



Goldenfields
Water

ANNUAL REPORT

2020 - 2021

INTEGRITY

TRUST

RESPECT

TEAMWORK

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



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Vision

To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and customer service.

Mission

Mission Statement

To provide regional economic opportunity and lifestyle choices through provision of a quality water supply by innovative leadership showing environmental responsibility in cooperation with the community, constituent councils and governments

Values

Integrity

All staff act in the best interest of the communities that we serve, demonstrating and promoting moral and ethical principles in all that we do.

Trust

Built on from the value of Integrity, mutual trust is established between teams and staff at all levels. Open communication lines and transparency in our operations reflects and further builds on this trust.

Respect

All staff treat others with courtesy, politeness and kindness. Differences in viewpoints and beliefs are recognised and considered, with all people being treated fairly and equally.

Teamwork

All staff work together collaboratively and support one another in achieving the operational objectives of GWCC. Our staff understand the importance of working with each other to achieve our objectives.

Continuous Improvement

Staff feel confident and comfortable to offer ideas and suggestions to ensure that GWCC is continually working to deliver better services to our community and finding more efficient ways of undertaking business.



Chairperson's Message

It has been my pleasure to represent Goldenfields Water in the role of Chairperson during the 2020/21 Financial Year. I extend my appreciation to Deputy Chairperson McCann and all my fellow Board members for your consistent support over the last 12 months.

2020/21 has proven to be a challenging year, however Goldenfields has responded to these challenges and as a Board we are pleased with the collaborative response of our organisation during this time.

Our General Manager Aaron Drenovski has led our skilled and dedicated staff through a challenging year to continue to deliver a quality water supply in line with the organisational goals, and always aligned with our Mission, Vision and Values.

Dennis Palmer

Chairperson



General Manager's message

It has been my pleasure to undertake the role of General Manager for the full 12 months of the 2020/21 financial year. I am proud of the accomplishments the organisation has achieved during this time and in particular the adaptability of our staff that has been displayed throughout a challenging year.

Importantly, I would like to acknowledge the efforts and dedication of our highly skilled and professional staff during 2020/21. Their commitment and hard work ensures every community member that relies on Goldenfields Water receives high-quality, reliable drinking water each day.

I am keen to continue to foster an organisational culture that promotes an innovative and strategic environment in order for Goldenfields to continue to meet the community's expectations and to find solutions to the challenges that arise in the delivery of a continued secure water supply.

I am appreciative of the support of the Board, and grateful for the efforts of staff, both have been instrumental in achieving the results detailed within this report.

Aaron Drenovski

General Manager



Profile

Goldenfields Water is a single-purpose county council that has been responsible for providing water supply services to many communities in the South West Slopes and Riverina regions of NSW since 1997.

Goldenfields Water's supply system covers 22,500 square kilometres between the Lachlan and Murrumbidgee rivers. It services over 46,000 people and includes more than 2,400 kilometres of water mains (the longest in NSW).

Water is sourced from protected natural catchments at Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and Hylands Bridge before undergoing a world-class purification process at either of its two water treatment plants.

As a county council Goldenfields Water is a unique organisation given it is made up of seven constituent councils that each depend on it to deliver essential drinking water for their communities.

Goldenfields Water's seven constituent councils are:

- Bland Shire Council
- Coolamon Shire Council
- Junee Shire Council
- Temora Shire Council
- Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
- Narrandera Shire Council
- Hilltops Council

Currently, Goldenfields Water supplies all drinking water directly to the almost 11,000 rural, residential, commercial and other properties in the local government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Temora, and parts of Cootamundra-Gundagai and Narrandera.

Goldenfields Water supplies water in bulk to Cootamundra-Gundagai and Hilltops councils, which then distribute water directly to their residents (except those already supplied directly by Goldenfields Water in parts of Cootamundra-Gundagai).

It also provides non-potable water (untreated water for non-drinking purposes) directly to 250 properties as well as water in bulk to Riverina Water County Council.



The Board

The Goldenfields Water Board is the governing body responsible for managing the affairs of Goldenfields Water County Council.

Goldenfields Water's constituent councils elect the Board members from among their councillors. The Board is currently comprised of eight members – one elected from six of the constituent councils and two elected from Hilltops Council.

Ordinary meetings of the Board are currently held six times a year (on the fourth Thursday of every second month). Meetings of a county council are subject to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

The Board elects a Chairperson from amongst its members. The Chairperson holds office for one year and is responsible for presiding at Board meetings as well as exercising other functions of the county council as the Board determines. The Board also elects a deputy Chairperson.

 Cr Dennis Palmer (Chairperson) COOTAMUNDRA GUNDAGAI	 Cr David McCann (Deputy Chairperson) COOLAMON	 Cr Greg Armstrong HILLTOPS	 Cr Bob Callow JUNEE
 Cr Elizabeth McGlynn BLAND	 Cr Kevin Morris NARRANDERA	 Cr Graham Sinclair TEMORA	 Cr Matthew Stadtmiller HILLTOPS



Annual Report Explained

As a NSW county council, Goldenfields Water is required as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework for NSW local government to implement a suite of interrelated strategic planning documents.

The documents include a long-term Business Activity Strategic Plan, a four-year Delivery Program as well as an annual Operational Plan. These documents are supported by the Resourcing Strategy, which comprises a Long Term Financial Plan, Workforce Management Plan and an Asset Management Plan.

At the end of each financial year, an annual report must be produced that provides information to the community about Goldenfields Water's achievements in implementing its Delivery Program. It also needs to report on the effectiveness of the principal activities Goldenfields Water has undertaken to achieve the objectives in the Business Activity Strategic Plan. These details can be found in the Delivery Program Progress section of this Annual Report.

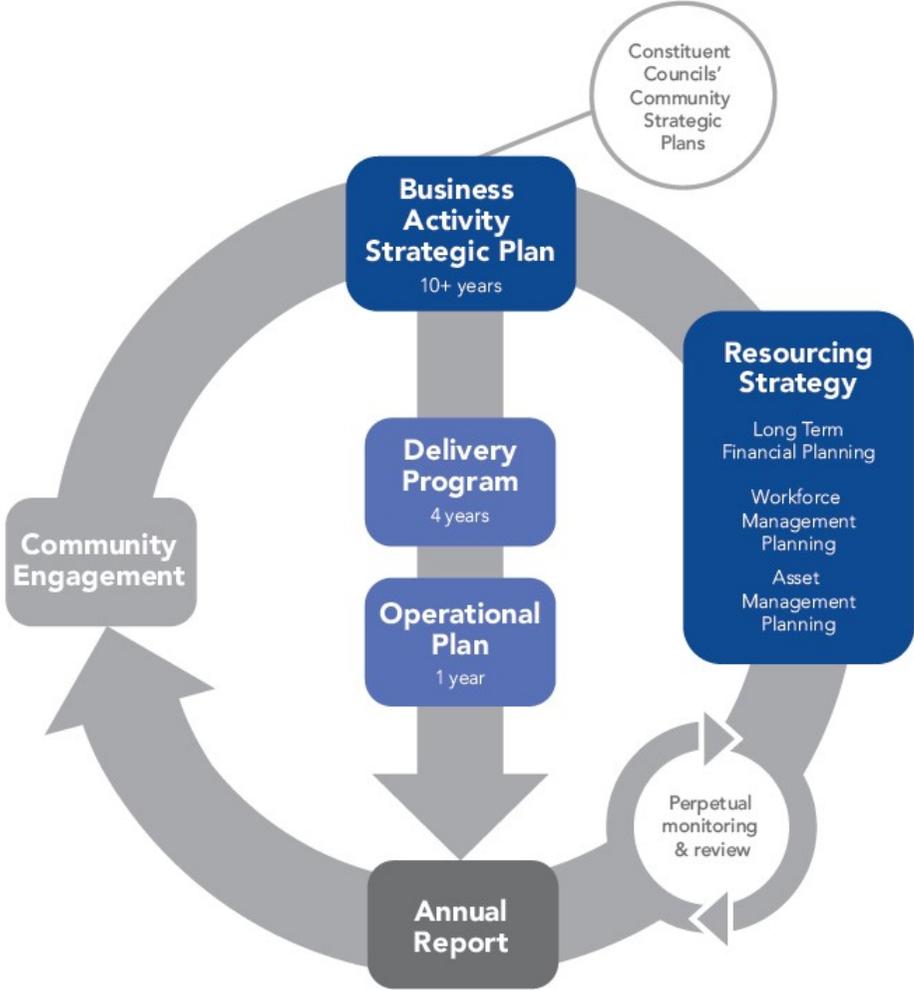
Goldenfields Water's Annual Report must also include financial, asset and other information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW) and the Integrated Planning and

Reporting Guidelines. This information aims to help community members understand how Goldenfields Water has been performing both as a service provider and a community leader. It can be found in the Statutory Reporting section of this Annual Report.

Goldenfields Water is also required to include a copy of its audited financial reports. These are reported in the Financial Statements section of this Annual Report.



Integrated Planning and Reporting framework

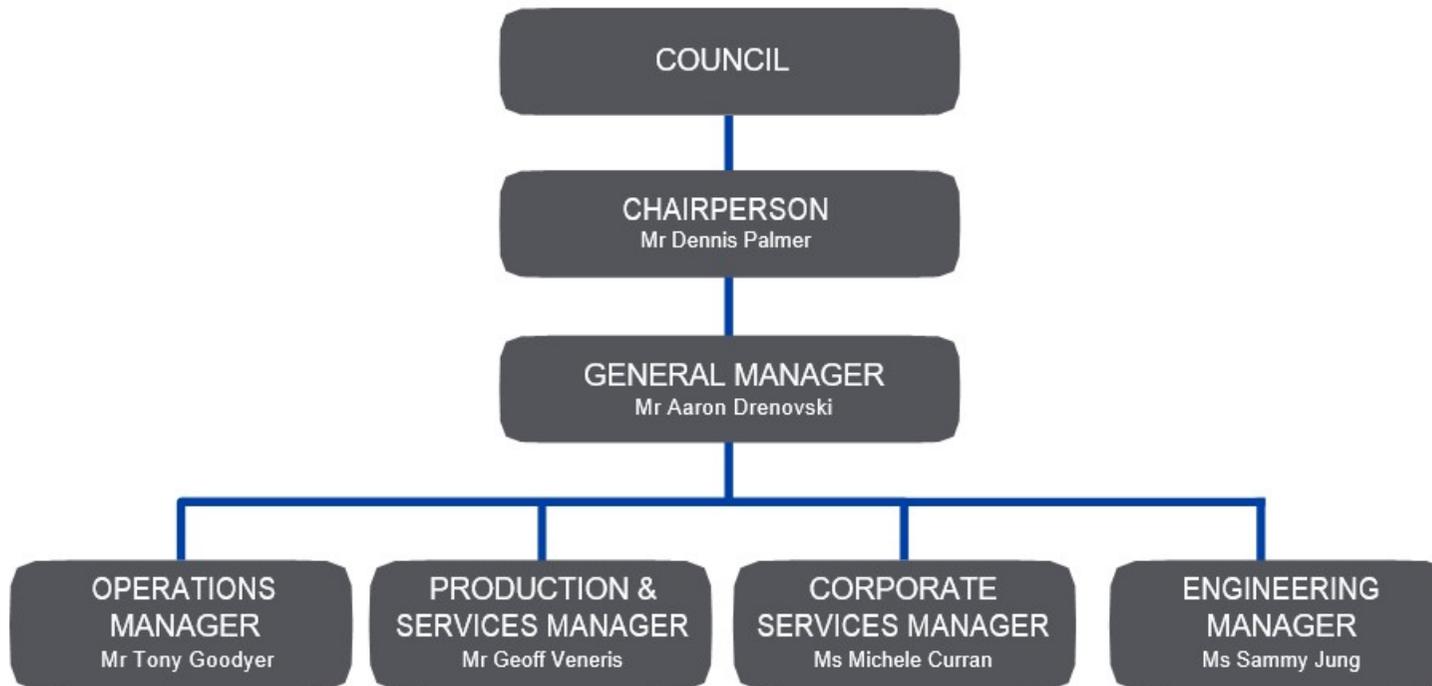




Organisational Structure

Goldenfields Water's organisational structure operates under the direction of its Board. The Board must appoint a General Manager to lead Goldenfields Water's day-to-day operations.

