

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

20th

ANNUAL REPORT

2013-14

- Andrie • Bangante • Bannockburn • Barunah Park • Batesford • Berringa • Berrybank
- Cambrian Hill • Cape Clear • Corindhap • Cressy • Dereel • Durdidwarrah
- Durham Lead • Enfield • Garbaldi • Gherringhap • Grenville • Haddon • Happy Valley
- Hesse • Illabarook • Inverleigh • Lethbridge • Linton • Mannabadar • Maude • Meredith
- Morrisons • Mount Mercer • Murghobolac • Napoleons • Newtown • Nintingbool
- Pigreeel • Pitfield • Pittong • Rokewood • Rokewood Junction • Ross Creek
- Russells Bridge • Scarsdale • She Oaks • Shelford • Smythes Creek • Smythesdale
- Springdallah • Staffordshire Reef • Steigitz • Stonehaen • Sutherland's Creek • Teesdale
- Wallinduc • Werneth • Willowvale • Wingeel



Golden Plains' Mission

- We encourage, welcome and recognise the need to respond to the significant forecast population growth and the challenges it creates.
- We maintain and enhance the diversity and uniqueness of our communities, while encouraging and managing population growth and economic development.
- We maintain and develop a quality road system and secure adequate resources for the future.
- We aim for citizens to have fair access to recreation facilities, education, employment and human services, particularly youth and the aged.
- We accept individual diversity and we welcome and encourage participation in civic and community affairs.
- We market our municipality through open and effective communication.
- We respect the environment, our cultural significance and our heritage.
- We support and pursue the orderly and proper planning of land use and development based on strategic considerations as identified in the Municipal Strategic Statement.
- We support agricultural industry, sustainable practices and the right to farm.
- We provide municipal leadership that reflects local needs within a competitive and changing environment while considering government priorities.
- We foster successful relationships with other levels of government, agencies, non- government organisations and the private sector.

Golden Plains' Values

- **Integrity in Leadership**
We will strive to lead the community with integrity, reason and accountability whilst acknowledging Council's statutory obligations.
- **Equity & Access**
We will treat our community, residents and ratepayers equitably by being fair in our decision making and ensure that we are approachable by the community.
- **Commitment**
We are committed to excellence in management and teamwork, comprising the community, Council and staff.
- **Community**
We recognise the uniqueness of our individual communities and will seek to work in partnership with them to enhance their sense of community spirit. We recognise the efforts and value the contributions of our volunteers.
- **Innovation**
We are open to new ideas and will grasp opportunities with a vision to succeed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

*That Council acknowledge the traditional custodians
of the land on which we reside
and work,
the Wathaurong people.*



Golden Plains' Vision

Golden Plains Shire offers a lifestyle and opportunities that foster social, economic and environmental wellbeing.

In partnership with the community we will provide strong leadership, encourage sustainable development and ensure quality services, to continue to improve the quality of life of residents.

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The timeline of the twenty years from 1994-2014 that flows across the following pages, provides a year-by-year look at some of the highlights, developments, events and people that have contributed to the evolution of the Shire.

1994

6 May

Southern Rural Shire created.

- A sole Commissioner, Claire Barton Barber appointed.
- An Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Roderick Lionel Nicholls appointed.

13 May

The inaugural meeting of the Southern Rural Shire Council was held.

1 October

The municipality was renamed Golden Plains Shire.



December

Rod Nicholls was appointed CEO of Golden Plains Shire.

Welcome - *20 Year Anniversary Annual Report*

Golden Plains Shire is a region of diverse landscapes, transforming from gorgeous vistas along the Moorabool Valley to Rokewood's broad acre farm land and to the undulating and forested goldfield country near the outskirts of Ballarat.

Hosting some of Victoria's oldest towns, Golden Plains Shire is home to 56 small rural townships and smaller settlements, connecting a network of unique and vibrant communities. Now populated by 20,151 (June 2013) residents, with 6,998 new residents calling the Shire home over the past 20 years, Golden Plains has become a great place to explore, live, work and invest.

Having seen much change over time, Golden Plains Shire has grown into a prominent region of business and industry, supporting intensive farming, cropping, manufacturing, education and retail.

This Annual Report is Council's review of the past financial year as well as a reflection on how far Golden Plains Shire has come since its creation 20 years ago.

"The Golden Plains Shire will provide strong leadership, encourage sustainable development and ensure quality services, in partnership with the community, for the continued viability of the municipality and the region."
1997 Council Plan.



1995

Relocation of staff to the former Bannockburn Shire Offices at 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn.

- More key appointments made.
- Series of Planning Studies completed.

11 & 12 October

Golden Plains Shire hosted a visit from the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency the Honourable Richard McGarvie and Mrs McGarvie.

November

The Can Do Card introduced. Golden Plains became known as the Can Do Shire.

From Our Mayor - *Jenny Blake*

Preceding the first Golden Plains Shire Council election in March 1996, Commissioner Claire Barber wrote about the role of Councillors for the newly formed Shire.

“The Councillors of the future will need to be forward thinking and provide leadership and vision that will create social and economic development opportunities. I urge all residents to think carefully about the type of future they want for their Shire and to take ownership of this future by electing a quality of councillor that will continue to foster innovative, creative and accountable local government. “Please accept the challenge of electing or becoming a Councillor as the next step in ensuring Golden Plains Shire has a golden future.”

As I reflect on Claire’s words almost 20 years later I see that the challenge has not changed. Council, its Councillors and the community need to be forward thinking and we need to consider the impact of our decisions not just for today but on residents of tomorrow.

As a Councillor who has been a part of the Golden Plains Shire since that first election, I believe Council has undertaken the business of local government with great diligence and dedication and, importantly, with a view to plan for long term sustainability in our region.

In 1994, Golden Plains was a predominantly rural Shire with high production in farming of wool, cattle, grain and poultry. While farming remains a significant aspect of Golden Plains’ life today, the increasing level of residential properties has seen a substantial change in the needs of residents across the Shire.

The changing demographics lead to an increasing need for human services. Services such as maternal and child health care, senior citizen’s services and home care were increasingly needed along with pet registrations, library services and a community bus.

In Council’s first year, 194 new members of the Golden Plains community were welcomed into the world and this year a mini baby boom of 249 new residents call Golden Plains home (a total of 1,168 over the past five years). Ours is a region of new life and growth and a place where opportunities grow.

As we look now to the future, after celebrating this 20 year anniversary milestone, it is a prospect that we should embrace with great optimism and enthusiasm because Golden Plains has a lot to offer, is home to wonderful people and is a great place to live.



Cr Jenny Blake pictured with Minister Terry Mulder (Member for Polwarth) and Teesdale community coordinators.

“I believe Council has undertaken the business of local government with great diligence and dedication and, importantly, with a view to plan for long term sustainability in our region.”

- Cr Jenny Blake, Mayor

1996

March

- The return of elected representatives.
- Cr Des Phelan elected as the first Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

The release of the Golden Pages, a directory of Golden Plains based businesses. By the end of the year more than twenty new businesses had been established across the Shire.



Council declared war on noxious weeds such as Serrated Tussock and Gorse, and appointed an Environment Officer to coordinate matters relating to the local environment.

Our Councillors - *Past and Present*

Councillors 2013-14

Standing l-r:

Cr Greg Vaughan APM JP

Re-elected Nov 2012

First elected 1996-98

Cr Bill McArthur

First elected March 1996

Cr Helena Kirby

First elected Nov 2008

Cr Andrew Cameron

First elected Nov 2012

Seated l-r:

Cr Nathan Hansford

First elected Nov 2012

Mayor Jenny Blake

First elected March 1996

Cr Des Phelan

Re-elected Nov 2012

First elected 1996-2002



Around the Council Table: 1996 - Current



Cr Greg Vaughan



Cr Des Phelan



*Cr John McManus
(deceased)*



Cr Jenny Jones



Cr Bill McArthur



Cr Gerald Dupe



Cr Geraldine Frantz

The inaugural 1996 Golden Plains Shire Council consisted of: Cr Greg Vaughan (Bannockburn Riding); Cr Des Phelan (Break o' Day Riding); Cr John McManus (Forest Riding); Cr Bill McArthur (Haddon Riding); Cr Gerald Dupe (Ranges Riding); Cr Des Guinane (Rivers Riding); Cr Alwyn Parker (Ross Creek Riding); Cr Jenny Blake (Valley Riding) and Cr Kevin Knight (Woody Yaloak Riding).

In 2008 due to significant electoral changes, the number of councillors was reduced from nine to seven. Helena Kirby of Rokewood was elected as a new councillor and joined six existing councillors at the Council table; Jenny Blake of Barunah Park, David Cotsell of Murgheboluc, Gerald Dupe of Lethbridge, Geraldine Frantz of Napoleons, Kevin Knight of Linton and Bill McArthur of Haddon.



Cr Des Guinane



Cr David Cotsell



Cr Helena Kirby



Cr Kevin Knight OAM



Cr Tony Francis



Cr Jenny Blake



Cr Alwyn Parker

1997

March

- Cr Des Phelan re-elected as Mayor for a second twelve month term.
- Council excelled in its financial management, achieving a debt free position to become the lowest rating council per capita in Victoria.

July

Golden Plains Shire Family Day Care Program launched. Within the first year more than 50 children were provided with day care each week.

August

Ways to Spend Time In Golden Plains tourism map published. It highlighted the Shire's many attractions, recreational activities and tourism businesses including historic gold fields, wineries, historic buildings, and walking trails.

From Our CEO - *Rod Nicholls*

It is with genuine pleasure that I review the pages of this Annual Report, the achievements of 2013-14 and the celebration of this municipality's 20 year anniversary. There have been challenges but also much to celebrate over the years and I find myself reminiscing about the projects and the people that have helped to make this organisation successful and this region a great place to live.

Way back in April 1994 I was approached by Yehudi Blacher representing the Minister for Local Government, the Honourable Roger Hallam and invited to take on the role of interim Chief Executive of a soon to be announced restructured municipality, the Southern Rural Shire.

Whilst my initial reaction was to decline the position because I had been the Chief Executive of an anti-amalgamation Council, the former Shire of Grenville, I quickly recognised the opportunities that would grow from this newly merged region. It was the greatest decision of my career.

Since that time it has been an incredible ride with tests and trials together with real breakthroughs and achievements - highlights of which will be outlined in the following pages of this Report. Most importantly it has been extremely rewarding.

I have had the privilege of overseeing an organisation that has grown significantly over the past twenty years, an organisation that has a wonderful team of very well qualified, skilful and passionate staff who are prepared to go beyond the call of duty to deliver Council's varied and large range of services.

At the same time I have been fortunate to have had strong community leaders who have formed stable councils led by the Mayor of the day. At times, there have been robust discussions and differing opinions and always there have been new challenges to face but together, with the community, we have been able to achieve amazing outcomes that have significantly improved the quality of life of residents.

The 20th Year of Golden Plains Shire Council, as outlined in this Annual Report, has realised significant development in the municipality too with the opening of the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct, the completion of the first wind farm in Golden Plains at Mt Mercer, a \$1.4M upgrade to the Lethbridge Airport and the commencement of reticulated gas in Bannockburn – Golden Plains is certainly a place where opportunities grow!



Rod Nicholls with Publications Officer, Ed James, checking the proofs of an edition of the Gazette.

“When you think about success it can mean many things, but I think all of our successes here at Council have been brought about because they are planned and prepared for with community benefit in mind.”

- Rod Nicholls, Chief Executive Officer Golden Plains Shire.

1998

March

Cr John McManus elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

- Aged care units in Rokewood opened.
- Council assumed management of the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail.
- Woody Yaloak Recreation Facility opened.
- Napoleons Recreation pavilion opened.
- Building on its Can Do customer service initiative, Council developed a series of customer service charters, initially setting service standards for Town Planning, Building Control and Family Day Care.
- A general Customer Service Charter was developed.

Our Senior Management Team

Standing l-r:
Jillian Evans
 Director
 Community Services

Richard Trigg
 Director
 Corporate Services

Seated l-r:
Greg Anders
 Director
 Assets & Amenity

Rod Nicholls PSM
 Chief Executive Officer

Mike Barrow
 Manager Executive Unit

Our Staff



Council staff, guests and Rod Nicholls (second from left, front row) at Bannockburn Cultural Centre on 12 May, 2014.

20 Years a CEO!

In May 2014, Council staff arranged a surprise tribute to Rod Nicholls to celebrate his 20 years as CEO, with many guest speakers.

Rod said: *"Whilst I did not expect any recognition of my 20 years as CEO of this fantastic organisation I certainly greatly appreciated the very kind words that were conveyed."*

"My role as CEO has been made so much easier over the years by the quality of the staff at Golden Plains. Golden Plains is well recognised for this and I am very proud of what we have achieved together."

1999

March

- Cr John McManus re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.
- Rod Nicholls appointed CEO for a further five years.

Rural Development Minister, Tom Reynolds announced a State Government grant of \$190,000 to establish an industrial estate at Bannockburn.

- Shelford Hall refurbishments opened.
- Haddon Lions Park opened.
- Ross Creek Hall renovations opened.

Four Shires *Become One*

By 1994, and despite some efforts on behalf of pre-existing councils to resist amalgamation, the reform process was progressing rapidly. Early in the year, the Local Government Board undertook its review of the Ballarat region.

On 6 May 1994, the question of what to do with the remaining parts or wholes of the Shires of Bannockburn, Buninyong, Grenville and Leigh was answered via the creation of the Southern Rural Shire.

On 1 October 1994, the Shire was officially promulgated as Golden Plains Shire. It was decided to set up the administrative and customer service centre in Bannockburn.

There is now an additional customer service centre in Linton.



The riding names and locations for the first election were determined as:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Bannockburn Riding (Bannockburn, Russells Bridge and surrounds). | 6 Rivers Riding (Inverleigh, Batesford, Gheringhap, Sutherlands Creek and surrounds). |
| 2 Break o' Day Riding (Dereel, Rokewood, Cape Clear and surrounds). | 7 Ross Creek Riding (Ross Creek, Smythes Creek and surrounds). |
| 3 Forest Riding (Napoleons, Enfield and surrounds). | 8 Valley Riding (Teesdale, Shelford and surrounds). |
| 4 Haddon Riding (Haddon and surrounds). | 9 Woody Yaloak Riding (Linton, Smythesdale, Scarsdale and surrounds). |
| 5 Ranges Riding (Meredith, Lethbridge and surrounds). | |

The newly created Golden Plains Shire, showing the electoral boundaries of the nine ridings.

The History Pages of the Shire of Bannockburn

The area known as Golden Plains Shire has experienced much transformation in its time. When gold was discovered in Victoria in 1851, it brought with it a booming population and, in the rush of it all, fledgling infrastructure, which required management by what was

then known as a central road board. In 1864, 13 years after the State's first unearthing of gold, approval was granted to form a Shire of Bannockburn. On 27 June, the area was officially proclaimed. The Shire of Bannockburn went on to see two World Wars,

and as soldiers returned from battle, the Shire's soldier settlements at Golf Hill and Moranghurk, among others, offered humble residence for the soldiers and their families. Overtime, more and more people were drawn to the Shire's bustling settlements,



1606
Dutch navigator Willem Janszoon the first European to land in Australia

1851
Gold discovered in Victoria - the great Australian goldrush begins

50 years

1788
24 January
First Fleet arrives in Botany Bay
26 January
First Fleet arrives in Sydney Cove

1864
1 May
Approval granted to form Shire of Bannockburn
.....
27 June
Shire of Bannockburn proclaimed and gazetted

1939-45
World War 2

1914-18
World War 1

Our Year, *Our Communities*

Golden Plains Shire is a fast growing predominately agricultural region close to Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong.

Area:	2,705 square kilometres
Estimated Resident Population:	20,151 (June 2013)
Growth rate:	3.5% for 2013-14
Number of employees:	176.8 Equivalent Full time (EFT)
Number of Councillors:	7
Electoral structure:	Un-subdivided municipality from December 2008
Rateable properties:	10,323
Operating revenue:	\$29.9 million
Rates and Charges:	\$16.7 million
Length of sealed local roads:	985 kms
Length of unsealed local roads:	720 kms
Climate:	Cool winters and moderate summers
Annual average rainfall:	500-750 mm
Average winter temp:	10 degrees Celsius
Average summer temp:	25 degrees Celsius

- Anakie • Bamganie • Bannockburn • Barunah Park • Batesford • Berringa • Berrybank
- Cambrian Hill • Cape Clear • Corindhap • Cressy • Dereel • Durdidwarrah
- Durham Lead • Enfield • Garibaldi • Gheringhap • Grenville • Haddon • Happy Valley
- Hesse • Illabarook • Inverleigh • Lethbridge • Linton • Mannibadar • Maude • Meredith
- Morrisons • Mount Mercer • Murgheboluc • Napoleons • Newtown • Nintingbool
- Piggoreet • Pitfield • Pittong • Rokewood • Rokewood Junction • Ross Creek
- Russells Bridge • Scarsdale • She Oaks • Shelford • Smythes Creek • Smythesdale
- Springdallah • Staffordshire Reef • Steiglitz • Stonehaven • Sutherlands Creek • Teesdale
- Wallinduc • Werneth • Willowvale • Wingeel

and with this, the Shire's history pages were enriched. As the years went on, the Shire and its sleepy townships grew and the world saw epic change. Man landed on the moon and computers and the internet became commonplace. On 6 May 1994 the Shire was

formally re-named Southern Rural Shire. On 1 October that year, it was re-named again; this time as the aptly named Golden Plains Shire, which represents the area's rich gold rush history and stretching golden-coloured lands. Golden Plains Shire is now celebrating its 20th

birthday, 150 years after the birth of the original Shire of Bannockburn. Council looks forward to helping build a bright future of opportunity and transformation and writing new pages in history.



1994-1998

A new Shire is formed • Golden Plains grows and Bannockburn booms.



Between 1994 and 1998, Golden Plains Shire saw many changes, particularly those that came from political reforms and economic recession.

The Liberal National Coalition came to power in 1992 with a promise to put Victoria "on the move" via an aggressive reform agenda. On 18 May 1993, the Minister for Local Government, Roger Hallam, announced the formation of the City of Greater Geelong, signifying further change was on the horizon for the region. By 1994, local government in Victoria and the region had been transformed.

Southern Rural Shire was created with sole Commissioner, Claire Barber, who was appointed along with Interim Chief Executive Officer, Roderick Nicholls, with the expectation that it would only exist for a few months. They were instructed not to set about the task of establishing a permanent municipality, but rather to "tread water", whilst still delivering the full range of local government services to its ratepayers and communities.

Following Commissioner Barber's belief that the Shire had promise and was viable in the long term, on 23 September 1994, Minister Hallam announced that the Shire was here to stay. The Shire was subsequently named Golden Plains Shire on 1 October that year.

Whilst the new Shire did not contain a main centre, it did contain many small rural townships and smaller settlements, with the major Glenelg, Hamilton and Midland Highways generally running alongside and defining the municipal boundaries. Before council elections could take place in 1996, internal electoral boundaries needed to be established and later in the year the nine single councillor ward structure was adopted. Elected representatives were returned in March of 1996. One councillor was elected from each of the nine ridings to serve a three year term. At the first statutory meeting of the new Council on 21 March, Des Phelan was elected as the first mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

By the late 1990s, Victoria had emerged from its economic recession and was enjoying substantial public and private sector investment.

Located between the State's three largest cities, Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat, Golden Plains was ranked among the six fastest growing municipalities in Victoria in percentage terms, and within the State's top three fastest growing non-metropolitan councils. By 1998, Bannockburn had well and truly entered a period of sustained population growth that would see it become one of the fastest growing towns in the nation over the next decade.



July 1996 - The Golden Plains Gazette is launched

The first edition of the Golden Plains Gazette was distributed to every ratepayer and household. It aimed to keep Shire residents up-to-date with current community news, projects and other matters of local interest. The front page headline read "Tender Success for Council Staff" after these services were put to public tender under the State Government's Compulsory Competitive Tendering requirements.

A logo for the new Shire

The striking logo Council still uses today was adopted in 1994 and remains a wonderful representation of the region. The logo comprises three strong pictorial elements symbolising, from left to right, the gold of wool (golden fleece) represented by the ram's horn, sunshine on and gold in the landscape and the gold of grain represented by sections of wheat stalk heads. Together the elements form a strong image and an arch representing the dominance of the southern plains across the Shire.

Tragedy at Linton

On 2 December 1998, a bushfire burned through private land and state forests near Linton. Firefighters from the Department of Natural Resources and the Country Fire Authority were deployed to combat the fire and at approximately 8:45pm, two firefighting appliances and their crews were entrapped and engulfed in fire following an unexpected wind change.

The crew of one of those appliances, five volunteers from the Geelong West CFA station, was killed. They were Christopher Evans, Garry Vredeveltdt, Stuart Davidson, Jason Thomas and Matthew Armstrong. A memorial was erected at both Geelong West and Linton.



The memorial at Geelong West.

2000

March

Cr Gerald Dupe elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

The Olympic Games came to Sydney. The Torch Relay passed through every municipality in the country, and on Day 52, was carried in Meredith by the local policeman, Mick Rooney, and in Lethbridge by Nicole Woods of Shelford and local resident Noela Millar.

- A second oval at the Lethbridge Recreation Reserve opened by the Minister for Sport and Recreation, The Hon. Justin Madden.
- Multi-purpose stadium at Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve announced.

• Building the Shire • A great place to live, work and play

1999-2003



Council's community bus.

Golden Plains Shire approached the new millennium riding a wave of population growth from the nineties. The new municipality was functioning well and a robust Council-community partnership had emerged and continued to strengthen.

