community Program with Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation taking up office space to run the program.

Council continues to support the Menindee Community with insurance coverage for the Monthly Community Markets which sees (on average) 7stall holder's offer locally made wares, plants, jewellery, handbags, antiques, collectables, bric-a-brac, food, drinks and much more for those that like to have a lazy Saturday browsing to pick up a bargain. The Markets are held in the grounds of the Menindee Transaction Centre.

The Biggest Morning Tea was once again supported by Centre staff in conjunction with Menindee Charities and Pensioners Association with over \$742.00 raised on the day.

Menindee Community Bus Statistics

	Health Pass (per leg)	Paying Pass(per leg)	Total Passengers
Jul-12	50	235	285
Aug-12	66	235	301
Sep-12	68	200	268
Oct-12	76	195	271
Nov-12	85	206	291
Dec-12	59	164	223
Jan-13	52	85	137
Feb-13	80	151	231
Mar-13	70	187	257
Apr-13	89	158	247
May-13	58	216	274
Jun-13	91	166	257
Total for Year	844	2198	3042

Waste to Art



Central Darling Shire Council again supported the Waste to Art program by holding the local competition and exhibition and forwarded 11 entries onto the Regional Program held in Bourke.

Even though CDSC artists did not get positive results in Bourke it was great to see a few new artists enter their ideas of Waste to Art! Like the snowman pictured here- this was part of a Christmas Display in the grounds of the Menindee Transaction Centre that was donated to the

community by Barbara Quayle, wanting to give the kids something more at Christmas time. Barbara painted a number of Christmas cut-outs and highlighted them with solar lighting, donated by local individuals and businesses. This will be an ongoing feature at Christmas for the whole community to experience.



The Snowman is constantly on display in the background of the Centre grounds where many tourists have been seen having their photo taken. With the heat during last summer it actually looks as if the Snowman is melting! Many thanks to Barb for her efforts and community spirit.

Wilcannia Customer Service Centre

Wilcannia Community Access Bus - Monday to Friday Priority Health Patients booked by Health Service - free travel. \$7.50 single trip to Broken Hill \$15 return trip to Wilcannia.

Wilcannia Community Bus Statistics

	Health Pass (per leg)	Paying Pass(per leg)	Children (Per Leg)	Total Passengers
Jul-2011	87	295	9	391
Aug-2011	85	304	14	403
Sep-2011	92	342	10	444
Oct-2011	52	228	17	297
Nov-2011	50	257	5	312
Dec-2011	43	223	7	273
Jan-2012	39	196	12	247
Feb-2012	66	150	7	223
Mar-2012	72	228	8	308
Apr-2012	66	199	5	270
May-2012	76	259	11	346
Jun-2012	71	231	8	310
Total for Year	799	2,912	113	3824



Economic Development and Tourism

Council's tourist attractions are actively promoted by tourism bodies such as Outback Tourism NSW and the Long Paddock. The Long Paddock is a touring route that follows the old stock route along the Cobb Highway in New South Wales, from Echuca-Moama on the Murray in the south, through to Wilcannia.

During 2012, Council decided that it would supply funding of \$5,000 to each town's Community Tourism Association. The funding assisted with the development and promotion of tourism throughout the Shire.

Tourism plays a vital role in the economy of the Central Darling Shire Council, with many tourists visiting the Council area every day. Each of Council's towns has its own identity and appeal for tourists. Historical features form a key part of the tourist appeal and are supported by self-guided heritage trails with interpretive signage.

Council Caravan Parks are an important link in Council's tourism infrastructure and are well-managed by the local committees or other groups. Public Council caravan parks are located in Wilcannia and White Cliffs.