The organisational structure consists of five business units – the General Manager's Office, Operations, Production & Services, Engineering, and Corporate Services





DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS

2017-2022

REPORTING ON PROGRESS

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework the main focus of the Annual Report is Goldenfields Water's progress in implementing its four year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan.

This section contains the report on Goldenfields Water's Delivery Program progress for 2020/21.

It is categorised in-line with the nine strategic priorities established by its long-term Business Activity Strategic Plan and the strategic objectives, strategies and actions outlined in its 2017/22 Delivery Program and 2020/21 Operational Plan to achieve those priorities.



Green – Completed



Blue – Progressing



Red – Not yet started



1: Excellence in service provision

1.2: Provide a reliable and quality drinking water supply

1.2.1: Water quality meets or exceeds the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.1.1	Maintain and Review the Drinking Water Management System	Complete DWMS Annual Report	Production & Services Manager		100%	The DWMS and associated documentation has been reviewed and reported to Council at the December 2020 Council meeting. The review of the DWMS commences in August and is completed around October before submission and acknowledgment by the Board and NSW Health in December of each year.



1.2.2: Assets are managed strategically, across whole of life to improve delivery of services and financial management

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.2.1	Capture asset burst data. Undertake 1 pump station audit each quarter.	Burst data is captured and reported on. One pump station audit has been undertaken each quarter.	Engineering Manager	●	100%	Burst data utilised as part of the future Capital replacement programs
1.2.2.3	Construct and deliver Mandamah Pipeline Stage 2 as per program - approximately 30km. Deliver the Capital Works as per schedule.	Achieve greater than 85% of program	Operations Manager	●	100%	Stage 2 is fully completed and commissioned. Stage 3 is 90% completed and stage 4 is due to commence in September 2021
1.2.2.4	Continue with the Valve maintenance/replacement program utilising established resources. Reservoir cleaning/maintenance and inspections are ongoing, both planned and re-active. Reports/findings are actioned to the Engineering department.	Achieve greater than 85% of program	Operations Manager	●	100%	These programs are fully completed



1.2.3: Contamination resulting from backflow is minimised

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.3.1	Undertake audit of existing backflows. Continue Backflow installation program.	Audit completed by end of financial year and reported on. Backflow installed in Barellan.	Engineering Manager		100%	Backflow installation completed on Rosehill Pipeline within Hilltops LGA

1.2.4: Water mains are systematically renewed and extended, based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.4.1	Utilise issues register and burst data to determine renewals program.	Achieve 90% of mains renewals budget	Engineering Manager		100%	Rosehill Pipeline approximately 75%. Lord St Roundabout Junee replacement completed. Joffre St, Temora Mains replacement completed. Crowley St, Temora Mains replacement completed. Main St, Cox St Junee Mains replacement completed. Junee 50mm Gal replacement completed.
1.2.4.2	Continue with Mandamah water main extension program	Achieve greater than 85% of 30km of mains installation.	Engineering Manager		100%	Works continuing on the project with 36.4km of mains constructed this year



1.2.5: Water Pumping Stations are systematically renewed based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.5.1	One pump station audit undertaken each quarter.	One pump station audit undertaken each quarter.	Production & Services Manager		100%	All pump stations are inspected on a routine basis with all condition criteria provided into GWCC's asset management procedures where investment and criticality determinations are made for each asset as part of Councils Asset Management Framework.

1.2.6: Trunk mains are systematically renewed based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.6.1	Utilise issues register and burst data to determine renewals program	Achieve 90% of mains renewals budget	Engineering Manager		100%	Rosehill construction underway. Thanowring road detailed design completed, land acquisition underway. Tender for materials underway.



1.2.8: Telemetry system is systematically renewed and extended, based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.8.1	Progressively replace all SCADA across to ClearSCADA	Switch Board Replacements for Oura Bore 6, 3 and 4. Matong Bore 2.	Production & Services Manager		100%	This project is staged over multiple financial years. A progressive replacement program has been undertaken with the completion of all Mt Daylight Scheme sites.
1.2.8.2	Where identified, expand the SCADA system to cover new localities and instrumentation	Bulk Customer offtakes to be included with water quality analysers, flow meters and connected to SCADA. New installations are planned for Galong, Harden and Young Terminal	Production & Services Manager		70%	GWCC staff continually investigate opportunities to expand the SCADA control system across our water supply schemes to increase operational efficiencies and risk management. Additional water quality monitoring sites at Galong, Harden and Young Terminal Storage were identified for installation with the purchase of required hardware being completed. Installation of the new assets will be undertaken in 2021/22 financial year.

1.2.9: Flow meters are systematically renewed and extended, based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.9.1	Develop and implement a bulk meter audit and renewal program.	Develop a 5 year program. Validate or renew a minimum of 2 bulk meters.	Production & Services Manager		100%	Staff have undertaken a review of all bulk meters within the Jugiong scheme. Additional Taggle metering has been investigated for installation to commence the retrieval of interval data. It has been identified that the Harden, Wallendbeen and Wombat meters required replacement and were completed.



1.2.10: System valves are systematically renewed and extended, based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.10.1	Undertake renewals as per program.	Achieve 85% of program	Operations Manager		90%	Approximately 90% of renewals have been completed as of 30 June
1.2.10.2	Undertake renewals as per program	Achieve 85% of the program	Engineering Manager		50%	As of 30 June in excess of 85% renewals have been completed and commissioned.
1.2.10.4	Undertake renewals as per program.	Achieve 85% of program	Engineering Manager		100%	Five critical valves replaced at Oura and Jugiong to improve operation of network
1.2.10.6	Undertake renewals as per program	Achieve 85% of program	Operations Manager		85%	Program is 85% completed

1.2.11: Hydrants are systematically renewed based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.11.1	Undertake renewals as per program	Achieve 85% of program	Operations Manager		75%	Program is progressing and should exceed its 85% completion rating once the new construction crew has commenced



1.2.12: Instrumentation installations are systematically renewed and extended, based on asset performance data

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.12.1	Replace aged water quality instrumentation where required.	Prunevale analyser has been replaced.	Production & Services Manager		100%	GWCC staff progressively renew water quality instrumentation when and where required. The replacement of the Prunevale Pump station online monitoring system has been replaced this year.
1.2.12.2	Expand the installation of water quality instrumentation across the schemes in key locations.	Bulk Customer offtakes to be included with water quality analysers, flow meters and connected to SCADA. New installations are planned for Galong, Harden and Young Terminal.	Production & Services Manager		70%	This indicator is aligned with item 1.2.8.2, the expansion of SCADA. Three sites have been identified within this financial year for expansion, those being, Galong offtake, Harden offtake and Terminal Storage.

1.2.13: We inform and involve our community about projects, programs and other activities

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.13.1	Regularly update and publish information on Goldenfields website relating to major projects, water outages, meeting minutes, billing, recent announcements and staffing updates.	Our website is regularly updated with relevant and timely information.	Community Engagement Officer		100%	Relevant information has been updated and published on Councils website in a timely manner to ensure our community is always informed.



Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
1.2.13.2	Proactively provide project specific information to relevant stakeholders as required and respond to any stakeholder requests in a timely manner.	Accurate and relevant information is provided to stakeholders in a timely manner.	General Manager	●	100%	Goldenfields stakeholders are provided relevant information through quarterly customer newsletters, website updates, media and social media engagement. Stakeholder requests are responded to in line with the customer service charter.
1.2.13.3	Distribute monthly management reports to responsible officers.	Distribute monthly reports within 5 days of month end	Corporate Services Manager	●	100%	Reports issued on a monthly basis within 5 days of month end.
1.2.13.4	Prepare statutory financial reports within required timeframes - including Quarterly Budget Reviews, Annual Financial Statements.	Quarterly Budget Reviews presented at the Council meeting following quarter end. Annual Financial Statements submitted to Office of Local Government by statutory due date.	Corporate Services Manager	●	100%	2019/2020 financial statements submitted to Office of Local Government prior to due date. Quarterly Budget Reviews presented to Council within required timeframe.
1.2.13.5	Notify any non-conformance as required. Complete annual reporting to NSW Public Health, DPIE, and EPA.	Complete DWMS Annual Report, EPA Annual Return and the Annual Benchmark Report. Notify any non-conformances to the relevant Authority as required.	Production & Services Manager	●	100%	All annual reporting has been completed for the current financial year and submitted to DPIE, EPA and NSW Health. Any non-conformances that are identified throughout the year are reported in accordance with GWCC's Drinking Water Management System.



2: Maximising regional water supply

2.1: Plan for the region's future water supply

2.1.1: Future water supply options are proactively identified and evaluated

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
2.1.1.2	Complete Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy	Complete the IWCM	Production & Services Manager		50%	The finalisation of GWCC's IWCM Issues Paper has been completed. The development of a scope of works from the Issues Paper has been completed and submitted to DPIE for approval to proceed to the development of the "Strategy Phase". Public Works have been engaged to complete a new IWCM Strategy which is expected to be completed in July/August 2022.

2.2: Plan for the region's future growth

2.2.1: Our water supply network is able to respond to community growth and development

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
2.2.1.1	Liaise closely with constituent councils regarding growth and development	Engage with Constituent Councils regularly	General Manager		100%	Goldenfields and Bland Shire Council have worked closely together to apply for funding to support the West Wyalong Water Security Project.



2.2.2: Water supply system constraints are identified

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
2.2.2.1	Engineering staff are to undertake hydraulic modelling training.	Engineering staff have undertaken hydraulic modelling training.	Engineering Manager		100%	Relevant staff qualifications are up to date.

3: Strategic water management

3.1: Become an industry leader in the water sector

3.1.1: We are open to emerging technology and water cycle management methods

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
3.1.1.1	Continue to source and research new technologies that may assist Council in gaining efficiencies of operations, storage and access to data or automated control of operations.	Continue to develop Wateroutlook. Source and review new technologies when and where appropriate.	Production & Services Manager		100%	Staff continually investigate any opportunities for new technologies that may provide greater control, redundancy or efficiency in council operations. The commencement of a new Software system for Artificial Intelligence (AI) has commenced for the Jugiong scheme. This AI product will seek to optimize Councils water treatment plant and pump station assets to meet its required demands as an advisory system.



3.1.2: We have the capacity to influence water industry direction

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
3.1.2.1	Council to maintain a committee member role on the NSW Water Directorate. Undertake submissions to State and Federal Governments when and where required.	Production & Services Manager to maintain position as an executive committee member on the NSW Water Directorate	Production & Services Manager		100%	Production & Services Manager is currently an executive committee member for the NSW Water Directorate and the Chair of the Digital Utilities Sub-Committee.

4: Best practice pricing

4.1: Ensure water metering is accurate

4.1.1: There is a high level of confidence in accuracy of water metering internally and amongst stakeholders

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
4.1.1.1	Develop a water meter replacement program.	A program for future meter replacements has been developed.	Operations Manager		10%	Re-convene with engineering in 21/22 to discuss and implement this program going forward



4.2: Levy and collect water charges

4.2.1: Water meters are read accurately and water account notices issued correctly

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
4.2.1.1	Read at least 97% of meters by automated meter reading network.	Minimum of 97% meters read through AMR network.	Corporate Services Manager	●	100%	Meeting performance measure of 97% of meters being ready through AMR network.
4.2.1.2	Water Accounts issued within 3 weeks of quarter end	Water accounts issued within 3 weeks of quarter end.	Corporate Services Manager	●	100%	Water accounts issued within agreed timeframe of 3 weeks following quarter end.

4.3: Deliver a consistent price path

4.3.1: We have a published price path to ensure financial sustainability

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
4.3.1.1	Determine scheduled fees and charges consistent with the long term financial plan.	Review LTFP to determine fees and charges schedule for inclusion in operational plan - maintaining financial sustainability (surplus operating results and cash reserves throughout 10 year plan).	Corporate Services Manager	●	100%	Fees and charges established within 2020/2021 operational plan as part of the LTFP review.



5: Proactive customer relations

5.1: Improve customer and community engagement

5.1.1: Feedback from customers is regularly captured and used in decision-making

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.1.1.1	Goldenfields 4 yearly customer survey will be conducted in the 2020/21 Financial Year as outlined in the 2017 - 2021 Community Engagement Strategy.	Customer survey is undertaken	Community Engagement Officer		100%	A customer survey was conducted in August 2020 as per the requirement of the 2017 - 2021 Community Engagement Strategy.
5.1.1.2	Goldenfields 4 yearly customer survey will be conducted in the 2020/21 Financial Year as outlined in the 2017 - 2021 Community Engagement Strategy. Insights from this survey will be utilised to improve our engagement with customers and the community.	Insights from the survey are considered when formulating the 2021-25 Community Engagement Strategy.	Community Engagement Officer		100%	A customer survey was conducted in August 2020 to better understand the needs and experiences of residents, farmers, business owners and others. The results from the survey will assist the newly elected board formulate the 2022-26 Community Engagement Strategy to ensure we are fostering relationships with the communities that depend on us.



