



COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Wednesday 12 October 2022

Commencing at 7:00pm

Wycheproof Supper Room

367 Broadway, Wycheproof

**Wayne O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer
Buloke Shire Council**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. COUNCIL WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WELCOME

The Mayor Cr Daryl Warren will welcome all in attendance.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor Cr Daryl Warren will acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting and pay our respects to their Elders and to the Elders from other communities who maybe here today.

2. RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 September 2022.

4. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 130 (2) of the Local Government Act 2020 Councillors who have a conflict of interest in respect of a matter being considered at this Meeting, must

- a) Disclose the conflict of interest in the manner required by the Council's Governance Rules 2020; and
- a) Exclude themselves from the decision making process in relation to that matter, including any discussion or vote on the matter at any Council meeting or delegated committee, and any action in relation to the matter.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

NIL

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9.5.1	CONTRACT115 2021/22 LOCAL ROADS RECONSTRUCTION	
	If the meeting has been closed it will be brought back into open session by resolution	

10. MEETING CLOSE

NEXT MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN WYCHEPROOF SUPPER ROOM, 367 BROADWAY, WYCHEPROOF ON WEDNESDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7:00PM, WITH A STATUTORY MEETING BEING HELD AT 6:30PM ON THIS SAME NIGHT.

Wayne O'Toole
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Nil

7. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

7.1 REPORT OF COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/05/04

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note the report of Councillor Assembly Meetings held 7 and 21 September 2022.

Attachments: 1 [Councillor Briefing Record - 7 September 2022](#)
2 [Councillor Briefing Record - 21 September 2022](#)

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

Transparency is a fundamental principle of democratic governance.

The Local Government Act 2020 (The Act) Section 9 (2) (i) provides that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In accordance with Section 57 of The Act, Council at its September 2020 Ordinary Meeting, adopted a Public Transparency policy, designed to improve public transparency in Council's decision-making processes and to assist the community in understanding the information that is accessible to them.

As per the Council Meeting Schedule adopted 10 November 2021, Councillor Briefings are held for Councillors to meet to consider matters that are likely to be the subject of a Council decision or for the exercise of delegation.

A record of the Councillor Briefings held on 7 and 21 September 2022 is attached for public information.



Councillor Briefing Record

Build a Better Buloke – a healthy, connected, inclusive and prosperous community

Date:	7 September 2022	Time:	5:00pm – 8:00pm
Location:	Sea Lake Senior Citizens Building		
Distributed To:	Cr Warren, Cr Getley, Cr Pollard, Cr Stewart, Cr Simpson, Cr Milne, Wayne O’Toole, Hannah Yu, Travis Fitzgibbon		
Apologies:	Cr Stewart, Cr Pollard		
Conflicts of Interest:	Nil		

ITEMS

NO.	MATTER FOR DISCUSSION	Notes
	Tour of Sea Lake Visitor Information Center from 4:30pm – 5:00pm	
1.	Councillor only time 5:00pm	
2.	Confirmation of Councillor Briefing Notes – 17 August 2022	Confirmed.
3.	Presentations	
3.1	Advance Sea Lake Inc – Julie Pringle	
3.2	Birchip Park and Civic Precinct – Conf of Direction -	
3.3	Buloke Home Support Discussion -	
3.4	Commonwealth Games Submission Update –	
3.5	Update of the Pool Season Preparation –	
4.	Discussion	
5.	Councillor Matters	
6.	CEO Updates	
6.1	Draft Agenda for Council Meeting 14 September 2022	
6.2	Lake Tyrrell	
	Birchip Masterplan	
	Election	
	VicRoads	
	State Election	
	NEXT MEETING 21 September 2022 - 5:00pm Nullawil Recreation Centre	





Councillor Briefing Record

Build a Better Buloke – a healthy, connected, inclusive and prosperous community

Date:	21 September 2022	Time:	5:00pm – 8:00pm
Location:	Nullawil Recreation Reserve		
Attendees:	Cr Warren, Cr Getley, Cr Pollard, Cr Stewart, Cr Simpson, Cr Milne, Wayne O'Toole, Hannah Yu		
Apologies:	Travis Fitzgibbon, Cr. Stewart		
Conflicts of Interest:	Nil		

ITEMS

NO.	MATTER FOR DISCUSSION	Notes
1.	Councillor and CEO only time 5:00pm	
2.	Confirmation of Councillor Briefing Notes – 7 September 2022	Approved
3.	Presentations	
3.1.	Topic: Youth Fest – Birchip Youth Presenters – Les Cooper NCLLEN staff member – Julie Slater	
3.2.	Tourism Business Innov. Grant Rd 2 Applications	
3.3.	Monthly Project Report	
3.4.	Nullawil Progress Assoc. – Heath Pollington	
3.5.	Wycheproof Caravan Park – Management Agreement –	
4.	Councillor Matters	
4.1.	Recruitment	
4.2.	Australia Day	
4.3.	Watchem Culvert	
4.4.	Yuengroon Road	
4.5.	YMCA Contract	
4.6.	Footpath Strategy Community Engagement	
4.7.	New Cllr Induction	
5.	CEO Updates	



NO.	MATTER FOR DISCUSSION	Notes
5.1.	Update of the Pool Season Preparation	
5.2.	Cost Shifting School Crossing	
6.	Meeting closed 7.52pm	
	NEXT MEETING 5 October 2022 – 5:00pm Birchip District Office Council Chamber	

7.2 CORRESPONDENCE INITIATED BY COUNCIL

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/06/06

PURPOSE

This report notes and records correspondence initiated by Council and informs the Council of the responses received from this correspondence.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council notes the record of correspondence initiated by Council and the responses received.

Attachments: Nil

TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE

Council Initiative	Sent/to be sent to	Sent	Response	Purpose of Letter/Response
Writes to Life Saving Victoria and Royal Life Saving Australia requesting the Lifeguard Course include an alternative fitness test.	Life Saving Victoria and Royal Life Saving Australia			To outline the concern that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the long-distance swim does not reflect requirements of the Lifeguard role in community pools; and (b) the use of the long-distance swim as a standardised fitness test is a barrier to the Council's ability to attract/retain Lifeguards, consequently creating greater disadvantage to small rural councils in providing aquatic services to their communities.
To mark the passing of Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II and send its condolence to the Royal Family	To the members of the Royal Family	28/9/22		To send an official message of condolence for the passing of Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September 2022 and to honour her life.

7.3 LETTERS OF CONGRATULATIONS AND RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT/AWARDS

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: CR/13/01

PURPOSE

This report acknowledges and congratulates community persons and/or groups for their success in being recognised for a significant achievement or for being a recipient of an honourable award.

The report also informs Council of any letters of congratulations or any particular recognition of achievement that Council has received or been awarded in the past month.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council acknowledge and congratulate the persons and/or groups mentioned in the report for their achievements.

Attachments: Nil

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT ITEMS

Provider	Recipient	August 2022	Purpose for Recognition

7.4 BUILDING PERMITS - MONTHLY UPDATE

Author's Title: Statutory Administration Support

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: DB/14/01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides information on Building Permits approved by staff from 1 September 2022 to 30 September 2022.

The information published in the list provided, is in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note information contained in the report on Building Permits approved by staff from 1 September 2022 to 30 September 2022.

Attachments: Nil

LIST OF BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED BY COUNCIL SURVEYOR

Permit No.	BAMS Permit No.	Address	Project Description	Date Approved
20220082	6343978911832	Bennetts Road, Yeungroon	Demolition of Dwelling	12/09/2022
20220084	7318274004515	Rutherford Street, Charlton	Demolition of Dwelling	12/09/2022
20220085	8904237965552	Watson Street, Birchip	Demolition of Dwelling	29/09/2022
20220086	2866001001499	Sutcliff Street, Sea Lake	Shade Sail Structure	29/09/2022
20220087	3084200950139	Morrison Street, Birchip	Dwelling	29/09/2022

LIST OF BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED BY PRIVATE SURVEYOR

Permit No.	Address	Project Description	Date Approved
NIL			

7.5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - MONTHLY UPDATE

Author's Title: Planning Officer

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: LP/09/01

PURPOSE

This report provides information on planning applications under consideration by staff and the status of each of these applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note information contained in the report on planning applications under consideration by staff and the status of each of these applications.

Attachments: Nil

LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application No	Applicant	Address	Date Rec	Summary of Proposal	Status
PPA962/21		Corack Road, Donald (Lot 1&2 PS216306M)	11/11/2021	Use and development of land for a service station, construct and display a business identification sign and create or alter access to Road Zone, Category 1	Awaiting referral response
PPA981/22		Donald Street, Charlton (PC157596)	18/05/2022	Construction of a single dwelling	Referral
PPA986/22		High Street, Charlton (Lot 1 TP 193629)	01/06/2022	Construct and display an 18.26m2 double-sided, externally illuminated major promotion sign	Objection
PPA987/22		Donald-Murtoa Road, Laen East (Lot 2 PS744335)	10/06/2022	Create access to a road in Transport Zone 2 for a dwelling	Referral Authority - Request for further information

Application No	Applicant	Address	Date Rec	Summary of Proposal	Status
PPA992/22		Bunker Road, Donald (Lot 2 LP209107)	06/07/2022	Construct and display an illuminated, double-sided major promotion sign	Awaiting report
PPA993/22		High Street, Charlton (Lot 1 & 2 TP216537)	08/07/2022	Construction of a shed for domestic use	Referral Authority - Request for further information
PPA994/22		Rutherford Street Charlton (CP153475)	20/07/2022	Construction of a verandah and deck	Awaiting report
PPA995/22		Donald-Swan Hill Road, Corack East (CA 3 Sec C Parish of Corack East)	20/07/2022	Building and works associated with a telecommunications facility	Awaiting report
PPA996/22		Tonkins Road, Jeffcott (CA 29, 30 & 31 Parish of Jeffcott)	22/07/2022	Three lot subdivision of land (boundary realignment) and removal of easement	Awaiting report
PPA997/22		Industry Drive, Donald (Lot 69 PS444989)	28/07/22	Development of land for a service station (unmanned fuel cell) and construction and display of a business identification sign	Awaiting report
PPA998/22		Cheetham Salt Road, Bimbourie (CA 50A Parish of Bimbourie)	09/08/2022	Works to upgrade an existing concrete pad and the installation of a new 12mx12m concrete pad associated with an existing salt harvesting facility	Awaiting report
PPA999/22		Donald-Swan Hill Road, Towaninny	13/08/2022	Subdivision of land (boundary realignment and dwelling excision) resulting in three lots	Awaiting report
PPA1000/22		Taverner Street, Birchip (Lot 21 LP3071)	15/08/2022	Three-lot subdivision of land and construction of two dwellings	Awaiting report

Application No	Applicant	Address	Date Rec	Summary of Proposal	Status
PPA1002/22		Menzies Street, Charlton (CA 3, Sec. 12, Parish of Charlton East)	09/09/2022	Construction of a verandah	Awaiting report
PPA1003/22		Warracknabeal- Birchip Road, Warmur	31/08/2022	Subdivision of land (boundary realignment)	Notice of application Referral
PPA1004/22		Berriwillock-Birchip Road, Berriwillock	05/09/2022	Subdivision of land (boundary realignment)	Notice of application
PPA991/22		Edwards Road, Nareewillock (Lot 1 TP334726)	29/06/2022	Construction of a machinery shed	Permit issued
PPA1001/22		Charlton-Jeffcott Road, Charlton (Lot 1 Plan 132844 Parish of Wooroonook)	07/09/2022	Construction of a replacement dwelling	Permit issued

7.6 STATUS OF ACTION OF PAST COUNCIL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/05/04

PURPOSE

To provide Council with a list of the Status of Action (SOA) of Council Resolutions outstanding for action and the SOA for the 14 September Council Meetings Resolutions.

RECOMMENDATION

Council to note the Status of Action Report for Council resolutions documented on this list.

Attachments: 1 [↓](#)Action taken on Council Resolutions - Outstanding items and 14 September 2022

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The Local Government Act 2020 (The Act) Section 9 (2) (i) provides that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In accordance with the Council's Governance Rules adopted August 2020, Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

The transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured and is a fundamental principle of democratic governance.

Attached to this report for public information is a list of the SOA of Council Resolutions outstanding and introducing the SOA for the 14 September 2022 Council Meeting Resolutions.

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
14092022	Office of CEO	Letter of Congratulations and Recognition to Sharps's Bakery Birchip and North Central LLEN	That the Council acknowledge and congratulate the persons and/or groups mentioned in the report for their achievements.	EA	Letters drafted and sent to Mayor for review and approval	In Progress
14092022	Comm Dev	Community Grants and Sponsorship	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the original awarded amount for the Charlton Men's Shed Sustainability Grant by \$1,866.67, to \$5,054.00, to reflect the changes in overall project costs. That Council considers \$500 sponsorship to Blair Gould. 	DCD		
14092022	Infra & Del		That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provides free access to the Council's landfill and transfer stations for the month of October for the remainder of the current Council term for the purpose of disposing green waste in preparation for annual fire seasons; and Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to determine an alternative period or extend the period in 2022 and future years based on forecast weather conditions. 	DID		

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
14092022	Infra & Del	Sale of Land 110 Sutcliff St Sea Lake	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commence the sale of land process pursuant to section 114 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>. 2. Gives notice of its intention to sell surplus land at 110 Sutcliff Street, Sea Lake at least 4 weeks prior to selling or exchanging the land, including on Council's Internet site. 3. Undertakes a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy. 4. Obtains from a person who holds the qualifications or experience specified under section 13DA(2) of the <i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i>, a valuation of the land which is made not more than 6 months prior to the sale or exchange. 5. Receives a further report on the Sale of Land at 110 Sutcliff Street Sea Lake following the community engagement process. 	DCD		
14092022	Infra & Del	Draft Road Management Plan 2021- 2025	That the Council endorse the draft Road Management Plan for a final community engagement process	DI & D		

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
14092022	Infra & Del	Draft Transport Asset Management Plan	That Council note and endorse the release of the draft Transport Asset Management Implement Plan to the community for feedback in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Policy	DI & D		
14092022	DI & D	2022/23 Swimming Pool Season	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sets the 2022/2023 swimming pool season to operate from Saturday 12 November 2022 until Monday 20 March 2023 for all seven swimming pools; 2. Make no change to opening days and hours across all seven swimming pools; 3. Advertises the 2022/2023 pool season dates through its media platforms and displays them at each pool for the duration of the season; 4. Continue to waive the Lifeguard fee of \$50.00 per hour for all swimming pool hire bookings in the 2022/2023 swimming pool season; and 5. Cessation of 'banking' cold weather days for use at the end of the 2022/2023 season to minimise the impact of waiving fees to Council's budgeted position. 	DI & D		

