

**CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE
COUNCIL**

2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT



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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 visions 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 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 besides 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 Loft 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 within season.



Message from the Administrator

In December 2013 the Central Darling Shire Council was placed into temporary administration by the Minister for Local Government and by November the following year, that interim administration was formalised for a period of six years.

It is now four years since that original suspension of the elected councillors with another two years to go before the election of a new Council.

The financial position of the Council continues to strengthen with successive surplus budgets, better costing and revenue forecasting, improved cash flow and a more stringent focus on directly delivering the basic services necessary for our community while facilitating others to deliver those services that are discretionary or best delivered by expert organisations other than the Council.

Notwithstanding this success, it is true that the Shire Council will always struggle with its financial sustainability. With an enormous land area and one of the smallest Council populations in the State, Central Darling Shire will always be dependent upon other levels of government for its viability.

The recent conception of the NSW State Government 'Far West Initiative', with the formation for the Far South West Joint Organisation which comprises of our Shire and three neighbouring Councils, who understand the unique challenges that exist in our region. The goal of the newly formed Far South West Joint Organisation is to provide a strong regional governance in assisting Council's financial capacity to deliver better services and unlocking economic potential in tourism and culture.

Your Council has continued to deliver improved services and facilities, under difficult circumstances, and these are outlined in other sections of this Annual Report.

May I thank the staff of the Council for their continued dedication to our task. I would also like to thank outgoing General Manager, Michael Boyd for his service for the past four years in providing stability to Council and welcome our new General Manager, Greg Hill. I would also like express my sincerest thanks to all of those community groups and volunteers who work so hard for their communities.

I look forward to continuing the work of building a better Council for Shire residents.

Greg Wright
Administrator



From the Office of the General Manager

The Annual Report provides an overview of Council's operations and performance during the previous 12 months, exemplifying the dedication and commitment by the staff of the Council to the ongoing task of rebuilding the Council's financial sustainability and ensuring improved and additional service delivery.

Council continues to ensure that projects undertaken are delivered within budget and that the Operational Plan and quarterly performance reviews ensure deliverability of budgeted projected surplus and rebuilding of cash liquidity. However, Council still needs to also address its historic failure to fund staff entitlements, restricted funds, and its cross subsidisation of water/sewer and waste management, as well as a number of governance issues.

Considerable time is taken up by senior management in pursuing external grants for a number of capital projects, and I acknowledge the extensive additional workload for the Shire Services department relating to the Council's contractual commitment towards the ongoing reconstruction of the Cobb Highway, a project that assists in providing additional financial resources to the Council.

The Far West Initiative, a State Government review of the local government sustainability and overall coordination of government service deliverability has finally evolved with the creation of the Far South West Joint Organisation (FSWJO). The FSWJO comprises Balranald Shire Council, Broken Hill City Council, Central Darling Shire Council and Wentworth Shire Council, with regular meeting held monthly on a rotation system between the Council's. The FSWJO will deliver the outcomes sought by the State Government for local government by resource sharing with expertise, equipment and the collaboration in procurement which will all provide an overall financial benefit for this involved.

This being my final year at Central Darling Shire, I express my appreciation to the Administrator, senior management team and the staff for their continued endeavours in addressing the organisational demands in this challenging environment and their dedication and ongoing commitment to serving the residents of the Shire.

Michael Boyd
GENERAL MANAGER



Management Team



Greg Wright
Administrator



Michael Boyd
Outgoing General Manager



Greg Hill
General Manager



Jacob Philp
Director Business Services / Acting General Manager



Reece Wilson
Director Shire Services



Council's Achievements in Implementing the Delivery Program

Delivery Program Performance Measures

The tables below show the Delivery Program measures that have been identified to assess the Council's performance in implementation of the Operational Plan and Delivery Program in 2017-2018. It is noted that during the first half of 2017, Council undertook to review the Plan, and following community consultation, adopted the 2018-2027 Community Strategic Plan for the ensuing 10 years.

| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|---|---|
| 1.1.1 Relevant and quality health and family support services for all members of our community | Advocate for the continual funding of services and programs | Retain and enhance existing health services |
| | Advocate for appropriate and accessible health services | |
| | Advocate for services that support healthy lifestyles | Continuous improvement program (as part of the operational plan - service level agreements) |
| | Support services that address alcohol and substance misuse in our communities | |
| 1.2.1 Health, improved aged care and disability services in collaboration with service providers | Investigate possible government policy change to better reflect the aged care needs of rural and remote communities | Develop strategies that encourage older residents to remain within our communities |
| | Ensure that services to the ageing are coordinated, effective and appropriate | |
| | Investigate options to deliver aged care facilities | |
| | Ensure the continuation of funding to assist in the provision of home care services | Investigate strategies that provide for aged care that enables older residents to be integrated and active in our communities |
| | Ensure the on-going review and implementation of disability improvement programs | |
| | Liaise with appropriate local health services on public health related matters | Continuous improvement program (as part of the operational plan- service level agreements) |
| | Develop and review a Disability Inclusion Action Plan | |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|--|--|
| 1.3.1 Culture and Art: Development of creative industries, culture and art | Advocate for increased local participation opportunities for community based arts and cultural groups | Maintain relationships with Regional and State Arts organisations |
| 1.4.1 Youth, Sport and Recreation Options for the whole community | Investigate options for external funding to provide additional and enhanced recreational facilities | Enhance sporting facilities and opportunities in the communities |
| | Investigate the provision of youth recreational facilities | Provide active and passive recreational facilities |
| | Ensure adequate budget allocation in annual Operational Plan to assist with grant applications for additional and enhanced recreational facilities | Investigate the provision of leadership opportunities for our young people |
| | Investigate options for the provision of contractual arrangements for the operation of swimming pools across the Shire | Investigate the provision of leadership opportunities for our young people |
| 1.4.2 Community Housing | Liaise and facilitate partnership with housing providers | Maintain partnerships with community housing providers, Aboriginal Land Councils and Aboriginal Housing Office. |
| 1.5.1 Public Order and Safety | Continue partnership with Police to enforce Alcohol Free Zones in our communities | Ensure the continuation and enforcement of alcohol free zones |
| | Develop strategies with government agencies to addresses crime prevention issues | In conjunction with other agencies, promote development of crime prevention programs that focus on healthier and safer communities |
| | Liaise with NSW Police through attendance and participation on the Community Safety Precinct Committee | |
| | Investigate funding opportunities for the implantation of CCTV as required | Investigate the implementation of CCTV crime prevention strategies when funding available |
| | Support and assist emergency services by participating in scheduled meetings and reporting to Council | |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|--|---|
| | Ensure availability of microchipping and veterinary services as funding available | Continued provision of enforcement of animal control services |
| | Maintain consistent animal control practices | |
| | Develop partnership with AMRRIC to assist with education programs for Council and communities. | |
| | Review of Strategic Companion Animal Management Plan | |
| 2.1.1 Sustainable economic development of Shire towns | Review and update Tourism and Economic Development Strategy | Develop an economic development strategic framework that supports the retention and growth of existing businesses |
| | New plans and strategies are developed in line with community needs that encourages economic growth | |
| | Review opportunities and benefits of membership of the relevant regional/state tourism board | Encourage the establishment of new and expansion of existing industries and businesses |
| | Ensure that all policies, plans and procedures are updated and appropriate to maintain development in the Shire | |
| | Monitor population projections and statistical data relating to the Shire to assist in making informed decisions | Investigate funding opportunities to support retention of heritage buildings |
| | Seek and apply for grant funding to enable opportunities to support the retention of heritage buildings | |
| 2.1.2 Succession Planning – employment strategy | Develop partnership with job network agencies to identify employment opportunities | Maintain relationships with job networks |
| | Research and develop opportunities for traineeships | Develop traineeship opportunities- two per annum |
| 2.2.1 Opportunities for the highest level of education and | Lobby government bodies for support and financial assistance for educational programs | Increased number of locally offered traineeships and educational programs |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|--|---|--|
| training for all members of the community | Encourage the take up of educational opportunities | |
| | Assist in promoting traineeships and career paths post traineeship | |
| | Encourage participation of traineeship and educational opportunities through effective communication | |
| 2.3.1 Enhance Tourism Assets | Inspect and maintain Heritage Trail Interpretive panels (tourism signage) | 100% of interpretive panels and relevant signage inspected and repaired/ updated |
| | Investigate the options for dissemination of tourist information in each community | Increased dissemination streams of tourist information |
| | Investigate the opportunity for community/tourism/educational use of the solar power station site in White Cliffs | |
| 3.1.1 Environmental and education | Environmental issues are included in Council staff induction and review programs | Council staff trained in environmental issues |
| | Continue to lobby to increase environmental flows in the Darling River | |
| 3.1.2 Tree planting | Free trees distributed as part of National Tree Day | Actively support and contribute to National Tree Day |
| 3.1.3 Plastic Bag reduction | Investigate strategies to eradicate plastic bags from all communities | Decline in plastic bag supply and use |
| 3.1.4 Waste management | Review tip and waste operations, access and recycling programs | Reduction in waste going to landfill; minimal number of issues raised by EPA; increased level of recycling |
| | Continue to engage NetWaste to explore recycling options | |
| | Lobby government for re-introduction of container deposit levy | |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|---|--|
| 3.1.5 Weed management | Investigate the Shire's responsibility for weed control and seek appropriate opportunities for funding | Meetings held with relevant government agencies |
| 3.2.1 Visually attractive and functional town entrances and streetscapes | Complete review of Central Darling Shire Council's Local Heritage Strategy | Review Central Darling Shire Council's Local Heritage Strategy |
| | External Heritage Advisor to visit area three times per year | Heritage Advisor engaged |
| | Continue to seek funding (State and Federal) for heritage projects | Investigate opportunities to redevelop and enhance streetscapes and entrances to all towns |
| | Continue to seek funding to provide for privately owned heritage buildings | |
| | Seek funding to enable opportunities to redevelop and enhance streetscapes and entrances to all towns | |
| 3.3.1 Stormwater is managed throughout each community | Stormwater drainage system functions to an acceptable standard | Stormwater Management Plan to be reviewed |
| | Develop a plan to identify, investigate and design suitable solutions for storm water issues in communities | |
| | Maintain network of kerb, gutter and stormwater drainage to an appropriate standard | |
| 3.3.2 Safe and reliable water supply for Shire communities | Lobby for the completion of the Wilcannia Weir | Develop integrated water management plans for each community |
| | Ensure that potable and raw water supplies are provided within designated water districts of Ivanhoe and Wilcannia | |
| | Maintain the consistency of water supply to the White Cliffs community and investigate and improve the provision of a potable supply as a matter of urgency | |
| | Construct the new water treatment plant and associated infrastructure to ensure improved water supply for White Cliffs | |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|--|--|---|
| 3.3.3 Water testing and treatment | Ensure that potable water meets the guidelines set by NSW Health | Quality Water Testing meets the NSW Health standards |
| 3.3.4 Water supply management | Review and improve water supply management strategies | All relevant water plans are reviewed |
| | Review contingency plans for each community to maintain water supplies | |
| 3.4.1 Safe and reliable network of roads throughout the Shire | Investigate alternative options for road surfaces | All roads throughout the Shire meet RMS standards |
| | Ensure all roads within the Shire are maintained at an appropriate standard | |
| | Review road hierarchy with standard levels and priority roads listing | |
| | Prepare costing report for roads in the Shire to establish and maintain to current identified standard. Determine short fall from specified standard to current condition of roads | |
| | Continue to lobby for road funding for all roads in the Shire, specifically Cobb Highway, Wooltrack Road and Pooncarie-Menindee Road | |
| 3.4.2 Traffic Management | Review the usage of signage on Council owned area and/or operated land | Traffic management committee meetings as required to review traffic issues |
| | Conduct street signage audit in each Shire town and replace as required | |
| 3.4.3 Maintain Airports to acceptable condition | Conduct weekly inspection and maintenance program to Airports | Maintenance programs completed in accordance with CASA standards |
| | Conduct weekly inspection and maintenance program to Airports | |
| | Continue to liaise with RFDS and RFS | |
| | Seek funding to upgrade Airports | |
| 3.4.4 Council and Community assets are maintained and managed responsibly | Complete development of asset management plans | Asset maintenance program developed and operational (see Asset Maintenance Program) |
| | Develop asset maintenance program | |
| | Asset register reviewed and updated | |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|--|--|
| | Identify and rectify high-risk footpath hazards in a coordinated and systematic manner | |
| | Develop a Disability Inclusion Action Plan | Development of a Disability Inclusion Action Plan to address access issues |
| 3.4.5 Ensure that public toilet facilities are maintained to a standard acceptable to the wider community and visitors | Toilets cleaned in accordance with regular cleaning schedule | Prompt response to complaints about cleanliness |
| 3.4.6 Maintain Cemeteries | Encourage more community involvement in local committees – cemetery beautification programs | Support current committee structure |
| | Maintain and update cemetery records as information becomes available | |
| 3.4.7 Playgrounds are provided and maintained to meet community standards | Review the audit of all playgrounds within the Shire | One compliant (Australian Standards) playground in each town |
| | Plan for new playgrounds and the upgrade of existing playgrounds in consultation with the community | |
| | Ensure maintenance schedule for all playgrounds within the Shire is compliant | |
| | Research and apply for funding for playground renewal | |
| 3.5.1 To provide a well skilled and resourced planning and development function that ensures orderly development | Management of all planning, development and building regulatory functions in accordance with legislative and LEP requirements | Development Applications, inspections and certifications undertaken within customer charter timeframes |
| 4.1.1 Effective communication and consultation with our community | Liaise with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives to identify service needs and assist in planning for improved service delivery | Enhanced communication activities with community groups and residents |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|--|---|--|
| | Continue Administrator and General Manager consultations with communities on a regular basis | |
| | Develop a Community Engagement Strategy | |
| | Foster and co-ordinate an extensive network of partnerships in delivering services to the community | Develop a governance framework that underpins openness and transparency for stakeholders |
| | Proactively encourage community members to take an interest in community leadership | |
| | Identify and conduct appropriate levels of training for Councillors on their roles, responsibilities and leadership aspirations | |
| 4.2.1 Effective community service provision in the Shire through a strategic and collaborative approach | Provide information about volunteering via CDSC website and through a flyer in rates notice | Information uploaded to CDSC website and is regularly updated |
| | In partnership with community organisations encourage an increase in the number of volunteers and their skills | Support educational institutions and organisations in the Shire to encourage youth leadership and positive community behaviour |
| | Identify events and programs to engage students and schools in appropriate activities including in collaboration with Young Leaders Program | |
| | Participate in remote service delivery team meetings | |
| | Management of Council's finances in accordance with, accepted local government financial sustainability principles and adopted Council strategies | |
| 4.3.1 A professional and cohesive organisational climate | Identify and conduct appropriate levels of training for Councillors and staff on their roles and responsibilities | Improved internal communication outcomes |
| | Review of organisational structure in consultation with Council and staff | Develop internally targeted training sessions to address any identified communication issues |



| Strategy | Action | Performance Target |
|---|---|--|
| | Review of Council's Delegation Register to ensure staff are aware of their legislative responsibilities and limits of authority | Determine internal and external reporting needs through review of statutory reporting requirements |
| | Provision of an active training regime for all staff to ensure skills are current and numeracy and literacy skills are satisfactory | |
| 4.4.1 Leadership and community involvement | Councillors and senior management be actively involved in community groups | Councillors and senior management be actively involved in community groups |
| | Ensure opportunity in each community to review Council's Operational Plan | |
| Education | Liaise with school communities on Education and Community issues | Engage school representative groups in response to any community or educational concerns |
| | Conduct information sessions for prospective persons interested in standing for election for Council | Assist prospective persons interested in standing for election for Council |