Quite notably in 1999, Golden Plains Shire was featured in a TV commercial, which cast a spotlight on the growing Shire, emphasising the residential allure and investment attraction opportunities in the area. This generated much interest and attracted interstate enquires.

By the year 2000, with strong population growth and differences emerging between the needs and aspirations of the Shire's many communities, Council introduced the Community Development Program which became an early model for community planning throughout Victoria.

2001 kicked off with an unprecedented number of community infrastructure projects being opened, made possible through a partnership between the State Government, Council and local communities. The projects included the Civic Circle in Bannockburn, the Leighdale Equestrian Centre in Teesdale and commencement of town place works in Smythesdale.

In 2002, Golden Plains was the third fastest growing municipality in regional Victoria, marking a 2.3% increase from the previous year. The Shire's semi-rural living atmosphere and increasing community services were attracting young families. Property values had increased by 18% over the previous two years, with Bannockburn, Batesford, Gheringhap, Sutherlands Creek and surrounds increasing by more than 30%.

By 2003, internet access was becoming increasingly necessary, so Council introduced two E-Gaps projects with funding assistance from the Victorian Department of Infrastructure, to provide low cost internet access with the aim of reducing social isolation, improving general communication and improving resources for local community groups.



An award-winning project

Path of the Ibis was an art project developed in Meredith by artist Susan Barlow-Clifton. Funded by Arts Victoria and contributed to by Council, the project won two awards in 1999; Best Practice Management of a Cultural Project at the Local Government and Arts Leadership Awards and the Beautification and/or Heritage Preservation Award at the Regional and Rural Pride Awards.

The work involved the use of timber, steel and concrete mosaic.

Situated along Meredith's Coolebarghurk Creek, it combined cultural and environmental themes to form a depiction of the native Ibis' migratory path.



Bannockburn Shire Hall opens again in 2001

Built in 1876 and extended with a new facade in 1915, the Shire hall is architecturally significant at the local level. The Edwardian facade is relatively sophisticated and gives the building a suitably grand appearance. The Edwardian lettering is particularly beautiful.

It was used as the former Bannockburn Council's chamber and offices until larger, more modern premises were opened in Pope Street in 1982. Since that time, the hall had been used mainly for storage.

In 2001, the newly refurbished Hall was re-opened for Council meetings, forums and other civic events.

The Bannockburn Shire Hall hosted its first council meeting for 18 years, following an official opening ceremony on 25 January, 2001.

2001

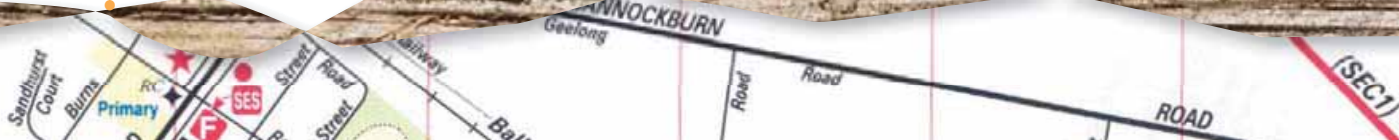
Council's Youth Officer gained the views of young people through a series of public forums. More entertainment, skate parks, improved public transport, a better youth image, more local job opportunities, the funding of youth initiatives, and establishing drop-in centres were discussed.

March

Cr Gerald Dupe was re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

2001 – The International Year of the Volunteer

The Mayor and Councillors presented individuals and groups of volunteers with certificates of recognition signed by the Premier of Victoria, The Hon. Steve Bracks.



2004-2008

• Progress is made • Health and wellbeing boost in the Shire

In 2004, health promotion in the municipality received a massive boost when Council secured external funding to encourage and support communities to become more active, to provide access to resources for residents on health initiatives, and to ensure better access to services. The program was focused on the needs of children, young people, families and isolated older adults.

This era saw Golden Plains Shire become the first council to sign up to G21, the Geelong Region Alliance, a body that has brought the region together.

Planning for the Smythesdale Central Project in 2005 saw the emergence of the township as a regional service hub whilst providing a substantial boost to the region's economy, health and wellbeing. The year's growth statistics indicated that Golden Plains was the fastest growing municipality in rural and regional Victoria, the Shire's growth rate climbing from 3.51% to 3.60%.

In 2006, the Bannockburn Family Services Centre was opened, and was awarded first prize by State Minister for Community and Children's Services, the Hon. Cheryl Garbutt, in the State's Early Years Awards in the 'Better access to child and family support, health services and early education' category.

After suffering through years of uncompromising drought, in 2007, farmers across Golden Plains were now able to apply for extended drought assistance following the Federal Government's announcement that the region had qualified for full Exceptional Circumstances assistance.

In the lead up to the November 2008 council elections, the Victorian Electoral Commission conducted a review of the Shire's electoral boundaries and imposed significant change. These changes meant Golden Plains had no separate ridings, and only seven councillors.

Carrying the Baton

In March 2006, Melbourne played host to the Commonwealth Games. Councils across Victoria were allocated a 'second team' with Golden Plains Shire allocated the Welsh team, as its second supporting nation for the Games.

Adding to the excitement was the Queen's Baton Relay which travelled through parts of the Shire on 4 March 2006, including Bannockburn and Inverleigh. Over 500 people braved the early start to encourage the local residents selected to carry the Queen's Baton.

L-R: Kevin Nolan, Ron Bell and Jason Bowdern start the Relay.



Census provides a snapshot in time

The 2006 Census data was released in 2008 providing an interesting snapshot of the Golden Plains demographic.

- The southeast of the Shire had grown at almost three times that of the state average over the past ten years with the northwest growing at approximately one and a half times. Overall, the Shire's growth rate was 2.15% higher than other regions of the state.
- Compared to the State average, Golden Plains Shire had fewer people over 70 and in early adulthood (18 to 24), but more people of primary school age and between 35 and 49 years old.
- There were 2,337 jobs within the Shire, of which just over 70% were occupied by Golden Plains residents.



2002

March
Cr Kevin Knight elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

September
Golden Plains Shire held its first FReeZA event in Bannockburn. This drug and alcohol-free music event for 14 to 18 year olds was one of seven FReeZA events planned for the following twelve months.

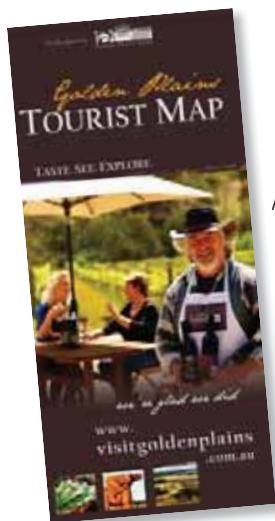
With its ever increasing proportion of, and focus on, young people, Council doubled the percentage of total community grants expenditure allocated to youth-based projects.

2009 - 2013

• Paving the future • Successful outcomes for community and tourism

Visit Golden Plains Taste. See. Explore.

Golden Plains Shire Council launches this strategic tourism marketing program in 2011. It promotes the experiences and journeys available in the region to target consumer market segments as identified in Council's Tourism Master Plan.



A new tourism map, a website and a free smartphone app were produced to complement the campaign.



Showcasing local art
The first Golden Plains Arts Trail event was held during October 2009.

Bannockburn's rapidly growing population marked the need for improved services and infrastructure. By 2009, Council's commitment to delivering projects and meeting community need saw many major projects, programs and developments take shape.

Most notably, in 2009, Council received Federal and State Government funding to begin the development of the Bannockburn Recreation Precinct, which would include a two-court indoor stadium, four outdoor netball courts with lighting and two tennis courts. The Centre continues to grow and improve and serve the community as a central sporting hub, promoting health and fitness in the region.

In 2010, noteworthy efforts of staff were formally recognised when Council earned a major award: Excellence in Local Government - Corporate and Community Planning Award. This honour, given by LGPro, which is the peak body for local government professionals, recognised Council's work and achievements associated with the Golden Plains Community Planning Program.

In 2011, Council began the construction of the Bannockburn Cultural Centre project, which was (and remains) Council's largest capital project, and on 5 May 2012, it was officially opened. Located in Bannockburn's town centre, this prominent community facility boasts a town hall, a commercial kitchen and generous community meeting spaces. Possibly, its most valuable feature is the Library, the Shire's first non-mobile library, which attracted 3,195 visitors in its first week of operation. This 4.2M development was jointly funded by State and Federal Governments, the Bannockburn Primary School and Council.

2012 also saw the rollout of the Linking Townships to Trails for Economic Development Project. This exciting program saw the implementation of small infrastructure to link three trails to local businesses in 11 adjoining towns. The project's success stories include the linking up of walking paths and bike tracks and the installation of directional and interpretive signage to encourage users of the trails to explore the townships.

Renewable energy

Consent for Meridian Energy Australia to construct the region's first renewable energy farm at Mount Mercer, was granted in 2009.

Throughout 2013, sections of 64 large wind turbines were transported to the Wind Farm. Each 126 metre tall turbine took a crew of 50 people and a day and a half to erect.

The turbines are expected to generate more than 400GWh of energy each year; sufficient to power a mid-size city, such as Ballarat.



Trucking the huge blades to Mount Mercer.

Mount Mercer Wind Farm.

2003



The Meeting Place arts project saw local artists and communities working together to develop art pieces in public spaces. The seating and tables (left) by artist Glenn Romanis, was installed at Inverleigh and depicts the flow of the Barwon and Leigh rivers.

March
Cr Kevin Knight re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

April
The Golden Plains Northern Community Centre based in Haddon, opened.

2013-2014 Our Council Plan in Review

CITIZEN & CUSTOMER SERVICE



- Fulfilled Council's commitment to the At Your Service Customer Service Strategy including frontline staff training and improvements to the customer request system.
- Completed 160 community plan meetings, engaging with 23 communities supporting residents to plan and achieve local priorities.
- Engaged regularly with all of our local communities through meetings, surveys and written submissions. Resident participation in community planning rose by 9%.
- Completed implementation of the Communications and Marketing Strategy. Highlights included installing community event signs in key townships, a consultation manual and guidelines, media training for Councillors and a new social media manual.
- Delivered volunteer support programs including volunteer training sessions across a range of topics of interest to volunteers and to assist them to provide quality service.

CIVIC LEADERSHIP



- Adopted a new Advocacy and Lobbying Plan which included the development of a Priority Projects Booklet for lobbying State and Federal Governments, which contributes to successful applications for project funding.
- Completed Mayoral events including the Mayoral Volunteers Celebration, Citizen Recognition, Citizenship Ceremonies, Community Grant Ceremony and Youth Leadership Forum along with important national events such as Australia Day.
- Secured representation on national, State and regional bodies and participated in relevant regional and State planning to enhance Council's decision making and strengthen its advocacy influence.

- Promoted Golden Plains Shire to potential visitors and new residents at the Regional Victoria Living Expo 2014, where over 9,500 visitors with an interest in moving to regional Victoria attended.
- Delivered Municipal Fire Management Plan actions with regard to social, economic, built and natural environmental aspects of fire. Further guidance for local and regional authorities was provided. Council also reviewed municipal settlements under the Victorian Fire Risk Register to improve accuracy and the assessment of risk in the future.
- Delivered Bushfire's Royal Commission obligations, while continuing to pursue the final Neighbourhood Safer Place – Place of Last Resort for Dereel.
- Maintained the five existing neighbourhood safer places in a state of readiness for the 2013-14 fire season.
- Conducted significant fire prevention activities with over 870 fire prevention notices, 360 permits to burn and 20 Schedule 12 permits for CFA burns issued.
- Council contractors conducted work at 106 non-compliant properties and 20km of fire breaks were graded. Council undertook a further 50km of grading and 40km of slashing as fire prevention measures.

“Looking to the future we will be using the successes we have achieved, together with the culture that we have, to continue to strengthen the local community. There's no doubt about that.”

- Rod Nicholls

2004

The changed election timing meant that Council held two Annual Meetings in 2004, one in March and one after the November elections. This gave Cr Bill McArthur the unique honour of being elected Mayor twice in the one year.

February

The Governor of Victoria, His Excellency The Honourable John Landy and Mrs Landy visit the Shire.

March & April

Youth Fest '04 held at the Woody Yaloak and Bannockburn Recreation Reserves.

May 6

Golden Plains Shire turned ten. An official dinner of invited guests celebrated the occasion at Narmbool in Elaine.



THE MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS ACHIEVED, FULFILLING THE OBJECTIVES AS SET OUT IN THE COUNCIL PLAN FOR 2013-14.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



- Developed a new e-newsletter, EDQ, delivered quarterly to over 700 businesses in Golden Plains.
- Supported preparation for the rollout of Bannockburn's natural gas network.
- Supported NBN Co in the rollout of fixed wireless towers across the north of the Shire.
- Managed the delivery of \$1M grant funding, from the State Government, for the Lethbridge Airport upgrade.
- Progressed the development of the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct near Lethbridge, including the preparation for Barwon Water's delivery of water supply involving \$11.78M of funding.
- Provided business support and facilitation, and provided access to State Government programs and assistance.
- Completed the \$130,000 Linking Towns to Trails Project. This delivered significant tourism signage, trail plaques and brochures for a number of towns across the north of the Shire.

ENVIRONMENT & LAND USE PLANNING



- Implemented actions from the 2011-2016 Environment Strategy, which outlines the future direction and actions in managing our environment.
- Adopted a new Environment Strategy for the Bruces Creek Reserve with actions to achieve a balance between recreational use and environment.
- Facilitated the adoption of Regional Growth Plans for the G21 and Central Highlands regions. These plans provide a shared vision for the region in responding to population growth.
- Incorporated two new structure plans, for Gheringhap and Shelford, which guide township development into the Golden Plains Planning Scheme. A new Plan for Napoleons was also prepared.
- Managed funding for School Tree Day, where nine primary schools took advantage of public funds to improve the environment. Over 2000 trees, shrubs and grasses were planted across the Shire on the day.
- Focused on pest plant and animal control on Council owned and managed land. Council treated over 700km of roadside to control serrated tussock and a further 650km to control gorse infestations. Rabbits were also targeted through warren blasting and fumigation.

- Implemented the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-17 which encourages residents to be responsible pet owners. The Plan guided a wide range of educational and promotional activities this year, and supported general compliance and enforcement.
- Conducted nine New Domestic Animal Business (DAB) audits. Audits ensure commercial animal boarding, breeding and training establishments are compliant with the Domestic Animal Act and relevant codes of practice.
- Reported a 2.5% decrease in dog and cat registrations (5477 and 1112 respectively) in 2013-14. However, delivered a tenfold increase in the number of lost pets returned to owners due to the registration of these pets.
- Reported a 50% decrease in dog attacks from 2012-13 to 2013-14.
- Trialled a cat desexing reimbursement program which assisted in the sterilisation of 30 registered cats within the Shire.
- Processed 422 planning permit applications; 87% of these were decided within 60 days.
- Implemented a number of public safety initiatives related to pools and smoke alarms. As a result, Council successfully resolved 23 notices relating to unsafe pools.
- Conducted 170 inspections of registered food premises, ensuring high levels of food safety and compliance.
- Conducted 647 monitoring and assessment of waste water treatment inspections. Water treatment represents the largest element of Council's Environmental Health Program.

2005

The year's growth statistics indicated that Golden Plains was the fastest growing municipality in rural and regional Victoria. The Shire's growth rate climbed from 3.51 % to 3.60%.



Construction begins on the Bannockburn Family Services Centre. Mayor Bill McArthur, Terry Mulder and Stewart McArthur watch as Cr David Cotsell turns the first sod.
Picture: Golden Plains Gazette, 2005.

December

Cr David Cotsell elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

2013-14 Our Council Plan in Review *...continued*

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



- Implemented the first year of Council's Strategic Resource Plan. This finances the Council Plan and includes the current Rating Strategy.
- Liaised with the Municipal Association of Victoria to evaluate the potential benefits of participating in the Local Government Funding Vehicle being establishing.
- Provided the opportunity for Council to access lower cost borrowings in the future.
- Secured funding and borrowings and utilised appropriate levels of discretionary retained earnings to deliver major community infrastructure.

HUMAN SUPPORT SERVICES



- Operated high quality and financially sustainable early childhood services.
- Achieved an 'exceeding national standard' rating for the first three early childhood services to be formally assessed under the National Early Childhood Quality Framework.
- Developed, implemented and evaluated the annual service improvement plans for kindergarten cluster and maternal and child health service.
- Implemented the popular Playgroup Plus Program at all playgroups in the Shire.
- Supported the development of a network of community health centres. Smythesdale Business, Health and Community Hub provided a pharmacist operating for immediate supply of medicines and advice five days per week. Other services include a practice nurse, general practitioner, dietician, audiologist, physiologist, podiatry, and maternal and child health.
- Council, in partnership with Barwon Health delivered regular attendance of a community health nurse, speech pathologist and dietician in Bannockburn.
- Delivered a responsive and flexible community transport service to support people who are disadvantaged to attend specialist and medical appointments, as well as social outings.

RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



- Strengthened Recreation Committees of Management through training in Instrument of Delegation roles and responsibilities, governance, finance and increased support from Recreation Officers at Committee meetings.
- Paid 34 community grants to community organisations totalling \$84,832.
- Conducted the Golden Plains Leadership Forum attended by over 60 young local leaders from the primary schools across the Shire.
- Held the first Golden Plains Shire Secondary Schools Expo, which included regional secondary schools from Ballarat, for young people and their families in the north of the Shire.
- Created a program with eight local secondary students and eight local university students to assist Grade 6 students transition from primary to secondary school. Delivered this program in 10 primary schools.

2006



March

The new Golden Plains Tourist Map was launched, along with the Location & Lifestyle prospectus.

October

The Bannockburn Family Services Centre was awarded first prize by State Minister for Community and Children's Services, The Hon. Cheryl Garbutt, in the State's Early Years Awards in the 'Better access to child and family support, health services and early education' category.

November

Cr David Cotsell re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.



THE MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS ACHIEVED, FULFILLING THE OBJECTIVES AS SET OUT IN THE COUNCIL PLAN FOR 2013-14.

ROADS & STREETS INFRASTRUCTURE

- Provided support for the Youth Voice Committee and FReeZA Committee, established to advocate for the needs of young people and deliver activities for the year.
- Completed iVan, the youth engagement vehicle. iVan has attended events and numerous school holiday activities throughout the Shire.
Established an online Youth Health Directory to assist young people to find appropriate local assistance when required.
- Launched the inaugural Golden Plains Shire Arts Strategy and held the 2014 Arts Trail, attracting over 1500 visitors to the Shire, which involved 60+ artists and 11 business sponsors.
- Conducted the first ever Golden Plains Youth Art Mentorship in which 15 young people participated and worked alongside established local artists in the art genre of their choice.
- Continued to form and develop partnerships throughout the year particularly with local schools, regional secondary schools, education, employment and training organisations, universities, various service providers and the local community.



- Continued to advocate Vic Roads for overtaking lanes on the Hamilton Highway, the Midland Highway and the Colac-Ballarat Road and also for the duplication of the Midland Highway between Geelong and Bannockburn and the Glenelg Highway between Ballarat and Smythesdale.
- Conducted road construction and maintenance works in accordance with Council's Road Strategy. Road upgrade projects were funded by Council, the Federal Government (Roads to Recovery Program) and the State Government (Country Roads and Bridges Initiative and the Better Roads Victoria – Local Timber Roads). These works totalled \$4.82M.
- Represented Council and community on both Central Highlands Region and G21 Geelong Region Transportation Planning Committees to advocate for Golden Plains Shire's priorities in those forums.
- Conducted a feasibility study with funding from State Government on alternative heavy vehicle routes for Bannockburn.

WASTE MANAGEMENT



- Wheelie Waste conducted garbage and recycling collections under contract throughout the municipality since July 2010. The five year contract will cease on 30 June 2015.
- Collected bulk hauled waste collected on Mondays and Tuesdays from the southern area of the Shire to Naroghid landfill, west of Camperdown, using the former Teesdale landfill site as a loading station.
- Collected recyclable materials kerbside and delivered to SKM Recycling in South Geelong which provides payment to Council for co-mingled product under a contract arrangement.
- Became a member of the newly formed Grampians Wimmera Region Water and Resource Recovery Group which will establish links to the new Barwon South West Region Resource Recovery Group when applicable.
- Represented Council on the Smythesdale Regional Landfill Monitoring Committee with the City of Ballarat and local residents to monitor the landfill operations on a regular basis.

2007



August

A Chinese delegation from Xiangtan, Hunan Province in China, visited Golden Plains Shire.

A financial milestone was reached in 2007 when for the first time, Council's revenue exceeded \$20 million.

December

Cr Des Guinane elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

Our Financial Performance at a Glance

The purpose of the Annual Report is to convey the performance of Council for the 2013-14 financial year. It is important to consider this Annual Report in conjunction with the Council Plan, incorporating Council's Strategic Resource Plan, which focuses on the longer term objectives of Council. This document can be found on Council's website at www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au.

The following key indicators provide a brief overview of Council's financial performance for the year, including graphs which visually

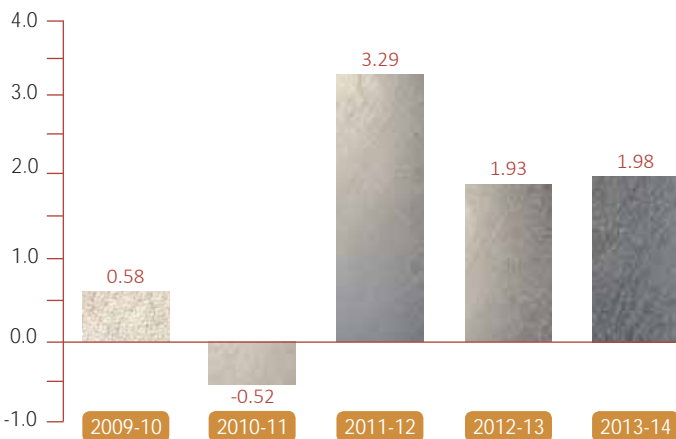
demonstrate the recent trend of each. These key indicators are common tools used to measure financial performance and are consistently applied by Council.

