



# Minutes

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Council Meeting held at 12.30 PM on Monday 5 June 2023 in the Council Chamber, Pleasant Creek Historic Precinct, Stawell.

## **Present**

Cr Kevin Erwin (Mayor)  
Cr Lauren Dempsey  
Cr Murray Emerson  
Cr Trevor Gready  
Cr Rob Haswell  
Cr Karen Hyslop  
Cr Eddy Ostarcevic PhD

Mr Brent McAllister, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Vaughan Williams, Director Corporate and Community Services  
Mr Trenton Fithall, Director Infrastructure and Amenity

## **Affirmation**

We recognise the traditional owners of the land.  
We are inspired by the early pioneers and by those who gave their lives for our country.  
We now ask God's blessing on our deliberations  
and on our commitment to build a better lifestyle and environment.

Confirmed at the meeting of Council on Monday 26 June 2023.

## Table of Contents

1. Apologies .....	3
2. Confirmation of Minutes .....	3
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes .....	3
4. Presentations/Awards .....	3
5. Presentation of Petitions and Joint Letters.....	3
6. Disclosure of a Conflict of Interest at a Council Meeting.....	4
7. Informal Meetings of Councillors .....	5
8. Items Brought Forward.....	6
9. Consideration of Reports of Officers .....	7
9.1. Enhance Lifestyles and Community .....	7
9.2. Boost Economic Growth.....	8
9.3. Providing Sustainable Infrastructure .....	9
9.3.1. Bunbury Street, Glenorchy Speed Limit Petition .....	9
9.4. Improve Organisational Effectiveness.....	12
9.4.1. Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report.....	12
9.4.2. Quarterly Finance Report .....	16
10. Notices of Motion or Rescission .....	33
11. Reports from Councillors/Committees .....	33
12. Urgent Business.....	40
13. Public Question Time .....	40
14. Closure of Meeting Pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 .....	41
14.1. C22 2012/13 - Provision of Waste Management and Recycling Services .....	41
15. Close .....	41

**1. Apologies**

Nil

**2. Confirmation of Minutes**

Council Meeting held on Monday, 1 May 2023

Unscheduled Council Meeting held on Monday 22, May 2023

**RESOLUTION**

**That the minutes as listed, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.**

**Moved: Cr Rob Haswell**  
**Seconded: Cr Karen Hyslop**

**Carried**

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

**4. Presentations/Awards**

Nil

**5. Presentation of Petitions and Joint Letters**

Nil

## **6. Disclosure of a Conflict of Interest at a Council Meeting**

**A Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at a Council meeting at which he or she-**

- (i) is present must disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present at the Council meeting immediately before the matter is considered; or**
- (ii) intends to be present must disclose that conflict of interest by providing to the Chief Executive Officer before the Council meeting commences a written notice-**

- advising of the conflict of interest;**
- explaining the nature of the conflict of interest; and**
- detailing, if the nature of the conflict of interest involves a Councillor's relationship with or a gift from another person, the-**
  - name of the other person**
  - nature of the relationship with that other person or the date on receipt, value and type of gift received from the other person; and**
  - nature of that other person's interest in the matter;**

**and then immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting announcing to those present that he or she has a conflict of interest and that a written notice has been given to the Chief Executive Officer.**

**The Councillor must, in either event, exclude themselves from the decision-making process, including any discussion or vote on the matter and any action in relation to the matter and leave the Council meeting immediately after giving the explanation or making the announcement (as the case may be) and not return to the meeting until after the matter has been disposed of.**

### **Members of Staff**

**A member of Council staff must disclose any conflict of interest in a matter in respect of which they are preparing or contributing to the preparation of a report for a Council meeting. They must immediately upon becoming aware of the conflict of interest, provide a written notice to the Chief Executive Officer disclosing the conflict of interest and explaining its nature.**

Nil

## 7. Informal Meetings of Councillors

[Brent McAlister, Chief Executive Officer]

Council's Governance Rules require that if there is a meeting of Councillors that-

- is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- is not a Council meeting, delegated committee meeting or community asset committee meeting

the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are:

- tabled at the next convenient Council meeting; and
- recorded in the minutes of that Council meeting.

The records for the period since the last Council Meeting are listed below.

## Northern Grampians Shire Council 20230605 Council Meeting

Date	Meeting Description	Matters Considered At The Informal Meeting:	Conflict Of Interest Disclosures		
15/05/2023	Advisory Committee Stawell Recreation Advisory Group Meeting	1.1 Project Update: North Park Netball Courts Stawell Park Skate Park North Park Football Pitch Lighting Project Central Park Female Friendly Changerooms (Main Clubroom Pavilion / Netball Court) Netball Court Sport and Active Recreation Strategy / Open Space Strategy and Active Transport North Park Old Light Poles Navarre/Great Western Pavilion Upgrade 1.2 Agreements and User Fees 1.3 Participation Plans 1.4 Other Business	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
22/05/2023	Councillor Briefing	8.1 10.10am Open Space and Active Transport Strategy and Sport and Active Recreation Strategy Update 8.2 10.30am Presentation - Victoria Police 8.3 Preparation of Budget 2023-24 8.4 Review of Council Plan 2021-25 8.5 Bunbury Street, Glenorchy Speed Limit Petition 9.1 Council Agenda Review	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
22/05/2023	Councillor Briefing Councillor and CEO Meeting	1. MAV State Council 2. CEO's visit of Halls Gap Zoo 3. Great Western Development Consultation Meeting 4. Mayor's diary	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
15/05/2023	Councillor Briefing	9.1 10.30am Presentation - Telstra 9.2 St Arnaud Pre-Prep Modular Building Location 9.3 St Arnaud and Stawell Tourism Plan Implementation: Brand Story - Decision 9.4 Quarterly Finance Report and Rates Modelling Budget 2023-24 9.5 Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report 10.1 C22 2012/13 - Provision of Waste Management and Recycling Services 10.2 C13 2022/23 - Central Park Female Friendly Change Rooms 10.3 Q13 2022/23 - Congongella Creek Bridge Crosshead Strengthening	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
15/05/2023	Councillor Briefing Councillor and CEO Meeting	1. Stawell Bendigo Bank Agency Closure 2. Including staff in the Councillors/Community Morning Tea 3. Inclusion of Councillors in Community Engagement Session for Proposed Great Western Hotel/Motel 4. Council's MAV State Council Meeting Late Motion 5. Briefing on CEOs/Mayors Meeting Between Council and Ararat Rural City Council 6. Briefing on CEO/Chair of Grampians Health and Council CEO/Mayor Meeting 7. Update on Stawell Police Station Opening Hours.	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
08/05/2023	Councillor Briefing	9.1 10.30am Presentation - Donald Mineral Sands 9.2 Halls Gap Roadside Responsibilities 9.3 Northern Grampians Cemetery Management 9.4 St Arnaud Framework Plan	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
08/05/2023	Councillor Briefing Councillor and CEO Meeting	1. Briefing on Frew Foods Housing Options Findings 2. Advice about an Online Meeting with the Minister of Health's Chief of Staff 3. Briefing on Migrant Support Initiatives and Advocacy 4. Review of Council's Local Content Policy	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
01/05/2023	Councillor Briefing	7.1 Flood Recovery Update 7.2 Bunbury Street, Glenorchy Speed Limit Petition 8.1 Council Agenda Review	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Nil	Nil	Nil
24/04/2023	Councillor Briefing Councillor and CEO Meeting	1. Council's approach to the proposed VNI West Transmission Line 2. Photos in Council Chamber and Bennett Room	<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Left Meeting?</b>
			Cr Karen Hylsop	1.	No

## RESOLUTION

**That the report on Informal Meetings of Councillors be approved.**

**Moved: Cr Eddy Ostarcevic**

**Seconded: Cr Murray Emerson**

**Carried**

## 8. Items Brought Forward

Nil

**9. Consideration of Reports of Officers**

**9.1. Enhance Lifestyles and Community**

Nil

## 9.2. Boost Economic Growth

Nil



### 9.3. Providing Sustainable Infrastructure

#### 9.3.1. Bunbury Street, Glenorchy Speed Limit Petition

**Author/Position:** Jeevan Pinto, Manager Infrastructure

#### **Purpose**

To determine the action in response to the petition from residents of Glenorchy to change the speed limit on Bunbury Street from 60kph to 50kph.

#### **Summary**

At its meeting on 1 May 2023, Council received a petition asking for the speed limit to be changed on Bunbury Street, Glenorchy from 60kph to 50kph. Council agreed for the petition to lay on the table until the next Council meeting to allow officers time to investigate the request. The petition identified safety concerns for all age groups due to the amount of traffic and width of the road for large vehicles that are diverted through the town.