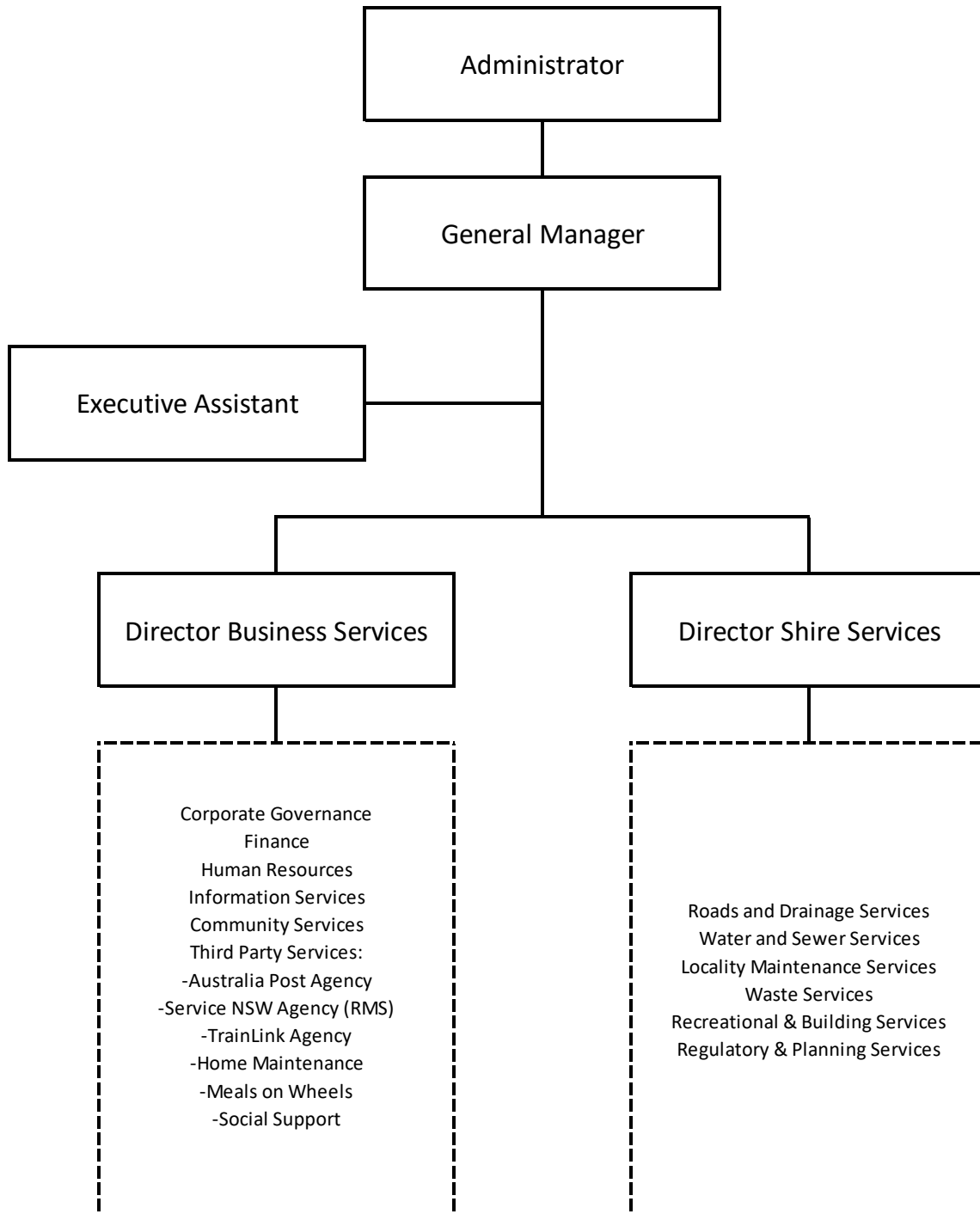
Human Resources

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 General Manager. Formal staff training exercise relating to Work Health & Safety was undertaken by key staff this financial year. Individual staff members undertook various training courses specific to their needs as required.