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
14092022	Infra & Del	Lifeguard Qualification Fitness Assessment	That the Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Writes to Life Saving Victoria and Royal Life Saving Australia requesting the Lifeguard Course include an alternative fitness test, and 2. In writing to Life Saving Victoria and Royal Life Saving Australia outline the Council's concern that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the long-distance swim does not reflect the requirements of the Lifeguard role in community pools; and (b) the use of the long-distance swim as a standardised fitness test is a barrier to the Council's ability to attract and retain Lifeguards, and consequently creates greater disadvantage to small rural councils in providing aquatic services to their communities. 	DI & D	Letters being drafted by CEO office and Assets.	In progress
14092022	CEO Office	Passing of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth 11	That Council continues to observe all national protocols in relation to honouring the late Queen Elizabeth II and sends an official message of condolence to the Royal Family.	EA		Complete
14092022	Infra & Del	Growth of Grass in Townships	Council staff to liaise with Community Forums to seek assistance with addressing the issue of long grass in public areas of townships.	DI & D		In progress

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
10082022	Comm Dev	Questions from Public – Kevin O’Dea Emu Management Plan	Nil resolution. Meeting is proposed for first week of October. Stakeholders will be notified when confirmed.	DCD	Question answered by Mayor at the Meeting and response Minuted.	In progress.
13072022 and 10082022	Corp Serv	Draft Governance Rules 2022 Governance Rules 2022	That Council note and endorse the Draft Governance Rules 2022 for release through the Council’s Community Engagement Policy. Council to adopt the Governance Rules 2022.	ADWTS ADWTS	Available on website – correspondence to CACs sent.	Commenced.
10082022	Works & Tech S	Update to Building Fees Schedule	That Council adopt the following building fees: 1. For residential and commercial works over \$500,000 an amount of \$5,000 plus (\$value x 0.45% plus \$2150 plus levy) 2. For multi-unit development works over \$400,000 an amount of \$5,500 plus (value/125 plus levy).	ADWTS		
13072022	Comm Dev	Questions from Public Kevin O’Dea – Charlton Tourist Inc – Draft Emu Man Report.	Nil resolution. Following receipt of DELWP final report, to liaise with First Nations, DELWP, and other interested parties to hold meeting to discuss this and other issues.	DCD	Question answered by the Mayor at the Meeting and response Minuted. Meeting with interested parties yet to be scheduled.	In progress.
13072022	Comm Dev	Questions from Public Robbie Wirramanda Knighta – Lake Tyrell and other issues in letter 09032022	Nil resolution. Following receipt of DELWP final report, to liaise with First Nations, DELWP, and other interested parties to hold meeting to discuss this and other issues.	DCD	Question answered by the Mayor at the Meeting and response Minuted. Meeting with interested parties yet to be scheduled..	In progress.

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 8 June 2022 CM

14 September 2022

Date	Directorate	Item	Resolution	Actioning Officer/s	Status of Action	Complete or Commenced
13072022	Comm Dev	Questions from Public Elder Robbie Nicholls – Emus on Mt Wycheproof and other issues – letter 09032022	Nil resolution. Following receipt of DELWP final report, to liaise with First Nations, DELWP, and other interested parties to hold meeting to discuss this and other issues.	DCD	Question answered by the Mayor at the Meeting and response Minuted. Meeting with interested parties yet to be scheduled.	In progress.
08062022	Council	NOM – Proposed Culgoa Dump Point	That Council temporarily remove the proposed Culgoa Dump Point from the capital works project list until the following information is received; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A full annual operational cost of transporting the waste 2. Determine where annual operating expend fits into budget 3. Are there any traffic m'ment issues to access the dump point? 4. How many overflows happen before we receive EPA infringement not & at what cost 5. Are there any environmental issues with the proximity to the waterway (DELWP, CMA)? 6. Is the location beside the hall the best location? Could it be shifted further from the waterway to minimise environmental issues? 7. Design of proposed dump point 8. Has a complete cost Benefit Analysis been prepared? 9. When all the info available, be presented back to future open Council meeting for debate 	Mgr Assets	Initial response provided at Briefing 15062022. Report back to Council yet to occur.	In progress.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS**8.1 POLICY REPORTS****8.1.1 LOAN GUARANTEE POLICY**

Author's Title: Manager Finance

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: CM/14/10

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

This report recommends the adoption of the revised Loan Guarantee Policy

SUMMARY

The adopted Loan Guarantee Policy has been revised to increase the guarantee limit from \$300,000 to \$500,000 and to clarify information required by Council to monitor the underlying loans.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the revised Loan Guarantee Policy for a period of 4 years.

Attachments: 1 [Draft Loan Guarantee Policy](#)

DISCUSSION

Council adopted a Loan Guarantee Policy at the ordinary meeting held 10th June 2020. The policy was developed and adopted to facilitate granting of loan guarantees through Councillor resolution. The policy defines eligible Community Organisations, the process for these groups to submit requests to Council, acceptable loan conditions and established a loan guarantee exposure limit of \$300,000 for Council under overarching measures against financial sustainability indicators.

The draft policy has increases the limit from \$300,000 to \$500,000 and also clarifies the obligation of the Community Organisation to provide Council a loan balance statement biannually for external audit documentation.

The draft policy was reviewed and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 20th September, 2022.

RELEVANT LAW

Not applicable

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Loan guarantees previously provided to Charlton Park 2020 and Birchip Community Housing.

OPTIONS

The Council may amend Policy provisions at any period during its term.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable

COLLABORATION

Not applicable

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Council currently provides a loan guarantee to Charlton Park 2020 Committee and has similarly supported Birchip Community Housing in the past. All loan guarantees are reported as contingent liabilities in the Annual Financial Statements at balance date. As at 30 June 2022, the contingent liability reported for loan guarantees was \$150,000 and Council's financial sustainability indicators identified by the Loan Guarantee Policy are:

Indicator	Calculation	Required in Policy	Actual 30 June 2022
Liquidity (Working Capital):	Current Assets/Current Liabilities	>1.5	3.03
Indebtedness:	Non-Current Liabilities/Own Sourced Revenue	<40%	6.41%
Debt management:	Total Debt/Rates Revenue	<25%	0%
Debt commitment:	Finance Cost/Loan Repayments	<5%	0%

Council Officers assess the proposed increase to the loan guarantee limit will not impact financial sustainability indicators under current circumstances.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Draft policy has been reviewed and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

I, Aileen Douglas, have no conflicts of interest to declare in relation to the preparation of this Report or the Procurement policy.



POLICY LOCATION	Corporate Services	POLICY TITLE	Loan Guarantee Policy
POLICY NUMBER	CA31	DATE ADOPTED	
REVISION NUMBER	2	REVISION DATE	

Purpose

This Policy provides a means of supporting community organisations to self-fund capital asset projects by providing:

- A mechanism to fund community assets on land owned or controlled by Council
- A funding solution enabling community organisations to manage the resultant loan agreement directly with the financial lending institution.

This Policy also outlines the criteria for Council's assessment and decision making for loan guarantees to a community organisation by a financial institution.

Scope

This Policy is applicable to community organisations within the Buloke municipality who are seeking Council to be guarantor on a loan secured to self-fund capital asset projects on land which is owned, or controlled, by Council.

Guarantees will be considered only for new infrastructure or for projects which will upgrade existing facilities.

Council will not consider being a guarantor on loans for:

- Refinancing of existing capital projects, or
- Operational expenses

Council does not provide loans to community organisations.

Definitions

Within this Policy:

"Community Organisation" refers to a not for profit organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission that is:

- A non-political organisation
- Predominantly provides services and/or facilities to the Buloke Shire community
- Is registered under the *Corporations Act 2001*

"Debt Commitment" is the calculation of finance costs and loan repayments as a percentage of rate revenue

"Debt Management" is the calculation of total debt as a percentage of rates revenue

"Indebtedness" is the calculation of non-current liabilities to own source revenue



“Lease Agreement” refers to the agreement between Council as landlord and the community organisation.

“Liquidity” is the calculation of current assets/current liabilities

Policy Statement

Council will, in limited circumstances as outlined in this Policy, consider acting as a guarantor in the form of a bank guarantee for a bank loan sought by a community organisation.

Council’s exposure to loan guarantee commitment is restricted to \$500,000. Council’s total loan guarantee commitment is measured based on the outstanding balance of loans guaranteed by Council.

The total loan guarantee commitments will be considered upon each new application received to ensure the total loan guarantee commitments and Council’s external borrowings do not exceed the following Victorian Auditor General Office sustainability guidelines and Borrowing Prudential indicator thresholds:

- Liquidity: VAGO > 1.5
- Indebtedness: VAGO < 40%
- Debt management: VAGO < 25%
- Debt commitment: VAGO < 5%

The loan guarantee is to be included in Council’s annual financial statements as a contingent liability. In the event of a default, Council would be required to report the loan amount as an expenditure item and as a liability, and this would increase Council’s debt level.

Loan guarantees will only be considered when all of the criteria set out within this Policy have been met.

Guidelines

1. Loan guarantee applications (applications) can only be approved by Council resolution.
2. Council has the right to refuse an application even when the application meets the policy and evaluation criteria.
3. Applications must be assessed and considered by Council during the business case development stage of the project and prior to the commencement of the project procurement and tender process.
4. Applications to Council to act as guarantor must clearly demonstrate the intended project will provide essential services or a demonstrable benefit to the wider community. Consideration will also be given to matters including but not limited to:
 - Alignment of the project’s aim with the Council Plan and other relevant Council strategies
 - Skills and experience of the Applicant to ensure their ability to deliver the project and minimise Council’s financial exposure
 - Provision of independently audited financial statements for the previous three years, and cash flow projections for the guarantee term



- Demonstration that all other avenues for funding have been sought prior to the application
 - Nature of the project
 - Plans and costings (including obtaining a minimum of three quotes)
 - Responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the asset
5. The Applicant must provide a minimum of one third of the capital cost of the project, including government grants and other external funding.
 6. The Application is responsible for payment of any fees and charges applicable to a Council loan guarantee.
 7. The Guarantee term will only be considered within the following benchmark terms:

Guarantee Amount (\$)	Maximum Term of Guarantee
Up to 49,999	5 years
50,000 – 99,999	10 years
100,000 and above	15 years

8. Applicants must complete and agree to the terms and conditions set out by Council.
9. Borrowings may only be used for the construction and/or acquisition of capital assets on Council owned or controlled land that will be vested in and ultimately controlled by Council.
10. The Applicant must be a “not for profit” organisation and have an incorporated status.
11. The life of the asset must exceed the life of the loan guarantee.
12. The term of the loan shall not exceed the term of the existing lease agreement.
13. The Applicant must provide biannual reports detailing financial operations of the applicant and loan balance statement.
14. The loan must not include a redraw facility.

References

- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Local Government Financial and Reporting Regulations*
- *Corporations Act 2001*

8.1.2 PROCUREMENT POLICY

Author's Title: Manager Finance

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: CM/14/27

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

This report recommends the adoption of the revised Procurement Policy (Policy) in compliance with the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

SUMMARY

The adopted Procurement Policy has been revised to update values to be exclusive of GST.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the revised Procurement Policy for a period of 4 years.

Attachments: 1 [Draft Procurement Policy](#)

DISCUSSION

Council adopted a Procurement Policy at the meeting held 8 December 2021. The *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) requires each council to prepare and adopt a Procurement Policy which specifies the principles, processes and procedures which will apply in respect of the purchase of goods, services and carrying out of works by the Council.

The Procurement Policy adopted reflects all expenditure threshold values to include Goods and Services Taxation (GST). This treatment of GST is inconsistent with financial reporting, budgeting and adds additional complication in financial system for monitoring. Following a survey of Local Government Authorities (LGA), Officers have identified the majority of LGA procurement thresholds are exclusive of GST.

The draft Procurement Policy is presented to update threshold values as exclusive of GST to alleviate undue complications from the previous version. The Policy complies with sections 108 and 109 of the Act.

The draft Procurement Policy was reviewed and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 20th September, 2022.

RELEVANT LAW

The Policy complies with sections 108 and 109 of the Act.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

The Delegation of Council to the Chief Executive Officer has set a financial delegation of \$250,000 (exc. GST).

OPTIONS

The Council may amend Policy provisions at any period during its term, provided it does not breach the requirements under the Act.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable

COLLABORATION

Officers surveyed Procurement Policy other Local Government Authorities and it was identified the majority treatment was exclusive of GST.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Not applicable

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Draft policy has been reviewed and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

I, Aileen Douglas, have no conflicts of interest to declare in relation to the preparation of this Report or the Procurement policy.



POLICY LOCATION	Corporate Services	POLICY TITLE	Procurement Policy
POLICY NUMBER	CA03	DATE ADOPTED	
REVISION NUMBER	12	REVISION DATE	

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to assist Buloke Shire Council (Council) to meet its obligations and responsibilities by providing a framework which will:

- Ensure compliance, consistency and control over procurement activities,
- Achieve value for money and continuous improvement in the provision of services,
- Demonstrate accountability to ratepayers, and
- Provide guidance on ethical behaviour in local government procurement activities.

This document represents the current policy of Council until it is revised or rescinded.

Scope

This policy is made under Section 108 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

This section of the Act requires Council to prepare and adopt a procurement policy encompassing the principles, processes and procedures applied to all purchases of goods, services and works undertaken by Council to ensure the promotion of open and fair competition and value for money.

This policy applies to the acquisition of goods, services and works by Council other than to those activities or circumstances listed as exempt in Appendix 1. The exemptions also apply to collaborative procurements.

All monetary values stated in this policy exclude GST, except where specifically stated otherwise.

Definitions

In this policy –

“Delegations” refers to the delegation of power to members of Council staff to approve a range of functions in the procurement process.

“GST” refers to Goods and Services Tax. For the purposes of this policy, any amounts stated are exclusive of GST, unless expressly stated otherwise.

“Panel contracts” means a contract that sets out rates for the provision of goods, services or works which are available for the term of the contract for two or more potential suppliers. Such contract will not commit Council to purchase a specified value or quantity of goods, services or works unless specified as part of the tender process.



“Procurement” is the whole process of acquisition of external goods, services or works. Procurement is deemed to include the whole-of-life cycle, from initial concept through to end of useful life of an asset, including disposal, or the end of a service contract.

“Regional businesses” refers to businesses registered within the Shire of Buloke, and registered within municipalities which share a common boundary with the Shire of Buloke.

Policy Statement

Council recognises that developing a procurement policy and adopting appropriate best practice contracting and procurement principles, policies, processes and procedures for all goods, services and works by Council will enhance achievement of Council’s objectives (including sustainable and socially responsible procurement), and support bottom-line cost savings, local economies, innovation and better service provision for communities.

Council understands its role in supporting regional economic benefit as a major purchaser of goods and services within the municipality, and this policy aims to ensure, where possible, there is a positive influence on and outcome for the local economy.