Roads & Bridges

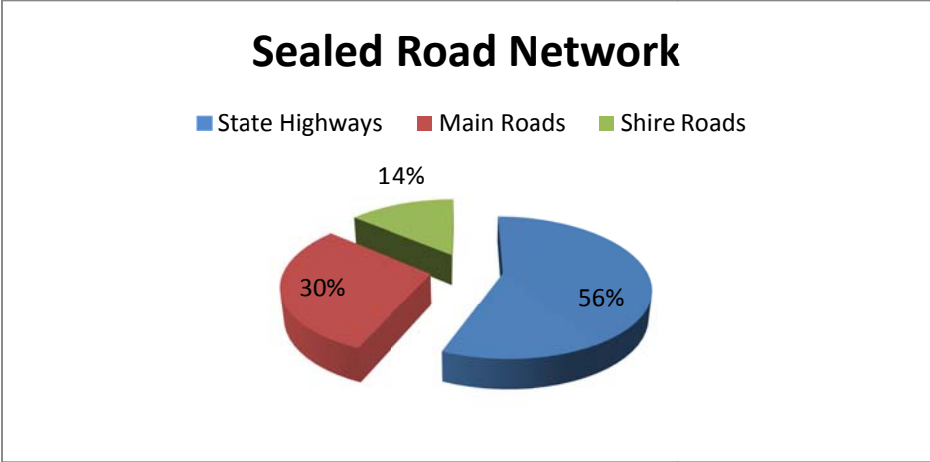
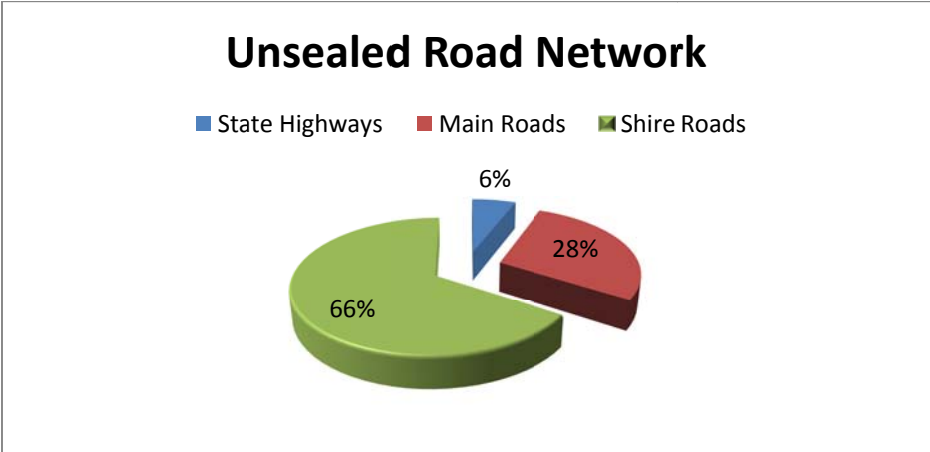
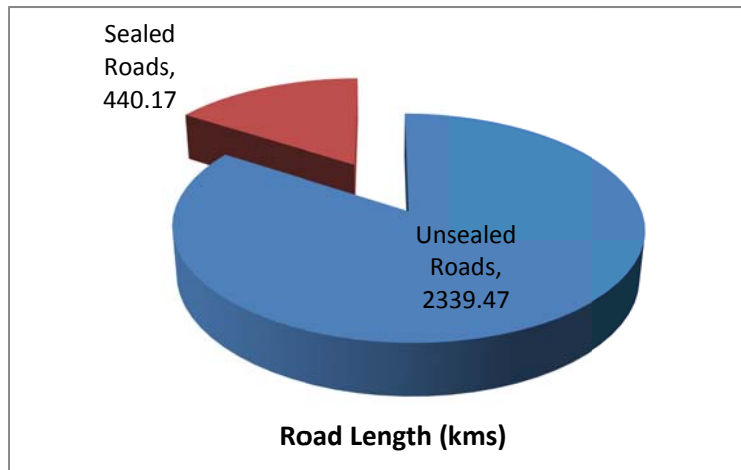
Natural Disaster Declaration

Significant early 2012 rainfall and subsequent catchment response culminated in the March 2012 Natural Disaster declaration. The damage that occurred to the road network totalled \$2.6 million. This amount was comprised of \$900k on Regional Roads and \$1.5Mil on Local Roads. All flood damage restoration works were completed by September 2012.





Public Road Network





Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Ensure all roads within the Shire are maintained	Ongoing maintenance grading program reviewed monthly
Acquit grant funds as required	Funds acquitted with the RMS
Maintain Routine Maintenance Council Contract	Ongoing with assistance from RMS

The following is a summary of the works undertaken on the State, Regional and Shire road network with the Shire in the 2012/2013 financial year.

State Highways

Under Council's Routine Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC), Council is responsible for 387km of State Highway which includes both sealed and unsealed sections. The majority of funding was expended on reseals, heavy patching, flood damage restoration, new grids and approaches, reshape and capping works and safety barrier works.