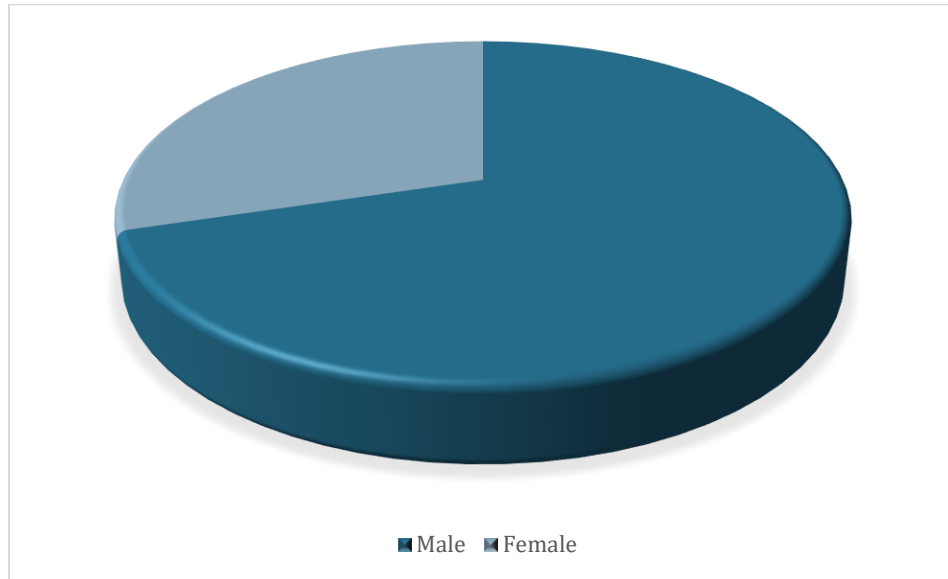


Organisational Structure

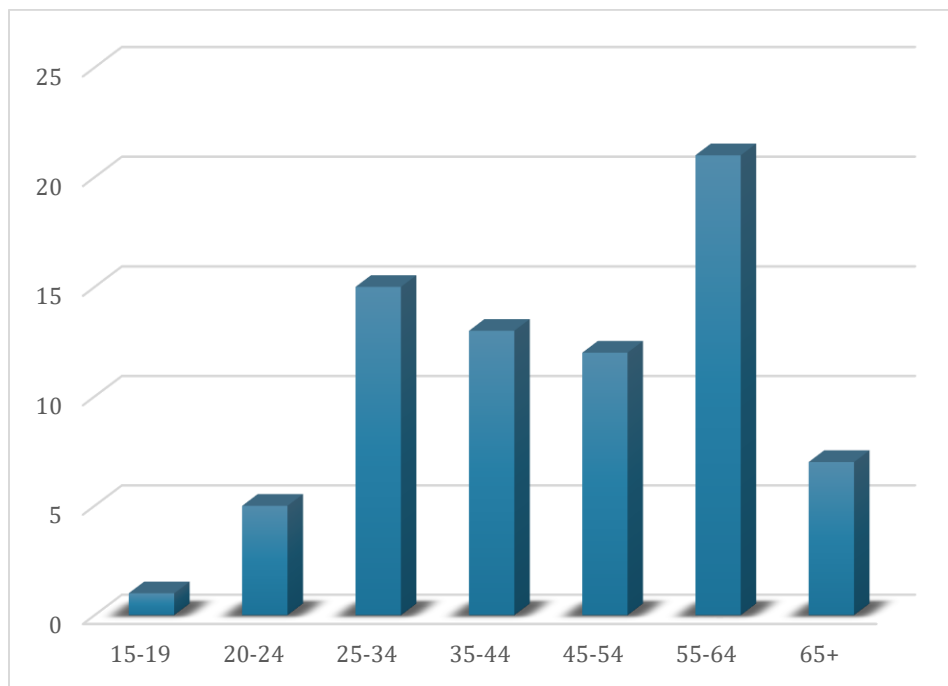




Gender Balance for 2017/18

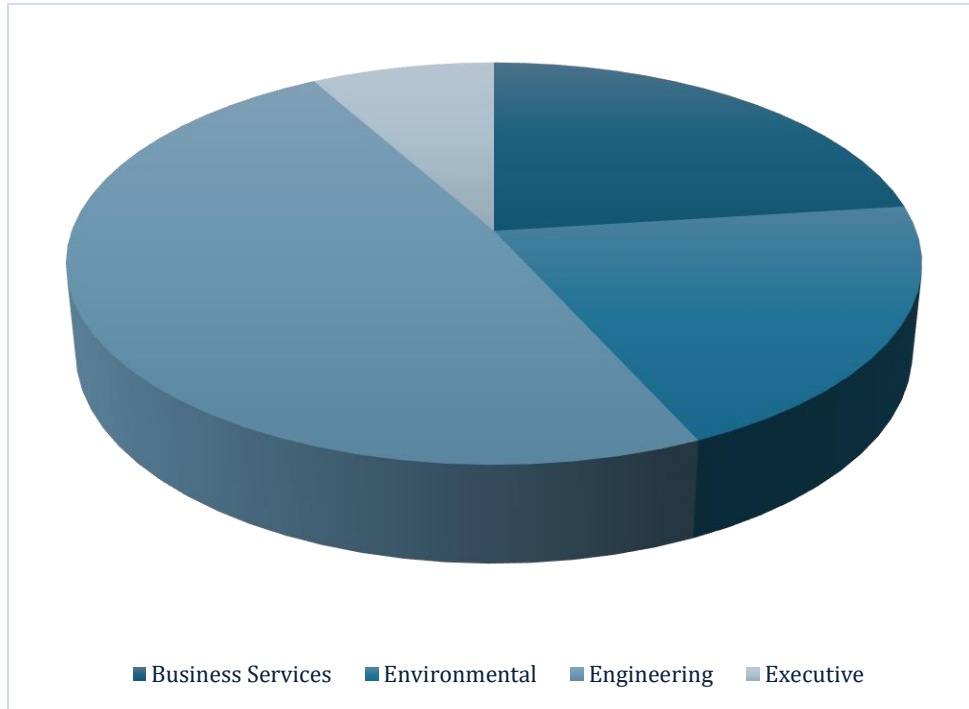


Age of Workforce 2017/18





Breakdown of employees by department 2017/18



Training and Professional Development

Council values its existing staff and offers training for the professional development of employees. During the reporting period Council staff also attended a number of training courses as listed:

| Training & Professional Development | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Venomous Animal Awareness | Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion Training |
| Water Treatment Operation | Dangerous Goods |
| Traffic Control Planning | Plant Operations, LB, LL, LE, LF |
| Chemical Dosing Systems Training | Gas Chlorine |
| Asset Edge (Reflect) | Ongoing Toolbox Talks |
| ChemCert Training | CivilCAD |
| Chainsaw | Senior First Aid |
| HP Records Manager | Microsoft SharePoint |



Equal Employment Opportunity

Council's EEO Management Plan covers all aspects required under legislation. This includes plans for redeployment, retraining, retrenchment and redundancy. Council has ensured that the EEO Management Plan has been adhered to; 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 OLG |
| Complete and present Annual Management Plan | Completed and adopted by Council |
| Complete and present Annual Report | Completed and presented to OLG |

| Legal Proceedings | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 30 June 2018 | Summary of Legal Proceedings |
| Total Expenditure \$70,522 | Mercantile Engagement and Conveyancing Fees |

| Administrator Fees | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Fee | Amount |
| Administrator | \$115,278 |

The Administrator, Council Staff or any other persons representing Council partook in any overseas visits.

| Administrator Facilities & Expenses | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| (i) | Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to the Administrator | \$120.00 |
| (ii) | Attendance at conferences & seminars | Nil |
| (iii) | Training & provision of Skill development | Nil |
| (iv) | Interstate visits | 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

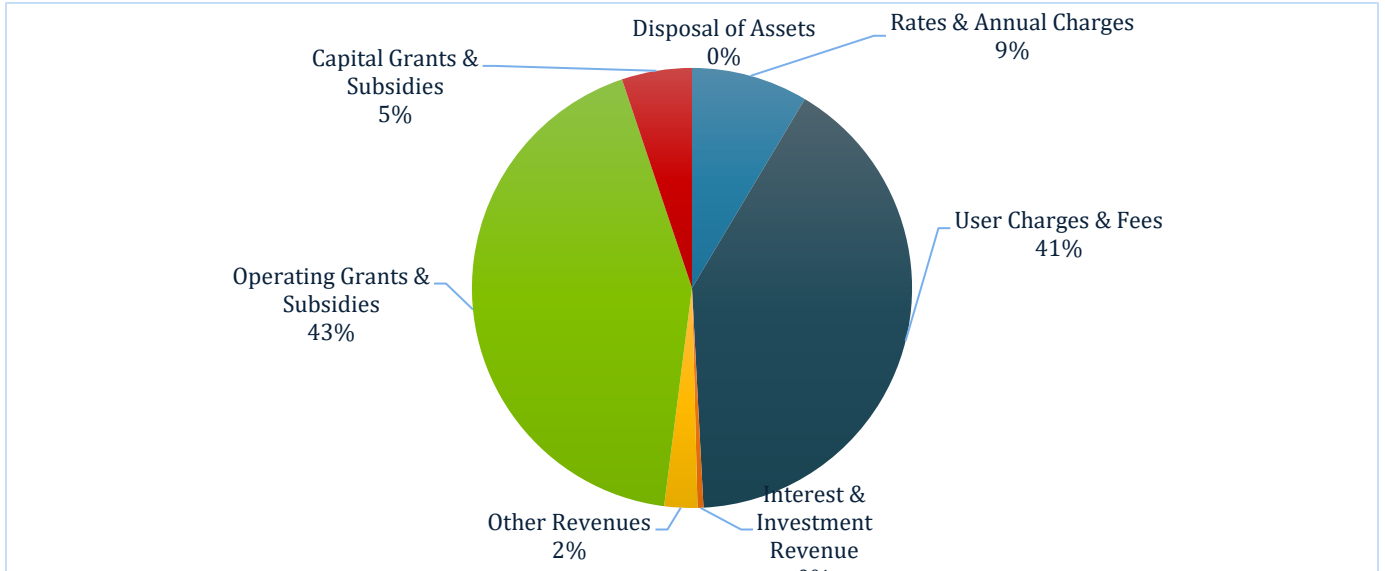
| Remuneration of the Acting and Interim General Managers | |
|--|-----------|
| General Manager | |
| Provision of Housing, Superannuation and Vehicle for the General Manager | \$42,363 |
| | \$123,456 |