For more detailed information on Council's 2013-14 performance against budget and the previous year, please refer to the Standards Statements located on pages 31 to 40 and the Financial Report beginning on page 41, respectively.



• Operating Result

The operating result shows Council's overall performance for the year. The surplus for 2013-14 totalled \$4.75M, which is \$25k less than budget. However, this 'headline' figure can be misleading. The 'Underlying Result' shown on the Standard Income Statement on page 31 is a deficit of \$1.3M. The underlying result is calculated by removing the effect of one-off items on the Income Statement and more accurately represents the true financial performance of Council in a 'normal' year. Both the Operating and Underlying Result for 2013-14 was negatively impacted by the Federal Government's decision to remove the practice of making 50% of the Financial Assistance Grant available in the June prior. The impact of this decision was a reduction in grant revenue of \$2.6M. Without this change, the Underlying Result would have been in surplus.



• Discretionary Retained Earnings

Discretionary Retained Earnings is the surplus funds that Council has available to take advantage of unexpected opportunities. These are primarily utilised to match grants offered by third party funding. After a challenging period Council has been able to restore a positive balance. However, it should be noted that profits held from the sale of Bakers Lane (\$1.5M) are included in this balance. It is planned that these profits will be utilised to fund the capital investment required for the fourth, and final stage of Bakers Lane.



• Capital Expenditure

The capital program for 2013-14 of \$9.47M takes Council's total capital expenditure over the last three years to \$28.09M. These programs have been consistent with Council's Strategic Resource Plan and have been funded by a combination of government grants, borrowings and discretionary retained earnings (as outlined above). Capital Expenditure is expected to remain steady over the next few years, as Council consolidates its financial position including working capital and discretionary retained earnings.

2008

February

The first Golden Plains Shire Children's Services Conference at the Bannockburn Family Services Centre.



September

Visit by the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency The Hon. David de Kretser and his wife, Mrs Jan de Kretser, seen here at Nimons Bridge.

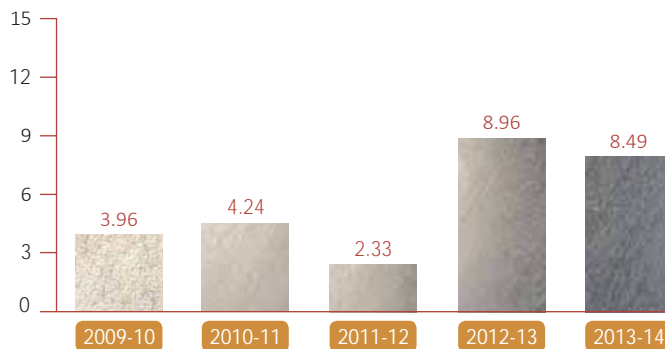
November

Cr Jenny Blake elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

Our Financial Performance at a Glance

• Working Capital

Working Capital is the amount by which current assets exceed current liabilities. This is a measure of Council's ability to meet its short term obligations. At 30 June 2014 the balance is \$8.49M compared to a budget of \$3.65M, which is primarily a result of larger than anticipated cash and receivables balances. The cash balance remains healthy due to a number of large grants being held by Council for projects that have not yet commenced and also several projects and programs from 2013-14 that are yet to be completed.



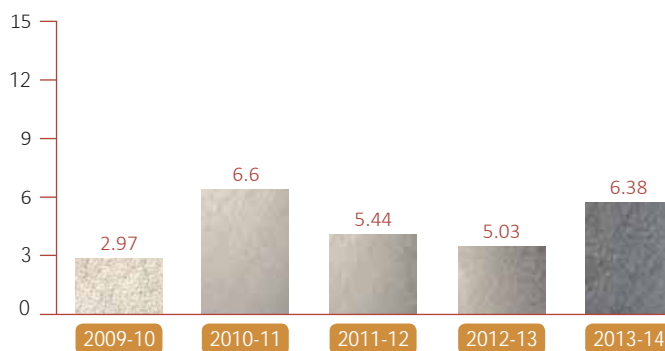
• Cash and Investments

Council's cash balance at 30 June 2014 totalled \$9.93M, which is \$3.62M favourable to budget and an increase of \$582K from the previous year. While the cash balance remains strong the value of grants received, but not yet expended (\$3.80M), should be noted.



• Borrowings

Borrowings have increased by \$1.35M from the previous year to a total of \$6.38M. New borrowings of \$1.7M were undertaken to replenish Council's cash balance after funding its contribution to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Defined Benefit Scheme liability from operating cash flows in 2012-13. \$144K was also borrowed to assist in delivering Council's capital program. These amounts are in accordance with Council's Strategic Resource Plan. Council has structured these borrowings to ensure costs are spread fairly over current and future generations. Council has also availed itself of the benefits from the Municipal Association of Victoria's Local Government Funding Vehicle which should see the cost of borrowing reduce for Victorian Councils.



The above indicators demonstrate that Council remains in a healthy financial position, however, the programs Council have delivered in recent years and the increase in capital expenditure has required Council to utilise discretionary retained earnings and increase its level of borrowings. The level of capital expenditure and borrowings are forecast to remain constant in the next few years, as Council consolidates its financial position.

The overall financial position continues to be consistent with that depicted in Council's Strategic Resource Plan. The plan has allowed Golden Plains to maximise its opportunities under the Federal Government stimulus program, along with other grant funding, by enabling it to bring forward projects that significantly improved the facilities for our community.

2009

April

Cr McArthur was elected to the prestigious and influential position of President of the MAV (Municipal Association of Victoria).

Council re-appointed Rod Nicholls as its Chief Executive Officer for a further five years. Having completed 15 years in the role, this re-appointment provided the opportunity for Rod Nicholls to serve as CEO for the entirety of the Shire's first two decades.

December

Cr Jenny Blake re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

Community Grants 2013-14

In 2013-14, Council awarded the following payments under the Community Grants Program:

Organisation	Project Description	Funding \$
Bannockburn and District Bowls Club	Upgrade of external equipment	2,200
Bannockburn Golf Club	Install new dishwasher for kitchen	1,600
Bannockburn Kindergarten	Extend the play space	3,748
Bannockburn Movies Film Society	Develop Bannockburn Community Movies Program Inc.	5,000
Bannockburn Playgroup	Provide new tables for Playgroup	429
Bannockburn Scout Group (1st)	Purchase trailer for camping equipment	1,500
Berringa Community Committee Inc.	Repaint exterior and interior of Berringa Hall	1,545
Illabarook Football and Netball Club	Erect netball shelter	3,772
Inverleigh Early Learning Centre	Provide safety, storage and sofa	2,905
Inverleigh Playgroup Inc.	Implement Ahoy Me Pirates Project	1,000
Inverleigh Riding Club	Install new wash bays	2,300
Leighdale Pony Club	Upgrade to cross country course obstacles	5,000
Lethbridge Playgroup	Hold open day	1,500
Lethbridge Tennis Club	Upgrade amenities	1,553
Linton and District Historical Society Inc.	Restore Nelson's Undertakers Building - Stage 1	2,500
Linton and District Bowling Club Inc.	Renovate kitchen	2,500
Linton Cricket Club	Refurbish grandstand viewing area - Stage 1	1,393
Linton Recreation Reserve CoM	Provide cutlery, crockery and seating	2,000
Mannibadar Hall Committee	Provide outdoor entertaining	2,720

*Nelson's Undertakers,
Linton*



2010

The Federal Government held a community cabinet meeting at Ballarat, providing Mayor Jenny Blake and CEO Rod Nicholls an opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister, The Hon. Kevin Rudd.

Linton township receives \$300,000 of State Government funding towards the development of a community precinct.

Golden Plains Farmers' Market was invited to take part in the 2010 Geelong Advertiser Business Excellence Awards.

December
Cr Geraldine Frantz elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

Community Grants 2013-14

Organisation	Project Description	Funding \$
Meredith Angling Club	Refurbish toilets in Meredith RSL Hall - Stage 2	5,000
Meredith Community Coordinators	Construct Bolte display for the Meredith Visitor Centre	5,000
Meredith Crocs Junior Football Club	Install new goal posts for Meredith Recreation Reserve	2,000
Meredith Kindergarten	Provide trailer and moveable equipment	1,163
Meredith Memorial Hall	Provide ongoing maintenance and refurbishment	2,200
Murgheboluc Hall CoM	Improve Reserve	180
Napoleons and District Historical Society Inc.	Re-wire electricals to the 100 year old church	2,500
Rokewood Golf Club Inc.	Provide outdoor BBQ and dining area	2,500
Rokewood Kindergarten Inc. Association	Upgrade playground maintain yard	3,880
Shelford Cricket Club	Provide phones, shades, seating and ducks	840
Smythesdale Historic Precinct CoM	Decorate outhouse	256
Teesdale Pre-School	Upgrade roof and sandpit	1,722
Turtle Bend Events Committee	Refurbish toilet	2,030
Wallinduc Community Group Ltd	Construct rotunda and base	5,000
Woody Yaloak Athletic Club	Purchase high jump trailer	2,118
Woody Yaloak Recreation Facility Smythesdale	Provide rainwater harvest infrastructure	5,000
TOTAL		86,554



Meredith Visitor Centre

2011

June

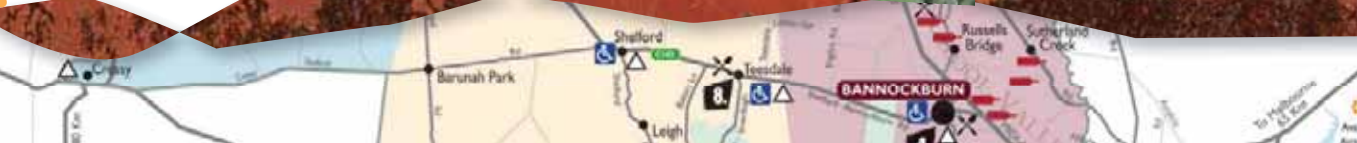
Formation of the first Golden Plains Youth Voice Committee, with seven members.

October

Golden Plains Shire hosted a visit from the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov, and Mrs Chernov.

**December**

Cr Geraldine Frantz re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.



A Selection of Community Projects 2013-14

In 2013-14, Council received external funding to assist in the delivery of community based projects. The following is a selection of key projects that have been, or will be, undertaken as a result of this Grant funding.

Project	Funding Source	Project Cost \$	Grant Funding \$	Council Contribution \$
Catchment Brigades Security Upgrade	Dept of Justice	10,000	10,000	-
GPS Youth Connection Project	Dept of State Development, Business & Innovation	90,000	37,500	52,500
National Youth Week	Dept of Human Services	4,000	2,000	2,000
Youth Participation and Access	Dept of Planning & Community Development	40,000	40,000	-
FReeZA Project 2013-14	Dept of Planning & Community Development	24,500	24,500	-
World Game (Bannockburn Soccer Pitch)	Dept of Planning & Community Development	462,750	100,000	362,750
Bannockburn Soccer Lighting	Dept of Transport, Planning & Local Infrastructure	220,000	70,000	150,000
Meredith Visitor Centre Fit Out	Dept of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population & Communities	35,771	35,771	-
Bannockburn Skate Park	Dept of Planning & Community Development	200,000	100,000	100,000
Dereel Mens Shed	Dept of Human Services	70,000	70,000	-
Public Safety	Dept of Justice	118,320	106,320	12,000
Bannockburn Security Lighting	Dept of Justice	221,404	158,904	62,500
Small Halls	Dept of State Development, Business & Innovation	300,000	199,000	101,000
Haddon Street Scape	Dept of Planning & Community Development	220,000	220,000	-
Meredith Street Scape	Dept of Planning & Community Development	450,000	450,000	-
Woody Yaloak Equestrian	Dept of Planning & Community Development	660,000	300,000	360,000
Teesdale Kindergarten Upgrade	Dept of Education and Early Childhood Development	320,000	320,000	-
Footpath Linkage - Putting Locals First -	Dept of Planning & Community Development	130,000	97,000	33,000
Milton Street Footpath - Active Bannockburn Connections	Dept of Planning & Community Development	222,000	148,000	74,000
Total		3,798,745	2,488,995	1,309,750



Bannockburn Skate Park

2012

10 April

150th Anniversary of the Official Opening of the Geelong-Ballarat Railway.

5 May

The Official Opening of the Bannockburn Cultural Centre. The Library had 3,195 visitors in its first week of operation.

June

Smythesdale gets its first pharmacy since 1889 at The Well – Business, Health and Community Hub, Smythesdale.

November

Cr Jenny Blake elected as the new Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.



Bannockburn Shire Hall

Memberships 2013-14

Organisation	Membership Contribution \$
Central Highlands Regional Mayors and CEOs Forum	8,530
Committee for Ballarat	3,600
Committee for Geelong	3,300
G21 Geelong Region Alliance	35,500
MAV (Rural Councils Victoria)	2,000
Municipal Association of Victoria	19,712
Timber Towns Victoria	2,500
TOTAL	75,142

National Competition Policy

For the year ended 30 June 2014, Golden Plains Shire Council has adhered to, and is obligated to adhere to, competitive neutrality principles.

Equal Opportunity Statement

Council has adopted an Equal Opportunity Policy as follows:

Golden Plains Shire Council is committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity.

In all policies and practices of the Council there shall be no discrimination relating to gender, gender identity, physical features, race, pregnancy, relationship or marital status, status as a carer, status as a parent, HIV/AIDS status, political belief or activity, sexual orientation, religious belief or activity, breastfeeding, industrial activity, employment activity, lawful sexual activity, intersex status, age, disability/impairment (including prior Work Cover Claims), childless status, de facto partnership, personal association with someone who has, or is assumed to have, one of these personal characteristics.

Selection of individuals for employment, promotion, advancement, training and staff development will be on the basis of personal merit in fair and open competition according to the skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience relevant to the position.

Golden Plains Shire Council is committed to providing a welcoming, supportive, emotionally and physically secure working environment for every staff member of the organisation.

2013



29 January

Official Opening of Linton Community Precinct and three BMX Track Projects.

November

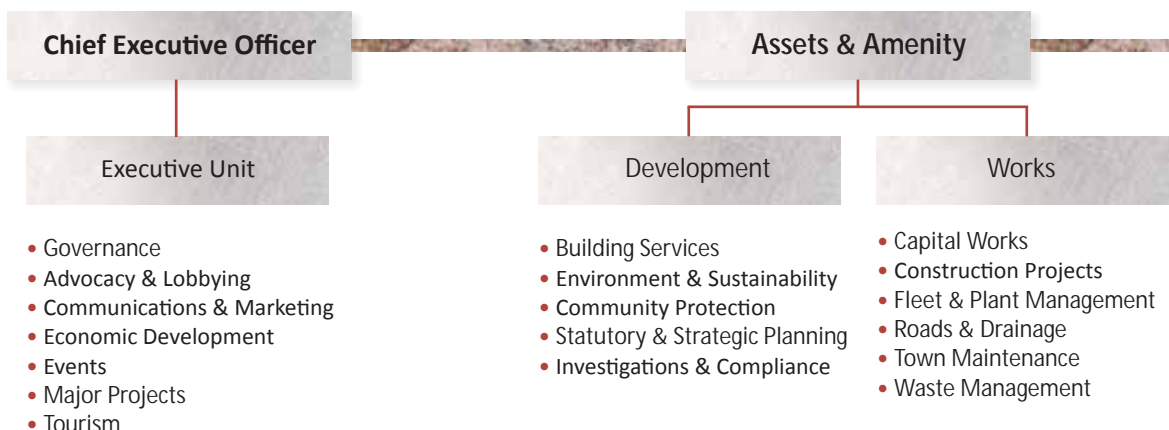
Cr Jenny Blake re-elected as Mayor of Golden Plains Shire.

December

Golden Plains Shire secured \$11.78 million in funding for the Food Production Precinct and \$480,000 for the Meredith Integrated Hub project. Both projects will create jobs and boost the local economy.

Our Workplace

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



STAFF NUMBERS BY BUSINESS UNIT

	Full Time	Part Time	Casual & Temporary	Vacant	Total
Executive	16	6	2	1	25
Works	37	2	2	1	42
Development	17	7	7	2	33
Finance	12	4	0	0	16
Organisational Development	12	4	3	0	19
Human Services	15	77	35	1	128
Community Development	7	2	1	2	12
TOTAL	116	102	50	7	275

Best Value Annual Report

Historically Council has implemented the Best Value Principles of the Local Government Act by integrating the principles into day to day service delivery decisions and reporting three high level performance measures through Council's Annual Report. A review of the Organisational Performance Framework was completed during 2013-14. The updated framework which includes a specific service review program will be implemented during the 2014-15 year. The adjacent table reports the agreed performance measures for the 2013-14 year and will be the last time the Best Value Annual Report is completed in this format.

Completion of this report satisfies the Local Government Act Best Value Principle regarding reporting of achievements.

Performance measure	Achievement	Best Value Principle
Achievement of Council Plan annual objectives	100%	Quality standards
Completion of Community Plan meetings	100%	Consultation
Overall community satisfaction with services	62%	Quality standards Continuous improvement
Key financial indicators (Refer to the Victorian Local Government Indicators, page 29)		Cost standards

2014

iVan arrives! Golden Plains new youth cruiser van will be used at many local community festivals, FReeZA events and school holiday programs to promote services and programs available for young people.

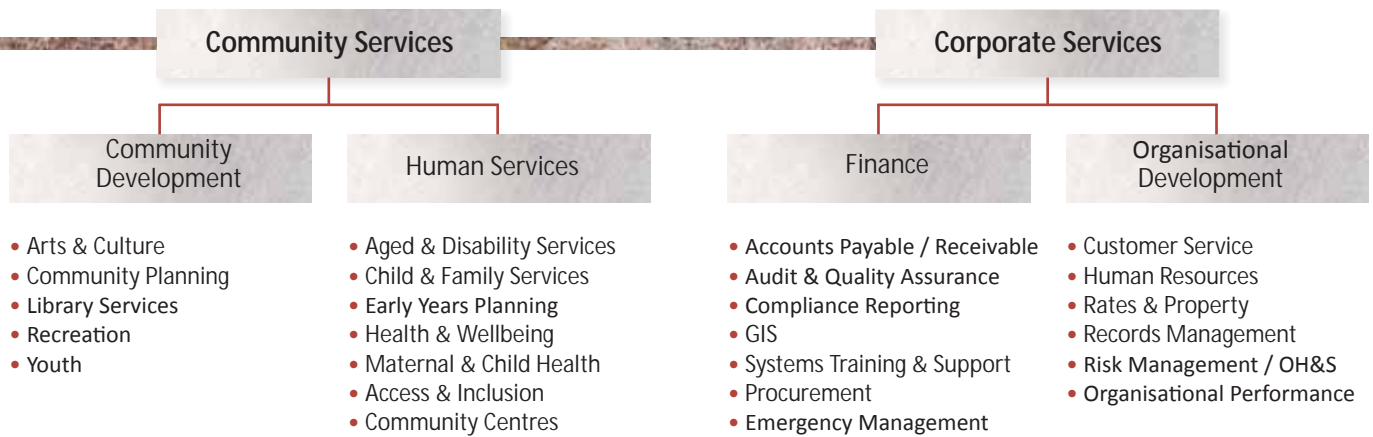


8 February

Official opening of the upgraded Bannockburn Skatepark.

5 May

Funding from the State Budget for a new p-6 school for Bannockburn was announced.