REPORT ON RMCC WORK 2012/13

Total Budgeted cost paid to Council for RMCC routine work=	\$514,000.00
Council's expenditure for RMCC routine work=	\$641,557.74

List of Jobs being done under this routine work

- Routine Inspection
- Pothole Repair
- Edgebreak repair
- Formation Grading
- Shoulder Grading
- Litter and debris removal
- Ground vegetation control
- Control saplings within clear zone
- Stock grids and races Maintenance
- Stockpile sites Maintenance
- Rest area - Service
- Rest area - Repair
- Clean culverts
- Minor repair culverts
- Minor repair headwalls and/or wingwalls
- Guide post maintenance
- Replace minor signs
- Maintain major signs



DESCRIPTION OF WORK ORDERS RECEIVED AS PART OF RMCC	VALUE AFTER VARIATION	STATUS
HW8 Spray Sealing \$592,166.24	624,541.79	Complete
HW21 Flood Damage Emergency Restoration Works \$217,142.70	207,672.28	Complete
WO 111.13.01 - HW21 Grid Replacement \$67,800.00	\$67,800.00	Complete
WO 111.13.02 - HW21 WET Survey Design \$9,062.40	\$9,062.40	Complete
WO 111.13.03 - HW21 Flood Damage Restoration Works \$662,966.54	\$902,999.13	Complete
WO 111.13.04 - HW8 Major Heavy Patching \$289,007.36	\$297,320.67	Complete
WO 111.13.05 - HW8 Spray Sealing \$311,936.87	\$318,571.06	Complete
WO 111.13.06 - HW21 Gravel resheeting \$157,095.00	\$157,095.00	Complete
WO 111.13.07 - HW21 WET Initial Seal \$1,064,953.25	\$1,167,551.30	In progress
WO 111.13.08 - Grid Replacement on Cobb Hwy	\$67,800.00	In progress
TOTAL WORK ORDER VALUES =	\$2,988,199.56	

Regional Roads



Council maintains 790km of Regional (or Main) Roads within the Shire. Funding received included \$2,459,000 from Regional Road Block Grant and \$396,000 from Regional Roads Repair Program.

Maintenance grading works, gravel resheeting and resealing works accounted for the remainder of Regional Road works.

Reseals were carried out in this financial year in the following locations:

MR67 Balranald Rd 14.98km

MR68B Menindee-Wilcannia West Rd 4.55km

MR68C Pooncarie Rd 7.90km

MR416 Ivanhoe-Cobar Rd 4.26km



Local Roads

Council maintains 1600km of Local Roads within the Shire. Funding received from Federal Assistance Grant totalled \$1,374,991.

The majority of local road expenditure included maintenance grading works and sealing works.

Menindee town streets – reconstruct and reseals 351m



Town Street routine maintenance works are ongoing and include kerb and gutter cleaning on a weekly basis, tree and ground vegetation maintenance, street sweeping and sign maintenance.

Bridges

Routine maintenance carried out on Council owned bridges included visual inspections, termite treatment and minor repairs. Roads to Recovery funding of \$703,770 was allocated to the replacement of 2 dilapidated timber bridges

SR1 Wilcannia – Tilpa East Rd Bridges received the above mentioned funding for replacement of Talyawalka and Papapenbilla. Construction started in June 2013 with an expected completion November 2013

Restoration work on Old Wilcannia Bridge Timber approaches was completed, value \$90,000.

Works on Private Land

Council has not conducted any works on private land during the reporting period.



Water, Sewer & Stormwater

Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Maintain consistency of primary treated water to town of White Cliffs	Ongoing
Maintain consistency of potable and raw water supplies to Ivanhoe and Wilcannia	Ongoing
Ensure that the current standard of sewerage collection is maintained	Ongoing

Major Activities

Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Services continue to benefit from the Aboriginal Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program and the Remote Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program funded predominantly by the Commonwealth Government.

The Aboriginal Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program continues to provide funding for ongoing operational support for the Mallee and Warrali Aboriginal Estates in the amount of \$184k for routine maintenance and repairs. These funds are implemented in accordance with the Interim Service Agreement between Council, NSW Office of Water and Wilcannia Aboriginal Lands Council. Additional funds have also been secured within this program for capital works including replacement of the Old Wilcannia Bridge Filtered Water Main and installation of a series of isolation valves strategically located to minimise disruption to service when repairs to mains are undertaken.

The \$3.3Mil Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Augmentation Contract (2012), funded by the Remote Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program, continued with tenders being called for three separate contracts, being the Wilcannia WTP Upgrade, Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Upgrade (Civil) and the Wilcannia Filtered Reservoir Relining.

The contract for the relining of the Wilcannia Filtered Water Reservoir was awarded to TA Taylor (Aust) Pty Ltd. Works commenced in December 2012 and were completed in May 2013.

The contract to upgrade the Wilcannia WTP was awarded to Liquitek Pty Ltd. Works commenced in February 2013 and are expected to be completed by January 2014.

The works described as the Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Augmentation (2012) contract – Civil Works were put out for tender in April 2012. Post tender closing discussions and deliberations ultimately led to a revised scope of works and fresh request for tender submissions. Three (3) tenders were received and assessed by the tender evaluation panel on 28th May 2013 with the tender examination report completed 17th June 2013.