Business Services

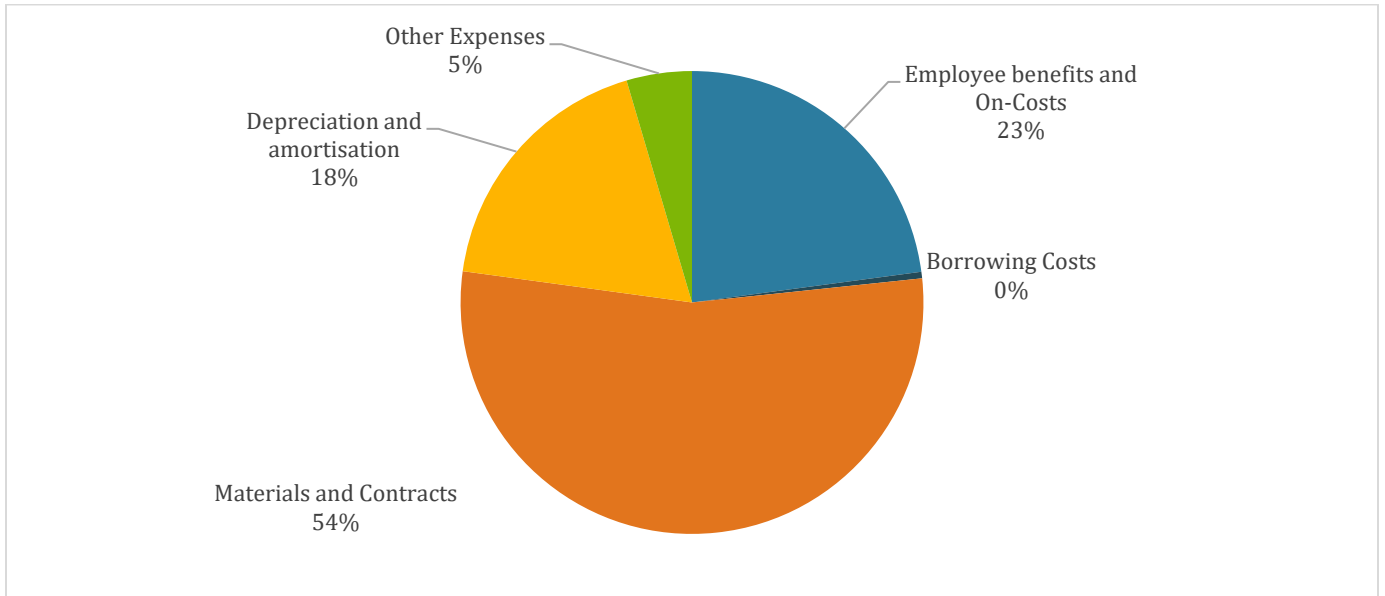
Income by Category

\$23,547,000



Expenses by Category

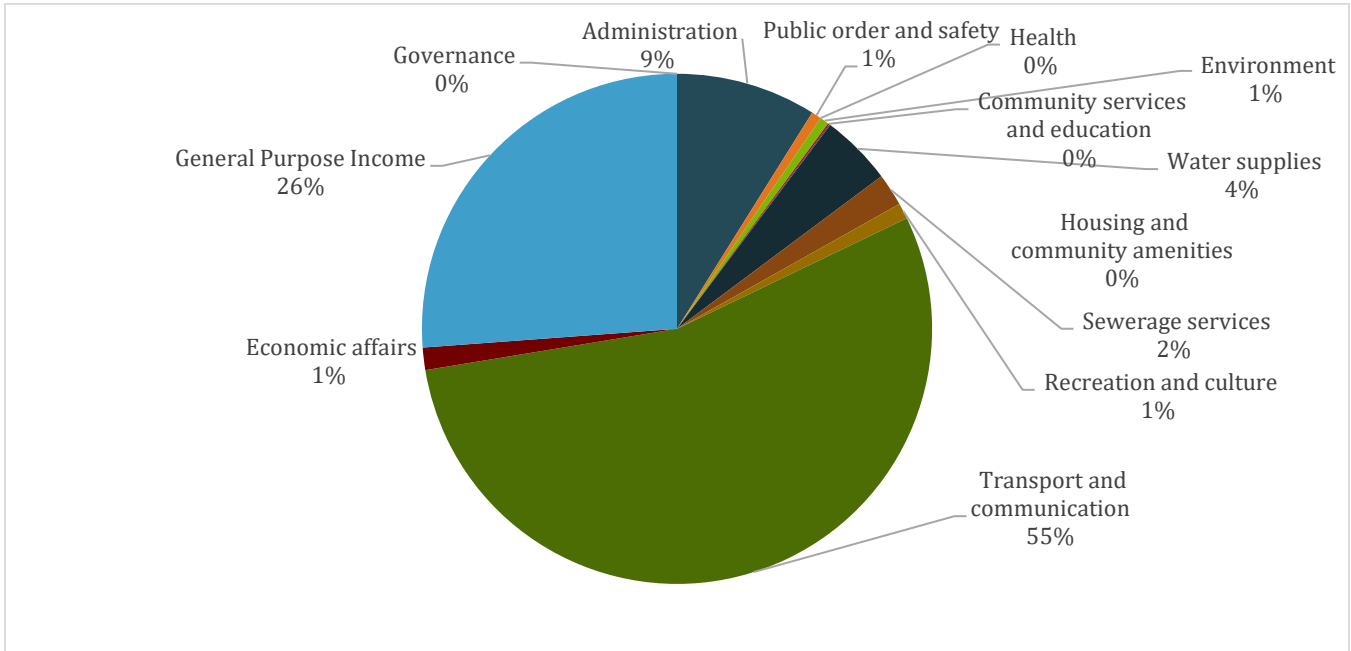
\$22,280,000





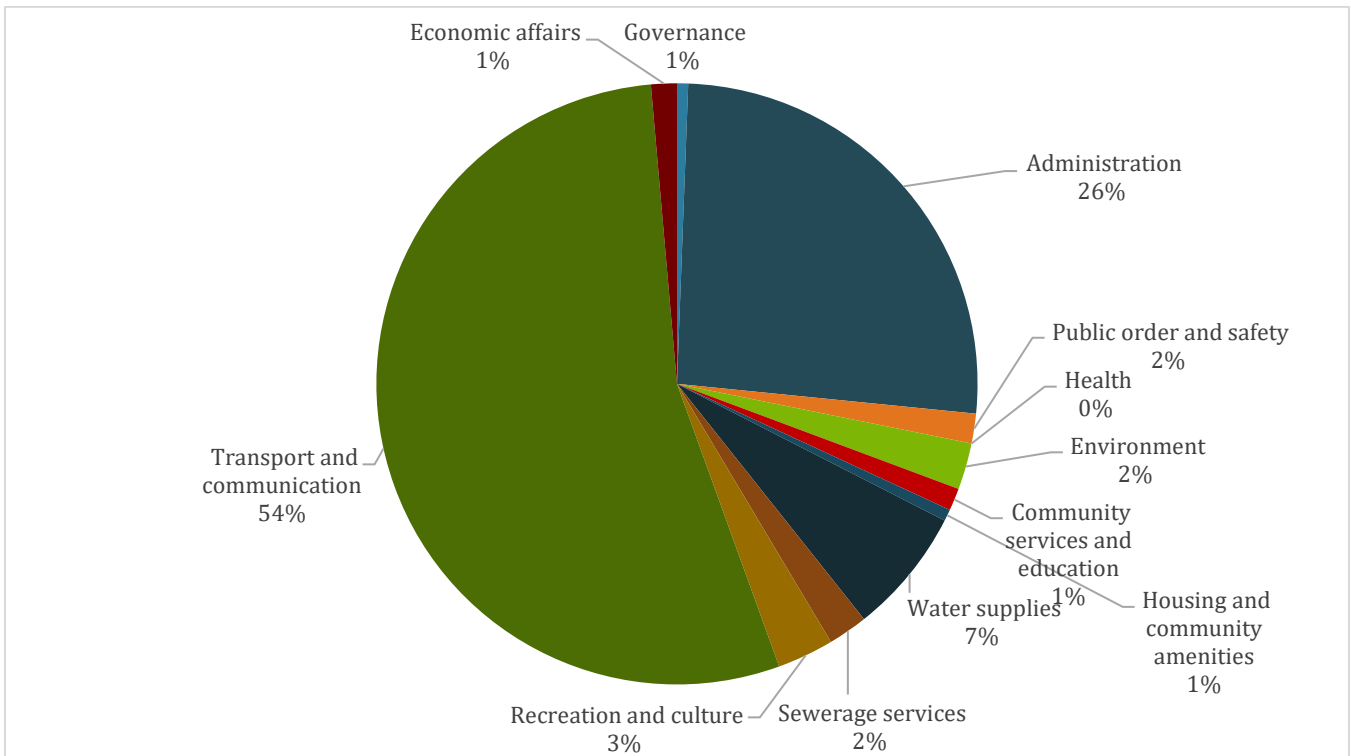
Income by Function

\$23,547,000



Expenses by Function

\$22,280,000





Business 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 the Administrator or 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 2017/18