Council is committed to procurement that supports local businesses plus economic diversity and viability. This also supports socially inclusive activities, as it works to stimulate the local economy and contribute to local job creation and reduces the reliance on goods and services that impact the environment through travel and transport.

Council endorses the practice of sustainable procurement and the sourcing of environmentally preferable products and services whenever they perform satisfactorily and are available at a competitive price.

Sustainable procurement practice will demonstrate to the community that Council’s purchasing decisions can improve markets for environmentally preferred products, enhance environmental quality, be resource responsible and contribute to progress toward sustainability.

Preamble

This policy is designed to ensure elements of best practice applicable to local government procurement incorporates:

Broad principles covering ethics, value for money, open and fair competition, responsibility and accountability, risk management, probity and transparency, sustainable and social procurement and guidelines giving effect to those principles,

- A system of delegations, and
- A professional approach to all major procurements.

This policy requires contracting and purchasing activities to support Council’s corporate strategies, aims and objectives, including, but not limited to, those related to sustainability, protection of the environment and corporate social responsibility.



The approach for procurement within Council will be guided by the Best Value Principles set out below:

a. Value for money

Council will procure goods, services and works after consideration of cost and non-cost factors which contribute to the advancement of Council priorities and community interest as follows:

- Cost factors: whole-of-life and transactional costs associated with acquiring, using, holding, maintaining and disposing of the goods, services or works.
- Non-cost factors: fit-for-purpose, quality, service and support, project delivery considerations, risk, local economic contribution and financial capacity.

b. Open and Fair Competition

Procurement activities will be conducted, and be seen to be conducted, in an impartial, fair and ethical manner. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring all prospective suppliers are provided with the same access to information about procurement to enable them to submit prices, quotations, tenders or other submissions on an equal basis.

Council will take all reasonable steps to test the market in a consistent manner without bias, or perception of bias.

c. Accountability, probity and transparency

A consistent approach to procurement will be applied across Council through the application of authorised financial delegations, this policy and associated procedures to ensure the highest level of integrity and public interest. Council staff are required to account for all procurement decisions made over the lifecycle of all goods, services and works purchased by Council.

Council will work within an auditable and regular reporting mechanism to ensure adherence to procurement frameworks and legislative requirements.

d. Risk Management

Risk management will be applied at all stages of procurement, and steps will be taken to ensure associated activities will be managed to protect Council's capability to prevent, manage and recover from interruption to the supply of goods, services and works.

e. Sustainable and social procurement objectives

Council will have a regard for the long-term and cumulative effects of procurement activities and decisions through:

- Minimising environmental impact by purchasing goods and services which reduce its environmental footprint, and supporting innovation in sustainability.
- Seeking ways to promote social procurement when sourcing goods, services and works to generate positive social outcomes.
- Seeking continuous improvement, including through embracing innovative and technological initiatives, and addressing service gaps by considering options for joint ventures between Council and external partners.



- Giving preference to goods manufactured in Australian and New Zealand wherever practicable.

Council is also committed to reducing its environmental impacts and will encourage the design and use of projects and services that have been produced to ethical standards which have minimal impact on the environment and human health. This includes but is not limited to:

- waste and resource recovery
- recycling
- energy management emissions management water conservation
- eco-buy products green building design
- environmentally sustainable procurement

Guidelines

Ethics and conflict of interest

Councillors and Council staff will adhere to conduct principles within the Code of Conduct for Councillors, and the Code of Conduct for Staff, respectively. This both means and includes:

- Neither seeking nor receiving personal gain,
- No Councillor or member of Council staff, either directly or indirectly, soliciting or accepting gifts or presents from any member of the public, or prospective suppliers, who is involved in any matter connected with the performance of the Councillor's or staff member's duties, or in any procurement matter in which Council is interested,
- Maintaining confidentiality regarding pricing, specifications, quotations, tenders and any other commercial interests or proprietary information,
- Dealing with prospective suppliers and in an honest and impartial manner which does not allow conflicts of interest, or the perception of conflicts of interest,
- Being accountable for all decisions, and
- Presenting a high standard of professionalism and impartiality.

Governance

Council has established a procurement responsibility framework and delegations to ensure accountability, traceability and auditability of all procurement decisions made over the lifecycle of goods, services or works.

Council procedures will be maintained to ensure appropriate internal controls are in place, including as a minimum:

- Separation of duties in transactional end-to-end activities,
- Transparency in the acquisition of goods, services or works, Clear and documented audit trails for procurement activities, Appropriate authorisations are obtained and documented,
- A regular, at least annual, review of creditor payments made over the previous two years to ensure compliance with public tender thresholds,
- Establishment of panel contracts for any goods, services or works which may result in expenditure exceeding public tender thresholds in favour of one supplier,



- Systems are established and maintained to monitor compliance with this policy and associated procedures, and
- A process is in place for escalation, where appropriate, of procurement matters (including procedural non-compliance) to the senior leadership team, Audit and Risk Committee and Council.

Tenders

In accordance with s 108(3)(a) of the Act, the public tender threshold for contracts is \$250,000 for the purchase of goods, services or works, unless a different public tender threshold is set by regulation from time to time. If Council's monetary contribution to a collaborative procurement process is greater than \$250,000 a public tender process is required.

Council may determine to allow public expressions of interests or tenders may be called for contracts below the public tender threshold amounts if it is considered the nature of the requirement and the characteristics of the market are such that the public tender process would lead to a better value for money outcome.

Member of Council staff must not disclose allocated tender budgets to prospective suppliers without the prior written authorisation of the Chief Executive Officer.

All public tenders invited by Council will be published via Council's nominated e-Procurement portal and may be advertised in the media.

All tender processes will be conducted in accordance with this policy, its associated procedures and relevant legislation, and comply with Council requirements outlined within Council's Tendering and Contracts Manual.

Selection Criteria

Council may include the following evaluation criteria categories to determine whether proposed contract provides value for money:

- Mandatory compliance criteria (eg ABN registration, Occupational Health & Safety)
- Conformance requirements
- Price
- Capacity
- Capability
- Local content

Buy Local Content

Council is committed to purchasing from local and regional businesses where such purchases may be justified through value for money.

All other factors being equal, Council should, where it is reasonably practicable to do so, give preference to regional economic benefit when sourcing goods, services or works.

These benefits may take the form of:

- increased local employment
- increased activity and spend in local economies with identifiable benefits



- the level of local content in the goods, services and works, including the life cycle impacts of products purchased on the local community.

Council may, where it is reasonably practicable to do so, include a local content weighting of up to 10% within a request for quotation or tender evaluation criteria for projects above \$30,001 in support of the Buy Local Content principle in this policy.

Panel Contracts

Contractors may be engaged through the use of panel contracts which Council has put in place. Supplier panels may be appointed by Council after a publicly advertised tender process has taken place.

When looking to engage a supplier from a panel contract, members of Council staff should refer to the requirements set out in the Procurement Procedure.

Quotations & Other Standard Purchasing Methods

The purchase of goods, services and works below the public tender threshold will be undertaken in accordance with one of the procurement methods outlined in the Procurement Procedure. The Procurement Procedure will stipulate the minimum number of quotations or other submissions which must be sought.

Council shall publish the procurement thresholds applicable to the purchase of goods, services and works that are below the public tender threshold, and contained in its Procurement Procedure, on Council's website for the information of the public and prospective suppliers. The procurement thresholds contained in the Procurement Procedure are subject to change from time to time, by the Chief Executive Officer.

Collaborative Procurement

In accordance with s 108(c) Council will give consideration to collaboration with other Councils and public bodies or utilise collaborative procurement arrangements, when procuring goods, services or works. This may be done by assessing:

- The nature of the opportunities available (if any), and the councils or public bodies with whom they are available; and
- Whether the identified opportunities should be perused

Council may collaborate with other councils or use other agents (such as MAV Procurement or Procurement Australasia) to procure goods, services and works or utilise existing collaborative procurement arrangements for the procurement of goods, services or works established through a public tender process where it provides an advantageous value for money outcome for Council.

Delegations

Financial delegations will be consistent with the Instrument of Delegation from Council to the Chief Executive Officer, and the Instrument of Delegation from Chief Executive Officer to staff.

The availability of existing funds within an approved budget, or source of funds, must be established prior to the commencement of any procurement action for the supply of goods, services or works.

Members of Council staff must not authorise the expenditure of funds in excess of their financial delegations. Council is solely responsible for approving contract term extensions



which require allocation of funds in excess of Council approved budgets, and awarding a contract with a value which would exceed the Chief Executive Officer's financial delegations.

All tenders with a value:

- above the public tender threshold amounts under this policy or subsequently set by regulation, and
- within the financial delegation of the Chief Executive Officer

will be reported to Councillors monthly to enable Council to request the award of a contract to occur at a Council meeting.

Chief Executive Officer Exemption – Budget Disclosure

Members of Council staff must not disclose allocated tender budgets or project budgets below the public tender threshold to prospective suppliers, without the prior written authorisation of the Chief Executive Officer.

Such requests and approvals must be in writing and appropriate records kept in Council's records management system.

Training

All members of Council staff with financial delegations will be provided with training and information in accordance with Council policies.

Record Keeping

Council is responsible for retaining all documentation arising from procurement activities in line with Council's Records Management Policy and the PROV Local Government Records Management Disposal Schedule.

Complaints

Complaints from potential suppliers, tenderers and contracted suppliers concerning Council's procurement processes should be reported in accordance with Council's Complaints Handling Policy and Procurement Procedure.

Complaints in relation to corrupt or fraudulent activity in relation to procurement should be made in accordance with either Council's Fraud and Corruption Reporting Policy or Public Interests Disclosure Policy, as applicable.

Breach of this Policy

Council may take disciplinary action against an Employee who is found to breach this Policy and its associated procedures in accord with Council's Disciplinary Action Policy.

Suspected breaches of this policy by Councillors will be referred to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Council's mandatory notification requirements.



References

This policy was developed in accordance with the following legislation:

- Local Government Act 2020
- Competition Policy Reform (Victoria) Act 1995
- Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth)
- Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

This policy was developed in accordance with the following documents:

- Code of Conduct for Councillors
- Code of Conduct for Staff Complaints Handling Policy
- Local Government Procurement Best Practice Guidelines 2013 Procurement Procedure
- Protected Disclosure Policy Records Management Policy Risk Management Policy
- Risk Management Framework
- Tendering and Contracts Manual
- Fraud and Corruption Reporting Policy
- Disciplinary Action Policy

Appendix 1

Exemption Name	Explanation and Limitations
Emergency response, relief or recovery & public safety situations requiring immediate action	<p>The member of Council staff appointed as the primary officer responsible for emergency management or public safety response, or an alternative officer authorised to act in the primary officer's absence, has authorisation to take immediate action in the procurement of services, goods or works during a declared emergency management situation in order to protect the Buloke community and/or Council assets, but subject to that member of Council staff acting within the scope of their financial delegation.</p> <p>This exemption shall extend to the occurrence of an event such as flooding or fire at a Council property that impacts on business continuity.</p> <p>This authority ceases where there is no further requirement to take immediate</p>



	<p>action in order to protect life or property. Emergency provisions must not be used for the procurement of extended goods, works or services.</p>
Legal Services	The definition of legal services does not extend to include debt recovery services
Labour Hire	
Electoral or valuation services	
Payroll expenses and deductions	
Refunds	
Warranties and servicing for plant and equipment	<p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is required to maintain a valid warranty. Works need to be carried out by recognised suppliers using genuine parts. To achieve this Council may utilise servicing by the manufacturers from whom the plant and equipment were originally purchased. Spare parts from specific manufacturers can be purchased to complete works on a plant and equipment in Council's workshop.
Utilities	
Essential service provision or other government entity	Where certain bodies or authorities will only allow works to be conducted by themselves or their contractors on their assets (for example Powercor, GWM Water).
Core service sole suppliers	<p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional membership payments (relating to positions held at Council); and IT equipment (Apple and Microsoft products and the like)
Information technology resellers and software developers	Allows Council to renew software licences, subscriptions and maintenance and support, or to upgrade existing systems, where there is only one supplier of the software who holds the intellectual property rights to the software.
Operating leases	Where a vendor leases an asset (generally a vehicle or plant and equipment) to Council and



	assumes the residual value risk of the vehicle.
Novated contracts	Where the initial contract was entered into in compliance with the policy and due diligence has been undertaken in respect to the new party.
A contract made with, or a purchase from a contract made by another government entity, government owned entity or other approved third party	<p>Allows engagements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With another government entity or government owned entity. For example, Federal, State or Local Government or an entity owned by the Federal, State or Local Government; and/or • In reliance on contracts and arrangements established by another government entity, local authority or local government group purchasing scheme, Municipal Association of Victoria, Procurement Australasia or Loddon Mallee Procurement Network.
Extension of contract while Council is at market to replace that contract	<p>Allows Council to extend an existing contract where the procurement process to replace the existing contract has commenced, and where the tender process or negotiations will take or are taking longer than expected.</p> <p>This exemption may be used when the establishment of an interim short-term arrangement with an alternative supplier is considered not to be in the public interest, as it may be cost prohibitive and/or present a risk in the delivery of public services to the municipality.</p>
Chief Executive Officer exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a member of Council staff has taken all reasonable steps to comply with this policy and its associated procedures but is unable to meet requirements under the same, for example: where there is only one known and reputable supplier or provider for the particular goods, services or works or • Where there is an ability to obtain sufficient quotations <p>The member of Council staff may apply, in writing, for an exemption under this policy to the Chief Executive Officer.</p>



	<p>The Chief Executive Officer may consider an application and provide a written exemption under this policy, where it can be clearly demonstrated that a public procurement process will not be in the best interests of the organisation or community to do so, however a member of Council staff must be able to demonstrate in their application that clear and robust market testing has occurred.</p> <p>Such requests and approvals must be in writing and appropriate records kept.</p> <p>The Chief Executive Officer may also provide a written exemption under this policy where he or she is satisfied that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exceptional circumstances exist; and• It is in the public interest to depart from the procurement processes that would otherwise apply. <p>The Chief Executive Officer must present to a Council meeting details of any contract or other agreement entered into as a result of such exemption being provided.</p>
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8.2 MANAGEMENT REPORTS

8.2.1 TOURISM BUSINESS INNOVATION GRANTS - ROUND TWO

Author's Title: Senior Economic Development Officer

Department: Community Development

File No: GS/09/50

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Economy

PURPOSE

For Councillors to consider awarding Round two of the Tourism Business Innovation Grant based on the assessment undertaken by the independent panel's findings.

SUMMARY

This report details the applications received in relation to the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Program, Round Two, the assessment criteria used to assess the applications, and the findings by the Assessment Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Awards \$15,000 to the Blue Duck Distillery in Donald, and
2. Retains the remaining \$15,000 in the fund to run a third round in 2023.

