

NORTHERN MIDLANDS ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020





• Conara Entrance Statement



• Cressy — Brumby Creek with Western Tiers



• Evandale Post Office



• Perth IGA Mural



• Campbell Town Convict Brick Trail



• Epping Forest Truckies Memorial

Front cover, clockwise:

- Nile Bridge and River, Clarendon, Old Hobart Road, Avoca Bridge, Valentine Park Log, Campbell Town, a rural landscape.

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VISION

Northern Midlands is an enviable place to live, work and play. Connected communities enjoy safe, secure lives in beautiful historical towns and villages. Our clean, green agricultural products are globally valued. Local business and industry is strongly innovative and sustainable.

VALUES

Honesty

Treat all with honesty, respect and trust.

Integrity

Listen, learn and proactively deliver Council's vision.

Innovation

Explore, expand and adapt to achieve a shared vision.

Pride

Serve community with pride and energy.

MISSION

Lead and Progress

Leadership

Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride.
Council is committed to strong advocacy and community collaboration. Living responsibly within our means, through transparent financial planning and governance. Staff culture espouses integrity, honesty and pride.

Progression

Nurture and support economic health and wealth.
Economic health and wealth — grow and prosper.
Our infrastructure growth builds capacity and economic sustainability. We support diverse, innovative, independent business and industry. We thrive with strong collaborative regional partnerships.

People and Place

People

Build a vibrant society that respects the past.
Culture and society — a vibrant future that respects the past.
Diverse towns and villages service a rural-based industry. Connectivity challenges are innovatively managed to unite disparate communities. Equitable delivery of quality assets, programs and services supports sustainability.

Place

Nurture our heritage environment.
We cherish the historical heritage of our culture and all its people. It is firmly embedded in planning for the future — an enviable place to live, work and play. We protect our environment and work with business and industry to protect inherent values.

Municipal Goals

- *Bold leadership guides innovation and growth;*
- *Economically sound and flexible management;*
- *Sustainable progress creates a vibrant future;*
- *We strategically plan and deliver infrastructure;*
- *Our culture respects the past in building the future;*
- *Our historical landscapes are cherished and protected;*
- *Connected communities are strong and safe; and*
- *The municipality is diverse and innovative.*



• Eskleigh House

THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report to the community concludes the annual corporate planning and reporting cycle of Council.

As a Council we have a statutory duty to annually report on how well we have performed as an organisation. The Annual Report is Council's report card and provides Council with the opportunity to formally inform the community of the achievements of Council over the past year and how the monies raised via rates, charges, fees and from grants received have been expended.

It is specifically required by the *Local Government Act 1993* that Council report on:

- The context in which Council worked;
- An organisational overview;
- Council's operations, our achievements;
- The key activities and priorities identified in the budget;
- A set of audited standard, financial and performance statements; and
- Each year Council, in consultation with the community, prepares an Annual Budget within the context of the actions identified in the Strategic Plan 2017-2027.

PROFILE

The Northern Midlands Council was created on the 2nd April 1993 from the merger of the former Municipalities of Longford, Evandale, Campbell Town and Ross, together with the towns of Rossarden, Avoca and Royal George from the Fingal municipality.

The municipal area covers an area of 5,130 square kilometres, extending from Liffey Bluff in the west to Mount St John in the east (150 kms) and from Relbia in the north to Tooms Lake in the south (95 kms).

Northern Midlands is one of the largest and most diverse municipal areas in Tasmania. It ranges from mountainous country on its eastern and western boundaries to extensive grazing lands renowned for fine wool production, the rich agricultural river flats of the Esk, Lake and Macquarie Rivers; historic towns and villages, and from small businesses to multi-million dollar enterprises. Many of the towns and villages have distinctive heritage qualities which make them attractive places to live.

The 2016 census recorded the population of the Northern Midlands at 12,822. This was 2.51% of the estimated State population that totalled 509,965.

The ABS projected a population of 13,300 in the Northern Midlands region at June 2018, with *.idcommunity* demographic resources providing a population estimate of 13,437 in 2019.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

While the second half of 2019 was relatively calm and relaxed, the first half of 2020 presented our Council and our communities with some interesting challenges. COVID-19 disrupted and unsettled our lives for many months, challenging us as a workplace and as individuals. In April we made the decision to close our offices to the public to reduce the further spread of COVID-19, while still providing our essential services. I would like to acknowledge and thank our staff for their dedication and the challenges they overcame in order to continue to provide our services to the community in the midst of a global pandemic. I would also like to thank the community for your cooperation and understanding. It has been very much appreciated by myself, my fellow Councillors, management and staff.

During the next few months there will be more challenges and tasks that we must observe. The next stage of the pandemic will be economic and community recovery and we have been proactive in identifying the main issues and challenges that will concern businesses within the Northern Midlands.

Council at its 29 June 2020 meeting endorsed the 2020/2021 Municipal Budget which, in an effort to invigorate the local economy, includes a proactive \$20 million capital works program. We have attempted to bring forward as many of our larger projects as feasible and these will commence in the very near future.

We were delighted to see the first stage of the Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre completed and look forward to the second stage commencing in the coming year. The new facility will feature a 1,765m² gym space, separate aerobics and child care spaces and new toilets and changeroom amenities. The car park at the Longford Recreation Ground Development was completed as well.

One of the biggest challenges for any Council is identifying and recognising community assets that require review. The Ross Swimming Pool is one of many Council owned assets that needs high-level restoration and repair. The Ross community was incredibly disappointed to hear this and worked tirelessly to lobby Council in reconsidering this review. We look forward to working with the Ross community over the next few months to determine a position that suits their needs.

Over the last twelve months I attended a diverse range of community events. In September I attended the Inspiring Futures Charters Signing at Cressy District High School and Ross held the inaugural National Retrieving Championship Trials. The official opening of the new Woolmers Lane Bridge and the Campbell Town War Memorial Oval Facility were well attended along with the Seniors Expo held in Longford in October. Our newly established girls group Free2B Girls held their first art exhibition and I also attended the Ross Quarry opening and the Ross Arts Festival Opening after months of hard work put into both events from

the broader Ross community. I attended the last school assembly at the Avoca Primary School and reminisced with students, parents, and teacher's past and present. A welcome party was held for the seasonal berry workers attracting 250 people, the organisers won our annual Australia Day Event of the Year Award for this event. We again hosted the Festival of Small Halls early in the new year, which attracted a large crowd and filled the Longford Town Hall with the voices of Siobhan Miller (Scotland) and Jack Carty (Australia). War Animal Remembrance Day was honoured with an event at the new Campbell Town War Memorial Oval facility and garnered a large media presence in the weeks before and after the event.

I have continued to work closely on the issue of family and domestic violence, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The re-emergence of White Ribbon Australia has enabled further work in this field, which I am incredibly passionate about.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank my fellow Councillors, Management and Staff for their commitment and ongoing support throughout the past year to enable and allow the Northern Midlands to further grow and develop.



Mary Knowles OAM
MAYOR



• Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre



• Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre



• Ross Quarry Opening — Left to right: Debra Cadogan-Cowper, Jane Howlett MP, Mayor Mary Knowles OAM and Des Jennings, General Manager



• Art exhibition



• Seniors Expo at Longford Town Hall

GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The 2019/2020 year for the Northern Midlands municipality has been a challenging time for many within the municipality as we all were impacted by COVID-19 in one way or another.

The high median age of our residents meant that many had real concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic. As many would be aware tourism is a critical industry for our municipality and the State, with the closure of borders and restrictions to travel, many local businesses have suffered, impacting on employees and customers.

Council and its employees reacted quickly to State government direction supported by health advice, instigating the State's directives to protect the health and safety of the community.

Following the media announcements key personnel from Council met and formulated a staged action plan. With a focus on safety of staff and the community, this included:

- Closing down of Council owned facilities including halls, playgrounds, barbecues. In the early days this was a reactive response where decisions had to be implemented without adequate notice;
- Held regular management and emergency management meetings;
- Council meetings were held via Zoom video conferencing platform.;

- Increased communications with Council staff
 - increased staff meetings and weekly toolbox meetings at the works depot;
- Council Chambers were closed to members of the public, including attendance at Council meetings;
- The holding of Special Committee meetings was suspended;
- Increased workload with workers required to have 1 person to a vehicle;
- Increased communications for members of the community via social media and council website. Dept. of health signage displayed around the municipality at all council owned facilities; and
- Re-opening of facilities as restrictions lifted including halls, playgrounds, barbecues etc.
 - increased signage.
 - Development of COVID-19 Safety plans and hire agreements for the patrons wanting to use Council facilities.
 - Development of COVID-19 Safety plans for the Council. Ensuring all NMC contractors have a COVID-19 Safety plan and assisting in the development of these where necessary.

Council employees were fortunate in that they were able to continue working through the pandemic. Whilst work looked a bit different from March 2020 onwards, in terms of the public health directives, employees carried out their duties with the same dedication, enthusiasm and pride as they always have.

At the peak of the pandemic, Council closed the office and depot to the public; however, staff continued to work and perform essential duties with some staff working in the office and others at home on a rotational roster basis in order to reduce staff numbers in the office at any time and ensure Council's ability to maintain services. Our outdoor workforce, rather than commencing duties at the depot each morning headed straight to their work location from home, again to reduce the number of people in confined spaces where we could.

Once restrictions started to ease, staff returned to the office, as did our outdoor workforce to the depot. To this day, Council continues to adhere to all public health advice in terms of physical distancing, sanitiser and good hygiene practices. This message and any updates are communicated regularly to our staff at toolbox and staff meetings and via our staff newsletter.

COVID-19 led to job losses and economic downturn that put many families, households and businesses under significant financial pressure. The stresses associated with this were further compounded by the need to self-isolate that stopped social gatherings and severely disrupted the normal rhythms of life.

Berry and fruit farms in the Northern Midlands were facing a severe labour shortage leading into the summer fruit harvest due to COVID-19 restrictions for overseas travellers. Key industry stakeholders worked closely with the State and Federal Governments to enable overseas traveller exemptions for 700 workers from the Pacific Islands to fill much needed fruit harvesting jobs.

Northern Midlands businesses were faced with the complexities of navigating everchanging government COVID-19 compliance rules to be able to reopen their businesses. The Northern Midlands Business Association have assisted many businesses with the delivery of free information and support with COVID-19 recovery and compliance plans. Many Northern Midlands businesses successfully applied for the Job keeper package that has greatly assisted with the downturn of operations and job losses during COVID-19. However, with the Federal government set to roll back these measures, businesses and their employees may struggle to cope and will need ongoing support.

Despite these challenges to the communities' economy, health and well-being, northern midlands' communities took on board the Premier's advice in the early days of the pandemic to "Stay Home Save Lives" and practiced social distancing and sanitising when out accessing essential services or undertaking essential work.

As the restrictions eased, many northern midlands' residents heeded the call to shop local as a means of boosting the local economy and supporting the retention and return of local employment opportunities.

Prior to the onset of the pandemic and the restrictions introduced by the State Government to control the spread, a number of events were held and enjoyed by locals and visitors to the municipality.

Events held included: Motorama, Launceston Art Society Exhibition, Woolmers Kite Flying Day, Try Bowls Day, Ross Quarry Opening, Ross Arts Festival, Harp Concert, Longford Blooms, Thai Food and Culture Festival, Ross Motorcycle Rally, Ross Open Gardens, Woolmers Art Exhibition, Mower Racing Burnout Day and various Christmas Carol events.

Between January and June 2020 a number of events were cancelled due to COVID-19, such as: Northern Midlands Community Expo, Glover Prize 2020, Shakespeare at Clarendon, Licka - RSPCA, Powranna Bull Ride, Tyrepower Tasmania Super 400, Symmons Plains April Ride Day, Anzac Day Services, Ross Running Festival (April), Targa Tasmania, Community Welcome Party, Picnic at Ross, Woolmers Woofs Wags and Walkies and Woolmers exhibition: A Collection of Northern Artists.

However, during this period, the community were pleased to support events such as the Campbell Town Show which were modified to be held as COVID-19-safe events.

As restrictions lift, Council and its officers have moved quickly in any way it could to assist local groups to arrange and implement events that supported local community members and attracted visitors back to our area. These events were held due to the resolve of the independent community groups that arranged these welcomed and highly successful events.

During these times we continued to deliver Council's key services and many priority projects, including:

- installed banner poles at Avoca, Evandale and Perth;
- replaced 4 of Council's 7 remaining timber bridge structures with concrete structures;
- planted street trees at Avoca and Campbell Town;
- installed solar panels at the Avoca Museum;
- upgraded the Campbell Town Cenotaph and completed works on the towns recreation facilities – electronic scoreboard, tennis courts and tennis court lighting;
- at Evandale, replaced the glass roof of the Community Centre, installed entrance signage and a storage shed at Morven Park;
- installed a pontoon at Lake Leake;
- at Longford Recreation Ground, constructed the ticket booth, umpires rooms, changerooms, club rooms, storage shed & amenities; and refurbished the Main grandstand and the Fred Davies stand and public amenities; and
- in Perth, constructed a bus shelter in the main street and a barbecue shelter at the Seccombe Street park.

The Northern Midlands municipality has an abundance of heritage charm with modern-day amenities that are attracting many to live and work in our municipality and to enjoy the many services, facilities and open space that many yearn for today.

In closing, it must be acknowledged that the community is well served by a Mayor and Councillors who are united in their commitment to the community and the implementation of Council's vision for the future.

I wish to also acknowledge the unified support provided by the Council's staff who work diligently to assist Council to meet that vision. Particularly during the difficult time over the last months, the need to keep the community, Council and its staff safe as the COVID-19 pandemic took its toll on the community, impacting business and many within our municipality



Des Jennings
GENERAL MANAGER



• Council's Management Team (left to right): General Manager – Des Jennings; Corporate Services Manager – Maree Bricknell; Community & Development Manager – Amanda Bond (to March 2020); Works Manager – Leigh McCullagh



• Longford Grandstand



• Street trees in Campbell Town

MAJOR EVENTS

Campbell Town War Memorial Oval: New Multi-Function Facility

The new Multi-Function Facility at Campbell Town War Memorial Oval was officially opened on 30 September 2019. Official guests: Senator Claire Chandler, Brian Mitchell MP (Federal Member for Lyons), the Hon. Tania Rattray (MLC Member for McIntyre), Guy Barnett MP (Member for Lyons), Jen Butler MP (Member for Lyons); Councillors and guests were in attendance.

In recent years, Council recognised that the War Memorial Oval precinct's clubhouse, amenities and grandstand had reached the end of their serviceable lifespan and the tennis club wished to relocate to the precinct. Also located at this precinct is the town's Cenotaph which required upgrading and landscaping to enable this vitally important community focal point to be showcased and respected.

The project to redevelop the precinct reduced the duplication of amenities as the existing outdoor swimming pool, tennis and multi-purpose courts now have direct access to new changerooms and amenities.

Funding was vital in bringing the project to fruition:

- total project was costed at \$4M;
- Council secured \$750,000 in Federal Government funding;
- Tennis and multi-purpose courts: boosted by funding from Sport & Recreation Tas grant of \$80,000, Tas Community Fund grant of \$55,000, and the local Tennis Club contribution of \$60,000;
- Cenotaph: State Government grant of \$70,000 and Council's \$88,000 contribution; and
- Redevelopment of the Cenotaph and carpark construction works were completed during 2019/2020.

The vision of Council and the community has provided a new multi-function facility, encompassing a function room with the capacity to cater for 100 people, meeting rooms with IT capacity, commercial kitchen and inclusive changerooms.



• Campbell Town War Memorial Oval Multi-Purpose Complex

Longford Recreation Ground

Council's vision for a coordinated and expanded sport and recreation precinct comprising an upgraded sports centre, upgraded and expanded recreation ground stadium and functions building, an upgraded oval and a new training field brought about the development of:

- the Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre Master Plan; and
- development of a master plan, in collaboration with Longford community and sporting organisations, for the adjacent Longford Recreation Ground.

The redeveloped Longford Recreation Ground building complex and associated facilities were opened for community use in late 2019.

The redeveloped facility includes a function room, meeting rooms, upgraded grandstand, inclusive changerooms and amenities, and a magnificent all-weather viewing area onto the oval.

A stimulus loan of \$1M was approved for improvements at the Longford Recreation Ground and designers were engaged to provide an upgrade concept and design to redevelop the Longford Recreation Ground building complex to incorporate a ground facing function room and two new changerooms to meet regional country football standards.

Longford's redeveloped multi-function facility has cost \$2.9M which, together with the stimulus loan, has mostly been Council funded with funds secured from the State Government Levelling of the Playing Field

Grant Program of \$233,409 towards the cost of the changerooms and a Community Sport and Recreation grant from the State Government of \$80,000.

Woolmers Bridge

The new Woolmers Bridge was officially opened on 26 September 2019, with official guests: Senator Claire Chandler and Senator Wendy Askew in attendance, together with Councillors and guests.

The application for replacement of the Woolmers Lane Bridge was lodged in 2016 in Round Three of the Bridge Renewal Program, Council was successful in securing 50% of the \$3M total cost of replacement.

The tender for the new bridge was awarded to VEC. Construction began in January 2018, with the new bridge built adjacent to the old bridge which minimised disruptions to road users.

The new two-lane concrete bridge replaced a 187m² timber bridge which had reached the end of its useful life and required ever increasing upkeep and maintenance. Woolmers Lane Bridge was the third, and final, significant timber bridge within the Northern Midlands to be replaced; challenges in the bridge's design and timing had to be overcome due to the proximity of the bridge to the Brickendon and Woolmers World Heritage Listed sites.



• Longford Recreation Ground Complex and Car Park



• Woolmers Bridge Opening, September 2019 (Senator Claire Chandler, Senator Wendy Askew and Mayor Mary Knowles OAM)

OUR COUNCIL, PEOPLE & ORGANISATION

Council facts in brief

- Approximately 60% of the population resides in 5% of the area, that is, generally in the north which includes Longford, Perth and Evandale;
- Council is responsible for maintenance of 960kms roads and 10,998m² bridge deck area; more than any other council in the state;
- Council's annual turnover (all functions) in 2019/2020 was \$19 million (2018/2019 \$19 million);
- In 2019/2020, 57% of the total recurrent revenue of the municipality came from rates; 20% from Government Grants, the remainder from user fees and other sundry revenue; and
- Many of the features that make the Northern Midlands unique also present some challenges for Council and residents, such as
 - *the size of the Council area: although large, is an area with overall low population density, generating its financial resources from a comparatively small number of ratepayers;*
 - *the various constituent communities: these have different levels of involvement in local government activities and services, and vary widely in their priorities and objectives.*

Facilities maintained

- 573kms of sealed roads;
- 387kms of unsealed roads;
- 247 concrete bridge structures (10,351m²);
- 3 timber deck bridges (647m²);
- 8 ovals for sporting activities;
- 24 community halls/centres;
- 2 caravan parks;
- 3 swimming pools;
- 7 waste transfer stations;
- 4 visitor information centres/kiosks;
- 13 public toilet facilities;
- 69 parks and reserves;
- Childcare:
 - Long Day Childcare Services – Perth five days per week and Cressy Childcare Centre two days per week;
 - Midlands Kids Club After School Care Services at Perth, Cressy and Longford;
 - Midlands Kids Club Vacation Care Services Perth; and
- Cemeteries:
 - Lawn Cemetery, Rose Garden and Niche Wall at Longford
 - Rose Garden, Evandale
 - Perth Cemetery.

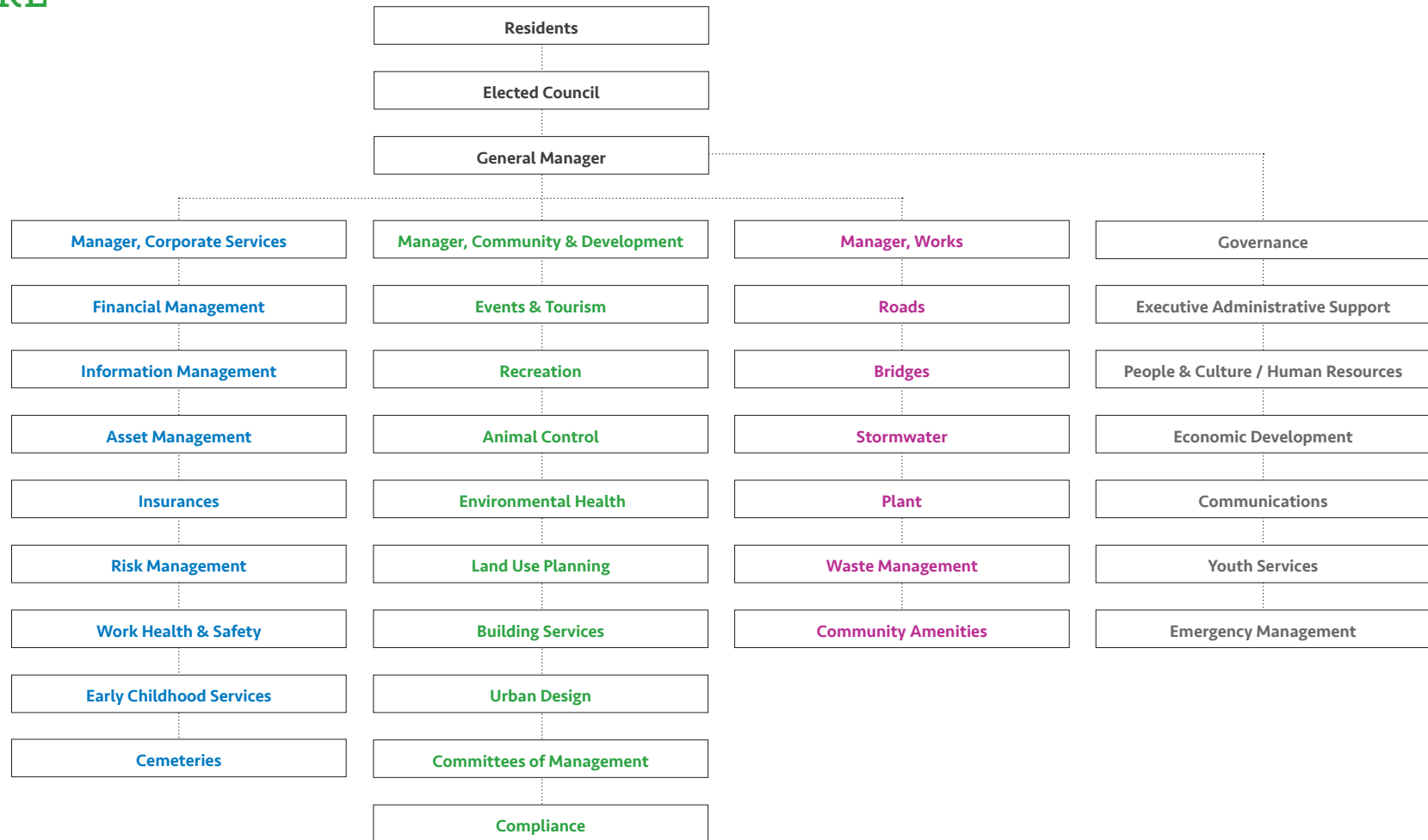
Council controls property, plant and infrastructure assets amounting to \$342.5 million; including:

- \$63.9 million of land (including land under roads) and buildings;
- \$234.2 million of roads and bridges; and
- \$37.3 million of stormwater infrastructure.

Our staff

	2019/2020		2018/2019	
STATUS	NO. OF EMPLOYEES	FTE	NO. OF EMPLOYEES	FTE
Permanent	69	62	68	62
Casual	14	3	17	4
Total	83	65	85	66

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



A photograph of a stone bridge with a large central archway. The bridge is made of dark, rough-hewn stones. The archway is open, revealing a river flowing through a lush green landscape. The sky is blue with white clouds. The foreground is filled with tall grass.

ROLE OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Local Government Act 1993 provides that Councillors have the following functions:

- To provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community;
- To represent and promote the interests of the community; and
- To provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

In performing its functions, the Councillors are to consult, involve and be accountable to the community.

The Northern Midlands Council held Ordinary Council meetings monthly on a Monday in accordance with the following schedule for 2019/2020:

- Monday 22 July 2019;
- Monday 19 August 2019;
- Monday 16 September 2019;
- Monday 21 October 2019;
- Monday 18 November 2019;
- Monday 9 December 2019;
- Monday 20 January 2020;
- Monday 17 February 2020;
- Monday 16 March 2020;
- Monday 27 April 2020;
- Monday 18 May 2020; and
- Monday 29 June 2020.

The following Special Council meetings were held during the period:

- Monday 7 October 2019; and
- Monday 15 June 2020.

Council's Annual General Meeting was held on 9 December 2019.

At the monthly meetings officers of Council provide Councillors with reports on a range of issues which are dealt with under the following Business Units:

- Governance;
- Corporate Services;
- Community & Development; and
- Works & Infrastructure.

Ordinary Council meetings are open to the general public and commence at 5pm, Council adjourns for a 45 minute break at 6pm and recommences the second session of the meeting with Public Question Time at 6.45pm. At this time members of the public are given the opportunity to ask questions, make a representation and/or present information, on a matter in which they have an interest, which is before the Council for decision e.g. development applications. Proceedings of the open session of Council Meetings are recorded.

On 27 March 2020 the *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020* was passed by the Tasmanian Parliament, this Act made provision for Council meetings to be held by telephone, electronic communication or by other means. This Act remains in place until such time as the Director of Public Health notifies the Minister that the emergency circumstances no longer exist, at which time the Minister must within 90 days of receiving such notice declare a day to be the emergency cessation day.

Generally two Councillor workshops are held monthly, one immediately prior to the Council meeting and the other two weeks before. At this time Councillors and Officers meet to discuss forthcoming reports, key strategies and receive presentations from industry stakeholders and community groups. However, in light of the declaration of the COVID-19 Emergency, Council officers ceased the holding of regular Councillor workshops. As required, Councillor workshops were convened in accordance with the provisions of the *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020*.

Councillor attendance

2019/2020	91.9%
2018/2019	90.5%
2017/2018	90.6%

Total reimbursements

2019/2020	\$214,137
2018/2019	\$205,282
2017/2018	\$200,100

Number of items considered by council

2019/2020	453
2018/2019	406
2017/2018	369

Councillor allowances and reimbursements

	2019/2020	2018/2019
Mayor Mary Knowles	69,789	\$48,401
Deputy Mayor Richard Goss	30,092	\$30,017
Cr Dick Adams	16,538	\$15,549
Cr Matthew Brooks	18,258	\$10,695
Cr Andrew Calvert	15,970	\$15,619
Cr Jan Davis	15,409	\$10,091
Cr Ian Goninon	15,409	\$15,919
Cr Janet Lambert	15,951	\$15,811
Cr Michael Polley	16,720	\$15,478

Councillor attendance

Year	2019								2020						
Date	22/07	19/08	16/09	07/10**	21/10	18/11	09/12*	09/12	20/01	17/02	16/03	27/04	18/05	15/06**	29/06
Mayor Mary Knowles	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deputy Mayor Richard Goss	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Dick Adams	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Matthew Brooks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Andrew Calvert	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Jan Davis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Ian Goninon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Janet Lambert	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Michael Polley	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

* Annual General Meeting

** Special Meeting

ELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Nine (9) Councillors were elected by the community under a single electoral district. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were elected by public polls, with the next election to be held in October 2022.

Mayor Mary Knowles OAM

I live at Gipps Creek with my husband on an off-the-grid deer farm. For the past 11 years on Council I have worked tirelessly to enable community projects to happen. I represent the 29 councils on the Family Violence Consultative Group, and am on community boards promoting tourism and economic development, with a common-sense approach to getting things done while using rates wisely. I will continue to promote the Northern Midlands as a place for families and progressive development supporting farmers, industry, small business, tourism, youth and infrastructure to keep our towns vibrant and viable.

Deputy Mayor Richard Goss

First elected in 2007, I am a high school teacher with a mechanical and construction trade background.