Rates & Charges written off during the 2017/18 period

| Rates & Charges written off during the period | |
|---|-------------|
| Interest | \$112.05 |
| Amalgamations | Nil |
| Property or Licence cancellations | Nil |
| Levied in error | \$10,794.18 |
| Hardship | Nil |
| Total | \$ |

**Central Darling Shire Council Awarded Contracts 2017/18**

- White Cliffs Aerodrome Fencing Contract, labour only, M. Edwards \$32,000 GST Exc
- Porters Crossing Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts, J&E Sammon \$395,072 GST Exc
- 10 number work packages for preconstruction works - Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs Water Supplies, NSW Department of Public Works \$682,419 GST Exc

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.

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 2017/18 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 2017/18 reporting year has received funding to auspice the services of the, Meals on Wheels and Home Care.



| | |
|---|--|
| Statement of external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council | Council has 12 s355 Committees that exercise functions of Council |
| Statement of external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council | Council has 11 s355 Committees that exercise functions of Council in the towns of Darnick, Ivanhoe, Menindee, White Cliffs and Wilcannia. |
| Statement of all companies in which Council held a controlling interest | Nil |
| Statement of partnerships, co-operatives and other joint ventures | Council has a number of partnerships with varying groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryde City Council • NetWaste • Regional Development Australia • Western Division Councils of NSW • Roads and Maritime Services • TrainLink • Australia Post • Service NSW • Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance |
| Details of activities to develop and promote services and programs that provide for the needs of children | During early 2017, Council undertook consultation with the community before adopting it's revised Community Strategic Plan. These proposed outcomes and capital works will be reported on during 2017/18. Council currently includes some funding to provide financial assistance to youth. |
| Report on the Council's performance in relation to access and equity activities to meet residents' needs outlined in Council's Management Plan | During early 2017, Council undertook consultation with the community before adopting it's inaugural Disability Inclusion Action Plan. These proposed outcomes will be reported on during 2017/18. |
| 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 |



| | |
|---|---|
| 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.

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 Office of Environment and Heritage for these programs.

During 2017/18, Council's Heritage Advisor visited the Shire and met with local residents on a number of occasions at no cost to the residents. An amount of \$22,500 was distributed to residents to assist with restoration works.

The Heritage Strategy continues to be a worthwhile program for delivery across the Shire and has been in progress since 2008. Following public consultation, the Heritage Strategy was rewritten and updated by Council's Heritage Advisor, Liz Vines, and Council gratefully acknowledges the funding assistance for this work by the Officer of Environment and Heritage.

Shire Services

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.

| Town | Frequency | No of Sites Sampled | Samples Collected |
|--|-------------|---------------------|--|
| Wilcannia | Weekly | 10 | - Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually |
| Ivanhoe | Fortnightly | 11 | - Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually |
| White Cliffs | Fortnightly | 7 | - Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually |
| Wilcannia Aboriginal Water and Sewage Program including Mallee and Warrali precincts | Monthly | 2 | - Microbiology- Ongoing - Chemistry -Finished - Disinfection-by-products- Finished - Pesticide-Finished |

| No of Samples Collected | Microbiology | Chemistry |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Wilcannia | 69 | 3 |
| Ivanhoe | 29 | 1 |
| White Cliffs | 30 | 2 |
| <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 one business required a second inspection and was found to be satisfactory. On re-inspection it complied with the Food Act 2003 and Food Regulation 2010.

| No of inspections undertaken | No of food outlets | No of non-compliance | No of food business requiring re-inspection |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 |



Public Order & Safety

Companion Animals

| Health | |
|---|------------------------|
| Performance Requirement | Assessment |
| To implement companion animal control measures | Ongoing task |
| To encourage registrations and micro chipping | 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.

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 \$108,153. At this stage it has not be deemed necessary to allocate specific off leash areas within any Shire towns.



| Animal Control Statistics for 2017/18 | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Month | Seized & Impounded | Rehomed | Returned to Owner | Euthanised | Registrations | Microchipped | Penalty notices | In Pound at end of month |
| July 2017 | 18 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2017 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Sept 2017 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Oct 2014 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Nov 2017 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Dec 2017 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Jan 2018 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feb 2018 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mar 2018 | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| April 2018 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| May 2018 | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| June 2018 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 131 | 78 | 21 | 32 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 0 |



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.

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 \$14,536 of external hazard reduction funds were sought and allocated through the Government funding process.

Other hazard reduction works totaled \$8,145.

Central Darling Shire Council

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

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:

- 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 was not held in all Shire communities this year |
| 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 2017/18 – 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 |



| Crown Land Properties Managed by Council in 2017/18 – facility and purpose of use | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Reserve/Facility</u> | <u>Reserve Number</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Purpose of use</u> |
| 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 |
| 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 | | |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| Facility Type | Number of Buildings | Locations |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| Athanaeum | 1 | Wilcannia |
| 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 additional funding. The building is currently being utilised for Post Office purposes as intended.

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 is currently being managed by Council.

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. The Heritage Strategy was revised during early 2017 and is currently out for public consultation.

During 2017/18, Council's Heritage Advisor, Liz vines, visited the Shire and met with interested local residents on a number of occasions at no cost to the residents.

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 are a large pool and a small toddlers wading pool, apart from White Cliffs which only has one large pool operational. 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 License. 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 including Ivanhoe which received extensive works to bring the facility up to basic standard.

The pools are open from mid- November to March/April each year. The hours of operation are limited to 3.30pm to 6.30pm on school days, and 3pm to 7pm on weekends and school holidays.

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 20-30 DAs per year, in the 2017/2018 reporting period Council has received 12 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 5 Construction Certificates and 2 Occupation Certificates.

| DA Categories and Values for 2017/18 reporting period | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| Development Category | Number of DAs related to this Category | Total Value of Category |
| Residential | 2 | \$145,000 |
| Commercial | 8 | \$699,015 |
| Rural | 2 | \$192,000 |
| Signs | 0 | \$0 |
| Total | 12 | \$1,036,015 |

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 | In progress |
| Implement improvements to Ivanhoe Waste Depot | In progress |
| Source contracts through NetWaste for sale of recyclables | Contracts updated. |

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. Council's Landfills are unmanned and open 24hrs. The larger recycling streams provide for separation of large wastes, such as scrap metal, tyres, green waste, timber products, and 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.

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.

Council has assisted Cleanaway Pty Ltd with the possible appointment of an operator to manage an Over the Counter – Container Deposit Scheme to enable residents to recycle cans/bottles etc

Community Services

| Community Services | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Performance Required | Assessment |
| Ensure the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet is operating 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 | Ongoing |
| Assist community groups to stage regular and ongoing events | Assistance given on an as need basis |

Ivanhoe Multi Service outlet

The Ivanhoe Multi-Service Outlet (MSO), run by the Central Darling Shire Council, is a one stop shop for residents who need to access a variety of agencies like Home and Community Care (HACC), Centrelink Access Point, community transport, social support, Meals on Wheels, yard maintenance, local library & CDSC business.

It also acts as an information centre for locals and tourists seeking advice on road conditions, local native flora and fauna, maps and history of the area.