5.1.2: Our community understands what we do and has regular opportunities to be involved with us

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.1.2.1	Goldenfields 4 year community engagement strategy is developed utilising information gathered from the community including the customer survey.	Goldenfields Water 2021-25 Community Engagement Strategy is developed.	Community Engagement Officer		0%	Due to the unprecedented circumstances surrounding Covid-19, the current Community Engagement Strategy has been extended for 12 months. The next Community Engagement Strategy will be developed for 2022-26.

5.1.3: Our customer service goals are contained within a published Customer Service Charter, and we are accountable to them

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.1.3.2	Levels of service identified within the IWCM are communicated to our customers.	Our customers are made aware of the levels of service identified within the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan.	Community Engagement Officer		50%	The IWCM is still being developed however we currently provide commentary on our levels of service within the Drinking Water Management System and Policy which is available for customers to view on our website.



5.1.4: We participate in improving understanding of water management and sustainable water practices in our community

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.1.4.1	Information regarding water management and sustainable water practices is delivered to our community through a variety of advertising mediums.	Our community is provided information on water management and sustainable water practices.	Community Engagement Officer		100%	Goldenfields Water continues to promote sustainability and water wise messaging to customers through a variety of methods including water-related educational resources for primary school students, the delivery of our water refill station to constituent councils and the promotion of tap water, social media messaging and encouraging customers to utilise the Goldenfields Water App.
5.1.4.2	Goldenfields Water will host 'Depth Days' at the Jugiong Water Treatment Plant for schools within our supply area. During Water Week, Goldenfields will work with local schools and pre-schools to provide interactive sustainable water themed resources.	Goldenfields hosts 'Depth Days' and engages with local schools and preschools during Water Week to provide sustainable water themed resources.	Community Engagement Officer		100%	Goldenfields Water engaged with over 20 local schools in their National Water Week program, held annually in October. Depth Days took place in April and May 2021.



5.2: Develop and maintain strong links with stakeholders

5.2.1: We have close relationships with the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.2.1.1	Participate in opportunities for resource, expertise and knowledge sharing with REROC	Goldenfields actively attends REROC meetings	General Manager		100%	REROC and RIVJO meetings are regularly attended. Goldenfields is participating in the 'Start Your Career Here' Program through the Riverina Joint Organisation.
5.2.1.2	Work closely with REROC to improve service efficiency and effectiveness and promote matters of common interest	Goldenfields participates in projects with a joint interest.	General Manager		100%	Goldenfields has engaged with REROC to promoted common interest, including joining the Code of Conduct assessment panel.

5.2.2: We have close relationships with our constituent councils

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.2.2.1	Engage with our Constituent Councils regularly, including annual meetings or as necessary.	We have regularly engaged with our Constituent Councils	General Manager		100%	Having presented the Asset Strategy Update to Temora, Junee, Bland and Coolamon Shire councils in late 2020, the General Manager presented to Cootamundra-Gundagai, Narrandera and Hilltops Councils in early 2021.
5.2.2.2	Assist Constituent Councils where possible to attract growth and new business to the region	Joint projects undertaken where viable	General Manager		100%	Goldenfields and Bland Shire Council have worked closely together to apply for funding to support the West Wyalong Water Security Project.



5.2.3: We have a positive corporate reputation within our community and wider industry

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
5.2.3.1	Information regarding Goldenfields' current works, major upcoming works, educational programs and general updates are provided through our bi-annual Customer Newsletter. Goldenfields stakeholders will be consistently be updated with information through a variety of traditional and modern media platforms.	Goldenfields Customer Newsletter is circulated in April and October and information is regularly provided through various media platforms.	Community Engagement Officer		100%	GWCC issue a quarterly customer newsletter, media releases, radio advertisement, television commercials, social media and an updated website to keep customers and stakeholders informed with the latest news and announcements.



6: Environmental protection and sustainability

6.2: Ensure natural resources are used efficiently

6.2.1: We regularly review energy use to proactively identify and implement usage reduction activities to lower costs and reduce carbon foot print

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
6.2.1.2	Provide access to information to operators of large energy usage sites.	Review control operations of all large energy usage sites and educate operators in managing time of use recommendations.	Production & Services Manager		100%	GWCC utilises a cloud based energy Software system called Azility, that monitors energy usage information for every asset and also provides an automated billing review system for identification of anomalies. Access to this system and associated information has been made available to all necessary staff whom manage energy requirements for council.
6.2.1.3	Investigate and review any renewable projects where viable.	Review Solar options for small sites and investigate alternative renewable energy projects for reducing Councils long term costs of energy.	Production & Services Manager		100%	GWCC staff has undertaken an audit of all energy usage sites and has determined that no viable options are currently available to commence. This is mainly due to the significant volume of land required to be purchased to facilitate renewable energy projects. The purchase and costs of land make the projects unviable. Staff are continuing investigations into better management of existing systems through projects such as the Jugiong Artificial Intelligence system Emagine.



Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
6.2.1.4	Maintain an energy usage and cost data base.	Maintain the population of Azility cloud base systems to actively monitor our energy usage and costs.	Production & Services Manager		100%	GWCC has developed and utilises a software system called Azility to monitor and track all energy usage sites.

6.2.2: Water use efficiency is increased across the network

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
6.2.2.2	Customers are encouraged to sign up to the Goldenfields Water App. The Goldenfields Water App is utilised to provide customers with updates.	Customer registration to the Goldenfields App has increased	Community Engagement Officer		100%	Customers are encouraged to utilise this free service through regular advertising - both traditional and modern.



6.3: Manage the water supply's sustainability and security

6.3.1: Risks to the water supply's sustainability and security are identified and monitored

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
6.3.1.1	Actively monitor our raw water source via both hydrological and water quality parameters	Undertake monthly sampling and testing of raw water quality samples. Monitor councils access entitlements to source water and ensure restrictions are utilised when and where required.	Production & Services Manager		100%	GWCC staff undertake routine monitoring, sampling and testing of all raw water sources. Additional SCADA monitoring systems have been installed on some groundwater bores to trend levels. Staff are also currently developing visual monitoring system of groundwater levels for the Oura borefield through the WaterOutlook software system.
6.3.1.2	Council staff are informed and educated of the risks to water supply sustainability, and policies and practices are reviewed in line with this information.	Goldenfields policies and practices are aligned with water supply sustainability.	General Manager		100%	Goldenfields' SCADA systems are continually invested in to monitor our groundwater sources to ensure security of yield for the long term.



7: Efficient operations

7.1: Improve business efficiency

7.1.1: We have an efficient corporate structure

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.1.1.1	Goldenfields Corporate structure is reviewed within 12 months of the ordinary election of council to best meet the organisations requirements.	Goldenfields Corporate structure is efficiently aligned to meet organisational requirements, having been reviewed within 12 months of the ordinary election of council.	General Manager		0%	This item will align with the local government election cycle and has been included in the 2021/22 Operation Plan activities.

7.1.2: Information management is integrated across the organisation

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.1.2.2	Continually update and improve the Geographic Information System	GIS enhancements are implemented	Engineering Manager		100%	GIS Data integrated with Asset data, Burst locations recorded. Continual improvement ongoing



7.1.3: Corporate systems are implemented to support improvements in business efficiency

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.1.3.4	Contract management module added to authority suite	Contract management module added to authority suite	Engineering Manager		100%	Contract management Framework developed and implemented

7.1.5: Fleet management is optimised

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.1.5.1	Prepare annual fleet replacement budget and review quarterly.	Prepare annual fleet budget for inclusion in Capital Works Program. Review progress quarterly during Quarterly Budget Reviews.	Corporate Services Manager		100%	Fleet replacement budget adopted in operational plan and is reviewed during Quarterly Budget Review process.
7.1.5.2	To be considered when the corporate structure is reviewed.	Considered as part of the corporate structure review.	General Manager		0%	Consideration of a fleet management system will occur in conjunction with the review of the corporate structure post local government elections.



7.3: Reduce exposure to business risks

7.3.2: Environmental management practices are in place to reduce exposure to environmental risk

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.3.2.1	Consideration is to be given to the development of an environmental management system during 2020/21.	Consideration has been given to the development of an environmental management system.	Production & Services Manager		0%	No resources have been made available to undertake this work within the current financial year.

7.3.3: Integrated risk management is part of asset management processes

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.3.3.1	Asset renewals are prioritised based on investment prioritisation model.	Prioritisation reported to MANEX	Engineering Manager		100%	Asset data updated and used to inform future Capital works programs



7.4: Improve the efficiency of operations in the field

7.4.1: We have an efficient, mobile workforce

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
7.4.1.2	The current Customer Service Calls application is to be further utilised to streamline operations in the field.	The utilisation of the Customer Service Call application has been expanded to streamline operations in the field.	Corporate Services Manager		100%	Customer Service Call application is being utilised by field staff to issue and track service calls.

8: Highly skilled and energetic workforce

8.1: Improve the management of human resources

8.1.1: Our workforce is motivated, skilled and flexible

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
8.1.1.1	Goldenfields Workforce Management Plan is developed to meet the organisational requirements identified within the four year Delivery Program for 2021/25.	Goldenfields Workforce Management Plan has been developed and adopted by the Board.	HR Coordinator		0%	Not Due to start



Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
8.1.1.2	Provide staff with professional development opportunities that meet organisational future needs	Annual staff development plans completed, training undertaken for identified gaps	HR Coordinator		100%	Staff were provided with training and education in accordance with Goldenfields Water's Training Plan 2019-2021.
8.1.1.3	An annual staff survey is undertaken to identify areas that are going well, areas that could be improved and how staff are best supported to effectively perform their roles.	Annual staff survey is undertaken and results considered to enhance organisational functions.	HR Coordinator		100%	Staff survey was conducted in September 2020. Results reported back to staff and to Board. Results considered to enhance organisational functions through staff training and promotion of cross unit cooperation.

9: Financially sustainable

9.1: Deliver responsible financial management

9.1.1: Our organisation is financially sustainable

Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
9.1.1.1	Develop and undertake annual review of long term financial plan.	Review long term financial plan annually in conjunction with operational plan preparation.	Corporate Services Manager		100%	LTFP reviewed and adopted for 2020/2021. Reviewed in conjunction with 2021/2022 budget preparation process.



Code	Operational Plan Desired Outcome	Performance Measure	Responsible Officer Position	Traffic Lights	Progress	Annual Comment
9.1.1.4	Capital works program is developed in accordance with Council's asset management and investment frameworks and is achievable within Council's long term financial plan.	Capital works program is developed in accordance with Council's asset management and investment frameworks and is achievable within Council's long term financial plan.	Engineering Manager		100%	30 Year Capital Works program has been developed with Next financial years Capital program adopted as part of the Delivery Program



STATUTORY REPORTING

Financial, asset and other reporting requirements

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), Goldenfields Water's Annual Report must contain:

- A copy of its audited financial report prepared in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting published by the NSW Government's Office of Local Government.
- Such other information or material as the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW) or the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines may require.

This section contains information about those items that Goldenfields Water as a single purpose county council is statutorily obligated to report on.

Overseas visits by Goldenfields Water representatives

Clause 217(1) (a) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

During the 2020/21 year, no overseas visits were undertaken by Goldenfields Water representatives.