I gained a tertiary education at the University of Tasmania (Bachelor of Education). I am married with three children and live at Longford. I grew up at Cressy and I have gained first hand experienced living, working and building my dreams and hopes in the Northern Midlands. I have a strong commitment to the environment and heritage and will ensure that all residents and businesses are fairly represented and consulted on the future decisions of the Northern Midlands Council.

Councillor Dick Adams OAM

Elected in 2014, I was the former Federal Member for Lyons for twenty years and also previously served with the State Government. I have lived most of my life in Northern Midlands, starting work at the Longford meatworks, and I am currently again living in Longford. I know the Northern Midlands very well and want to see it develop as an exciting place to live while valuing the heritage and tourism opportunities more fully. I believe we need greater investment and more careful planning to ensure Northern Midlands goes forward itself before involving us with other Northern Tasmania priorities.

Councillor Matthew Brooks

Having first been elected to Council in 2005, I served to 2014. After taking a break, I sought re-election in 2018.

I have loved living in Longford for the last 49 years and am passionate about the entire municipality. I am a “roll up your sleeves” councillor and you are most likely to see me cooking a community barbeque or helping out local groups around the area.

Actions speak louder than words, and I’m known for publicly speaking out on local issues that affect local people. Red tape and bureaucracy are my pet hate and it’s a constant thorn in the side of local government I believe. I support common sense and work hard throughout this municipality. Whilst taking my morning walks around Longford, I talk to the locals about local issues that really matter to them. I am very easy to contact and will respond quickly to emails, Facebook and phone messages and calls.

Councillor Andrew Calvert

I am a family man and live at Longford. I was elected to council in October 2007. My profession is farming and rural consultancy. I respect the needs of both town and country ratepayers and the importance of communities pulling together. I support sound financial management, maintaining and improving essential services, generating economic growth and development and creating job opportunities whilst respecting our heritage.

Councillor Jan Davis

I’m a relatively new Tasmanian, having moved here in 2010. After growing up in Sydney, I moved around quite a bit – I’ve now lived in five states and overseas. I reckon I’ve saved the best until last. I fell in love with the Northern Midlands – its rural character, unique villages, community spirit and sense of optimism – the moment I arrived here. It’s why I choose to live in Perth – and I won’t be moving again.

I am a passionate advocate for the people I work with and I have been recognised as Tasmania’s top political lobbyist and one of the most influential people in the state. After many years working in the agricultural sector, I am now the CEO of RSPCA Tasmania.

I also sit on a number of boards, including the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Tasmania) Ltd, Australian Shellfish Industries Pty Ltd, and Landcare Australia Limited. I spend my spare time in my beautiful garden by the South Esk River, with my three dogs and a pile of good books.

Councillor Ian Goninon

I am a proud and passionate Tasmanian who lives in Devon Hills on a hobby farm with my wife Cheree.

I own and manage a variety of successful local businesses and I'm also an active member of the community, sitting on various boards and committees within the Northern Midlands area and Tasmania.

As a councillor I am committed to supporting and representing my local community to ensure it is a place that we, and those after us, can enjoy. I keenly foster local business growth as chairman of the Northern Midlands Business Association and strive to see the continued development of our community's heritage.

In the future, my aim is to continue keeping rate rises to a minimum, encourage the employment of young Tasmanians as well as keep strategically planning our towns for the increased well-being of our great community.

Councillor Janet Lambert

Elected to council in October 2011. For over 26 years, my family and I have been proud to call the Northern Midlands home. I am passionate about continuing the work I have started in the local government sector, not only being a strong voice for regional and rural communities but also a person of action, ensuring positive change happens and communities thrive.

This is a wonderful place to live— and I want to do all I can to secure our community's long-term future. Through my community activities and role within the council, I hope to leave a lasting legacy for the

future, ensuring our region is strong and sustainable. I consider myself very approachable, honest and transparent; applying a common sense point of view towards all issues put forward. It is important to me that I demonstrate these values at all times to the communities I am privileged to represent.

Councillor Michael Polley AM

For 42 years as a Member of Parliament I vigorously and successfully engaged with federal, state and local governments and actively participated in many communities. I hope to bring the experiences I have gained to the Northern Midlands Council table so that I can help facilitate a stronger, more prosperous and diverse future for all our ratepayers.

COUNCIL'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council's executive committee consists of Mayor Mary Knowles, Deputy Mayor Richard Goss and Councillor Janet Lambert.

- Left to right: Cr Ian Goninon, Deputy Mayor Richard Goss, Cr Janet Lambert, Cr Matthew Brooks, Mayor Mary Knowles OAM, Cr Andrew Calvert, Cr Michael Polley AM, Cr Dick Adams OAM, Cr Jan Davis



MEMBERS SERVING ON DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Membership of Committees spans a 2-year period (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020); however, as the activities of the District Committee were suspended in late March 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2018-2020 membership term was extended by one year to 30 June 2021.

The following memberships were active at 30 June 2020:

Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden Local District Committee

Chairperson:

Mrs S Freeman

Members:

Ms J Allen
Ms L Collins
Mr R De Angelis
Mr M McGree
Mrs H Reynolds
Mrs S Squires
Ms C Wearing

Councillor:

Mayor M Knowles

Campbell Town District Forum

Chairperson:

Mr M Roach

Members:

Mr J Ashman
Mrs J Davis
Mr O Diefenbach
Ms S Hills
Mrs J Lyne
Mr B Perkins
Mr K Reid
Mrs J Clarke
Mrs D Thomas

Councillor:

Cr A Calvert

Cressy Local District Committee

Chairperson:

Mr D Rowbottom

Members:

Mrs A Jenkins
Mr P Goss
Mrs A Green
Mrs H Howard
Mrs H Williams
Mrs M Taylor
Mr A Turnham

Councillor:

Cr R Goss

Evandale Advisory Committee

Chairperson:

Mr J Lewis

Members:

Mrs C Brown
Mrs A Harvey
Mrs H Houghton
Mr B Lawson
Mr J Remess
Mrs S Kensitt

Councillors:

Cr J Lambert
Cr J Davis

Longford Local District Committee

Chairperson:

Mr N Tubb

Members:

Ms D Alty
Ms J Clarke
Mr D Pettyfor
Mr L Langan
Mr G Catchlove-Owen
Mr K Headlam
Mr D Bester
Ms B Baker

Councillor:

Cr D Adams
Cr M Brooks

Perth Local District Committee

Chairperson:

Mr T Purse

Members:

Mr P Dell
Mr G Eberhardt
Mr D Smith
Mr J Stagg
Ms S White
Ms S Field

Councillor:

Cr J Lambert
Cr J Davis

Ross Local District Committee

Chairperson:

Mr A Thorpe

Members:

Mrs J Bennett
Mrs C Robinson
Mr H Johnson
Mr A Cameron
Mrs H Davis
Mr M Rodrigues
Mr R Hebbard
Mr D Cobban
Ms L Pitiglio

Councillor:

Cr A Calvert

A scenic photograph of a concrete bridge spanning a river. The foreground is filled with smooth, light-colored river stones. A large, dark rock sits on the right bank. The river flows under the bridge, creating white rapids. Lush green trees line both banks. A bright sun in a clear blue sky creates a starburst effect and lens flare. The text 'MAJOR STRATEGIC ISSUES' is overlaid in white on the right side, with a green bar underneath.

MAJOR STRATEGIC ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

Council worked on a number of key issues which were identified in the Strategic Plan 2017-2027; Council has undertaken projects to address these issues as identified in the Annual Plan for 2019/2020.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The economic prosperity of our region is important to the Northern Midlands Council to ensure our communities improve their quality of life.

Our communities have distinctive local conditions that affect their development and influence Councils decisions. Council endeavours to provide the best environment possible to improve the economic capacity of the diverse communities within our municipal area; and, to this end, continues to lobby and work with the state and federal tiers of government, business and community sector partners to create an environment conducive to economic growth, job creation and the overall betterment of all communities within the Northern Midlands.

A number of factors which influence economic development are outside of the control of Council; however, through long-term planning, strategies and the nurturing of partnerships Council does its utmost to ensure it is well-placed to sustain the diverse economy and facilitate future development within our region.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Council recognises that economic development is not the only measure of progress for our community. Environmental and social issues must be taken into account when encouraging economic development and also in the provision of land use planning, engineering infrastructure, waste management and environmental health. The community is also looking to Council to play a pro-active role in natural resource management through programs such as landcare initiatives.

The Council has worked closely with NRM North, and the local community groups to facilitate and administer a number of projects, such as, Perth's Sheepwash Creek Water Sensitive Urban Design project and West Perth Urban Drainage improvements.

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Council is committed to promoting the health and well-being of Northern Midlands residents and visitors to the region through the development, enhancement and expansion of recreational and sporting facilities.

The Council has continued to resource the Local District Committees at Campbell Town, Ross, Evandale, Perth, Longford, Cressy and the Avoca, Royal George and Rossarden area.

Council continues to lobby TasWater, as the responsible entity:

- to consider options for sewage disposal at Avoca; and
- not to increase fees in excess of the consumer price index.

Council continues to lobby the State Government for the retention of TasWater dividends to Local Government.



• Blackburn Park at Campbell Town

MAINTAINING CORE FUNCTIONS OF COUNCIL

One of the Council's core responsibilities is the on-going management of its total asset base. While Council has acknowledged its expanding role in community development, it must balance this with adequate maintenance and renewal of its assets. Council maintained its Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans during 2019/2020 which provide a framework for Council to create, renew and maintain major infrastructure in a sustainable manner.

During 2019/2020 Council spent \$2.6 million (2018/19 \$1.9m) towards upgrading and renewal of Council's road network and \$1.99 million (2018/19 \$1.9m) towards maintaining the road asset base. In addition, an amount of \$0.68 million (2018/19 \$3.71m) was spent on the replacement of four (4) bridges, and \$148,719 (2018/19 \$783,519) on additional stormwater assets recognised. Building assets recognised totalled \$6.12 million (2018/19 \$0.61m).

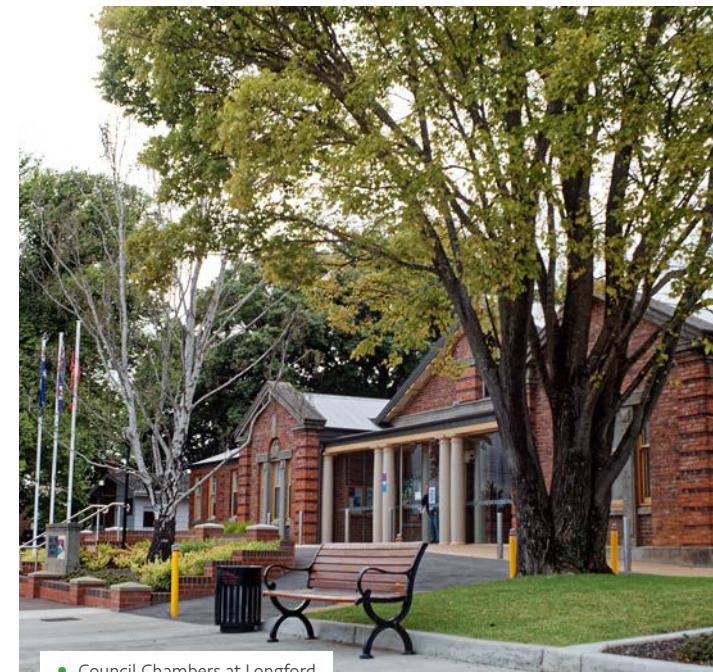
FUTURE FUNDING

Council continues to object to the problem of continued reallocation of responsibilities to Local Government from the State and Federal Governments without commensurate financial support. Council welcomes the additional Federal Government Roads to Recovery Program funding allocated and continues to lobby for the continuation of the Roads to Recovery Program on an ongoing basis, being the Council with the most road length in the State, it is imperative to ensure maintenance of this important infrastructure into the future.

Council will continue to

- apply for grant funding including the Black Spot Roads Program, Regional Development Funding rounds, Tasmanian Community Fund grants, Building Better Regions Fund and Sport & Recreation Grants Program; and
- look for new development and other financial revenue streams to lighten the rate burden on its community.

The Annual Plan sets out the objectives as listed in Council's Strategic Plan and shows the performance in each activity.



• Council Chambers at Longford

ANNUAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL PROGRAMS

GOVERNANCE

Governance includes provision of elected representation, executive support, strategic planning, economic development, community development and public relations.

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Local Government Reform	ON TRACK	Legal Services project contract finalised. Joint IT platform under investigation.
Elected Members Development and Annual Plans	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	Policy and Annual Plan to be prepared.
People and Culture Plan	ON TRACK	Framework utilised for recruitment is best practice – Employer of Choice. Ongoing – review and development of Human Resources policies.
Best Business Practice, Governance and Compliance	ON TRACK	Legislative Audit, Delegations Review and Policy Manual update ongoing.
Media and Marketing	ON TRACK	Communications Strategy and Framework to be developed. Expanding Council's communications through social media and other publications. Marketing Plan to be prepared.

Strategic Projects Team

Economic Development Master Plan – Prepare, Prioritise, Implement	ON TRACK	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council and NMBA are collaborating on a small-scale project to identify opportunities to grow the number of businesses in the TRANSLink precinct. Council accepted in principle the TRANSLink Pilot Project: Consultation, Analysis and Recommendations for Growing and Enhancing the TRANSLink Business Precinct in Northern Tasmania Report, August 2018. NMBA contracted April 2019 to implement the TRANSLink Engagement Project. Project completed 2. Economic development framework adopted by Council at May 2020 council meeting. Implementation underway.
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PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Economic Development		
Economic Development Master Plan Strategy Delivery	ON TRACK	Economic development framework adopted by Council at May 2020 meeting. Implementation underway. See <i>Strategic Projects Team</i> above.
Economic Development (incl. Tourism) Strategy Delivery	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	
Tourism Strategy Implementation	ON TRACK	Augmented Reality Project – For the northern part of the Heritage Highway, Ross is the first town to come on board. Work close to completion. Northern Midlands Business and Volunteer Expo – postponed due to pandemic.
Youth and Ageing Strategy	ON HOLD	Youth programs and services being pursued. Grant funding received for 2020 programs. On hold due to pandemic. Recommencing October 2020.
Discrimination Strategy	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	Officers investigating development of strategy
Family Violence Strategy	ON TRACK	Council continues to support <i>End Men's Violence Against Women</i> campaign. Officers investigating development of strategy
Supporting Health and Education Programs	ON TRACK	Participating in the Northern Health Providers Networks meetings. Further Education Bursary Program underway for 2020.

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Economic Development (continued)		
Supporting Employment Programs	ON TRACK	Participate in LGAT special interest groups on a quarterly basis. Support Work for the Dole program. Participate in work experience and University placements.
Supporting Sport and Recreation Programs	ON TRACK	Participation in quarterly northern Sport & Recreation meetings. Planning and implementation of upgrade to Council owned sporting facilities underway. Support provided to participants in sporting activities on a state and national level.
Social Recovery Plan	COMPLETED	Review complete
Disability Action Plan	COMPLETED	Review complete
Cohesive Communities and Communities at Risk	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	Not yet commenced.
Legislative Audit	ON TRACK	Review of legislation ongoing.
Delegations Reviews	ON TRACK	Review as new staff commence and legislation changes. Regulatory software purchased to assist.
Council Policy Manual Review	ON TRACK	Policies due for review, relevant managers and officers notified, schedule for review in place. Ongoing.



GOVERNANCE

Objective:

Provision of quality governance and effective leadership to support and enrich community life.

Performance:

- Our decision making processes will be fair and accountable and will always take account of the economic, environmental and social sustainability of any proposed action;
- Council is committed to provide innovative, efficient, equitable and quality service for all the community and respect for each and every customer;
- Staff will deal with customers in an open, honest and courteous manner and respect their privacy at all times;
- Council's administrative headquarters is based at 13 Smith Street, Longford and a range of services are also provided by Service Tasmania at the Town Hall, Campbell Town;
- Council reviews and implements organisational values in its day to day operations;
- Nine Councillors represent the Northern Midlands municipal area;

- Council generally meets on the third Monday of each month with public agendas, together with supporting documentation, available prior to each meeting;
- 12 Ordinary Meetings were held during 2019/2020;
- 2 Special Meetings were held during the year, on 7 October 2019 and 15 June 2020;
- Council held its Annual General Meeting on 9 December 2019;
- Attendance by the public at Council Meetings was welcomed and at 6.45pm a twenty (20) minute public question time was provided at each Council meeting. However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, from 27 March 2020 meetings held have taken place electronically which has prevented public attendance. The public is invited to submit questions/ statements prior to the meeting to be read out and a public recording of each meeting is available on Councils website;
- The annual Councillors Bus Tour of the municipal area, meeting community groups and assessing budget priorities scheduled to be held on 21 April 2020 was not held due to COVID-19 Emergency restrictions; and
- Local District Committees at Evandale, Campbell Town, Ross, Longford, Cressy, Perth and Avoca, Royal George & Rossarden, continued to provide valuable input into various issues considered by Council throughout the year.

Council:

- updated its Delegations Register; and
- reviewed the Code of Conduct for Elected Members – 20 January 2020.

Councillors attended the following conferences and seminars during the year:

- **3 to 5 July 2019:** Crs Mary Knowles, Dick Adams, Janet Lambert and Michael Polley – Local Government Association of Tasmania AGM, general meeting and annual conference held in Hobart;
- **25 July 2019:** Cr Mary Knowles attended Regional eSafety4Women training workshop, Launceston;
- **14 August 2019:** Cr Mary Knowles attended Premiers Health and Wellbeing Forum, Hobart;
- **15 August 2019:** Cr Mary Knowles attended LGAT Storytelling Workshop, Hobart;
- **17 to 20 November 2019:** Cr Matthew Brooks attended ALGA National Local Roads & Transport Congress, Hahndorf South Australia;
- **5 December 2019:** Cr Mary Knowles attended LGAT Mayor's Workshop, Hobart;
- **29 February to 1 March 2020:** Crs Mary Knowles, Dick Adams, Jan Davis and Janet Lambert attended LGAT Elected Member Professional Development weekend;
- **8 February 2020:** Cr Michael Polley attended the Australian Mayoral Aviation Council Executive Meeting; and
- **15 June 2020:** Cr Mary Knowles attended Elder Abuse Awareness Day teleconference, Longford.

Council allocated Special Project grants totalling \$19,766 in 2019/2020 to sporting and community groups as follows:

- Practice Wall at Evandale Tennis Club..... \$5,000
- Bishopsbourne Cenotaph Landscaping.....\$4,500
- Perth Football Club Vinyl replacement \$3,455
- Avoca Hall Building Improvements..... \$2,359
- Longford Football Club Improvements.....\$1,941
- Longford Bowls Club Vinyl in Amenities \$1,000
- Longford Tennis Club Light Pole Padded Covers\$770
- Longford Legends Park Recognition Plaques \$526
- Cemetery Gates Evandale Peace Garden \$215



• Longford Skate Park

In 2019/2020 Council provided donations totalling \$22,173 under Section 77 of the Local Government Act to:

- Campbell Town District High School
 - Inspiring Positive Futures Program \$8,000
- Cressy District High School
 - Inspiring Positive Futures Program \$8,000
- Campbell Town District High School
 - Chaplaincy \$1,500
- Helping Hand Association..... \$1,500
- Reptile Rescue.....\$1,000
- Longford Care-a-Car Committee \$1,000
- Assistance to Campbell Town SES
 - Council wages and plant\$323
- Campbell Town District High School
 - School Achievement Awards\$150
- Cressy District High School
 - School Achievement Awards\$150
- Launceston Arts Society
 - Eskleigh Art Award Exhibition.....\$150
- Perth Little Athletics Club
 - Trophy Presentation night\$150
- Longford Fire Brigade \$100
- Perth Primary School
 - School Achievement Awards \$50
- Evandale Primary School
 - School Achievement Awards \$50
- Longford Primary School
 - School Achievement Awards \$50



• Eliza and the Ram, Campbell Town

PEOPLE AND CULTURE: HUMAN RESOURCES

Objective:

People and Culture generates professionalism: staff are engaged, committed, stable and innovative; employment relations are fair and consistent; the People and Culture framework is best practice; organisational and personal development is valued.

Performance:

2020 has been an interesting year for everybody, as we were unexpectantly faced with the global pandemic, COVID-19. This presented many challenges and changes to the 'world' as we knew it, of which the workplace was not immune.

Whilst some human resources projects have been put on hold due to restrictions and public health advice, these will be revisited again in the next reporting period.

Council's Enterprise Agreement, which directs the terms and conditions of employment expired on 30 June 2019. Accordingly, negotiations began in the previous reporting period to re-negotiate the new three-year agreement. Council is pleased to report the negotiations were successful and the majority voted for the agreement, which was lodged with the Fair Work Commission on 23 July 2019 and approved on 18 September 2019. This agreement will continue until its expiry date on 30 June 2022.

Council continued to build on its already comprehensive human resources policy manual by adding the following newly developed policies: Diversity Policy and Flexible Working Arrangements Policy. We will continue to add contemporary HR subject matters to the HR Policy Manual to ensure our framework is best practice.

The following employees are all to be congratulated on their service milestones with Northern Midlands Council. Gail Murfet (10 years); Kristy Chugg (20 years); Janette Eberhardt (20 years); Martin Maddox (25 years) and Leonard Davis (40 years).

A long-standing employee of the Works department – Leonard Davis retired during this reporting period, after serving a loyal and commendable forty years' service. A celebration was held with Lenny's work colleagues to celebrate this milestone before he retired in February 2020 (*Pictured middle front*).

Employee learning and development is highly valued and encouraged by Council to promote personal and professional development opportunities for all staff. Where possible, Council employees attended training and workshops throughout the year, which was of benefit to the staff member and their position at Council. We also learnt a new way of training due to the pandemic, with some courses being offered through online platforms which our office-based staff could participate in from their desks.

As at the 30 June 2020, Northern Midlands Council had 69 personnel employed on full-time or part-time basis and 14 casual employees. The turnover rate for the reporting period was 7.6% (2018/2019 6.5%), which is considered a healthy turnover rate.

SPECIFIC DATA	2018/2019	2017/2018	2016/2017	2015/2016
Payroll costs	\$4,861,219	\$4,391,564	\$4,185,872	\$4,731,130
Superannuation Contributions	\$558,600	\$505,662	\$485,008	\$503,056
Workers Compensation Insurance/Expenses	\$108,096	\$116,975	\$133,954	\$153,557
Annual, Long Service, Sick Leave & Provisions	\$936,319	\$762,139	\$904,958	\$993,212
% of Payroll Capitalised	9.9%	12.7%	9.9%	6.6%
Permanent Staff (at year end)	62 EFT	62 EFT	57 EFT	56 EFT
Casual Staff (at year end)	3 EFT	4 EFT	3 EFT	4 EFT
Sick Leave Taken (Permanent Employees — paid days)	8.0	4.8	6.6	5.5



• Lenny and the Works team



• Gail Murfet 10 Years Service Recognition

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Objective:

The framework that provides for planned and coordinated measures that reduce vulnerabilities and enhance capacities to withstand emergencies, as well as cope with and recover from their impacts.

Performance:

The *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020* commenced on 27 March 2020, the objectives of the act are *to reduce the risks to the State, and the risk to, or hardship suffered by, members of the public, arising from, or related to, the presence of the disease in persons in the State or the risk of the spread of the disease between persons in the State.*

PART 3 of the Act, *Continuance of Public Administration* and PART 4, *Reduction of Public Physical Contact* has provided the parameters in which Council has conducted business during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Council has continued involvement in emergency management planning.

The Emergency Unit at Campbell Town has 12 members and its role is to provide roadside rescue assistance and other needs as per the *Emergency Services Act 1976*.

Council funds the purchase and maintenance of road accident rescue related equipment and services.

Fire hazards are identified within the municipal area and abatement notices are issued.

The General Manager is appointed as the Municipal SES co-ordinator, with Corporate Services Manager appointed as Deputy Municipal SES co-ordinator and the Risk Management Officer as assistant SES co-ordinator.

Participated in Regional Social Recovery training, networking forums and exercises, and provided social recovery services.

In January 2020, Council set up and ran an emergency evacuation centre at Avoca to support evacuees of the Rossarden area.



• Avoca Bush Nurse Memorial

COMMUNICATION

Objective:

Encouragement of community confidence through communication, consultation and participation with equitable, transparent, accessible and consistent governance by genuine engagement with the community.

Performance:

Council:

- supports the need for coherent regional leadership, planning and economic policy frameworks to promote the regional potential;
- is an active member of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC); and supports the Regional Tourism Organisation for Northern Tasmania and Integrated Transport Plan;
- investigates options for private and public resource sharing prior to implementing new programs. Resource Sharing is pursued with other Councils where appropriate;
- has a vital and demanding role to play in working with the people of Northern Midlands to shape a common future, it provides public consultation on major plans and programs where practical;

- continues with master planning and design in conjunction with community consultation and participation on several major projects throughout the municipal area;
- continually lobbies/ liaises with Ministers of Governments on issues of importance to the community. Council encourages and supports active local committees;
- aims to provide an environment that is safe and provides the opportunity for residents to pursue a quality lifestyle. It encourages a spirit of pride and appreciation of the community and its assets; and
- committed to End Men's Violence Against Women campaign through community education and awareness.

A 20-minute public question and statements time is provided at all Council Meetings to encourage public awareness of activities, this has continued during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, with questions and statements submitted by the public circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, being read out by staff members at the meeting.

Council news and activities were brought to the attention of residents via:

- One page in fortnightly publication of the Northern Midlands Courier Newspaper;
- Council's website;
- via Facebook; and
- media releases.

Council lobbied Government:

- to enforce the provisions of the lease agreement between Australia Pacific Airports Corporation (APAC) and the Commonwealth Government to ensure the payment of Launceston Airport's ex-gratia rates payments to Council;
- to support the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme;
- to support a tyre recycling solution for Tasmania; and
- for support and/or funding for:
 - Ben Lomond:
 - » Ski Field Investment Project
 - Campbell Town:
 - » Main Street Urban Design & Traffic Management Strategy
 - » Campbell Town War Memorial Oval Precinct Master Plan Project
 - Cressy:
 - » Recreation Ground Master Plan Project
 - Evandale:
 - » Honeysuckle Banks Master Plan
 - » Sealing of Nile Road
 - Launceston Airport & TRANSLink:
 - » Precinct Renewal Program, including Intermodal Facility (incl. Rail Spur), Gas Reticulation and Stormwater
 - Longford:
 - » Longford Recreation Ground 2030 Master Plan
 - » Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre

- Perth:
 - » Perth Structure Plan
 - » Sheepwash Creek WSUD Open Corridor Master Plan
 - » Perth Recreation Ground Master Plan
 - » South Esk River Reserve Concept Plan
- Ross:
 - » Village Green Master Plan
 - » Swimming Pool Master Plan.

Council consulted extensively with stakeholders in relation to the following proposed municipal development plans:

- Campbell Town Urban Design and Traffic Management Strategy
- Cressy Swimming Pool Master Plan
- Cressy Recreation Ground Master Plan
- Longford Township CBD Urban Design Strategy
- Morven Park Master Plan
- Perth Main Street Streetscape

Council's Annual Awards and Australia Day event

Council's 2020 event took place in Ross on Saturday 26th January and was well attended. The formal proceedings included an address by Australia Day Ambassador Andrew Hughes (teacher/ adventurer), and the presentation of Council's Australia Day and Volunteer recognition awards.

The following awards were presented:

- Citizen of the Year: Margaret Crisp — for her contribution to the Campbell Town Community and in particular for her role working within palliative care;
- Young Citizen of the Year: Ryan Whitney — for his outstanding sporting achievements as a junior football player;
- Community Event of the Year: Community Welcome Party for the Seasonal Berry Farm Workers — inaugural event that attracted over 300 people; and
- Volunteer Recognition Awards were presented to Candy Hurren, Michael & Pauline Godfrey, Annie Harvey and members of the Ross Community Sports Club.



• Australia Day 2020 (photos courtesy of Denise Talbot)

YOUTH SERVICES

Objective:

Network and collaborate with a variety of agencies and organisations to identify, develop, implement and evaluate initiatives that address the numerous issues which impact young people within the municipality.