STAFF ANALYSIS - NUMBERS

	Female	Male	Vacant	Total
Full Time	49	67	4	120
Part Time	96	6	3	105
Casual and Temporary	45	5	0	50
TOTAL	190	78	7	275

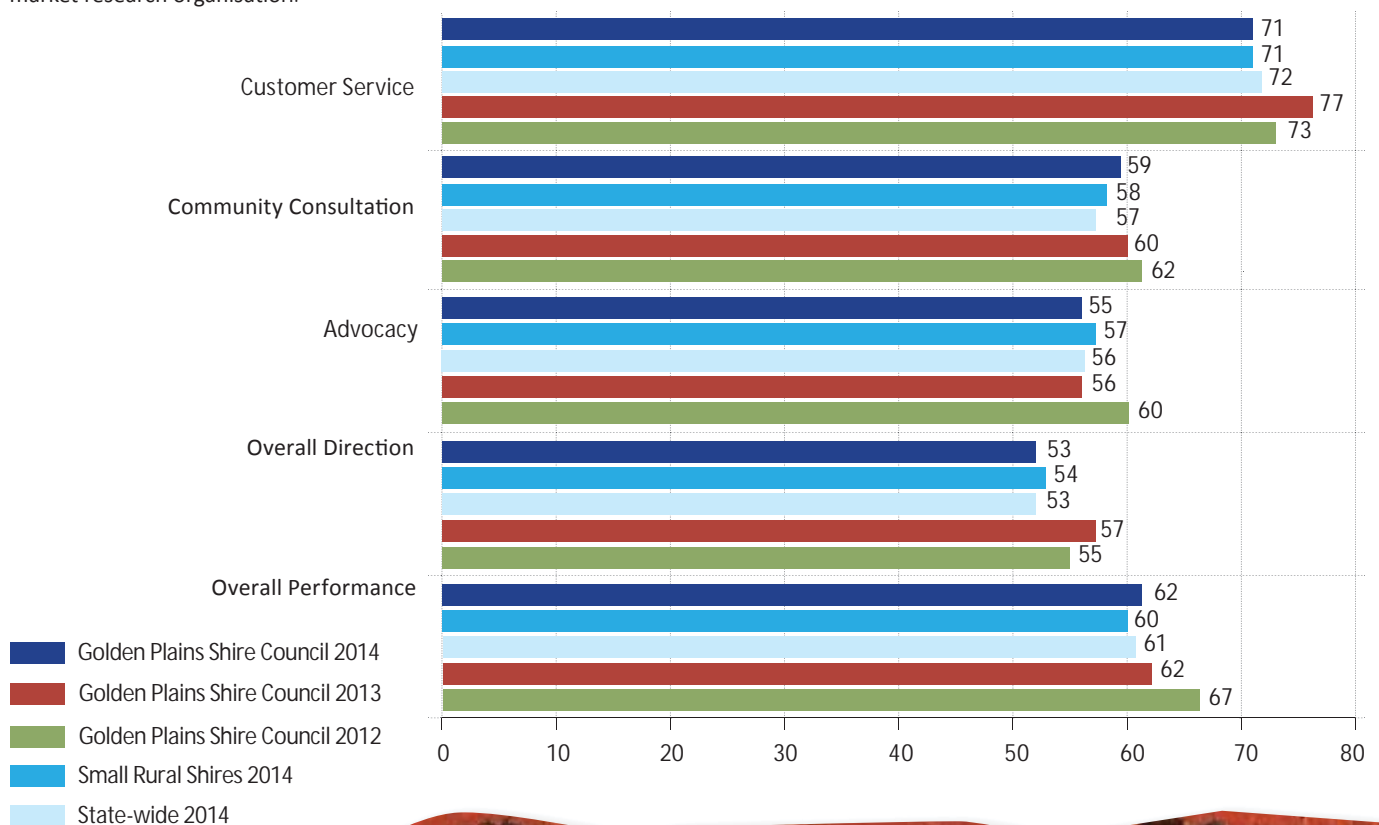
STAFF ANALYSIS - FTE (Full Time Equivalent)

	Female	Male	Vacant	Total
Full Time	50	67	4	121
Part Time	51	2	2	55
TOTAL	101	69	6	176

Community Satisfaction Survey

The annual Community Satisfaction Survey is facilitated by the State Government and was conducted between January and March of 2014. Four hundred residents were interviewed by an independent market research organisation.

The survey measured Council's performance as close to or equal to the average performance for Victorian Small Rural Shires and All Victorian Councils.



Statutory Information

The following summary lists documents that are available for public inspection in accordance with section 11 of the Local Government General Regulations 2004.

- a** Details of current allowances fixed for the Mayor and Councillors under section 74 or 74a of the Act.
- b** Details of senior officers' total salary packages for the current financial year and the previous year.
- c** Details of overseas or interstate travel (with the exception of interstate travel by land for less than 3 days) undertaken in an official capacity by Councillors or any member of Council staff in the previous 12 months, including the names of the Councillors or members of Council staff and the date, destination, purpose and total cost to the Council of the overseas or interstate travel, including accommodation costs.
- d** Names of Council officers who were required to submit a return of interest during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted.
- e** Names of Councillors who submitted returns of interest during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted.
- f** Agendas for and minutes of ordinary and special meetings held in the previous 12 months kept under section 93 of the Act except if the minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Act.
- g** A list of all special committees established by Council and the purpose for which each committee was established.
- h** A list of all special committees established by the Council which were abolished or ceased to function during the financial year.
- i** Minutes of meetings of special committees established under section 86 of the Act and held in the previous 12 months except if the minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Act.
- j** A register of delegations kept under sections 87 and 98 of the Act, including the dates on which the last review under sections 86(6) and 98(6) of the Act took place.
- k** Submissions received in accordance with section 223 of the Act during the previous 12 months.
- l** Agreements to establish regional libraries under section 196 of the Act.
- m** Details of all property, finance and operating leases involving land, buildings, plant, computer equipment or vehicles entered into by the Council as lessor or lessee, including the name of the other party to the lease and the terms and the value of the lease.
- n** A register of authorised officers appointed under section 224 of the Act.
- o** A list of donations and grants made by the Council during the financial year, including the names of persons or bodies which have received a donation or grant and the amount of each donation or grant.
- p** A list of the names of the organisations of which the Council was a member during the financial year and details of all membership fees and other amounts and services provided during that year to each organisation by the Council.
- q** A list of contracts valued at \$100,000 or more which Council entered into during the financial year without first engaging in a competitive process and which are not contracts referred to in section 186(5) or (5A) of the Act.

Local Laws

The following Local Laws were in place as at 30 June 2014:

Local Law No. 1 - 2009 (amended)
Processes of Municipal Government.

Local Law No. 2 - 2007 (amended)
Public Amenity, Roads and Streets.

Statutory Information

Freedom of Information

Under the Freedom of Information Act 1984, the community has the right to access documents and other information held by Council. During the 2013/14 financial year, a total of 14 valid requests were received by council.

Granted in full = 5
 Granted in part = 7
 Documentation provided outside of the Act = 2
 Transferred to another agency = 1
 Did not proceed/withdrawn = 3

A total of \$257.00 in application fees was collected. Council waived a total of \$128.50 in application fees on the grounds of hardship and/or the request being of a personal nature.

Protected Disclosure Act 2012 (PDA)

Under the PDA, Council has developed procedures for dealing with protected disclosures. These procedures are available on Council's website (goldenplains.vic.gov.au). The following information is required to be disclosed annually under the PDA Act:

	Number
The number and types of disclosures made to IBAC during the year.	Nil

Victorian Local Government Indicators

Average rates and charges per assessment	\$1,614.10
Average rates and charges per Residential Assessment	\$1,503.36
Average Liabilities per Assessment	\$1,103.17
Operating Result per Assessment	\$465.32
Average Operating Expenditure per Assessment	\$3,053.51
Average Capital Expenditure per Assessment	\$967.27
Infrastructure Renewal Gap	81%
Infrastructure Renewal & Maintenance Gap	90%
Constituent Satisfaction Rating of Overall Performance	62
Community Satisfaction Rating for Council's Advocacy	55
Community Satisfaction Rating for Council's Community Consultation	59

Council Plan Strategic Indicators

Performance Measure	Actual performance compared to target performance		
	Result 2013-14	Target 2013-14	Difference
Community satisfaction rating for customer service greater than 73*	71	>73	(2)
Improve the percentage of Customer Service requests completed within timelines (%)	77.2	>78.8	(1.6)
Decrease the number of lost time days per annum	222	<19	(203)
Community satisfaction survey rating for advocacy above 60*	55	>60	(5)
Community satisfaction survey rating for community consultation above 62*	59	>62	(3)
Improve the Risk Insurance Audit Score (%)^	n/a	>82	n/a
Community satisfaction survey rating for business, community development and tourism above 64*	57	>64	(7)
Community satisfaction survey rating for town planning policy approvals above 62*	55	>62	(7)
Complete 90% of all Planning Permit applications within 60 business days (%)	87	90	(3)
Ensure immunisation rate for all age groups is above the State Average (%)	97.31	>92.12	5.19
Improve the financial health of the organisation in accordance with the long term financial strategy and annual budget targets	Improved	Improved	-
Achieve the budgeted underlying result (\$'000)	(1,303)	>376	(1,679)
Achieve a working capital ratio in excess of 120% (%)	273	>120	153
Community satisfaction survey rating for family support services above 67*	66	>67	(1)
Community satisfaction survey rating for elderly support services above 67*	67	>67	-
Achieve 80% occupancy rate for the Long Day Care Centre (%)	93	80	13
Achieve 80% of the HACCC funding and service agreement targets (%)	88	80	8
Community satisfaction survey rating for recreational facilities above 70*	65	>70	(5)
Increase the number of people living in the Shire who feel a strong sense of being part of their community (CIV rating) #	n/a	>74.5	n/a
Increase the number of young people engaged in community activities	412	>326	86
Maintain the Moloney Asset Management System rating for our local roads	Maintain System	Maintain System	-
Improve the Community satisfaction survey rating for local streets and footpaths above 54*	46	>54	(8)
Community satisfaction survey rating for waste management above 76*	73	>76	(3)

*Community Satisfaction Ratings – Index score of 400 respondents' answers in a survey, conducted by independent research consultants JWS Research, asking them to rate Council's performance. The 'Index Score' is a weighted score across five performance ratings being 100 – Very Good, 75 – Good, 50 – Average, 25 – Poor and 0 – Very Poor.

^Risk Insurance Audit Score – Comparative information is no longer available for this Performance Measure.

Number of people living in the Shire who feel a strong sense of being part of their community (Community Indicators Victoria rating) – Community Indicators Victoria have not released this survey information since 2011 and are unable to clarify when it will be next available. Therefore, this measure will not be able to be reported on for the 2013-14 year.

Standard Statements and Explanations of Variances

- 30 June 2014 Standard Statements

Standard Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2014

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Operating Revenue				
Rates and Charges	16,716	16,665	51	0.31
Grants and Subsidies	8,176	9,046	(870)	9.62
Contributions and Recoupments	1,587	1,060	527	49.72
User Fees and Charges	2,556	2,238	318	14.21
Other Revenue	785	450	335	74.44
Net Gain on Disposals	55	3	52	1733.33
Total Operating Revenue	29,875	29,462	413	1.40
Operating Expenses				
Materials and Services	(11,708)	(9,492)	(2,216)	23.35
Employee Benefits	(14,091)	(13,948)	(143)	1.03
Depreciation	(4,830)	(5,054)	224	4.43
Finance Costs	(303)	(349)	46	13.18
Other Expenses	(244)	(242)	(2)	0.83
Bad Debts	(5)	(1)	(4)	400.00
Total Operating Expenditure	(31,181)	(29,086)	(2,095)	7.20
Underlying Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	(1,306)	376	(1,682)	447.34
Capital and One Off Items				
Capital Grants	3,005	3,634	(629)	17.31
Capital Contributions	505	220	285	129.55
Assets Gifted to Council	2,407	550	1,857	337.64
Net Gain on Land Sales	139	-	139	100.00
Net Asset Revaluation Increment	197,545	-	197,545	100.00
Surplus	202,295	4,780	197,515	4132.11

Ref 1

Standard Statements

Standard Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2014

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash Assets		9,934	6,311	3,623	57.41
Receivables		3,112	1,935	1,177	60.83
Inventory - Consumables		22	25	(3)	12.00
Land Held for Re-sale		322	322	-	0.00
Other Current Assets		42	60	(18)	30.00
Total Current Assets	Ref 2	13,432	8,653	4,779	55.23
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Land	Ref 3	23,195	19,160	4,035	21.06
Buildings		29,405	30,267	(862)	2.85
Furniture and Equipment		621	683	(62)	9.08
Plant and Machinery	Ref 4	3,824	4,421	(597)	13.50
Infrastructure	Ref 5	339,725	148,539	191,186	128.71
Other Structures	Ref 6	4,585	6,570	(1,985)	30.21
Work in Progress	Ref 7	7,042	-	7,042	100.00
Investment in Associate		830	767	63	8.21
Land Under Roads	Ref 8	588	192	396	206.25
Gravel Pit Rehabilitation		60	60	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets		409,875	210,659	199,217	94.57
TOTAL ASSETS		423,307	219,312	203,996	93.02
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Payables		1,764	1,905	141	7.40
Interest-Bearing Liabilities		433	702	269	38.32
Employee Benefits		2,594	2,181	(413)	18.94
Trust Funds		133	200	67	33.50
Provision for Rehabilitation of Gravel Pit		15	15	-	-
Total Current Liabilities		4,939	5,003	64	1.28
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Interest-Bearing Liabilities		5,942	5,674	(268)	4.72
Employee Benefits		464	464	-	-
Provision for Rehabilitation of Gravel Pit		92	68	(24)	35.29
Total Non-Current Liabilities		6,498	6,206	(292)	4.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES		11,437	11,209	(228)	2.03
NET ASSETS		411,870	208,103	203,767	97.92
EQUITY					
Accumulated Surplus		411,870	208,103	203,767	97.92
TOTAL EQUITY		411,870	208,103	203,767	97.92

Standard Statements

Standard Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2014

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
(Inclusive of GST where applicable)				
Receipts from Ratepayers	16,759	16,562	197	1.19
Grants	11,856	12,997	(1,141)	8.78
Interest Received	411	451	(40)	8.87
User Fees	2,596	2,270	326	14.36
Contributions and Recoupments	1,784	1,333	451	33.83
Payments to Employees	(13,542)	(14,078)	536	3.81
Payments to Suppliers	(12,874)	(10,714)	(2,160)	20.16
Net GST Refunded	730	561	169	30.12
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	7,720	9,382	(1,662)	17.71
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
(Net of GST)				
Payment for Land and Buildings	(1,112)	(2,409)	1,297	53.84
Payment for Infrastructure Assets	(4,931)	(3,855)	(1,076)	27.91
Payment for Plant and Machinery	(1,503)	(1,805)	302	16.73
Payment for Furniture and Equipment	(265)	(217)	(48)	22.12
Payment for Other Structures	(1,595)	(1,378)	(217)	15.75
Proceeds from Sale of Land	160	-	160	100.00
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	1,078	947	131	13.83
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities	(8,168)	(8,717)	549	6.30
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Interest Paid	(275)	(349)	74	21.20
Repayment of Borrowings	(406)	(650)	244	37.54
Proceeds from Loan	1,749	1,990	(241)	12.11
Trust Funds	(38)	-	(38)	100.00
Net Cash Inflow from Financing Activities	1,030	991	39	3.94
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held	582	1,656	(1,074)	64.86
Ref 9				
Cash at Start of Year	9,352	4,655	4,697	100.90
Cash at End of Year	9,934	6,311	3,623	57.41

Standard Statement of Capital Works for the year ended 30 June 2014

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE	VARIANCE
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
CAPITAL WORKS				
Land and Buildings	1,210	2,409	1,199	49.77
Furniture and Equipment	283	217	(66)	30.41
Infrastructure	4,821	3,855	(966)	25.06
Other Structures	1,648	1,378	(270)	19.59
Plant and Machinery	1,509	1,805	296	16.40
Total Capital Works	9,471	9,664	193	2.00
Ref 10				
Represented by:				
Renewal	4,377	5,009	632	12.62
Upgrade	2,294	1,989	(305)	15.33
Expansion	27	335	308	91.94
New Assets	2,773	2,331	(442)	18.96
Total Capital Works	9,471	9,664	193	2.00

Standard Statements

Explanation of Variances Standard Income Statement

Ref 1: Council recorded an Operating Surplus for the year of \$202m compared to a budgeted surplus of \$5m. The difference of \$197m is predominantly due to the following variances

Favourable Variances

ITEM	EXPLANATION	\$'000
Net Asset Revaluation Reserve Increment	Revaluation of Infrastructure Assets	197,545
Subdivisions Handed to Council	Higher than expected value and quantity of property handed to Council	1,857
Grant - Dereel/Mt Mercer Road Reconstruction	New funding, not budgeted	764
Found Assets	Titles Office advice that Golden Plains Shire is Committee of Management	537
Gravel Sales	Increased demand for gravel mainly due to Lethbridge Airport works	363
Grant - Teesdale Kindergarten Upgrade	New funding, not budgeted	240
Bannockburn Child Care Fees	Actual occupancy rate greater than budget	226
Depreciation	Reflects number of capital projects not yet completed	224
Grant - RDV Small Halls	New funding, not budgeted	199
Dereel Fire Disaster Relief Funding	Reimbursement of 2013 bushfire relief costs at Dereel not budgeted	193
Public Open Space Contributions	Greater than expected subdivision activity	191
Net Gain on Land Sales	Sale of Land at Bakers Lane and Warrambine Hall	139
Grant - Active Bannockburn Connections	New funding, not budgeted	89
Grant - Public Safety	Grant received early, budgeted for 2014-15	64
Grant - Bannockburn Soccer Lighting	Grant received early, budgeted for 2014-15	63
Grant - Bannockburn Security Lighting	New funding, not budgeted	63
Developer Community Contributions	Greater than expected subdivision activity	61
Rates and Charges Revenue	Increased number of assessments and supplementary assessments	52
Net Gain on Disposals	Gain on sale of motor vehicles, plant and computers	52
Garbage Disposal Costs (Smythesdale and Naroghid)	Landfill charges lower than budget	50
Animal Registration Fees	Increase in number of animals registered	47
Interest on Borrowings	Refinancing of loan at a lower interest rate	46
Interest on Investments	More funds available for investment	45
Subdivision supervision fees	Increased subdivision activity	43
Bunkers Hill Establishment	Project still to be completed	41
Grant - Eco Dev Publications & Promotions Officer	New funding, not budgeted	38
Family Day Care Income	Greater number of enrolments than budget	37
Grant - GPS Youth Connection Project	New funding, not budgeted	37
Grant & Contribution - Meredith Visitors Centre Fit Out	New funding, not budgeted	36
Major Patching Local Roads	Funds utilised to maintain gravel roads	35
Drainage Maintenance	Funds utilised to maintain gravel roads	34
Maintenance of Rec and Community Buildings	Funds utilised to maintain sports ovals	31
Commence Drainage Study for Bannockburn	Project still to be completed	30
Grant - Dereel Mens Shed	Grant received early, budgeted for 2014-15	30
Grant - Woody Yaloak Equestrian	Budgeted for 2012-13	30
Panel and VCAT Hearings	Only one Panel Hearing during the year	24
Grant - Sustainability Accord Project	New funding, not budgeted	22
Contribution to Revaluation	Amount received from SRO higher than budget due to increased number of revaluations	22
Grant - Building Adaptive Capacity on Roadside	New funding, not budgeted	20
Private Quarry Levy	Greater amount of gravel moved on our roads	19
Net Kindergarten Service Improvement Initiative	New funding, not budgeted	18

Standard Statements

Explanation of Variances Standard Income Statement (continued)

Favourable Variances (continued)

ITEM	EXPLANATION	\$'000
Septic Tank Fees	Increased activity	18
Grant - M&CH Services	Increased services due to increased birth rates	16
Grant - Childrens' Services Projects	New funding, not budgeted	15
Community Planning Implementation Grants	Fewer community groups completed community plans	15
Other favourable variances		44

Unfavourable Variances

ITEM	EXPLANATION	\$'000
General Purpose Grant	50% of 2013-14 grants received and recognised in 2012-13	(2,635)
Grant - Meredith Early Years Mini Hub (RDV)	Funds received in 2012-13	(600)
Grant - Meredith Early Years Mini Hub (RDA)	Delay in project due to federal election, funds to be received in 2014-15	(480)
Bannockburn Child Care Expenditure	Actual occupancy rate greater than budget	(341)
Grant - "The Well" Extension	Project deferred to 2014-15	(300)
Grant - Neighbour Safer Places	Funds returned as purchase of land not completed	(277)
Grant - Dereel NSP	Grant not received, expected in 2014-15	(258)
Gravel Procurement Costs	Increased demand for gravel mainly due to Lethbridge Airport works	(204)
Public Halls Maintenance	Upgrade of four halls budgeted in capital but not GPS managed	(195)
Employee Costs	Relocation allowance for outdoor staff and expansion to Long Day Care Program	(143)
Grant - Maude Viewing Platform	Funds received in 2012-13	(126)
Township Mowing and Maintenance	Weather conditions conducive to growing	(107)
Grant - Haddon Rec Centre Upgrade	Funds received in 2012-13	(100)
Sports Ovals Playing Surface Maintenance	Increased focus required in this area	(88)
Gravel Roads Routine Maintenance	Extra grades required due to poor weather conditions	(84)
Emergency Management	Final clean up operations at Dereel after bushfires	(76)
Building Permit Fees	Work mainly being carried out by private sector	(53)
Grant - Economic Development Strategy	Funding not available	(45)
Net Debt Collection Recoupment	Legal expenses incurred in regard to selling properties yet to be recouped	(42)
Street Lighting	Power costs higher than budget	(32)
Statutory Report/Budget	Lethbridge Airport legal agreement and application for GST refund on Bakers Lane land sales	(28)
Public Toilets Cleaning	Extra cleaning required within new contract	(21)
Social Media Pilot Project	Project deferred from 2012-13	(15)

Standard Statements

Explanation of Variances Standard Balance Sheet

Ref 2: Current Assets are \$4.78m higher than budget.

- Cash assets are \$3.62m higher than budget. This can largely be attributed to the opening balance being \$4.70m higher than budget.
- Receivables are \$1.18m higher than budget. This primarily consists of:
 - rate receivables \$59k higher than budget reflecting a minor increase in late payments; and
 - sundry receivables \$1.09m higher than budget, of this amount \$1.1m relates to Country Roads and Bridges initiative grant funding from VicRoads.
- Inventory – Consumables is \$3k below budget due to less fuel being held than budgeted.
- Other Current Assets are \$18k lower than budget, mainly due to prepaid expenditure.

Ref 3: Land is \$4.04m higher than budget. This is mainly due to:

- opening balance being \$1.32m higher than budget due to Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) advising Golden Plains Shire of land that the Council had been made Committee of Management \$1.08m; and unbudgeted additions of \$238k;
- further advice from DEPI regarding Council being appointed Committee of Management \$48k;
- Gifted assets; Public Open Space \$140k; Contribution for drainage \$185k; and
- Increase in value of land due to indexation \$2.38m.

Ref 4: Plant and Machinery is \$597k lower than budget. This is mainly due to:

- opening balance being \$447k below budget mainly due to the delay in purchase of the Isuzu Flocon \$260k; reduced number of vehicles changed over \$297k; offset by the purchase of the back hoe \$79k and gang mower \$47k; and
- Reduced number of vehicles changed over during 2013-14 \$296k.