Councillor remuneration, expenses and provision of facilities

Clause 217(1) (a1) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Chairpersons fees	\$16,246
Members fees	\$79,130
Total	\$95,376
Provision of dedicated office equipment	Nil
Telephone call allowance	\$780
Attendance of councillors at conferences and seminars	\$1,666
Induction training and professional development programs	Nil
Other training and skill development	Nil
Attendance of councillors spouse at conferences	Nil
Travel expenses	\$6,412
Provision of care for child or immediate family member	Nil
Total	\$8,858

Contracts awarded with a value of \$150,000.00 or more

Clause 217 (1) (a2) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Contractor Name	Name of goods/ services provided	Total amount payable under the contract
Origin Energy Ltd	Electricity	\$2,127,479
AGL Energy Ltd	Electricity	\$132,639
Ampol Ltd	Fuel	\$248,602
Cardno NSW/ACT Pty Ltd	Rosehill to Young Strategic Plan	\$206,663
Schneider Electric Australia Pty Ltd	Oura HV Equipment	\$1,880,026
TCM Civil Pty Ltd	Rosehill to Harden Pipeline Replacement	\$3,401,743
Gongues Constructions Pty Ltd	Critical Large Valves Replacement	\$656,255
AGH Demolitions and Asbestos Removal Pty Ltd	Old Jugiong Treatment Plant Demolition	\$587,410
Gongues Constructions Pty Ltd	Oura HV Civil Construction	\$3,028,000
Total		\$12,268,817



Legal Proceedings: Expenses & Progress

Clause 217(1) (a3) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

During the 2020/21 year Goldenfields Water incurred \$132,887 in legal fees for general legal issues and debt recovery. Legal fees were not in relation to legal proceedings in court, they were only in relation to legal advice or debt recovery action.

Section 67 Works on private land

Clause 217(1) (a4) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

During the 2020/21 year Goldenfields did not carry out any works on private land.

Section 356 contributions

Clause 217(1) (a5) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 enables a council to contribute money to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions. Goldenfields Water grants concessions and donations to Schools, Community Groups and Service Organisations located within its distribution area.

The following groups and service organisations are eligible to be granted the following concessions:

- Constituent General Purpose Councils - a donation equal to the value of access charges levied on the first connection to "community" land, together with any connections within road reserves (where such connection is used for public beautification) and crown reserves (where such reserves are not leased or otherwise subject to restrictions on public access);

- All Schools (State and Church), colleges and pre-schools within Council's service area - on application, a donation of \$200 per annum each, to be applied towards the cost of prizes and/or awards to students or any other approved purpose;
- Premises owned by recognised Churches - a donation equal to the value of access charges for any connection which serves, in whole or part, a place of public worship, residence occupied by a minister of religion and/or member of a recognised religious order, and/or welfare facility operated by that church (not including commercial operations);
- Premises owned (or held in trust) and used by the following community organisations, together with others which may be accepted from time to time - a donation equal to the value of access charges for any connection which serves premises primarily utilised to further the objectives of such organisation:
 - Scouting & Guiding movement
 - Rescue and disaster response groups
 - Masonic Lodge meeting places
 - Community halls / recreation facilities
 - Country Women's Association
 - Red Cross
 - Local history societies / museums
 - Local senior citizens' groups
 - Agricultural showgrounds
 - Unlicensed RSL halls or similar premises

During 2020/21, Goldenfields Water provided the following donations:



- Access Charge Donation - \$157,440
- Donation of Drinking Water re-fill stations - \$47,946
- Schools - \$13,200

Total rates and charges written off

Clause 132 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

During the 2020/21 year, Goldenfields Water County Council wrote off a total of \$0.

Goldenfields Water functions delegated to external bodies

Clause 217(1) (a6) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

During the 2020/21 year, Goldenfields Water has delegated building inspections related to onsite water functions to retail councils: Bland, Coolamon, Junee and Temora.

Goldenfields Water’s controlling interest in corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies

Clause 217(1) (a7) Local Government (General) Regulation.

During the 2020/21 year, Goldenfields Water held no controlling interests under this section.

Participation in partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies

Clause 217(1) (a8) Local Government (General) Regulation

Goldenfields Water was a party to the following partnerships, co-operatives or joint ventures during the 2020/21 financial year:

- Statewide Mutual - a self-insurance mutual providing public liability and professional indemnity cover for Council.
- Statewide Property Mutual - a self-insurance mutual providing property insurance for Council.
- StateCover - a self-insurance mutual providing workers compensation insurance for Council.
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) - a collective of 7 General Purpose Councils and 2 Water County Councils whose objectives are as follows:
 - To participate in activities which promote effective regional development.
 - To enhance the collective status of Local Government within the eastern Riverina.
- MOU with Riverina Water – Goldenfields Water developed MOU to encourage resource and technical advice sharing.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement of Activities

Clause 217(1) (a9) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

It is Council’s policy to provide equal employment opportunity for all persons in accordance with relevant legislation. An Equal Employment Opportunity policy and accompanying Management Plan has been established which provides a comprehensive overview of EEO while outlining the actions Goldenfields Water will undertake to ensure compliance.

Through staff training and awareness, policy development and implementation, key messaging has been provided to reinforce Council’s position against discrimination and harassment in any form.



Total remuneration for general managers and senior staff

Clause 217(1) (b) & (c) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

During the 2020/21 financial year the general manager was the only position on a senior staff contract. The remuneration total includes salaries paid, employer superannuation contributions, and fringe benefits tax.

General Manager \$241,128

Compliance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG)

Goldenfields Water has developed and maintained a Drinking Water Management System (DWMS) since 2018. The DWMS demonstrates Goldenfields Waters' compliance with the requirement of s25 Public Health Act 2010 which requires a water utility to develop a Quality Assurance Program in line with the Framework for Drinking Water Quality Management in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011 v3.4 (NHMRC 2017). This DWMS and its associated documents, act as a roadmap of the activities that Council undertakes to ensure the provision of safe drinking water to its customers.

As part of maintaining a DWMS, Goldenfields Water staff undertake an extensive water analysis of all of its water supply systems via the collection and testing of water for both operational and verification monitoring. These samples are tested at the GWCC laboratory, or an external NATA accredited laboratory for operational monitoring or NSW Health's FASS lab for verification and compliance purposes.

Throughout the 2020/21 reporting period, Goldenfields Staff have conducted a total of 1296 microbial water samples, 186 comprehensive chemical samples, 14 pesticide samples, 5 Radiological samples were taken and then tested by Australian Nuclear Science and Technology

Organisation (ANSTO), and 2099 in-situ testing samples undertaken and reported on.

All microbial samples were compliant throughout the reporting period, with 17 Critical Control Point (CCP) non-conformances triggered during this reporting year. These exceedances were based on fluoride or chlorine plant failures, where the treatment plant either failed to dose fluoride or the chlorine analyser required calibration. The DWMS is a public document and can be accessed through the following link.

<http://www.gwcc.nsw.gov.au/Plans-policies/Plans-and-reports>



Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Section 125 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 & clause 8. Schedule 2 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018.

Review of proactive release program – Clause 8 (a)

Under section 7 of the GIPA Act, Council must review its program for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made public. This must be undertaken every year.

Council’s program for the release of information is on a case by case basis as little information is discretionally unavailable.

Number of access applications received - Clause 8(b)

During the reporting period, Council received nil formal access applications.

Number of refused applications for Schedule 1 information – Clause 8(c)

During the reporting period, Council did not refuse any formal access applications.

Statistical information about access applications – Clause 8(d) and Schedule 2

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access re- refused in full	Infor- mation not held	Infor- mation already avail- able	Refuse to deal with ap- plication	Refuse to confirm/ deny wheth- er informa- tion is held	Appli- cation withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.



Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual). The total number of decisions in Table B should be the same as Table A.*

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	Number of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0



Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act

	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0
Information about complaints to Judicial Commission	0
Information about authorised transactions under Electricity Network Assets (Authorised Transactions) Act 2015	0
Information about authorised transactions under Land and Property Information NSW (Authorised Transaction) Act 2016	0

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	0

**More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.*



Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by NCAT	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

**The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendation to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.*

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of Part 4 of the Act (by type of transfer)

	Number of applications for review
Agency initiated transfers	0
Applicant initiated transfer	0

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0



Public interest disclosures

Section 31 of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (PID Act) & clause 4 of the Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011

Goldenfields Water is required to report annually on statistical information in accordance with the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (PID Act).

Goldenfields Water maintains a Complaints Management Policy as well as an Internal Reporting Policy to manage public interest disclosures. These are published on council's website as well as distributed to staff.

Statistical information for 2020/21 can be found in the following table

1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021	Made by public officials performing their day to day functions	Under a statutory or other legal obligation	All other PIDs
Number of public officials who made PIDs directly	0	0	0
Number of PIDs received	0	0	0
Of PIDs received, number primarily about: Corrupt conduct	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maladministration	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serious and substantial waste	N/A	N/A	N/A
Government information contravention	N/A	N/A	N/A
Local government pecuniary interest contravention	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of PIDs finalised	0		



Financial Statements

Goldenfields' audited financial reports for the year 2020/21 are included below.

Goldenfields Water County Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2021

To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and customer service.



Goldenfields Water County Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2021

*To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of
water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and
customer service.*



Goldenfields Water County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

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Overview

Goldenfields Water County Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

84 Parkes Street
Temora NSW 2666

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note B1-2.

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.gwcc.nsw.gov.au.

Goldenfields Water County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Statement by Councillors and Management

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

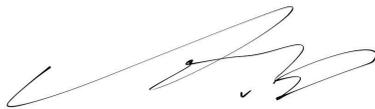
Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 24 August 2021.



Clr Dennis Palmer
Chairperson
24 August 2021



Clr David McCann
Deputy Chairperson
24 August 2021



Aaron Drenovski
General Manager
24 August 2021



Michele Curran
Responsible Accounting Officer
24 August 2021

Goldenfields Water County Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2021

\$ '000	Notes	2021	2020
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		146	1,529
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	<u>9,971</u>	<u>(259)</u>
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		9,971	(259)
Total other comprehensive income for the year		9,971	(259)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		10,117	1,270

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Goldenfields Water County Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2021

\$ '000	Notes	2021	2020
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	4,338	5,672
Investments	C1-2	34,021	39,000
Receivables	C1-4	5,820	5,958
Inventories	C1-5	768	595
Total current assets		44,947	51,225
Non-current assets			
Investments	C1-2	12,000	10,000
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	277,546	262,817
Total non-current assets		289,546	272,817
Total assets		334,493	324,042
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	1,447	1,262
Employee benefit provisions	C3-3	2,573	2,437
Total current liabilities		4,020	3,699
Non-current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	8	8
Employee benefit provisions	C3-3	131	118
Total non-current liabilities		139	126
Total liabilities		4,159	3,825
Net assets		330,334	320,217
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	C4-1	95,176	95,030
IPPE revaluation reserve	C4-1	235,158	225,187
Council equity interest		330,334	320,217
Total equity		330,334	320,217

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Goldenfields Water County Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2021

\$ '000	Notes	as at 30/06/21			as at 30/06/20		
		Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity	Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity
Opening balance at 1 July		95,030	225,187	320,217	93,501	225,446	318,947
Net operating result for the year		146	–	146	1,529	–	1,529
Net operating result for the period		146	–	146	1,529	–	1,529
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	9,971	9,971	–	(259)	(259)
Other comprehensive income		–	9,971	9,971	–	(259)	(259)
Total comprehensive income		146	9,971	10,117	1,529	(259)	1,270
Closing balance at 30 June		95,176	235,158	330,334	95,030	225,187	320,217

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Goldenfields Water County Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Original unaudited budget 2021	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2021	Actual 2020
Cash flows from operating activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
5,211	Annual charges		5,592	5,835
16,276	User charges and fees		14,576	17,820
915	Investment and interest revenue received		1,295	1,513
1,544	Grants and contributions		2,389	1,558
138	Other		1,556	1,764
<i>Payments:</i>				
(6,685)	Employee benefits and on-costs		(7,071)	(6,847)
(4,045)	Materials and services		(9,729)	(5,098)
–	Bonds, deposits and retention amounts refunded		–	(28)
(5,218)	Other		147	(5,806)
8,136	Net cash flows from operating activities	F1-1	8,755	10,711
Cash flows from investing activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
6,027	Redemption of term deposits		2,979	–
–	Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		968	669
<i>Payments:</i>				
(14,663)	Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		(14,036)	(7,596)
(8,636)	Net cash flows from investing activities		(10,089)	(6,927)
(500)	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		(1,334)	3,784
5,672	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		5,672	1,888
5,172	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	4,338	5,672
43,376	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	46,021	49,000
48,548	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		50,359	54,672

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Goldenfields Water County Council

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Goldenfields Water County Council

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A About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 30 September 2021. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Regulation)*, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Council is a not for-profit entity.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- (i) estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6
- (ii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-3.

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

- (i) Impairment of receivables – refer Note C1-4
- (ii) Determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific and whether the contract is within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and / or AASB 1058 *Income for Not-for-Profit Entities* - refer to Notes B2-2 - B2-3.

COVID-19 Impacts

During the 2021 financial year, COVID-19 (COVID) has continued to cause a disruption to Council's business practices with a number of staff working remotely from home when required. Whilst this has caused some inconveniences it has not resulted in significant additional costs.