Performance:

Council

- Facilitates healthy communities with a strong sense of well-being is a key in the Council's Strategic Plan – in which a number of sections address community safety, access, health and education issues;
- Employs a part time Youth Officer to support, improve access and service responses and programs for youth;
- Collaborates with Launceston PCYC's to provide youth activity programs at Perth, Evandale and Longford;
- Collaborates with YMCA Launceston to provide youth activity programs to schools in the Northern Midlands;
- Manages the Northern Midlands Further Education Bursary Program;
- Supports the Chaplaincy program and the Beacon Inspiring Futures program at Campbell Town and Cressy District High Schools;

- Networks with agencies including Cornerstone Youth Services, Youth Health North, Beacon Foundation, City Mission, Bravehearts and Catholicare to enhance their capacity to provide services and programs to Northern Midlands youth; and
- Represents Northern Midlands youth on advocacy groups such as Northern Youth Consultative Committee and Northern Midlands Interagency Group.

In 2019/2020, implemented/continued to support the following youth-based projects in the Northern Midlands:

- Skate Park League Competition held at Longford;
- Inspiring Futures program at Campbell Town and Cressy District High Schools;
- Youth Mental Health Expo held at Cressy District High School;
- Junior Action Group Wheel-a-Thon fundraiser at Evandale Primary School;
- Free2B Girls group in Longford;
- Cressy District High School Drop-In-Zone; and
- Secured funding from Tasmanian Community Fund for the Free2B Girls programs in Longford and Campbell Town for 2 years;
- Secured funding from Healthy Tasmania Fund (Tasmanian Government) for the Northern Midlands Active Youth Programs to be facilitated in Campbell Town and Cressy for 1 year.

Council:

- reviewed its Youth Policy - 19 August 2019.



• Rotary sponsorship of volunteer for Free2B Girls Program



• Free2B Girls: Commonwealth Bank sponsorship cheque presentation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Objective:

To encourage sustainable economic development for the Northern Midlands Region in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders.

Performance:

Key economic development initiatives in 2019/2020, including:

- Collaborated with Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC), Regional Development Australia and other Northern Councils on:
 - The implementation of the Northern Tasmania Regional Economic Development Plan which sets out a vision for the northern region, identifies where future economic growth and employment is likely to come from, and ensures the Launceston City Deal is of benefit to the surrounding region;
 - the implementation of the Northern Tasmania Population Strategy that focuses on attracting working age population to the region by promoting the region's lifestyle, liveability and diverse employment opportunities;

- Council is a member and shareholder of NTDC with a primary objective to provide pro-active, engaged and strategic regional economic leadership. Council ratepayers benefit from the investment via direct and material economic, employment and investment outcomes, and contribute indirectly to social and community benefits as a consequence of NTDC achieving the objectives that it is set up to achieve. Council's annual fees for 2019/2020 were \$49,940 (2018/2019 \$48,913).
- Commenced implementation of Council's Economic Development Framework that dovetails with the regional economic development plan. First progress report due November 2020;
- Worked with local businesses to alleviate the impact of COVID-19 by, in collaboration with NMBA, implementing local recovery initiatives including supporting businesses to prepare COVID-Safety plans, promoting shop local campaigns, and contributing to the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Committee's development of the State Social Recovery Plan;
- Commenced development of an Integrated Priority Project Plan that will guide infrastructure planning and identify priority projects that will generate broader economic benefits;

- In accordance with the Northern Tasmania Population Strategy, strived to improve the liveability of Northern Midlands communities through:
 - Further planning and preliminary implementation of town urban design and structure plans for Campbell Town, Perth and Longford (supported by an Australian Government funding commitment of \$4m towards the revitalisation of the public space, community facilities and streetscape in the heart of the town);
 - Ongoing implementation of the Sheepwash Creek water sensitive urban design Open Space Plan, and development of the Norfolk Street Open Corridor at Perth;
 - Securing an Australian Government funding commitment of \$2.6m for the development of an expanded Perth Early Learning Centre on a green field site adjacent to Perth Primary School – work to commence 2020/2021;
 - Continuing the implementation of the Ross Village Green Master Plan;
 - Working with landowners seeking to develop significant numbers of new subdivisions in Evandale, Perth, Cressy and Longford; and

- Council has contributed to economic development in the agricultural and tourism sectors by:
 - Collaborating with key stakeholders to advocate for the upgrade and expansion of infrastructure in the TRANSlink commercial, industrial and logistics precinct adjacent to Launceston Airport, including the stormwater renewal program, the intermodal facility and gas reticulation;
 - Submitting a grant application to the Bridge Renewal Program for the replacement of the aged, single-lane Pisa Bridge on Macquarie Road with a two-lane, concrete bridge;
 - Collaborating with Tourism Tasmania on the development of the self-drive Central Journeys promotional program that aims to disperse intrastate and interstate visitors into regional areas;
 - Continuing to collaborate with the HHTRA on the development of the Ross Augmented Reality tourism experience;
 - Continuing to advocate for funding to implement the recommendations of the Ben Lomond Tourism Feasibility Studies. This would enable the park's snow-making and snow-retaining infrastructure to be expanded to facilitate a consistent snow season, and infrastructure upgrades to enable the park to be promoted as a family friendly tourism destination all-year round.



• Perth Early Learning Centre concept designs

COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT

Community & Development includes the provision of services relating to the following: Recreation, Tourism Promotion, Committees of Management & Non- Profit Organisations, Building, Health, Planning Services, Animal Control, Environmental Management and Compliance.

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Land Use and Development Strategy	ON TRACK	Endorsed 21 October 2019. To be released for public consultation (awaiting timelines for LPS to consolidate the release)
Tasmanian Planning Scheme Integration	ON TRACK	Endorsed 21 October 2019 with some amendments required. Submitted to Tasmanian Planning Commission December 2019. Awaiting contact for post-lodgement meeting.

Strategic Infrastructure Projects

Launceston Gateway Precinct Master Planning	ON TRACK	Listed as a component of the Municipal Land Use & Development Strategy. Options for southern expansion prepared.
Northern Midlands Rural Processing Centre	ON TRACK	Combined with Launceston Gateway Precinct component of the Municipal Land Use & Development Strategy.
Perth Town Structure Plan	ON TRACK	Council has endorsed the plan and draft amendments to planning scheme to be prepared.
Perth Community & Recreation Centre & Primary School Integrated Master Plan	ON TRACK	Funding committed from Federal Government toward expansion of Perth Childcare Centre. Funding Agreement signed June 2020. Tenders called

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Strategic Infrastructure Projects (continued)		
Sense of Place Planning – all villages and towns	ON TRACK	Master planning for townships underway.
Longford CBD Urban Design Strategy	ON TRACK	Commitment of \$4million from National Party prior to federal election. Funding Agreement signed June 2020. Tender for memorial hall upgrade, and barbecue and toilet facility being prepared
Longford Place Activation Plan	COMPLETED	Complete.
Campbell Town CBD Urban Design and Traffic Management Strategy	ON TRACK	Allocation in 2018/2019 budget to commence works. Tender prepared. State Liberal election commitment of \$1.9 million for underpass between War Memorial Oval and School/ Multipurpose Centre
Ross Village Green Master Plan (Town Centre Park)	ON TRACK	Planning approval received. Work progressing
Ross Swimming Pool Master Plan	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	Plan complete. Community consultation on future of the pool commenced September 2020.
Cressy Recreation Ground Master Plan	ON TRACK	Council accepted Cressy Recreation Ground 2030 Master Plan at April 2018 Council meeting. Levelling the Playing Field funding received. Tender being prepared.

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Strategic Infrastructure Projects (continued)		
Cressy Swimming Pool Master Plan	ON HOLD	State election funding grant of \$100,000 received. \$400,000 commitment from National Party prior to federal election. Funding signed. Tender being prepared.
Evandale Morven Park Master Plan	ON TRACK	Council accepted Morven Recreation Ground 2030 Master Plan at April 2018 Council meeting. State Government levelling the Playing Field grant: \$430,300 secured towards development of inclusive changerooms. Work underway.
Feasibility Study: Investment in Ben Lomond Ski Field Northern Tasmania	ON TRACK	Study being driven by external stakeholders, Council support provided when requested. Included in NMC Priority Projects 2019 document.
Sheepwash Creek WSUD Open Space Corridor	ON TRACK	July 2018: WSUD space corridor concept plan and concepts – Phillip to Drummond streets – received from consultants. Land acquired. Stormwater works underway.
Cohesive Communities and Communities at Risk	NOT STARTED (OBSTACLES)	Not yet commenced.



EVENT MANAGEMENT & TOURISM PROMOTION

Objective:

- Provide advice and support to event managers ensuring events in the municipality are run safely and successfully; and
- Promote Northern Midlands as a tourist destination in a way that benefits local businesses, visitors and residents alike.

Performance:

Visitor Information:

- Participated in Tourism Visitor Information Network (TVIN) northern area meetings representing the Northern Midlands region and its five Visitor Centres on a state-wide platform;
- Facilitated one shoulder season meeting of the five Northern Midlands Visitor Centres, creating networking opportunities for the volunteers, sharing challenges and ideas; and
- Coordinated the volunteers and restocking of the Northern Midlands Business Promotion & Visitor Information Centre at Longford.

Heritage Highway Tourism Region Association (HHTRA):

- Supported the HHTRA through financial contribution and provision of secretarial and administrative support;
- Coordinate the maintenance of the Heritage Highway website, blog and social media platforms; and
- Coordinated the implementation of the Ross Revealed Augmented Reality project, which originated from the HHTRA Destination Action Plan. Project completion is expected by the end of 2020.

General tourism & industry engagement:

- Participated in Tourism Tasmania's Journeys project, specifically the central journey, called Heartlands;
- Represented the Northern Midlands Council at various industry workshops and forums;
- Disseminated industry information from key tourism agencies to tourism operators and businesses in the Northern Midlands; and
- Liaised with new tourism operators regarding networking opportunities, facilitating connections with relevant agencies and providing information where requested.

Events:

- Maintained an up-to-date events list for the Heritage Highway region, including updating online events calendars and notification to approximately 300 recipients, including tourism operators, state-wide visitor centres and key tourism agencies; and
- Assisted with enquiries from event holders looking to hold events in the Northern Midlands, advising of requirements, assisting with compliance criteria, venue hire, facilities and promotion via our networks.

Supported and promoted Special Events within the area and provided \$33,296 grants to:

Northern Midlands Event Assoc – Longford Motorama	\$8,217
Australia Day and Volunteer Recognition Celebrations	\$5,467
YMCA Skate Park League and Development Program	\$2,075
Ross Village Arts Festival	\$1,816
Tasmanian Trout Fishing Expo (Cressy)	\$1,650
Tour of Tasmania Road (7 Day Event)	\$1,545
National Retrieving Trial Championships	\$1,500
Festival of Small Halls	\$1,437
Longford Jazz Festival	\$1,200
Evandale Village Fair	\$1,083
Woolmers Festival of Roses	\$1,058
Longford Cup	\$1,000
John Glover Society Arts Festival	\$900
Longford Fishing Club Kids Dam Days	\$750
Longford Blooms Open Gardens	\$709
Longford Show	\$666
Tasmanian Municipal Bowls Championships Longford	\$500
ANZAC Day	\$429
P E Green Memorial Cycling Road Race	\$350
Thai Association of Tas Food and Cultural Festival	\$322
Cars, Bikes & Bands Symmons Plains	\$300
Remembrance Day	\$139
Longford Catholic Parish Overseas Farm Workers Welcome Event	\$123
Northern Tasmania Light Horse Troop – Animal War Remembrance Day	\$59



• Anzac Day Banners at Perth



• Longford Blooms event 2019



• Motorama Event launch 2020

RECREATION

Objective:

Promote the use of existing Sport & Recreation facilities, maintain and improve facilities to meet the communities needs.

Performance:

Council is working in partnership with State and Federal Governments, local community service providers, local community organisations and members to develop and implement strategies to encourage healthy lifestyles for Northern Midlands residents.

Council reviewed/amended:

- Mobile Food Vendors Policy — 21 October 2019; and
- Public Open Space Contribution Policy — 21 October 2019.

In 2019/2020 Council has worked to promote the health and well-being of northern midlands residents and visitors by undertaking the following activities in accordance with relevant recreational facility master plans:

- Completion of the renovations at the Longford Recreation Ground including car parking improvements;

- Continuation of the upgrading of the Longford Community Sports Centre including a new gym, changerooms, child care area, mezzanine floor, entry and car park improvements – work due for completion in 2020/2021;
- Secured State Government Levelling the Playing Field Funding (\$430,300) for the development and expansion of inclusive changerooms at Evandale's Morven Park – work due for completion 2020/2021;
- Secured State Government Levelling the Playing Field grant (\$354,076) towards the construction of new inclusive changerooms at the Cressy Recreation Ground;
- Secured an Australian Government grant of \$400,000 (in addition to a State Government grant of \$100,00 in 2017/2018) for the Cressy Swimming Pool Complex. Work includes the renovation of the kiosk, creation of a new facility entrance, resurfacing of the pool concourse, remediation of reinforcement corrosion in the main pool and car park sealing – work to commence March 2021;
- Secured an Australian Government commitment of \$50,000 and a Tasmanian Community Fund grant of \$36,680 toward the redevelopment of the children's playground at Boucher Park, Avoca. Launch planned for September 2020;
- Commenced planning for a Swimming Pool Strategy for the municipal area; and
- Secured MAST funding (\$50,000) towards the construction of a floating pontoon on the eastern side of the boat ramp at Lake Leake.



• Lachlan Colgrave — U13 State Soccer Team



• Skate Park opening event at Evandale

In 2019/2020 Sporting & Academic Achievement Donations totalling \$32,300 were provided to:

Campbell Town District High School	Inspiring Positive Futures Program	\$8,000
Cressy District High School	Inspiring Positive Futures Program	\$8,000
Campbell Town District High School	Donation — School Achievement Awards	\$150
Perth Primary School	Donation — School Achievement Awards	\$50
Evandale Primary School	Donation — School Achievement Awards	\$50
Longford Primary School	Donation — School Achievement Awards	\$50
Cressy District High School	Donation — School Achievement Awards	\$150
Aladdin Addicoat	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Ruby Graham	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Eden Arrieta-Shadbolt	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Ruby Graham	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Adam Martin	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
James Grey	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Hayden Smith	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Samantha Airey	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Charlotte Layton	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Chelsea Johnson	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Piper Bunton	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Lia Eacher	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 2	\$1,000
Chanelle Woods	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Darian Richardson	Bursary Program 2019 — Instalment 1	\$1,000
Perth Little Athletics Club	Donation — Trophy Presentation night	\$150
Lucy Johnston	Australian Interschols Equestrian Championships	\$100
Jock Johnston	Australian Interschols Equestrian Championships	\$100
Nick Smart	Australian U12 Boys AFL Football Championships	\$100
Sophie Cuthbertson-Cass	National Primary Athletics School Sports Competition	\$100
Hayden Scott	Junior World Darts Championships 2019 in Gibraltar	\$200

Katie Campbell	U12 Nth Tas Junior Soccer Assoc Oceania Cup NSW	\$100
Judy Gurr	Australian Senior Sides Bowls Championships	\$100
Celeste Nicholson	U12 Nth Tas Junior Soccer Assoc Oceania Cup NSW	\$100
Jonty Groves	Tasmanian School Sport Australia U12 Touch Football Team	\$100
Logan Groves	Tasmanian School Sport Australia U12 Touch Football Team	\$100
Narrinda Cawthen	Australian Indoor Bias Bowls Championships 2019	\$100
Ava Walker	U12 Girls School Sport Australia Touch Football Championships	\$100
Lucy Smith	NTJSA Girls Rep Team – Oceania Cup NSW	\$100
Jade McLennan	U15 Aust School Football carnival	\$100
Lachlan Colgrave	U13 State Soccer team	\$100
Lachlan Oliver	Jnr Track & Field Championships – Brisbane	\$100



• Avoca Playground Opening: Andrew McGregor (Tas Community Fund Board Member), Mayor Mary Knowles OAM and Senator Claire Chandler

ANIMAL CONTROL

Objective:

Promote responsible and considerate animal ownership through the control and regulation of pet animals and livestock to minimise public nuisance and maximise community benefit.

	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
Dog Registration	4,268	4,224	4,250
Kennel Licences	85	78	76
No. of Impounded Animals	44	77	84

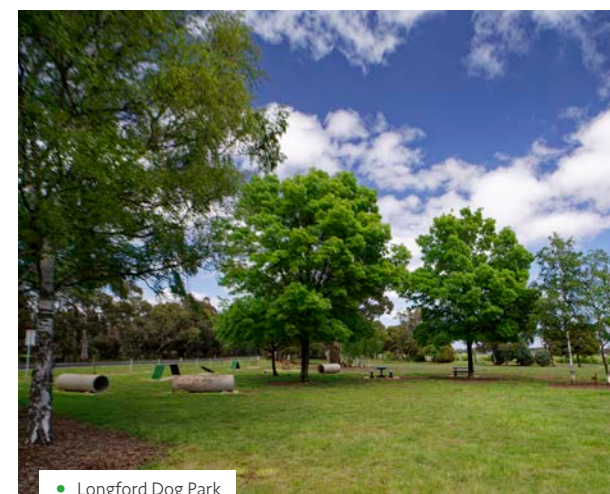
Performance:

Council regulates dog control within the municipal area in accordance with the provisions of the *Dog Control Act 2000* and Council's Dog Control Policy.

Roles and responsibilities include:

- Promoting responsible dog ownership;
- Maintaining a register of all dogs aged over 6 months;
- Licensing kennels;
- Providing declared areas where dogs can be exercised off lead if under effective control;
- Investigating complaints relating to dog nuisances;
- Investigating attack incidents;
- Impounding stray dogs and livestock;
- Municipal patrols of streets, parks and off lead exercise areas;
- Dog registration audits;
- Microchipping; and
- Levying annual dog registration fees.

Council reviewed its Dog Management Policy on 19 August 2019.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Objective:

Provide for community wellbeing through a healthy living environment, healthy lifestyles and reducing disease.

Performance:

To investigate and resolve environmental nuisances.

To pro-actively implement programs/measures to protect community health by:

- Facilitating immunisation programs for residents;
- Investigating and actioning Notifiable Disease cases;
- Monitoring recreational waters; and
- Regulating food businesses

To regulate registered premises by monitoring, inspecting and taking action in relation to their activities, level 1 activities (as defined by *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*) and on-site wastewater disposal systems.

Councils environmental health officer has worked in conjunction with various government departments in the assessment and resolution of incidents of potential environmental harm. The departments include the Environment Protection Authority, the Department of Health and Human Services, TasWater and Tasmania Police.

Matters addressed include:

- Odour and dust complaints;
- Food safety related concerns and complaints;
- Noise complaints;
- Local industry odour emissions;
- Sewerage connection and odour;
- Asbestos related complaints;
- Other local industry environmental concerns including industrial waste storage and reuse; and
- Air quality (smoke) incidents.

The Community Health Report addressed objectives within the areas of:

- Prevention and control of notifiable diseases;
- General infectious diseases control;
- The school immunisation program was contracted to the Northern Midlands Medical Service;
- Public Health Risk activities including tattooing;
- Regulated systems (cooling towers) to prevent the transmission of legionella;
- Control and mitigation of noise nuisances;
- Recreational water quality monitoring in accordance with the *Public Health Act 1997*, Guidelines for Recreational Water Quality;
- Food safety initiatives and regulatory control including food business registrations and inspections; and
- Assessment and monitoring of on-site wastewater management (septic tank systems).

SPECIFIC DATA	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
Licensed places of assembly	5	6	7



- COVID-19 signage on display at all Council owned buildings and amenities

LAND USE, URBAN DESIGN & PLANNING

Objective:

- Provide a co-ordinated land use plan to facilitate controlled growth within the parameters of infrastructure availability, whilst maintaining certainty and harmony with local environs and community expectations; and
- Shaping our communities, towns, villages and the region by planning and managing development, infrastructure and services.



• Avoca Playground

Performance:

Approved 226 applications with a further 69 developments deemed exempt from planning:

- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Campbell Town;
- New Bridges – Snow Hill, Old Coach Road, Gipps Creek Road, Storys Creek Road;
- New Police Station at Longford;
- Playground upgrade, 16 Blenheim Street Avoca;
- Dedicated Bus Turning Circle to improve safety, Pateena Road;
- Banner Poles – Avoca and Evandale;
- New warehouses and offices, TRANSlInk; and
- Ensuite additions to Ross Caravan Park.

Approved 81 new lots, 25 new single dwellings, 37 new units, 49 new sheds.

Received 6 Notices of appeal from RMPAT.

Refused 9 applications and actively followed up illegal works and non-compliance with planning permits.



• Christmas banners at Evandale



• Electric vehicle charging station at Campbell Town

BUILDING SERVICES

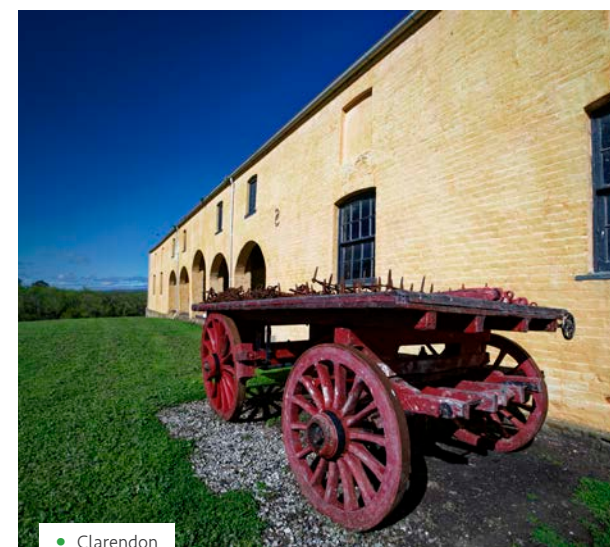
Objective:

Provide regulatory framework to ensure all private and public buildings are constructed in accordance with the Building Act and Regulations, Building Code of Australia and other regulatory standards.

Performance:

- Processed building and plumbing applications within statutory timeframes;
- Provided reporting statistics to relevant agencies on a monthly basis;
- Issued 222 building approvals totalling \$39.5 million; and
- Issued 1,295 Property Certificates (Sec 132 & 337), compared to 1,396 last year.

SPECIFIC DATA	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018	2016/2017
Applications approved	222	212	154	175
Dwellings	110	108	64	45
Additions to dwelling, incl. out-buildings & sheds	103	87	84	111
Industrial/Commercial	9	17	6	19
Value	\$39.5m	\$72.1m	\$27.0m	\$27.4m
Average Processing Time (Days)				
• Building Permit	7	7	7	14
• Certificate of Likely Compliance	10	7	14	3
• Plumbing Permit	10	6	14	9
No of Inspections	340	326	238	248
Septic Tank & AWTs Applications	15	29	25	9



COMPLIANCE

Objective:

Monitor all relevant regulatory areas to ensure statutory compliance, ensuring the Northern Midlands is a safe environment in which to live, visit and work.

Performance:

Respond to complaints regarding non-compliance with legislation regulated by Council, including:

- Planning;
- Building;
- Animal Control; and
- Environmental Health (including noise and pollution).

Action any breaches of legislation and enforce accordingly.

Actively promote compliance with legislation throughout the municipality and provide information where necessary.

SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS/ ISSUES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
Notifiable diseases investigated	1	5	4
School immunisations administered	73	185	199
Recreation water monitoring	36		
• River water compliance	96%	92.5%	91%
• Pool water compliance	100%	100%	100%
Environmental nuisance complaints	45	40	47
Registered food premises	129	121	92
Food premises inspected	111	127	77
Registered temporary food premises	48	60	64
Public environmental incidents	3	0	0



• Bridge over the Macquarie River at Ross



• Avoca landscape

COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT

Objective:

Support Council Committees of Management and Community Organisations.

Performance:

Provided ongoing financial and advisory assistance and support for recreation facility Management Committees and non-profit community organisations.

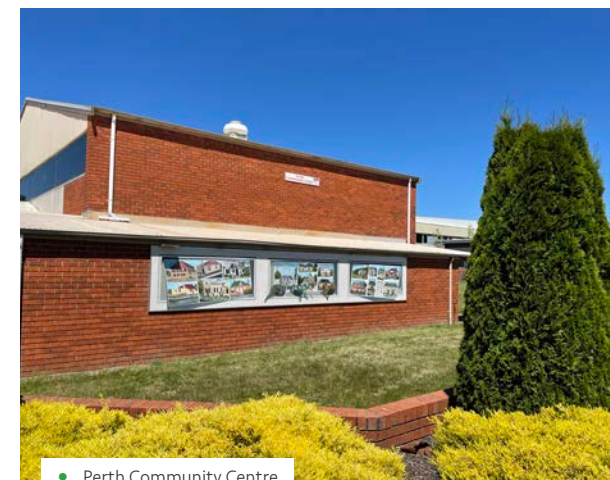
Council provides an annual allocation of funds for capital works requested by community groups which are assessed on a priority basis.

Special Committees represent \$231,036 (including Council maintenance grants) operating income and \$217,022 operating expenditure in Council's financial statement. Special Committees cash and cash equivalents represent \$259,531 in Council's financial statements (\$245,578 in 2018/2019).

Special committees of Council managed the following facilities during 2019/2020:

- Avoca Hall/Community Centre;
- Avoca Museum and Information Centre;
- Bishopsbourne Community Centre;
- Campbell Town Pool;
- Cressy Memorial Hall;
- Cressy Recreation Ground;
- Cressy War Memorial Pool;
- Epping Hall;
- Evandale Community Centre;
- Evandale War Memorial Hall;
- Liffey Hall;
- Longford Recreation Ground;
- Morven Park Recreation Ground (Evandale);
- Perth Community Centre;
- Perth Recreation Ground; and
- Ross Recreation Ground and Swimming Pool.

Council administers the Lake River Riverworks District funds to minimise environmental harm and risk within the boundaries of its district, complying with the *Water Management Act 1999* and its closing funds amounting to \$12,699.



• Perth Community Centre

CORPORATE SERVICES

Corporate Services includes provision of financial services, information systems, community and social (human) services.



• Corporate Services Team

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
Asset Management Plan Annual Review	ON TRACK	Road and Building revaluation currently being undertaken, review of Asset Plans to be completed upon receipt of review and audit finalised.
Annual Budget and Quarterly Review	ON TRACK	Long Term Financial Plan updated, and annual budget adopted by Council at 29 June 2020 meeting.
Information Technology Upgrade Program	ON TRACK	ECM hosted in the cloud Dec 2019. Ability for all to work from home March 2020.
Emergency Management	ON TRACK	Municipal emergency meeting held in Nov 2019, regular regional meetings attended during COVID-19 via Zoom. Updated Emergency Recovery Plan adopted May 2017 by Council, revision of Emergency Management Plan to be finalised in 2020.
Workplace Health and Safety Action Plan Annual Review	ON TRACK	WHS audit assessment complete Nov 2018. Asbestos — individual registers for all properties completed. 1 WorkSafe Tasmania notifiable incident Feb 2019. Risk Register review currently being undertaken.
Customer Service Standards	ON TRACK	Participated in LGAT state-wide community satisfaction annual survey. Attending the National Local Government Customer Service Network state meetings on regular basis. Implemented Live-Pro customer service system early 2019. COVID-19 recovery and care package developed.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Objective:

Financial Management: provide practical, viable, sustainable financial management, policies and procedures.

The financial management unit includes the following functions:

Asset Management: assist Council in improving the way it delivers services from infrastructure including roads, bridges, footpaths, stormwater drainage, buildings and plant and equipment and any other classes of assets.

Council's asset management strategy enables Council to show:

- how its asset portfolio will meet the service delivery needs of its community into the future;
- enable Council's asset management policies to be achieved; and
- ensure the integration of Council's asset management with its long-term strategic plan.

Insurances: protect Council from financial claims or loss arising from a negligent act, error or omission, legal liability for personal injury and/or property damage claims.