Ref 5: Infrastructure is \$191.19m higher than budget. This is due to:

- opening balance being \$1.11m higher than budget, due to additions of 2012-13;
- revaluation of assets increased infrastructure by \$191.61m;
- gifted assets \$1.76m higher than budget; and
- additions of \$3.70m are included in Work in Progress.

Ref 6: Other Structures are \$1.99m lower than budget. This is due to:

- opening balance being \$1.26m below budget;
- additions of \$205k treated as Work in Progress and a further \$22k treated as Furniture and Equipment;
- budget amounts of \$453k unspent;
- unbudgeted expenditure of \$482k;
- indexation of values increased Other Structures by \$35k; and
- depreciation was \$110k below budget.

Ref 7: Work in Progress is \$7.04m, this asset class is not budgeted for. The variance is primarily comprised of:

- opening balance \$378k;
- unbudgeted work including new clubrooms at Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre, Bannockburn Soccer Pitch, Teesdale and Rokewood Streetscape \$2.61m;
- Other Structures additions not completed \$205k;
- Building additions not completed \$119k; and
- Infrastructure additions \$3.70m.

Ref 8: Land Under Roads is \$396k higher than budget. This is due to:

- opening balance being \$213k higher than budget, due to additions in 2012-13;
- revaluation increase of \$87k; and
- gifted assets of \$96k not budgeted.

Standard Statements

Explanation of Variances Standard Cash Flow Statement

Ref 9: Council budgeted for a net increase in cash of \$1.66m but recorded a net increase of \$582k, a variance of \$1.07m. This variance is primarily due to:

Favourable Variances

- Receipts from Ratepayers \$197k higher than budget due to increased number of assessments.
- User fees are \$326k higher than budget. This reflects higher child care occupancy rates \$226k, increase in Animal Registration Fees \$47k, Subdivision Supervision Fees increase in activity \$43k.
- Contributions and Recoupments were \$451k higher than budget. Primarily due to:
 - increased gravel sales of \$363k due to requirements of Lethbridge Airport;
 - Developer Community Contributions \$61k higher than budget; and
 - contribution to revaluation (SRO) \$22k.
- Payments to employees \$536k lower than budget mainly due to \$370k being capitalised.
- Net GST refunded \$169k higher than budget due to overall operations.
- Payment for Land and Buildings \$1.30m due to a number of projects still to be completed.
- Payment for Plant and Machinery \$302k. Reflection of fewer vehicles purchased.
- Proceeds from Sale of Land \$160k. This is the sale of one block of land at Bakers Lane, Teesdale which was budgeted for 2012-13.
- Proceeds from Sale of Assets \$131k. This is mainly due to sale of property at Warrambine.
- Interest Paid \$74k. Refinancing of loan at lower interest rate.
- Repayments of Borrowings \$244k. Lower repayments as refinanced loan is interest only.

Unfavourable Variances

- Grants were \$1.14m lower than budget. This is primarily due to a combination of budgeted grants not received during 2013-14; Victorian Grants Commission \$2.64m and Meredith Early Years Mini Hub \$1.08m; offset by grants received but not budgeted for Lethbridge Airport Project \$894k, Dereel Mt Mercer Road Reconstruction \$764, Golden Plains Food Security Precinct \$452 and the Well Extension \$300k.
- Interest Received \$40k lower than budget. Reflects the interest accrued at year end but not received.
- Payments to Suppliers \$2.16m higher than budget. This reflects expenditure on Lethbridge Airport \$894k (funded), Golden Plains Food Security Precinct \$452k (funded), Gravel Procurement Costs \$205k, Township Mowing and Maintenance \$108k, Emergency Management \$76k, Dereel Rural Recovery \$45k, New Economic Development Strategy \$38k, Debt Collection Expenses \$76k, Brokerage Costs \$59k unbudgeted.
- Payment for Infrastructure Assets \$1.08m. Reflects unbudgeted expenditure in the main on Dereel-Mt Mercer Road Reconstruction \$897k, Milton Street Footpath \$173k. These were funded projects.
- Payment for Furniture and Equipment \$48k. Primarily due to Cricket Pitch Covers moved from Other Structures to Furniture and Equipment \$20k and other unbudgeted expenditure.
- Payment for Other Structures \$217k. This is primarily the net effect of unbudgeted expenditure of \$935k and unspent budget amounts of \$663k and other favourable variances of \$40k.
- Proceeds from Loan \$241k. Only \$1.75k of the budgeted \$1.99k for new borrowings was taken out due to some funds being interest only.
- Trust Funds \$38k. Net deposits refunded during 2013-14.

Standard Statements

Explanation of Variances Standard Statement of Capital Works

Ref 10: Council Spent \$9.47m on capital expenditure in 2013-14, \$193k lower than budget. This variance is due to the following:

Favourable Variances

ITEM	EXPLANATION	\$'000
Meredith Early Years Mini Hub	To be completed in 2014-15	1,088
RDV Project – The Well Extension	To be completed in 2014-15	400
Meredith Streetscape	To be completed in 2014-15	336
Bannockburn Early Learn Upgrade	To be completed in 2014-15	310
Motor Vehicles and Plant	Net savings on purchases	296
Haddon Rec Centre Upgrade	To be completed in 2014-15	270
Dereel NSP Construction	Not commenced	258
Haddon Streetscape	To be completed in 2014-15	183
Maude Viewing Platform	To be completed in 2014-15	139
Tourism Masterplan	Project did not proceed	130
Local Road Improvements	Reduced expenditure required	119
Resurfacing of Tennis Courts	To be completed in 2014-15	65
Open Space Implementation	To be completed in 2014-15	46
Refurbishment of Playgrounds	Program delivered below budget	33

Unfavourable Variances

ITEM	EXPLANATION	\$'000
Dereel-Mt Mercer Road Reconstruction	New funded project	(897)
Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(584)
Bannockburn Soccer Pitch	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(437)
Teesdale Streetscape	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(390)
Bannockburn Rec Centre Street Lights	Not budgeted	(209)
Bannockburn Skate Park	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(203)
Milton Street Footpath	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(173)
Depot Infrastructure Upgrade	Work required to address depot standards	(132)
RDV Small Halls	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(122)
Rokewood Streetscape	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(108)
Country Roads and Bridges	Additional costs incurred	(63)
Bannockburn Cultural Centre	2012-13 project completed in 2013-14	(61)
Sports Ovals Improvements	Unbudgeted works required to bring sporting ovals up to suitable standard	(43)
Meredith Visitors Centre Fit Out	Partly funded project, not budgeted	(36)
Other unfavourable variances		(22)

Standard Statements

Notes to the Standard Statements

Note 1: Basis of preparation of Standard Statements

Council is required to prepare and include audited Standard Statements within its Annual Report. Four Statements are required - Standard Income Statement, Standard Balance Sheet, Standard Cash Flow Statement, and a Standard Statement of Capital Works, together with explanatory notes.

These statements and supporting notes form a special purpose financial report prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004.

The Standard Statements have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those used for General Purpose Financial Statements and the Budget. The results reported in these statements are consistent with those reported in the General Purpose Financial Statements.

The Standard Statements are not a substitute for the General Purpose Financial Statements. They have not been prepared in accordance with all Australian Accounting Standards or other authoritative pronouncements.

The Standard Statements compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its budget, with actual performance. The Local Government Act 1989 requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of ten per cent. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures included in the Statements are those adopted by Council on 25 June 2013. The budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the budget. Council set guidelines and parameters for revenue and expense targets in this budget in order to meet its business plan and financial performance targets for both the short and long term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

Detailed information on the actual financial results are contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The detailed budget can be obtained by contacting Council. The Standard Statements must be read with reference to these documents.



Certification of Standard Statements

In my opinion the accompanying Standard Statements have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with the financial statements and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulation 2004.



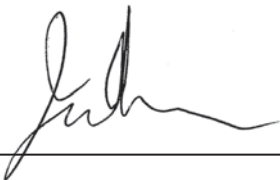
Jason Clissold B.Bus. CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

In our opinion, the accompanying Standard Statements have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with the financial statements and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the Standard Statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Golden Plains Shire Council to certify the Standard Statements in their final form.

Signed at Bannockburn this 9th day of September 2014.



Councillor Jenny Blake
Mayor



Councillor Des Phelan
Member Audit & Risk Committee



Rod Nicholls
Chief Executive Officer





20 1994 2014
years

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE
Financial Report 2013-14



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Comprehensive Income Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2014

		2014	2013
		\$'000	\$'000
INCOME	NOTE		
Rates and Charges	7	16,716	15,422
Grants - Recurrent	8	6,148	8,513
Grants - Non-Recurrent	8	5,033	5,220
Contributions and Recoupments	9	4,499	5,007
User Fees and Charges	10	2,299	2,007
Statutory Fees and Fines	11	257	248
Other Income	12	778	1,457
Net Gain on Disposals	13	215	369
Share of Net Profit of Associates Accounted for by the Equity Method	14	7	121
Total Income		35,952	38,364
EXPENSES			
Materials and Services	15	11,729	9,915
Employee Benefits	16	14,091	12,596
Depreciation	17	4,830	4,735
Finance Costs		303	278
Other Expenses	18	244	232
Bad Debts	19	5	2
Total Expenses		31,202	27,758
Surplus for the year		4,750	10,606
Other Comprehensive Income			
Net Asset Revaluation Increment	5 & 30	197,545	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		202,295	10,606

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

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2014

		2014	2013
		\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
	NOTE		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	20	3,934	9,352
Other Financial Assets	21	6,000	-
Trade and Other Receivables	22	3,112	3,343
Inventory - Consumables	23	22	21
Non-Current Assets Classified as Held For Sale	24	322	357
Other Current Assets		42	28
Total Current Assets		13,432	13,101
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	29	409,045	204,763
Investment in Associate	14	830	887
Total Non-Current Assets		409,875	205,650
TOTAL ASSETS		423,307	218,751
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	25	1,764	1,264
Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings	26	433	508
Provisions	27	2,609	2,202
Trust Funds and Deposits	28	133	171
Total Current Liabilities		4,939	4,145
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings	26	5,942	4,526
Provisions	27	556	505
Total Non-Current Liabilities		6,498	5,031
TOTAL LIABILITIES		11,437	9,176
NET ASSETS		411,870	209,575
EQUITY			
Reserves	5	253,680	56,643
Accumulated Surplus		158,190	152,932
TOTAL EQUITY		411,870	209,575

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

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2014

2014	NOTE	ACCUMULATED	ASSET	OTHER	TOTAL
		SURPLUS	REVALUATION	RESERVES	EQUITY
		\$'000	RESERVE	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at the Beginning of the Year		152,932	49,614	7,029	209,575
Comprehensive Result	4	4,750	-	-	4,750
Transfers to Other Reserves	5	508	197,545	(508)	197,545
Balance at the End of the Year		158,190	247,159	6,521	411,870

2013	NOTE	ACCUMULATED	ASSET	OTHER	TOTAL
		SURPLUS	REVALUATION	RESERVES	EQUITY
		\$'000	RESERVE	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at the Beginning of the Year		145,727	49,614	3,628	198,969
Comprehensive Result	4	10,606	-	-	10,606
Transfers to Other Reserves		(3,401)	-	3,401	-
Balance at the End of the Year		152,932	49,614	7,029	209,575

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

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	NOTE	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES (Inclusive of GST where applicable)			
Receipts from Ratepayers		16,759	15,229
Grants		11,856	13,885
Interest Received		411	433
Fees and Charges		2,596	2,305
Contributions and Recoupments		1,784	1,753
Payments to Employees		(13,542)	(14,416)
Payments to Suppliers		(12,874)	(10,971)
Net GST Refunded		730	403
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	6	7,720	8,621
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES (Net of GST)			
Payment for Land and Buildings		(1,112)	(1,051)
Payment for Infrastructure Assets		(4,931)	(4,350)
Payment for Plant and Machinery		(1,503)	(1,778)
Payment for Furniture and Equipment		(265)	(436)
Payment for Other Structures		(1,595)	(737)
Proceeds from Sale of Land		160	719
Proceeds from Sale of Assets		1,078	844
Other Financial Assets		(6,000)	1,500
Trust Funds		(38)	(240)
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities		(14,206)	(5,529)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings		(406)	(557)
Proceeds from Borrowings		1,749	150
Finance Costs		(275)	(285)
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities		1,068	(692)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(5,418)	2,400
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Year		9,352	6,952
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Year	20	3,934	9,352

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2014

Introduction

Golden Plains Shire Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 6 May 1994 and is a body corporate. The Council's main office is located at 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn.

The purpose of the Council is to:

- provide for the peace, order and good government of its municipal district;
- to promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district;
- 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.

External Auditor Auditor-General Victoria

Internal Auditor Crowe Horwath

Solicitors Harwood Andrews

*Bankers Bendigo Bank and
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group*

Website Address www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au

Note 1: Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

This financial report is a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, 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, the Local Government Act 1989, and the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004.

This financial report has been prepared on an accrual and going concern basis. The financial report has also been prepared under the historical cost convention, except where specifically stated in notes 1(d), 1(h), 1(k) and 1(p).

All funds through which Golden Plains Shire Council controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in this financial report. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between these funds (for example, transfers between funds) have been eliminated.

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.

(b) Change in Accounting Policy

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement

Council has applied AASB 13 for the first time in the current year. AASB 13 establishes a single source of guidance for fair value measurements. The fair value measurement requirements of AASB 13 apply to both financial instrument items and non-financial instrument items for which other A-IFRS require or permit fair value measurements and disclosures about fair value measurements, except for share-based payment transactions that are within the scope of AASB 2 Share-based Payment, leasing transactions that are within the scope of AASB 17 Leases, and measurements that have some similarities to fair value but not fair value (e.g. net realisable value for the purposes of measuring inventories or value in use for impairment assessment purposes).

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction in the principal (or most advantageous) market at the measurement date under current market conditions. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. Also, AASB 13 includes extensive disclosure requirements.

AASB 13 requires prospective application from 1 January 2013. In addition, specific transitional provisions were given to entities such that they need not apply the disclosure requirements set out in the Standard in comparative information provided for periods before the initial application of the Standard. In accordance with these transitional provisions, Council has not made any new disclosures required by AASB 13 for the 2013 comparative period (please see note 29 disclosures). Other than the additional disclosures, the application of AASB 13 has not had any material impact on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows,

based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

AASB 119 Employee Benefits

In the current year, Council has applied AASB 119 Employee Benefits (as revised in 2011) and the related consequential amendments for the first time. AASB 119 changes the definition of short-term employee benefits. These were previously benefits that were due to be settled within twelve months after the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, however, short-term employee benefits are now defined as benefits expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service. As a result, accrued annual leave balances which were previously classified by Council as short-term benefits no longer meet this definition and are now classified as long-term benefits. This has resulted in a change of measurement for that portion of annual leave provision from an undiscounted to discounted basis

This change in classification has not materially altered Council's measurement of the annual leave provision.

(c) Revenue Recognition

Rates

Rates revenue is recognised at the commencement of the rating period or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates. It does not include interest levied on outstanding rates and late payment of rates. Uncollected rates are recognised as receivables in the Balance Sheet. No provision for doubtful debts on rates has been established as unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Grants and Contributions

Grants and contributions are recognised as revenues when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising these receipts. Unreceived grants and

contributions over which the Council has control are recognised as receivables.

Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon prior notification that a grant has been secured, and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Income is recognised when Council obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Council and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues 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 or contribution is disclosed in note 8. The note also discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on Council's operations during the current year.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date.

Proceeds from Sale of Assets

Proceeds from the sale of assets are recognised as revenues when the Council has passed control of the assets to the purchasers.

User Fees and Fines

User fees and fines (including parking fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when collection in full is no longer probable.

Interest and Rentals

Interest and rentals are 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 occurs first.

(d) Inventories

Inventories of stock and materials held for use by the Council are measured at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential.

(e) Depreciation of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment

Buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment 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 re-assessed 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.

The following estimates of useful lives relate to the total lives of the assets irrespective of their economic or commercial lives to the Council. Annual depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis by dividing the assets' depreciable amount by the period of time over which the assets are expected to provide economic benefits to the Council. The depreciable amount takes into account

residual values. Council recognises residual values for plant and machinery, sealed pavements and unsealed pavements.

Sealed pavements carry a residual value of 42%. These assets have an estimated commercial life to Council of 90 years, after which intervention is required for their renewal. Similarly, unsealed pavements have a residual value of 40% and intervention is required after 25 years. In accordance with Council's policy, the following threshold limits and useful lives have been applied:

Asset Component	Recognition Threshold		
	\$	Useful Lives 2014	Useful Lives 2013
Building	5,000	30 to 150 years	30 to 150 years
Furniture & Equipment	1,000	3 to 20 years	3 to 20 years
Plant & Machinery	1,000	3 to 20 years	3 to 20 years
Unsealed Formations	-	-	-
Sealed Formations	-	-	-
Footpaths	5,000	85 years	74 years
Sealed Pavements	5,000	90 years	90 years
Unsealed Pavements	5,000	25 years	25 years
Sealed Surfaces	5,000	19 years	19 years
Bridges & Major Culverts	5,000	90 years	90 years
Underground Drainage	5,000	50 years	50 years
Kerb & Channel	5,000	90 years	90 years
Other Structures	5,000	30 to 60 years	30 to 60 years

(f) Repairs and Maintenance

Routine maintenance repair costs and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold, the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

(g) Finance Costs

Finance costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council. Except where specific borrowings are obtained for the purpose of specific asset acquisition, the weighted average interest rate applicable to borrowings at balance date, excluding borrowings associated with superannuation, is used to determine the finance costs to be capitalised. Finance costs only include interest on borrowings.

(h) Recognition and Measurement of Assets

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

between market participants at the measurement date. Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of fixed and variable overheads.

Revaluation of Non Current Assets

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

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a

regular basis ranging from 4 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

During the year Council undertook a revaluation of Infrastructure assets, resulting in an increase of \$181 million in the categories of Sealed Pavements, Unsealed Pavements, Sealed Formations and Unsealed Formation.

Council's infrastructure was last revalued in 2009, in accordance with Council policy. The valuation was based on acceptable unit rates at the time, and on Council's methodology of costing and delivering infrastructure projects. The adopted unit rates were lower than the industry average due to the use of internal labour, Council sourced materials and project management methods.

The cost of delivering infrastructure projects has increased significantly since 2009 and Council has reviewed its project management practices and costing methodology in order to meet improved regulatory requirements.

The revised unit rates are higher and have been independently reviewed by Mr Peter Moloney MIE(Aust) as at 30 June 2014 (refer Note 29).

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

Land Under Roads (LUR)

Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 is brought to account using the fair value basis. Council does not recognise land under roads that it controlled prior to that period in its financial report.

(i) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(j) Investments

Investments, other than investments in associates, are measured at cost.

(k) Investment in Associates - Interest in Regional Library Services

Council has disclosed its interests in the Geelong Regional Library (GRL) in the Balance Sheet. Council's investment in associate is accounted for by the equity method as the Council has the ability to influence rather than control the operations of the entity. The investment

is initially recorded at the cost of acquisition and adjusted thereafter for post-acquisition changes in the Council's share of the net assets of the entity. Council's share of the financial result of the entity is recognised in the Comprehensive Income Statement.

(l) Tender Deposits

Amounts received as tender deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned or forfeited (refer to note 28).

(m) Financial Assets

Financial assets are valued at fair value, being market value, at balance date. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

(n) Employee Benefits

The calculation of employee benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

Wages and salaries, and annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

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

Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

Current Liability - unconditional LSL representing 7 years is disclosed as a current liability even when council does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it will not have the unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current liability are measured at:

- present value - component that is not expected to be settled within 12 months.
- nominal value - component that is expected to be settled within 12 months.

Non-current liability - conditional LSL representing less than 7 years is disclosed as a non-current liability. There is an unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

This non-current LSL liability is measured at present value. Gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of non-current LSL liability due to changes in bond

interest rates is recognised as another economic flow.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. The council recognises termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after balance sheet date are discounted to present value.

Employee benefits on-costs

Employee benefits on-costs (payroll tax, workers compensation, superannuation, annual leave and long service leave accrued while on LSL taken in service) are recognised separately from provision for employee benefits.

Superannuation

The amount charged to the Comprehensive Income Statement in respect of superannuation represents contributions made or due by Council to the relevant superannuation plans in respect to the services of Council's staff (both past and present). Superannuation contributions are made to the plans based on the relevant rules of each plan and any relevant compulsory superannuation requirements that Council is required to comply with.

(o) Allocation Between Current and Non-Current

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled. The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next twelve months, being the Council's operational cycle, or if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

(p) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. 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 in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST. Cash flows are represented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(q) 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 Comprehensive Income Statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

(r) Rounding

Unless otherwise stated, amounts in the financial report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. Figures in the financial statement may not equate due to rounding.

(s) Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

A non-current asset held for sale is measured at the lower of its carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, and is not subject to depreciation. Non-current assets and related liabilities are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

(t) Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets and Commitments

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

Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value by way of a note and are presented inclusive of the GST payable.

Note 2: Pending Accounting Standards

The following Australian Accounting Standards have been issued or amended and are applicable to the Council but are not yet effective. They have not been adopted in preparation of the financial statements at reporting date.