Overall, the financial impact has not been significant and is not anticipated to increase in future years.

Council is of the view that physical non-current assets will not experience substantial declines in value due to COVID. Fair value of the majority of Council's non-current assets is determined by replacement costs where there is no anticipated material change in value due to COVID. For assets where fair value is determined by market value Council has no evidence of material changes to these values.

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

General Purpose Operations (Water Services)

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued not yet effective

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations (ie. pronouncements) have been published by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2021 reporting period.

Council has elected not to apply any of these pronouncements in these financial statements before their operative dates.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from 1 July 2020.

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

\$ '000	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Functions or activities										
Water supplies	23,272	26,089	23,126	24,560	146	1,529	2,388	1,559	334,493	324,042
Total functions and activities	23,272	26,089	23,126	24,560	146	1,529	2,388	1,559	334,493	324,042

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

Water supplies

Council is responsible for water supply functions within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Temora and parts of Cootamundra-Gundagai and Narrandera.

Council also supplies bulk water to Hilltops and other parts of Cootamundra-Gundagai.

Council does not undertake any other functions.

B2 Sources of income

B2-1 Rates and annual charges

\$ '000	2021	2020
Annual charges		
(pursuant to s.496, s.496A, s.496B, s.501 & s.611)		
– Residential	1,637	1,618
– Non-residential	989	965
– Rural	1,482	1,460
– Bulk supplies to councils	1,437	1,477
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(156)	(158)
Annual charges levied	5,389	5,362
Pensioner subsidies received:		
– Water	84	85
Total annual charges	5,473	5,447
Total rates and annual charges	5,473	5,447

Accounting policy

Annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid charges are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area that are not subsidised by the NSW Government.

Pensioner subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.

B2-2 User charges and fees

\$ '000	Timing	2021	2020
Specific user charges			
(per s.502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Residential	2	4,175	5,155
Non residential	2	2,680	3,333
Rural	2	2,816	3,631
Bulk supplies to councils	2	3,988	5,104
Total specific user charges		13,659	17,223
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s.608)			
Inspection services	2	3	1
Private works	2	2	4
Section 603 certificates	2	65	45
Tapping fees	2	137	132
Connection application fees	2	44	41
Special meter reading fee	2	7	3
Other	2	18	15
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		276	241
Total user charges and fees		13,935	17,464
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees			
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time (2)		13,935	17,464
Total user charges and fees		13,935	17,464

Accounting policy

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

B2-3 Other revenue

\$ '000	Timing	2021	2020
Diesel rebate	2	12	9
Employment / training incentives	2	43	3
Data network access charges	2	34	18
Insurance rebates	2	6	8
Workers compensation rebate	2	37	23
Procurement rebate	2	1	–
Other	2	6	19
Water filling station commissions	2	89	–
Total other revenue		228	80

Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue

Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)	228	80
Total other revenue	228	80

Accounting policy for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the the obligations are satisfied.

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

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

B2-4 Grants and contributions

\$ '000	Timing	Operating 2021	Operating 2020	Capital 2021	Capital 2020
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions - cash					
Water supplies	2	–	–	10	–
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash		–	–	10	–
Comprising:					
– Other funding		–	–	10	–
		–	–	10	–

Developer contributions

Developer contributions: (s7.4 & s7.11 - EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA):

Cash contributions

S 64 – water supply contributions	2	–	–	2,378	1,559
Total developer contributions		–	–	2,378	1,559
Total grants and contributions		–	–	2,388	1,559

Timing of revenue recognition for grants and contributions

Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time (2)

Total grants and contributions		–	–	2,388	1,559
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Accounting policy

Grants and contributions – enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants and contributions

Capital grants and contributions received by Council under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

B2-5 Interest and investment income

\$ '000	2021	2020
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	21	44
– Cash and investments	1,024	1,327
Total interest and investment income (losses)	1,045	1,371
Interest and investment income is attributable to:		
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:		
Overdue rates and annual charges (general fund)	21	44
General Council cash and investments	1,024	1,327
Total interest and investment income	1,045	1,371

Accounting policy

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B2-6 Other income

\$ '000	Notes	2021	2020
Rental income			
Rental properties			
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)		60	74
Total Rental properties		60	74
Other lease income			
Leaseback fees - council vehicles		92	94
Total Other lease income		92	94
Total rental income	C2-2	152	168
Total other income		152	168

B3 Costs of providing services

B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs

\$ '000	2021	2020
Salaries and wages	5,313	5,829
Employee termination costs (where material – other than vested leave paid)	24	61
Travel expenses	–	23
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	1,153	822
Superannuation	885	811
Workers' compensation insurance	139	116
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	138	182
Payroll tax	284	345
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	161	131
Protective clothing	59	80
Recruitment costs	17	25
Other	8	129
Total employee costs	8,181	8,554
Less: capitalised costs	(1,038)	(1,113)
Total employee costs expensed	7,143	7,441

Accounting policy

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Superannuation plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note D3-1 for more information.

B3-2 Materials and services

\$ '000	Notes	2021	2020
Raw materials and consumables		6,022	5,894
Contractor and consultancy costs		10,414	4,076
Audit Fees	E2-1	70	77
Previously other expenses:			
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	E1-2	104	107
Advertising		35	14
Bank charges		19	42
Cleaning		1	3
Computer software charges		237	358
Electricity and heating		2,294	2,971
Insurance		208	216
Printing, postage and stationery		92	85
Subscriptions and publications		278	141
Telephone and communications		311	329
Collection agencies		69	31
Other expenses		10	10
Council land rates		80	79
Early payment discount		–	51
Legal expenses		133	89
Expenses from short-term leases		–	5
Expenses from leases of low value assets	C2-1	54	3
Purchase of water		92	99
Total materials and services		20,523	14,680
Less: capitalised costs		(13,141)	(6,310)
Total materials and services		7,382	8,370

Accounting policy

Expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

B3-3 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

\$ '000	2021	2020
Depreciation and amortisation		
Plant and equipment	1,027	935
Office equipment	347	330
Furniture and fittings	12	11
Infrastructure:		
– Buildings – non-specialised	192	201
– Water mains	4,350	4,109
– Reservoirs	1,136	1,141
– Pumping stations and bores	677	693
– Treatment plants	620	694
Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs	8,361	8,114
Total depreciation and amortisation costs	8,361	8,114
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets	8,361	8,114

Accounting policy

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are not tested for impairment since these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Other non-financial assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units).

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

B3-4 Other expenses

\$ '000	2021	2020
Other		
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)	240	220
Total other	240	220
Total other expenses	240	220

Accounting policy

Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis when Council has an obligation for the expenses.

B4 Gains or losses**B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets**

\$ '000	Notes	2021	2020
Gain (or loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		968	634
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		(917)	(733)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		51	(99)
Office equipment	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – Office equipment		–	35
Less: carrying amount of Office equipment assets sold/written off		–	(178)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	(143)
Gain (or loss) on disposal of infrastructure	C1-6		
Less: carrying amount of infrastructure assets sold/written off		–	(173)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	(173)
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of assets		51	(415)

Accounting policy

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 24/06/2021 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 ----- Variance -----	
REVENUES				
Rates and annual charges	5,165	5,473	308	6% F
User charges and fees	16,010	13,935	(2,075)	(13)% U
Water usage was lower than original budget projections due to reduced demand following wet weather and low average temperatures.				
Other revenues	100	228	128	128% F
Higher than originally budgeted due to training incentives offered by the Federal Government when employing apprentices, as well as commissions from water filling stations.				
Capital grants and contributions	1,500	2,388	888	59% F
Higher number of developer applications than originally anticipated.				
Interest and investment revenue	830	1,045	215	26% F
Higher levels of cash on hand during most of the year than anticipated due to unexpended CAPEX expenditure, which has resulted in higher investment returns.				
Net gains from disposal of assets	-	51	51	∞ F
Other income	85	152	67	79% F
Variance due to difference in categorisation compared to budget.				

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 ----- Variance -----	
EXPENSES				
Employee benefits and on-costs	6,517	7,143	(626)	(10)% U
Increased staffing levels during the year to meet operational needs.				
Materials and services	4,188	7,382	(3,194)	(76)% U
Variance to budget due to difference in categorisation following the NSW Office of Local Government change to the Code of Accounting requirements, where most expenses formerly classified as Other Expenses are reclassified to Materials and Services.				
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	7,521	8,361	(840)	(11)% U
Revaluation of infrastructure assets resulted in higher depreciation expenditure than budgeted.				
Other expenses	5,217	240	4,977	95% F
Variance following categorisation change introduced by the NSW Office of Local Government in the Code of Accounting, that recategorised expenses formerly included in Other Expenses to Materials and Services.				
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS				
Cash flows from operating activities	8,136	8,755	619	8% F
Cash flows from investing activities	(8,636)	(10,089)	(1,453)	17% U
Due to higher levels of cash and investments on hand during the year, less investments required redeeming than originally budgeted, which reduced sales of investments within the investing activity cash flows.				

C Financial position

C1 Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

\$ '000	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand and at bank	837	1,417
Cash-equivalent assets		
– Deposits at call	3,501	4,255
Total cash and cash equivalents	4,338	5,672

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	4,338	5,672
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	4,338	5,672

Accounting policy

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

C1-2 Financial investments

\$ '000	2021 Current	2021 Non-current	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Long term deposits	34,021	12,000	39,000	10,000
Total	34,021	12,000	39,000	10,000
Total financial investments	34,021	12,000	39,000	10,000
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	38,359	12,000	44,672	10,000

Accounting policy

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories – those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income – equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

Amortised cost

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows, and

C1-2 Financial investments (continued)

- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term deposits with an initial term of more than 3 months are classified as investments rather than cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.

Financial assets through profit or loss

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income as described above are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Net gains or losses, including any interest or dividend income, are recognised in profit or loss.

C1-3 Restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments

\$ '000	2021	2021	2020	2020
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	38,359	12,000	44,672	10,000
attributable to:				
Internal restrictions	16,491	12,000	29,799	10,000
Unrestricted	21,868	–	14,873	–
	38,359	12,000	44,672	10,000

\$ '000	2021	2020

Details of restrictions

Internal restrictions

Council has internally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments as follows:

Plant and vehicle replacement	1,761	1,269
Infrastructure replacement	24,482	34,009
Employees leave entitlement	2,248	2,129
Sales fluctuation reserve	–	2,000
Property asset reserve	–	392
Total internal restrictions	28,491	39,799
Total restrictions	28,491	39,799

Internal restrictions over cash, cash equivalents and investments are those assets restricted only by a resolution of the elected Council.

C1-4 Receivables

\$ '000	2021 Current	2021 Non-current	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
Purpose				
Availability (access) charges	1,431	-	1,494	-
Interest and extra charges	75	-	93	-
User charges and fees	2,782	-	3,154	-
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	283	-	515	-
Deferred developer contributions	689	-	488	-
Government grants and subsidies	84	-	85	-
Net GST receivable	468	-	80	-
Other debtors	8	-	49	-
Total	5,820	-	5,958	-
Total net receivables	5,820	-	5,958	-

\$ '000	2021	2020
Movement in provision for impairment of receivables		
Balance at the beginning of the year (calculated in accordance with AASB 139)	-	15
– amounts already provided for and written off this year	-	(15)
Balance at the end of the year	-	-

Accounting policy

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When estimating ECL, Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

When considering the ECL for rates and annual charges debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Credit losses are measured at the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Council writes off a receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery.