Risk Management: identify any potential threats to financial and business operations; and take necessary steps to mitigate/eliminate threats likely to affect Council's ability to achieve objectives.

Performance:

This unit incorporates the provision of financial management and the related services of asset management, insurances and risk management.

Financial services provided include: rates administration, receipts and payments, wages and salaries, budgeting and annual report preparation, investments, insurance, loans, asset registers and depreciation.

Council identifies potential significant risks and obtains insurance cover accordingly.

Council is committed to embedding enterprise risk management to create and maintain an environment that enables Council to deliver high quality services and meet performance objectives. Council recognises that risk management is an essential tool for sound strategic and financial planning and the ongoing physical operations of the organisation.

To meet this commitment, all employees are required to be competent and accountable for adequately managing risk within their area of responsibility. Council's risk management policy is the umbrella policy for all supportive activities and documentation, which have the objective of improving processes by reducing the uncertainty of outcomes, thereby minimising loss within the activities and services provided by Council.

Adopted the 2019/2020 Annual Plan and Budget on 24 June 2019.

The revaluation of the municipal area was undertaken during 2018 by LG Valuation Services and the values were effective from 1 July 2019, adjustment factors will be implemented bi-annually.

Tasmanian Audit Office has undertaken the Financial Audit services for Council during 2019/2020.

The Financial and Risk Management Audit Committee met during the year and provided input into Council's operations.

Council collects a volunteer fire service levy in respect of land in Cressy, Campbell Town, Longford, Evandale and Perth; and a general fire service levy for all other land.

The Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2020 is appended to this report; included is the Independent Audit report provided by the Tasmanian Audit Office.

Council adopted/ reviewed the following policies during the year:

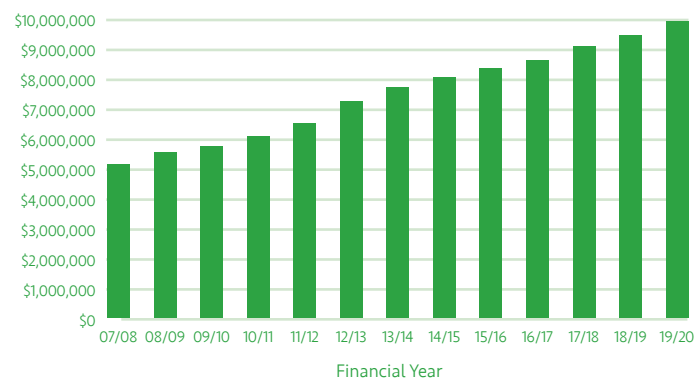
- Related Party Disclosure – Reviewed 19 August 2019;
- Contractual Insurances – 20 January 2020;
- Financial Assistance Hardship – Adopted 27 April 2020; and
- Rates and Charges – Revision: 29 June 2020.

Council's recurrent revenue during 2019/2020 was \$19.055 million (\$18.996m 2018/2019), capital income \$1.84 million (\$2.89m 2018/2019) resulting in total income of \$20.9 million (\$21.9m 2018/2019). Operating expenditure was \$20.483 million (\$18.014m 2018/2019), which resulted in a surplus of \$0.409 million (\$3.875m 2018/2019).

The overall surplus was slightly less than the 2019/2020 budgeted surplus of \$3.4 million; mainly due to increased depreciation from asset revaluations of \$826; loss on disposal of fixed assets, including: the Campbell Town Recreation Ground Grandstand/clubrooms and the Longford Recreation Ground clubrooms/amenities \$913; Capital Grant revenue of \$952 not classified as revenue until project funding spent; and budgeted capital grant funding not received for the Perth Bypass works.

Rate Revenue was raised via a differential rating system in 2019/2020 based generally on the same amount of rate revenue, plus indexation and development, as previous years for each land use category. The General Rate in the dollar of assessed annual value was increased by 3.1% resulting in total rate revenue amounting to \$11.4 million or 59.6% of operating revenue and was generally within budget expectations. Rate receivables at 30 June 2020 represent 27.5% (21.6% at June 2018) of rate revenue (or 2.9% with the debt impairment adjustment). The increase being mainly due to one large rate debtor.

General Rate Revenue \$'s



Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant Revenue increased by \$38,710 in 2019/2020 to \$3.61 million (adjusted for advance payments). Grant revenue in 2019/2020 includes advance Financial Assistance payments of \$1.857 million (\$1.81m 2019/2020).

In addition, Council received \$615,163 in grant funding for projects including:

Campbell Town Recreation Ground Complex	\$300,000
Child Care Operations and Projects	\$170,008
Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax Grants	\$74,952
Cressy Recreation Ground Amenities Upgrade	\$20,412
Avoca Playground	\$19,074
Avoca Hall Kitchen	\$15,641
Perth – Phillip Street Bus Stop	\$14,224
Campbell Town Cenotaph Redevelopment	\$990
Free2B Girls Program	\$222

Cash and investments totalling \$10.59 million were on hand at the end of the reporting period, which is an increase of \$0.35 million on last year's balance of \$10.24 million. Cash and investments on hand represent money quarantined for the following areas:

Infrastructure Reserve	\$4.664m
Grants Paid in Advance	\$0.952m
Money held in Trust	\$0.926m
Employee Entitlements	\$1.394m
Special Committees	\$0.259m
General Funds	\$2.393m

Investment revenue from TasWater dividend/ tax equivalent income of \$234,000 being 50% of budgeted dividends decreased due to TasWater's COVID-19 policy (\$468,000 for full year non-priority distributions being allocated to councils in 2018/2019).

Depreciation actual cost increased from the previous year by \$583,000 to \$6.2 million, due to revaluation/ indexation of assets.

Council recorded a net increase in asset revaluation of non-current assets of \$75.57 million (\$7.42 million 2018/2019) on Property and Infrastructure.

Council's total equity in 2019/2020 increased by \$64.35 million to \$388.70 million (\$17.13 million to \$324.35 million 2018/2019).

Council recorded non-current infrastructure assets with a written down value of \$342.0 million or Gross Value of \$466 million as at 30 June 2020 (2018/2019 \$263 million or Gross Value of \$392.3 million). (Note 14 in the financial statement provides a breakdown of asset values recognised).

Payments for purchase/construction of fixed assets totalled \$7.5 million, representing 35% of total annual cashflow during 2019/2020.

The Tasmanian State Audit Office was appointed auditor for financial period ending 30 June 2020 at a cost of \$24,790 (2018/2019 \$24,790).

The Auditor General advised that to be sustainable, local government needs to have sufficient capacity to be able to manage future financial risks and shocks without having to radically adjust their current revenue or expenditure policies. Whilst Council's 2019/2020 underlying result is a \$1.177 million deficit or a 6% underlying deficit ratio (see Note 27), the result is subject to some one-off operating items. A negative result indicates a deficit which is unable to be sustained in the long term, while Council has had a negative result in two of the last four years, Council believes it is sustainable in the long term and continues to work towards achieving an ongoing positive result.



• Blackburn Park Carvings, Campbell Town

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Objective:

Provide practical, viable, sustainable information management policies and procedures; deliver information management services to meet organisation, statutory and community needs.

Performance:

Council operates a computer network connecting all users within the administrative headquarters. Remote users at the Longford Works Depot are connected to the network via a fibre optic cable.

Council utilises the Open Office Pty Ltd Local Government suite of programs for financials, Intramaps mapping application, and the Technology One information management system.

Council utilises an Infonet and Office 365 mailing system throughout the office as well as being connected to the Internet.

Council's email address is:
council@nmc.tas.gov.au

Council's website is:
www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Council is an active member of the Tasmanian Technology One (ECM Records Management) User Group.

Council adopted/ reviewed the following policies during the year:

- Reviewed the Information Management Policy on July 2019;
- Information and Communication Technology Resources and Electronic Communications Acceptable Use – Reviewed July 2019; and
- Information Technology Security – Adopted 20 January 2020.

During the period undertook improvements to Information Technology systems as follows:

- Provision of CCTV to Council facilities, continued coverage of major buildings and attractions, \$57,392;
- Installed Conference Room Equipment, Televisions and Sound Systems, \$37,723;
- Upgraded staff desktop/laptop computers and monitors, \$29,184;
- Upgraded mobile phones and sundry electronic items, \$8,781; and
- Upgrade of Christmas tree lights, \$2,545.

WORK HEALTH & SAFETY

Objective:

Protect the health and safety of all stakeholders in the workplace from exposure to hazards and risks resulting from workplace conduct.

Performance:

Council aims to provide a safe, healthy and supportive environment where employees are valued, respected and are able to realise their full potential.

Council continues to encourage staff participation in workplace reform by holding regular staff and department meetings as well as supporting a Consultative Committee.



CEMETERIES

Objective:

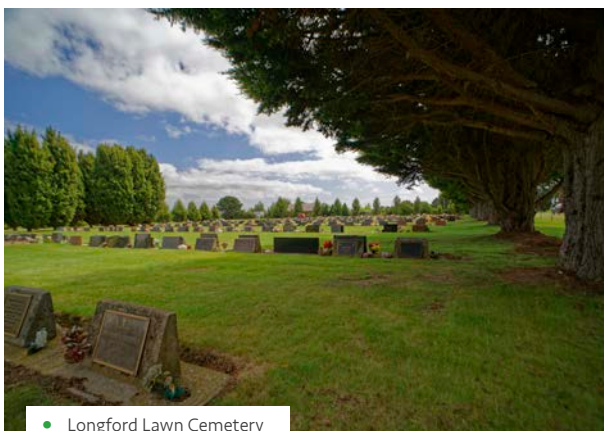
Maintain and manage the Perth and Longford general cemeteries and associated infrastructure and services.

Performance:

Council own and operate:

- the Lawn Cemetery, Rose Garden and Niche Wall at Cressy Road, Longford;
- a Rose Garden in Pioneer Park, Evandale; and
- Perth Cemetery (taken over from 24 June 2000).

A service is provided, in conjunction with Arrow Engraving Pty Ltd, to supply memorial plaques.



• Longford Lawn Cemetery

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Objective:

Provide service within the limits of resource availability and without detriment to existing 'traditional' provision by private and government services rather than Council.

Performance:

Council operates Long Day Childcare Services adjacent to the Perth Community Centre five days per week and at the Cressy Childcare Centre two days per week; the service operates between the hours of 8am and 6pm. Avoca Childcare Centre is operated each Monday between 9am and 5pm.

Midlands Kids Club After School Care Services are operated from the Perth Community Centre and Perth Primary School.

Midlands Kids Club Vacation Care Services are provided during school holiday periods from the Perth Community Centre.



• Childcare Team

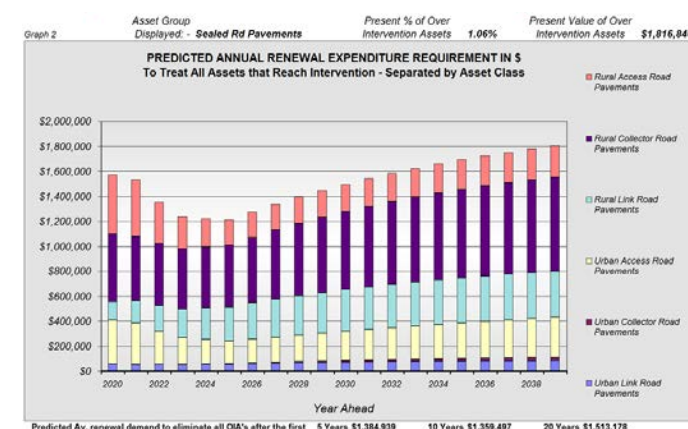
WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Works includes the provision of maintenance and construction of Council infrastructure and facilities. Engineering Services includes the provision of the Engineering Design and Services, Waste Management & Infrastructure Management.

PROGRESS REPORT	STATUS	COMMENTS
TRANSlinc Precinct Renewal – Stormwater	ON TRACK	Seeking grant assistance to fund planned works. Included in NMC Priority Projects 2019 document.
Campbell Town War Memorial Oval	ON TRACK	External landscaping works, tennis court shade structure and irrigation works outstanding.
Longford NM Sport and Fitness Centre	ON TRACK	Stage 3 works commenced, incl: foyer, landscaping and car park.
Evandale Honeysuckle Banks	ON TRACK	Masterplan complete. Only minor works being undertaken. Included in NMC Priority Projects 2019 document. Table and bench seating replaced.
Nile Road Upgrade	ON TRACK	Included in Roads 5-year Capital Works program. Included in NMC Priority Projects 2019 document.
Stormwater Management Plans	ON TRACK	Model build for all Towns in progress.
Waste Management 2017–2020	ON TRACK	Member of the Northern Waste Management Committee. WTS disposal and supervision contracts tendered for long term provision of services. Concrete material being collected, to be crushed at a later date.
NRM Program Collaboration	ON TRACK	Collaborating with NRM North on the WSUD Master Plan for Sheepwash Creek.
Longford Recreation Ground Master Plan	COMPLETED	Complete.
Sheepwash Creek	ON TRACK	Stage 2 in progress.

Figure P5 Predicted Renewal Demand to treat all assets that reach the intervention level in future years



ROADS

Objective:

Maintain through cost effective operations, safe and effective road network to meet the needs of all users.

Performance:

Council has northern and southern based road works crews and responsibilities include asset management, road construction, resealing, re-sheeting, grading, edging and potholing, footpaths, roadside slashing, roadside spraying, safety railing, signage, kerb and channel, roadside drainage and emergency maintenance.

Northern Midlands has a total road network consisting of:

- 108 kilometres urban sealed roads;
- 465 kilometres rural sealed roads;
- 13 kilometres urban gravel roads; and
- 374 kilometres rural gravel roads.

Council undertakes a scheduled revaluation of road infrastructure assets valued in accordance with AASB116 Property Plant & Equipment and AASB113 Fair Value Measurement. The current replacement cost is calculated using current construction costs provided by qualified staff/consultants.

As at 1 July 2019 Road Infrastructure was revalued following physical condition assessment which resulted in a total replacement cost of \$283,578,620 and accumulated depreciation of \$79,357,807 and a Net Amount at Fair Value of \$204,220,813.

Projected renewal funding required in 2019 Road Condition Assessment depicted in Fig P5 (refer Moloney Road Condition Survey Report 2019).

Following annual cost indexation, additions and disposals, and depreciation the breakdown of road infrastructure value as at 30 June 2020 is as follows:

Replacement cost	\$284,399,216
Accumulated Depreciation	\$81,885,962
Net amount at Fair Value	\$202,513,254



• Works Team

Reseals

Sealed 26,207m² of new seal and upgraded 163,294m² seal at a total cost of \$952,162.

Resheeted gravel roads at a total cost of \$143,063.

Road Construction

Reconstructed 24,450m² rural sealed pavements, 2,115m² urban sealed pavements and 3,133m² recreation ground access roads and car parks at a cost of \$1.1 million; including: Saundridge Road, Cressy; Valleyfield Road, Campbell Town; Paton Street, Longford; Phillip Street (verge only), Perth; Longford and Campbell Town Recreation Grounds access and carparks; and the section of Seccombe Street from the northern roundabout.

Footpaths

Constructed/reconstructed footpaths at a cost of \$310,665:

- 628m² new concrete;
- 220m² new washed concrete;
- 84m² renewed concrete; and
- 195.5m² renewed gravel.

Other Road Infrastructure

- No subdivision road assets were transferred to Council during the year;
- During 2019/2020 the reconstruction of a section of Saundridge Road, Cressy and Valleyfield Road, Campbell Town at a cost of \$657,056 was achieved through Roads to Recovery funding;
- Reconstruction of urban streets, including: sections of Smith Street, Longford; Phillip Street, Mary Street, Old Punt Road and Drummond Street, Perth; Village Green, Ross; and Campbell Town and Longford Recreation Grounds;
- Constructed 1,254m kerb and channel at a cost of \$117,891;
- Installed 1,254 street lights, \$10,279;
- Provided street furniture including seats, tables and benches, picnic settings, and waste bins across the municipal area, \$90,284; and
- Purchased road plant/vehicles at a net cost of \$704,150 including: a John Deere Tractor and Reach Arm Slasher, 8 utilities/light trucks, 4 sedans and several other light fleet items (including mowers and slashers).



• Phillip Street Perth — footpath



• Ross Village Green — works in progress

STORMWATER

Objective:

- Provide a stormwater network within town areas to drain the majority of properties, road reservations and public open spaces; and
- Maintain a safe and effective stormwater system (including kerb & gutter and drains), whilst utilising Water Sensitive Urban Design principles to mitigate the impact of development on waterways and improving visual and recreational amenity of the urban landscape.

Performance:

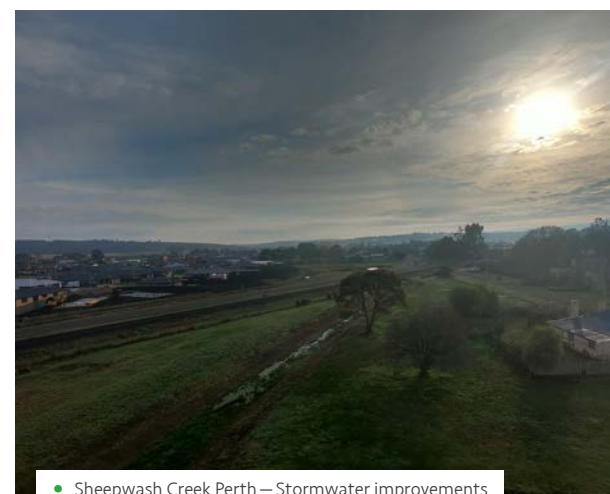
Progressed the stormwater flooding study for the TRANSlink industrial area and West Perth Urban Stormwater Plan.

Received donation of stormwater infrastructure totalling 0.93kms, \$340,141.

Membership of the Northern Stormwater Program, TEER Committee, \$15,000.

Undertook stormwater/drainage works, installed 0.84 kms stormwater pipes and associated manholes and gully pits at a cost of \$223,852, including:

- Installed new stormwater drains — Frederick Street, Perth, Longford Recreation Ground and Sports Centre carparks;
- Replaced stormwater infrastructure — Memorial Hall carpark, Evandale;
- Improvements — Phillip Street, Perth;
- Replaced stormwater infrastructure — Falls Park, Evandale; and
- Extended stormwater infrastructure in High Street, Evandale.



• Sheepwash Creek Perth — Stormwater improvements

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Objective:

Provide, maintain and manage Council's public building and recreation infrastructure assets.

Performance:

Council maintains public buildings bus shelters and other street furniture throughout the municipal area; and project manages construction of, and alterations to, Council buildings.

Council supplies and maintains sport and recreation facilities throughout the Northern Midlands area.

Council actively supports local recreation ground management committees and encourages/promotes the use of existing recreation facilities.

Council also provides and maintains a variety of:

- parks and reserves to provide public open space and enjoyment for the community;
- the peaceful and manicured cemetery grounds at Longford, Perth and Evandale; and
- public amenities and buildings are maintained across the municipal area.

Facilities maintained, include:

- 8 ovals for sporting activities;
- 24 community halls/centres;

- 2 caravan parks;
- 3 swimming pools;
- 7 waste transfer stations;
- 4 Visitor Information centres/kiosks;
- 13 Public Toilet facilities; and
- 69 Parks & Reserves.

Banner Poles: Avoca, Evandale and Perth (\$38,561)

Street Trees and Surrounds: Avoca and Campbell Town (\$116,258)

Avoca: Museum Solar Panels (\$15,040)

Campbell Town: Cenotaph upgrade (\$197,954), Multi-Purpose Complex completion (\$3,017,218), Tennis Centre (\$264,680), Tennis Court Lighting (\$83,126), Electronic Scoreboard (\$92,698)

Evandale: Entrance Signage (\$15,696), Recreation Ground storage shed (\$43,704), Community Centre glass roof replacement (\$40,416)

Lake Leake: Pontoon (\$46,500)

Longford: Recreation Ground – Ticket Booth (\$13,020), Grandstand refurbishment (\$168,690), Fred Davies Grandstand refurbishment (\$28,674), Umpires Rooms (\$196,201), Club Rooms & amenities (\$2,205,572)

Perth: Seccombe Street barbecue shelter (\$13,380), Main Road bus shelter (\$17,058)

Park signage, including: Stokes Park and Carins Park, Longford (\$4,619).



• Ross Caravan Park



• Signage erected at Stokes Park Longford, in recognition of the generous donation of land to Council by Mr Peter Stokes



• Avoca street trees



• Cenotaph at Campbell Town War Memorial Oval

BRIDGES

Objective:

Manage bridges to ensure safety and maximum life span.

Performance:

Northern Midlands is responsible for construction and maintenance of the following bridge and major culvert structures:

Type	length	Number
Box culvert	901m ²	36
Concrete	10,172m ²	121
Composite	48m ²	1
Concrete footbridge	142m ²	2
Concrete bridge structures	11,263m²	160
Pipe culverts	1,260m ²	87
Timber bridge structures	137m²	3
Total	12,660m²	250

Council replaced 4 of Council's 7 remaining timber bridge structures with concrete and provided additional features to 1 concrete bridge (\$677,719)

Replacement of Gipps Creek Road Bridge No. 2057; Storys Creek Road Bridge No. 4000; Old Coach Road Bridge No. 5028; Snow Hill Road Bridge No. 2150 at a value of \$0.6 million.



• Royal George Bridge (Old Coach Road)



• Storys Creek Bridge

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Objective:

Disposal of all forms of waste economically and effectively with a high level of environmental awareness. Strategy emphasises recycling, waste minimisation, litter reduction and service availability.

Performance:

Council provides a fortnightly door-to-door domestic waste and recycle collection service to the townships of Avoca, Cressy, Evandale, Longford, Nile, Campbell Town, Ross, Rossarden, Conara, Epping Forest, Perth and Royal George as well as some 320 rural properties within the northern area.

The Avoca, Evandale, Campbell Town and Longford waste transfer stations are supervised and green waste is accepted.

Provide a street sweeping/cleaning service and litter collection service of town streets and some recreational areas.

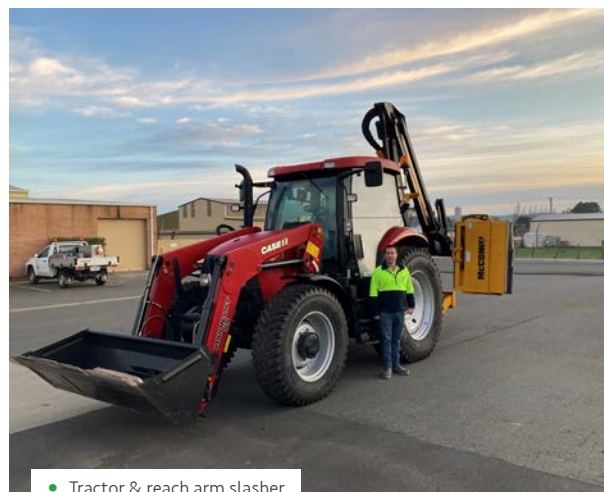
Provide an annual “special” garbage collection in township areas during December.

Participated in the Northern Tasmanian Development Regional Waste Management Committee and adopted the Waste Management Budget for 2019/2020.

Provided a ‘Special’ refuse collection service for all urban areas for the purpose of assisting those with limited access to dispose of unwanted goods to Council’s Waste Transfer Stations.

Replaced mobile garbage bins as required.

Constructed a wash bay at the Longford Depot, at a cost of \$42,343.



• Tractor & reach arm slasher

PLANT

Objective:

Procure, maintain and utilise plant & machinery in a safe, cost effective and efficient manner in the service and provision of community infrastructure assets.

Performance:

Council provide fleet cars for managerial activities and community services.

Heavy plant including graders, backhoes, tractors, trucks are held for maintenance and construction of Council infrastructure assets.

A 10-year plant replacement program is maintained and hire rates are costed to each project/activity to cover running and replacement expenses.

Purchased road plant/vehicles at a net cost of \$704,150 including: a John Deere Tractor and Reach Arm Slasher, 8/7 utilities/light trucks, 4 sedans and several other light fleet items (including mowers and slashers).

MAJOR PROJECTS & WORKS



MAJOR PROJECTS

With the announcement of State Government Stimulus funding in 2017 Council sought to bring forward some major building improvement works largely in accordance with adopted facility Master Plans.

Major Projects commenced and/or completed during the financial year, include:

Longford Recreation Ground & Northern Midlands Sports Centre Precincts

Council's vision for a coordinated and expanded sport and recreation precinct comprising an upgraded sports centre, upgraded and expanded recreation ground stadium and functions building, an upgraded oval and a new training field brought about the development of:

- the Northern Midlands Health, Fitness and Sports Centre Master Plan; and
- development of a master plan, in collaboration with Longford community and sporting organisations, for the adjacent Longford Recreation Ground.

The Northern Midlands Sports Centre, built in 1983/1984, is an integral component of Council's sport and recreation infrastructure. The need to modernise and expand the facility resulted in Council commissioning the development of a master plan to serve as a blueprint for the centre's staged redevelopment.

The Northern Midlands Community Sports Centre Master Plan was adopted by Council in 2015.

Stage One commenced in 2018/2019 with the building being extended to accommodate a new gym, aerobics room, toilets and changerooms, and a child care area. A mezzanine floor has been installed to allow for future expansion at another level. Stage Two will be completed during 2020/2021.

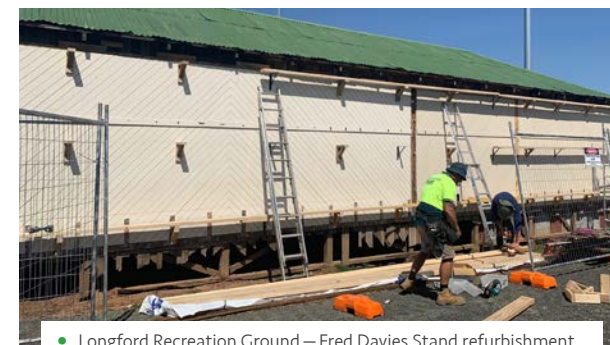
Ross Village Green

In mid-2016 Council purchased a vacant block (5,631m²) with 59m street frontage located at 33 Church Street; and engaged consultants to develop the Ross Village Green Master Plan. The consultants were required to consult with the community and consider the site in relation to its land use, historical and social context.

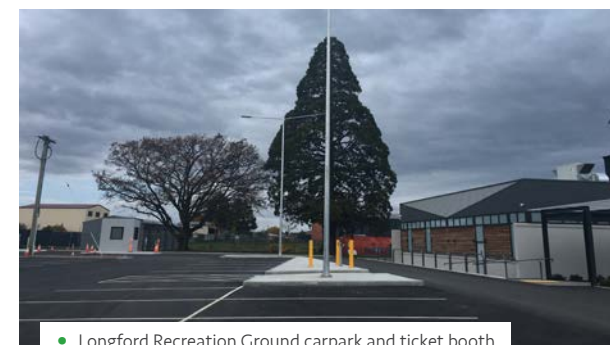
Council secured a State Government interest free loan of \$300,000 toward the implementation of the Village Green master plan. Work commenced on Stage 1 of the project during the 2018/2019 financial year (costed at \$305,000) and Stage Two works costed at approximately \$400,000 will be undertaken during 2020/2021.



• Longford Sports Centre



• Longford Recreation Ground – Fred Davies Stand refurbishment



• Longford Recreation Ground carpark and ticket booth

Council Chambers, Longford

In 2018/2019 the upgrade of the Council Chambers at Longford commenced. The first stage of the upgrade included the entrance to the Council Chambers, to provide a new disabled access and the construction of a public car park at a cost of \$520,000.

The access, upgraded forecourt and streetscaping has improved the visual appearance and functionality of the building and the precinct in general.

A tree planting program to enhance the streetscape of the street fronting the Council Office, Smith Street, was also implemented during the financial year.

Council commenced with further upgrades to its heritage building in 2019/2020, which included: the upgrade of the kitchen and staff facilities and amenities, as well as the construction of a Mayoral and Councillor meeting room which will be completed in 2020/2021.