Pending accounting standards have been assessed; those that may have an impact on Council are listed below:

Pronouncement	Summary	Application Date	Impact on Council
AASB 9 Financial Instruments	<p>AASB 9 standard is one of a series of amendments that are expected to eventually completely replace AASB 139. During 2010-11, the standard will be expanded to include new rules on measurement of financial liabilities and hedge accounting. Currently the existing provisions of AASB 139 will continue to apply in these areas.</p> <p>AASB 9 simplifies the classifications of financial assets into those to be carried at amortised cost and those to be carried at fair value – the 'available for sale' and 'held-to-maturity' categories no longer exists. AASB 9 also simplifies requirements for embedded derivatives and removes the tainting rules associated with held-to-maturity assets.</p>	1 Jul 2015	<p>The impact is not likely to be extensive in the local government sector. Although it will vary considerably between entities. While the rules are less complex than those of AASB 139, the option to show equity instruments at cost has been largely removed, which is likely to lead to greater volatility within the income statement. However it may also lead to an improved financial position for some entities.</p> <p>This will also create a requirement to measure some instruments annually that has not previously existed.</p>
AASB 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities	<p>This Standard requires disclosure of information that enables users of financial statements to evaluate the nature of, and risks associated with, interests in other entities and the effects of those interests on the financial statements. This Standard replaces the disclosure requirements in AASB 127 Separate Financial Statements and AASB 131 Interests in Joint Ventures.</p> <p>The exposure draft ED 238 proposes to add some implementation guidance to AASB 12, explaining and illustrating the definition of a 'structured entity' from a not-for-profit perspective.</p>	1 Jul 2014	Impacts on the level and nature of the disclosures will be assessed based on the eventual implications arising from AASB 10, AASB 11 and AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.
AASB 127 Separate Financial Statements	This revised Standard prescribes the accounting and disclosure requirements for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates when an entity prepares separate financial statements.	1 Jul 2014	The impact of this standard will need to be assessed in line with the final deliberations by the AASB on the application of this standard to not for profit entities.
AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	This revised Standard sets out the requirements for the application of the equity method when accounting for investments in associates and joint ventures.	1 Jul 2014	The impact of this standard will need to be assessed in line with the final deliberations by the AASB on the application of this standard to not for profit entities.
AASB 1053 Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements	These standards set out the tiers of financial reporting and the reduced disclosure framework.	1 Jul 2014	Council has yet to determine the impact of this standard,

Note 3: Functions/Activities of the Council

The activities relating to Council's functions as reported in the Income Statement are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>(i) Citizen and Customer Service
Communications and Marketing; and Customer Service Centres.</p> <p>(ii) Civic Leadership
Governance, Elections, Meetings, Strategic and Service Planning, Emergency Management Plan and State Emergency Service, Risk Management and Occupational Health and Safety.</p> <p>(iii) Economic Development
Economic Development.</p> <p>(iv) Environment and Land Use Planning
Land Use Planning, Building Control, Private Building Control, Fire Protection, Environmental Management, Community Protection and Public Health.</p> <p>(v) Financial Management
General Revenue, Property and Rating, Statutory Reporting and Budgeting, Procurement and Contract Management, Records Management, Borrowings and Plant Replacement.</p> | <p>(vi) Human Support Services
Maternal and Child Health, Childrens' Services, Aged and Disability Services, Community Transport, Community Health, Health Promotion, Kindergartens and Transport Connections.</p> <p>(vii) Recreation and Community Development
Community Development, Libraries, Arts and Culture, Youth Development, Recreation Planning, Recreation Construction, Recreation Infrastructure Maintenance and Major Projects.</p> <p>(viii) Roads and Streets Infrastructure
Sealed Roads Routine Maintenance, Local Roads Resealing, Local Roads Rehabilitation, Local Roads Improvements, Gravel Roads Routine Maintenance, Gravel Resheeting, Bridge Maintenance, Tree Clearing, Gravel Pits, Asset Management, Drainage Maintenance Township and Rural, Private Works, Linemarking, Guideposts and Signs, Street Lighting, Township Maintenance, Bus Shelters and Paths and Trails.</p> <p>(ix) Waste Management
Garbage Collection, Municipal Landfill and Litter Control.</p> |
|---|---|



Note 4: Income And Expenditure By Key Result Area

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Citizen and Customer Service	31	34
Civic Leadership	146	816
Economic Development	1,081	317
Environment and Land Use Planning	1,487	1,171
Financial Management	21,235	23,831
Human Support Services	4,655	4,361
Recreation and Community Infrastructure	2,679	4,070
Roads and Streets Infrastructure	3,773	3,024
Waste Management	1,891	1,776
Total Income	36,978	39,400
Expenditure		
Citizen and Customer Service	966	877
Civic Leadership	2,591	2,599
Economic Development	1,590	634
Environment and Land Use Planning	3,129	2,992
Financial Management	2,111	1,895
Human Support Services	6,985	6,442
Recreation and Community Infrastructure	5,215	4,757
Roads and Streets Infrastructure	7,848	6,955
Waste Management	1,793	1,643
Total Expenditure	32,228	28,794
Surplus	4,750	10,606

Revenue, expenditure and changes in net asset values that are reflected in the Comprehensive Income Statement have been allocated to their respective Key Result Areas above.

Note 5: Reserves

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Asset Revaluation Reserve	247,159	49,614
Other Reserves	6,521	7,029
Total Reserves	253,680	56,643

Asset Revaluation Reserve	Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	Revaluation Increment/ (Decrement)	Balance at End of Reporting Period
Land	7,567	2,375	9,942
Buildings	9,175	2,918	12,093
Infrastructure	32,640	192,165	224,805
Other Structures	207	-	207
Land Under Roads	25	87	112
Total Asset Revaluation Reserve	49,614	197,545	247,159

Other Reserves	Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	Transfer From/ (To) Accumulated Surplus	Balance at End of Reporting Period
Unexpended projects	6,398	(562)	5,836
LSL Non-Current Liability	413	51	464
Profit Equalisation	100	-	100
Drainage Levy	18	(11)	7
Developer Contributions	100	10	110
Quarry Levy	-	4	4
Total Other Reserves	7,029	(508)	6,521

Note 6: Reconciliation Of Surplus To Net Cash Inflow From Operations

	NOTE	2014	2013
		\$'000	\$'000
Surplus for the Year		4,750	10,606
Depreciation	17	4,830	4,735
(Profit)/Loss on Disposal of Assets	13	(215)	(369)
Subdivisions - Roads Handed to Council	30	(2,407)	(3,187)
Assets Handed to Council	30	(325)	(175)
Assets Not Previously Recognised	30	(352)	(905)
Finance Costs		303	278
Decrease/(Increase) in Other Non-Current Assets	14	57	(121)
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables		215	(218)
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventories	23	(1)	7
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors and Provisions		865	(2,030)
Net Cash Inflow from Operations		7,720	8,621

Note 7: Rates And Charges

Council uses Capital Improved Valuation (CIV) as the basis of valuation and rating of all rateable properties within the municipal district. The CIV is the total market value including land and improvements.

The following valuations were used in the calculation of the adopted rates at the commencement of the rating year:

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Residential	2,131,835	2,021,438
Farm	992,253	989,955
Non-Farm Vacant Land	232,238	243,324
Business	59,127	51,478
Total Capital Improved Valuations	3,415,453	3,306,195

The date of the last general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2012, and the valuation first applied to the rating period commencing 1 July 2012.

The date of the next general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district is 1 January 2014, and the valuation will be first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2014.

Rates And Charges Revenue

The following rates and charges were recognised during the financial year.

Residential	8,003	7,173
Farm	3,197	2,934
Non-Farm Vacant Land	1,557	1,526
Business	229	202
Municipal Charge	1,925	1,889
Garbage and Landfill Charges	1,805	1,698
Total Rates and Charges Revenue	16,716	15,422

Note 8: Grants

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Summary of Grants		
Federally Funded Grants	3,545	5,999
State Funded Grants	7,636	7,734
	11,181	13,733
Recurrent Grants		
Victoria Grants Commission - General Purpose Grant	1,571	3,076
Victoria Grants Commission - Local Roads Grant	931	1,934
Home Care	1,075	1,071
Local Road Improvements	989	989
Kindergarten	604	607
Community Health	412	425
Maternal & Child Health	168	153
Childrens' Services	159	26
Library	157	152
Other	82	80
Total Recurrent Grants	6,148	8,513
Non-Recurrent Grants		
Community Facilities (halls, etc)	1,614	2,361
Economic Development	1,011	143
Country Roads & Bridges	1,000	1,000
Local Roads Improvements	764	9
Childrens' Services	301	602
Youth Projects	102	67
Environment Projects	81	47
Other	65	54
Community Safety	64	95
Property & Rating	60	33
Community Health	41	39
Emergency Management Officer	-	247
Transport Connections	-	133
Natural Disaster	(70)	390
Total Non-Recurrent Grants	5,033	5,220
Total Grants	11,181	13,733

Note 8: Grants (Continued)

Conditions on Grants

Grants recognised as revenue during the year that were obtained on condition that they be expended in a specified manner that had not occurred at balance date were:

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Country Roads & Bridges	830	893
Meredith Early Years Mini Hub	588	600
Meredith Streetscape	336	-
Bannockburn Early Learning Upgrade	280	300
Childrens' Services	266	4
Aged and Disability Services	259	160
Health Promotion	221	225
Rokewood Early Learning Upgrade	210	228
Haddon Streetscape	183	-
Rokewood Streetscape	138	246
Community Facilities	93	-
Maude Viewing Platform	83	113
Sport and Recreation Projects	71	633
Emergency Management	55	517
Land Use Planning	46	44
Youth Development	45	11
Environment	42	1
Teesdale Streetscape	20	410
Public Health	17	-
Meredith Visitors Centre	15	-
Bannockburn Cultural Centre	-	54
Bannockburn Heavy Vehicle By Pass Study	-	6
Economic Development	-	91
	3,798	4,536

Note 8: Grants (Continued)

Grants which were recognised as revenue in prior years and were expended during the current year in the manner specified by the grantor were:

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Country Roads & Bridges	893	956
Sport and Recreation Projects	596	304
Emergency Management	543	8
Teesdale Streetscape	390	100
Health Promotion	225	209
Rokewood Streetscape	108	14
Economic Development	91	20
Bannockburn Cultural Centre	54	-
Maude Viewing Platform	29	-
Aged and Disability Services	23	59
Bannockburn Early Learning Upgrade	20	-
Rokewood Early Learning Upgrade	18	-
Meredith Early Years Mini Hub	12	-
Youth Development	11	11
Bannockburn Bypass Study	6	-
Childrens' Services	4	20
Environment	1	14
Stormwater Drainage, Smythesdale	-	6
Meredith Visitors Centre	-	102
Linton Town Precinct	-	89
Land Use Planning	-	6
Fire Protection	-	5
Accessible Toilets Upgrade	-	7
	3,024	1,930
Net (decrease)/increase in restricted assets resulting from grant revenues for the year:	774	2,606

Note 9: Contributions And Recoupments

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash		
Private Works	590	295
Developers' Community Contributions	241	182
Family Day Care - Social Security	157	159
Motor Vehicle Recoupments	119	114
Legal Costs Recouped	99	171
Revaluation Contribution - State Revenue Office	99	11
Developers' Recreation Lands Contributions	91	98
HACC Project	90	85
Kindergarten Reimbursement	78	101
Other	54	29
Recycling Contribution	44	39
Community Contributions	38	26
Other	67	39
Road Contributions from Private Parties	-	250
Recreation Rebates	-	36
Traineeship Incentive	-	10
Total Cash Contributions and Recoupments	1,767	1,645
Non-Cash		
Subdivisions - Roads Handed to Council	2,311	2,974
Assets Under Management	185	175
Developers' Rec Lands Contribution	140	-
Subdivisions - Land Under Roads Handed to Council	96	213
Total Non-Cash Contributions and Recoupments	2,732	3,362
Total Contributions and Recoupments	4,499	5,007

Note 10: User Fees And Charges

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Child Care Fees	1,196	976
Home and Community Care Fees	286	225
Animal Registration Charges	217	205
Subdivision Supervision Fees	118	115
Septic Tank Fees	88	74
Bannockburn Family Services Centre Charges	59	48
Gravel Cartage Levy	50	28
Food Premises Registration Fees	49	42
Farmers Market Fees	38	28
Bannockburn Cultural Centre Charges	37	24
Planning and Building Fees	28	106
Rents and Leases	26	25
Smythesdale Hub Charges	22	24
Other	85	87
Total User Fees and Charges	2,299	2,007

Note 11: Statutory Fees And Fines

Planning and Building Fees	205	188
Infringements and Fines	22	17
Land Information Certificates	16	14
Drainage Information Fees	14	15
Failure to Vote Fines	-	14
Total Statutory Fees and Fines	257	248

Note 12: Other Income

Interest on Investments	345	263
Interest on Rates	81	185
Defined Benefit Liability Interest Rebate	-	103
Found Assets:-		
Land	352	906
Total Other Income	778	1,457

Note 13: Net Gain On Disposals

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Plant and Machinery, and Furniture and Equipment		
Proceeds from Disposal of Assets	907	790
Carrying Amount of Disposed Assets	(852)	(831)
Net Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Plant and Machinery, and Furniture and Equipment	55	(41)
Buildings and Land		
Proceeds from Disposal of Assets	171	-
Carrying Amount of Disposed Assets	(136)	(168)
Net Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Buildings	35	(168)
Non-Current Assets Held for Sale - Land		
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	165	719
Carrying Amount of Disposed Assets	(40)	(141)
Net Gain on Disposal of Non-Current Assets Held for Sale - Land	125	578
Total Net Gain on Disposals	215	369

Note 14: Investment In Associate

Equity in Geelong Regional Library (GRL)	830	887
Total Investment in Associate	830	887
Movement in Carrying Value of Specific Investment		
Carrying value of investment at start of year	887	766
Share of surplus for year	7	121
Return of Prior Year Equity Contribution	(64)	-
Carrying Value of Investment at End of Year	830	887

Council's share of the net equity in GRL is 7.8% (9.1% 2013). The GRL Board is comprised of seven representatives from four member Councils. Golden Plains Shire Council has one representative on the GRL Board.

Note 15: Materials And Services

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Delivery of Projects and Services	2,012	1,673
Contractors and Consultants	1,953	1,114
General Maintenance	1,919	1,749
Garbage Operations	1,645	1,472
Other Expenses	776	764
Vehicle and Machinery Operations	682	669
Building Maintenance	523	238
Information Technology Operations	350	366
Utilities	292	272
Telecommunications	239	255
Insurance	237	221
Printing, Stationery and Postage	231	227
Cleaning	191	159
Debt Collection and Legal Fees	189	274
Training	167	146
Gravel Pit Operations	154	63
Advertising	103	99
Traffic Management	64	55
Election Expenses	2	99
Total Materials and Services	11,729	9,915

Note 16: Employee Benefits

Total employee costs includes wages and related oncosts incurred in operating activities as well as the construction of non-current assets that have been capitalised in the Balance Sheet.

Wages and Salaries	11,602	10,377
Superannuation (Annual Contributions)	1,140	996
Annual Leave and Long Service Leave	1,354	1,216
Fringe Benefits Tax	164	146
Workcover Premium and Claims Costs	185	122
Other	16	18
Total Employee Benefits	14,461	12,875
Less Employee Benefits Charged to Capital	(370)	(279)
Total Employee Benefits as per Comprehensive Income Statement	14,091	12,596

Note 17: Depreciation

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Depreciation was charged in respect of:		
Infrastructure Assets	2,646	2,570
Plant and Machinery	994	1,006
Buildings	709	694
Furniture and Equipment	258	265
Other Structures	218	195
Gravel Pit Rehabilitation	5	5
Total Depreciation Expense	4,830	4,735

Note 18: Other Expenses

Councillors' Allowances	178	172
Audit fee to conduct external audit - VAGO	41	42
Internal Audit Fees	25	18
Total Other Expenses	244	232

Note 19: Bad Debts

Long Day Care	4	2
Home Care	1	-
Total Bad Debts	5	2

Note 20: Cash And Cash Equivalents

Cash at Bank	1,131	1,369
Short Term Deposits	500	4,500
At Call Deposits	2,300	3,480
Cash on Hand	3	3
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,934	9,352

Note 21: Other Financial Assets

Term Deposits > 90 days	6,000	-
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Cash and Cash Equivalents Subject to Restrictions:

Councils cash and cash equivalents that are subject to an internal or external restriction that limits amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

Conditional Grants (note 8)	3,798	4,536
Trust funds and deposits (note 28)	133	171
Long Service Leave Investment Account (internal restriction)	1,623	1,374
Total Restricted Funds	5,554	6,081
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	4,380	3,271

Note 22: Trade And Other Receivables

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Rate Debtors	1,244	1,275
Other Debtors	1,669	1,953
Accrued Income	199	115
Total Trade and Other Receivables	3,112	3,343

Note 23: Inventory - Consumables

Stock on Hand	22	21
Total Inventory - Consumables	22	21

Note 24: Non-Current Assets Classified As Held For Sale

Bakers Lane Stage 3	-	35
Bakers Lane Stage 4	322	322
Total Non-Current Assets Classified as Held for Sale	322	357

Note 25: Trade And Other Payables

Trade Creditors	1,162	952
Accrued Expenditure	602	312
Total Trade and Other Payables	1,764	1,264

Note 26: Interest-Bearing Liabilities And Borrowings

Current		
Bank Loan Secured over Council's Rates and Charges	433	508
Total Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings - Current	433	508

Non-Current		
Bank Loan Secured over Council's Rates and Charges	5,942	4,526
Total Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings - Non-Current	5,942	4,526

The Maturity Profile for Council's Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings is:

Not Later Than One Year	433	508
Later Than One Year and Not Later Than Five Years	1,080	1,680
Later Than Five Years	4,862	2,846
Total Interest-Bearing Loans and Borrowings	6,375	5,034

Note 27: Provisions

	Rostered Days Off \$'000	Annual Leave \$'000	Long Service Leave \$'000	Rehabilitation Works \$'000
2014				
Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	-	961	1,639	107
Additional Provisions	73	1,138	457	-
Amounts Used	-	(1,048)	(162)	-
Balance at End of Reporting Period	73	1,051	1,934	107

2013				
Balance at Beginning of Reporting Period	-	887	1,562	113
Additional Provisions	-	935	281	-
Amounts Used	-	(861)	(204)	(6)
Balance at End of Reporting Period	-	961	1,639	107

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Current Provisions expected to be settled within 12 months		
Rostered Days Off	73	-
Employee Benefits - Annual Leave Provision	840	768
Employee Benefits - Long Service Leave Provision	167	209
Rehabilitation of Gravel Pits	15	15
Total Current Provisions expected to be settled within 12 months	1,095	992

Current Provisions expected to be settled after 12 months		
Employee Benefits - Annual Leave Provision	211	193
Employee Benefits - Long Service Leave Provision	1,303	1,017
Total Current Provisions expected to be settled after 12 months	1,514	1,210
Total Current Provisions	2,609	2,202

Non-Current Provisions		
Employee Benefits - Long Service Leave Provision	464	413
Rehabilitation of Gravel Pits	92	92
Total Non-Current Provisions	556	505

The following assumptions were adopted in measuring the present value of employee benefits:

Weighted average increase in employee costs	4.44%	4.50%
Weighted average discount rates	3.36%	3.56%
Weighted average settlement period	11	11

Under agreement Council is obligated to restore the De Motts and Sago Hill gravel pit sites to a particular standard. De Motts gravel pit has ceased operations. Current projections indicate that the Sago Hill gravel pit will cease operation in 2025 but restoration work has already commenced. The provision for rehabilitation of gravel pits has been based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to reinstate the site to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

Note 28: Trust Funds And Deposits

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Contractors Retention	-	5
Refundable Planning Deposits	105	118
Refundable Building Deposits	20	38
Refundable Community Group Deposits	5	5
Refundable Other Deposits	3	5
Total Trust Funds and Deposits	133	171

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment

Summary		
At Cost	15,991	44,458
Less Accumulated Depreciation	4,324	5,650
	11,667	38,808
At Fair Value 30 June 2014	491,769	-
At Fair Value 30 June 2009	-	221,213
At Fair Value 30 June 2007	1,733	1,733
Less Accumulated Depreciation	96,124	56,991
	397,378	165,955
Total Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	409,045	204,763
Land		
At Cost	-	516
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	23,195	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	19,965
	23,195	20,481
Land Under Roads		
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	588	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	405
	588	405
Buildings		
At Cost	-	5,440
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	163
	-	5,277
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	41,724	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	30,922
Less Accumulated Depreciation	12,319	9,694
	29,405	21,228

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment (Continued)

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Other Structures		
At Cost	-	1,795
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	87
	-	1,708
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	6,274	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	3,936
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,689	1,367
	4,585	2,569

Details of Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2014 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Land	-	23,195	-
Land Under Roads	-	-	588
Buildings	-	2,562	26,843
Other Structures	-	204	4,381
Totals:	-	25,961	31,812

No transfers between levels occurred during the year

Work in Progress		
Buildings and Building Improvements At Cost	737	34
Infrastructure At Cost	5,151	331
Other Structures	1,154	13
	7,042	378
Furniture and Equipment		
At Cost	2,178	2,198
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,557	1,593
	621	605
Plant and Machinery		
At Cost	6,546	6,564
Less Accumulated Depreciation	2,722	2,411
	3,824	4,153
Gravel Pit Rehabilitation		
At Cost	100	100
Less Accumulated Depreciation	40	35
	60	65

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment (Continued)

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Infrastructure		
Footpaths		
At Cost	-	3,492
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	105
	-	3,387
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	8,289	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	4,073
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,021	907
	7,268	3,166
Sealed Pavements		
At Cost	-	10,758
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	152
	-	10,606
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	200,801	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	89,570
Less Accumulated Depreciation	49,469	20,726
	151,332	68,844
Unsealed Pavements		
At Cost	-	1,373
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	88
	-	1,285
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	43,694	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	12,296
Less Accumulated Depreciation	3,229	2,805
	40,465	9,491
Sealed Surfaces		
At Cost	-	8,263
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	958
	-	7,305
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	28,230	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	15,559
Less Accumulated Depreciation	11,076	8,952
	17,154	6,607
Sealed Formations		
At Cost	-	492
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	-	492
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	75,250	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	15,298
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	75,250	15,298

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment (Continued)

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Unsealed Formations		
At Cost	-	1
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	-	1
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	26,453	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	5,838
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	26,453	5,838
Kerb and Channel		
At Cost	-	885
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	14
	-	871
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	3,735	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	2,037
Less Accumulated Depreciation	566	477
	3,169	1,560
Bridges and Major Culverts		
At Cost	-	2,079
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	42
	-	2,037
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	33,536	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	21,315
Less Accumulated Depreciation	15,852	11,194
	17,684	10,121
Underground Drainage		
At Cost	125	125
Less Accumulated Depreciation	5	2
	120	123
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2007	1,733	1,733
Less Accumulated Depreciation	904	870
	829	863
Total Infrastructure		
At Cost	125	27,468
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2014	419,988	-
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2009	-	165,985
At Fair Value as at 30 June 2007	1,733	1,733
Less Accumulated Depreciation	82,121	47,291
Total Infrastructure	339,725	147,895
Total Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	409,045	204,763

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment (Continued)

Details of Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2014 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Roads	-	-	313,824
Bridges	-	-	17,684
Footpaths	-	-	7,268
Drainage	-	-	949
Totals:	-	-	339,725

No transfers between levels occurred during the year

Valuation Basis

Non-specialised land, non-specialised buildings

Non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings are valued using the market based direct comparison method. Under this valuation method, the assets are compared to recent comparable sales or sales of comparable assets which are considered to have nominal or no added improvement value.