C1-5 Inventories

\$ '000	2021 Current	2021 Non-current	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
(i) Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	768	–	595	–
Total inventories at cost	768	–	595	–
Total inventories	768	–	595	–

Accounting policy

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2020			Asset movements during the reporting period						At 30 June 2021		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Revaluation increments / (decrements) to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000												
Capital work in progress	6,037	–	6,037	–	9,809	–	–	(1,196)	–	14,650	–	14,650
Plant and equipment	8,845	(3,272)	5,573	–	1,621	(917)	(1,027)	–	–	9,172	(3,922)	5,250
Office equipment	1,699	(748)	951	–	66	–	(347)	–	–	1,765	(1,095)	670
Furniture and fittings	110	(50)	60	–	–	–	(12)	–	–	110	(62)	48
Land:												
– Operational land	2,830	–	2,830	–	470	–	–	38	–	3,338	–	3,338
Infrastructure:												
– Buildings – non-specialised	7,094	(2,275)	4,819	133	–	–	(192)	14	–	7,241	(2,467)	4,774
– Water mains	323,070	(156,797)	166,273	167	145	–	(4,350)	52	4,933	333,870	(166,650)	167,220
– Reservoirs	83,599	(39,492)	44,107	285	–	–	(1,136)	50	4,551	83,966	(36,109)	47,857
– Pumping stations and bores	28,539	(14,248)	14,291	1,090	–	–	(677)	177	1,599	28,785	(12,305)	16,480
– Treatment plants	33,205	(15,329)	17,876	–	250	–	(620)	865	(1,112)	33,567	(16,308)	17,259
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	495,028	(232,211)	262,817	1,675	12,361	(917)	(8,361)	–	9,971	516,464	(238,918)	277,546

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2019			Asset movements during the reporting period						At 30 June 2020		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Revaluation increments / (decrements) to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000												
Capital work in progress	3,714	–	3,714	–	3,775	–	–	(1,452)	–	6,037	–	6,037
Plant and equipment	9,328	(3,421)	5,907	–	1,334	(733)	(935)	–	–	8,845	(3,272)	5,573
Office equipment	2,042	(583)	1,459	–	–	(178)	(330)	–	–	1,699	(748)	951
Furniture and fittings	140	(69)	71	–	–	–	(11)	–	–	110	(50)	60
Land:												
– Operational land	2,807	–	2,807	–	–	–	–	–	23	2,830	–	2,830
Infrastructure:												
– Buildings – non-specialised	7,074	(2,074)	5,000	–	43	–	(201)	–	(23)	7,094	(2,275)	4,819
– Water supply network	295,011	(142,321)	152,690	41	1,010	(144)	(4,109)	1,278	15,507	323,070	(156,797)	166,273
– Reservoirs	85,552	(25,811)	59,741	45	–	–	(1,141)	9	(14,547)	83,599	(39,492)	44,107
– Pumping stations and bores	25,767	(8,993)	16,774	412	888	(30)	(693)	99	(3,159)	28,539	(14,248)	14,291
– Treatment plants	23,274	(6,759)	16,515	71	–	–	(694)	44	1,940	33,205	(15,329)	17,876
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	454,709	(190,031)	264,678	569	7,050	(1,085)	(8,114)	(22)	(259)	495,028	(232,211)	262,817

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Accounting policy

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Water network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Water.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are acquired by Council for nil or nominal consideration, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	Buildings	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Buildings: masonry	50 to 60
Office furniture	10 to 20	Buildings: other	25 to 40
Computer equipment	5		
Vehicles	6.25		
Heavy plant	8 to 20		
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15		
Water assets			
Reservoirs	40 to 90		
Bores	30 to 80		
Reticulation pipes: PVC	50 to 80		
Reticulation pipes: other	50 to 90		
Pumps and telemetry	10 to 40		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

\$ '000	2021	2020
Expenses relating to short-term leases	–	5
Expenses relating to low-value leases	54	3
	54	8

Accounting policy

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a lease exists – i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration?

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

At the lease commencement, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where Council believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. All of Council's leases have been assessed as being eligible for either the short-term lease or low-value asset exceptions.

C2-2 Council as a lessor

Operating leases

Council leases out a number of residential properties to staff as well as access to Council owned sites to other utilities and leaseback vehicles to staff; these leases have been classified as operating leases for financial reporting purposes and the assets are included as IPP&E in the Statement of Financial Position.

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to operating leases where Council is a lessor are shown below:

\$ '000	2021	2020
(i) Assets held as rental property		
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	60	74
Total income relating to operating leases for rental property assets	60	74
(ii) Repairs and maintenance: property		
Other	18	19
Total repairs and maintenance: property	18	19
(ii) Assets held as property, plant and equipment		
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	92	94
Total income relating to operating leases for Council assets	92	94

C2-2 Council as a lessor (continued)

Accounting policy

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

C3 Liabilities of Council

C3-1 Payables

\$ '000	2021 Current	2021 Non-current	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
Payables				
Goods and services – operating expenditure	3	–	184	–
Prepaid rates and charges	510	–	454	–
Accrued expenses:				
- Salaries and wages	84	–	161	–
- Employee expense on-costs	163	8	159	8
- Other expenditure accruals	684	–	304	–
Other	3	–	–	–
Total payables	1,447	8	1,262	8
Total payables	1,447	8	1,262	8

Accounting policy

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs.

The financial liabilities of the Council comprise trade payables.

Payables

Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Borrowings

Financing arrangements

\$ '000	2021	2020
Total facilities		
Bank overdraft facilities ¹	500	500
Credit cards/purchase cards	65	100
Total financing arrangements	565	600
Undrawn facilities		
– Bank overdraft facilities	500	500
– Credit cards/purchase cards	48	90
Total undrawn financing arrangements	548	590

(1) The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

C3-3 Employee benefit provisions

\$ '000	2021	2021	2020	2020
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Annual leave	787	–	791	–
Long service leave	1,741	131	1,567	118
Accrued leave	45	–	79	–
Total employee benefit provisions	2,573	131	2,437	118

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

\$ '000	2021	2020
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	2,122	2,117
	2,122	2,117

Accounting policy

Short-term obligations

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

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

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

On-costs

The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

D Risks and accounting uncertainties

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

A comparison by category of the carrying amounts and fair values of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities recognised in the financial statements is presented below.

\$ '000	Carrying value 2021	Carrying value 2020	Fair value 2021	Fair value 2020
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	4,338	5,672	4,338	5,672
Receivables	5,820	5,958	5,820	5,958
Investments				
– Debt securities at amortised cost	46,021	49,000	46,021	49,000
Total financial assets	56,179	60,630	56,179	60,630
Financial liabilities				
Payables	1,455	1,270	1,455	1,270
Total financial liabilities	1,455	1,270	1,455	1,270

Fair value is determined as follows:

- **Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables** – are estimated to be the carrying value that approximates market value
- **Held-to-maturity investments** – are based upon estimated future cash flows discounted by the current market interest rates applicable to assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles, unless quoted market prices are available.

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and investments portfolio.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Minister's investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and an investment report is tabled at each Council meeting setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether these changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- **Credit risk** – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

\$ '000	2021	2020
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The impact on result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.

Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates

– Equity / Income Statement	482	532
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(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Credit risk profile

Receivables – rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	< 1 year overdue	1 - 2 years overdue	2 - 5 years overdue	> 5 years overdue	Total
2021						
Gross carrying amount	1,090	193	62	70	16	1,431
2020						
Gross carrying amount	1,059	435	–	–	–	1,494

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges and contract assets

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	0 - 30 days overdue	31 - 60 days overdue	61 - 90 days overdue	> 91 days overdue	Total
2021						
Gross carrying amount	3,531	1	217	71	569	4,389
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	–	–
2020						
Gross carrying amount	3,090	460	115	40	759	4,464
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	–	–

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk – the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels and maintaining an adequate cash buffer.

Payment terms can (in extenuating circumstances) also be extended and overdraft facilities utilised as required.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

\$ '000	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	payable in: ≤ 1 Year	1 - 5 Years	> 5 Years	Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
2021							
Trade/other payables	0.00%	–	253	–	–	253	945
Total financial liabilities		–	253	–	–	253	945
2020							
Trade/other payables	0.00%	–	1,270	–	–	1,270	1,270
Total financial liabilities		–	1,270	–	–	1,270	1,270

D2 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

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

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

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

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

\$ '000	Notes	Fair value measurement hierarchy							
		Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
		2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Recurring fair value measurements									
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment C1-6									
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	5,250	5,573	5,250	5,573
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	670	951	670	951
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	48	60	48	60
		30/06/18	30/06/18	3,338	2,830	–	–	3,338	2,830
		30/06/18	30/06/18	4,774	4,819	–	–	4,774	4,819
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	167,220	166,273	167,220	166,273
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	47,857	44,107	47,857	44,107
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	16,480	14,291	16,480	14,291
		30/06/21	30/06/20	–	–	17,259	17,876	17,259	17,876
				8,112	7,649	254,784	249,131	262,896	256,780

Valuation techniques

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture and Fittings

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture and Fittings are valued at depreciated historical cost.

The carrying amount of these assets approximates fair value due to the nature of the items. Council values Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture and Fittings using unobservable level 3 inputs including gross historical cost, estimated useful life of the asset and residual value.

Land - Operational

This asset class comprises of all of Council's land classified as Operational Land under the NSW Local Government Act 1993. Land was revalued as at 30 June 2018 by Asset Val Pty Ltd.

Fair value is based on sales of land in the locality and principles of the direct comparison method for individual parcels. Where there is a lack of comparable sales, closest comparable sales of properties with similar characteristics is used.

D2 Fair value measurement (continued)

Direct comparison method is considered a level 2 input, involves the analysis of sales evidence and comparisons of the subject land, taking into account matters such as area, location and other general site characteristics. The valuation techniques used maximise the use of observable data where it is available.

Buildings - Non Specialised

Buildings were valued at 30 June 2018 by Asset Val Pty Ltd.

Fair value is determined using a sales based market value approach. A market approach is based on available sales evidence using either the direct comparison, summation or income approaches. Where a market value approach is not suitable, an alternative replacement cost approach is used. The cost approach may not be suitable for assets of a specialised nature where there is a lack of market evidence.

Market approach valuation is deemed to be a level 2 input. The valuation techniques used maximise the use of observable data where it is available.

Water Infrastructure

This comprises of water mains, reservoirs, bores, pumping stations and treatment plants.

These asset classes were indexed as at 30 June 2021 by the NSW Water Supply & Sewerage Construction Cost Index from the NSW Reference Rates Manual. A hierarchy review was undertaken at 1 July 2020 which resulted in this asset class being revalued. These asset classes were revalued as at 30 June 2020 by engineering staff at council utilising the cost approach. This method is based on determining the replacement cost of the modern equivalent and then adjusting for the level of consumed future economic benefit and impairment to arrive at the current replacement cost.

Replacement costs are based on the use of relevant unit rates based on component design, specification and material used, further adjusted for any location, geographical or other adjustments. All assets are split into the components used for asset management planning purposes.

Physical inspections were undertaken during 2019/20 on above ground infrastructure to confirm condition. Some assets such as underground pipes are not able to be inspected due to their nature. For these assets, reliance is placed on asset management and GIS system data based from day-to-day operations to manage these assets.

This approach is deemed to be a level 3 input due to the use of data that is unobservable in the market.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy is provided below:

\$ '000	IPP&E	
	2021	2020
Opening balance	249,131	253,157
Total gains or losses for the period		
Recognised in other comprehensive income – revaluation surplus	9,971	(259)
Other movements		
Purchases (GBV)	4,768	5,231
Disposals (WDV)	(917)	(1,085)
Depreciation and impairment	(8,169)	(7,913)
Closing balance	254,784	249,131

Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

D3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

Description of the funding arrangements.

Pooled Employers are required to pay future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the Fund.

The future service employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current future service employer contribution rates are::

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

* For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 7% of salaries for the year ending 30 June 2021 (increasing to 7.5% in line with the increase in the Superannuation Guarantee) to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of \$40.0 million for 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2020. These past service contributions are used to maintain the adequacy of the funding position for the accrued liabilities.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the plan for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

D3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2021 was \$31,816. The last valuation of the Scheme was performed by Fund Actuary, Richard Boyfield FIAA and covers the period ended 30 June 2020.

Council's expected contribution to the plan for the next annual reporting period is \$105,073.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2021 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,620.5	
Past Service Liabilities	2,445.6	107.2%
Vested Benefits	2,468.7	106.2%

* excluding member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of this deficit that is broadly attributed to Council is estimated to be in the order of \$75,300 as at 30 June 2021.

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	5.75% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum

* Plus promotional increases

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

D3-1 Contingencies (continued)

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

E People and relationships

E1 Related party disclosures

E1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly. The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

\$ '000	2021	2020
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	970	881
Post-employment benefits	112	101
Other long-term benefits	23	22
Total	1,105	1,004

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Nature of the transaction	Ref	Transactions during the year	Outstanding balances including commitments	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances	Impairment expense
\$ '000						
2021						
Supply and Service of Council vehicles	1	726	-		-	-
Rental of Council Owned Properties	2	17	-		-	-
Supply of Legal Services	3	5	-		-	-
2020						
Supply and Service of Council vehicles	1	395	-		-	-
Rental of Council Owned Properties	2	21	-		-	-

- 1 Council purchased vehicles during the year from a company which has a member of Council's KMP as a director. The contract of supply of Council vehicles was awarded through a competitive tender process. Amounts were due payable under normal payment terms following procurement processes.
- 2 Council owned properties rented to KMP.
- 3 Council engaged legal services provided by a related party of a KMP.