#### **Recommendation**

##### **That Council**

- a. supports the community's request for the reduction of the speed limit on Bunbury Street, Glenorchy from 60kph to 50kph
- b. supports the installation of speed limit signs on Arapiles Street and Forest Street at the current speed limit, and
- c. progresses an application for speed limit reduction to the Department of Transport and Planning.

### **RESOLUTION**

##### **That Council**

- a. supports the community's request for the reduction of the speed limit on Bunbury Street, Glenorchy from 60kph to 50kph
- b. supports the installation of speed limit signs on Arapiles Street and Forest Street at the current speed limit, and
- c. progresses an application for speed limit reduction to the Department of Transport and Planning.

**Moved:** Cr Eddy Ostarcevic

**Seconded:** Cr Lauren Dempsey

**Carried**

## Background/Rationale

Council received a petition on 29 March from 24 members of the Glenorchy community, asking that Council considers reducing the speed limit on Bunbury Street, Glenorchy from 60kph to 50kph. The community has also requested the installation of speed signs on Forest Street and Arapiles Street.

The community's reasons for the speed reduction request for Bunbury Street are:

- a. Demographics indicate a mix of kids and elderly members who use Bunbury Street to walk to school buses, take dogs for a walk and socialise with neighbours. The movement of heavy vehicles at higher speeds increases the risk to the community members.
- b. Bunbury Street experiences increased vehicle traffic during holiday time and highway traffic diversion.
- c. Roads are not wide enough to allow vehicles to pass each other at higher speeds without veering off the road increasing the risk of an accident.
- d. The location of existing speed signs does not provide early warning to incoming traffic to reduce speed, increasing the chance of an accident.

The residents have highlighted the reduction of speed by 10 kph, which will result in fostering a safer community.

Council officers have previously recorded the traffic count at 199 veh/day and 13% of that being heavy vehicles on Bunbury Street. It is also to be noted that there is no recorded history of serious or fatal crashes recorded on Bunbury Street in the past five years.

Bunbury Street is a Rural Access Residential Road and Northern Grampians Shire Council is responsible for the road management. It has a surface width of 6.4m, pavement width of 9m and a formation width of 12m.

In the *Road Safety (Traffic Management) Regulation 2019* Schedule 1, a speed limit sign is considered as a Major Traffic Control Device. Legislation relating to the authority to determine speed limits is set out in the *Road Management Act 2004* (RMA) and the *Local Government Act 1989* (LGA). Regulations relating to how and where speed limits apply and the rules to be observed by road users are specified in *Road Safety Road Rules 2017* (RSRR).

The LGA also sets out powers for councils to determine speed limits on a road. However, the LGA highlights that this power is conditional on obtaining the relevant authorisation from the Department of Transport and Planning in accordance with any regulation made under the RSA (e.g., the RS(TM)Regs).

Installation, operation, and management of speed limit signs are covered by the *Road Safety (Traffic Management) Regulations 2019* (the RS(TM)Regs). Both RSRR and RS(TM)Regs are statutory rules established under the *Road Safety Act 1986* (RSA).

The criteria required to amend the existing speed limit are:

- Reason for speed zone review and engagement to date
- Data and history (crash history, traffic surveys, freight volume etc.)
- Speed review considerations
- Road safety partners
- Planned engagement and next steps

As part of the evaluation of the speed limit reduction petition, a preliminary engineering assessment was carried out to determine if Bunbury Street qualifies for a speed limit reduction under the Traffic Engineering Manual (Vol. 3 – Additional Network Standards & Guidelines) Part 2.11 Speed Zoning Technical Guidelines.

A determination of notional speed limit assessment for “*speed limits for roads in built-up areas*” was carried out which indicated that if the street is a local street, the speed limit may be set at 50km/h. pursuant to further investigation under “*speed limits for school zones and activity centres*”. The street can be further classified as a rural or outer metropolitan town center with low levels of pedestrian activity to support the reduction in speed limit to 50 km/h. Following the decision, Council will carry out further community and stakeholder engagement and prepare an application of Speed Limit Reduction and submit to Department of Transport and Planning for approval.

## **Legislation, Council Plan, Strategy and Policy Implications**

*Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)*

*Road Management Act 2004 (RMA 2004)*

*Road Safety Act 1986 (RSA 1986)*

Road Safety Road Rules 2017 (RSRR 2017)

Council Plan 2021-25 – Foster a safe community

## **Options**

### **Option 1**

Council

- supports the community's request for reduction of speed limit on Bunbury Street, Glenorchy from 60kph to 50 kph
- supports the installation of speed limit signs on Arapiles Street and Forest Street at the current speed limit, and
- progresses an application for speed limit reduction to the Department of Transport and Planning Victoria. **[recommended]**

### **Option 2**

Council does not support the petition. **[not recommended]**

## **Implications**

The subject matter has not raised any sustainability issues (economic, social, environmental or climate change) or heritage/cultural, amenity, human rights/gender equality, privacy, risk management, budgetary and asset management implications.

## **Procurement**

Not applicable.

## **Community Engagement**

A petition was sent to Council from residents of Glenorchy.

## **Innovation and Continuous Improvement**

The works would fall under continuous improvements to provide an enhanced healthy lifestyle, a safer community, and to love where we live.

## **Collaboration**

Not applicable.

## **Officer's Declaration of Interest**

All officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Jeevan Pinto, Manager Infrastructure

In providing this advice as the author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

## **Attachments**

Nil

## 9.4. Improve Organisational Effectiveness

### 9.4.1. Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report

**Author/Position:** **Graham Haylock, Manager Financial Services**

#### **Purpose**

To table the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report as per the requirement of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Summary**

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Audit and Risk Committee must prepare a biannual report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee.

A copy of this report is provided to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.

The biannual report has been prepared by the Audit and Risk Committee Chair, Mr Peter Knights.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council receives and notes the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report for the six months to 31 December 2022.**

#### **RESOLUTION**

**That Council receives and notes the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report for the six months to 31 December 2022, noting that Mr Knights will amend the date on the report to read 6 March 2023.**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Hyslop

**Seconded:** Cr Rob Haswell

**Carried**

### **Background/Rationale**

The Audit and Risk Committee is an independent advisory committee to Council, established to assist in the effective conduct of council's responsibilities for good governance, the management of risk, financial reporting and maintenance of reliable systems and internal controls in order to facilitate the achievement of its organisational objectives in an efficient, effective and ethical manner.

Section 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires the Audit and Risk Committee to prepare a biannual report that describes the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee and provide a copy of the report to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.

### **Legislation, Council Plan, Strategy and Policy Implications**

Section 53 and 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020*

Council Plan 2021-25 – Improve Organisational Effectiveness

### **Options**

#### **Option 1**

That Council receives and notes the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report for the six months to 31 December 2022. **[recommended]**

#### **Option 2**

That Council does not receive and note the Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report for the six months to 31 December 2022. **[not recommended]**

### **Implications**

The subject matter has not raised any sustainability issues (economic, social, environmental or climate change) or heritage/cultural, amenity, human rights/gender equality, privacy, risk management, budgetary and asset management implications.

### **Procurement**

There are no procurement implications.

### **Community Engagement**

Not applicable.

### **Innovation and Continuous Improvement**

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter provides a comprehensive description of the functions of the Audit and Risk Committee.

### **Collaboration**

Not applicable.

### **Officer's Declaration of Interest**

All officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Graham Haylock, Manager Financial Services

In providing this advice as the author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

### **Attachments**

1. NGSC Audit and Risk Committee Report December 22 **[9.4.1.1 - 2 pages]**

## Northern Grampians Shire Council

# AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## for the 6 months to 31 December 2022

### 1. Attendance and Meetings

The Northern Grampians Shire Council Audit Committee has met twice since last report. The composition of the Committee has remained stable and external members attended either in person or online except for one apology in September. Tony Roberts was re-appointed for a further 3 year term.

### 2. Activity

The September meeting received an important update on the work being completed by Council officers, Stretch Smith and Mary Scully on the Annual Information Security Performance Indicators which, although represent a further compliance and regulatory cost and obligation, if given adequate resources, should provide the basis for Council to manage, store and access safely and protect it's data and systems. A further update is due for the March 23 meeting as we contemplate the significant challenge presented in achieving cyber safety.