For non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings, an independent valuation was performed by Mr Stephen Davey AAPI registered Certified Practising Valuer to determine the fair value using the market based direct comparison method. Valuation of the assets was determined by analysing comparable sales and allowing for share, size, topography, location and other relevant factors specific to the asset being valued. From the sales analysed, an appropriate rate per square metre has been applied to the subject asset. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2014. To the extent that non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings do not contain significant, unobservable adjustments, these assets are classified as Level 2 under the market based direct comparison approach.

Specialised land and specialised buildings

The market based direct comparison method is also used for specialised land although is adjusted to reflect the specialised nature of the assets being valued. For Council specialised buildings, the depreciated replacement cost method is used, adjusting for the associated depreciations. Specialised assets contain significant, unobservable adjustments, therefore these assets are classified as Level 3 fair value measurements.

An adjustment is made to reflect a restriction on the sale or use of an asset by Council. The adjustment is an allowance made to reflect the difference in value between unrestricted assets and those held by the Council which are impacted by external restraints on their use.

An independent valuation of Council's specialised land and specialised buildings was performed by Mr Stephen Davey AAPI registered Certified Practising Valuer. The valuation was performed using either the market based direct comparison method or depreciated replacement cost, adjusted for restrictions in use. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2012.

Land under roads

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

Infrastructure

Infrastructure is valued using the depreciated replacement cost method. This cost represents the replacement cost of the component after applying depreciation rates on a useful life basis. Replacement costs relate to costs to replace the property to an "as new" standard. Economic obsolescence has also been factored into the depreciated replacement cost calculation.

Where it has not been possible to examine hidden works such as structural frames and floors, the use of reasonable materials and methods of construction have been assumed bearing in mind the age and nature of the building. The estimated cost of reconstruction including structure services and finishes, also factors in any heritage classifications as applicable. Infrastructure assets contain significant unobservable adjustments, therefore these assets are classified as Level 3.

A valuation of Council's, infrastructure assets was performed Mr Peter Cameron, Dep CE, MIE(Aust), CPEng, Works Manager and Mr Peter Moloney MIE(Aust) as at 30 June 2014. The valuation was performed based on the depreciated replacement cost of the assets. The effective date of the valuation is 30 June 2014.

There were no changes in valuation techniques throughout the period to 30 June 2014. For all assets measured at fair value, the current use is considered the highest and best use.

Note 29: Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment (Continued)

Reconciliation of Level 3 Fair Value

	Other Structures \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Land Under Roads \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000
2014				
Opening Balance	4,097	24,236	405	147,895
Depreciation	(209)	(2,320)	-	(2,646)
Impairment Loss	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	3,677	87	192,165
Acquisitions (Disposals)	493	1,250	96	2,311
Closing Balance	4,381	26,843	588	339,725

Description of unobservable inputs into Level 3 valuations

	Valuation Technique	Significant Unobservable Inputs	Range	Sensitivity
Other Structures	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Direct cost per square metre		Increase or decrease in the direct cost per square metre adjustment would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
		Useful life of buildings		Increase or decrease in the estimated useful life of the asset would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
Buildings	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Direct cost per square metre		Increase or decrease in the direct cost per square metre adjustment would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
		Useful life of buildings		Increase or decrease in the estimated useful life of the asset would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
Land Under Roads	Market based direct comparison approach	Extent and impact of restriction of use		Increase or decrease in the extent of restriction would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
Infrastructure	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Cost per unit		Increase or decrease in the cost per unit would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.
		Useful life of infrastructure		Increase or decrease in the estimated useful life would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value.

Note 30: Movements In Property, Infrastructure, Plant And Equipment

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of non-current assets at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below.

2014	LAND \$'000	LAND UNDER ROADS \$'000	BUILDINGS \$'000	OTHER STRUCTURES \$'000	WORK IN PROGRESS \$'000	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT \$'000	PLANT & MACHINERY \$'000	GRAVEL PIT REHAB \$'000	INFRA- STRUCTURE \$'000	TOTAL \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2013	20,481	405	26,505	4,276	378	605	4,153	65	147,895	204,763
Additions	-	-	507	508	6,664	283	1,509	-	-	9,471
Revaluation/Indexation	2,375	87	2,918	-	-	-	-	-	192,165	197,545
Subdivisions - Roads Handed to Council	-	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,311	2,407
Additions - Contributed	325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	325
Additions - Assets Not previously Recognised	48	-	285	19	-	-	-	-	-	352
Depreciation	-	-	(709)	(218)	-	(258)	(994)	(5)	(2,646)	(4,830)
Written Down Value of Disposals	(35)	-	(101)	-	-	(9)	(844)	-	-	(989)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2014	23,195	588	29,405	4,585	7,042	621	3,824	60	339,725	409,045

2013	LAND \$'000	LAND UNDER ROADS \$'000	BUILDINGS \$'000	OTHER STRUCTURES \$'000	WORK IN PROGRESS \$'000	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT \$'000	PLANT & MACHINERY \$'000	GRAVEL PIT REHAB \$'000	INFRA- STRUCTURE \$'000	TOTAL \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2012	19,137	192	26,723	3,757	295	665	4,383	70	143,484	198,706
Additions	238	-	596	614	257	334	1,478	-	4,007	7,524
Subdivisions - Roads Handed to Council	-	213	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,974	3,187
Additions - Assets Under Management	175	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	175
Additions - Assets Not previously Recognised	905	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	905
Depreciation	-	-	(694)	(195)	-	(265)	(1,006)	(5)	(2,570)	(4,735)
Written Down Value of Disposals	-	-	(168)	-	-	(129)	(702)	-	-	(999)
Reclassification Between Classes	26	-	48	100	(174)	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount at 30 June 2013	20,481	405	26,505	4,276	378	605	4,153	65	147,895	204,763

Note 31: Superannuation

Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Under Choice of Fund legislation, some superannuation contributions made to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund are distributed via their clearing house to other compliant accumulation superannuation funds as per employees' requests.

The defined benefit section provides lump sum benefits based on years of service and final average salary. The defined contribution section receives fixed contributions from Council. Council's legal or constructive obligation is limited to these contributions.

Obligations for contributions are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are due.

Accumulation Funds: Both employer and employee contributions are contributed on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2014, this was 9.25% required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation). Our commitment to defined contribution plans is limited to making contributions in accordance with our minimum statutory requirements. No further liability accrues to the employer as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Effective from 1 July 2014, the Superannuation Guarantee contribution rate will increase to 9.5%, and will progressively increase to 12% by 2019. Based on announcements included in the May 2014 Federal Budget, this progressive increase to 12% will be delayed until 2022.

Defined Benefit: As provided under Paragraph 34 of AASB 119, Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a multi-employer sponsored plan.

As a multi-employer sponsored plan, the Fund was established as a mutual scheme to allow for the mobility of the workforce between the participating employers without attaching a specific liability to particular employees and their current employer. Therefore, there is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of Council in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employer. While there is an agreed methodology to allocate any shortfalls identified by the Fund Actuary for funding purposes, there is no agreed methodology to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between the participating employers for accounting purposes. Therefore, the Actuary is unable to allocate

benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119.

Funding Arrangements: Council makes employer contributions to the defined benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund's Actuary. The Fund's employer funding arrangements comprise of three components, detailed below:

1. Regular contributions - which are ongoing contributions needed to fund the balance of benefits for current members and pensioners;
2. Funding calls – which are contributions in respect of each participating employer's share of any funding shortfalls that arise; and
3. Retrenchment increments – which are additional contributions to cover the increase in liability arising from retrenchments.

Council is also required to make additional contributions to cover the contribution tax payable on the contributions referred to above.

Employees are also required to make member contributions to the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Fund to meet member benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

Employer Contributions: Regular contributions - on the basis of the results of the most recent full actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund's Actuary as at 31 December 2011, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2014, this rate was 9.25% of members' salaries. This rate increased to 9.5% on 1 July 2014 and is expected to increase in line with the required Superannuation Guarantee contribution rate.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the VBI multiplied by the benefit).

Funding Calls: The Fund is required to comply with the superannuation prudential standards. Under the superannuation prudential standard SPS 160, the Fund is required to target full funding of its vested benefits.

There may be circumstances where:

- a fund is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation (i.e. its vested benefit index (VBI) is less than 100% at the date of the actuarial investigation); or
- a fund's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than at the date of the actuarial investigations.

If either of the above occur, the fund has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. There may be circumstances where the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA)

may approve a period longer than three years.

The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%. In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Council) are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall. The methodology used to allocate the shortfall was agreed in 1997 to fairly and reasonably apportion the shortfall between the participating employers. As at 31 March 2014 the fund was fully funded with a VBI of 104.6%.

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

The pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund are based on:

- the service periods of all active members split between the active members pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service period;
- the service periods of all deferred members split between the deferred members pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service period; and
- the pensioner (including fixed term pension) liabilities which are allocated to the pre-1993 period.

The pre-1 July 1993 component of the shortfall is apportioned between the participating employers based on the employer's share of the total participating employer payroll at 30 June 1993. The post-30 June 1993 component of the shortfall is apportioned between the participating employers based on the employer's share of the total participating employer payroll at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries; it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up. In the unlikely event that the Fund is wound up and there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be applied for the benefit of the defined benefit employers where there are on-going defined benefit obligations. The surplus would be transferred to the fund accepting those defined benefit obligations (including the lifetime pension obligations) of the Fund. In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

Differences Between Calculations: The Fund surplus or deficit (i.e. the difference between fund assets and liabilities) is calculated differently for funding purposes (i.e. calculating required contributions), for the calculation of accrued benefits as required in AAS 25 and for the values needed for the AASB 119 disclosure in the Council's financial statements. AAS 25 requires that the present value of the

defined benefit liability be calculated based on benefits that have accrued in respect of membership of the plan up to the measurement date, with no allowance for future benefits that may accrue.

Retrenchment Increments: During 2013-14, Council was not required to make payments to the Fund in respect of retrenchment increments (\$0 in 2012-13). Council's liability to the Fund as at 30 June 2014, for retrenchment increments, accrued interest and tax is \$0 (\$0 in 2012-13).

Shortfall Amounts: The Local Authorities Superannuation Fund's latest actuarial investigation as at 31 December 2011 identified an unfunded liability of \$406 million (excluding contributions tax) in the defined benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Council was made aware of the expected shortfall during the 2011-12 year and was informed of its share of the shortfall on 2 August 2012. Council has not been advised of any further adjustments.

Council's share of the shortfall amounted to \$1.495m (excluding contributions tax) which was accounted for in the 2011-12 Comprehensive Income Statement within Employee Benefits and in the Balance Sheet as a liability. No further amount has been accounted for in the 2013-14 Comprehensive Income Statement within Employee Benefits and in the Balance Sheet as a liability.

For the 2012-13 year, Council received an early payment discount of \$103k which was accounted for in the 2012-13 Comprehensive Income Statement within Employee Benefits (see Note 16).

Accrued Benefits: The Fund's liability for accrued benefits was determined in the 31 December 2011 actuarial investigation pursuant to the requirements of Australian Accounting Standard Board AAS25 follows:

	31-Dec-11 \$'000
Net Market Value of Assets	4,315,324
Accrued Benefits (per accounting standards)	4,642,133
Difference between Assets and Accrued Benefits	(326,809)
Vested Benefits (Minimum sum which must be paid to members when they leave the fund)	4,838,503

The financial assumptions used to calculate the Accrued Benefits for the defined benefit category of the Fund were:

Net Investment Return	7.50% p.a.
Salary Inflation	4.25% p.a.
Price Inflation	2.75% p.a.

The next full actuarial investigation of the Fund's liability for accrued benefits will be based on the Fund's position as at 30 June 2014. The anticipated completion date of this actuarial investigation is 19 December 2014.

Note 31: Superannuation (Continued)

Superannuation Contributions: Contributions by Council to superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2014 are detailed below:

Scheme	Type of scheme	Rate	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Vision Super	Defined benefits	9.25%	114	107
Vision Super	Accumulation Plan	9.25%	580	544
Superannuation Choice Funds	Accumulation Plans	9.25%	446	345

There were \$25k contributions outstanding to the above schemes as at 30 June 2014.

The expected contributions to be paid to the defined benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2015 is \$118k.

Note 32: Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent Liabilities

Council is presently involved in confidential legal matters, which are being conducted through Council's solicitors. As these matters are yet to be finalised, and the financial outcomes are unable to be reliably estimated, no allowance for these contingencies has been made in the financial report.

Council has obligations under a defined benefit

superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme to ensure that the liabilities of the fund are covered by the assets of the fund. Refer to Note 31 for more details.

Landfill Site

Council operates a landfill at Rokewood; the Teesdale landfill was closed during the 2011-12 financial year. Council will have to carry out site rehabilitation works in the future. At balance date Council is unable to accurately assess the financial implications of such works.

Bank Guarantee – Minister for Energy and Resources

Council has issued a Bank Guarantee for the amount of \$9,000 in favour of the Minister for Energy & Resources for rehabilitation of the De Motts/Jollys Gravel Pit. Council does not believe that the bank guarantee will be exercised.

Bank Guarantee – Department of Sustainability & Environment

Council has issued a Bank Guarantee for the amount of \$37,500 in favour of the Department of Natural Resources & Environment for rehabilitation of the Sago Hill Gravel Pit. Council does not believe that the bank guarantee will be exercised.

Council has issued a Bank Guarantee for the amount of \$17,000 in favour of the Department of Natural Resources & Environment for rehabilitation of the Black Hill Gravel Pit. Council does not believe that the bank guarantee will be exercised.

Contingent Assets - Nil

Note 33: Commitments

Council has entered into the following commitments:

(These figures include GST)

2014				
	LESS THAN ONE YEAR	ONE YEAR TO FIVE YEARS	GREATER THAN FIVE YEARS	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating				
Waste Management	1,711	-	-	1,711
Tip Contractor	24	-	-	24
Mgt of Bannockburn Leisure Centre	-	-	-	-
Domestic Waste Management Plan	38	-	-	38
Total Operating Commitments	1,773	-	-	1,773
Capital				
Road Maintenance Truck	225	-	-	225
Bannockburn Soccer Pitch	220	-	-	220
Architectural Services	115	-	-	115
Haddon Rec Reserve Pavillion	211	-	-	211
Total Capital Commitments	771	-	-	771
2013				
	LESS THAN ONE YEAR	ONE YEAR TO FIVE YEARS	GREATER THAN FIVE YEARS	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating				
Waste Management	1,609	1,689	-	3,298
Tip Contractor	22	25	-	47
Mgt of Bannockburn Leisure Centre	28	-	-	28
Domestic Waste Management Plan	-	-	-	-
Total Operating Commitments	1,659	1,714	-	3,373
Capital				
Nil	-	-	-	-

Note 34: Financial Ratios (Performance Indicators)

		2014	2013	2012
(a) Revenue Ratio: Purpose: To assess the dependence on non-rate income sources.				
Rates & Charges Revenue	16,716			
Total Revenue	35,952	46.50%	40.20%	32.66%
The ratio expresses Rates & Charges revenue as a proportion of total revenue and indicates Council's reliance on rates revenue.				
(b) Debt Exposure Ratio: Purpose: To identify the exposure of Council to debt and to indicate the solvency of the Council.				
Total Indebtedness	11,437			
Total Realisable Assets	83,582	13.68%	12.95%	18.55%
The ratio expresses the percentage of total liabilities for each dollar of realisable assets.				
(c) Debt Servicing Ratio: Purpose: To assess Council's capacity to service debt outstanding.				
Debt Servicing	303			
Total Revenue	35,952	0.84%	0.72%	0.90%
The ratio expresses the amount of interest paid as a percentage of Council's total revenue.				
(d) Debt Commitment Ratio: Purpose: To identify Council's debt redemption strategy.				
Redemption	709			
Rates & Charges Revenue	16,716	4.24%	5.41%	14.75%
The ratio expresses the percentage of rate revenue utilised to pay interest and redeem debt principal.				
(e) Working Capital Ratio: Purpose: To assess Council's ability to meet current commitments.				
Current Assets	13,432			
Current Liabilities	4,939	272%	316%	233%
The ratio expresses the level of current assets the Council has available to meet its current liabilities.				
(f) Adjusted Working Capital Ratio: Purpose: To assess Council's ability to meet current commitments.				
Current Assets	13,432			
Current Liabilities (adj)	3,470	387%	449%	298%
The ratio expresses the level of current assets the Council has available to meet its current liabilities.				

Definitions

"Current assets" means the total current assets as shown in the Balance Sheet.

"Current liabilities" means the total current liabilities as shown in the Balance Sheet.

"Debt servicing costs" includes interest and charges on loans and overdrafts.

"Total indebtedness" means total liabilities, both current and non-current, as shown in the Balance Sheet.

"Total realisable assets" means total current assets and total realisable non-current assets.

"Total revenue" means total revenue as shown in the Comprehensive Income Statement.

"Adjusted working Capital" is the working capital ratio adjusted for long service leave that is shown as a current liability because Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date, but is not likely to fall due within 12 months after the end of the period.

"Rates & Charges Revenue" means general rates, landfill levy and municipal and garbage charges.

Note 35: Financial Instruments

(a) Accounting Policies, Terms and Conditions

Council's accounting policies, including the terms and conditions of each class of financial asset and financial liability, both recognized and unrecognized at balance date, are as follows:

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT	NOTE	ACCOUNTING POLICIES	TERMS AND CONDITIONS
(1) Financial Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	20	Cash on hand and at bank and money market call account are valued at face value. Interest is recognised as it accrues.	Cash deposits returned floating interest rates of 2.77% (2013: 3.70%). The interest rate at balance date was 2.69% (2013: 2.95%).
At Call Accounts and Cash On Hand			
Short Term Deposits		Investments and bills are valued at amortised cost. Investments are held to maximise interest returns of surplus cash. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.	Short-term deposit held as at balance date has a maturity of 90 days and effective interest rate of 3.75% (2013: 4.08% to 4.35%).
Other Financial Assets	21	Term Deposits >90 days are valued at amortised cost. Investments are held to maximise interest returns of surplus cash. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.	Term deposits >90 days held as at balance date have an average maturity of 134 days and effective interest rates of 3.50% to 3.80% (2013: Council held no term deposits >90 days).
Trade and Other Receivables	22	Trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) are carried at nominal amounts less provision for doubtful debts. A provision for doubtful debt is recognised when collection of the full nominal amount is no longer probable. Collectability of overdue accounts is assessed on an ongoing basis.	Credit Sales are on 14 day terms. Interest is charged on overdue debts arising from the provision of goods and services excluding HACC debtors at the rate of 10.5% (2013: 10.5%). Accrued income is normally settled within 30 days.
(2) Financial Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	25	Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services provided to Council as at balance date whether or not invoices have been received.	General creditors are unsecured, not subject to interest charges and are normally settled within 30 days of invoice receipt.
Interest-Bearing Loans & Borrowings	26	Bank borrowings are carried at their principal amounts, which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is recognised over the period it becomes due and recognised as part of payables.	Borrowings are secured by way of mortgages over the general rates of the Council. Council has six bank loans. The effective interest rate on borrowings is 4.54% (2013: 5.33%).
Trust Funds	28	Trust funds are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for amounts held on behalf of other parties. Interest is not payable on these liabilities.	Trust funds are normally repaid within one year.