Australia Day Awards

The Australia Day Awards in Ivanhoe was hosted by the MSO on behalf of the CDSC.

Congratulations to Ivanhoe local, Joshua Robertson, who was honoured with this year's Australian Citizen of the year Award.



MSO presents Ivanhoe Australia Day awards on behalf of CDSC and Held a fun day with an Australia Day Cake for the Community and a BBQ lunch and fun and games for the day.

CDSC Business

Council Public notices and general information are displayed at the MSO to ensure the Ivanhoe community keeps informed about Council business.

Residents can pay their rates or water bills direct here or on payment plans.

Any Council enquires can be made at the MSO during business hours on week days.

Centrelink Access Point

The Centrelink Access Point provides direct online & telephone services for Centrelink clients. Our staff provide support to those needing extra assistance.

Social Support

Social Support is allocated to MSO clients for medical or shopping trips and social outings to Broken Hill, Griffith and Hay.

Seniors Broadband

Computer access is available to our senior clients and the Ivanhoe community. There's also monthly computer sessions for our clients to learn basic computer skills.

HACC Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels are delivered five days a week from Monday to Friday's, including public holidays like Christmas Day and

Easter. Kitchen staff can cater to special requests like vegetarian and gluten free. The meals are prepared at the Correctional Service who do a wonderful job. This important service is auspiced by CDSC.

Library

The MSO has a small library service where locals can borrow magazines, books, CD's, DVD's and videos.

Laundry & Dryer Service

The MSO has a washing machine and clothes dryer which is available for community members to use.

Menindee Rural Transaction Centre



Highlights of the Year:

There have been some important upgrades around the Centre throughout this year. Kerb and guttering has been laid along the section of Yartla St in the immediate vicinity of the Centre allowing clients to take advantage of parallel parking if not wanting, or able to park, in the Centre Carpark making for a more user-friendly foot-traffic access. This coincided with the installation of the All-Accessible Toilet and pathway to the Men's Shed which has allowed for a finished feel to the Centre. But as always there are many projects and programs that can be developed for our community so expect more changes as time goes by or let us know if you have any ideas. Technology has been the biggest upgrade to the Centre with new staff computers, EFTPOS access for the payment of Council accounts, and website accessibility.



Please feel free if you are in Menindee to call into the Centre to view the facilities.

Centre Staff:

Margot Muscat – Centre Coordinator – permanent full time - 10years service with Council

Deanna Pinal – Admin Assistant – completed 2 traineeships with Council and is now employed full time (since March 2016). Deanna was a finalist in the 2016 Far West Region Business Awards competing against other young employees in the Training Awards section.

Services available: *denotes fees applicable

Human Services Agent for Centrelink and Medicare - 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 hire bookings for meetings, functions and courses

All secretarial needs* – word processing, laminating, photocopying, shredding, printing

Contact Centre for many Community Service Organisations in Broken Hill – Legal Centre, CentaCare, Lifeline, St. Vincent de Paull and Salvation Army

Community Library

- Having received two large donations of books this year the library is fast running out of room with books also being held in storage. Residents are welcome to come browse and borrow from the great range we now have. The Reference/non-fiction section has also had another bookcase added to provide shelving for an increase in this area of the library.
- Due to a busy year for the Pre-school and the RTC there was only one visit managed for the year. Following on from our story of 'Dino Loves to Play' the children and staff enjoyed a snack of carrots, snow-peas, bread-rolls and sugar cubes, which is the food eaten by Dino, the horse. The visit concluded with a (blindfold) game of feeding Dino peas and carrots!

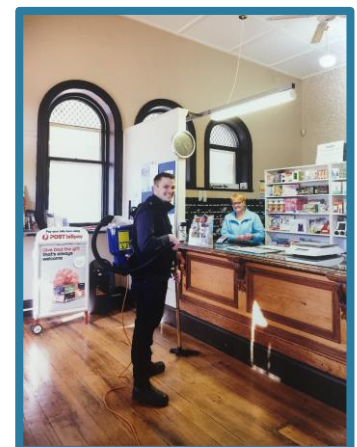


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Wilcannia Local Post Office

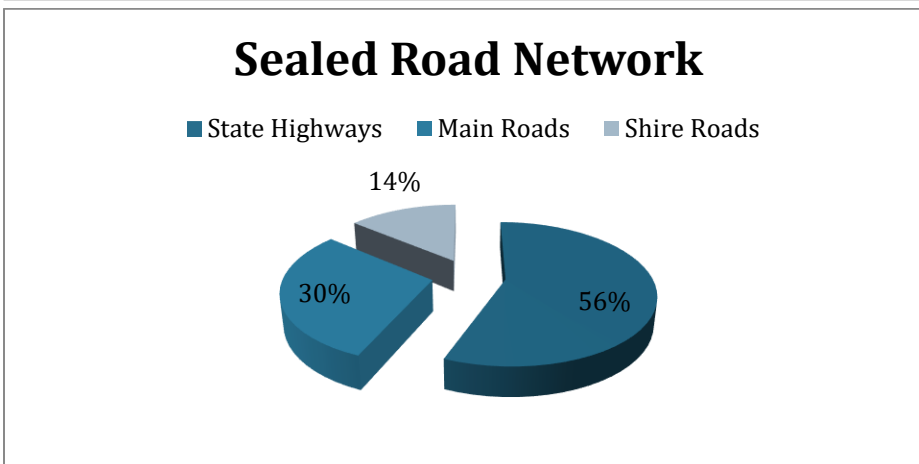
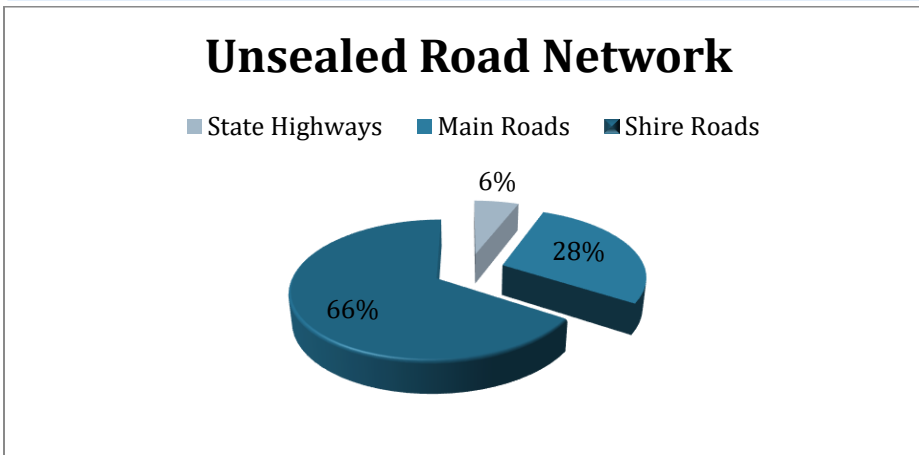
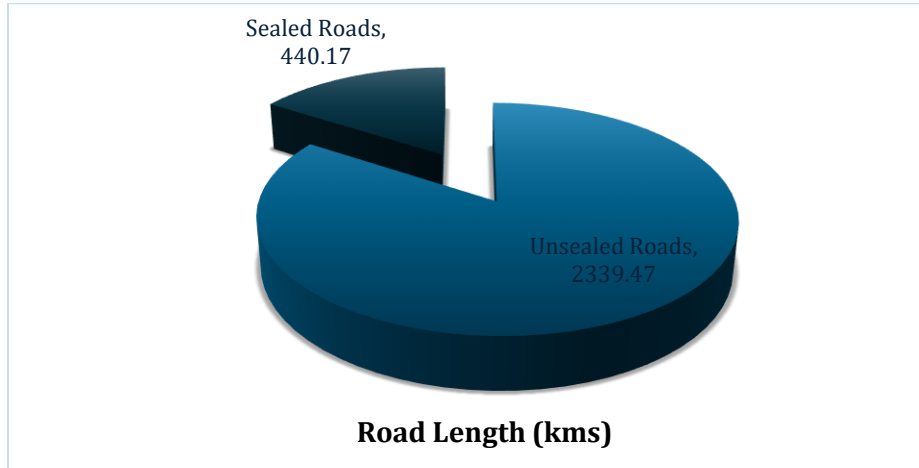
Since reopening the Australia Post Office Agency in its original building in 2013, Council has been applying for grants to not only open the Main Customer Service Area, but to restore the residence to be usable space for the community. The Service NSW (RMS) Agency was relocated to the Post Office Building in 2016 to make this building a Customer Service Hub for Wilcannia. TrainLink ticketing, ServiceNSW (RMS), Australia Post facilitated banking can all be carried out at this Office.