The VAGO appointed external auditors RSD Chartered Accountants had completed the full year Audit Report and Final Management letter subject to the finalisation of the audit with respect to infrastructure assets and condition report being investigated with the engineers prior to sign off. As such the accounts reviewed and with overview from Phil & Graeme and subsequently approved subject to the finalisation of that one item, to be submitted to VAGO. It was agreed to then review the final Management letter after it was generated and circulated, at our December meeting. This was done and ratified for recommendation to Council with no further action.

Mr Phil Delahunty has advised he is to retire and be replaced by another partner of the firm Mr Mahesh Silva. We acknowledge his professional approach and positive influence and wish him well.

We have received and reviewed interim Financial Statements at our December meeting. Graham has presented on update on leave balances and the actions taken to reduce excessive balances, as well as an expanded detail of Rates Debtor position comparative to prior periods, amongst other matters queried by the Committee. A detailed update was provided also of the draft financial reserves policy which includes Defined Benefits reserve balance review trigger. This was in turn recommended to Council for adoption which will see the

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removal of the specific Long Service Leave reserve, having now full cover under booked provisions.

Thank you to the Governance, Compliance and Finance team and to my fellow members of the committee for their contribution.

Peter Knights FCPA  
Chair  
Northern Grampians Shire Council Audit Committee

***March 6<sup>th</sup> 2023***

## 9.4.2. Quarterly Finance Report

**Author/Position:** **Graham Haylock, Manager Financial Services**

### **Purpose**

To advise Council of the Financial Report for the third quarter ended 31 March 2023.

### **Summary**

The Financial Report for the period ending 31 March 2023 shows the forecasted end of year result for the current financial year based on actual results to 31 March 2023.

It is projected that Council will end the year with \$13.5 million in cash. It should be noted that the report only reflects spending to 31 March 2023.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council notes the Financial Report for the third quarter ended 31 March 2023.**

### **RESOLUTION**

**That Council notes the Financial Report for the third quarter ended 31 March 2023.**

**Moved:** **Cr Eddy Ostarcevic**

**Seconded:** **Cr Trevor Gready**

**Carried**



## **Background/Rationale**

As soon as practicable after the end of each quarter of the financial year, the Chief Executive Officer is required to provide Council with a financial report, comparing the actual and budgeted results to date and an explanation of any material variations.

This report is the third financial report for the 2022-23 financial year that will assess Council's performance against the adopted budget.

The report shows the forecast end-of-year result for the current financial year based on actual results to 31 March 2023 together with percentage variations to the adopted budget.

## **Legislation, Council Plan, Strategy and Policy Implications**

*Local Government Act 2020*

Council Plan 2021-25 – Improve Organisational Effectiveness

## **Options**

### **Option 1**

That Council notes the Financial Report for the third quarter ended 31 March 2023 without amendments. **[recommended]**

### **Option 2**

That Council notes the Financial Report for the third quarter ended 31 March 2023 with amendments. **[not recommended]**

## **Implications**

The subject matter has not raised any sustainability issues (economic, social, environmental or climate change) or heritage/cultural, amenity, human rights/gender equality, privacy, risk management, budgetary and asset management implications.

## **Procurement**

The report does not raise any procurement agreement matters.

## **Community Engagement**

No community engagement was required.

## **Innovation and Continuous Improvement**

This report incorporates the impact of new accounting standards and better practice reporting.

## **Collaboration**

No collaboration was required in completing this report.

## **Officer's Declaration of Interest**

All officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Graham Haylock, Manager Financial Services

In providing this advice as the author, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

## **Attachments**

1. Quarterly Finance Report - March 2023 **[9.4.2.1 - 15 pages]**

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# Financial Report

31 MARCH, 2023



# Contents

<b>Executive Summary.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Cash Flow Statement.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Operating Statement.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Operating Progress Graphs.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Capital and Project Summary.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Capital and Project Expenditure Progress Graph.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Summary of Major Variations.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Capital and Project Expenditure Summary.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Capital and Project Revenue Summary.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Cash and Investments.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Debtors Report.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Loan Report.....</b>	<b>15</b>

## Executive Summary as at 31 March, 2023

It should be noted that this report only reflects spending to 31 March, 2023.

The actual variation shows a favourable movement of \$-5.3M in expected closing cash held at the end of the financial year compared to budget.

Council ended the period with \$21.6M cash.

## Cash Flow Statement as at 31 March, 2023

	Actuals to March, 2023 \$'000	Total Forecast \$'000	Budget 2022-23 \$'000	Variations to Budget Fav (Unfav) \$'000
<b>Operating Activities</b>				
<b>Revenue</b>				
Rates & Charges	(15,586)	(19,149)	(19,367)	(218)
Operating Grants	(6,471)	(13,710)	(10,753)	2,957
Statutory Fees & Fines	(286)	(368)	(356)	12
User Fees	(1,618)	(2,490)	(2,023)	467
Contributions	(107)	(107)	(49)	58
Other Revenue	(1,578)	(749)	(749)	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>(25,646)</b>	<b>(36,573)</b>	<b>(33,297)</b>	<b>3,276</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee Costs	14,407	18,528	18,427	(101)
Materials & Services	12,752	13,068	10,843	(2,225)
Borrowing Costs	23	70	73	3
Other Expenses	1,036	1,165	941	(224)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>28,218</b>	<b>32,831</b>	<b>30,284</b>	<b>(2,547)</b>
	<b>Net Operating</b>	<b>2,572</b>	<b>(3,589)</b>	<b>(3,013)</b>
				<b>576</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>				
Capital Expenditure	9,567	23,632	11,644	(11,988)
Capital Grants	(7,738)	(7,738)	(6,210)	1,528
Capital Income	(330)	(330)	(90)	240
Capital Contributions	(377)	(377)	(10)	367
Proceeds from investment in associates	-	-	-	-
Repayment of Loans & Advances	-	-	(5)	(5)
<b>Net Investing Activities</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>15,186</b>	<b>5,329</b>	<b>(9,857)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>				
New Loans	-	-	-	-
Principal Repayments	72	97	97	(0)
Interest Paid - Lease Liability	-	3	-	(3)
Repayment of Lease Liability	-	122	-	(122)
Net Trust Movement	(0)	(0)	-	0
<b>Net Financing Activities</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>(125)</b>
<b>Net Movements for Year</b>	<b>3,766</b>	<b>11,820</b>	<b>2,413</b>	<b>(9,407)</b>
Opening Cash	25,347	25,347	21,277	4,070
<b>Closing Cash</b>	<b>21,581</b>	<b>13,527</b>	<b>18,864</b>	<b>(5,337)</b>

## Operating Statement as at 31 March, 2023

75% through the year

	YTD Committed Actuals \$000's	Forecast \$000's	Adopted Budget \$000's	% Actuals to Forecast %
<b>Revenue</b>				
<b>Rates &amp; Charges</b>				
Residential	(8,548)	(8,548)	(8,494)	100%
Farm/Rural	(5,495)	(5,495)	(5,488)	100%
Commercial	(793)	(793)	(766)	100%
Industrial	(428)	(428)	(402)	100%
Cultural & Recreational	(12)	(12)	(12)	100%
Municipal Charge	(1,008)	(1,008)	(1,003)	100%
Garbage Charge	(2,876)	(2,876)	(2,848)	100%
Rates in Lieu	(357)	(357)	(355)	100%
<b>Rates &amp; Charges</b>	<b>(19,518)</b>	<b>(19,518)</b>	<b>(19,367)</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Grants Capital</b>				
Capital Grants	(7,738)	(7,738)	(6,985)	100%
<b>Grants Capital</b>	<b>(7,738)</b>	<b>(7,738)</b>	<b>(6,985)</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Grants Operating</b>				
Aged & Disability Services Grants	(551)	(809)	(809)	68%
Child Care Grants	(897)	(897)	(791)	100%
Environmental Grants	(94)	(94)	(75)	100%
Untied Grants	(1,748)	(8,718)	(8,718)	20%
Operating Grants	(3,069)	(3,069)	(237)	100%
Public Safety Grants	(113)	(123)	(123)	92%
<b>Grants Operating</b>	<b>(6,471)</b>	<b>(13,710)</b>	<b>(10,752)</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>User Fees</b>				
Aged and Disability Service Fees	(487)	(487)	(399)	100%
Building Fees	(1)	(1)	0	100%
Child Care Fees	(178)	(336)	(336)	53%
Leisure Fees	(487)	(716)	(716)	68%
Local Law Fees	(72)	(120)	(120)	60%
Other Fees	(95)	(160)	(160)	59%
Public Health Fees	(107)	(107)	(87)	100%
Rental Income	(115)	(153)	(153)	75%
Private Works Infrastructure	(30)	(30)	(21)	100%
Waste Management Fees	(45)	(45)	(22)	100%
<b>User Fees</b>	<b>(1,618)</b>	<b>(2,155)</b>	<b>(2,013)</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>Statutory Fees and Fines</b>				
Building Fees	(122)	(182)	(182)	67%
Local Law Fees	(7)	(7)	(4)	100%
Other Fees	(22)	(30)	(30)	74%
Planning Fees	(135)	(149)	(149)	91%
<b>Statutory Fees and Fines</b>	<b>(286)</b>	<b>(368)</b>	<b>(365)</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Contributions</b>				
Contributions to Capital	(377)	(377)	(85)	100%
Contributions Other	(107)	(107)	(49)	100%
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>(483)</b>	<b>(483)</b>	<b>(134)</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>				
Interest Income	(147)	(151)	(151)	97%
Other Revenue	(558)	(599)	(599)	93%
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>(705)</b>	<b>(749)</b>	<b>(749)</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>(36,818)</b>	<b>(44,721)</b>	<b>(40,367)</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>Revenue (excl Rates &amp; Charges)</b>	<b>(17,300)</b>	<b>(25,203)</b>	<b>(21,000)</b>	<b>69%</b>