● Council Chambers, Longford

Perth — Open Space Tree Plantation Corridor

During the development approval process for the State Governments' Perth Links Road project, Council conditioned the approval to include a 20 metre wide tree plantation for the length of the 4.5km corridor to allow for a future shared path to connect to open space within the developed areas of Perth.

Council negotiated with the State Government to have the corridor in Council ownership and has been responsible for the fencing and planting, which has commenced. A future shared path corridor has been provided for in the planting design and is proposed to connect the open space throughout Perth, leading to the main street and South Esk River frontage reserves.

Perth Early Learning Centre

In parallel with the development of the Perth Structure Plan Council collaborated with the Department of Education and the Perth community to develop the Perth Community Centre and Early Learning Precinct Master Plan.

Perth's significant growth has put the current Perth Early Learning Centre at capacity and Council supported the business case for the building of a new centre and subsequently in December 2018 purchased a greenfield site off Fore Street in Perth.

During the 2019 Federal Election, the Coalition committed \$2.6M to build a new Early Learning Centre in Perth.

The new centre is in full design stage with commencement of onsite works expected during 2021.



● Perth Early Learning Centre

Cressy Swimming Pool

The Cressy Swimming Pool was opened in 1965. A Special Committee of Council comprising local community members manages the complex, with a formal management agreement in place between Council and the Committee.

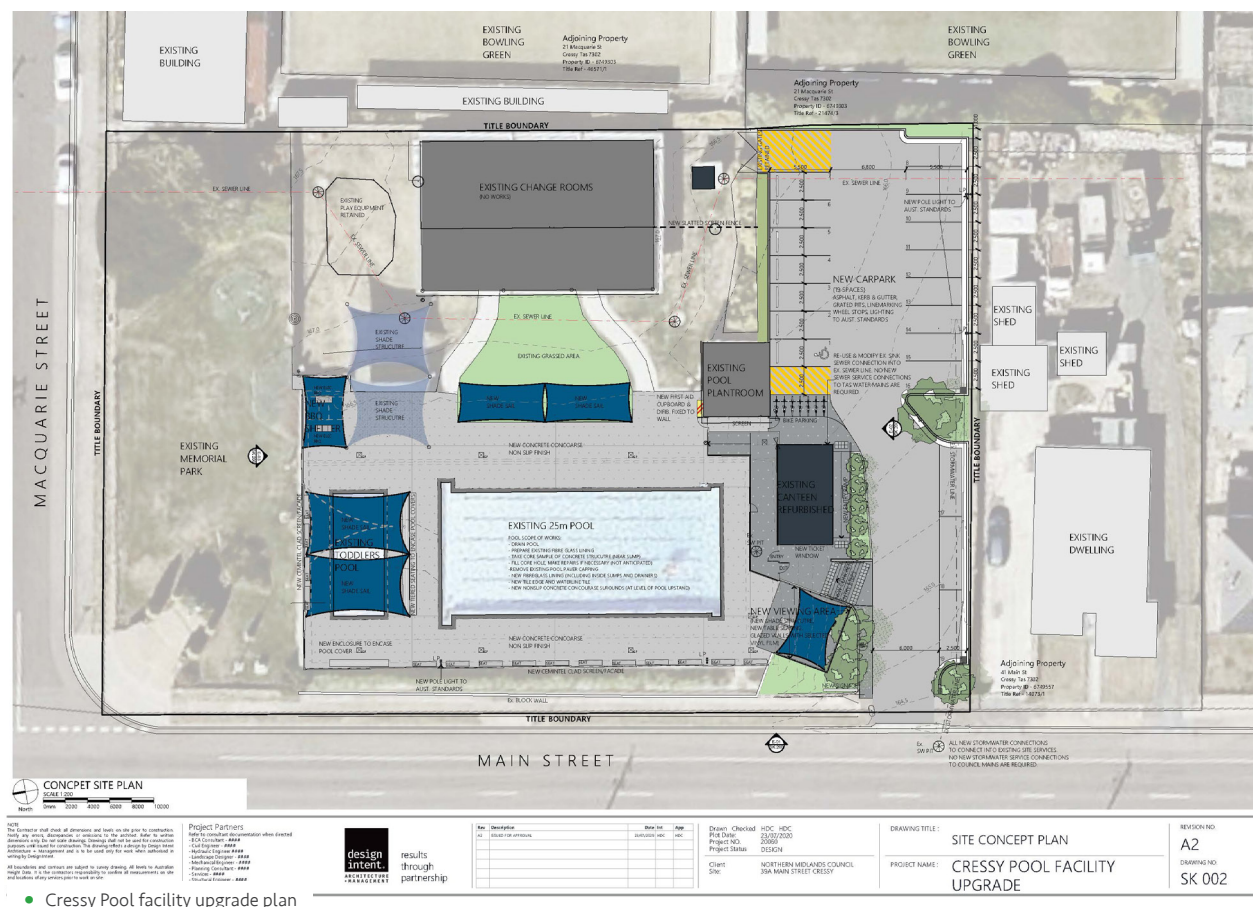
The Cressy Swimming Pool is the only public pool in the 'top end' of the Northern Midlands and thus it draws its patrons from Cressy, Longford, Perth and Evandale, and surrounding farming properties. The complex comprises the main pool, a toddler's pool, changerooms and toilets (renovated in 2010), kiosk, office and a grassed sitting/play area.

Council secured a State Government grant of \$100,000 towards the implementation of the swimming pool master plan.

The installation of a playground was completed in May 2019 which was externally funded by Tasmanian Community Fund and Stronger Communities Programme.

In March 2019, the Nationals in Government made a funding commitment of \$400,000 toward this project.

Stage One, including new kiosk, entrance and automated pool covers will be commenced in 2020/2021.



CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2019-2020

ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

All areas

Replacement of existing cracked asphalt footpath with concrete	ONGOING
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Campbell Town

Valleyfield Road — Road Reconstruction	ACHIEVED
Main Street — Reconstruction of Verges, Kerb & Gutter, Accesses	DEFERRED

Cressy

Saundridge Road — Road Reconstruction	ACHIEVED
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Evandale

High Street — Road Reconstruction	ACHIEVED
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Longford

Smith Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	ACHIEVED
Paton Street — Reconstruction of Verge, Kerb & Gutter	ACHIEVED
Carins Street — Reconstruction, Kerb & Gutter	ACHIEVED
Hobhouse Street — Road Reconstruction	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
High Street — Reconstruction of Verge	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021

Perth

Norfolk Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Norfolk Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Norfolk Street — Road Reconstruction, Kerb & Gutter	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Mary Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	ACHIEVED
Phillip Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	ACHIEVED
Phillip Street — Concrete Footpath Construction	ACHIEVED

BRIDGES

Storys Creek Road, Tasmania Creek — Concrete to Timber abutments	ACHIEVED
Gipps Creek Road, Buffalo Brook Creek — Timber to Timber abutments	ACHIEVED
Old Coachman's Road, Un-named Creek — Concrete abutments	ACHIEVED

URBAN STORMWATER/DRAINAGE

Undertake specific stormwater/drainage projects as detailed in the works program including:

Western Junction – TRANSlink – (Stage 1 detention basin)	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Perth – Sheepwash Creek – Clearing and fencing	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Perth – Sheepwash Creek – Monitoring system	ACHIEVED
Perth – Sheepwash Creek – Subdivision/water main relocation/acquisition	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Perth – Cromwell Street – Culvert replacement	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Perth – Phillip Street – Extend culvert	ACHIEVED
Longford – Paton Street – Basin batters	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Campbell Town / Ross – Macquarie Hydraulics – Flood modelling	ACHIEVED
Longford – Flood Levee Gate Automation	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Minor Projects	ACHIEVED

RECREATION, BUILDING & COMMUNITY

New Building Facility Booking system	ACHIEVED
Install banner poles – Evandale & Perth	ACHIEVED
Office Premises – alterations and roof replacement	ACHIEVED
Upgrade Entrance Statements <i>Landscaping/Beautification</i>	ACHIEVED

Avoca

Community Centre – <i>switchboard upgrade</i>	ACHIEVED
Play equipment	ACHIEVED

Campbell Town

Campbell Town Recreation Ground – Improvements continued	ONGOING
Recreation Ground Complex	ONGOING
Recreation Ground interchange benches	ACHIEVED
Hall	ON HOLD
Units	ACHIEVED

Cressy

Recreation Ground Clubroom/amenities upgrade	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Motorhome dump point	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Pool improvements to be determined	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021

Epping Forest

Hall	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
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Evandale

Recreation Ground Amenities upgrade	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Falls Park Pavilion	ACHIEVED
Community Centre Roof	ACHIEVED
Memorial Hall	ACHIEVED

Lake Leake

Pontoon	ACHIEVED
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Liffey

Hall Roof replacement	ACHIEVED
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Longford

Longford Sports Centre	ONGOING
Recreation Ground – <i>Top Dressing</i>	ACHIEVED

Ross

Hall – Painting	ACHIEVED
Library – Painting	ACHIEVED
Caravan Park	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Village Green	DEFERRED TO 2020/2021
Pool Upgrade	DEFERRED

REPORTING ON LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS



PUBLIC TENDERS

LIST OF CONTRACTS AWARDED OVER \$100,000 excl. GST (Local Government Act)

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT	PERIOD OF CONTRACT	VALUE OF TENDER AWARDED (EXCL. GST)	BUSINESS NAME (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	BUSINESS ADDRESS (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	MINUTE REFERENCE	CONTRACT NO.
Kerbside Waste Collection	1 July 2019 to 30 June 2026	Urban & rural fortnightly refuse collection	JJ's Waste & Recycling	3 Grant Street, Cleveland QLD 4163	263/19	19/11
Kerbside Recycling Collection	1 July 2020 to 1 April 2027	Collections @ \$1.49	Veolia Environmental Services	PO Box 431, Rosny 7018	095/20	19/25
Kerbside Recycling Processing	1 July 2010 extended to 1 April 2020	Tonnes collected @ \$48.20 per Tonne	Veolia Environmental Services	PO Box 431, Rosny 7018	134/10 & 26/19	10/03A
Council Waste Clearance & Bin Hire	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021	Est \$147,435 clearance \$29,858 bin hire but based on no. of clearances	Just Waste	PO Box 499, Prospect 7250	101/18	18/03
Management of Waste Transfer Stations	1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023	\$220,323	Just Waste	PO Box 499, Prospect 7250	135/20	20/04
Land Use Planning & Development Strategy	1 November 2017 to 31 December 2019	\$125,765	Johnston McGee & Gandy	117 Harrington Street, Hobart 7000	302/17	
Longford Council Chambers Upgrade – alterations		\$616,055	Vos Constructions	3 Hudson Fysh Drive, Western Junction 7212	422/19	19/21
Campbell Town War Memorial Oval Tennis Court complex		\$355,262	Basset Building Pty Ltd	231 Relbia Road, Relbia 7258	342/18	
High Street Longford Stormwater extension		\$296,010	J & W Sherriff Pty Ltd	PO Box 230, Mowbray 7250	377/18	–
Bridge 4000 – Storys Creek Road		\$152,806	TasSpan	PO Box 225, Latrobe 7207	351/19	19/15
Bridge 2057 – Gipps Creek Road		\$184,194	TasSpan	PO Box 225, Latrobe 7207	351/19	19/16
Bridge 2150 – Snow Hill Road		\$124,348	TasSpan	PO Box 225, Latrobe 7207	351/19	19/17
Bridge 5028 – Old Coach Road		\$136,085	TasSpan	PO Box 225, Latrobe 7207	351/19	19/18
Bridge 1469 – Storys Creek Road		\$207,375	Bridge Pro Engineering Pty Ltd	PO Box 3253, Ulverstone MDC, 7315	165/20	
Bridge 1813 – Hop Valley Road		\$191,620	Bridge Pro Engineering Pty Ltd	PO Box 3253, Ulverstone MDC, 7315	165/20	
Bridge 4519 – Verwood Road		\$112,035	Bridge Pro Engineering Pty Ltd	PO Box 3253, Ulverstone MDC, 7315	165/20	

BIENNIAL CONTRACTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT	PERIOD OF CONTRACT	VALUE OF TENDER AWARDED (EXCL. GST)	BUSINESS NAME (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	BUSINESS ADDRESS (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	MINUTE REFERENCE	CONTRACT NO.
Spraying of Roadsides and Footpaths	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Spider Pest & Weed Control	PO Box 329, Beauty Point 7270	194/19	19/03
Supply and Delivery of Road Maintenance Gravel	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Gradco Pty Ltd	PO Box 290, Newstead 7250	194/19	19/04(i)
Supply and Delivery of Road Maintenance Gravel	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Boral Construction Materials	PO Box 36, Launceston 7250	194/19	19/04(ii)
Supply and Delivery of Road Pug Base Gravel	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	BIS Industrial Logistics	PO Box 494, Albion, QLD 4010	194/19	19/04
Supply of Bituminous Resealing of Roads	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd	73-79 Lilydale Road, Rocherlea 7248	194/19	19/05
Construction of Concrete Kerb and Gutter & Crossovers	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd	73-79 Lilydale Road, Rocherlea 7248	194/19	19/06(i)
Construction of Concrete Kerb and Gutter & Crossovers	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	PJ Contracting & Kerbing	PO Box 31, Mowbray Heights 7248	194/19	19/06(ii)
Construction of Asphalt Footpaths, Driveways & Road Digouts	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	North Seal Pty Ltd	5A Ray Street, Invermay 7248	194/19	19/07
Construction of Concrete Footpaths & Driveways	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd	73-79 Lilydale Road, Rocherlea 7248	194/19	19/08(i)
Construction of Concrete Footpaths & Driveways	to 30 June 2021	Bi-Annual Tender	PJ Contracting & Kerbing	PO Box 31, Mowbray Heights 7248	194/19	19/08(ii)

NON APPLICATION OF PUBLIC TENDER POLICY

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT	PERIOD OF CONTRACT	VALUE OF TENDER AWARDED (EXCL. GST)	BUSINESS NAME (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	BUSINESS ADDRESS (SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR)	MINUTE REFERENCE	CONTRACT NO.
No item during 2019/2020						

ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY COUNCILLORS

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

Please refer to table on page 15 for details of attendance.

ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

During 2019/2020 Council provided allowances and reimbursements of all reasonable expenses to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors. The total amount of these payments was \$214,137 (compared to \$205,282 the previous year). Please refer to page 15 for further breakdown of allowance and expense payments.

REMUNERATION STATEMENT

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

The remuneration statement is provided for those positions designated by Council as senior positions under the Act, and includes salary payable plus any other allowances or benefits paid or provided for the benefit of the employee. Reported in Financial Statements, see Note 24(iv).

GRANTS & BENEFITS

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

During 2019/2020 Council donations under section 77 as listed on pages 27 and 43, and rate remissions under its Rate Remission Policy totalling \$5,764 (2018/2019 \$51,598); plus \$Nil (2018/2019 \$Nil) under Policy – Rate Incentive for New Development.

DONATION OF LAND

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

During 2019/2020 Council made no donations of land under section 177.

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES STATEMENT

(PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT 2012)

Copies of the current *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002* procedures of the Northern Midlands Council can be accessed on Council's website at www.northernmidlands.tas.gov.au or in hard copy at the Council offices situated at 13 Smith Street, Longford.

During the 2019/2020 financial year, the following disclosures were made to the Northern Midlands Council with regard to the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002*.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENT	NUMBER	TYPE OF DISCLOSURE
Number and types of disclosures made to Northern Midlands Council during the year that the Northern Midlands Council determines to be public interest disclosures.	Nil	N/A
Number of disclosures determined by the Northern Midlands Council to be public interest disclosures that it investigated during the year.	Nil	N/A
Number and types of disclosed matters referred to the Northern Midlands Council by the Ombudsman during the year.	Nil	N/A
Number and types of disclosed matters referred during the year by the Northern Midlands Council to the Ombudsman.	Nil	N/A
Number and types of investigations of disclosed matters taken over by the Ombudsman from the Northern Midlands Council during the year.	Nil	N/A
Number and types of disclosed matters the Northern Midlands Council has decided not to investigate during the year.	Nil	N/A
Number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated on investigation and the action taken on completion of the investigation.	Nil	N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STATEMENT

(PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1997
AND THE FOOD ACT 2003)

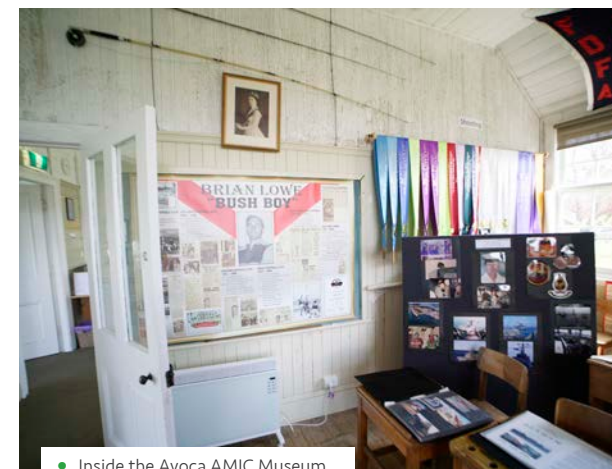
Council is committed to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of its communities and spent \$77,371 on health projects in 2019/2020 (2018/2019 \$72,359). Please refer to page 45 for further details of Council's Community Health Report.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

(RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2009)

The *Right to Information Act* provides the opportunity for public access to Council documents.

The Act establishes a legally enforceable right for the community to access information in document form held by Council. Council received four applications under the Right to Information for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. Requests for access to information under the Right to Information Act should be in writing. Requests are to be lodged with the General Manager at the Council Chambers in Longford. Enquiries regarding Right to Information can also be made by telephone.



• Inside the Avoca AMIC Museum

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

The requirements in relation to Code of Conduct, Complaints and Complaint Resolution are stipulated in Division 3A of the *Local Government Act*.

No Code of Conduct complaints were received during 2019/2020. (1 complaint was upheld during 2018/2019).

CUSTOMER REQUESTS/ COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

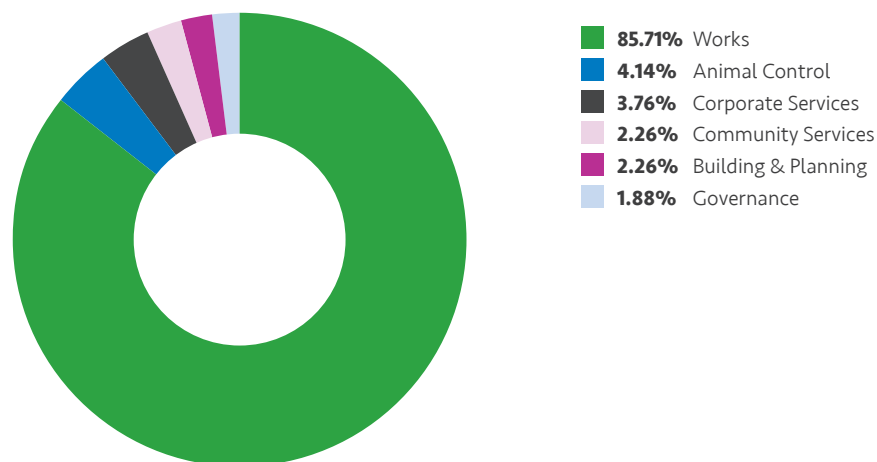
(LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)

In accordance with s339F(5) of the *Local Government Act*, the general manager is to provide the council with a report at least once a year of the number and nature of complaints received.

A total of 266 customer requests were recorded by Council in the period, the following graph depicts the nature of the requests.

Integrity Commission advised that no complaints were received in the 2019/2020 year in relation to the Northern Midlands Council.

Customer Requests 2019/20





UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Council prepares its financial statements in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, using particular terminology and conventions that may not be familiar to some readers. This overview may assist readers understand outcomes stated in the financial statements.

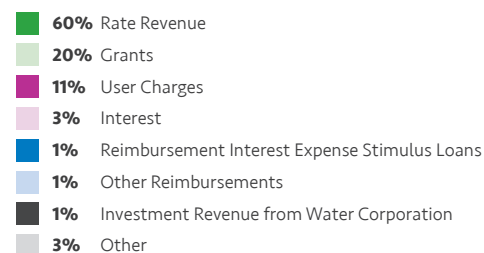
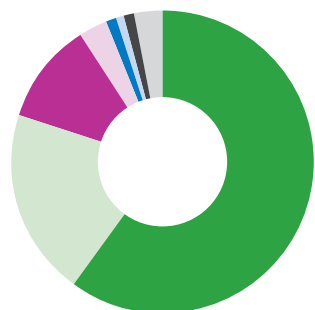
WHAT ARE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS?

The four major disclosures, which are

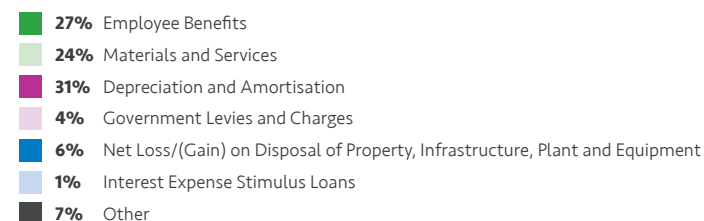
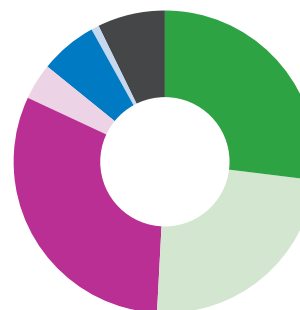
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows

are collectively known as the “Financial Statements”, these documents provide an overview of the transactions that occurred during the year and a summary of the financial status of Council at the end of the year.

Where the dollars come from
(operating income)



Where the dollars go
(operating expenditure)



THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Statement of Comprehensive Income

The Statement of Comprehensive Income provides information relating to:

- the sources of revenue earned (where the money comes from); and
- the operating expenses incurred (what the money has been spent on);

during the financial year.

It should be noted that the expenses relate only to the operating expenses (or day-to-day expenses) and do not include costs associated with the purchase or building of assets.

Although the costs of the purchase or building of assets are not included in these operating expenses, provision for the cost of the depreciation of these assets is included in the operating expenses.

The depreciation expense is the equivalent portion of the asset that has been used during the financial year. The inclusion of depreciation on these assets in the operating expenses ensures that Council matches the cost of the asset to the period in which it is used rather than just the period in which it was constructed or purchased.

It is important to note the *Surplus (Deficit)* for the period.

Statement of Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position provides a snapshot of Council's financial situation at the end of the financial year (30 June). It reflects

- what Council owns – its assets; and
- what Council owes – its liabilities.

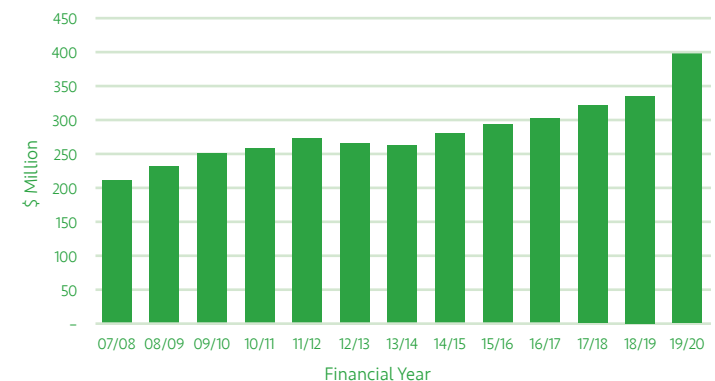
The bottom line of the Statement of Financial Position is Net Assets (Liabilities). This reflects the net worth of Council. The Assets and Liabilities are separated into Current and Non-Current categories, Current Assets and Liabilities are those which will fall due within the next reporting period (the next financial year).

Current & Non-Current Assets

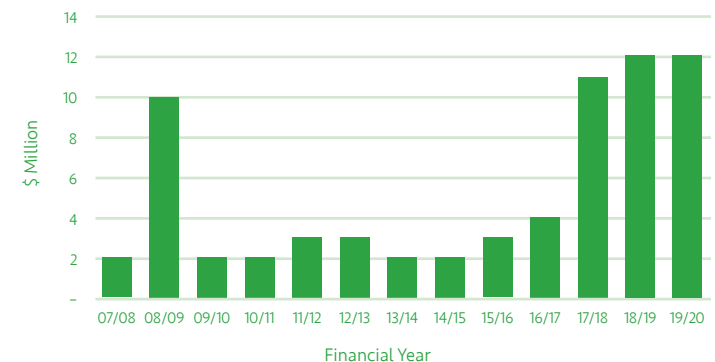
Current & Non-Current Assets include:

- Cash & cash equivalents – cash held in the bank, petty cash and cash investments such as term deposits.
- Trade & other Receivables – monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others who have been invoiced or billed.
- Other Assets – inventory and services which have been prepaid and monies owed to Council for which no invoice had been raised as at 30 June.
- Property held for Resale – land which Council plans to sell in the next financial year.
- Property, Plant & Infrastructure – land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, etc. which have been accumulated by Council.
- Investments and Loans (receivable).

Council Assets



Council Liabilities



Current & Non-Current Liabilities

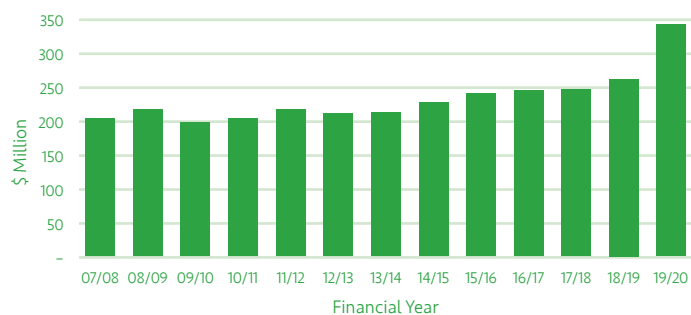
Current & Non-Current Liabilities include:

- Trade and other Payables – people and businesses to whom Council owes money;
- Trust Funds and Deposits – money held by Council on behalf of third parties;
- Provisions (Employee Benefits) – the accrued value of Long Service Leave and Annual Leave payable to employees of Council; and
- Interest Bearing Liabilities – the outstanding balance Council owes on bank loans or on any bank overdraft. Current borrowings represent the amount to be repaid in the next financial year.

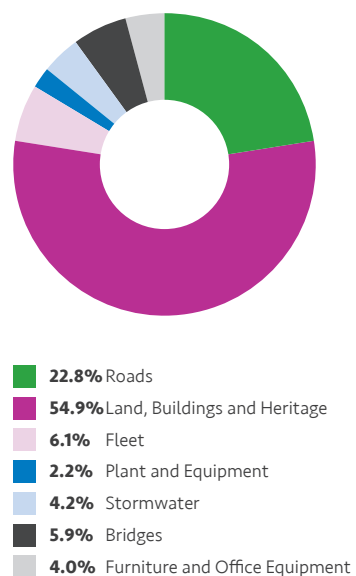
Net Assets

This term describes the difference between the value of Total Assets and Total Liabilities and represents the net worth of Council as at 30 June.

Total Property, Plant and Infrastructure Asset Value



2019/2020 Assets Purchased, Constructed and Received

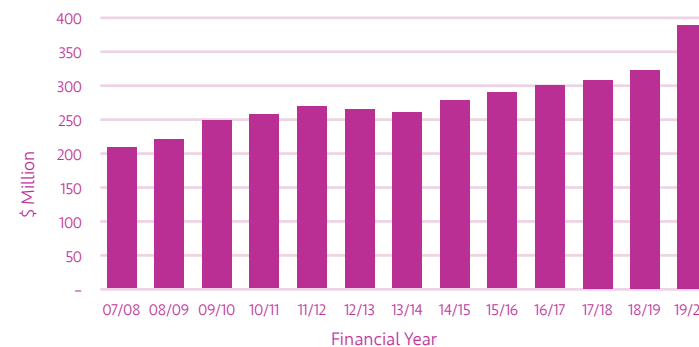


Ratepayer Equity

This is the term used to describe the components of the Net Assets, which are:

- Accumulated Surplus – the value of all net assets, other than the Asset Revaluation Reserve and Other Reserves (listed below), which have been accumulated over time;
- Asset Revaluation Reserve – the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations; and
- Other Reserves – Funds that have restrictions placed on their use and are not readily available for use by Council.