The tender panel recommendations were considered by Council at its July 2013 Council Meeting and because of unresolved issues related to indemnity no tender was awarded. Further discussions were held between Council, NSW Office of Water and WALC with respect to these works and Council



accepted the NSW Office of Water invitation to manage the retendering of this contract. The retendering of the Wilcannia W.S. and Sge Augmentation (2012) – Civil Works will be called in November/December 2013.

Water

Potable (treated) and raw (untreated) water supplies continued to be provided to the townships of Wilcannia and Ivanhoe in accordance with NSW Office of Water and Department of Health regulations and guidelines in conjunction with a testing regime undertaken by Council operators in consultation with these government agencies.

Wilcannia and Ivanhoe Water Supply is sourced from a combination of river and bore supplies. In the past year, Wilcannia was serviced 100% from Darling River flows whereas conversely Ivanhoe has been serviced from Bore No.1 (Tooralee Station).

Generally the main operational issue in Wilcannia is the water treatment challenge posed by highly variable river water quality. The main operational issue for Ivanhoe is preparing for the expected transfer from bore to river water likely in 2012/2013.

White Cliffs is serviced by a reticulated non-potable filtered water supply and is sourced from surface runoff collected in large off-line ground tanks. Typical operational issues are reticulation leakage from agricultural grade poly pipe network and low pressure issues. Main leakages are repaired as they arise. Water pressure issues are predominantly the responsibility of householders at White Cliffs where a header tank is to be provided by each dwelling/dugout.

Menindee Water Supply is managed by Essential Water pursuant Water Management (General) Regulation (2011) and related to the establishment of the now redundant Broken Hill Water Board.

Sewer

Wilcannia Sewerage Services is comprised of a Common Effluent Collection System which collects domestic sewage from connected properties and discharges to the Wilcannia Sewerage Treatment Plant (Oxidation Ponds). Excessive effluent volume continued to cause management issues during the early part of 2012/2013.

Ivanhoe, Menindee and White Cliffs residents manage generated sewerage with on-site facilities.

Stormwater

Stormwater infrastructure throughout the townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee and White Cliffs were maintained including cleaning of the gross pollutant traps in Wilcannia and Menindee.



Footpaths, Kerb & Guttering

Footpaths

The townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee have extensive footpath networks. The footpath network in the urban areas are predominantly concrete but also is comprised of gravel and in-situ earth sections. \$15,726 was expended on footpath repairs in Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee.

The extent of the footpath network in each township is summarised below:

Wilcannia	4895m
Ivanhoe	2189m
Menindee	1312m

Council has completed the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) which was placed on public exhibition and adopted by Council. From this plan, staff can produce a footpath replacement/ repair program and reference the document in order to apply for additional funding.

Additional funding secured from the RTA was used to upgrade the pedestrian access to the Warrali Aboriginal Estate and St Therese School. This involved construction of a levee structure which supports the widened footpath and provides flood free access. The route had security lighting installed with a bitumen seal finished surface. Additional traffic control devices (bollards) were installed following a vehicle accident which damaged one of the lighting columns.



Kerb and Gutter

The townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee's extensive kerb and gutter infrastructure was maintained. Limited repairs were carried out in this financial year.



Plant & Equipment

Council replaced 2 tractors and slashers with new 75HP Tractor & Slasher (\$155,680)

Council replaced the Menindee Maintenance Truck (\$74,250)

Council replaced 9 light vehicles (\$194,000)

Council purchased 3 new Garbage Compactors (\$1,004,640)

Various running costs are attributed to plant maintenance throughout the year. The following is a breakdown of that expenditure which totals \$628,923

Fuel \$310,773

Repairs and maintenance \$168,213

Tyres \$43,390

Oil \$4,718

Parts \$38,709

Insurance \$28,810

Registration \$34,710





Business Undertakings

Competitive Neutrality

The Division 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. In relation to competitive neutrality Council provide the following:

"Category 1" Business Units have total annual operating revenues that exceed \$2million.

Council has no Category 1 Business Units "Category 2" Business Units have total annual operating revenues that do not exceed \$2 million.

Council has no Category 2 Business Units.

Following the review of Council as part of the Department of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Review, it was identified at recommendation 18 that Council's Complaints Handling Policy requires review and Council adoption. This task has been set down for completion in late 2013 and once adopted the policy will be available on Council's website.

No complaints were received by the Darling Shire Council during the reporting period.



Policy: Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors

2012/2013 Annual Financials