## Operating Statement as at 31 March, 2023

75% through the year

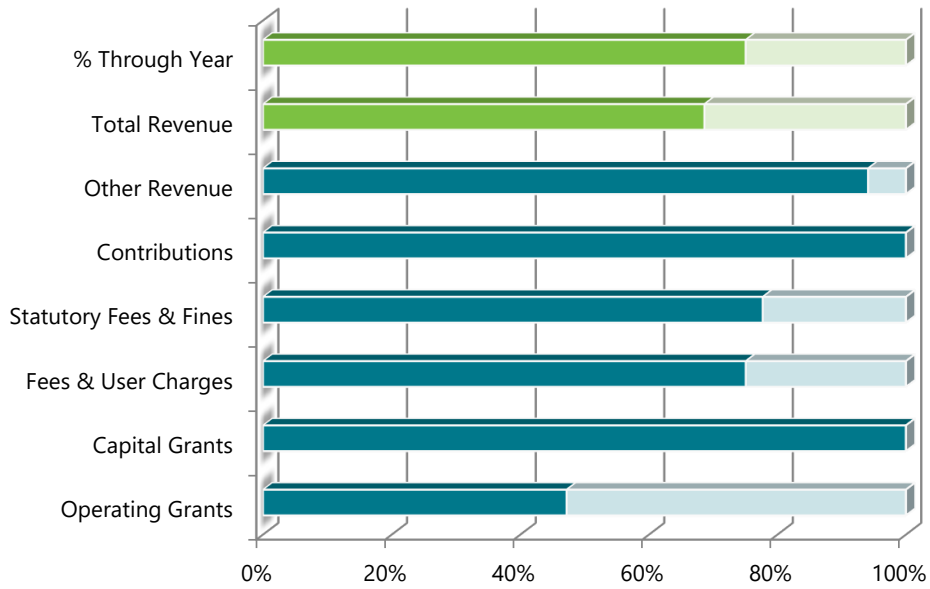
	YTD Committed Actuals \$000's	Forecast \$000's	Adopted Budget \$000's	% Actuals to Forecast %
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Employee Benefits</b>				
Salary & Wages	12,572	15,866	15,866	79%
Superannuation	1,267	1,781	1,781	71%
LSL Provision Movement	0	463	463	0%
Fringe Benefit Tax	16	33	33	49%
WorkCover	346	359	359	96%
Training	0	0	0	0%
<b>Employee Benefits</b>	<b>14,200</b>	<b>18,502</b>	<b>18,502</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>Materials &amp; Services</b>				
Advertising	104	119	119	87%
Audit Fees	1	55	55	1%
Bank Fees	42	58	58	72%
Catering	11	28	28	39%
Communications	68	133	133	51%
Professional Advice	345	474	474	73%
Contractors	2,365	3,304	3,304	72%
Contributions - Reciprocal	569	569	365	100%
Cost of Goods Sold	149	175	175	86%
Equipment Mtc & Repair	561	680	680	83%
Fuel	566	566	509	100%
Insurance	595	715	715	83%
Leases	290	387	387	75%
Legal Expenses	34	102	102	33%
Memberships & Subscriptions	169	266	266	63%
Minor Equipment	149	149	125	100%
Office Supplies	11	11	9	100%
Other Materials and Services	1,304	1,665	1,665	78%
Postage & Freight	22	36	36	63%
Printing	20	58	58	35%
Recruitment & Retention Expenses	12	21	21	55%
Security Expenses	34	66	66	51%
Software Costs	906	1,765	1,765	51%
Uniforms & Protective Clothing	152	152	88	100%
Utilities	275	438	438	63%
Apprentice Reimbursements	284	483	483	59%
<b>Materials &amp; Services</b>	<b>9,037</b>	<b>12,475</b>	<b>12,124</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
Depreciation	1	14,139	14,139	0%
<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14,139</b>	<b>14,139</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Amortisation</b>				
Amortisation	0	86	86	0%
<b>Amortisation</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Finance Costs</b>				
Borrowing Costs	23	70	70	33%
Lease Costs	0	3	3	0%
<b>Finance Costs</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>Other Expenses</b>				
Contributions - Non Reciprocal	655	655	388	100%
Councillor Allowances	168	233	233	72%
Other Expenses	213	277	277	77%
<b>Other Expenses</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>Bad &amp; Doubtful Debts</b>				
Other Debtors	0	0	0	100%
<b>Bad &amp; Doubtful Debts</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>24,297</b>	<b>46,440</b>	<b>45,822</b>	<b>52%</b>

## Operating Statement as at 31 March, 2023

75% through the year

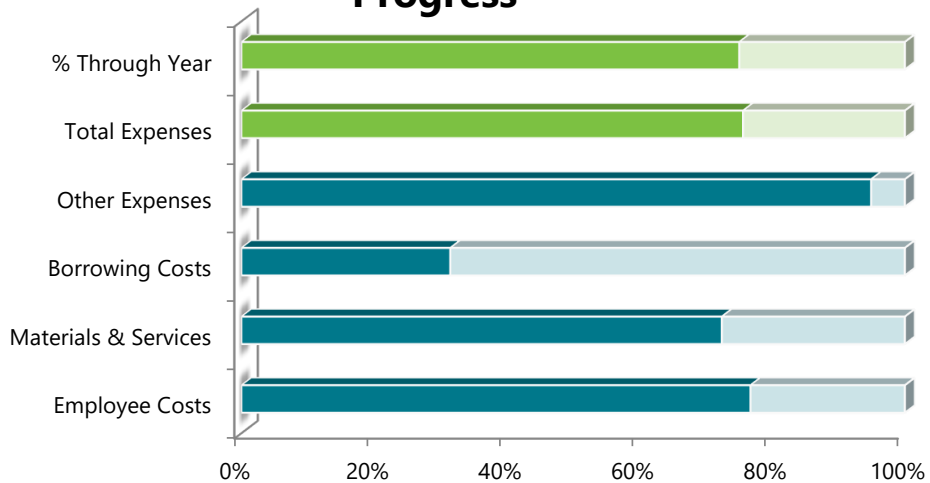
	YTD Committed Actuals \$000's	Forecast \$000's	Adopted Budget \$000's	% Actuals to Forecast %
<b>Expenses (excl Depreciation)</b>	<b>24,296</b>	<b>32,215</b>	<b>31,597</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>Other Income Statement Items</b>				
Proceeds of Asset Sales	(330)	(90)	(90)	100%
Written Down Value of Assets Sold	70	-	-	100%
Net (Increment) Revalued Assets	-	-	-	0%
<b>Other Income Statement Items</b>	<b>(261)</b>	<b>(90)</b>	<b>(90)</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Operating Statement</b>	<b>(12,782)</b>	<b>1,629</b>	<b>5,365</b>	<b>-785%</b>

## Ordinary Operating Revenue Progress



*This graph excludes rates & charges , with the details for this area shown in the Debtors Report.*