Attachments: Nil

DISCUSSION

In 2021, Council received \$790,000 in funding under the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects) to deliver a four-part project including:

- Buloke accommodation for lakes inviting niche tourism,
- Night activation for Silo Art,
- A Street Art Festival, and a
- Business Innovation Pilot program.

The purpose of the fund is to deliver priority projects identified in the Silo Art Gap Analysis, which was funded and developed by the DJPR, in partnership with Wimmera Mallee Tourism member Councils (Buloke, Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shire Councils).

As part of this funding, Buloke is represented on a greater Project Design Steering Group (PDSG) with representatives from Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shire Councils, Regional Development Victoria (RDV) Grampians, RDV Loddon Mallee, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Visit Victoria and the Tourism and Tourism Events Visitor Economy (TEVE) department of DJPR.

The purpose of the Business Innovation Pilot program under the grant agreement is to:

- Support local businesses to maximise benefits from increased tourism,
- Provide financial support to at least one pilot project per year over two financial years, and
- Increase visitor expenditure by 2023-2024 using a 2019-2020 baseline.

Guidelines

The Council endorsed the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Guidelines at its meeting in April. The guidelines aim to support projects and initiatives which are aligned to Councils tourism objectives, prioritising applications which can demonstrate:

- Alignment with key strategies in the Interim Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2023-2024:
 - Theme 1: COVID Recovery – “Positioning Buloke for Domestic Visitor Experiences”
 - Theme 4: Targeted industries investment – “Tourism Attractions and Responsive Town Businesses”, and “Enhance agribusiness diversification and value-adding”
- Alignment with priorities identified in the Silo Art Gap Analysis for Buloke:
 - Improved visitor servicing (improved and consistent offering, or innovative offerings)
 - Adding value to existing Silo Art Trail through innovative activation of current tourism product or development of new tourism product
- Increase visitor expenditure in Buloke by 2023-2024.

Assessment Panel

Originally, the assessment panel which was established was designed to include representation from Councils key tourism stakeholders, including a representative from the Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee (EDATAC), Buloke Tourism Board (BTB), specialist Council Officers, and an independent tourism professional.

After further consideration and feedback from members of Buloke Tourism Board, it was determined that including a representative from Buloke Tourism Board may prohibit the ability for the Board to support or endorse applications to the fund, and their ability to make an application to the fund should they decide to. Instead, Officers enquired through Wimmera Mallee Tourism Board to seek alternate panel members who were independent of Council administration.

The Assessment Panel Members were:

Name	Position/Organisation
Kayla Watterson	Coordinator Business Services, Grampians, Regional Development Victoria
Georgia Bennett	Marketing and Silos Project Officer, Wimmera Development Association
David Leathem	Independent Tourism Professional (Previous Manager Economic Development and Tourism at Mount Alexander Shire Council, and currently a Tourism consultant).
Darci Tierney	Acting Manager Facilities and Projects, Buloke Shire Council
Kerrie Mulholland	Senior Economic Development Officer, Buloke Shire Council

Assessment Criteria

Each application was scored against the below nine criteria which were directly linked to the *Tourism Business Innovation Guidelines*:

1. Originality and uniqueness of idea in Buloke
2. How well will their idea attract and encourage tourism in the Buloke region
3. Positioning Buloke for domestic visitor experiences
4. Adding value to the existing Silo Art Trail through innovative activation
5. Extending overnight stay within the region through traditional target markets
6. Attracting new target markets to the regions, in line with Council's tourism markets – Grey Noma Day Trippers, Lifestyle Leaders and Young Active families
7. Improved visitor servicing (improved and consistent offering, innovative offerings)
8. Number of towns likely to receive benefit
9. Sustainability – documents provided by applicant demonstrate likelihood of sustainable business model post-funding

Assessment Rubric and Scoring Method

Rubric

Scoring		
Result	Description	Score
Excellent	The application satisfies the selection criteria to an excellent standard. The supporting information is comprehensive, well-evidenced and compelling.	9-10
Very Good	The application satisfies the selection criteria to a very good standard. The supporting information is clearly articulated and compelling.	7-8
Good	The application satisfies the selection criteria to an acceptable degree. There are some minor deficiencies and shortcomings in the detail of the supporting documentation. Shortcomings in supporting documentation are not critical to the success of the project.	5-6
Average	The application barely satisfies the selection criteria. There are major deficiencies in the detail of the supporting information.	3-4
Poor	The supporting information is insufficient to allow an in-depth assessment of application against the selection criteria.	0-2

All panellists received a copy of the applications, the scoring rubric, and the following instructions via email on the afternoon of Monday 12 September 2022:

1. Each panellist is required to score applications against the assessment criteria using the scoring rubric provided.

2. Each criterion is scored between 1-10, with 1 being the lowest score and 10 being the highest score.
3. Each applicant's total score will be the sum of the average criteria scores.
4. To assist with the panel assessment, discussion, and moderation of scores, it is recommended that panellists keep notes against each score.

Assessment Moderation Method

To ensure transparency and accuracy of scoring, outlying scores were moderated across the top scoring applications using the following methodology:

When there is a conflict of scores between assessment panellists of +/-3, the panellists discussed their scoring in detail to ensure their understanding of the application responses and the scoring rubric were consistent.

Based on the discussion, panellists could choose to maintain their score, or modify it.

Applications received

Applicant	Overview of initiative
Blue Duck Donald Distillery & Smokehouse	<p>Total projected expenditure: \$154,816 Other grant income/contributions: \$160,000 (Business sales forecast May 2022-April 2023– not confirmed) Grant amount requested: \$30,000 Buloke's first all home grown & locally produced distilled spirits and farm grown meats will bring the paddock to plate, grain to bottle experience for everyone to enjoy.</p>
Brady Farm Tours	<p>Total projected expenditure: \$0 Other grant income/contributions: \$0 Grant amount requested: \$27,948 Provide an authentic & affordable farm experience for tourists and local groups of all ages, through a tour of our working farm.</p>
Storytowns	<p>Total projected expenditure: \$29,680 Other grant income/contributions: \$0 Grant amount requested: \$29,680 Inspire people to travel, stay & experience regional towns. We do this with our immersive story-based travel guide podcasts that showcase local stories of people, lifestyle, history & activities.</p>
The Mallee Barn	<p>Total projected expenditure: \$110,000 Other grant income/contributions: \$80,000 Grant amount requested: \$30,000 Create a unique accommodation option that celebrates local farming history but also attracts new tourists to the area. Lure tourists who otherwise may not have considered the Mallee as a holiday destination.</p>

Assessment Scores

Applicant	Raw Score	Final Score (Average)
Blue Duck Donald Distillery	350 (1)	70
Brady Farm Tours	275 (4)	55
Storytowns	307 (3)	61.4
The Mallee Barn	323 (2)	64.6

Assessment Panel Feedback and Final remarks

The assessment panel were overall very impressed with the variety and calibre of applications received and impressed upon the point that the Council should consider how it may assist unsuccessful applicants to facilitate their ideas in future.

The panel suggested that unsuccessful applicants:

- be nominated for the Tourism Ready mentoring program by the Tourism Ninja, which is being funded by the State Government under the Silo Art Activation fund, with places available across the Wimmera Mallee Region, and
- are encouraged to apply for any future funding rounds of the State Government's Enabling Tourism Fund

The Assessment Panel has recommended that the Council consider funding \$15,000 to the Blue Duck Distillery in Donald instead of their \$30,000 application. The \$15,000 to be spent on marketing activities in conjunction with a marketing plan they work on with Tania Jacobs the Tourism Ninja. The marketing to be aimed at people that live outside the Shire, try to attract visitors into Buloke. Locals will hear about it from word of mouth and social media. The Distillery can meet the timeframes stipulated in the Tourism Business Innovation Guidelines.

Council to look out for other grants for Brady Farms, Story Towns and the Mallee Barn. Mallee Barn at 5 Mill Street Wyche doesn't require a planning permit. Rodney suggested they get a building surveyor to assist them. A building permit would be required, and it would be worth the proponent doing some research on this to find out what would be required get a barn to meet the Building code requirements for residential use.

Conduct a third round of the Grant, launch end of January 2023. \$15k grant to be awarded in early February 2023.

RELEVANT LAW

There are no relevant law implications.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council awarded round one of this program in June 2022.

OPTIONS

Council could award the grant to another applicant, however this would be against the recommendation of the assessment panel.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The program has been advertised widely across the Buloke community.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

N/A

COLLABORATION

Significant collaboration has occurred on the program including with partner municipalities and the assessment panel.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

This program has been funded externally by Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects).

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

N/A

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

This program aligns with the 2021-2025 Council Plan, particularly priority 3, our economy.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report is being presented in an open Council Meeting.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officer involved in the development of this report has a conflict of interest.

8.2.2 ADVOCACY STRATEGY 2022-23

Author's Title: Director Community Development

Department: Community Development

File No: ED/03/02

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

This report is presented to Council to consider the adoption of an updated Advocacy Strategy 2022-23.

SUMMARY

In line with Council's Long-Term Community Vision and Council Plan and community aspirations, a review and redevelopment of the Advocacy Strategy has been undertaken.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Advocacy Strategy and review the Strategy within 12 months.

Attachments: 1 Draft Advocacy Strategy 2022 - 2023 (to be published separately prior to the Council Meeting)

DISCUSSION

The Buloke Shire Council Advocacy Strategy 2022-23 outlines the key advocacy projects Council is currently committed to focusing on and seeking partnerships to implement.

Many of the projects presented reflect some of the challenges faced by Buloke Shire, as one of the geographically largest municipalities, with an ageing and declining population.

It is acknowledged that many rural councils face similar challenges and therefore it is important to recognise that Council cannot, and does not, work alone – but rather aims to work in partnership with the community, service providers and other levels of government to deliver on its vision for the future.

However, the priority projects presented in the Strategy are only some of the issues of Council and the Buloke community therefore work will continue on a number of other priorities as stated in the Council Plan 2021-25 and Long-Term Community Vision and other adopted policies and strategies.

The Advocacy Strategy 2022-23 outlines our top-tier priorities impacting our community right now and follows the same themes identified by Buloke residents in the development of the Buloke 2030 Community Plan.

These strategic themes are:

- Our Built and Natural Environment
- Our Community Wellbeing
- Our Economy
- Our Council and Community Leadership

Many of the priorities in the strategy are infrastructure projects that can be staged. Whilst the strategy highlights the strategic priorities, it doesn't prohibit Council from applying for funding and requesting government support on other initiatives.

Key initiatives include:

- Commonwealth Games Tourism and Social Housing outcomes
- Drainage and flood mitigation
- Annual Funding for roads of strategic importance
- Annual funding for Information and Communication Technology
- Premier sporting facility upgrades including aquatic upgrades
- Grain receival access upgrades
- Construction of a roundabout at the 'five ways' intersection in Birchip

It also calls for the state and federal government policy shifts, particularly around:

- A housing investment incentive package for rural areas
- Increased funding for asset renewal for small rural councils
- Creation of a viable operating model that would guarantee delivery of childcare services over the medium term (five years).
- Full completion of the Murray Basin Rail project

It is recommended that this Advocacy Strategy is to be reviewed and updated in twelve months.

RELEVANT LAW

There are no relevant law implications.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council adopted Advocacy Strategies in May 2020 and September 2021.

OPTIONS

Council could chose not adopt the Advocacy Strategy. It is worth noting that this document can be reviewed at any time.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Strategy includes a priority focussed on enhancing the environmental performance of the broader Buloke community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This Advocacy Strategy has been developed through a review of a large range of strategies, plans and consultation efforts of Council in recent years.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council's Advocacy Strategies have produced extremely positive results from funding providers over the past two years. This document will build on the success of the advocacy efforts of Council in building a better Buloke.

COLLABORATION

This strategy pulls from a range of internal and external strategic documents and the only way for Council to deliver on these community priorities is to do it in partnership with other levels of government, the community and other stakeholders.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Like all small rural councils, Buloke is heavily reliant on external funding for the delivery of large-scale capital works projects. Ultimately, one of the key aims of this document is to attract external funding for the delivery of the important projects detailed in this Advocacy Strategy. If funding is received, this will form part of future capital works programs.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

This document will feed into key regional strategic plans, including the Mallee Regional Partnership priorities, State Government's Regional Victorian Commonwealth Games and Regional Development Australia's work on viable childcare servicing.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

This Advocacy Strategy has strong alignment with key strategy and policy documents, including the Council Plan, Interim Economic Development and Tourism Strategy, Inclusiveness Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Plan, Municipal Early Years Plan, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and Community Plans.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report is being presented in an open Council Meeting.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officer involved in the development of this report has a conflict of interest.

8.2.3 INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Author's Title: Director Corporate Services

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: PE/02/01

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

To ensure the currency and accuracy of the Instrument of Delegations to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

SUMMARY

An effective and current system of delegations is crucial to the operations and functions of Council. It is possible that the decisions taken under delegation will be reviewed in other spheres, including the judicial system. Therefore, a proper record of delegated action must be kept to ensure that the decision or action can be substantiated at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve that:

1. There be delegated to the person holding the position, or acting in or performing the duties, of Chief Executive Officer the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached *Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer*, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument;
2. The instrument comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor;
3. On the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked; and
4. The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

Attachments: 1 [S5 Instrument of Delegation from Council to CEO](#)

DISCUSSION

Many Council decisions are not made at Council meetings. In view of the range of legislative and regulatory responsibilities of Local Government it would not be possible for the sector to function effectively if this was the case. Instead, decision-making power can be delegated to special committees or to members of Council staff. The nature and extent of these delegations are controlled through formal Instruments of Delegation.

Delegations are different from authorisations. The decision of a delegate of Council is deemed to be a decision by Council. The decision by a person appointed by Council to a statutory position, for example,

an Authorised Officer, is not. That person's powers and responsibilities are quite distinct from those of Council.

Most statutes impose limitations on the powers which may be delegated. Usually, one of the powers which may not be delegated is the delegation power itself. However, this limitation does not apply in respect of delegation to the CEO. Under Section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

“(1)(b) The instrument of delegation to the chief executive officer may empower the chief executive officer to delegate any power of the Council other than the power, duty or function specified in subsection (2).”

The Instrument of Delegation to the CEO may therefore empower the CEO to exercise various powers of the Council, subject to limitations and exceptions specified in the instrument but including the power to delegate powers to Council officers.

In this instance the Instrument of Delegation to the CEO has been updated to include a limitation of expenditure, excluding contracts or expenditure which Council is required to make by or under legislation. Best practice governance procedures suggest delegations and should be reviewed and adopted on at least an annual basis.

This report sets out the following proposed document Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer (S5).

RELEVANT LAW

Section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provide the Power for Council to delegate a power, duty or function to the CEO, subject to specific limitations specified in this section of the Act.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

The Instrument of Delegation to the CEO was adopted by Council on 8 September 2021.