(b) Interest Rate Risk

Council's exposure to interest rate risks and the weighted average effective interest rates of financial assets and financial liabilities, both recognised and unrecognised at balance date, are as follows:

2014								TOTAL
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT	NOTE	FLOATING INTEREST RATE \$'000	FIXED INTEREST RATE MATURING IN			NON- INTEREST BEARING \$'000	TOTAL CARRYING AMOUNT DISCLOSED IN BALANCE SHEET \$'000	
			1 YEAR OR LESS \$'000	OVER 1-5 YEARS \$'000	MORE THAN 5 YEARS \$'000			
(1) Financial Assets								
At Call Accounts and Cash On Hand	20	3,434	-	-	-	-	3,434	
Short Term Deposits	20	-	500	-	-	-	500	
Term Deposits >90 days	21	-	6,000	-	-	-	6,000	
Trade and Other Receivables	22	-	-	-	-	1,868	1,868	
Total Financial Assets		3,434	6,500	-	-	1,868	11,802	
Weighted Average Interest Rate		2.77%	3.63%					
(2) Financial Liabilities								
Trade and Other Payables	25	-	-	-	-	1,764	1,764	
Interest-Bearing Loans & Borrowings	26	4,403	433	1,080	459	-	6,375	
Trust Funds	28	-	-	-	-	133	133	
Total Financial Liabilities		4,403	433	1,080	459	1,897	8,272	
Weighted Average Interest Rate		3.33%	7.39%	7.48%	7.01%			
Net Financial Assets (Liabilities)		(969)	6,067	(1,080)	(459)	(29)	3,530	
2013								
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT	NOTE	FLOATING INTEREST RATE \$'000	FIXED INTEREST RATE MATURING IN			NON- INTEREST BEARING \$'000	TOTAL CARRYING AMOUNT DISCLOSED IN BALANCE SHEET \$'000	
			1 YEAR OR LESS \$'000	OVER 1-5 YEARS \$'000	MORE THAN 5 YEARS \$'000			
(1) Financial Assets								
At Call Accounts and Cash On Hand	20	4,852	-	-	-	-	4,852	
Short Term Deposits	20	-	4,500	-	-	-	4,500	
Term Deposits >90 days	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Trade and Other Receivables	22	-	-	-	-	2,068	2,068	
Total Financial Assets		4,852	4,500	-	-	2,068	11,420	
Weighted Average Interest Rate		3.70%	4.26%					
(2) Financial Liabilities								
Trade and Other Payables	25	-	-	-	-	1,264	1,264	
Interest-Bearing Loans & Borrowings	26	2,654	407	1,238	735	-	5,034	
Trust Funds	28	-	-	-	-	171	171	
Total Financial Liabilities		2,654	407	1,238	735	1,435	6,469	
Weighted Average Interest Rate		3.68%	7.30%	7.46%	7.22%			
Net Financial Assets (Liabilities)		2,198	4,093	(1,238)	(735)	633	4,951	

Note 35: Financial Instruments (Continued)

(c) Net Fair Value

The aggregate net fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities at balance date are as follows:

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT	NOTE	TOTAL CARRYING AMOUNT AS PER BALANCE SHEET		AGGREGATE NET FAIR VALUE	
		2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
(1) Financial Assets					
At Call Accounts and Cash On Hand	20	3,434	4,852	3,434	4,852
Short Term Deposits	20	500	4,500	500	4,500
Term Deposits >90 days	21	6,000	-	6,000	-
Trade and Other Receivables	22	1,868	2,068	1,868	2,068
Total Financial Assets		11,802	11,420	11,802	11,420
(2) Financial Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	25	1,764	1,264	1,764	1,264
Interest-Bearing Loans & Borrowings	26	6,375	5,034	6,375	5,034
Trust Funds	28	133	171	133	171
Total Financial Liabilities		8,272	6,469	8,272	6,469

(d) 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 Balance Sheet.

(e) Risks and mitigation

The risks associated with Council's main financial instruments and our policies for minimising these risks are detailed below.

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. Council's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk. Components of market risk to which Council is exposed are discussed below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises from interest-bearing financial assets and liabilities that Council uses. Non derivative interest-bearing assets are predominantly short term liquid assets. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk.

Council's loan borrowings are sourced from major Australian banks by a tender process. Council does not

have any finance leases or overdraft arrangements.

Council manages interest rate risk on its portfolio by:

- ensuring access to diverse sources of funding;
- reducing risks of refinancing by managing in accordance with target maturity profiles; and
- setting prudential limits on interest repayments as a percentage of rate revenue.

Council manages the interest rate exposure on its debt portfolio by implementing appropriate budgeting strategies and obtaining approval for borrowings from the Department of Planning and Community Development each year.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the Local Government Act 1989.

Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- conformity with State and Federal regulations and standards;
- capital protection;
- appropriate liquidity;
- diversification by credit rating, financial institution and investment product;
- monitoring of return on investment;
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

Maturity will be staggered to provide for interest rate variations and to minimise interest rate risk.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not

Note 35: Financial Instruments (Continued)

complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some of our financial assets included in the balance sheet.

To help manage this risk, Council:

- has a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities it deals with;
- may require collateral where appropriate; and
- only invests surplus funds with financial institutions which are covered by the Federal Government's deposit guarantee

Trade and other receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the consumer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is the Victorian Government. Apart from the Victorian Government we do not have any significant credit risk exposure to a single customer or groups of customers. Ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of Council's customers and, where appropriate, an allowance for doubtful debts is raised.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of Council's operational liquidity requirements, Council:

- will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction on the date;
- will be forced to sell financial assets at a value which is less than what they are worth; or
- may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset at all.

To help reduce these risks Council:

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

Council's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

The table below lists the contractual maturities for Council's Financial Liabilities.

These amounts represent undiscounted gross payment

Councils may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provides a guarantee for another party. Details of Council's contingent liabilities are disclosed in note 32.

Ageing of Trade and Other Receivables

At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. These amounts relate to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. The ageing of the Council's Trade and Other Receivables was:

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
Current (not yet overdue)	632	892
Past due between 31 and 60 days	115	38
Past due between 61 and 90 days	3	1,104
Past due over 90 days	1,118	34
	1,868	2,068

2014	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	5 Years	> 5 Years	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Trade and Other Payables	1,764	-	-	-	-	-	1,764
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	433	309	239	256	276	4,862	6,375
Trust Funds	133	-	-	-	-	-	133
Total Financial liabilities	2,330	309	239	256	276	4,862	8,272

2013							
Trade and Other Payables	1,264	-	-	-	-	-	1,264
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	508	538	418	351	373	2,846	5,034
Trust Funds	171	-	-	-	-	-	171
Total Financial liabilities	1,943	538	418	351	373	2,846	6,469

(f) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months (Base rates are sourced from Reserve Bank of Australia):

- A parallel shift of +1% and -2% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 2.5%.

The following table discloses the impact on the net operating result and equity for each category of financial instruments of the Council at year-end, if the above movements were to occur.

Market risk exposure	Carrying amount subject to interest	Interest rate risk			
		-2%		+1%	
		-200 basis points Profit	Equity	+100 basis points Profit	Equity
2014	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	3,934	(79)	(79)	39	39
Other Financial Assets	6,000	(120)	(120)	60	60
Financial liabilities:					
Variable interest-bearing loans and borrowings	4,403	88	88	(44)	(44)

2013					
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	9,352	(94)	(94)	94	94
Financial liabilities:					
Variable interest-bearing loans and borrowings	2,654	27	27	(27)	(27)

Interest-bearing loans are subject to a fixed interest rate and are not affected by market fluctuations.

(g) Fair Value Hierarchy

All financial assets carried at fair value are measured at quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Note 36: Related Party Disclosures

(a) Identity of Responsible Persons

Names of persons holding the position of a Responsible Person at the Council at any time during the year are:

Cr J Blake, Mayor

Cr A Cameron

Cr N Hansford

Cr H Kirby

Cr B McArthur

Cr D Phelan

Cr G Vaughan

Chief Executive Officer: Rod Nicholls

(b) Remuneration and Benefits of Responsible Persons

The number of Responsible Officers of the Council whose total remuneration including any superannuation benefits from the Council and any related entity falls within the following bands:

	2014	2013
	No.	No.
<\$10,000	-	3
\$10,000 - \$19,999	6	6
\$20,000 - \$29,999	-	1
\$50,000 - \$59,999	-	1
\$60,000 - \$69,999	1	-
\$230,000 - \$239,000	-	1
\$240,000 - \$249,000	1	-
	8	12
Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Responsible Persons included above amounted to:	\$429,765	\$418,005

(c) No retirement benefits have been made by the Council to a Responsible Person.

(d) No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a Responsible Person during the reporting year.

(e) Transactions other than remuneration payments or the reimbursement of approved expenses entered into by Council with Responsible Persons, or Related Parties of such Responsible Persons during the reporting year are:

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Haddon Bottle Shop – Cr B McArthur	286	140
Bannockburn Hardware– Cr N Hansford	205	2,183
Rokewood Takeaway – Cr H Kirby	116	-

These transactions were on normal commercial terms.

(f) Identity of Senior Officers

A Senior Officer other than a Responsible Person, is an officer of Council who has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer or whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$133,000. The Senior Officers of the Council during the reporting period were:

G Anders	Director Assets and Amenity
J Evans	Director Community Services
R Trigg	Director Corporate Services
M Barrow (from 14/10/13)	Manager Executive Unit

(g) Remuneration and Benefits – Senior Officers

The number of Senior Officers of Council whose total remuneration including any superannuation benefits from the Council and any related entity falls within the following bands:

	2014	2013
	No.	No.
<\$133,000	1	1
\$150,000 - \$159,999	1	3
\$160,000 - \$169,999	2	-
	4	4
Total Remuneration of Senior Officers	\$575,960	\$598,207

Note 37: Events Occurring After Balance Date

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

Certification of the Financial Statements

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Signed at Bannockburn this 9th day of September 2014.



Jason Clissold B.Bus. CPA
Principal Accounting Officer

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Golden Plains Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 and the financial position of the Council as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate. We have been authorised by Council on 22nd July 2014 to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Signed at Bannockburn this 9th day of September 2014.



Councillor Jenny Blake
Mayor



Councillor Des Phelan
Member Audit & Risk Committee



Rod Nicholls
Chief Executive Officer



VAGO

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Councillors, Golden Plains Shire Council

The Financial Report and Standard Statements

The accompanying financial report for the year ended 30 June 2014 of the Golden Plains Shire Council which comprises comprehensive income statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification of accounts has been audited.

The accompanying standard statements for the year ended 30 June 2014 of Golden Plains Shire Council which comprises standard income statement, standard balance sheet, standard statement of cash flows, standard statement of capital works, the related notes and the certification of standard statement have been audited.

The Councillors' Responsibility for the Financial Report and Standard Statements

The Councillors of the Golden Plains Shire Council are responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of:

- the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- the standard statements in accordance with the basis of preparation as described in note 1 to the statements and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The Councillors are responsible for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and standard statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994* and the *Local Government Act 1989*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report and standard statements based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report and standard statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report and standard statements. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report and standard statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and standard statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Councillors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report and standard statements.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

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

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Opinion

In my opinion:

- (a) the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Golden Plains Shire Council as at 30 June 2014 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- (b) the standard statements present fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation as described in note 1 to the statements and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.


Basis of Accounting for Standard Statements

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to note 1 to the standard statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The standard statements are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*. As a result, the standard statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Report and Standard Statements

This auditor's report relates to the financial report and standard statements of the Golden Plains Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 included both in the Golden Plains Shire Council's annual report and on the website. The Councillors of the Golden Plains Shire Council are responsible for the integrity of the Golden Plains Shire Council's website. I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Golden Plains Shire Council's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of the financial report and standard statements are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report and standard statements to confirm the information contained in the website version of the financial report and standard statements.

MELBOURNE
11 September 2014


John Doyle
Auditor-General

Performance Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2014

Key Strategic Activity	Performance Measure	"Actual performance compared to target performance"			
		Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14	Difference	Achieved / Not Achieved
Citizen and Customer Service	Community satisfaction rating for customer service greater than 73*	>73	71	(2)	Not Achieved
	Improve the percentage of Customer Service requests completed within timelines (%)	>78.8	77.2	(1.6)	Not Achieved
	Decrease the number of lost time days per annum	<19	222	(203)	Not Achieved
Civic Leadership	Community satisfaction survey rating for advocacy above 60*	>60	55	(5)	Not Achieved
	Community satisfaction survey rating for community consultation above 62*	>62	59	(3)	Not Achieved
	Improve the Risk Insurance Audit Score (%)^	>82	n/a	n/a	n/a
Economic Development	Community satisfaction survey rating for business, community development and tourism above 64*	>64	57	(7)	Not Achieved
Environment and Land Use Planning	Community satisfaction survey rating for town planning policy approvals above 62*	>62	55	(7)	Not Achieved
	Complete 90% of all Planning Permit applications within 60 business days (%)	90	87	(3)	Not Achieved
	Ensure immunisation rate for all age groups is above the State Average (%)	>92.12	97.31	5.19	Achieved
Financial Management	Improve the financial health of the organisation in accordance with the long term financial strategy and annual budget targets	Improved	Improved	-	Achieved
	Achieve the budgeted underlying result (\$'000)	>376	(1,303)	(1,679)	Not Achieved
	Achieve a working capital ratio in excess of 120% (%)	>120	273	153	Achieved
Human Support Services	Community satisfaction survey rating for family support services above 67*	>67	66	(1)	Not Achieved
	Community satisfaction survey rating for elderly support services above 67*	>67	67	-	Not Achieved
	Achieve 80% occupancy rate for the Long Day Care Centre (%)	80	93	13	Achieved
	Achieve 80% of the HACC funding and service agreement targets (%)	80	88	8	Achieved
Recreation and Community Development	Community satisfaction survey rating for recreational facilities above 70*	>70	65	(5)	Not Achieved
	Increase the number of people living in the Shire who feel a strong sense of being part of their community (CIV rating) #	>74.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Increase the number of young people engaged in community activities	>326	412	86	Achieved
"Roads and Streets Infrastructure"	Maintain the Moloney Asset Management System rating for our local roads	Maintain System	Maintain System	-	Achieved
	Improve the Community satisfaction survey rating for local streets and footpaths above 54*	>54	46	(8)	Not Achieved
Waste Management	Community satisfaction survey rating for waste management above 76*	>76	73	(3)	Not Achieved

***Community Satisfaction Ratings** – Index score of 400 respondents' answers in a survey, conducted by independent research consultants JWS Research, asking them to rate Council's performance. The 'Index Score' is a weighted score across five performance ratings being 100 – Very Good, 75 – Good, 50 – Average, 25 – Poor and 0 – Very Poor.

^Risk Insurance Audit Score – Comparative information is no longer available for this Performance Measure.

Number of people living in the Shire who feel a strong sense of being part of their community (Community Indicators Victoria rating) – Community Indicators Victoria have not released this survey information since 2011 and are unable to clarify when it will be next available. Therefore, this measure will not be able to be reported on for the 2013-14 year.

Performance Statement Explanations

The Victorian Government requires all councils to publish performance information that allows for a consistent approach to the reporting of financial performance, operating costs and community satisfaction.

The above Key Strategic Areas and 23 corresponding Performance Measures have been identified and adopted by Council. These Key Strategic Areas were developed as a direct result of the services that have been, and continue to be, demanded of Council from the Golden Plains Shire community and ratepayers. By allocating the Council operations into these nine areas, it allows Council to continue to focus and monitor its resources efficiently.

The following are the key strategies, plans and initiatives Council is undertaking to improve its rating in the Key Strategic Areas that did not achieve the set performance target.

Citizen and Customer Service

- Implement Customer Service Strategy
- Regularly consult with the community
- Implement Communications and Marketing Strategy
- Implement volunteer support programs

Civic Leadership

- Implement Emergency Management and Municipal Fire Management Plans
- Implement Council's obligations within the Bushfires Royal Commission's recommendations
- Implement Risk Management Strategy
- Regularly lobby Members of Parliament and senior bureaucrats on key local and strategic issues
- Secure representation on national, state, regional and local Government bodies
- Participate in relevant regional and state planning
- Facilitate and support community celebrations of important national events and days
- Consider community plan priorities when conducting Council planning activities and community grant allocation
- Advocate for natural gas infrastructure

- Advocate for public health and wellbeing
- Advocate for an emergency services precinct in the Bannockburn township

Economic Development

- Implement Economic Development Strategy
- Assess and plan for impact of growth of neighbouring municipalities on Golden Plains Shire
- Implement Council decisions with respect to the South East Land Use Planning Review
- Advocate for funding for sewerage of small towns
- Investigate opportunities for industrial development in the north west of the Shire
- Advocate for alternative water supplies for economic development
- Advocate for improved potable water supply
- Advocate to State Government on water re-use issues
- Advocate for improved energy infrastructure
- Advocate for improved telecommunications and for improved cooperation with NBN
- Advocate for distributed energy infrastructure to reduce greenhouse emissions

Environment and Land Use Planning

- Implement the Environment Strategy
- Implement the Urban Design Framework plans
- Implement the Residential Land Supply Plan
- Review the Municipal Strategic Statement
- Review Greenhouse Action Plan
- Implement Heritage Study
- Participate in the State Government's Peri Urban group of rural councils
- Participate in the G21 Regional Growth Plan
- Participate in the Central Highlands Regional Growth Plan

Financial Management

- Implement Strategic Resource Plan
- Support peak bodies to advocate for an equitable share of state and federal taxes
- Implement Rating (Revenue) Strategy
- Implement 10 year financial plan
- Acquire property within the municipality for future development
- Advocate and support peak bodies on minimising the effects of the defined benefits

Human Support Services

- Implement Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Implement Early Years Plan
- Implement Early Years Infrastructure Plan
- Implement Access and Inclusion Plan
- Implement Ageing Well in Golden Plains Strategy
- Monitor and advocate for public transport needs in the Shire
- Support co location of schools with other community facilities
- Facilitate the development of a network of community

- health centres
- Facilitate development of child care options
- Facilitate the Golden Plains Health Planning Network
- Advocate for future health and community services needs and facilitation of partnerships
- Advocate for the urgent need for secondary education provision within the Shire
- Advocate for post compulsory education and support service delivery into the Shire

Recreation and Community Development

- Implement Youth Development Strategy
- Implement the recommendations of Open Space Plan, including Paths and Trails Strategy
- Implement Arts and Culture Strategy
- Implement Community Development Strategy
- Implement Town Place Plans
- Implement the Bannockburn Community and Recreation Infrastructure Development Plan
- Implement Recreation Strategy
- Implement Community Grants Program
- Develop Northern Equestrian Centre as a state centre
- Implement the Sustainable Futures for Recreational Facilities study

Roads and Streets Infrastructure

- Implement Road Strategy
- Advocate for the State Government to adopt and implement the Regional Transport Plans
- Advocate for overtaking lanes on the Hamilton Highway and the Midland Highway
- Advocate for overtaking lanes on the Colac Ballarat Road

- Advocate for safe turning lanes on highways and main roads and development of a priority list
- Advocate for duplication of the Midland Highway between Geelong and Bannockburn
- Advocate for duplication of the Glenelg Highway between Ballarat and Smythesdale
- Implement Asset Management Improvement Strategy
- Advocate for continuation of the Regional TIRES (Timber Impacted Roads Evaluation Study) funding program
- Participate in regional roads groups
- Advocate for continuation of the Country Roads and Bridges program and the Roads to Recovery program
- Implement bridge replacement program
- Support the development of the Ballarat Western Link project
- Advocate for increased VicRoads expenditure on maintenance of the main road network
- Advocate for the transport related recommendations within the Transition to Grain report

Waste Management

- Review the Waste Management Strategy
- Implement the Waste Management Strategy
- Advocate for local projects funded by the State Landfill Levy
- Investigate alternate waste disposal systems to divert waste water to re-use schemes
- Monitor Ballarat's Regional Landfill and advocate for compliance with the planning scheme and EPA licences
- Participate in the Regional Waste Management Group

Council Approval of the Performance Statement

In our opinion, the accompanying Performance Statement of the Golden Plains Shire Council in respect of the 2013-14 financial year is presented fairly in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

The statement outlines the performance targets and measures set out in relation to the achievement of the Business Plan in respect of that year described in Council's Corporate Plan and describes the extent to which the Business Plan was met in that year having regard to those targets and measures.

As at the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particular in the Performance Statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

Signed at Bannockburn this 9th day of September 2014.



Councillor Jenny Blake
Mayor



Councillor Des Phelan
Member Audit & Risk Committee



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Councillors, Golden Plains Shire Council

The Performance Statement

The accompanying performance statement for the year ended 30 June 2014 of the Golden Plains Shire Council which comprises the statement, the related notes and the Council approval of the performance statement has been audited.

The Councillors' Responsibility for the Performance Statement

The Councillors of the Golden Plains Shire Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Local Government Act 1989*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the performance statement. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the performance statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the overall presentation of the performance statement.

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

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)


Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the performance statement of the Golden Plains Shire Council in respect of the 30 June 2014 financial year presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Performance Statement

This auditor's report relates to the performance statement of the Golden Plains Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 included both in the Golden Plains Shire Council's annual report and on the website. The Councillors of the Golden Plains Shire Council are responsible for the integrity of the Golden Plains Shire Council's website. I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Golden Plains Shire Council's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from this statement. If users of the performance statement are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited performance statement to confirm the information contained in the website version of the performance statement.

MELBOURNE
11 September 2014


R John Doyle
Auditor-General



Pharmacy at The Well in Smythesdale



The Well at Smythesdale



Inside Bannockburn Cultural Centre



The Bannockburn Cultural Centre



Bannockburn Recreation Precinct, indoor stadium



Bannockburn Recreation Centre





Bannockburn Family Services Centre



Nursery morning tea



Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre Regional Facility Upgrade



Lethbridge Airport





Bannockburn Customer Service Centre

2 Pope Street, Bannockburn

P: (03) 5220 7111 F: (03) 5220 7100

Linton Customer Service Centre

68 Sussex Street, Linton

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