## Ordinary Operating Expenditure Progress

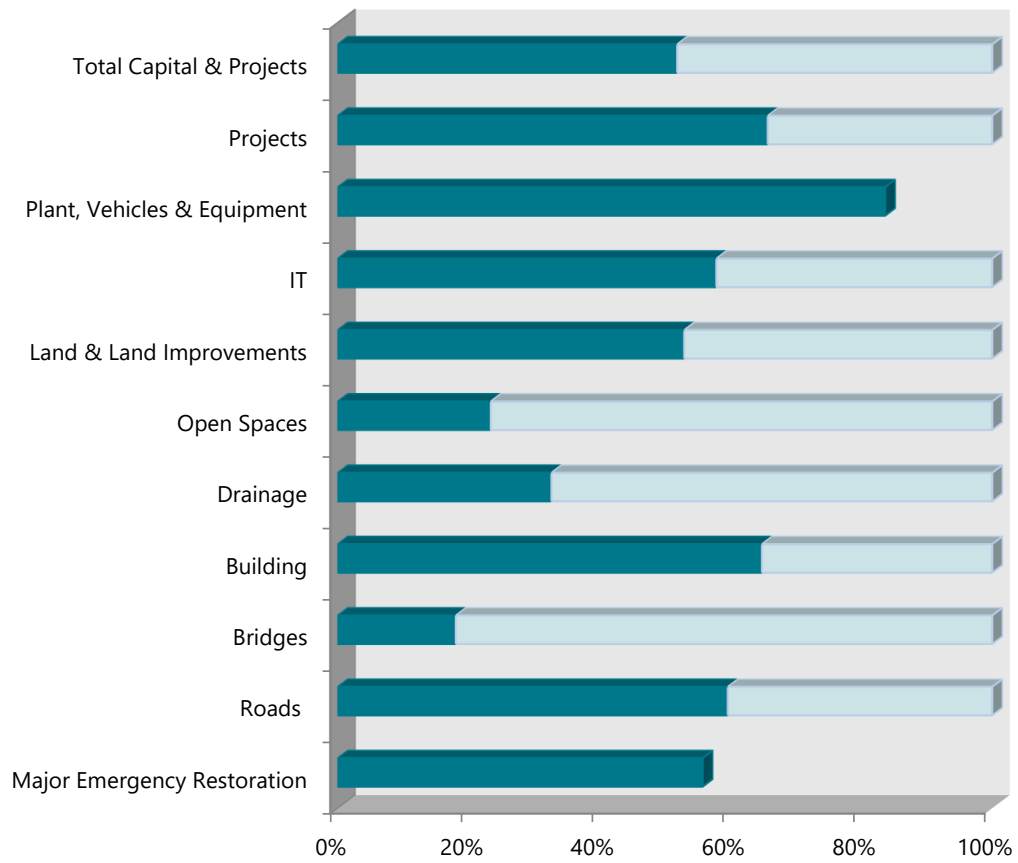




## Capital & Project Expenditure Summary

Programs	Actuals \$000's	Forecast \$000's	% Complete	Remaning
Major Emergency Restoration	749	153	489%	-389%
Roads	3,853	6,469	60%	40%
Bridges	383	2,123	18%	82%
Building	1,717	2,650	65%	35%
Drainage	35	107	33%	67%
Open Spaces	1,436	6,144	23%	77%
Land & Land Improvements	306	579	53%	47%
IT	40	69	58%	42%
Plant, Vehicles & Equipment	1,368	1,100	124%	-24%
Projects	781	1,189	66%	34%
<b>Total Capital &amp; Projects</b>	<b>10,666</b>	<b>20,582</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>

## Capital & Project Expenditure Progress



## Summary of Major Variations for March 2023

		Forecast Variation Fav/(Unfav)
<b>Favourable movements</b>		
Capital Contribution	Capital Contribution Banyena/Pimpinio Road Contribution from Yarriambiack Shire Council	150,000
Capital Contribution	Contributions from Harness Racing Victoria \$100k and AFL \$100k for the Lord Nelson Park Precinct.	200,000
Capital Grants	Grant for Navarre Recreation Reserve	480,000
Operating Grants	DET Kindergarten Fee	140,000
Operating Grants	RCTP ERP Project	750,000
Operating Grants	RCTP EDRMS Project	170,000
Operating Grants	DJPR - Council Flood Support funding	500,000
Operating Grants	Recognised Grant for Stawell Gift received in prior years	660,000
<b>Unfavourable movements</b>		
Contribution Reciprocal	Stawell Easter Festival contribution (External grant transfer)	- 330,000
Contribution Non Reciprocal	RCTP ERP Project Contribution (External grant transfer)	- 250,000
		2,470,000

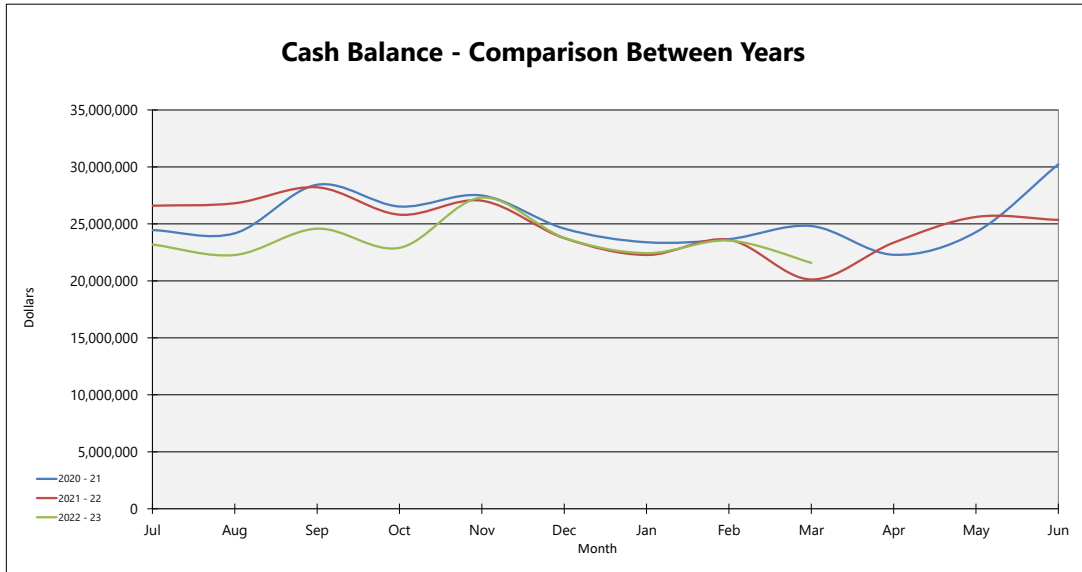
## Capital & Project Expenditure Summary as at 31 March, 2023

Capital and Projects	Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variation
<b>02 - Capital</b>			
1112 - B - Roads - Aerodrome Program	375,734	300,000	75,734
1101 - B - Roads - Final Seal Program	325,289	328,000	(2,711)
1110 - B - Roads - Footpaths Program	134,200	228,000	(93,800)
1100 - B - Roads - Kerb & Channel Program	525,000	503,000	22,000
1102 - B - Roads - Major Rural Roads Program	796,984	406,984	390,000
1104 - B - Roads - Resealing Program	1,261,751	1,205,000	56,751
1105 - B - Roads - Resheeting Program	1,047,800	948,000	99,800
1106 - B - Roads - Rural & Residential Program	345,000	245,000	100,000
1111 - B - Roads - Streetscapes	228,304	0	228,304
1107 - B - Roads - Town Street Sealing Program	21,646	84,000	(62,354)
1108 - B - Roads - Transport Dev Program	920,810	416,000	504,810
1109 - B - Roads - Urban Rd Improvement Program	82,000	84,000	(2,000)
1103 - B - Roads - Rehabilitation Program	404,000	254,000	150,000
1113 - C - Bridge & Major Culverts Program	2,122,713	1,066,000	1,056,713
1114 - C - Floodway Program	0	0	0
1115 - D - Building Program	2,650,082	680,000	1,970,082
1116 - E - Drainage Program	106,980	78,000	28,980
1122 - F - Open Spaces Program	6,144,159	3,960,000	2,184,159
1120 - G - Land & Land Improvement Program	578,845	0	578,845
1119 - H - IT Program	68,500	68,500	0
1118 - H - Plant, Vehicles & Equipment Program	1,099,638	790,000	309,638
1121 - J - Projects	1,189,249	0	1,189,249
<b>Total 02 - Capital</b>	<b>20,428,683</b>	<b>11,644,484</b>	<b>8,784,199</b>
<b>04 - Emergency Capital</b>			
0257 - 11/19 Bushfire Recovery	153,020	0	153,020
<b>Total 04 - Emergency Capital</b>	<b>153,020</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>153,020</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>20,581,703</b>	<b>11,644,484</b>	<b>8,937,219</b>