OPTIONS

Council may decide not it adopt the instrument whereby every decision will need to be adopted by Council except powers, duties, or functions that are invested in CEO by the *Local Government Act 2020*, and any other Act that directly provides these powers to the CEO.

Council may also decide to include any other exception or limitation to the Instrument of Delegation to the CEO.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Undertaking regular reviews of the Delegations ensures that the Instrument remains current with the inclusion of provisions from new and changed legislation and the removal of provisions relating to changed or revoked legislation.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Not applicable.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

The Register of Delegations will be made available on Council's website when adopted.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There are no conflicts of interest.

SCHEDULE

The power to

1. determine any issue;
2. take any action; or
3. do any act or thing
arising out of or connected with any duty imposed, or function or power conferred on Council by or under any Act.

Conditions and Limitations

The delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing

1. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which involves
 - 1.1 entering into a contract exceeding the value of \$250,000;
 - 1.2 making any expenditure that exceeds \$250,000 (unless it is expenditure made under a contract already entered into or is expenditure which Council is, by or under legislation, required to make in which case it must not exceed \$250,000);
 - 1.3 appointing an Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period exceeding 28 days;
 - 1.4 electing a Mayor or Deputy Mayor;
 - 1.5 granting a reasonable request for leave under s 35 of the Act;
 - 1.6 making any decision in relation to the employment, dismissal or removal of the Chief Executive Officer;
 - 1.7 approving or amending the Council Plan;
 - 1.8 adopting or amending any policy that Council is required to adopt under the Act;
 - 1.9 adopting or amending the Governance Rules;
 - 1.10 appointing the chair or the members to a delegated committee;
 - 1.11 making, amending or revoking a local law;
 - 1.12 approving the Budget or Revised Budget;
 - 1.13 approving the borrowing of money;
 - 1.14 subject to section 181H(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declaring general rates, municipal charges, service rates and charges and specified rates and charges;
2. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which is required by law to be done by Council resolution;
3. if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;
4. if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a
 - 4.1 policy; or
 - 4.2 strategy
adopted by Council;
5. if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation, whether on account of s 11(2)(a)-(n) (inclusive) of the Act or otherwise; or
6. the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

8.3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

8.3.1 FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENTS

Author's Title: Manager Finance

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: FM/02/09

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to have the Council approve, in principle, the Financial Statements and Performance Statement (Statements) for the 2021-22 financial year and to authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the final form statements on behalf of the Council.

SUMMARY

The preparation of Statements is a legislative requirement.

It is now appropriate for Council to approve the Statements in principle and authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the final Statements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approves in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the 2021-22 Financial Year;
2. Authorises the Mayor, Cr. Warren, to approve last minute changes on an immaterial nature on the advice of Council's External Auditor; and
3. Authorises the Mayor, Cr. Warren, and the Deputy Mayor, Cr. Getley, to sign the final form Financial Statements and Performance Statement on behalf of, and with full authority of, the Council.

Attachments: 1 [↓Draft Financial Statements 2021-2022](#)
2 [↓Draft Performance Statements 2021- 2022](#)

DISCUSSION

Under Section 98 of the *Local Government Act 2020* a council must in respect of each financial year, prepare an Annual Report that includes audited Statements for the financial year. These Statements must be prepared in the prescribed manner and form and be certified by the Auditor General.

This year the Victorian Auditor General's Office agents Crowe acted as Council's auditors. The Statements have been reviewed by the Victorian Auditor General's Office.

Council is required to approve, in principle, the Statements prior to receiving certification from the Auditor General. The Council must also authorise two (2) Councillors to certify the Statements in their final form; historically the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.

RELEVANT LAW

The Statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Regulations.

Council's Statements must be audited to meet the requirements as set out under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable to this report.

OPTIONS

Not applicable to this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable to this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was not required in the preparation of the Statements. However, the Statements will be made available as public documents following the Auditor-General's approval. The Statements will form part of the Council meeting minutes and will be published in Council's Annual Report.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable to this report.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The Statements are a report back to the community on Council's performance against the adopted 2021-22 Annual Budget, along with performance against measures and targets for Key Strategic Activities specified in the 2021-22 Annual Budget.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable to this report.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The Statements are a report back to the community on Council's performance against the performance against measures and targets for Key Strategic Activities specified in the 2021-22 Annual Budget.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

The availability of Council's audited financial and performance reporting to the community essential for ensuring transparency and accountability to the community and other levels of government.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In providing this advice to the Council as the Manager Finance, I, Aileen Douglas, have no interests to disclose in this report.

Buloke Shire Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
for the year ended 30 June 2022



Buloke Shire Council
Annual Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2022

2021/2022 Financial Report

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Buloke Shire Council
Annual Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2022

2021/2022 Financial Report

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Buloke Shire Council
Annual Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2022

2021/2022 Financial Report

Certification of the Financial Statements

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

Aileen Douglas CPA
Principal Accounting Officer
dd MMMM yyyy
Wycheproof

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Buloke Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

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

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

Daryl Warren
Councillor
dd MMMM yyyy
Wycheproof

Alan Getley
Councillor
dd MMMM yyyy
Wycheproof

Wayne O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer
dd MMMM yyyy
Wycheproof

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Victorian Auditor-General's Office Report

Insert VAGO Report here

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Annual Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Victorian Auditor-General's Office Report

Insert VAGO Report here

Buloke Shire Council
Comprehensive Income Statement
 for the year ended 30 June 2022

2021/2022 Financial Report

	Notes	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
Income			
Rates and charges	3.1	14,287	14,091
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	197	339
User fees	3.3	925	849
Grants - operating	3.4	10,889	10,934
Grants - capital	3.4	11,320	11,607
Contributions - monetary	3.5	157	108
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	2	-
Other income	3.7	600	584
Total income		38,377	38,512
Expenses			
Employee costs	4.1	10,814	11,649
Materials and services	4.2	8,509	8,384
Depreciation	4.3	9,038	8,747
Amortisation - Right of use assets	4.4	258	296
Bad and doubtful debts	4.5	(19)	156
Finance Costs - Leases	4.6	10	19
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3.6	-	89
Other expenses	4.7	664	1,708
Total expenses		29,274	31,048
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		9,103	7,464
Total comprehensive result		9,103	7,464

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2022

	Notes	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
Assets			
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	5.1	4,294	1,920
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	27,102	12,133
Non-current assets classified as "held for sale"	6.1	60	20
Other financial assets	5.1	5,000	18,015
Inventories	5.2	139	132
Other assets	5.2	260	273
Total current assets		36,855	32,493
Non-current assets			
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	277,975	273,448
Right-of-use assets	5.7	152	185
Total non-current assets		278,127	273,633
Total assets		314,982	306,126
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5.3	2,057	2,085
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	294	360
Unearned income/revenue	5.3	6,813	7,339
Provisions	5.4	2,901	2,226
Lease liabilities	5.8(b)	91	152
Total current liabilities		12,156	12,162
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	5.4	957	1,210
Lease liabilities	5.8(b)	70	58
Total non-current liabilities		1,027	1,268
Total liabilities		13,183	13,430
Net assets		301,799	292,696
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		126,405	119,610
Reserves	9.1	175,394	173,086
Total Equity		301,799	292,696

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note	Total \$ '000	Accumulated Surplus \$ '000	Revaluation Reserves \$ '000	Other Reserves \$ '000
2022				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	292,696	119,610	172,086	1,000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	9,103	9,103	-	-
Other comprehensive income				
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	-	-	-	-
- Additional asset recognition	-	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	9,103	9,103	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(2,308)	-	2,308
Balance at end of the financial year	301,799	126,405	172,086	3,308
2021				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	285,232	112,146	172,086	1,000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	7,464	7,464	-	-
Other comprehensive income				
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	-	-	-	-
- Additional asset recognition	-	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	7,464	7,464	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year	292,696	119,610	172,086	1,000

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2022

		2022	2021
	Notes	Inflows/ (Outflows) \$ '000	Inflows/ (Outflows) \$ '000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Statutory fees and fines		154	339
Other receipts		541	1,436
Rates and charges		14,158	14,084
User fees		823	849
Grants - operating		11,231	12,341
Grants - capital		8,228	16,252
Contributions - monetary		157	108
Interest received		44	32
Trust funds and deposits taken/(repaid)		(66)	157
Net GST refund/(payment)		2,104	387
Employee costs		(10,812)	(11,439)
Materials and services		(8,635)	(7,433)
Other payments		(2,086)	(2,553)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9.2	<u>15,841</u>	<u>24,560</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	(13,605)	(12,108)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		2	465
Payments for investments		-	(30,023)
Proceeds from sale of investments		13,015	23,011
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>(588)</u>	<u>(18,655)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid - lease liability		(10)	(19)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(274)	(294)
Net cash flow provided by/(used in) financing activities		<u>(284)</u>	<u>(313)</u>
Net Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>14,969</u>	<u>5,592</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>12,133</u>	<u>6,541</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		<u>27,102</u>	<u>12,133</u>
Financing arrangements	5.5	150	150
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1	220	358

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Statement of Capital Works

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Property		
Land	34	–
Land improvements	3,370	2,202
Total land	<u>3,404</u>	<u>2,202</u>
Buildings	735	3,732
Building improvements	6	–
Total buildings	<u>741</u>	<u>3,732</u>
Total property	<u>4,145</u>	<u>5,934</u>
Plant and equipment		
Plant, machinery and equipment	472	612
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	100	77
Computers and telecommunications	187	59
Library books	–	20
Total plant and equipment	<u>759</u>	<u>768</u>
Infrastructure		
Roads	6,494	3,895
Bridges	8	–
Footpaths and cycleways	82	–
Drainage	641	–
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,777	1,511
Waste management	–	–
Parks, open space and streetscapes	304	–
Total infrastructure	<u>9,306</u>	<u>5,406</u>
Total capital works expenditure	<u>14,210</u>	<u>12,108</u>
Represented by:		
New asset expenditure	657	299
Asset renewal expenditure	10,247	9,953
Asset expansion expenditure	–	18
Asset upgrade expenditure	3,306	1,838
Total capital works expenditure	<u>14,210</u>	<u>12,108</u>

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1. Overview

Introduction

The Buloke Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 20 January 1995 and is a body corporate.

The Council's main office is located at 367 Broadway, Wycheproof, Victoria 3527.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Local Government Act 2020*, and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

The Council is a not-for-profit entity and therefore applies the additional AUS paragraphs applicable to a not-for-profit entity under the Australian Accounting Standards.

Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

- the fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2.)
- the determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2.).
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to Note 5.4.).
- the determination of landfill provisions (refer to Note 5.4.)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (refer to Note 3)
- the determination, in accordance with *AASB 16 Leases*, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is in substance short-term or low value (refer to Note 5.7)
- whether or not *AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors* is applicable (refer to Note 8.2)
- other areas requiring judgements

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2.1. Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or \$50,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

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

	Budget 2022 \$ '000	Actual 2022 \$ '000	Variance \$ '000	Variance %	Ref
2.1.1 Income and expenditure					
Income					
Rates and charges	14,250	14,287	37	0%	
Statutory fees and fines	240	197	(43)	(18)%	1
User fees	760	925	165	22%	2
Grants - operating	9,020	10,889	1,869	21%	3
Grants - capital	14,076	11,320	(2,756)	(20)%	4
Contributions - monetary	276	157	(119)	(43)%	5
Contributions - non monetary	-	-	-	∞	
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	2	2	∞	
Other income	183	600	417	228%	6
Total income	38,805	38,377	(428)	(1)%	
Expenses					
Employee costs	10,763	10,814	(51)	0%	
Materials and services	6,881	8,509	(1,628)	(24)%	7
Depreciation	8,950	9,038	(88)	(1)%	
Amortisation - intangible assets	-	-	-	∞	
Amortisation - right of use assets	404	258	146	36%	8
Bad and doubtful debts	178	(19)	197	111%	9
Borrowing costs	-	-	-	∞	
Finance costs - leases	33	10	23	70%	10
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	-	-	∞	
Other expenses	780	664	116	15%	
Total expenses	27,989	29,274	(1,285)	(5)%	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	10,816	9,103	(1,713)	(16)%	

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2.1. Performance against budget

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Explanation

Ref	Explanation
1.	Negative variation in Statutory Fees due to reclassification of Building Surveying Fees to User Fees
2.	Postive variation in User Fees due to reclassification of Building Surveying Fees from Statutory Fees and underestimation of Landfill fees in budget.
3.	Postive variation in Grants - operating mostly due to early payment of Financial Assistance Grant
4.	Negative variation in Grants - capital due to project completion delays
5.	Negative variation in Contributions due to capital project contributions delayed in line with project completion
6.	Positive variation in Other income due to higher than anticipated reimbursement income, including workcover claims
7.	Negative variation in Materials and services includes recognition of Landfills provision raised, higher than anticipated insurance and increased labour hire/contract to cover vacant employee positions
8.	Postive variation in Amortistaion - right of use assets due to over estimation in budgeting now resolved with introduction of lease register
9.	Postive variation in Bad and doubtful debts due to unanticipated property settlements for long term debtors outside of historic trend
10.	Postive variation in Finance costs - leases due to over estimation in budgeting now resolved with introduction of lease register

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2.1. Performance against budget

	Budget 2022 \$ '000	Actual 2022 \$ '000	Variance \$ '000	Variance %	Ref
2.1.2 Capital works					
Property					
Land	–	34	34	∞	
Land improvements	4,640	3,370	(1,270)	(27)%	1
Total land	4,640	3,404	(1,236)	(27)%	
Buildings	1,234	735	(499)	(40)%	2
Building improvements	60	6	(54)	(90)%	3
Total buildings	1,294	741	(553)	(43)%	
Total property	5,934	4,145	(1,789)	(30)%	
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	826	472	(354)	(43)%	4
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	110	100	(10)	(9)%	
Computers and telecommunications	320	187	(133)	(42)%	5
Library books	–	–	–	∞	
Total plant and equipment	1,256	759	(497)	(40)%	
Infrastructure					
Roads	7,437	6,494	(943)	(13)%	6
Bridges	141	8	(133)	(94)%	7
Footpaths and cycleways	163	82	(81)	(50)%	8
Drainage	40	641	601	1,503%	9
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,192	1,777	(415)	(19)%	10
Waste management	60	–	(60)	(100)%	11
Parks, open space and streetscapes	2,826	304	(2,522)	(89)%	12
Total infrastructure	12,859	9,306	(3,553)	(28)%	
Total capital works expenditure	20,049	14,210	(5,839)	(29)%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	3,256	657	(2,599)	(80)%	
Asset renewal expenditure	11,238	10,247	(991)	(9)%	
Asset expansion expenditure	–	–	–	∞	
Asset upgrade expenditure	5,555	3,306	(2,249)	(40)%	
Total capital works expenditure	20,049	14,210	(5,839)	(29)%	