E1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

\$ '000	2021	2020
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Members expenses – chairperson’s fee	16	16
Members expenses – members fees	79	78
Members expenses (incl. chairperson) – other (excluding fees above)	9	13
Total	104	107

E2 Other relationships

E2-1 Audit fees

\$ '000	2021	2020
During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms		
Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Audit and review of financial statements	30	29
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	30	29
Total Auditor-General remuneration	30	29
Non NSW Auditor-General audit firms		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Internal Audit costs	40	48
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	40	48
Total remuneration of non NSW Auditor-General audit firms	40	48
Total audit fees	70	77

F Other matters

F1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Reconciliation of net operating result to cash provided from operating activities

\$ '000	2021	2020
Net operating result from Income Statement	146	1,529
Adjust for non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	8,361	8,114
Net losses/(gains) on disposal of assets	(51)	415
+/- Movement in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	138	763
Increase/(decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables	-	(15)
Decrease/(increase) in inventories	(173)	(47)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(181)	(725)
Increase/(decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	303	(40)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	63	39
Increase/(decrease) in provision for employee benefits	149	678
Net cash provided from/(used in) operating activities from the Statement of Cash Flows	8,755	10,711

F2-1 Commitments

Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

\$ '000	2021	2020
---------	------	------

Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:

Property, plant and equipment

Water infrastructure	5,180	799
Total commitments	5,180	799

These expenditures are payable as follows:

Within the next year	5,180	799
Total payable	5,180	799

Sources for funding of capital commitments:

Unrestricted general funds	5,180	799
Total sources of funding	5,180	799

Details of capital commitments

Oura HV Design \$9k
 Jugiong Plan \$22k
 Thanowring Rd Design \$6k
 Oura HV Construction \$1.907m
 Old Jugiong WTP Demolition \$63k
 Rosehill to Harden Pipeline \$1.669m
 Oura HV Equipment Supply \$1.228m
 Service - Electrical Switchboards \$170k
 Rosehill to Young Plan \$106k

F3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is unaware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

F4 Statement of performance measures

F4-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2021	Indicator 2021	Indicators 2020 2019		Benchmark
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	(2,293)	(11.01)%	1.57%	8.35%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	20,833				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions ¹	20,833	89.72%	94.02%	96.15%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹	23,221				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	44,947	23.68x	32.03x	13.10x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	1,898				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	6,068	∞	∞	∞	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	–				
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	1,506	21.27%	22.64%	22.71%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable	7,081				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	50,359	36.29	36.90	37.95	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	1,388	mths	mths	mths	mths

(1) Excludes fair value increments on investment properties, reversal of revaluation decrements, reversal of impairment losses on receivables, net gain on sale of assets and net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method and includes pensioner rate subsidies

(2) Excludes impairment/revaluation decrements of IPPE, fair value decrements on investment properties, net loss on disposal of assets and net loss on share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

Goldenfields Water County Council

To the Councillors of the Goldenfields Water County Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Goldenfields Water County Council (the Council), which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement and Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion:

- the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial statements:
 - have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of this Division
 - are consistent with the Council's accounting records
 - present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements have come to light during the audit.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

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

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the special purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the special purpose financial statements.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- on the Original Budget information included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note B5-1 Material budget variations
- on the Special Schedules
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Nirupama Mani
Director, Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

30 September 2021
SYDNEY



Cr Dennis Palmer
Chairperson
Goldenfields Water County Council
PO Box 220
TEMORA NSW 2666

Contact: Nirupama Mani
Phone no: 02 9275 7111
Our ref: D2118107/1819

30 September 2021

Dear Cr Palmer

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Goldenfields Water County Council**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Goldenfields Water County Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2021 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Council's GPFS.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

INCOME STATEMENT

Operating result

	2021	2020	Variance
	\$m	\$m	%
Rates and annual charges revenue	5.473	5.447	0.5
User charges and fees	13.935	17.464	20.2
Grants and contributions revenue	2.388	1.559	53.2
Operating result from continuing operations	0.146	1.529	90
Net operating result before capital grants and contributions	(2.242)	(0.030)	7373

Rates and annual charges revenue increased by \$0.26 million (0.5 per cent) to \$5.47 million. Council's customers increased by 0.7 per cent which is consistent with the movement in rates and annual charges revenue.

User charges and fees decreased by \$3.53 million (20 per cent) to \$13.93 million. The decrease can be attributed to the wet weather which resulted in lower water sales (specific actual use charges) and bulk water sales to Councils compared to the previous year.

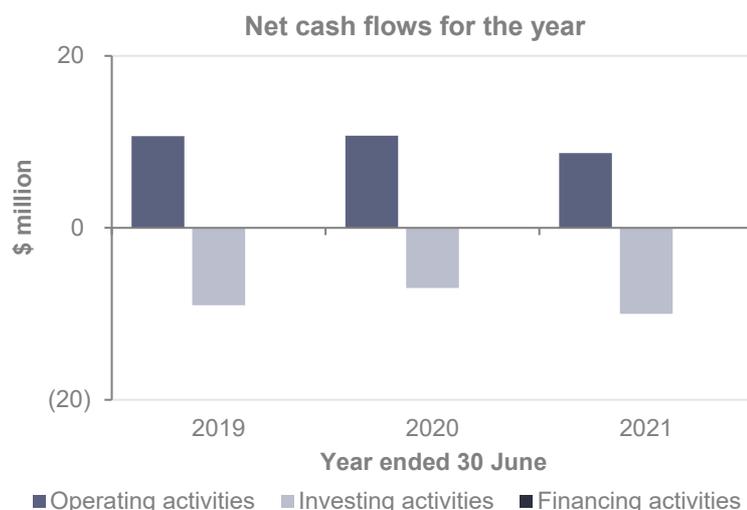
Grants and contributions revenue (\$2.38 million) increased by \$0.83 million (53.2 per cent) in 2020-21 due to additional water supply contributions received for headworks.

The Council's operating result from continuing operations (\$0.15 million including depreciation and amortisation expense of \$8.36 million) was \$1.38 million lower than the 2019-20 result. The decrease of 90 per cent is consistent with the decrease in user charges and fees.

The net operating result before capital grants and contributions (-\$2.24 million) was \$2.21 million lower than the 2020-2019 result. The decrease of 7373 per cent is mainly due to the decrease in user charges and fees.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

- Council recorded a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents of \$1.33 million at 30 June 2021 (net increase of \$3.78 million at 30 June 2020).
- Net cash provided by operating activities amounted to \$8.75 million. Council recorded cash receipts from user fees and charges of \$14.58 million, annual charges of \$5.59 million, grants and contributions of \$2.39 million and investment and interest revenue of \$1.29 million. Council recorded cash payments for employee benefits and on-costs of \$7.07 million and materials and contributions of \$9.73 million.
- Net cash used in investing activities amounted to \$10.09 million. This is largely due to the net cash outflow of \$14.04 million for the purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment during the year.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash and investments

Cash and investments	2021	2020	Commentary
	\$m	\$m	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	50.359	54.672	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally restricted cash and investments have been restricted in their use by resolution or policy of Council to reflect identified programs of works and any forward plans identified by Council. The movement in the internally restricted cash balance is predominately due to a decrease in infrastructure replacement restrictions and a decrease of the Sales Fluctuation Reserve due to the reduction in water sales following wet weather conditions during the year. • Unrestricted cash has increased due to the decrease in internal restrictions from the prior year explained above.
Restricted cash and investments:			
• External restrictions	-	-	
• Internal restrictions	28.491	39.799	
• Unrestricted	21.686	14.873	

Debt

Council's approved overdraft facility for Commonwealth Bank Australia (CBA) is \$0.50 million. This remains unused at the end of the financial year.

PERFORMANCE

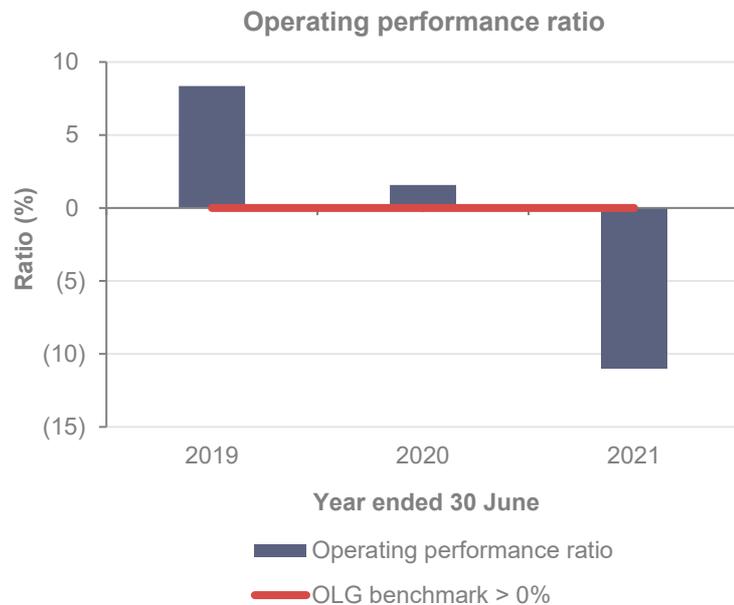
Performance measures

The following section provides an overview of the Council's performance against the performance measures and performance benchmarks set by the Office of Local Government (OLG) within the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Operating performance ratio

The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well Council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by OLG is greater than zero per cent.

The Council did not meet the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period. This is largely due to the reduction of operating revenue of \$2.8 million (impacted by the decline in water sales following wet weather conditions during the year).



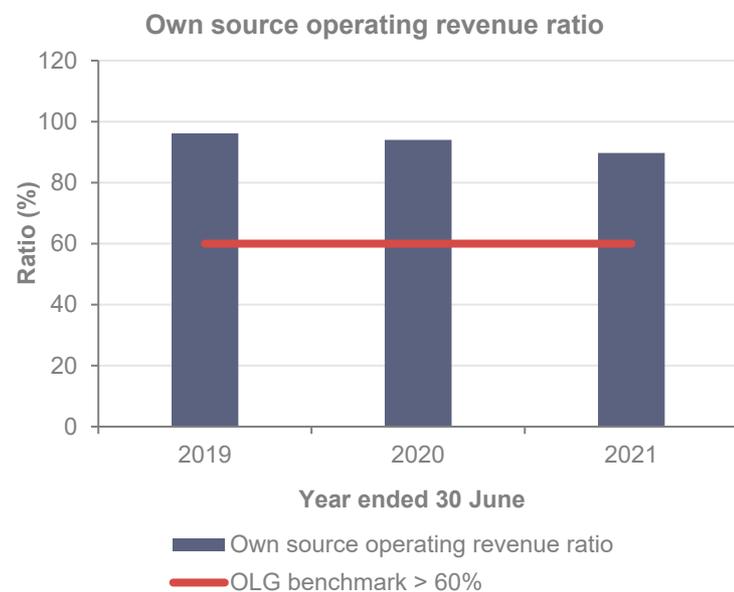
Own source operating revenue ratio

The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures Council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent.

The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

The Council's own source operating revenue ratio of 89.72% is above the industry benchmark of 60%. Council has met this benchmark as its main source of income is from water sales, rather than reliance on operating grants and contributions.

The Council's own source operating revenue ratio has decreased by 4.3% due to the decline in water sales.



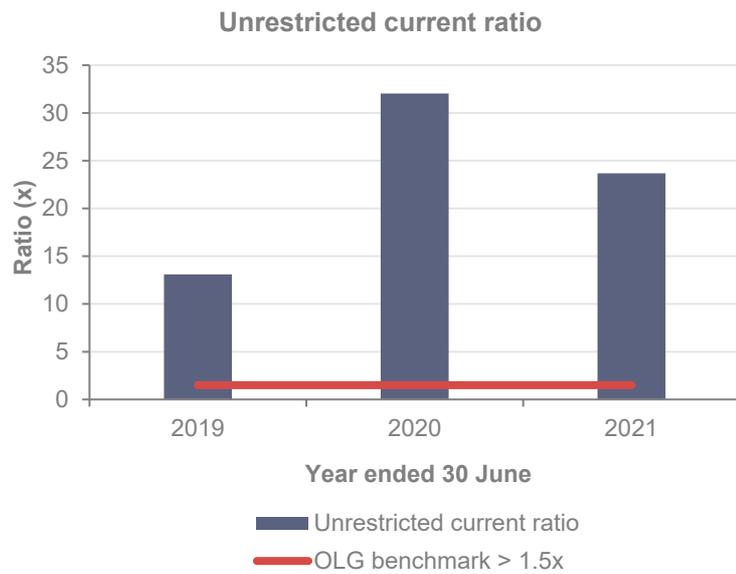
Unrestricted current ratio

The 'unrestricted current ratio' is specific to local government and represents Council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 1.5 times.