## Capital & Project Revenue Summary as at 31 March, 2023

Capital and Projects	Forecast	Adopted Budget	Variation
<b>02 - Capital</b>			
1112 - B - Roads - Aerodrome Program	(300,000)	(300,000)	0
1101 - B - Roads - Final Seal Program	(219,000)	(157,000)	62,000
1110 - B - Roads - Footpaths Program	0	0	0
1100 - B - Roads - Kerb & Channel Program	0	(270,000)	
1102 - B - Roads - Major Rural Roads Program	(212,000)	0	212,000
1104 - B - Roads - Resealing Program	(955,000)	(880,000)	75,000
1105 - B - Roads - Resheeting Program	(532,984)	(520,984)	12,000
1106 - B - Roads - Rural & Residential Program	(100,000)	0	
1111 - B - Roads - Streetscapes	0	0	0
1108 - B - Roads - Transport Dev Program	(392,000)	(208,000)	184,000
1109 - B - Roads - Urban Rd Improvement Program	(51,000)	0	51,000
1103 - B - Roads - Rehabilitation Program	0	(140,000)	(140,000)
1113 - C - Bridge & Major Culverts Program	(510,000)	(160,000)	350,000
1114 - C - Floodway Program	0	0	0
1115 - D - Building Program	(973,000)	(620,000)	353,000
1116 - E - Drainage Program	0	0	0
1122 - F - Open Spaces Program	(3,461,427)	(2,953,927)	507,500
1120 - G - Land & Land Improvement Program	0	0	0
1118 - H - Plant, Vehicles & Equipment Program	(90,000)	(90,000)	0
1121 - J - Projects	(390,000)	0	390,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>(8,186,411)</b>	<b>(6,299,911)</b>	<b>2,056,500</b>

**Cash and Investments as at 31 March, 2023**



**Total Cash Balance at Month End**

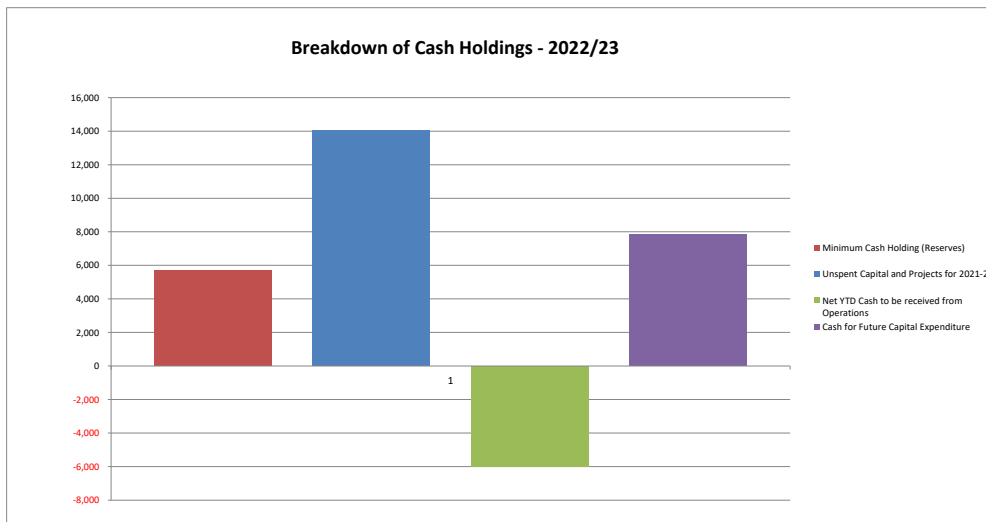
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
<b>2019 - 20</b>	18,642,143	18,424,373	20,885,437	20,496,673	22,711,437	22,520,759	21,226,659	23,831,676	21,993,073	19,771,946	25,394,596	27,206,212
<b>2020 - 21</b>	24,458,405	24,173,971	28,436,358	26,525,969	27,490,366	24,592,324	23,388,847	23,663,702	24,811,535	22,290,630	24,280,838	30,230,677
<b>2021 - 22</b>	26,594,594	26,813,020	28,211,375	25,807,441	27,033,930	23,750,045	22,274,406	23,607,188	20,121,050	23,354,913	25,609,380	25,346,744
<b>2022 - 23</b>	23,190,093	22,271,414	24,579,815	22,898,950	27,307,669	23,789,682	22,432,629	23,536,006	21,579,899			

**Restricted Cash required as at 31 March, 2023**  
**Available Cash as at 31 March, 2023**

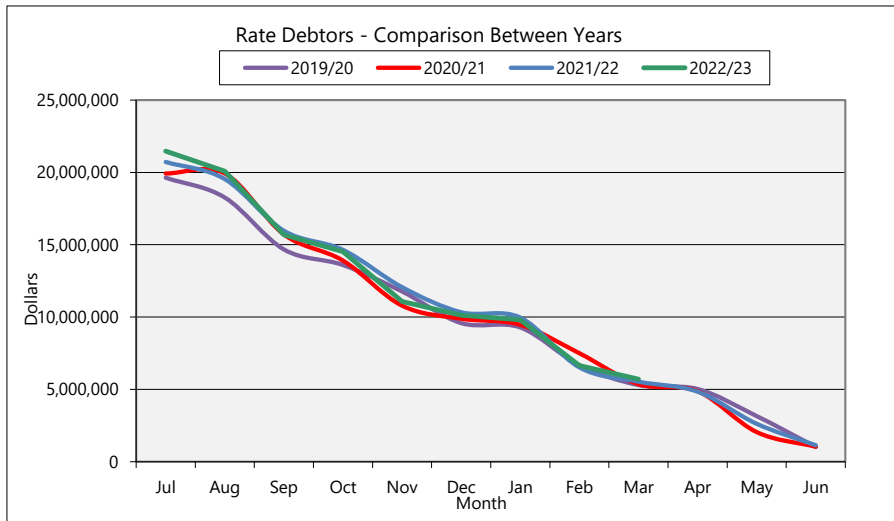
**\$ 5,681,000**  
**\$ 15,898,899**  
**\$ 21,579,899**

**Breakdown of Cash Holdings**

Minimum Cash Holding (Reserves)	\$000's 5,681
Cash for Future Capital Expenditure	7,845
Unspent Capital and Projects for 2021-22	14,065
Net YTD Cash to be received from Operations	-6,011
<b>Total Cash held as at 31 March, 2023</b>	<b>21,580</b>



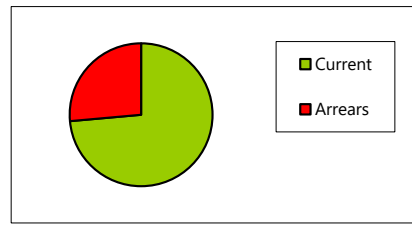
# Debtors Reports as at 31 March, 2023



## Rates Debtors YTD

Current  
Arrears  
Total

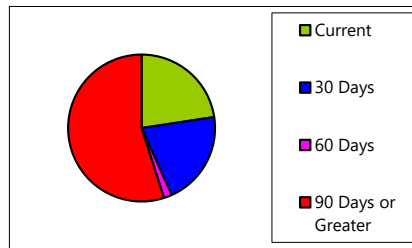
	\$	%
Current	4,198,926	74%
Arrears	1,507,997	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,706,923</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Sundry Debtors YTD

Current  
30 Days  
60 Days  
90 Days or Greater  
Total

	\$	%
Current	95,342	22.6%
30 Days	87,107	20.7%
60 Days	7,551	1.8%
90 Days or Greater	231,647	54.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>421,647</b>	<b>100%</b>



Details:

Current	Invoices not yet due
30 days	Invoice for Hitachi \$ 88k subsequently paid.
60 days	Minor balance
90 Days or Greater	Balances outstanding on a few sundry debtors including \$61k due from Stawell Cemeteries.

## Loan Report - Budget 2022/23

### Borrowing Principles:

#### Indebtedness

Our level of debt will not exceed 60% or \$11.6 million of rates and charges revenue.

Indebtness Calculation Check 5.3% ✓

#### Debt Servicing Costs

Our level of annual debt servicing costs (principal plus Interest) will not exceed 5% or \$1.7 million of our total operating revenue.

Debt Servicing Calculation Check 0.4% ✓

### Loans Budgeted 2022/23

#### Principal

	\$000's
Loans Outstanding as at 30 June, 2022	1,097
Add proposed new loans 2022/23	-
Less scheduled repayments 2022/23	(97)
Loans Outstanding as at 30 June, 2023	1,000

#### Expiry of Existing Loans

	Expiry	Current Balance \$000's
Loan 16	Jun-23	97
Loan 20	Jun-26	1,000
		1,097



## 10. Notices of Motion or Rescission

Nil

## 11. Reports from Councillors/Committees

Stawell Recreation Advisory Group Meeting Minutes - 15 May 2023

Councillors provided brief reports on their activities on behalf of Council since the last Council meeting.