Roads and Bridges

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 RMS |

The following is a summary of the works undertaken on the State, Regional and Shire road network with the Shire in the 2017/2018 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 construction, reseals, heavy patching, new grids and approaches, formation grading and re-sheeting.

Report on RMCC Work 2017/18

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Total paid to Council for RMCC ordered work: | \$5,312,376 |
| Total paid to Council for RMCC routine work: | \$794,783 |

List of jobs done under this routine work:

- Routine inspection
- Pothole repair
- Edgebreak repair
- Formation grading
- Shoulder grading
- Litter & debris removal
- Ground vegetation control
- Control saplings within clear zone
- Stock grids & 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



Eurella Initial Seal Project, Cobb Highway

| Description of Works Orders received as part of RMCC | Value after Variation | Status |
|--|-----------------------|----------|
| Springdale Gravel Pit Extension | \$24,841 | Complete |
| HW8 Heavy Patching | \$474,868 | Complete |
| HW8 Resealing | \$393,380 | Complete |
| HW21 Resealing | \$353,115 | Complete |
| HW21 Eurella Culvert Works | \$42,527 | Complete |
| HW21 Eurella Variation | \$2,582,968 | Complete |
| HW8 Traffic Incident | \$4,408 | Complete |
| HW21 Flood Damage | \$45,146 | Complete |
| HW21 Rehabilitation | \$319,224 | Complete |
| HW8 Truck Fire | \$5,188 | Complete |
| HW21 Eurella 2 nd Seal | \$442,365 | Complete |



| Description of Works Orders received as part of RMCC | Value after Variation | Status |
|--|-----------------------|----------|
| HW8 Rollover incident | \$3,281 | Complete |
| HW21 Build Ups | \$49,342 | Complete |
| HW8 Willandra Bridge Abutments | \$240,346 | Complete |
| HW8 Talyawalka Bridge Works | \$81,143 | Complete |
| TOTAL WORK ORDER VALUES = | \$5,062,150 | |

Regional Roads

Council maintains 790km of Regional (or Main) Roads within the Shire. Funding received included \$2,692,000 from Regional Road Block Grant and \$900,000 from RMS Special Projects Funding for Wool Track. Expenditure of the Block Grant included maintenance grading works, gravel resheeting and resealing works.

The Ivanhoe-Balranald Rd (Wool Track) received program funding to complete the remaining 7km of unsealed road within the LGA. The project due for completion in the next reporting year, November 2018. The Wilcannia-Menindee West Rd MR68B received 3.0km of gravel resheeting works.

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

MR435 Opal Miners Way

MR433 Ivanhoe – Menindee Rd



Culverts being placed at Willandra Creek Crossing, Wool Track



Gravel being tipped on prepared formation, Wool Track



Local Roads

Council maintains 1600km of Local Roads within the Shire. Funding expended from Federal Assistance Grant (Roads Component totalled \$1,342,758 and an additional \$1,654,122 from Roads to Recovery funding.

The majority of local road expenditure included maintenance grading works, resealing works and construction works. Roads to Recovery allocation was utilised on Porters Crossing upgrade, Holding and Pruella St Reconstructions, McGuinness Rd and Menindee Aerodrome Road widening, Sunset Strip Reseals, Beth Street Reconstruction
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, vegetation control and minor repairs. Recent bridge replacements have seen 50% of Council owned bridges replaced within the Shire, as per Councils Asset Management Plan, all dilapidated timber bridges have now been replaced.

Works on Private Land

Limited private works were carried out during the year.
Council received \$6,037 in Private Works income.

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 Water Securities, Restart Program funded by the Commonwealth Government.

The federally funded 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 \$105k for routine maintenance and repairs. These funds are implemented in accordance with the Service Agreement between Council and the DPI Water.

The \$1.2M Preconstruction and training funding provided under the Restart initiative consisted of \$1M for Ivanhoe, Wilcannia and White Cliffs town water supplies and infrastructure. \$200k for training was utilized by consultant regularly visiting each water treatment plant and providing on the job training for all operators to improve individual operator ability and therefore better water quality and best practice for Council.



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 predominately from Darling River flows and Ivanhoe has been serviced from Morrisons Lake Reservoir fed from Willandra Creek.

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). The recent Civil Works Upgrades included the sewer systems in the Aboriginal precincts of Mallee and Waralli being converted to full gravity sewer systems. The 2 existing pump stations at Warralli were replaced with one single pump station and 2 new lift wells were installed in the Mallee, 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. Council is investigating funding opportunities to replace the stormwater outlets into the Darling River at Wilcannia (which have structurally failed).

Aerodromes

Council maintains 6 airstrips within the Shire being Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Tilpa, Emmdale, Menindee and Ivanhoe. \$104,057 was expended on Pavement M&R, Buildings, toilets, fences, Lighting, grounds M&R and energy costs. Council received 50% funding to complete the Ivanhoe aerodrome resealing works and lining works at a total cost of \$130,000.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) are working with Council to enable the registration of Wilcannia, White Cliffs and Ivanhoe aerodromes. Improvements such as pilot activated lighting, cones and gable markers and vegetation works are being funded by the RFDS for this purpose. Further agreement has been made by RFDS to fund the maintenance of new infrastructure for a 3 year period.

Boat Ramps

Council maintains two boat ramps completed in Menindee 2012/13 and Tilpa 2014/15. Additional small grant funding is being sourced to improve recreation facilities at both locations.

Footpaths, Kerbs, & 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. \$52,600 as 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 paving area was completed at Ivanhoe, in front of the School

Kerbs 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:

- Diesel Generator Trailer (\$29,712)
- one submersible pump (\$2,997)
- tandem trailer (\$6,239)
- Forklift (\$29,923)
- Generator, small (\$4,272)
- Isuzu Town Truck (\$45,220)
- Portable Traffic Signals (\$30,900)
- Generator, large and Trailer (\$31,174)

Various running costs are attributed to plant maintenance throughout the year. The following is a breakdown of that expenditure which totals \$585,299

- Fuel \$216,993
- Repairs and maintenance \$201,894
- Tyres \$23,202
- Oil \$2,334
- Parts \$15,971
- Insurance \$74,956
- Registration \$24,784
- Miscellaneous \$25,165



New Forklift at Wilcannia Engineering Depot



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 dividend paid. In relation to competitive neutrality Council provide the following:

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

Appendix A: Policy Payment of Expenses & Provisions of Facilities to Councillors

Appendix A: Policy Payment of Expenses & Provisions of Facilities to Councillors

On 14 November 2014, the NSW Minister for Local Government, the Hon Paul Toole MP, announced that a permanent Administrator would be appointed at Central Darling Shire Council, following recommendations made by Commissioner Richard Colley who headed a public inquiry into Central Darling Shire Council, due to concerns having been expressed that the Council was in an extremely serious financial position.

Mr Greg Wright, who had previously been appointed as Interim Administrator, was appointed as the permanent Administrator.

Consequently, Council does not require a Policy for Payment of Expenses & Provisions of Facilities to Councillors.

Appendix B: 2017/18 Annual Financial Statements