The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

The Council's unrestricted current ratio of 23.7 times is greater than the industry benchmark minimum of greater than 1.5 times. This indicates that the Council has sufficient liquidity to meet its current liabilities as and when they fall due.

The Council's unrestricted current ratio has decreased due to the reduction in current assets and an increase in current liabilities.



Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage

The 'rates and annual charges outstanding percentage' assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of debt recovery efforts. The benchmark set by OLG is less than 10 per cent for regional and rural Councils.

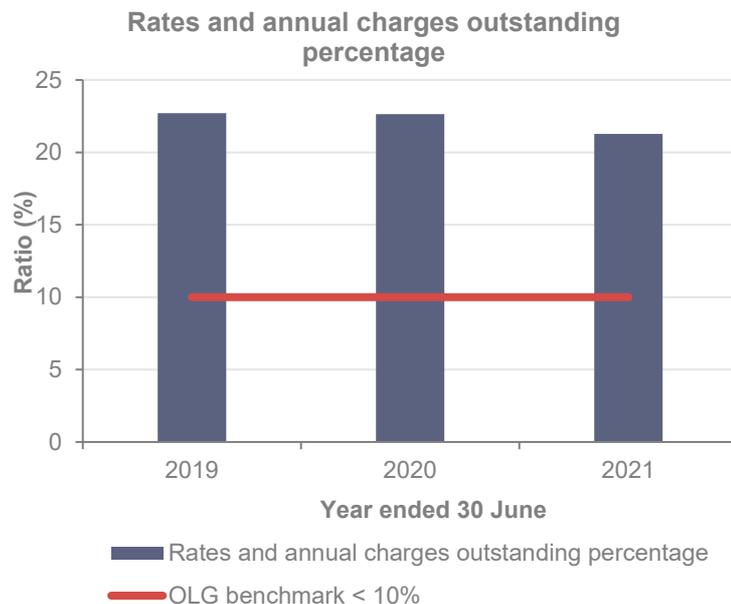
The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

The Council's rates and annual charges outstanding percentage of 21.27 per cent is outside the industry benchmark of less than 10 per cent for rural councils.

The rates and annual charges outstanding percentage has remained steady across the financial years presented.

Council continues to exceed this benchmark due to the rolling quarterly billing arrangements.

The billing cycle of water county councils need to be considered when assessing this performance against other general councils.

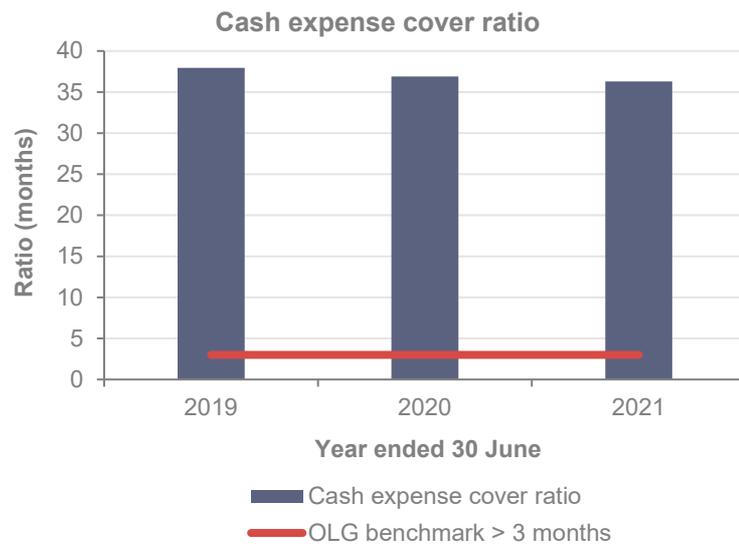


Cash expense cover ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months the Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than three months.

The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

The Council's cash expense cover ratio was 36.29 months, which is above the industry benchmark of greater than 3 months. This indicates that Council has the capacity to cover 36.29 months of cash expenditure without additional cash inflows at 30 June 2021.



Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment renewals

The Council has renewed \$1.67 million of assets in the 2020-21 financial year, compared to \$0.57 million of assets in the 2019-20 financial year. The decrease is primarily due to the transfer of work in progress renewals on completion of project works.

OTHER MATTERS

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of non-compliance with legislative requirements or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial statements. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation and the effective audit of the GPFS
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

Nirupama Mani
Director, Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

cc: Mr Aaron Drenovski, General Manager
Mr Peter McLean, Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
Jim Betts, Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Goldenfields Water County Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2021

*To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of
water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and
customer service.*



Goldenfields Water County Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Contents	Page
Statement by Councillors and Management	3
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Income Statement of water supply business activity	4
Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity	5
Note – Significant Accounting Policies	6
Auditor's Report on Special Purpose Financial Statements	8

Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

Goldenfields Water County Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Statement by Councillors and Management

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the NSW Government Policy Statement '*Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*',
- the Division of Local Government Guidelines '*Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*',
- the Local Government *Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting*,
- the NSW Office of *Water Best-Practice Management of Water and Sewerage Guidelines*.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 24 August 2021.



Clr Dennis Palmer

Chairperson

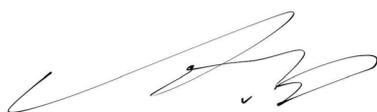
24 August 2021



Clr David McCann

Deputy Chairperson

24 August 2021



Aaron Drenovski

General Manager

24 August 2021



Michele Curran

Responsible Accounting Officer

24 August 2021

Goldenfields Water County Council

Income Statement of water supply business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2021

\$ '000	2021	2020
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	5,473	5,447
User charges	13,935	17,223
Fees	228	338
Interest	1,045	1,371
Profit from the sale of assets	51	–
Other income	152	150
Total income from continuing operations	20,884	24,529
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	7,143	7,441
Materials and services	7,290	8,270
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	8,361	8,114
Water purchase charges	92	99
Loss on sale of assets	–	415
Calculated taxation equivalents	41	34
Other expenses	240	220
Total expenses from continuing operations	23,167	24,593
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	(2,283)	(64)
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,388	1,559
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	105	1,495
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	105	1,495
Surplus (deficit) after tax	105	1,495
Plus accumulated surplus	95,030	93,501
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Taxation equivalent payments	41	34
Closing accumulated surplus	95,176	95,030
Return on capital %	(0.8)%	0.0%
Subsidy from Council	6,418	2,377
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	105	1,495
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(2,388)	(1,559)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	–	–
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	–	–

Goldenfields Water County Council

Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity

as at 30 June 2021

\$ '000	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,338	5,672
Investments	34,021	39,000
Receivables	5,820	5,958
Inventories	768	595
Total current assets	44,947	51,225
Non-current assets		
Investments	12,000	10,000
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	277,546	262,817
Total non-current assets	289,546	272,817
Total assets	334,493	324,042
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	1,447	1,262
Employee benefit provisions	2,573	2,437
Total current liabilities	4,020	3,699
Non-current liabilities		
Payables	8	8
Employee benefit provisions	131	118
Total non-current liabilities	139	126
Total liabilities	4,159	3,825
Net assets	330,334	320,217
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	95,176	95,030
Revaluation reserves	235,158	225,187
Total equity	330,334	320,217

Note – Significant Accounting Policies

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)*, the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Regulation)* and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

Declared business activities

In accordance with *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

Goldenfields Water County Council (whole of Council operation)

Water supply within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Temora and parts of Cootamundra-Gundagai, Hilltops and Narrandera. Bulk water is supplied to Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Councils.

Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs. However, where Council does not pay some taxes, which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in special purpose financial statements. For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – **26%** (19/20 27.5%)

Land tax – the first \$755,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of \$755,000 up to \$4,616,000 the rate is **\$100 + 1.6%**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$4,616,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

Payroll tax – **4.85%** on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$1,200,000.

Note – Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities. Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested. Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level – gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 26% (19/20 27.5%).

Income tax is only applied where a gain from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved. Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to the ‘Council’ as the owner of business operations – it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council.

Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face ‘true’ commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council’s borrowing rate for its business activities.

(i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

(ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses ‘would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field’.

Funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies. The rate of return is disclosed for each of Council’s business activities on the Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 1.49% at 30/6/21.

(iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

Local government water supply businesses are permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DPIW guidelines and must not exceed:

- 50% of this surplus in any one year, or
- the number of water supply assessments at 30/06/2021 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

In accordance with the Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewer Guidelines, a Dividend Payment form, Statement of Compliance, Unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are required to be submitted to DPIE - Water.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
Report on the special purpose financial statements
Goldenfields Water County Council

To the Councillors of the Goldenfields Water County Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial statements (the financial statements) of Goldenfields Water County Council's (the Council) Declared Business Activity, Water Supply Business Activity, which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement of the Declared Business Activity for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Statement of Financial Position of the Declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2021 and the Significant accounting policies note.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2021, and its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards described in the Significant accounting policies note and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2020–21 (LG Code).

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as the auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

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

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the Significant accounting policies note to the financial statements which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting responsibilities under the LG Code. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for determining that the accounting policies, described in the Significant accounting policies note to the financial statements, are appropriate to meet the requirements in the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nirupama Mani". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small arrow pointing downwards from the end of the name.

Nirupama Mani
Director, Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

30 September 2021
SYDNEY

Goldenfields Water County Council

SPECIAL SCHEDULES
for the year ended 30 June 2021

*To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of
water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and
customer service.*



Goldenfields Water County Council

Special Schedules

for the year ended 30 June 2021

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Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2021

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Goldenfields Water County Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2021

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost		2020/21 Required maintenance ^a	2020/21 Actual maintenance	Net carrying amount	Gross replacement cost (GRC)	Assets in condition as a percentage of gross replacement cost				
		Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council					\$ '000	\$ '000	1	2	3
Buildings	Council Office	–	–	29	9	1,399	1,857	95.0%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Council Works Depots	–	–	32	51	1,976	2,655	91.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	0.0%
	Council Houses	–	–	11	18	1,399	2,729	37.0%	28.0%	35.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	–	–	72	78	4,774	7,241	71.7%	11.7%	15.6%	1.1%	0.0%
Water supply network	Mains	12,205	32,498	1,718	2,154	167,220	333,870	52.0%	1.9%	24.0%	19.8%	2.4%
	Reservoirs	1,605	2,187	230	670	47,857	83,966	45.9%	43.7%	6.1%	1.8%	2.5%
	Pumping Stations & Bores	391	879	1,044	606	16,480	28,785	42.6%	43.6%	6.8%	6.0%	1.1%
	Treatment	1,552	2,615	1,120	763	17,259	33,567	33.2%	36.6%	7.4%	18.9%	3.9%
	Sub-total	15,753	38,179	4,112	4,193	248,816	480,188	49.1%	14.1%	18.7%	15.7%	2.4%
Total – all assets		15,753	38,179	4,184	4,271	253,590	487,429	49.4%	14.1%	18.6%	15.5%	2.4%

(a) Required maintenance is the amount identified in Council's asset management plans.

Infrastructure asset condition assessment 'key'

#	Condition	Integrated planning and reporting (IP&R) description
1	Excellent/very good	No work required (normal maintenance)
2	Good	Only minor maintenance work required
3	Satisfactory	Maintenance work required
4	Poor	Renewal required
5	Very poor	Urgent renewal/upgrading required

Goldenfields Water County Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2021

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (consolidated) *

\$ '000	Amounts 2021	Indicator 2021	Indicators		Benchmark
			2020	2019	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals ¹	287	6.32%	8.32%	85.23%	>= 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	4,542				
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	15,753	8.44%	16.32%	11.55%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	186,644				
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance	4,271	102.08%	93.28%	78.97%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance	4,184				
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	38,179	7.83%	9.95%	6.93%	
Gross replacement cost	487,429				

(*) All asset performance indicators are calculated using classes identified in the previous table.

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.