Cr Gready reported on his attendance at the MAV State Council with Cr Emerson and the Chief Executive Officer, the Northern Grampians Transmission Line meeting and the H2X hydrogen discussion. He invited the community to this week's meeting of the Halls Gap Ratepayers Association.

Cr Haswell reported on concerns raised with him by residents about service difficulties at the Stawell Medical Centre. The Mayor said a meeting was scheduled for 15 June with the Chief of Staff for the Minister for Health.

Cr Emerson reported that he has attended 11 meetings since 22 June. He said last week he attended the police/community safety meeting at which there was discussion on some of the problems in the community including unlawful loitering around homes and cars and other criminal behaviours. He said he brought to the attention of those present that at both the St Arnaud and Stawell police stations the doors were on occasion being shut when officers have to go outside of Stawell to work at other places. He said it was a very good meeting and is open for anyone to attend to discuss any matters concerning law enforcement and safety in our community. Cr Emerson said that he was unsure where the overhead powerline construction was heading as following the unanimous decision at the MAV State Council to pursue this the Government announced that it was going ahead with it. He said we will continue to work on this on behalf of our affected communities.

Cr Dempsey reported on a busy month including the Grape Escape, a Stawell Skate Park Working Group meeting at which discussions included security options, future plans, the reuse of old skate park material that is not up to code and a launch event. She said she had attended the CGLLEN AGM meeting, the Women for Council group meeting, the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia flag-raising ceremony, the ALGWA conference, Stawell Recreation Advisory Group meeting, the Burrum Biodynamics facility at Navarre and the Marnoo Hub and Primary School. She said she also attended the changemakers dinner run by Wimmera Health Grampians that focused on sports clubs being involved in communities of respect and equality and how strongly domestic violence against women can occur in club culture. She said she had attended the Stawell Neighbourhood House meeting and a number of meetings with community members to find out concerns that she would bring back to council. She said in her spare time she was busy studying for the Australian Institute of Company Directors course.

Cr Ostarcevic congratulated Crs Dempsey and Hyslop on undertaking the AICD course. He reported on attending the St Arnaud Recreation Group meeting and said the lights at Lord Nelson Park were turned on for the first time. He congratulated the councillors who were responsible for the multi-function facility in St Arnaud that has united the community and said there has been an increase in patronage of the club and participation in sporting activities as a consequence of the facility. He reported on a visit to Hazeldene's chicken farm as part of a program of trying to discover how to entice businesses into the shire and said he endorsed these networking opportunities with visits to businesses by the councillors and Chief Executive Officer. He also attended the flag-raising ceremony. He said ParksVic had provided reports they had requested on the Teddington Reservoir and from a technical perspective these are not the grounds to get the Minister to change their mind, it was that there was no consultation with the community. He said we had an opportunity to speak with ParksVic in October 2022 during their engagement process but the decision to decommission the reservoir was made four years earlier. He said the decision to decommission is from ParksVic perspective only and does not include the views of the community or other stakeholders and consequently if the community was involved in the early stages there would have been, perhaps, a different outcome. He thanked council for their support on getting this on the agenda and it is important that we meet with the Minister and put the facts forward and make sure ParksVic follows its own protocol. He said the NCLLEN AGM will be held later tonight including panel discussion on engaging views of the community and career pathways.

Cr Ostarcevic said further to the H2X Hydrogen discussion he had presented earlier in the day some background on use of H2X hydrogen as a fuel source for stationary energy and it is certainly a way forward in the future. He said after transmission, Hydrogen is the fuel source we need to really look at for our stationary loads.

Cr Erwin said the Royal Flying Doctors service will be introducing a new service in St Arnaud for people wanting to make medical appointments in Bendigo, Ballarat, Horsham and Stawell; it will cover a range of 40 kms and work in conjunction with the East Wimmera Health Service; a great addition for St Arnaud and surrounding communities. He said he had also attended the Dunmunkle School Sports Day at Marnoo.

## RESOLUTION

**That the reports be received.**

**Moved: Cr Eddy Ostarcevic**  
**Seconded: Cr Lauren Dempsey**

**Carried**

# Northern Grampians Shire Council

## Stawell Recreation Advisory Group Meeting - Minutes

Meeting held at **6.00pm** on Monday, 15 May 2023 at **North Park Clubrooms**

**Chair: Cr Emerson (open 6:04pm)**

**Present:** Cr Murray Emerson, Cr Lauren Dempsey, Nathan Baker, Reg Smith, Rob Lembo, Ian O'Donnell, John Griffiths, Amber Mitchell, Samantha Winter (NGSC), Tony Dark (NGSC), Nic Baird (NGSC)

**Apologies:** Travis Nicholson, Steve Walker, Anna Sullivan, Scotney Hayter

Moved

**1. Minutes of the previous meeting:** Read by Cr Murray Emerson. The minutes were moved to be true and correct. Ian O'Donnell Seconded by John Griffiths all in favour.

**2. Business arising from the previous meeting:**

NIL

**3. General Business**

Item	TOPIC	Discussion	Action/ Outcome
1.1	Project Update	<p><b>North Park Netball Courts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Final claim due 15 June 2023</li><li>There are a few smaller projects still to be completed to finish off the funding including the portable grandstands that need to be fixed for safety, power to court (has been completed), score benches are being designed waiting for tick off from engineers, to be complete in the next couple of weeks.</li><li>PA System has arrived Ian has secured it just needs to be assembled when time to use</li></ul> <p><b>Stawell Park Skate Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Works have started on the skate park with removal of existing equipment.</li><li>Construction works due to start end of May with a completion of End July/Early August</li></ul> <p><b>North Park Football Pitch Lighting Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Project completed. Final claim has been submitted and approved by funding provider.</li></ul>	<b>Action:</b>

- John asked Rob his thoughts on the lights and Rob thinks they are fantastic
- Stawell Soccer are looking into a couple of night games in the near future

**Central Park Female Friendly Changerooms (Main Clubroom Pavillion)/ Netball Court Female Friendly Facility:**

- Tony showed floor plans, the project has been out to tender (Council decision 22 May 2023) and heritage Vic have been consulted throughout. Hopeful of a June construction start time timeline June-ish through to Easter next year.
- Stawell Warriors/Under 13 Association will likely need to move to North Park with no clash with Swifts.
- Nathan asked about dates as SAAC base their season around Swifts away games. 22 July, 5 Aug.
- Cr Emerson asked about training at CP during construction. The construction will have no effect on training as there will be space to change/get ready. The lights at Central Park on clubroom side (due to location of switch for on/off) may be an issue but a work around will be found for this.
- U13 a small concern with change space but under Number 1 Grandstand and Netball rooms to be utilised should hopefully be enough.
- Cr Emerson had some questions about Heritage Victoria: A question about permits. These have been submitted with payment and there should not be any hold ups. How much pull do Heritage Victoria have inside and outside? Tony believes they are fine with the inside and are interested in the outside more so. Contacts and communication have been open and transparent so far. Heritage Victoria made some comments on colours of building and not wrapping imaging around the entirety of the building.

**Netball Court:**

- A lot of complexities around this potential project. Heritage Victoria, budget, existing facilities and flora, court orientation and how this might fit in a location, community expectations are all factors that will need to be investigated when a decision is made about this project. Councilors have yet to rule any option out but need more information on all potential options before a decision can be made. Any new ideas for locations were most welcome. The current ideas that have been floated are (in no order of preference and are considerations only):
  1. Removal of existing Parks and Gardens/Athletic Club shed and tree to allow two courts
  2. Closing/Making Victoria Street one way and building two netball courts
  3. Netball court built across the road in vacant land near train station on Napier Street
  4. Netball court built in existing Stawell bowls Club Carpark
  5. Netball court built at old Waites Robson location (behind scoreboard/Hall of Fame)
  6. Netball court built in corner of Central Park of Main Street and Hanitz Lane.
  7. Stay with one netball court and have thirds around oval for warmups and training.
- Tony has worked with consultant to get an idea of how two netball courts look in a variety of different locations and options (see above). And also how one court would also look with some additions of seating/viewing areas and thirds around the ground.
- Netball Victoria have provided Tony with participation data to help make the decision of whether two courts are a required and viable option. Netball Victoria says any participation of 60 persons would require a second court. Currently Stawell Warriors Netball have 87 participants.