Council Equity



Statement of Changes in Equity

During the course of the year the values which make up Equity can change. This statement shows the values of such changes and how these changes arose.

The main reasons for a change in equity stem from:

- the “Surplus(Deficit)” from operations, described in the Statement as Surplus(Deficit) from continuing operations;
- the use of monies from Council’s reserves; and
- revaluation of assets – this takes place on a regular basis and when existing assets are taken up in the books for the first time.

Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows summarises cash payments and cash receipts for the year. The value in this Statement may differ from those shown in the Income Statement because the Income Statement is prepared on an accrual accounting basis. Council’s cash arises from, and is used in, three main areas:

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

- Payments (outflows) – all cash paid by Council from its bank account to staff, creditors and other persons, but does not include any costs associated with the creation of any assets; and
- Receipts (inflows) – all cash receipts arising from the general operations of Council. It includes rates, general trading sales and debtors, grants and interest earnings, but does not include cash from the sale of any assets.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

The accounting term Investing Activities relates to the construction and purchase of fixed assets (outflows) and sale of assets (inflows) such as land, buildings, equipment and other long-term revenue producing assets.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

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

The bottom line of the Statement of Cash Flows is the Cash at the End of the Financial Year. This shows the cash position of Council to meet its debts and other liabilities.

Notes to the Accounts

The Notes are a very important and informative section of the report. The Australian Accounting Standards are not prescriptive in a lot of issues. Therefore, to enable the reader to understand the basis on which the values shown in the Statements are established it is necessary to provide details of Council’s accounting policies. These are described in Note 1.

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

Where Council wishes to disclose other information which cannot be incorporated into the Statements then this information is shown in the following *Notes*. Other *Notes*, include:

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

The *Notes* should be read at the same time as, and together with, the other parts of the Financial Report to have a clear understanding of the accounts.

Certification

The Certification of the Accounts is made by the General Manager that, in his opinion, the Financial Statements met all the statutory and professional report requirements.

Auditor General’s Report

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



• Northern Midlands' rural landscape

FINANCIAL REPORT



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STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30 June 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$	2020 (BUDGETED) \$
Income				
Recurrent Income				
Rate Revenue		11,360,167	10,883,045	11,311,634
Grants	3	3,855,728	3,869,114	3,873,243
User Charges		2,104,443	1,968,554	1,991,837
Interest		612,238	786,592	632,000
Reimbursement Interest Expense Stimulus Loans		272,007	272,007	272,007
Other Reimbursements		122,877	211,835	74,681
Investment Revenue from Water Corporation	4	234,000	468,000	468,000
Other		494,053	536,572	169,233
		19,055,513	18,995,719	18,792,635
Capital Income				
Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	3	1,461,391	2,842,332	2,778,383
Contribution of non-monetary assets	14	375,142	51,480	640,962
		1,836,533	2,893,812	3,419,345
Total Income		20,892,046	21,889,531	22,211,980
Expenses				
Employee Benefits	6	5,490,013	4,753,395	5,701,031
Materials & Services	7	4,954,535	4,521,208	5,168,753
Depreciation & Amortisation	8	6,284,247	5,701,007	5,458,770
Government Levies & Charges		868,978	967,571	851,614
Net loss/(gain) on disposal of Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	5	1,259,681	373,207	566,317
Interest Expense Stimulus Loans		272,007	272,007	272,007
Other	9	1,353,933	1,426,078	738,905
Total Expenses		20,483,394	18,014,473	18,757,397
Surplus/(Deficit)		408,652	3,875,058	3,454,583
Other comprehensive income				
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit				
Net asset revaluation increment / (decrement)		75,574,902	7,418,079	
Fair value adjustment on equity investment				
- Investment in Water Corporation	15	(10,795,926)	5,833,976	
		64,778,976	13,252,055	
Comprehensive Result		65,187,628	17,127,113	

The above statement of comprehensive income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial report.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2020

	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10	6,084,172	3,327,064
Short Term Investments	10	4,506,466	6,914,434
Trade and Other Receivables	11	793,290	1,146,712
Inventory	12	20,448	21,363
Total Current Assets		11,404,376	11,409,573
Non-Current Assets			
Capital Work in Progress	13	3,192,604	6,920,764
Property, Plant & Infrastructure	14	342,588,428	263,007,731
Investment in Water Corporation	15	35,499,548	46,295,474
Investment Term Deposits		6,550,000	6,550,000
Loan Receivable	18	1,900,000	1,900,000
Total Non-Current Assets		389,730,580	324,673,969
Total Assets		401,134,956	336,083,542
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	16	2,565,854	2,042,736
Provisions	17	1,278,341	1,148,625
Total Current Liabilities		3,844,195	3,191,361
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	17	115,890	74,242
Loan Payable	18	8,470,000	8,470,000
Total Non-Current Liabilities		8,585,890	8,544,242
Total Liabilities		12,430,085	11,735,603
Net Assets		388,704,871	324,347,939
Equity			
Accumulated Surplus		164,074,234	164,496,278
Reserves		224,630,637	159,851,661
Total Ratepayer Equity		388,704,871	324,347,939

The above statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2020

	TOTAL		ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		ASSET REVALUATION RESERVES		FAIR VALUE RESERVES	
	2020 \$	2019 \$	2020 \$	2019 \$	2020 \$	2019 \$	2020 \$	2019 \$
Beginning of the Year	324,347,939	307,220,825	164,496,278	160,621,219	156,953,831	149,535,753	2,897,830	(2,936,147)
Adjustment due to AASB 15 Adoption	(830,696)	–	(830,696)	–	–	–	–	–
Comprehensive Result	65,187,628	17,127,113	408,652	3,875,058	75,574,902	7,418,079	(10,795,926)	5,833,976
Ratepayer Equity at the end of the year	388,704,871	324,347,938	164,074,234	164,496,277	232,528,733	156,953,832	(7,898,096)	2,897,829

The above statement of changes in equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial report.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the year ended 30 June 2020

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
Outflows			
Employee Costs		(5,281,562)	(4,686,240)
Materials & Services		(6,964,012)	(5,617,949)
Levies Paid		(868,978)	(967,571)
Other		(753,454)	(1,029,341)
Inflows			
Receipts from Ratepayers		10,750,590	10,510,563
Government Grants		3,994,917	4,013,871
User Charges		2,531,618	1,678,948
Interest Received		656,588	783,880
Investment Revenues from Water Corporation		234,000	468,000
Other		616,930	748,408
Receipts from Australian Taxation Office		1,057,656	1,364,988
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	23	5,974,293	7,267,557
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Outflows			
Payment for Property, Plant & Equipment		(7,459,428)	(14,248,113)
Inflows			
Capital Grants		1,821,267	2,842,332
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets		13,008	196,709
Transfer from Investments		2,407,968	1,955,062
Net Cash Provided By (used in) Investing Activities		(3,217,185)	(9,254,010)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Outflows			
Interest Paid Stimulus Loans		(272,007)	(272,007)
Inflows			
Reimbursement of Interest Expense Stimulus Loans		272,007	272,007
Net Cash Provided By (used in) Financing Activities		-	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents for the Period		2,757,108	(1,986,453)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Commencement of the Period		3,327,064	5,313,517
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period	10	6,084,172	3,327,064

The above statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial report.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT for the year ended 30 June 2020

NOTE 1

INTRODUCTION

The Northern Midlands Council was established on 2nd of April 1993 and is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal. Council's main office is located at 13 Smith Street Longford Tasmania.

The purpose of the Council is to:

- provide for the peace, order and good government in the municipality;
- to promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal area;
- to ensure that resources are used efficiently and effectively and services are provided in accordance with the Best Value Principles to best meet the needs of the local community;
- to improve the overall quality of life of people in the local community;
- to promote appropriate business and employment opportunities;
- to ensure that services and facilities provided by the Council are accessible and equitable;
- to ensure the equitable imposition of rates and charges; and
- to ensure transparency and accountability in Council decision making.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

(a) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), and the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA1993) (as amended). This financial report has been prepared on the accrual and going concern basis.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars and unless stated rounded to the nearest dollar.

This report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, except where specifically stated in notes 14, 15 and 17.

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.

All entities controlled by Council such as Special Committees of Management have been included in this financial report. All transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full.

Management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstance, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Council has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period. Judgements made by Council that have significant effects on the Financial Report are disclosed in the relevant notes as follows:

Fair Value of Property Plant & Infrastructure

Assumptions and judgements are utilised in determining the fair value of Council's property, plant and infrastructure including useful lives and depreciation rates. These assumptions are discussed in Note 1(f) and Note 27.

Employee entitlements

Assumptions are utilised in the determination of Council's employee entitlement provisions. These assumptions are discussed in Note 1(l).

Investment in water corporation

Assumptions utilised in the determination of Council's valuation of its investment in TasWater are discussed in Note 1(i) and in Note 15.

(b) ADOPTION OF NEW AND AMENDED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

(i) AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities

Council adopted AASB 15 and AASB 1058 using the modified retrospective method of transition, with the date of initial application of 1 July 2019. In accordance with the provisions of this transition approach, Council recognised the cumulative effect of applying these new standards as an adjustment to opening accumulated surpluses at the date of initial application, i.e., 1 July 2019. Consequently, the comparative information presented has not been restated and continues to be reported under the previous standards on revenue and income. In addition, Council has applied the practical expedients and elected to apply these standard retrospectively only to contracts and transactions that were not completed contracts at the date of initial application, i.e., as at 1 July 2019.

NOTE 1 (continued)

(b) ADOPTION OF NEW AND AMENDED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (continued)

As Council has applied the modified retrospective approach, it has applied the practical expedient described in AASB 15.C5(c) for all contract modifications that occurred before application date. In doing so Council did not retrospectively restate the contract for those modifications in accordance with AASB 15.20-21. Instead Council reflected the aggregate effect of all the modifications that occur before the beginning of the earliest period presented when:

- Identifying the satisfied and unsatisfied performance obligations.
- Determining the transaction price.
- Allocating the transaction price to the satisfied and unsatisfied performance obligation.

AASB 15 introduces a five-step process for revenue recognition, with the core principle of the new standard being for entities to recognise revenue to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in amounts that reflect the consideration (that is, payment) to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.

The impact of the new standard has changed in the timing of revenue recognition, treatment of contracts costs and contracts which contain a financing element. Under the new income recognition model applicable to not-for-profit entities, Council determines whether an enforceable agreement exists and whether the promises to transfer goods or services to the customer are 'sufficiently specific'. If an enforceable agreement exists and the promises are 'sufficiently specific' (to a transaction or part of a transaction), Council applies the general AASB 15 principles to determine the appropriate revenue recognition. If these criteria are not met, Council considers whether AASB 1058 applies.

AASB 1058 supersedes all the income recognition requirements relating to council, previously in AASB 1004 Contributions. The timing of income recognition under AASB 1058 depends on whether a transaction gives rise to a liability or other performance obligations, or a contribution by owners, related to an asset (such as cash or another asset) received.

AASB 1058 applies when Council receives volunteer services or enters into other transactions in which the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value of the asset, and where the asset is principally to enable Council to further its objectives. In cases where Council enters into other transactions, Council recognises and measures the asset at fair value in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards (e.g. AASB 116 property, Plant and Equipment).

If the transaction is a transfer of a financial asset to enable Council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset to be controlled by council (i.e. an in-substance acquisition of a non-financial asset), Council recognises a liability for the excess of the fair value of the transfer over any related amounts recognised. Council will recognise income as it satisfies its obligations under the transfer, similarly to income recognition in relation to performance obligations under AASB 15 as discussed above.

AASB 1058 also encompasses non-contractual statutory income such as rates, taxes and fines. Council previously recognised income when received. Under AASB 1058, income is recognised when the taxable event has occurred.

An impact for Council is that prepaid rates received prior to the beginning of a rating period, has now been recognised as a financial liability until the commencement of the rating period. The impact to Council has been that revenue previously recognised when received from Rates and Charges in advance is now recorded as a liability, with revenue deferred until the commencement of the applicable rating period.

The table below highlights the impact of adopting AASB 15 and AASB 1058 on the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial position, There has been no material impact on Councils Statement of Cash Flows.

	NOTE	AMOUNTS UNDER AASB 118 & 1004 \$	ADJUSTMENT \$	AMOUNTS UNDER AASB 15 & 1058 \$
Statement of Comprehensive Income (Extract)				
Recurrent Income				
Rate Revenue		10,883,045	(293,078)	10,589,967
Capital Income				
Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	3	2,842,332	(537,618)	2,304,714
Statement of Financial Position (Extract)				
Current Liabilities				
Trade and Other Payables	16	-	830,696	830,696
Equity				
Accumulated Surplus		164,496,278	(830,696)	163,665,582

(ii) AASB 16 Leases

AASB 16 introduces a single lessee accounting model and requires a lessee to recognise assets and liabilities for all leases of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value. A lessee is required to recognise a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying leased asset for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value. A lessee is required to recognise a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying leased asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments.

Adoption of AASB16 has not resulted in any operating leases being brought into the statement of financial position as Councils assessment of any operating leases it has, identified that they are short-term or of low value, and meet the exemptions available under AASB 16.

NOTE 1 (continued)

(c) THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

All funds through which Council controls resources to carry out its functions have been included in the financial report.

In the process of reporting on the Northern Midlands Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between those funds (e.g. loans and transfers) have been eliminated. The recording of transactions and balances for internal borrowings has been eliminated.

(d) REVENUE RECOGNITION

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue is measured on major income categories as follows:

(i) Rate Revenue

Accounting policy under AASB 15 and AASB 1058 (applicable from 1 July 2019)

Council recognises revenue from rates for the amount it is expected to be entitled at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate, or when the charge has been applied. Rates in advance are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period to which they relate.

Accounting Policy under AASB 118 and AASB 1004 (applicable for 2019 comparative)

Rates are recognised when Council obtained control over the assets comprising the receipt. Control over assets acquired from rates is obtained at the commencement of the rating year as it is an enforceable debt linked to the rateable property or, where earlier, upon receipt.

(ii) Grants

Accounting policy under AASB 15 and AASB 1058 (applicable from 1 July 2019)

Council recognises untied grant revenues and those without performance obligations when received. In cases where funding includes specific performance obligations or is to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset, a liability is recognised for funds received in advance and recognises income as obligations are fulfilled.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects to transfer of control within the grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit. For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project as there is no profit margin. For acquisition of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is controlled by the Council.

Accounting Policy under AASB 1004 (applicable for 2019 comparative)

The Australian Commonwealth Government provided untied Financial Assistance Grants to Council for general purpose use and the provision of local roads, Council recognised these grants as revenue when it received the funds and obtained control. Grant income is recognised when Council obtains control over the assets comprising the receipt. Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt or upon earlier notification that the grant has been secured, and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer. Where grants recognised as revenue during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant is also disclosed. Unreceived contributions over which Council has control are recognised as receivables.

Donations and other contributions that are not subject to accompanying conditions that they be expended in a particular manner or for a particular purpose are recognised as revenue in the reporting period when Council obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions and donations.

Non-monetary contributions (including developer contributions) with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds, are recognised as revenue and as non-current assets.

(iii) User charges

Accounting policy under AASB 15 and AASB 1058 (applicable from 1 July 2019)

Council recognised revenue from user fees and charges when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods/services provided. Licences granted by Council are either short-term or low value and all revenue is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

Accounting Policy under AASB 118 and AASB 1004 (applicable for 2019 comparative)

User fees and charges are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, or the payment is received, whichever first occurs.

(iv) Sale of property, plant and infrastructure

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

(v) Interest

Interest is recognised as revenue on a proportional basis when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever first occurs.

(vi) Investment revenue from Water Corporation

Dividend revenue is recognised when Council's right to receive payment is established and it can be reliably measured.

(vii) Other income

Rental Income is recognised as revenue when the payment is due. Rental payments received in advance are recognised as payable until they are due. Volunteer Services, Council recognises the inflow of resources in the form of volunteer services where the fair value of these services can be reliably measured and Council would have purchased those services if they had not been donated.

NOTE 1 (continued)

(e) EXPENSE RECOGNITION

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

(i) Employee benefits

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

(ii) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Infrastructure

Buildings, land improvements, plant, 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.

Land is not depreciated.

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

Major depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior period except where noted.

ASSET	LIFE (YEARS)	PREVIOUS PERIOD
Land	Unlimited	
Land Under Roads	Unlimited	
Buildings	5 to 124	75 to 150 years
Flood Levee Infrastructure		
– Depreciable Component	100 years	
– Non Depreciable Component	Unlimited	
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers	2 to 20 years	
Fleet	2 to 20 years	
Heritage Assets		
– Depreciable Component	20 to 100 years	
– Non Depreciable Component	Unlimited	
Plant	10 to 50 years	
Roads Infrastructure		
– Formation	Unlimited	
– Pavement	10 to 90 years	
– Surface treatment	12 to 80 years	
– Footpaths	15 to 70 years	
– Kerb and channel	15 to 100 years	
– Street furniture	15 to 100 years	
Bridges	20 to 100 years	30 to 100 years
Stormwater & Drainage	80 to 100 years	

(iii) Repairs and maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where 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.

(f) RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT OF ASSETS

(i) The Council controls and owns assets that are required to provide the services for which it has responsibility. These assets include: land, buildings, fleet, plant and infrastructure; i.e. roads, bridges and stormwater.

(ii) Acquisition and Recognition

The cost method of accounting is used for the initial recording of all acquisitions of assets.

‘Cost’ represents the fair value of these assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to their acquisition (including architects fees, engineering design fees, and administration charges and all other costs incurred) in getting the asset ready for use.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment received in the form of contributions, are recognised as assets and revenues at fair value by Council valuation where that value exceeds the recognition thresholds for the respective asset class. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

In determining the cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council, ‘Cost’ includes all materials used in the construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overheads. The cost of all materials includes all consulting and engineering fees.

Non-monetary assets received in the form of grants or donations are recognised as assets and revenues at their fair value at the date of receipt.

‘Fair value’ means the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between a knowledgeable, willing buyer and a knowledgeable, willing seller in an arms length transaction. In relation to infrastructure assets it is represented by depreciated replacement cost.

Council applies a capitalisation threshold and assets purchased or constructed with a value less than this threshold are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year of purchase (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are material in total).

NOTE 1 (continued)

(f) RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT OF ASSETS (continued)

The following classes of assets have been recognised in Note 14. In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits detailed below have been applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

	THRESHOLD (\$)
Land	Nil
Land Under Roads	Nil
Buildings	5,000
Flood Levee Infrastructure	3,000
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers	1,000
Fleet	1,000
Plant	1,000
Roads Infrastructure	5,000
Bridges	5,000
Stormwater & Drainage	3,000
Heritage Assets	1,000

(iii) Valuation of Non-Current Assets

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than asset categories listed in the table below as at cost, are measured at their fair value in accordance with AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment and AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement. At balance date, Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset class materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis to ensure valuations represent fair value. 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 surplus 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 surplus 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.

Council has adopted the following valuation basis for its non-current assets:

Land	fair value
Land Under Roads	fair value
Buildings	fair value
Flood Levee Infrastructure	cost
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers	cost
Fleet	cost
Plant	cost
Roads Infrastructure	fair value
Bridges	fair value
Stormwater & Drainage	fair value
Heritage Assets	cost

(iv) Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation reserve 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.

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For non-cash generating assets of Council such as roads, bridges, stormwater and drainage and the like, value in use is represented by the deprival value of the asset approximated by its written down replacement cost.

(v) Maintenance vs Capitalisation

Officers of the Council will determine at the occurrence of an event whether to capitalise or expense costs incurred in property, plant and infrastructure. The following formula is provided as a guide, "maintenance, repair costs and minor renewals are charged as expenses as incurred unless their total value exceeds 10% of the written down current value and increases the economic life by more than 10%".

(g) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Cash equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

(h) INVENTORIES

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

NOTE 1 (continued)

(i) INVESTMENT IN WATER CORPORATION

Council's investment in TasWater is valued at its fair value at balance date. Fair value was determined by using Council's ownership interest against the Water and Sewerage Corporation's net asset value at balance date. Council's ownership interest in TasWater, which is based on Schedule 2 of the Corporation's Constitution, decreased from 2.49% at 30 June 2019 to 2.46% at 30 June 2020. The decrease was due to the issue of 1,000,000 shares to the Tasmanian Government in January 2020. Further decreases will occur each financial year up to 30 June 2028, subject to the Tasmanian Government meeting its obligations to subscribe to shares in accordance with the Share Subscription and Implementation Agreement.

Council's investment is not traded in an active market and is only sensitive to fluctuations in the value of TasWater's net assets.

As Council's investment in TasWater is held for long-term strategic purposes, Council has elected under AASB 9: Financial Instruments to irrevocably classify this equity investment as designated as fair value through other comprehensive income. Subsequent changes in fair value on designated investments in equity instruments are recognised in other comprehensive income and not reclassified through the profit or loss when derecognised. Dividends associated with the equity investments are recognised in profit and loss when the right of payment has been established and it can be reliably measured.

Council has derived returns from the corporation as disclosed at note 4.

(j) INVESTMENT TERM DEPOSITS

Council holds monies in a number of term deposits with maturities of greater than twelve months. These investments are held for the purpose of meeting long term cash commitments.

(k) TRUST FUNDS

The financial reports of the Council incorporate only those items over which the Council has control. Amounts received as tender deposit and retention amounts controlled by Council are included in the amount disclosed as creditors with current liabilities until they are refunded or forfeited.

(l) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

(i) Short term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits and annual leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

(ii) Other long term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

(iii) Sick Leave

Council does not recognise a liability for sick leave because such leave is non-vesting and because it is probable that sick leave taken in future reporting periods will be less than entitlements which are expected to accrue in those periods. Employees receive 10 days sick leave per year and the average sick leave taken by each employee for the 2019/20 financial year was 8.0 days (2018/19 4.8 days).

(iv) Rostered Days Off

A liability for accrued rostered days off is recognised at the current rates of pay including related oncosts, for expected future payments to be made in respect of accruals by employees of the Council.

(m) ACCRUALS / PREPAYMENTS

Accruals and Prepayments are recognised in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices with materiality a major factor in determining their applicability.

(n) NET FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Net fair values of financial instruments are determined on the following basis:

- Monetary financial assets and liabilities – carrying amounts of trade debtors, trade creditors and accruals (which approximates net market value).
- Interest bearing loans – are carried at their principal amount, which represents the present value of future cash flows associated servicing the debt. Interest is accrued.

It is Council's view that the carrying value of its financial assets and liabilities approximates fair value.

(o) SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

The Local Government Act requires the reporting of operating capital and competitive neutrality in respect of each significant business activity undertaken by Council. Council has determined, based upon an assessment of the activities it undertakes that it has no significant business activities for the 2020 year.

NOTE 1 (continued)

(p) LEASES

Operating Leases as Lessee

In accordance with AASB 16 Leases, except where the underlying asset is of low value Council recognises a right-of-use asset, representing its right to use the underlying asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments for all leases with a term of more than 12 months.

Council leases several parcels of Crown land under lease agreements with the State Government. These leases, in general, do not reflect commercial arrangements, are long-term and have minimal or no lease payments. Crown land is recognised as an asset in the Statement of Financial Position and carried at fair value when Council establishes that (i) it has control over the land and (ii) it will derive economic benefits from it.

Operating Leases as Lessor

Council is a lessor and enters into agreements with a number of lessees. These include commercial and non-commercial agreements.

Where leases are non-commercial agreements, these are generally with not for profit, such as sporting, organisations. In these cases subsidised or peppercorn rents are charged because Council recognises part of its role is community service and community support. In these situations, Council records lease revenue on an accruals basis and records the associated properties as part of land and buildings within property, plant and equipment. Buildings are recognised at depreciated replacement cost.

Where leases are commercial agreements, but properties leased are part of properties predominantly used by Council for its own purposes, Council records lease revenue on an accruals basis and records the associated properties as part of land and buildings within property, plant and equipment. Buildings are recognised at depreciated replacement cost.

(q) TAXATION

Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax, Payroll Tax and Goods and Services Tax.

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable or payable to the ATO is included as a current asset or current liability in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recovered from, or paid to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

(r) BUDGET FIGURES

The estimated revenue and expense amounts in the Statement of Comprehensive Income represent revised budget amounts and are not audited.

(s) CONTINGENT ASSETS, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value inclusive of the GST payable.

(t) ROUNDING

Unless otherwise stated amounts in the financial report have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(u) PENDING ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2020 reporting periods. Council's assessment of the impact of the relevant new standards and interpretations is set out below.

(i) AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangement: Grantors (applicable 2020-21)

AASB 1059 addresses the accounting for a service concession arrangement by a grantor that is a public sector entity by prescribing the accounting for the arrangement from the grantor's perspective. It doesn't appear that this standard will have any material impact for Council, but the impact of this standard is still being assessed.

(ii) AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Definition of Material (applicable 2020-21)

The Standard principally amends AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements and AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimated and Errors. The amendments refine the definition of material in AASB 101. The amendments clarify the definition of material and its application by improving the wording and aligning the definition across AASB Standards and other publications. The impacts are expected to be minimal.

(iii) AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – References to the Conceptual Framework (applicable 2020-21)

This Standard sets out amendments to Australian Accounting Standards, Interpretations and other pronouncements to reflect the issuance of the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework) by the AASB. The impacts are expected to be minimal.

All other Australian accounting standard and interpretations with future effective dates are either not applicable to Council's activities, or have no material impact.

NOTE 2

(a) FUNCTIONS / ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL

Income, expenses and assets have been attributed to the following functions / activities. Details of the functions / activities of each Business Unit are set out in Note 2 (b).

	2020 GOVERNANCE	2019 GOVERNANCE	2020 REGULATORY & COMMUNITY SERVICES	2019 REGULATORY & COMMUNITY SERVICES	2020 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	2019 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	2020 WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE	2019 WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE	2020 TOTAL	2019 TOTAL
Recurrent Income										
Grants	155,462	158,876	58,648	73,248	79,789	74,746	3,561,829	3,562,244	3,855,728	3,869,114
Other	2,087,810	2,454,418	725,235	866,002	1,222,948	989,142	11,163,791	10,817,043	15,199,784	15,126,605
Total	2,243,272	2,613,294	783,883	939,250	1,302,737	1,063,888	14,725,620	14,379,287	19,055,512	18,995,719
Capital Income										
Grants	-	16,051	-	-	-	-	1,461,391	2,826,281	1,461,391	2,842,332
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	375,143	51,480	375,143	51,480
Total	-	16,051	-	-	-	-	1,836,534	2,877,761	1,836,534	2,893,812
Total Income	2,243,272	2,629,345	783,883	939,250	1,302,737	1,063,888	16,562,154	17,257,048	20,892,046	21,889,531
Expenses	2,409,084	2,096,169	910,118	966,417	1,238,200	986,183	15,925,992	13,965,704	20,483,394	18,014,473
Surplus/(Deficit)	(165,812)	533,176	(126,235)	(27,167)	64,537	77,705	636,162	3,291,344	408,652	3,875,058
Assets	104,799,933	107,628,726	1,179,480	1,172,849	273,709	261,427	294,881,834	227,020,540	401,134,956	336,083,542

(b) COMPONENT FUNCTIONS / ACTIVITIES

The activities relating to the Council's components reported in Note 2 (a) are as follows:

Governance

The provision of elected representation, executive support, strategic planning and public relations services to Council.

Regulatory & Community Services

The provision of the following services to Council:

- Community Services Management
- Economic Development
- Tourism Promotion
- Health & Environmental Management

Development Services

The provision of the following services to Council:

- Planning
- Building & Plumbing

Works & Infrastructure

Maintenance and construction of Council's infrastructure and facilities.