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2.1. Performance against budget

(i) Explanation of material variations

Variance Explanation

Ref

1. Positive variance due to delays with Streetscape projects
2. Positive variance due to delays with Donald Lake Cabin project
3. Positive variance due to postponing of Workshop upgrade works
4. Positive variance due to delivery delay on major plant item due to Covid 19 supply issues
5. Positive variance due to delivery delay on items ordered due to Covid 19 supply issues
6. Positive variance due to weather delay on major rehabilitation projects
7. Positive variance due to delay with Scilly's Bridge project specification and engineering design changes
8. Positive variance due to deferral of projects to 2022-2023
9. Negative variance due to project carry over from 2020-2021
10. Positive variance due to delivery delay on items ordered due to Covid 19 supply issues
11. Positive variance due to funding redirected to additional Roads renewal expenditure
12. Positive variance due to deferral of Playspaces project to 2022-2023

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 2.2. Analysis of Council results by program

2.2.1 Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

1. Our Built and Natural Environment

- 1.1 Work Towards Sustainability
- 1.2 Suitable Housing Options
- 1.3 An Attractive and Well Maintained Buloke
- 1.4 A Safe and Active Buloke

2. Our Community Wellbeing

- 2.1 Partnerships to Outcomes
- 2.2 Inclusiveness Plan in Action
- 2.3 Well Supported Community
- 2.4 Increased Community Wellbeing

3. Our Economy

- 3.1 Tourism
- 3.2 Attraction and Promotion of Local Business
- 3.3 Employment Opportunities
- 3.4 Digital Connections

4. Our Council and Community Leadership

- 4.1 Active Leaders and Volunteers
- 4.2 Community Engagement
- 4.3 Continuous Service Improvement for Efficient and Flexible Services
- 4.4 A Well Governed and Healthy Organisation

2.2.2 Summary of income, expenses, assets and capital expenses by program

Functions/activities	Income \$ '000	Expenses \$ '000	Surplus / (Deficit) \$ '000	Grants included in income \$ '000	Total assets \$ '000
2022					
Our Built and Natural Environment	17,028	21,130	(4,102)	13,163	277,975
Our Community Wellbeing	2,602	3,481	(879)	1,742	-
Our Economy	156	389	(233)	62	-
Our Council and Community Leadership	5,774	4,274	1,500	5,642	36,932
Unattributed	12,817	-	12,817	1,600	75
Total functions and activities	38,377	29,274	9,103	22,209	314,982
2021					
Our Built and Natural Environment	17,571	21,385	(3,814)	15,614	273,634
Our Community Wellbeing	1,807	2,362	(555)	1,288	-
Our Economy	1,908	3,102	(1,194)	1,386	-
Our Council and Community Leadership	4,510	4,111	399	4,132	32,488
Unattributed	12,628	-	12,628	-	4
Total functions and activities	38,424	30,960	7,464	22,541	306,126

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
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3.1 Rates and charges

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

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2021/22 was \$2.095 billion (2020/21 \$1.795 billion). The 2021/22 rate in the CIV dollar was a General Rate of 0.7399 cents (2020/21, 0.7650 cents) and a Farm Rate of 0.5179 cents (2020/21, 0.6120 cents).

Municipal charge	750	751
Waste management charge	3	-
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	45	-
Interest on rates and charges	77	108
Rates - Residential	2,605	2,561
Rates - Commercial	601	611
Rates - Rural	8,607	8,456
Windfarm electricity generation charge	131	141
Garbage Charges	1,468	1,463
Total rates and charges	14,287	14,091

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2020, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1st July 2020.

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

3.2 Statutory fees and fines

Compliance	88	103
Planning Permits & Certificates	63	79
Revenue Collection	15	10
Building Regulations and Inspections	31	147
Total statutory fees and fines	197	339

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

3.3 User fees

Pound fees and animal registrations	59	86
Home and Community Care	177	206
Brokered Programs Charges	268	253
Public Health and Wellbeing Charges	36	14
Building Services charges	90	17
Caravan Parks & Halls	11	4
Waste and Environment	181	182
Saleyards / Truck Wash	75	83
Other	28	4
Total user fees	925	849

User fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided or council has otherwise earned the income.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2022	2021
	\$ '000	\$ '000

3.4 Funding from other levels of government

Grants were received in respect of the following:

Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	16,833	11,204
State funded grants	5,376	11,337
Total grants received	<u>22,209</u>	<u>22,541</u>

(a) Operating Grants

<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Financial Assistance Grants - general purpose	9,080	6,724
General home care	522	507
<i>Recurrent - State Government</i>		
Libraries	159	125
Maternal and child health	329	314
General home care	206	153
Other	198	160
Total recurrent operating grants	<u>10,494</u>	<u>7,983</u>
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Other	-	21
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Natural disaster -flood damage	-	1,195
Working for Victoria	-	1,374
Other	395	361
Total non-recurrent operating grants	<u>395</u>	<u>2,951</u>
Total operating grants	<u>10,889</u>	<u>10,934</u>

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
(b) Capital Grants		
<i>Recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Roads to recovery	1,607	2,400
Total recurrent capital grants	1,607	2,400
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Regional Growth Fund/Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	2,628	1,552
Other - Roads Infrastructure	2,996	-
<i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Recreation	128	455
Road rehabilitation	350	-
Parks, Open space & Streetscapes	2,884	5,852
Other	727	1,348
Total non-recurrent capital grants	9,713	9,207
Total capital grants	11,320	11,607

(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner:

<i>Operating</i>		
Balance at start of year	1,590	183
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	342	1,407
Balance at year end	1,932	1,590
<i>Capital</i>		
Balance at start of year	5,749	1,104
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	731	5,393
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	-	(748)
Balance at year end	6,480	5,749

3.5 Contributions

<i>Monetary contributions</i>		
Revenue Collection Contributions	114	58
Capital Works Contributions	43	50
Total monetary contributions	157	108
Total contributions	157	108

Monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3. Funding for the delivery of our services

	2022	2021
	\$ '000	\$ '000

3.6 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Land and buildings		
Proceeds of sale	-	-
Written down value of assets disposed	-	(241)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of land and buildings	-	(241)
Plant and equipment		
Proceeds of sale	2	465
Written down value of assets disposed	-	(313)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	2	152
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2	(89)

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

3.7 Other income

Interest	44	32
Rent Council properties	17	6
Reimbursements	222	236
Fuel tax credits	101	97
Other	216	213
Total other income	600	584

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 4. The cost of delivering services

	2022	2021
	\$ '000	\$ '000

4.1 Employee costs

(a) Employee costs

Wages and salaries	9,628	10,443
Superannuation	950	972
Fringe benefits tax	40	-
Allowances	21	29
Worksafe	172	200
Other	3	5
Total employee costs	10,814	11,649

(b) Superannuation

Council made contributions to the following funds:

Defined benefit fund		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	13	26
	<u>13</u>	<u>26</u>
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	473	398
Employer contributions - other funds	464	548
Employer contributions - other funds prior financial year	-	-
	<u>937</u>	<u>946</u>
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	-	-
Total superannuation costs	950	972

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

4.2 Materials and services

Utilities	515	569
Information technology	531	354
Insurance	535	391
Consultants	452	410
Advertising	81	70
Garbage	243	221
Operational Contracts and Services	3,066	3,332
Operational Materials	950	1,255
Promotion/Public Education	4	1
Subscriptions/Memberships/Publications	91	72
Telephone	94	99
Vehicle and Plant Costs	1,440	966
Other	507	644
Total materials and services	8,509	8,384

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 4. The cost of delivering services

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
4.3 Depreciation		
Property		
Buildings - non specialised	2,128	2,031
Leasehold improvements	27	12
Total depreciation - property	<u>2,155</u>	<u>2,043</u>
Plant and equipment		
Plant machinery and equipment	811	780
Fixtures fittings and furniture	64	51
Computers and telecomms	219	242
Library books	-	16
Total depreciation - plant and equipment	<u>1,094</u>	<u>1,089</u>
Infrastructure		
Roads	5,275	5,108
Bridges	102	102
Footpaths and cycleways	163	161
Drainage	71	66
Kerb & Channel	163	163
Landfill sites	5	5
Other infrastructure	10	10
Total depreciation - infrastructure	<u>5,789</u>	<u>5,615</u>
Total depreciation	<u>9,038</u>	<u>8,747</u>

Refer to note 5.7 and 6.2 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and amortisation charges and accounting policy.

4.4 Amortisation - Right of use assets

Vehicles	258	296
Total Amortisation - Right of use assets	<u>258</u>	<u>296</u>

4.5 Bad and doubtful debts

Rates debtors	(43)	129
Other debtors	24	27
Total bad and doubtful debts	<u>(19)</u>	<u>156</u>

Movement in provisions for doubtful debts		
Balance at the beginning of the year	565	676
New provisions recognised during the year	(19)	136
Amounts already provided for and written off as uncollectable	(15)	(247)
Balance at end of year	<u>531</u>	<u>565</u>

Provision for doubtful debt is recognised based on an expected credit loss model.

Bad debts are written off when identified. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 4. The cost of delivering services

4.6 Finance Costs - Leases

Interest - Lease Liabilities	10	19
Total finance costs	<u>10</u>	<u>19</u>

4.7 Other expenses

Auditors' remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements, performance statement and grant acquittals	50	42
Auditors' remuneration - Internal Audit	12	32
Councillors' allowances	202	177
Council Contributions and Donations	374	1,435
Council meeting expenses	15	6
Election expenses	-	1
Others	11	15
Total other expenses	<u>664</u>	<u>1,708</u>

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	Note	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
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5.1 Financial assets

(a) Cash and cash equivalents

Current			
Cash at bank		27,102	12,133
Total current cash and cash equivalents		27,102	12,133

(b) Other financial assets

Current			
Term deposits - current		5,000	18,015
Total current other financial assets		5,000	18,015

Total financial assets		32,102	30,148
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External restrictions

Councils cash and cash equivalents are subject to external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary use. These include:

Trust funds and deposits	5.3	220	358
Total restricted funds		220	358
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents		26,882	11,775

Intended allocations

Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:

Cash held to fund carried forward capital works	5.3	4,881	5,749
Cash held for carried forward service delivery	5.3	1,932	1,590
Cash held for General reserves	9.1(b)	2,709	–
Total funds subject to intended allocations		9,522	7,339

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

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

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

(c) Trade & Other Receivables

Current			
<i>Statutory receivables</i>			
Rates debtors		1,433	1,304
Infringement debtors		209	166
GST receivable		407	565
<i>Non-statutory receivables</i>			
Grant debtors		2,430	206
Other debtors		346	244

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
<i>Provisions for doubtful debts</i>		
Provision for doubtful debts - infringements	(133)	(109)
Provision for doubtful debts - rates debtors	(398)	(456)
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>4,294</u>	<u>1,920</u>
Total trade and other receivables	<u>4,294</u>	<u>1,920</u>

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

(d) Ageing of receivables

The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

Current (not yet due)	123	205
Past due by up to 30 days	4	5
Past due between 31 and 180 days	4	5
Past due between 181 and 365 days	215	235
Total trade and other receivables	<u>346</u>	<u>450</u>

5.2 Non-financial assets

(a) Inventories

Inventories held for distribution	139	132
Total inventories	<u>139</u>	<u>132</u>

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. All other inventories, including land held for sale, are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired for no cost or nominal consideration, they are measured at current replacement cost at the date of acquisition.

(b) Other assets

Current		
Prepayments	252	268
Other	8	5
Total current other assets	<u>260</u>	<u>273</u>

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
5.3 Payables, trust funds and deposits and unearned income/revenue		
(a) Trade and other payables		
<i>Non-statutory payables</i>		
<i>Statutory payables</i>		
Trade payables	1,594	1,733
Accrued expenses	459	352
Other	4	-
Total current trade and other payables	<u>2,057</u>	<u>2,085</u>
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Fire services levy	-	1
Other refundable deposits	207	241
Funds held on behalf of community groups and third parties	13	40
Overpaid rates and charges	74	78
Total current trust funds and deposits	<u>294</u>	<u>360</u>
(c) Unearned income/revenue		
Grants received in advance:		
Grants received in advance - operating	1,932	1,590
Grants received in advance - capital	4,881	5,749
Total unearned income/revenue	<u>6,813</u>	<u>7,339</u>

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

Purpose and nature of items

Funds held on behalf of community groups and third parties - Amounts received as trust deposits to be expended in a specified manner that had not occurred at balance date.

Overpaid rates and charges - This amount represents the amount of rate payments made by rate payers in advance at 30 June 2022.

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

Refundable deposits - Deposits are taken by council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to building works, tender deposits, contract deposits and the use of civic facilities.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	Employee provisions \$ '000	Landfill restoration \$ '000	Gravel pit restoration \$ '000	Total \$ '000
5.4 Provisions				
2022				
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	2,698	185	555	3,438
Additional provisions	872	1,011	–	1,883
Amounts used	(1,140)	(185)	(138)	(1,463)
Balance at the end of the financial year	2,430	1,011	417	3,858
2021				
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	2,877	277	459	3,613
Additional provisions	775	(92)	96	779
Amounts used	(956)	–	–	(956)
Balance at the end of the financial year	2,696	185	555	3,436

Disclosure

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
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(a) Employee provisions

Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months		
Annual leave	793	792
Long service leave	185	194
Accrued Days Off	25	26
	1,003	1,012
Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months		
Long service leave	836	1,149
	836	1,149
Total current employee provisions	1,839	2,161
Non-Current		
Long service leave	201	191
Redundancy	388	344
Total Non-Current Employee Provisions	589	535
Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions:		
Current	1,839	2,161
Non-current	589	535
Total Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions	2,428	2,696

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
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The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Annual leave

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

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

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

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability as the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement. Unconditional LSL is measured at nominal value if expected to be settled within 12 months or at present value if not expected to be settled within 12 months. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non-current liability and measured at present value.

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	3.69%	1.49%
- wage inflation rate	3.85%	2.95%

Redundancy

Council has acknowledged the potential impact on services provided in aged care following the introduction of the National Disabilities Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the Commonwealth Government's announcement of ceasing the current funding model for over 65's in 2023. Provision has been updated based on employees in this service area as at 30 June 2022. Actual redundancies incurred may be less than the provision if employees terminate their employment prior.

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	3.69%	1.49%
- inflation rate	3.85%	2.95%

(b) Landfill restoration

Current		
Current	1,012	15
Total current	1,012	15
Non-current		
Non-current	-	170
Total non-current	-	170

Key assumptions:

- discount rate	0.00%	1.49%
- inflation rate	0.00%	3.80%

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
(c) Gravel pit restoration		
Current	50	50
	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
Non-current	368	505
	<u>368</u>	<u>505</u>
Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	3.69%	1.49%
- inflation rate	3.85%	3.80%

Under provisions of the *Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act* (1990), Council is obliged to restore gravel pits currently operated under Work Authority Permits. The forecast life of gravel pits is based on current estimates of remaining suitable gravel availability and unrestored areas of individual sites. The provision for pit restoration has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken.