- Reg asked how busy Victoria Street was and its importance. Tony said that information had been collected that around 170 cars used Victoria Street per day (on average) which made it a busy and well used street so closing it off would potentially have issues. The type of use has not been determined and whether diversions to other streets is viable or acceptable.
- Cr Emerson was at Central Park recently speaking to some members of Stawell Warriors who believed some of these ideas were forgone conclusions. He wanted to ensure that no decision had been made and all options are on the table but require more information before a decision can be made. He was hoping to get the club to think of some alternatives to help decision making.
- Tony showed the "footprint" of two netball courts and how much space these require to the group for all to get an understanding the size required.
- Cr Dempsey asked Amber what would be required if one court was the option decided upon. Amber didn't have an exact answer, but some compensation (thirds around oval or other compensation) would make it easier.
- Tony explained that two courts encourages growth and expansion of offerings that Stawell Warriors can do and that one can be limiting. As Amber said one court at the minute with early starts and late finishes on Thursdays and Saturdays is draining on volunteers and making it hard to coach the junior sides correctly due to not having a full court to utilize.
- Amber asked if there was a percentage of green space that had to be kept. Nic and Tony would look into this.
- Cr Emerson asked about funding for this project. There is currently no funding yet for any upgrades but doing the work to ensure any funding received will be used to its fullest. There would need to be funding prior to any works starting.
- Any other ideas or options for the netball court/s can be sent through to Nic or Tony.

#### **Sport and Active Recreation Strategy/ Open Space Strategy and Active Transport**

- Clubs/Associations update on strategy.
- ROSS in town 22 May presenting to Council with current findings and an update on the project.
- Pushing hard on the Open Space/Active Transport survey, clubs and community encouraged to fill this in also.
- Tony reminded those in the room that this survey should be viewed from a point of view of the future use and not necessarily "today" or "right now". The input can be from a personal perspective and not just aligned to your club's use.
- Nic also mentioned that it is important for clubs to voice their thoughts/issues/ideas in this survey for future planning and finding opportunities if we don't know about it we can't guess.
- Reg asked about a draft version. No draft as yet but this would be tabled and have community consultation later once available.

#### **North Park Old Light Poles**

- NGSC Parks and Garden are looking at taking down the 2 old footy lights at North Park for safety reasons and to continue the new black fence from clubrooms to the scoreboard.
- Power to be kept underground just in case.
- Ian has mentioned the poles and lights will be stored by North Grampians Shire at Haughton Street but are looking at selling them shortly.

		<b>Navarre/Great Western Pavilion's upgrade</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quick update on both projects</li> <li>• Phasing both projects in. Great Western tender being drawn up as contract design to be done by November and construction start after footy season.</li> <li>• Navarre to start in 2025.</li> </ul>	
1.2	<b>Agreements and User Fees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work In Progress end of June/Early July expected to be complete. This is a big project that requires a lot of tinkering to be fair for everyone across the shire.</li> </ul>	<b>Action: Samantha continue work on user fee agreements</b>
1.3	<b>Participation Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Park lights participation plan complete.</li> <li>• Great Western lights needing to be done.</li> <li>• Central Park to start soon.</li> </ul>	<b>Action: Samantha continue work on participation plans</b>

**Other business:**

Amber asked about lights in Hank Neil Stand at Central Park as they automatic one in there has not been working for a period of time. Tony said to Snap Send Solve, but will investigate. **Action: Nic/Tony to investigate light in Hank Neil stand not working.**

John asked some questions about the ground/grass redevelopment at Central Park. He asked about five cricket pitches in the middle of Central Park is that to many. The covers that Cricket Association have not big enough for the five pitches and with the amount of cricket currently being played is 3 enough. **Action: Parks and Gardens, Grampians Cricket Association, Cricket Victoria to have their say on number of pitches required. Currently Sam conducting Audits in NGSC for cricket, it is about 12 years since last one may be something from here too.**

Reg asked about CFA facility at North Park near the CFA running track. Justine Kingan was calling Mal Nicholson (unsure if it has happened) in regard to this. No answer to Reg's original question but Nic following up. **Action: Nic to follow up Justine with this to see if contact was made, what do CFA need to do to get this started or progressing.**

Ian asked about protocol about hanging honour boards in change rooms. Currently walls getting marked, acoustics also an issue. This is an operational issue Councilor's Dempsey and Emerson agree with this. **Action item to follow up talk to Mark Walker.** Swifts have been given the second semi-final.

Nathan asked about the playground. The playground is in the pipeline and with SRV also, it is in the NP Master plan. No set timeframe and it is part of the annual budget process and decisions need to be made on this. It is an important project for NP. Cr Dempsey mentioned about Budget feedback to get community feedback and encouraged everyone to have a look and have their say once the budget comes out. **Action: Councilors enquire with council as to where it sits.**

Nathan asked about a water bill, Stawell Amateur Athletics received a large water bill and believe a pipe may have been tapped to run the water to the athletic track. **Action: Nic to contact Jess (SAAC secretary) about this where/who she sent it to, Parks and Garden question also as to what has happened there.**

Nic spoke about the Fair Access Policy which will be in place by July 1 2024 and encouraged clubs to be proactive in regards to this as clubs and council need to have their own. Nic also handed out bags to CoRE alliance encouraged clubs to sign up which is a great first step in starting towards their fair access policy. If any clubs have any issues, please contact Nic.

Rob Stawell Soccer Club in line for Grand Final for the league if not Grand Final it will be preliminary this will be after Swifts final so no clash there. Stawell Soccer offered to assist Ararat in setting soccer up there also with redevelopment of Gordon Street Oval. Plans for a potential Northern League (Ararat, Maryborough, Stawell Hamilton).

Cr Lauren Dempsey asked Ian about Defib machine, Swifts have purchased this themselves. Swifts have sent letter to council about the defib being locked up with no access to public and are potentially worried about the issues this may cause if someone in the public requires use of it but is behind a locked door in an office. Amber asked about any public defib machines to which the group believes there aren't any. SSAC have 3 but all inside. **Action: Councilors to investigate this and see potential for publicly located defib machines.**

4. Close time: 7:46pm

5. Next meeting: TBC (David will speak to Open Space Strategy and Sport and Active Recreation Strategy for majority of this meeting)

## 12. Urgent Business

Nil

## 13. Public Question Time

Ms Deborah Jenkins, St Arnaud

Q1. Will the council ensure that the two mature Eucalyptus leucoxylon trees at the Walker Street entrance and exit and the Eucalyptus leucoxylon in the open space nearby, are protected during any redevelopment of the Market Square carpark to locate the new pre-prep modular building?

Q2. What steps will the council take to protect the elm trees at the proposed bus stop in Golden Street?

At the request of the Mayor, Mr Fithall responded to the questions and said the pre-prep modular building project in the Market Square is still in its infancy around its concept and the detail will still need to be developed. He said the importance of street trees in our urban environment is something that is well established and recognised in our council and in our operations. He said we do what we can to protect existing trees and there is no intention to remove these trees at this stage but as the project works through its detail we will need to be sensitive to the impact on these trees. He said we are going to try to retain them but as we progress risk and health assessments of these trees will need to be undertaken to ensure that what we are doing does not adversely impact. He said if a tree is deemed unhealthy or at risk it may be required to be removed; however at this point in time we do not have any indication of that. He said we cannot ensure that any trees will not be removed but we will do what we can to retain those mature trees because they add value to that space.

The Mayor reported that a written response will be provided to Ms Jenkins who asked that updates be provided in the future.



#### 14. Closure of Meeting Pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020

A Council or delegated committee may resolve that the meeting be closed to members of the public if it considers it necessary because a circumstance specified below apply:

The circumstances are-

- (a) the meeting is to consider confidential information; or
- (b) security reasons; or
- (c) it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.

If the circumstances specified in subsection (b) or (c) apply, the meeting can only be closed to the public if the Council has made arrangements to enable the proceedings of the meeting to be viewed by members of the public as the meeting is being held.

#### 14.1. C22 2012/13 - Provision of Waste Management and Recycling Services

#### RESOLUTION

That item 14.1 be considered in Closed Council as it deals with confidential information as detailed in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Moved: Cr Murray Emerson  
Seconded: Cr Rob Haswell Carried

#### RESOLUTION

That the meeting be closed to consider the item listed pursuant to section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Moved: Cr Murray Emerson  
Seconded: Cr Rob Haswell Carried

#### OPEN COUNCIL

The Chief Executive Officer reported on the item discussed in Closed Council.

14.1 Council agreed to extend contract C22 2012/2013 - Provision of Waste Management and Recycling Services with Wheelie Waste for the final one year term commencing 1 July 2023.

#### 15. Close

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 1.07pm.

Confirmed



CR KEVIN ERWIN  
MAYOR

Date: 26 June 2023