NOTE 3

GRANT REVENUE

Grants were received in respect of the following:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Federally funded capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets		
Roads to Recovery	1,091,050	396,509
Bridge South Esk River Woolmers Bridge No 1130 Replacement	-	811,500
Rural & Remote Child Care Capital Shade Sail/ Shed/Bathroom	-	16,051
Campbell Town Recreation Ground Complex	300,000	450,000
Cressy Pool Infrastructure Upgrades	-	16,973
	1,391,050	1,691,033
Federally funded recurrent grants		
Employee Training	-	4,000
Midlands Kids Club	-	3,925
Perth Child Care Service	94,329	115,104
Rural & Remote Child Care	73,290	87,712
Rural & Remote Child Care – Forum	2,389	-
Commonwealth Government financial assistance grants		
– General Purpose	1,149,932	1,158,635
– Roads	2,460,974	3,572,196
	3,780,914	3,782,937

	2020 \$	2019 \$
State funded capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets		
Avoca Hall Kitchen	15,641	-
Avoca Playground	19,074	-
Black Spot Road Funding Clarence/Arthur St Perth	-	56,950
Campbell Town Tennis Courts	-	55,000
Campbell Town Cenotaph Redevelopment	990	-
Cressy Pool Infrastructure Upgrade	-	16,973
Cressy Recreation Ground Amenities Upgrade	20,412	-
Longford Village Green Carousel & Swing Set	-	29,539
Longford Recreation Ground Amenities Upgrade	-	233,409
Morven Park Amenities Improvements	-	587,300
Morven Park Gym Equipment Evandale	-	6,550
Perth Phillip St Bus Stop	14,224	-
Paton Street Stormwater Diversion Project (NDRGP)	-	110,000
Gate Automation Back Creek Flood Levee (NDRGP)	-	40,000
Vulnerable Road Users Perth Frederick/Fairtlough St	-	15,578
	70,341	1,151,299
State funded recurrent grants		
Catholic Cemetery Evandale Peace Garden & Stormwater	-	11,980
Free2b Girls Program	222	-
Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax Grants	74,592	74,197
	74,814	86,177
Total Capital Grants	1,461,391	2,842,332
Total Recurrent Grants	3,855,728	3,869,114
Total Government Grants	5,317,119	6,711,446

The Australian Commonwealth Government provides Financial Assistance Grants to Council for general purpose use and the provision of local roads. In 2019-20 the Commonwealth made early payment of two quarterly instalments for the following year totalling \$1,856,915 (\$1,814,394 2018-19). The early receipt of instalments had been anticipated by Council in its original budget and therefore has not resulted in Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants being greater than budgeted.

Government funds received in relation to pensioner rates of \$458,669 (\$452,339 2018/19) have been treated in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as rate revenue.

NOTE 3

GRANT REVENUE (continued)

CONDITIONS OVER GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Non-reciprocal grants recognised as revenue during the year that were obtained on condition that they be expensed in a specific manner that had not occurred at balance date were:

	2019 \$
Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant	
– General Purpose	585,338
– Roads	1,229,056
Avoca Tourist Info Centre Museum – Solar Panels	21,450
Black Spot Road Funding Clarence/Arthur St Perth	41,297
Campbell Town Cenotaph Redevelopment	69,010
Cressy Pool Infrastructure Upgrade	97,920
Gate Automation Back Creek Flood Levee (NDRGP)	31,693
Morven Park Amenities Improvements	532,032
Rural & Remote Child Care Capital Shade Sail/Shed/Bathroom	3,853
	2,611,649

NOTE 4

INVESTMENT REVENUE FROM WATER CORPORATION

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Dividend Revenue	196,083	245,434
Tax Equivalents	37,917	159,350
Guarantee Fee	–	63,216
Total Investment Revenue from Water Corporation	234,000	468,000

NOTE 5 GAIN / (LOSS) ON SALE AND DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
The gain / (loss) on sale and disposal of fixed assets for the period was comprised of:		
Buildings		
Written down value of assets disposed with no Proceeds	(774,697)	–
Less Cost of disposal	(138,885)	–
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(913,582)	–
<i>The majority of this loss relates to the demolition of the Grand Stand at the Campbell Town Recreation Ground and the Clubrooms and Amenities at the Longford Recreation ground, as part of major capital upgrades at these facilities.</i>		
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment and Computers		
Proceeds from sales	–	1,709
Written down value of assets sold	–	(637)
Written down value of assets disposed with no Proceeds	(1,471)	–
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(1,471)	1,072
Plant and Equipment		
Proceeds from sales	–	1,500
Written down value of assets sold	–	(1,089)
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	411
Fleet		
Proceeds from sales	151,894	193,500
Written down value of assets sold	(184,192)	(171,401)
Gain / (loss) on sale	(32,298)	22,099
Roads Infrastructure		
Written down value of assets disposed with no proceeds	(289,750)	(196,367)
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(289,750)	(196,367)
Bridges		
Written down value of assets disposed with no proceeds	(2,800)	(39,735)
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(2,800)	(39,735)
Stormwater & Drainage		
Written down value of assets disposed with no proceeds	(19,780)	(160,687)
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(19,780)	(160,687)
Total		
Proceeds from sales	151,894	196,709
Written down value of assets sold	(184,192)	(173,127)
Gain / (loss) on sale of Fixed assets	(32,298)	23,582
Written down value of assets disposed with no proceeds	(1,088,498)	(396,789)
Less Cost of disposal	(138,885)	–
Gain / (loss) on sale & disposal of Fixed Assets with no proceeds	(1,227,383)	(396,789)
Gain / (loss) on sale and disposal of fixed assets	(1,259,681)	(373,207)

NOTE 6

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Wages and Salaries	4,081,699	3,677,817
Superannuation	558,600	505,662
Annual, Sick, Long Service & Other Leave Paid	779,520	713,747
Total employee benefits expenses	5,419,819	4,897,226
State Government Payroll Tax	252,027	219,447
Workers Compensation	108,096	116,975
Provision for Leave Entitlements	156,799	48,392
Other Employee Oncost Expenses	33,443	31,175
Total other employee related expenses	550,365	415,989
	5,970,184	5,313,215
Less Amounts Capitalised:		
Non-current assets constructed	(480,171)	(559,820)
Total employee benefits & related expenses	5,490,013	4,753,395

	TOTAL 30/6/20	EQUIVALENT FULL TIME 30/6/20	TOTAL 30/6/19	EQUIVALENT FULL TIME 30/6/19
Number of Employees as at 30 June are:				
Permanent	69	62	68	62
Casual	14	3	17	4
	83	65	85	66

NOTE 7

MATERIALS AND SERVICES

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Contractor Payments		
- Corporate Services & Governance	69,062	116,867
- Community Buildings & Halls	50,063	39,889
- Development Services	61,591	64,413
- Health & Environmental Services	66,040	81,570
- Kerbside Garbage and Recycling	827,090	688,897
- Parks & Reserves	149,869	159,096
- Public Amenities	67,963	78,388
- Roads & Bridges	397,991	583,051
- Tourism & Community Development	9,933	21,947
- Urban Stormwater	33,417	44,612
- Waste Transfer Stations	560,119	532,288
- Other Contractor Payments	98,408	2,391,546
	2,391,546	178,497
Materials		
- Community Buildings & Halls	37,941	15,955
- Corporate Services & Governance	176,772	192,058
- Parks & Reserves	129,676	101,803
- Public Amenities	45,223	37,016
- Roads & Bridges	333,318	265,243
- Urban Stormwater	10,885	19,847
- Other Material Purchases	166,604	900,419
	900,419	213,885
Consultants Fees	799,282	638,587
Electricity Costs	223,458	191,343
Insurance	197,043	178,699
Telecommunication Costs	61,917	54,260
Other	380,870	22,997
	4,954,535	4,521,208

NOTE 8

DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSE

Depreciation and amortisation expense for the year is as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Buildings	526,394	697,163
Plant	258,945	227,099
Flood Levee Infrastructure	18,934	18,882
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers	155,337	145,817
Fleet	447,182	409,855
Road Infrastructure	4,053,456	3,395,301
Bridges	390,793	394,713
Stormwater & Drainage	423,469	402,681
Heritage Assets	9,737	9,496
Total	6,284,247	5,701,007

NOTE 9

OTHER EXPENSES

Other expenses for the year are as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Other expenses for the year are as follows:		
Bad & Doubtful Debts	545,511	459,935
Contributions & Donations	225,879	209,575
Councillors' Remuneration	214,137	206,109
Fringe Benefits Tax	16,547	18,362
Rate Remissions & Discounts	76,040	49,402
Special Committee Expenditure	215,749	177,454
Refunds & Reimbursements	50,070	31,806
Work in Progress from prior years not Capitalised	10,000	273,435
Total	1,353,933	1,426,078

NOTE 10

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand	600	600
Cash at Bank	347,623	1,441,295
Cash held by Special Committees of Council	259,591	245,578
Money Market Call Accounts	476,358	1,130,362
Short Term Fixed Deposits	5,000,000	509,229
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,084,172	3,327,064
Short Term Investments	4,506,466	6,914,434
Cash and Cash Equivalents and Short Term Investments	10,590,638	10,241,498

Councils cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

- Leave provisions	1,394,231	1,222,867
- Monies held in Trust	606,768	587,617
- Rate Revenue in Advance	315,735	
- User Charges in Advance	3,979	
- Capital Grants received in Advance	897,494	
- Operating Grants received in Advance	55,132	
- Special Committee Cash Held.	259,591	245,578
- Grants received which have not yet been applied to the purpose for which they were provided (note 3).		2,611,649
- Cash required to maintain objectives set out in asset Management and Long term Financial Plans calculated at 1% of gross value of Property, Plant & Infrastructure	4,664,233	3,922,916
Total Restricted Funds	8,197,163	8,590,627
Unrestricted Cash and Cash Equivalents and Short Term Investments	2,393,475	1,650,871

NOTE 11

TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current		
Trade Debtors – Sundry	400,093	740,919
Rates Outstanding	3,124,587	2,568,393
Less Expected Credit Loss	(2,791,188)	(2,266,748)
Accrued Income	59,798	104,148
	793,290	1,146,712
Non Current		
Loan Receivable	1,900,000	1,900,000
Total Trade & Other Receivables	2,693,290	3,046,712

Certain amounts raised by way of rates equivalents (which are not a charge on the land) in respect of Launceston Airport are subject to dispute which had not been resolved at balance date. The amount raised but unpaid at 30 June 2020 was \$2,782,190 (30 June 2019 \$2,266,748). This matter was heard in the Federal Court of Australia and a judgement handed down on the 24th of September 2019 deeming that Council had no standing in the proceedings and as such the decisions was awarded in favour of Launceston Airport. Council appealed this decision that it had no standing in the matter and a decision on this appeal was subsequently awarded in Councils favour on the 6 August 2020. The proceeding have now been returned to the primary judge for a decision.

NOTE 12

INVENTORY

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Timber – Held for distribution at average cost	2,332	2,332
Norfolk Plains History Book – Held for sale at cost	18,116	19,031
	20,448	21,363

NOTE 13

CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Opening Work in Progress	6,920,764	3,179,256
Add Work in Progress additions in current year	7,469,428	14,521,549
Less transfers to expenses	(10,000)	(273,435)
Less transfers to Property, Plant & Infrastructure	(11,187,588)	(10,506,606)
Closing Work in Progress at cost	3,192,604	6,920,764

NOTE 14

PROPERTY, PLANT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Land		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	13,540,357	12,466,343
Additions – Purchased	7,578	1,074,014
Net Amount at Fair Value	13,547,935	13,540,357
Land Under Roads		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	14,491,255	14,474,775
Additions – Donated or Contributed	-	16,480
Revaluation Adjustment	2,544,928	-
Net Amount at Fair Value	17,036,183	14,491,255
Buildings		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	53,822,322	51,719,718
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	6,121,441	607,904
Additions – Donated or Contributed	-	-
Sales	-	-
Disposals with no proceeds	(1,831,398)	-
Revaluation Adjustment	(9,535,538)	1,494,700
Closing Balance	48,576,827	53,822,322
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(28,071,110)	(26,605,061)
Depreciation Expense	(526,393)	(697,163)
Sales	-	-
Disposals with no proceeds	1,056,701	-
Revaluation Adjustment	11,011,227	(768,886)
Closing Balance	(16,529,575)	(28,071,110)
Net Amount at Fair Value	32,047,252	25,751,212

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Heritage Assets		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	1,230,105	1,208,671
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	213,651	21,434
Closing Balance	1,443,756	1,230,105
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(193,849)	(184,353)
Depreciation Expense	(9,737)	(9,496)
Closing Balance	(203,586)	(193,849)
Net Amount at Cost	1,240,170	1,036,256
Flood Levee Infrastructure		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	5,205,942	5,205,942
Closing Balance	5,205,942	5,205,942
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(210,022)	(191,140)
Depreciation Expense	(18,934)	(18,882)
Closing Balance	(228,956)	(210,022)
Net Amount at Cost	4,976,986	4,995,920
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	2,262,687	2,091,066
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	459,067	179,283
Additions – Donated or Contributed	-	-
Sales	-	(7,662)
Disposals with no proceeds	(8,128)	-
Closing Balance	2,713,626	2,262,687
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(1,479,225)	(1,340,434)
Depreciation Expense	(155,337)	(145,817)
Sales	-	7,026
Disposals with no proceeds	6,658	-
Closing Balance	(1,627,904)	(1,479,225)
Net Amount at Cost	1,085,722	783,462

NOTE 14

PROPERTY, PLANT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (continued)

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Fleet		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	5,001,065	4,862,031
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	704,150	660,196
Sales	(346,431)	(521,162)
Closing Balance	5,358,784	5,001,065
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(1,976,862)	(1,916,769)
Depreciation Expense	(447,182)	(409,855)
Sales	162,239	349,762
Closing Balance	(2,261,805)	(1,976,862)
Net Amount at Cost	3,096,979	3,024,203
Plant		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	5,497,411	3,881,047
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	219,557	1,582,843
Additions – Donated or Contributed	35,000	35,000
Sales	(2,500)	(1,479)
Closing Balance	5,749,468	5,497,411
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(2,487,709)	(2,260,997)
Depreciation Expense	(258,945)	(227,099)
Sales	2,500	387
Closing Balance	(2,744,154)	(2,487,709)
Net Amount at Cost	3,005,314	3,009,702

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Roads Infrastructure		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	218,911,903	209,297,922
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	2,635,646	1,887,671
Additions – Donated or Contributed	-	-
Disposals with no proceeds	(1,815,050)	(1,692,097)
Revaluation Adjustment	64,666,717	9,418,407
Closing Balance	284,399,216	218,911,903
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(77,336,198)	(72,188,159)
Depreciation Expense	(4,053,456)	(3,395,301)
Disposals with no proceeds	1,525,301	1,495,729
Revaluation Adjustment	(2,021,609)	(3,248,467)
Closing Balance	(81,885,962)	(77,336,198)
Net Amount at Fair Value	202,513,254	141,575,705
Bridges		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	31,243,381	28,738,361
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	677,779	3,709,742
Disposals with no proceeds	(234,786)	(675,542)
Revaluation Adjustment	7,974,534	(529,180)
Closing Balance	39,660,908	31,243,381
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(7,869,252)	(7,769,831)
Depreciation Expense	(390,793)	(394,713)
Disposals with no proceeds	231,985	635,807
Revaluation Adjustment	11,020	(340,515)
Closing Balance	(8,017,040)	(7,869,252)
Net Amount at Fair Value	31,643,868	23,374,129

NOTE 14

PROPERTY, PLANT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (continued)

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Stormwater & Drainage		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	41,085,157	38,762,748
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	148,719	783,519
Additions – Donated or Contributed	340,142	-
Disposals with no proceeds	(27,793)	(255,854)
Revaluation Adjustment	1,184,433	1,794,743
Closing Balance	42,730,658	41,085,156
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(9,659,626)	(8,949,389)
Depreciation Expense	(423,469)	(402,681)
Disposals with no proceeds	8,012	95,167
Revaluation Adjustment	(260,810)	(402,723)
Closing Balance	(10,335,893)	(9,659,626)
Net Amount at Fair Value	32,394,765	31,425,530
Total Property, Plant & Infrastructure		
Gross Value		
Opening Balance	392,291,585	372,708,624
Additions – Purchased or Constructed	11,187,588	10,506,606
Additions – Donated or Contributed	375,142	51,480
Sales	(348,931)	(530,303)
Disposals with no proceeds	(3,917,155)	(2,623,493)
Revaluation Adjustment	66,835,074	12,178,670
Closing Balance	466,423,303	392,291,584
Accumulated Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(129,283,853)	(121,406,133)
Depreciation Expense	(6,284,246)	(5,701,007)
Sales	164,739	357,175
Disposals with no proceeds	2,828,657	2,226,703
Revaluation Adjustment	8,739,828	(4,760,591)
Closing Balance	(123,834,875)	(129,283,853)
Net Amount	342,588,428	263,007,731

NOTE 15

INVESTMENT IN WATER CORPORATION

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Opening Balance Investment in Water and Sewerage Corporation	46,295,474	40,461,498
Fair Value adjustments on Equity Investment	(10,795,926)	5,833,976
Total Investment in Water and Sewerage Corporation	35,499,548	46,295,474

Council has derived returns from the water corporation as disclosed at Note 4.

NOTE 16

TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current		
Trade creditor	511,721	1,317,181
Accrued wages	175,025	137,938
Money held in trust	606,768	587,617
Rate Revenue in advance	315,735	-
User Charges in advance	3,979	-
Capital Grants received in advance	897,494	-
Operating Grants received in advance	55,132	-
	2,565,854	2,042,736

NOTE 17

PROVISIONS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current		
Employee Benefits – Annual Leave	496,891	449,569
Employee Benefits – Long Service Leave	564,618	504,223
Employee Benefits – Oncosts	216,832	194,833
	1,278,341	1,148,625
Non-Current		
Employee Benefits – Long Service Leave	94,574	61,382
Employee Benefits – Oncosts	21,316	12,860
	115,890	74,242
Aggregate Employee Benefits	1,394,231	1,222,867

The liability for long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period, using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

NOTE 18

LOANS PAYABLE AND RECEIVABLE

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Loans Payable		
Non-Current		
Loans Payable – TasCorp	8,470,000	8,470,000
Total Loans Payable	8,470,000	8,470,000
Loans Receivable		
Non-Current		
Loans Receivable – Community Organisation	(1,900,000)	(1,900,000)
Total Loans Receivable	(1,900,000)	(1,900,000)

Council has received the sum of \$8.47 million from TasCorp under the State Governments Accelerated Local Government Capital Program. Council applied for \$1.9m of this funding on behalf of Toosey Aged Care, to whom it transferred the funds in March 2017, as an interest free loan repayable in full after 5 years. Interest is applied to this Council loan from TasCorp at a rate of 3.24%, however the State Government will provide a full rebate of the interest paid for a period of up to five years. Council intends to pay back this loan in full at the end of the five year period. The Balance of the loan fund were received in two instalments of \$5.52M (4/7/2017) and \$1.05M (29/6/2018) and have been retained by Council to be used for various infrastructure projects. Interest is applied to these Councils loan from TasCorp at a rate of 3.16% and 3.43% respectively, again the State Government will provide a full rebate of the interest paid for a period of up to five years. Council intends to pay back both these loans in full at the end of the five year period.

NOTE 19

CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Estimated expenditure contracted for at balance date but not yet incurred:		
- payable not later than one year	1,458,069	1,059,571
- payable later than one year but no later than two years	743,765	185,543
- payable later than two years	2,875,505	-
	5,077,339	1,245,114

NOTE 20

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Council has no contingent liabilities.

NOTE 21

AUDITORS REMUNERATION

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Audit fees to conduct external audit – Tasmanian Audit Office	24,790	24,790

NOTE 22

SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND RIVERWORKS DISTRICT

The statements include transactions for the following :

(a) SPECIAL COMMITTEES

	OPERATING INCOME \$ 2020	OPERATING EXPENDITURE \$ 2020	CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS \$ 2020
Committee Name			
About Campbell Town	7,472	8,873	16,282
Avoca Community Centre	2,184	9,355	5,788
Avoca Museum & Info Centre	4,026	2,040	16,518
Bishopsbourne Community Centre	21,504	20,126	35,186
Campbell Town Pool	19,234	19,965	27,794
Campbell Town Recreation Ground	508	13,836	-
Cressy Hall	5,006	6,228	6,260
Cressy Pool	22,655	19,827	20,742
Cressy Recreation Ground	17,505	15,850	6,544
Devon Hill Residents	409	435	1,664
Epping Hall	1,546	2,003	6,977
Evandale Community Centre & War Memorial Hall	23,929	27,649	10,398
Liffey Hall	6,111	4,325	8,787
Longford Recreation Ground	15,426	5,321	13,481
Morven Park Recreation Ground	20,999	14,789	7,503
Perth Community Centre	22,218	15,461	16,873
Perth Recreation Ground	14,864	8,589	10,786
Ross Community Sports Club	25,440	22,350	47,948
	231,036	217,022	259,531

NOTE 22

(a) SPECIAL COMMITTEES (continued)

	OPERATING INCOME \$ 2019	OPERATING EXPENDITURE \$ 2019	CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS \$ 2019
Committee Name			
About Campbell Town	7,285	5,912	17,684
Avoca Community Centre	3,657	2,750	12,960
Avoca Museum & Info Centre	841	1,715	14,531
Bishopsbourne Community Centre	19,792	24,115	33,808
Campbell Town Pool	19,636	16,487	28,525
Campbell Town Recreation Ground	2,851	2,942	13,328
Cressy Hall	2,239	4,172	7,482
Cressy Pool	33,844	33,362	17,914
Cressy Recreation Ground	352	7,132	4,889
Devon Hill Residents	331	418	1,690
Epping Hall	3,547	3,567	7,434
Evandale Community Centre & War Memorial Hall	26,519	22,449	14,118
Liffey Hall	4,089	3,461	7,001
Longford Recreation Ground	6,350	9,890	3,376
Morven Park Recreation Ground	10,796	15,284	1,293
Perth Community Centre	13,067	13,410	10,116
Perth Recreation Ground	5,870	8,025	4,511
Ross Community Sports Club	28,593	37,964	44,858
	189,659	213,055	245,518

(b) RIVERWORKS DISTRICT

Under section 182 of the Water Management Act 1999 Council administers funds on behalf of:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
The Lake River Riverworks District		
Opening Cash Balance	12,699	12,699
Closing Cash Balance	12,699	12,699

The Lake River Riverworks District aims to minimise environmental impact on the district, complying with all statutory provisions. It is overseen by a management committee that held its most recent meeting on 25 June 2020.

NOTE 23

RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO SURPLUS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Surplus	408,652	3,875,058
Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	(1,821,267)	(2,842,332)
Contribution of non-monetary assets	(375,142)	(51,480)
Net loss/(gain) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	1,259,681	373,207
Depreciation	6,284,247	5,701,007
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities		
– (Increase)/Decrease in Trade & Other Receivables	353,421	(424,855)
– (Increase)/Decrease in Inventory	915	6,012
– Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(749,221)	577,051
– Increase/(Decrease) in Income Received in Advance	441,643	–
– Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	171,364	53,889
Net cash provided by operating activities	5,974,293	7,267,557

NOTE 24

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

- (i) Responsible Persons
Names of persons holding the position of a Responsible Person at the Council at any time during the year are:

Councillors: Clr Dick Adams
Clr Matthew Brooks
Clr Andrew Calvert
Clr Jan Davis
Clr Ian Gonion
Deputy Mayor Richard Goss
Mayor Mary Knowles
Clr Janet Lambet
Clr Michael Polley

Staff:
General Manager: Des Jennings
Corporate Services Manager: Maree Bricknell
Community and Development Manager: Amanda Bond
Works and Infrastructure Manager: Leigh McCullagh

- (ii) Councillor Remuneration

	2020		TOTAL ALLOWANCES & EXPENSES
	ALLOWANCES	EXPENSE	
Mayor	57,903	11,887	69,790
Deputy Mayor	30,046	46	30,092
Councillors	108,986	5,269	114,255
	196,935	17,202	214,137
	2019		TOTAL ALLOWANCES & EXPENSES
	ALLOWANCES	EXPENSE	
Mayor	50,732	14,587	65,319
Deputy Mayor	29,286	730	30,017
Councillors	104,668	5,278	109,946
	184,686	20,595	205,282

Note: Mayor and Deputy Mayor allowances both include their base Councillor allowance.

NOTE 24

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

(iii) Key Management Personnel Remuneration Bands

REMUNERATION BAND \$	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES 2020	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES 2019
60,001 to 80,000	-	1
80,001 to 100,000	1	-
100,001 to 120,000	-	1
140,001 to 160,000	-	1
160,001 to 180,000	2	1
200,001 to 220,000	-	1
240,001 to 260,000	1	-
Total	4	5

(iv) Key Management Personnel and Councillors Remuneration

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Short term employee benefits	561,819	624,662
Post employment benefits	62,532	82,258
Other long term benefits	40,666	8,023
Total	665,017	714,943

Short term employee benefits consist of:

- Gross Salary, including all forms of consideration paid and payable for services rendered, compensated absences during the period and salary sacrifice amounts.
- Vehicle costs, the total cost of providing and maintaining vehicles provided for private use, including registration, insurance, fuel and other consumables, maintenance cost and parking.
- Other allowances and benefits includes all other forms of employment allowances (excludes reimbursements such as travel, accommodation or meals), payments in lieu of leave, and any other compensation paid and payable.

Post employment benefits consists of:

- Superannuation contributions made by Council to the superannuation fund of the individual.

Other long term benefits consists of

- Non-monetary benefits including annual and long service leave movements.

(v) Remuneration Principles

Councillors

Remuneration levels for Councillors is set in accordance with Regulation 42(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015.

Senior Executives

Remuneration levels for the General Manager is set in accordance with a Common Law Contract.

The employment terms and conditions of other senior executives are contained in individual employment contracts and the Northern Midlands Workplace Agreement 2019 which prescribes total remuneration, superannuation, annual and long service leave, vehicle and salary sacrifice provisions. In addition to their salaries, Council also provides non-cash benefits and contributes to post-employment superannuation plans on their behalf.

The performance of each senior executive, including the General Manager, is reviewed annually which includes a review of their remuneration package.

The terms of employment the General Manager, contains a termination clause that requires the Council provide a minimum notice period of six months prior to termination of the contract, and for the General Manager to provide Council with a minimum notice period of three months prior to termination of the contract.

NOTE 24

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

(vi) Transactions with related parties

2020		
NATURE OF TRANSACTION	AMOUNT OF TRANSACTION DURING YEAR	TERMS & CONDITIONS
Fees and Charges, Note 3	9,654	Council's approved fees
Supply of towing services, Note 4	1,527	7 Day terms on invoice

2019		
NATURE OF TRANSACTION	AMOUNT OF TRANSACTION DURING YEAR	TERMS & CONDITIONS
Supply of Office Equipment, Note 1	1,845	30 Day terms on invoice
Supply of Housing, Note 2	2,410	14 Day terms on rental invoice
Fees and Charges, Note 3	12,064	Council's approved fees
Supply of towing services, note 4	520	7 Day terms on invoice

Notes:

1. Council purchased in aggregate during the 2018/19 year office furniture from Second Office Launceston, a company which has a member of Councils KMP as a director.
2. Council provides 8 units for residential accommodation for aged and disadvantaged in the townships of Campbell Town and Evandale during the 2018/19 year one occupant was a relative to a member of Councils KMP. Rental was billed based on normal rates for such accommodation and were due and payable under normal payment terms.
3. Development fees were received in relation to applications from a company which is associated with a Council KMP. The applications relate to land in Howick Street, Drummond Street, Frederick Street, George Street and Paton Street (2019 – Wellington Street, Drummond Street and Paton Street).
4. Council purchased in aggregate during the year towing services from NM Towing PTY Ltd, a company which has a member of Councils KMP as a director.

No balances relating to these transactions were outstanding at year end, no provision for doubtful debts has been made in relation to any of these transactions.

(vii) Loans and guarantees to/from related parties

No loan and guarantee amounts have been notified to the General Manager.