5.5 Financing arrangements

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2022.

Treasury Corporation of Victoria facilities	-	-
Other facilities - Bank Guarantee	150	150
Total Facilities	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
Used facilities	130	130
Used facilities	<u>130</u>	<u>130</u>
Unused facilities	20	20

Council has no overdraft facility at 30 June 2022.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	Not later than 1 year \$ '000	Later than 1 year and not later than 2 years \$ '000	Later than 2 years and not later than 5 years \$ '000	Later than 5 years \$ '000	Total \$ '000
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5.6 Commitments

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

2022

Operating					
Recycling/Garage Collection	645	645	1,935	1,290	4,515
IT systems and technology	175	-	-	-	175
Building Surveying	202	202	-	-	404
Asset valuation	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,022	847	1,935	1,290	5,094
Capital					
Roads	1,227	-	-	-	1,227
Other	4,744	-	-	-	4,744
Total	5,971	-	-	-	5,971

2021

Operating					
Recycling/Garage Collection	498	-	-	-	498
IT systems and technology	86	8	15	4	113
Office equipment	42	-	-	-	42
Building Surveying	181	-	-	-	181
Asset valuation	43	-	-	-	43
Public lighting	33	-	-	-	33
Fuel cards	505	-	-	-	505
Total	1,388	8	15	4	1,415
Capital					
Buildings	1,412	-	-	-	1,412
Roads	1,830	-	-	-	1,830
Other	1,445	-	-	-	1,445
Total	4,687	-	-	-	4,687

5.7 Leases

At inception of a contract, all entities would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Council has elected to apply the temporary option available under AASB 16 Leases which allows not-for-profit entities to not measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

(a) Right-of-Use Assets

	Vehicles \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2022		
Balance at 1 July	185	185
Additions	228	228
Amortisation charge	(261)	(261)
Balance at 30 June	152	152
2021		
Balance at 1 July	394	394
Additions	87	87
Amortisation charge	(296)	(296)
Balance at 30 June	185	185

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5. Our financial position

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
(b) Lease Liabilities		
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Less than one year	97	154
One to five years	75	65
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June:	172	219
Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at 30 June:		
Current	91	152
Non-current	70	58
Total lease liabilities	161	210

Note 6. Assets we manage

6.1 Current assets classified as "held for sale"

Current		
Fair value of assets	60	20
Total non current assets classified as held for sale	60	20

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Carrying amount 30 June 2021 \$ '000	Additions \$ '000	Contributions \$ '000	Revaluation \$ '000	Depreciation \$ '000	Disposal \$ '000	Write-off \$ '000	Transfers \$ '000	Carrying amount 30 June 2022 \$ '000
Property	83,159	7	-	-	(2,155)	-	-	1,661	82,672
Plant and equipment	3,972	1,026	-	-	(1,094)	-	-	-	3,904
Infrastructure	180,426	4	-	-	(5,789)	-	-	11,753	186,394
Work in progress	5,891	12,526	-	-	-	-	-	(13,412)	5,005
Total	273,448	13,563	-	-	(9,038)	-	-	2	277,975

Summary of Work in Progress	Opening WIP \$ '000	Additions \$ '000	Write-off \$ '000	Transfers \$ '000	Closing WIP \$ '000
Property	1,476	1,380	-	(1,659)	1,197
Infrastructure	4,415	11,146	-	(11,753)	3,808
Total	5,891	12,526	-	(13,412)	5,005

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

	Land specialised \$ '000	Land non specialised \$ '000	Land improve- ments \$ '000	Land under roads \$ '000	Total land and land improve- ments \$ '000	Buildings non specialised \$ '000	Leasehold improvements \$ '000	Total buildings \$ '000	Work in progress \$ '000	Total property \$ '000
Property										
At fair value 1 July 2021	4,189	74	1,018	22,312	27,593	113,442	534	113,976	1,476	143,045
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	-	-	-	-	-	(58,398)	(12)	(58,410)	-	(58,410)
Carrying amount - 1 July 2021	4,189	74	1,018	22,312	27,593	55,044	522	55,566	1,476	84,635
Movements in fair value										
Additions	7	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	1,380	1,387
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	157	-	157	1,504	-	1,504	(1,659)	2
Transfer land held for resale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total movements in fair value	7	-	157	-	164	1,504	-	1,504	(279)	1,389
Movements in accumulated depreciation										
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	-	-	(2,128)	(27)	(2,155)	-	(2,155)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total movements in accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	(2,128)	(27)	(2,155)	-	(2,155)
At fair value 30 June 2022	4,194	74	1,176	22,312	27,756	114,945	534	115,479	1,196	144,431
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	-	-	-	-	-	(60,526)	(38)	(60,564)	-	(60,564)
Carrying amount - 30 June 2022	4,194	74	1,176	22,312	27,756	54,419	496	54,915	1,196	83,867

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

	Plant machinery and equipment \$ '000	Fixtures fittings and furniture \$ '000	Computers and telecomms \$ '000	Library books \$ '000	Total plant and equipment \$ '000
Plant and Equipment					
At fair value 1 July 2021	10,263	515	1,995	387	13,160
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(6,932)	(467)	(1,675)	(114)	(9,188)
Carrying amount - 1 July 2021	3,331	48	320	273	3,972
Movements in fair value					
Additions	819	70	126	11	1,026
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total movements in fair value	819	70	126	11	1,026
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(806)	(64)	(219)	(5)	(1,094)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-
Total movements in accumulated depreciation	(806)	(64)	(219)	(5)	(1,094)
At fair value 30 June 2022	11,082	587	2,122	397	14,188
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(7,739)	(531)	(1,895)	(118)	(10,283)
Carrying amount - 30 June 2022	3,343	56	227	279	3,905

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

	Roads \$ '000	Bridges \$ '000	Footpaths and cycleways \$ '000	Drainage \$ '000	Landfill sites \$ '000	Kerb & Channel \$ '000	Other infrastructure \$ '000	Work in progress \$ '000	Total infrastructure \$ '000
Infrastructure									
At fair value 1 July 2021	332,056	10,925	9,783	8,230	733	16,325	471	4,415	382,938
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2021	(174,194)	(4,613)	(4,749)	(4,520)	(716)	(8,859)	(446)	–	(198,097)
Carrying amount - 1 July 2021	157,862	6,312	5,034	3,710	17	7,466	25	4,415	184,841
Movements in fair value									
Additions	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	11,146	11,150
Disposal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Transfers	9,974	–	255	1,524	–	–	–	(11,753)	–
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total movements in fair value	9,978	–	255	1,524	–	–	–	(607)	11,150
Movements in accumulated depreciation									
Depreciation and amortisation	(5,275)	(102)	(163)	(71)	(5)	(163)	(10)	–	(5,789)
Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Write-off	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total movements in accumulated depreciation	(5,275)	(102)	(163)	(71)	(5)	(163)	(10)	–	(5,789)
At fair value 30 June 2022	342,030	10,925	10,039	9,756	733	16,325	471	3,810	394,089
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2022	(179,469)	(4,714)	(4,913)	(4,592)	(721)	(9,023)	(454)	–	(203,886)
Carrying amount - 30 June 2022	162,561	6,211	5,126	5,164	12	7,302	17	3,810	190,203

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

Acquisition

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

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

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods

	Depreciation Period years	Threshold Limit \$ '000
Buildings		
buildings	30 - 50 years	–
Plant and Equipment		
plant, machinery and equipment	3 - 13 years	5
fixtures, fittings and furniture	4 - 13 years	5
computers and telecommunications equipment	3 - 6 years	5
Infrastructure		
road formation	95 - 105 years	–
sealed road pavements	60 - 90 years	–
unsealed road pavements	15 - 25 years	–
sealed road surfaces	15 - 25 years	–
bridges	80 - 120 years	–
footpaths and cycleways	20 - 70 years	–
drainage	100 years	–
recreational, leisure and community facilities	10 - 50 years	–
waste management	10 - 50 years	–
parks, open space and streetscapes	10 - 50 years	–

Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

Depreciation and amortisation

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

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

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

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

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

Repairs and maintenance

Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings was undertaken by a qualified independent valuer Ben Sawyer, Certified Practising Valuer AAPI Reg. 63163, Director, Preston Rowe Paterson Horsham and Wimmera Pty Ltd in June 2020. The valuation of land and buildings as at 30 June 2020 has been assessed at fair value using the 2020 valuations for existing assets and recognising additions post the revaluation at cost. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1 2022 \$ '000	Level 2 2022 \$ '000	Level 3 2022 \$ '000	Date of valuation
Land - Non specialised	-	74	-	30/06/20
Land - Specialised	-	-	4,195	30/06/20
Land under roads	-	-	22,312	30/06/18
Land improvements	-	-	1,176	30/06/21
Buildings - Non Specialised	-	-	54,915	30/06/20
Total	-	74	82,598	

Valuation of Infrastructure

Valuation of the road infrastructure has been determined in accordance with valuation undertaken by independent valuer, Peter Moloney, MIE (Aust) Member Institute of Engineers, Dip Civil Engineering (FIT) and Council's Senior Asset Engineer, Naga Sundararajah, FIE (Aust) Fellow Member Institute of Engineers, B Sc (Hons) in Civil Engineering (UK) and M. Engineering in Construction Management (SL).

A valuation of Council's bridge assets was performed by Mr Peter Moloney, Dip Civil Engineering (FIT), Member Institute of Engineers (Aust) MIE.

Valuation of drains has been determined in accordance with a valuation undertaken by independent valuer, Peter Moloney, MIE (Aust) Member Institute of Engineers, Dip Civil Engineering (FIT).

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

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 6. Assets we manage

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2022 are as follows:

	Level 1 2022 \$ '000	Level 2 2022 \$ '000	Level 3 2022 \$ '000	Date of valuation
Roads	-	-	162,561	30/06/19
Bridges	-	-	6,211	30/06/19
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	5,126	30/06/19
Drainage	-	-	5,164	30/06/19
Landfill sites	-	-	12	30/06/15
Kerb & Channel	-	-	7,302	30/6/2019
Other Infrastructure	-	-	17	30/6/2019
Total	-	-	186,393	

Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values of 90%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$1.40 and \$1.50 per square metre.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 10 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

Reconciliation of specialised land

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
Land under roads	22,312	22,312
Community facilities	4,195	4,189
Total specialised land	26,507	26,501

(c) Community Asset Committee

All entities controlled by Council that have material income, expenses, assets or liabilities, such as community asset committees, have been included in this financial report. Any transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full.

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 7. People and relationships

7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent entity

Council is the parent entity.

(b) Key Management Personnel *

Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

Councillors

Councillor David Pollard
 Councillor Graeme Milne
 Councillor Carolyn Stewart
 Councillor David Vis
 Councillor Daryl Warren, Mayor
 Councillor Bronwyn Simpson
 Councillor Alan Getley

Key management personnel

Anthony Judd - Chief Executive Officer (1 July 2021 - 1 October 2021)
 Wayne O'Toole - Acting Chief Executive Officer (2 October 2021 - 12 December 2021)
 Hannah Yu - Acting Chief Executive Officer (13 December 2021 - 23 January 2022)
 Wayne O'Toole - Chief Executive Officer (appointed 24 January 2022)
 Hannah Yu - Director Corporate Services (1 July 2021 - 12 December 2021)
 Aileen Douglas - Director Corporate Services (13 December 2021- 19 December 2021 & 31 January 2022 to 14 March 2022)
 Zoe Watts - Director Corporate Services (20 December 2021 - 30 January 2022)
 Position Vacant - Director Corporate Services (from 15 March 2022)
 Rosemary Harris - Director Community Development (1 July 2021 - 17 September 2021)
 Travis Fitzgibbon - Director Community Development (appointed 18 September 2021)
 Wayne O'Toole - Director Works and Technical Services (1 July 2021 - 1 October 2021)
 Amber Ricks - Acting Director Works and Technical Services (2 October 2021 - 21 November 2021)
 Aileen Douglas - Acting Director Works and Technical Services (22 November 2021 - 12 December 2021)
 Wayne O'Toole - Director Works and Technical Services (13 December 2021 - 23 January 2022)
 Hannah Yu - Acting Director Works and Technical Services (from 24 January 2022)

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Total Number of Councillors	7	8
Total of Chief Executive Officer and other Key Management Personnel	8	4
Total Number of Key Management Personnel	15	12

(*) Due to vacancy in the CEO role between 2 October 2021 and 24 January 2022, Acting CEO and Director positions were in place during the financial year. Only the portion of the salary during the Acting Director period is included in the above.

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 7. People and relationships

	2022	2021
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel		
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	804	793
Long-term benefits	13	14
Post employment benefits	72	72
Total	889	879

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:		
\$1 - \$9,999	2	1
\$10,000 - \$19,999	3	1
\$20,000 - \$29,999	2	4
\$30,000 - \$39,999	-	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	1
\$60,000 - \$69,999	3	-
\$90,000 - \$99,999	1	-
\$110,000 - \$119,999	1	-
\$130,000 - \$139,999	-	1
\$140,000 - \$149,999	1	-
\$150,000 - \$159,999	-	2
\$220,000 - \$229,999	-	1
	14	12

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 7. People and relationships

(d) Senior Officer Remuneration "

A Senior Officer is an officer of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- a) has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
- b) whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000

The number of Senior Officers are shown below in their relevant income bands:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Income Range:		
<\$151,000	-	1
\$20,000 - \$29,999	1	-
\$30,000 - \$39,999	2	-
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	-
	4	1

(**) Due to vacancy of Director Corporate Services from 15th March 2022, Corporate Service Management report directly to CEO. Only the portion of the Management salaries during this period is reflect above.

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Senior Officers included above amounted to:	140	112

7.2 Related party disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties:

Nil

Buloke Shire Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 7. People and relationships

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

The following balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties:

Nil

(c) Loans to/from related parties

The aggregate amount of loans in existence at balance date that have been made, guaranteed or secured by the council to a related party as follows:

Nil

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

The aggregate amount of commitments in existence at balance date that have been made, guaranteed or secured by the council to a related party are as follows:

Nil

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable, respectively.

(a) Contingent assets

At balance date the Council is not aware of any contingent assets.

(b) Contingent liabilities

Superannuation

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

Liability Mutual Insurance

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

(c) Guarantees for loans to other entities

The amount disclosed for financial guarantee in this note is the nominal amount of the underlying loan that is guaranteed by the Council, not the fair value of the financial guarantee.

Financial guarantee contracts are not recognised as a liability in the balance sheet unless the lender has exercised their right to call on the guarantee or Council has other reasons to believe that it is probable that the right will be exercised.