(viii) Commitments to/from related parties

No commitments have been notified to the General Manager.

(ix) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of council live and operate within the municipality.

Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties.

Some examples include:

- Payment of rates on a primary residence/farm
- Dog registrations
- Use of Council's recreational facilities

Council has not included these types of transaction in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

NOTE 25

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) ACCOUNTING POLICY, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS	NOTE	ACCOUNTING POLICY	TERMS & CONDITIONS
Financial Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10	Cash and cash equivalents are valued at face value. Interest is recognised as it accrues. Investments are valued at cost. Investments are held to maximise interest returns of surplus cash. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.	Cash and Cash Equivalents at year end were receiving a weighted average interest rate of 0.91% (1.16% 30/6/19).
Rate Debtors	11	Rate debtors are carried at nominal amounts due plus interest and penalty. Rate debtors are charges attached to the property and are recoverable on sale, therefore allowance for impairment is only made when it is unlikely the property could be sold for an amount which will cover the costs of sale.	Rates are payable by three equal instalments during the year or alternatively by one payment within 30 days of demand, which provides a discount of 1.0% (any such discount allowed is shown as an expense of Council in its income statement). Overdue Rates attract a penalty of 5% (5% 2018/19), any such penalty imposed is shown as income of Council in its Income Statement. Normally arrears attract interest which is applied on a regular basis to the property at a rate of 7.5% p.a. (7.5% p.a. 2018/19), Furthermore Council instigates collection proceedings in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), for any amounts which remain unpaid outside of Council's approved payment options. As a result of Council adopting as COVID-19 Pandemic: Communiity Recovery and Care package in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic interest charges were waived from the 1st of March to the 30th of September 2020 and normal follow up of unpaid amounts was placed on hold for the same period.
Trade Debtors	11	Receivables are carried at nominal amounts due less any allowance for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised when collection in full is no longer probable. Ability to collect overdue accounts is assessed on an ongoing basis.	Payment is required within 30 days of issue of the account. Should amounts remain unpaid beyond 30 days Council instigates collection proceedings in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended).
Financial Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	16	Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services provided to Council as at balance date.	General creditors are unsecured, not subject to interest charges and are normally settled within Councils standard ordering terms of 30 day from date of purchase.

NOTE 25

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(b) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS

Unrestricted access was available at the reporting date to the following lines of credit:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Total Corporate Credit Cards Facility Limit	50,000	50,000
Corporate Credit Card Facility Limit Used at Reporting Date	(1,981)	(3,639)
Available at reporting date Corporate Credit Card	48,019	46,361

No other credit standby arrangements and loan facilities are used or available to be used as at 30/6/2020 (30/6/2019).

(c) FINANCIAL RISK EXPOSURE AND MITIGATION

The General Manager has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Council's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by the Council, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risk and adherence to limits.

The risk associated with Councils main financial instruments and our practices for minimising these risks are detailed below.

Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted, and arises principally from trade and other receivables and cash and investments. The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for impairment losses, represents the Council's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of any collateral or other security. Reference should be made to the Interest Rate Risk table on the following page for the carrying amount of Council's financial assets at reporting date.

To help manage credit risk Council ensures financial institutions holding Council's cash deposits and investments have sufficient security by investing in appropriately rated Financial Institutions

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that Council will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. Council's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities as they fall due. Due to significant amounts of readily available cash the exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant. Council falls well within the lending benchmarks set by Treasury.

Market Risk

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

Council's liabilities are either non-interest bearing or at fixed rates, so there is no ongoing exposure to interest rate risk for existing financial liabilities. Council obtains loans with competitive fixed interest rates to manage its exposure to interest rate risk when loans are taken.

A component of Council's cash is subject to floating interest rates. It is predicted any variations in future cash flows from interest rate movements will not have a material effect on Council's income. Interest rate risk on deposits is managed by adopting practices that ensures:

- Conformity with State and Federal regulations and standards,
- Adequate safety,
- Appropriate liquidity,
- Monitoring of return on investments,
- Staggering maturity dates to provide for interest rate variations,
- Benchmarking of returns and comparisons with budget.

NOTE 25 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(c) FINANCIAL RISK EXPOSURE AND MITIGATION (continued)

Council's exposure to interest rate risk, repricing maturities and the effective interest rates on financial instruments at balance date is detailed below:

2020	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE	FLOATING INTEREST RATE \$	1 YEAR OR LESS \$	1 TO 5 YEARS \$	OVER 5 YEARS \$	NON INTEREST BEARING \$	TOTAL \$
Assets							
Current Assets							
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.91%	1,083,572	5,000,000			600	6,084,172
Financial Assets	1.26%		4,506,466				4,506,466
Trade & Other Receivables							
– Rates	7.50%		333,399				333,399
– Sundry						400,093	400,093
Revenue Accrual						59,798	59,798
Non Current Assets							
Trade & Other Receivables							
– Loans to community organisations						1,900,000	1,900,000
Investment Term Deposits	3.36%			6,550,000			6,550,000
Equity Investment							
– Tas Water						35,499,548	35,499,548
Total Financial Assets		1,083,572	9,839,865	6,550,000	–	37,860,039	55,333,476
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
Trade & Other Payables							
– Sundry Creditors						686,746	686,746
– Monies held in Trust						606,768	606,768
– Rate Revenue in Advance						315,735	315,735
– User Charges in advance						3,979	3,979
– Capital Grants received in advance						897,494	897,494
– Operating Grants received in advance						55,131	55,131
Non Current Liabilities							
Interest bearing Loans & Borrowings	3.21%			8,470,000			8,470,000
Total Financial Liabilities		–	–	8,470,000	–	2,565,853	11,035,853
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)		1,083,572	9,839,865	(1,920,000)	–	35,294,186	44,297,623

NOTE 25 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(c) FINANCIAL RISK EXPOSURE AND MITIGATION (continued)

2019	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE	FLOATING INTEREST RATE \$	1 YEAR OR LESS \$	1 TO 5 YEARS \$	OVER 5 YEARS \$	NON INTEREST BEARING \$	TOTAL \$
Assets							
Current Assets							
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.16%	2,817,235	509,229			600	3,327,064
Financial Assets	2.68%		6,914,434				6,914,434
Trade & Other Receivables							
– Rates	7.50%		301,645				301,645
– Sundry						740,919	740,919
Revenue Accrual						104,148	104,148
Non Current Assets							
Trade & Other Receivables							
– Loans to community organisations						1,900,000	1,900,000
Investment Term Deposits	3.36%			6,550,000			6,550,000
Equity Investment							
– Tas Water						46,295,474	46,295,474
Total Financial Assets		2,817,235	7,725,308	6,550,000	–	49,041,141	66,133,684
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
Trade & Other Payables							
– Sundry Creditors						1,455,119	1,455,119
– Monies held in Trust						587,617	587,617
Non Current Liabilities							
Interest bearing Loans & Borrowings	3.21%			8,470,000			8,470,000
Total Financial Liabilities		–	–	8,470,000	–	2,042,736	10,512,736
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)		2,817,235	7,725,308	(1,920,000)	–	46,998,405	55,620,948

Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is represented by the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

NOTE 25

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(d) EXPECTED CREDIT LOSS

A provision for expected credit loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that an individual receivable is impaired.

The movement in the allowance for impairment for trade and rate receivables during the year was as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Balance at 1 July	2,266,748	1,919,415
Charge for the year	524,554	459,934
Amounts previously charged no longer impaired	(114)	(112,601)
Balance 30 June	2,791,188	2,266,748

(e) SENSITIVITY DISCLOSURE ANALYSIS

Taking into account past performances, 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 (Base rates are sourced from the Federal Bank of Australia): – A parallel shift of + 0.25% and -0.25% (+0.5% and -0.5% 2019) in market interest rates (AUD) from year end rates of 0.25% (1.25% 2019). The table below discloses the impact on net operating result and equity for each category of financial instrument held by Council at year-end, if the above movements were to occur.

	INTEREST RATE RISK				
	CARRYING AMOUNT SUBJECT TO INTEREST	-0.25% -25 BASIS POINTS		0.25% 25 BASIS POINTS	
		PROFIT	EQUITY	PROFIT	EQUITY
2020	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets					
– Cash & Cash Equivalents, and Financial Assets	10,590,638	(26,477)	(26,477)	26,477	26,477
– Non Current Investments Term Deposits	6,550,000	(16,375)	(16,375)	16,375	16,375
– Loans & Receivables	333,399	(833)	(833)	833	833
		(43,685)	(43,685)	43,685	43,685

	INTEREST RATE RISK				
	CARRYING AMOUNT SUBJECT TO INTEREST	-0.5% -50 BASIS POINTS		0.5% 50 BASIS POINTS	
		PROFIT	EQUITY	PROFIT	EQUITY
2019	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets					
– Cash & Cash Equivalents, and Financial Assets	10,241,498	(51,207)	(51,207)	51,207	51,207
– Non Current Investments Term Deposits	6,550,000	(32,750)	(32,750)	32,750	32,750
– Loans & Receivables	301,645	(1,508)	(1,508)	1,508	1,508
		(85,465)	(85,465)	85,465	85,465

NOTE 25

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(f) CATEGORIES OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Carrying amounts classified as:	2020 \$	2019 \$
Financial assets		
Loan & Receivables	2,693,290	3,046,712
Cash & Cash Equivalents, and Financial Assets	10,590,638	10,241,498
Non Current Investments Term Deposits	6,550,000	6,550,000
Equity Investment, TasWater	35,499,548	55,333,476
	46,295,474	66,133,684
Financial Liabilities measured at Amortised Cost		
Payables	2,565,853	2,042,736
Loans & Borrowings	8,470,000	11,035,853
	8,470,000	10,512,736
Net Financial Assets / (Liabilities)	44,297,623	55,620,948

(g) ANALYSIS OF UNIMPAIRED FINANCIAL ASSETS

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Rate Debtors, less than 30 days past due	-	1,458
Rate Debtors, greater than 30 and less than 60 days past due	6,025	585
Rate Debtors over 60 days past due	327,374	299,602
Trade Debtors Sundry, not past due	113,190	451,352
Trade Debtors Sundry, less than 30 days past due	242,938	69,604
Trade Debtors Sundry, over 30 days less than 60 Days past due	1,841	4,473
Trade Debtors Sundry, over 60 days past due	42,124	215,490
Accrued Income, Current	59,798	104,148
Loan Receivable, not past due	1,900,000	1,900,000
	2,693,290	3,046,712

NOTE 26

MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

(a) FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

(i) Underlying Surplus/(Deficit)

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Recurrent Income*		19,306	18,910	17,776	17,096
Less Recurrent Expenditure		20,483	18,014	17,714	17,775
Underlying Surplus/(Deficit)	0	(1,177)	896	62	(679)

*Recurrent income excludes income received specifically for new or upgraded assets, physical resources received free of charge or other income of a capital nature.

Commentary – A negative result indicates a deficit which is unable to be sustained in the long term, while Council has had a negative result in two of the last four years Council believes it is sustainable in the long term and continues to work towards achieving an ongoing positive result.

(ii) Underlying Surplus Ratio

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Underlying Surplus or Deficit		(1,177)	896	62	(679)
Divided by Recurrent Income*		19,306	18,910	17,776	17,096
Underlying Surplus Ratio %	0%	-6%	5%	0%	-4%

Commentary – A negative result indicates a deficit which is unable to be sustained in the long term, while Council has had a negative result in two of the last four years Council believes it is sustainable in the long term and continues to work towards achieving an ongoing positive result.

NOTE 26

MANAGEMENT INDICATORS (continued)

(iii) Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Liquid Assets		11,384	11,388	14,905	13,629
Less Total Liabilities		12,430	11,736	11,105	3,841
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)	0	(1,046)	(348)	3,800	9,788

Commentary – A positive result indicates Council's ability to meet its liabilities from its liquid assets. While Council has a negative result in the two most recent years, it currently holds \$6,550,000 as non current financial assets in term deposits, and \$1,900,000 as a non current loan receivable which all mature at the same time as Council's loan liabilities of \$8,470,000 fall due, meaning Council is in a position to be able to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

(iv) Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities) Ratio

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)		(1,046)	(348)	3,800	9,788
Divided by Recurrent Income*		19,306	18,910	17,781	17,096
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)	0% to (50)%	-5%	-2%	21%	57%

Commentary – A positive result indicates Council's ability to meet its liabilities from its liquid assets. While Council has a negative result in the two most recent year, it currently holds \$6,550,000 as non current financial assets in term deposits, and \$1,900,000 as a non current loan receivable which all mature at the same time as Council's loan liabilities of \$8,470,000 fall due, meaning Council is in a position to be able to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

(b) ASSET MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

(i) Asset Consumption Ratio

An asset consumption ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Buildings					
Depreciated Replacement Cost		32,047	25,751	25,115	23,901
Divided by Current Replacement Cost		48,577	53,822	51,720	48,728
Asset Consumption Ratio %	60%	66%	48%	49%	49%
Road & Bridge Infrastructure					
Depreciated Replacement Cost		234,157	164,950	158,078	156,749
Divided by Current Replacement Cost		324,060	250,155	238,036	233,693
Asset Consumption Ratio %	60%	72%	66%	66%	67%
Stormwater & Drainage					
Depreciated Replacement Cost		32,395	31,426	29,813	29,106
Divided by Current Replacement Cost		42,731	41,085	38,763	37,522
Asset Consumption Ratio %	60%	76%	76%	77%	78%

Commentary – These ratios show the depreciated replacement cost of classes of depreciable assets relative to their "as new" (replacement) value. They therefore show the average proportion of new condition left in the assets. Councils ratios for Roads and Bridge Infrastructure and Stormwater and Drainage have consistently over the four year period been above the established benchmark of 60% indicating, an appropriate level of investment in renewal of these asset classes. The Buildings has averaged of 49% in most recent four years 11% below the benchmark Council will continue to regularly review its level of ongoing investment in renewal of its Building assets, in order to actively work toward achievement of the benchmark.

NOTE 26

MANAGEMENT INDICATORS (continued)

(ii) Asset Renewal Funding Ratio

An asset renewal funding ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Buildings					
Projected Capital Funding Outlays**		10,916	5,664	5,920	5,920
Divided by Projected Capital Expenditure Funding***		4,466	4,185	4,185	4,185
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio %	90-100%	244%	135%	141%	141%
Road & Bridge Infrastructure					
Projected Capital Funding Outlays**		29,509	29,509	29,509	34,735
Divided by Projected Capital Expenditure Funding***		24,993	24,708	23,842	22,331
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio %	90-100%	118%	119%	124%	156%
Stormwater & Drainage					
Projected Capital Funding Outlays**		2,150	2,150	600	600
Divided by Projected Capital Expenditure Funding***		390	390	390	390
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio %	90-100%	551%	551%	154%	154%

** Current value of projected capital funding outlays for an asset identified in Council's long-term financial plan.

*** Value of projected capital expenditure funding for an asset identified in Council's long-term strategic asset management plan.

Commentary – This ratio measures the capacity to fund asset replacement requirements, by comparing funding outlays in the Councils long-term financial plan with projected capital expenditure in Council's long-term strategic asset management plans. In all years the asset classes reported have exceeded the benchmark.

(iii) Asset Sustainability Ratio

	Bench Mark	2020 \$,000s	2019 \$,000s	2018 \$,000s	2017 \$,000s
Capital Expenditure on Replacement/ Renewal of existing assets		5,280	8,457	5,983	4,198
Divided by Annual Depreciation Expense		6,284	5,701	5,550	5,378
Asset Sustainability Ratio %	100%	84%	148%	108%	78%

Commentary – This ratio compares the rate of spending on existing infrastructure, property, plant and equipment through renewing, restoring and replacing existing assets against depreciation. Councils average ratio of 105% over the past four years is above the benchmark of 100%, however this is a long term indicator as depreciation costs tend to be relatively stable over a period of time, whereas capital renewal can tend to be much more variable.

	CAPITAL RENEWAL EXPENDITURE \$'000	CAPITAL NEW/ UPGRADE EXPENDITURE \$'000	TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE \$'000
Land	-	101	101
Buildings	1,630	266	1,896
Heritage Assets	-	214	214
Furniture, Fittings, Office Equipment & Computers	138	302	440
Fleet	446	258	704
Plant	62	30	92
Road Infrastructure	2,065	598	2,663
Bridges	692	3	695
Stormwater & Drainage	247	442	689
Total	5,280	2,214	7,494

NOTE 27

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

Council measures and recognises the following assets at fair value on a recurring basis:

Property, plant & infrastructure

- Land
- Land under roads
- Buildings
- Roads Infrastructure
- Bridges
- Stormwater & Drainage
- Investment in Water Corporation

Council does not measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis.

(a) FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a level in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The table below shows the assigned level for each asset and liability held at fair value by the Council, together with each items carrying value.

The fair values of the assets are determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable data, where it is available, and minimise the use of entity specific estimates. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the asset is included in level 3. This is the case for Council infrastructure assets, which are of a specialist nature for which there is no active market for similar or identical assets. These assets are valued using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs.

AS AT 30 JUNE 2020					
Recurring fair value measurements	NOTE	LEVEL 1 \$	LEVEL 2 \$	LEVEL 3 \$	TOTAL \$
Land	14	-	13,547,935	-	13,547,935
Land under roads	14	-	17,036,183	-	17,036,183
Buildings	14	-	-	32,047,252	32,047,252
Roads Infrastructure	14	-	-	202,513,254	202,513,254
Bridges	14	-	-	31,643,868	31,643,868
Stormwater & Drainage	14	-	-	32,394,765	32,394,765
Investment in Water Corporation	15	-	-	35,499,548	35,499,548
		-	30,584,118	334,098,687	364,682,805

AS AT 30 JUNE 2019					
Recurring fair value measurements	NOTE	LEVEL 1 \$	LEVEL 2 \$	LEVEL 3 \$	TOTAL \$
Land	14	-	13,540,357	-	13,540,357
Land under roads	14	-	14,491,255	-	14,491,255
Buildings	14	-	-	25,751,212	25,751,212
Roads Infrastructure	14	-	-	141,575,705	141,575,705
Bridges	14	-	-	23,374,129	23,374,129
Stormwater & Drainage	14	-	-	31,425,530	31,425,530
Investment in Water Corporation	15	-	-	46,295,474	46,295,474
		-	28,031,612	268,422,050	296,453,662

Transfers between levels of the hierarchy

Council's policy is to recognise transfers in and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2 during the year.

(b) HIGHEST AND BEST USE

AASB 13 requires the fair value of non-financial assets to be calculated based on their "highest and best use", all assets valued at fair value in this note are being used for their highest and best use.

NOTE 27

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT (continued)

(c) VALUATION TECHNIQUES AND SIGNIFICANT INPUTS USED TO DERIVE FAIR VALUES

- (i) **Land**
Council Officers have applied adjustment factors provided by the Valuer-General to determine a valuation at 1 July 2017.
- (ii) **Land Under Roads**
The Valuer General issued adjusted rates in relation to this valuation effective 1 July 2019, with these rates being applied by Councils Officers to its Land under roads asset as at 1 July 2019.
- (iii) **Buildings**
The fair value of buildings was determined by LG Valuation Services PTY Ltd as at 1 July 2019.
Where there is a market for Council building assets, fair value has been derived from the sales prices of comparable properties after adjusting for differences in key attributes such as property size. The most significant input into this valuation approach was price per square metre.
Where Council buildings are of a specialist nature (e.g. heritage buildings, community buildings) and there is no active market for the assets, fair value has been determined on the basis of replacement with a new asset having similar service potential. The gross current values have been derived from reference to market data for recent projects and costing guides.
In determining the level of accumulated depreciation the asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Allowance has been made for the typical asset life cycle and renewal treatments of each component, residual value at the time the asset is considered to be no longer available for use.
While the unit rates based on square metres can be supported by market evidence (level 2), the estimates of residual value and useful life that are used to calculate accumulated depreciation comprise unobservable inputs (level 3). Where these other inputs are significant to the valuation the overall valuation has been classified as level 3.

(iv) Infrastructure assets

All Council infrastructure assets were fair valued using written down current replacement cost (CRC). This valuation comprises the asset's gross replacement cost less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Council first determined the gross cost of replacing the full service potential of the asset and then adjusted this amount to take account of the expired service potential of the asset.

CRC was measured by reference to the lowest cost at which the gross future economic benefits of the asset could currently be obtained in the normal course of business. The resulting valuation reflects the cost of replacing the existing economic benefits based on an efficient set of modern equivalent assets to achieve the required level of service output.

The unit rates (labour and materials) and quantities applied to determine the CRC of an asset or asset component were based on a "Brownfield" assumption meaning that the CRC was determined as the full cost of replacement with a new asset including components that may not need to be replaced, such as earthworks.

The level of accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets was determined based on the age of the asset and the useful life adopted by Council for the asset type. Estimated useful lives and residual values are disclosed in Note 1.

The calculation of CRC involves a number of inputs that require judgement and are therefore classed as unobservable. While these judgements are made by qualified and experienced staff, different judgements could result in a different valuation.

The methods for calculating CRC are described under individual asset categories below.

Roads Infrastructure

A full Assessment and Valuation of Roads and Streets was undertaken by Moloney Asset Management Systems as at 1 July 2019. Council Officers have applied this valuation to its Road Infrastructure Asset at the effective date.

Council categorises its road infrastructure into urban and rural roads and then further sub-categorises these into sealed and unsealed roads. Urban roads and rural roads are managed in segments of varying lengths. All road segments are then componentised into formation, pavement, sub-pavement and seal (where applicable). Council assumes that environmental factors such as soil type, climate and topography are consistent across each segment. Council also assumes a segment is designed and constructed to the same standard and uses a consistent amount of labour and materials. As part of the this valuation process each segment of road was individually assessed.

CRC is based on the road area multiplied by a unit price; the unit price being an estimate of labour and material inputs, services costs, and overhead allocations. For internal construction estimates, material and services prices are based on existing supplier contract rates or supplier price lists and labour wage rates are based on Council's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA). Where construction is outsourced, CRC is based on the average of completed similar projects over the last few years.

Bridges

A unit rate assessment and valuation of Bridges was undertaken by AusSpan Pty Ltd as at 1 July 2019. These unit rates have been applied to Council Bridges asset by Council Officers at the effective date. The valuation is based on the material type used for construction and the deck and sub-structure area.

Stormwater and Drainage

A full valuation of Stormwater & Drainage was undertaken by Consulting Engineers Pitt & Sherry as at 1 July 2016. Similar to roads, drainage assets are managed in segments; pits and pipes being the major components. Consistent with roads, Council assumes that environmental factors such as soil type, climate and topography are consistent across each segment and that a segment is designed and constructed to the same standard and uses a consistent amount of labour and materials. Council Officers have applied a Road & Bridge Construction index factor obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics to determine a valuation as at 1 July 2019.

CRC is based on the unit price for the component type. For pipes, the unit price is multiplied by the asset's length. The unit price for pipes is based on the construction material as well as the depth the pipe is laid.

Investment in Water Corporation

Refer to Note 1 (i) for valuation technique & Inputs and sensitivities.

(d) CHANGES IN RECURRING LEVEL 3 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The changes in level 3 assets with recurring fair value measurements are detailed in note 14 (Property, plant & infrastructure).

(e) VALUATION PROCESSES

Council's current policy for the valuation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment and investment in water corporation is set out in note 1(f). Non-recurring fair value measurements are made at the point of reclassification by a registered valuer.

(f) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES NOT MEASURED AT FAIR VALUE BUT FOR WHICH FAIR VALUE IS DISCLOSED

The carrying amounts of trade receivables and trade payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature (Level 2).

STATEMENT BY GENERAL MANAGER

I, Des Jennings certify that in my opinion:-

The financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Northern Midlands Council as at 30 June 2020, the results of its operations for the year then ended and the cash flows of the Council, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), Australian Accounting Standards (including interpretations) and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Des Jennings', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Des Jennings

GENERAL MANAGER

Dated at Longford this 4th day of December 2020.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Northern Midlands Council

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Northern Midlands Council (Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020 and statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of certification by the General Manager.

In my opinion the accompanying financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, Council's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended1
- (b) is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

My audit responsibility does not extend to the budget figures included in the financial report and the asset renewal funding ratio disclosed in note 26 to the financial report and accordingly, I express no opinion on them. Furthermore, I express no opinion on the General Manager's determination

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that Council did not have any Significant Business Activities for inclusion in the financial report as required by Section 84(2)(da) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgement, were of most significance in my audit of the financial report of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of my audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Why this matter is considered to be one of the most significant matters in the audit	Audit procedures to address the matter included
Land, buildings and infrastructure assets <i>Refer to notes 8, 14 and 27</i>	
Property, plant and infrastructure at 30 June 2020 includes land, buildings and infrastructure assets including roads, bridges and stormwater measured at fair values totalling \$329.18m. The fair values of these assets are based on market values and current replacement cost. Council undertakes formal revaluations on a regular basis to ensure valuations represent fair value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing the scope, expertise and independence of experts involved in the valuations.Assessing the appropriateness of the valuation methodology and the key assumptions used.Testing, on a sample basis, the mathematical accuracy of the valuation model calculations.
During 2019-20, Council revalued its buildings, land under roads, roads, bridges, and stormwater assets. The valuations were determined by external experts and are highly dependent upon a range of assumptions and estimated unit rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluating management's assessment of asset useful lives.Performing substantive analytical procedures on depreciation expenses.
The calculation of depreciation requires estimation of asset useful lives, which involves a high degree of subjectivity. Changes in assumptions and depreciation policies can significantly impact the depreciation charged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Testing, a selection of significant expenditure on maintenance and capital works to corroborate appropriate treatment.
Capital payments in 2019-20 totalled \$7.46m on a number of significant programs to upgrade and maintain assets. Capital projects can contain a combination of enhancement and maintenance activity which are not distinct and therefore the allocation of costs between capital and operating expenditure is inherently judgemental.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Testing, on a sample basis, capital work-in-progress to ensure that active projects result in usable assets and that assets commissioned are transferred in a timely manner.Evaluating the adequacy of disclosures made in the financial report, including those regarding key assumptions used.

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Responsibilities of the General Manager for the Financial Report

The General Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1993* and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the General Manager is responsible for assessing Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Council is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament or the Councillors intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

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

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

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- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

From the matters communicated with the General Manager, I determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. I describe these matters in my auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, I determine that a matter should not be communicated in my report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



Leigh Franklin
Assistant Auditor-General, Financial Audit Services
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Tasmanian Audit Office

16 December 2020
Hobart

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• Avoca Bridge to Rossarden



• Translink



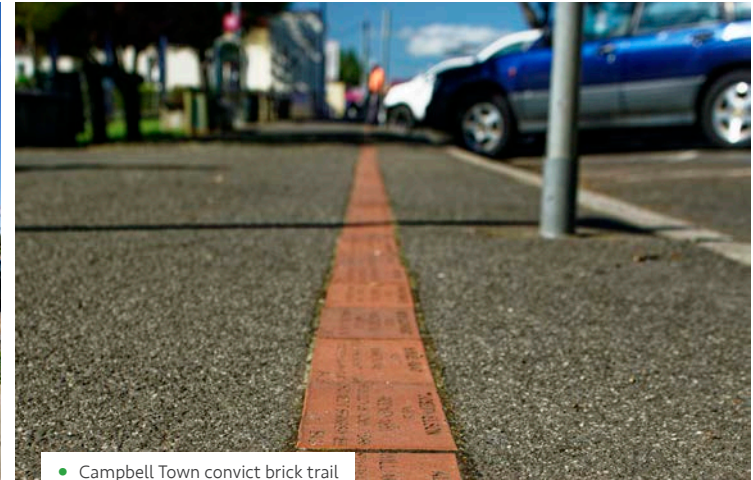
• Old Doctor's Surgery Building, Ross



• Avoca Museum and Information Centre (AMIC)



• Memorial to Truckies, Epping Forest



• Campbell Town convict brick trail

Back cover, left to right:

- Lake Leake, Harry Murray Statue, Evandale



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