8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2022 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2022 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2023 that are expected to impact Council.

8.3 Financial instruments

(a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables) and payables (excluding statutory payables). Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

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

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk / Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

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

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

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

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

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

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

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

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

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

(d) Liquidity risk

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

To help reduce these risks Council:

- have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(c), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4.

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

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

- A parallel shift of + 3 % and - 3 % in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 1.80 - 3.90%.

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

8.4 Fair value measurement

Fair Value Hierarchy

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

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

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

- Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above. In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Revaluation

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

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 2 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 8. Managing uncertainties

Impairment of assets

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

8.5 Events occurring after balance date

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 9. Other matters

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$ '000	Increment (decrement) \$ '000	Share of incr. (decr) on revaluation of the asset class by an associate \$ '000	Balance at end of reporting period \$ '000
9.1 Reserves				
(a) Asset revaluation reserves				
2022				
Property				
Land and land improvements	2,032	–	–	2,032
Land under roads	22,307	–	–	22,307
Buildings	24,546	–	–	24,546
	<u>48,885</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>48,885</u>
Infrastructure				
Roads	105,768	–	–	105,768
Bridges	3,014	–	–	3,014
Footpaths and cycleways	5,123	–	–	5,123
Drainage	2,022	–	–	2,022
Kerb & Channel	6,911	–	–	6,911
Other infrastructure	363	–	–	363
	<u>123,201</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>123,201</u>
Total asset revaluation reserves	<u>172,086</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>172,086</u>
2021				
Property				
Land and land improvements	2,032	–	–	2,032
Land under roads	22,307	–	–	22,307
Buildings	24,546	–	–	24,546
	<u>48,885</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>48,885</u>
Infrastructure				
Roads	105,768	–	–	105,768
Bridges	3,014	–	–	3,014
Footpaths and cycleways	5,123	–	–	5,123
Drainage	2,022	–	–	2,022
Kerb & Channel	6,911	–	–	6,911
Other infrastructure	363	–	–	363
	<u>123,201</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>123,201</u>
Total asset revaluation reserves	<u>172,086</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>172,086</u>

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 9. Other matters

	Balance at beginning of reporting period \$ '000	Transfer from Accumulated Surplus \$ '000	Transfer to Accumulated Surplus \$ '000	Balance at end of reporting period \$ '000
(b) Other reserves				
2022				
Defined Benefits	1,000	–	–	1,000
Sustainability Fund	–	78	–	78
Unspent Grant Funding	–	1,231	–	1,231
Grant Opportunity	–	200	–	200
Capital Project Development	–	200	–	200
Total Other reserves	1,000	1,709	–	2,709
2021				
Defined Benefits	1,000	–	–	1,000
Total Other reserves	1,000	–	–	1,000

Defined Benefits - This reserve is used to assist with the funding of any call that may be made on Council as a result of shortfall in the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Defined Benefits Plan. Refer to note 9.3 for further detail.

Sustainability Fund – surplus annual portion of income derived from windfarm operations within the Shire is set aside for specific community project support to promote local sustainability.

Unspent Grant Funding - to set aside surplus grant received to be expended according to funding intentions in subsequent financial years. The reserve is only necessary when grant does not meet the requirements to be carried forward as a liability under Australian Accounting Standards.

Grant Opportunity- allocation from Council's Accumulated surplus to provide matching funds for unanticipated grant opportunities arising outside of the annual budget scope.

Capital Project Development – allocation from Council's Accumulated surplus to facilitate initial development expenditure for unanticipated projects in response to grant opportunities outside of the annual budget scope.

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus/(deficit)		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	9,103	7,464
Depreciation/amortisation	9,296	9,043
(Profit)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(2)	89
Amounts disclosed in financing activities	10	19
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(2,374)	957
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(7)	49
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	16	(88)
Increase/(decrease) in other assets	(3)	5

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 9. Other matters

	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(28)	990
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	422	(177)
Increase/(Decrease) in employee benefits	-	-
(Decrease)/increase in trust funds and other payables	(66)	157
Increase/(decrease) in Unearned income /revenue	(526)	6,052
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	15,841	24,560

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 9. Other matters

9.3 Superannuation

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

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation category, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2022, this was 10.0% as required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (2021: 9.5%)).

Defined Benefit

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

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

Funding Arrangements

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

As at 30 June 2021, an interim actuarial investigation was held as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 109.8%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

Net investment returns 4.75% pa
Salary information 2.75% pa
Price inflation (CPI) 2.25% pa.

As at 30 June 2022, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is expected to be completed by 31 October 2022.

Vision Super has advised that the VBI at 30 June 2022 was 102.2%. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021). The financial assumptions used to calculate this VBI were:

Net investment returns 5.5% pa
Salary information 2.5% pa to 30 June 2023, and 3.5% pa thereafter
Price inflation (CPI) 3.00% pa.

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2021 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

Employer contributions

(a) Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2021 interim actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2022, this rate was 10.0% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2020/21). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

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

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 9. Other matters

(b) Funding calls

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

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

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

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up. If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

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

The 2021 interim actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. An interim investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2021 and the last full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

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

	2021 (Interim) \$m	2020 (Triennial) \$m
- A VBI Surplus	214.7	100.0
- A total service liability surplus	270.3	200.0
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	285.2	217.8

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2021.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2021.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2021.

Council was notified of the 30 June 2021 VBI during August 2021 (2020: August 2020).

The 2022 interim actuarial investigation

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2022 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2022. Council was notified of the 30 June 2022 VBI during August 2022 (2021: August 2021).

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 are detailed below:

Vision Super	Defined benefit	13	26
Vision Super	Accumulation fund	473	398

Buloke Shire Council

2021/2022 Financial Report

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 10. Changes in accounting policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies in the 2021-22 year.

There are no pending accounting standards that are likely to have a material impact on council.



Buloke Shire Council

Performance Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Performance Statement For the year ended 30 June 2022

Description of Buloke

The Buloke Shire is located in the northwest of Victoria between 210 and 360 kilometres from Melbourne.

The Buloke Shire is bounded by both the Mildura and Swan Hill Rural Cities in the north, Gannawarra and Loddon Shires in the east, Northern Grampians Shire in the south and Yarriambiack Shire in the west.

The Buloke Shire is a predominantly rural area. The main townships are Birchip, Charlton, Donald, Sea Lake and Wycheproof. The shire also comprises of the smaller townships of Berriwilllock, Culgoa, Nandaly, Nullawil and Watchem.

The Buloke shire encompasses a total land area of 8,000 square kilometres and is approximately 140 kilometres long and 60 kilometres wide.

The two main highways servicing the Buloke Shire are the Calder Highway and the Sunraysia Highway, both of which run north and south through the Shire.

Land is used largely for agriculture, particularly grain (wheat, oats and barley) production and sheep grazing.

The Buloke Shire is named after the 'buloke' or 'bulloak' tree, '*Allocasuarina Luehmannii*' which is common in the area and the feature of the Buloke Shire logo.

Sustainable Capacity Indicators For the year ended 30 June 2022

Indicator/Measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	Comments
Population <i>Expenses per head of municipal population</i> [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$5,564.68	\$4,320.22	\$5,088.84	\$4,821.94	
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$42,429.33	\$44,242.33	\$44,820.36	\$41,215.45	
Population density per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	1.16	1.16	1.15	1.15	
Own-source revenue <i>Own-source revenue per head of municipal population</i> [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$2,407.83	\$2,512.90	\$2,600.07	\$2,637.29	Own source revenue is relatively high when compared to other councils due to Council's rural location, low population and reliance on rate income as its main income source.
Recurrent grants <i>Recurrent grants per head of municipal population</i> [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$1,499.51	\$1,687.62	\$1,701.69	\$1,993.25	2022 includes increased advance payment of Financial Assistance Grant
Disadvantage <i>Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage</i> [Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage by decile]	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	Council is ranked in the lower end of the SEIFA index, indicating high levels of disadvantage within the municipality.
Workforce turnover <i>Percentage of staff turnover</i> [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year]x100	9.5%	9.6%	10.6%	18.2%	Impact of Covid-19 restrictions and higher number of long-term staff retirements

Definitions

"Adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than —

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

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

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

"Population" means the resident population estimated by council

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

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

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

"Unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Service Performance Indicators
 For the year ended 30 June 2022

Service Indicator/Measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	Comments
<p>Aquatic Facilities Utilisation <i>Utilisation of aquatic facilities</i> [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]</p>	5.12	4.86	3.08	3.81	Council has 7 outdoor pools and relative small population. Pool are open seasonally and attendance is impacted by ambient summer temperatures.
<p>Animal Management Health and safety <i>Animal management prosecutions</i> [Percentage of successful animal management prosecutions]</p>	New in 2020	100%	100%	100%	The number of animal management prosecutions are very low (2), referral to prosecution is used as a last resort.
<p>Food Safety Health and safety <i>Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications</i> [Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises] x100</p>	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
<p>Governance Satisfaction <i>Satisfaction with council decisions</i> [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]</p>	52	58	61	54	
<p>Libraries Participation <i>Active library members</i> [Number of active library members / Municipal population] x100</p>	7.08%	7.91%	8.00%	7.74%	

Service Indicator/Measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	Comments
<p>Maternal and Child Health (MCH)</p> <p>Participation</p> <p><i>Participation in the MCH service</i></p> <p>[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100</p> <p>78.28%</p> <p>73.68%</p> <p><i>Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children</i></p> <p>[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100</p>	78.28%	79.50%	85.53%	87.45%	<p>Council is proactive in encouraging participation in the MCH service. Participation tends to drop from age 3 to 4. Percentage variance in the results tend to fluctuate due to the relatively low average number of births (60) in the shire.</p>
<p>79.50%</p> <p>93.33%</p> <p>75.00%</p> <p>84.62%</p>					
<p>Roads</p> <p>Satisfaction</p> <p><i>Satisfaction with sealed local roads</i></p> <p>[Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]</p>	42	39	48	38	
<p>Statutory Planning</p> <p>Decision Making</p> <p><i>Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT</i></p> <p>[Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100</p>	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	N/A	No decisions for matters referred to VCAT were made during 2021-22
<p>Waste Collection</p> <p>Waste diversion</p> <p><i>Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill</i></p> <p>[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100</p>	24.54%	24.74%	32.03%	31.08%	

Definitions

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

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

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

"Annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

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

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

"Community Care Common Standards" means the Community Care Common Standards for the delivery of HACC services, published from time to time by the Commonwealth

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

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

"HACC program" means the Home and Community Care program established under the Agreement entered into for the purpose of the *Home and Community Care Act 1985 (Cwth)*

"HACC service" means home help, personal care or community respite provided under the HACC program

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

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

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

"Population" means the resident population estimated by council

"Target population" has the same meaning as in the Agreement entered into for the purposes of the *Home and Community Care Act 1985 (Cwth)*

"WorkSafe reportable aquatic facility safety incident" means an incident relating to a council aquatic facility that is required to be notified to the Victorian WorkCover Authority under Part 5 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*.

Financial Performance Indicators
 For the year ended 30 June 2021

Dimension/indicator/measure	Actual				Forecast				Comments
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Efficiency Revenue level Average residential rate per residential property assessment [General Rates and Municipal Charges / Number of property assessments]	New in 2020	\$1,938.81	\$2,063.17	\$2,001.27	\$2,038.89	\$2,080.00	\$2,119.21	\$2,159.21	
Expenditure level Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$5,498.00	\$4,227.03	\$5,174.50	\$4,646.67	\$5,142.06	\$5,150.48	\$5,293.97	\$5,431.43	
Liquidity Working capital Current assets compared to current liabilities [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	202.76%	371.48%	267.19%	303.18%	395.67%	372.48%	264.67%	117.46%	
Unrestricted cash Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	171.78%	286.83%	36.48%	115.98%	364.96%	357.22%	248.02%	100.81%	Calculation of the forecast Unrestricted Cash has been updated since adoption of the Financial Plan in June 2022.

Dimension/indicator/measure	Actual				Forecast				Comments
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Obligations Asset renewal and upgrade <i>Asset renewal compared to depreciation</i> [Asset renewal expense / Asset depreciation] x100	New in 2020	137.44%	134.83%	149.96%	178.53%	91.90%	93.02%	92.21%	
Loans and borrowings <i>Loans and borrowings compared to rates</i> [Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	52.18%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
<i>Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates</i> [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	2.21%	51.60%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Indebtedness <i>Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue</i> [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	9.70%	8.43%	7.99%	6.41%	9.88%	7.52%	7.46%	7.34%	
Operating position Adjusted underlying result <i>Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)</i> [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	-10.48%	4.47%	-6.13%	-2.28%	-31.11%	-16.48%	-19.65%	-20.32%	

Dimension/indicator/measure	Actual				Forecast				Comments
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Stability Rates concentration <i>Rates compared to adjusted underlying Revenue</i> [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	43.06%	49.72%	48.17%	49.92%	58.96%	53.23%	54.08%	53.89%	Own source revenue is relatively high compared to other councils due to Council's rural location, low population and reliance on rate income as its main income source.
Rates effort <i>Rates compared to property values</i> [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality] x100	0.85%	0.81%	0.76%	0.68%	0.50%	0.51%	0.52%	0.53%	

Definitions

“Adjusted underlying revenue” means total income other than—

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

“Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)” means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure

“Asset renewal expenditure” means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability

“Current assets” has the same meaning as in the AAS

“Current liabilities” has the same meaning as in the AAS

“Non-current assets” means all assets other than current assets

“Non-current liabilities” means all liabilities other than current liabilities

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

“Own-source revenue” means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants

“Population” means the resident population estimated by council

“Rate revenue” means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges

“Recurrent grant” means a grant other than a non-recurrent grant

“Residential rates” means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges levied on residential properties

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

“Unrestricted cash” means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

Other Information

For the year ended 30 June 2022

1. Basis of Preparation

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

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

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

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by council in its strategic resource plan on 29 Jun 2022 and which forms part of the council plan. The strategic resource plan includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The strategic resource plan can be obtained by contacting council.

Certification of the Performance Statement

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

.....
Aileen Douglas CPA
Principal Accounting Officer
Dated:

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Buloke Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 presents fairly the results of council's performance in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

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

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

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

.....
Cr Daryl Warren
Councillor
Dated:

.....
Cr Alan Getley
Councillor
Dated:

.....
Wayne O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer
Dated:

8.4 ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

Nil

8.5 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9.2 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

9.3 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9.4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.5 MATTERS WHICH MAY EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**RECOMMENDATION:**

That pursuant to section 66(1) and (2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following reports that are considered to contain confidential information on the grounds provided in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as indicated:

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| 9.5.1 | CONTRACT115 2021/22 LOCAL ROADS RECONSTRUCTION | (g(ii)) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage |
|-------|--|---|

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council reopens the meeting to the public pursuant to section 66(1) and (2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

10. MEETING CLOSE