



BOULIA SHIRE COUNCIL

Annual Report 2023-2024



Land of the Min Min Light | Capital of the Channel Country

Acknowledgement to Country

Boulia Shire Council acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first Australians and recognises their unique relationship with the land and waterways.

Boulia Shire Council pays its respect to the Traditional Owners and their Nations of the Boulia Local Government Area, which include the Pitta Pitta, Bulanmu-Walwarra-Wangkayuju, Kalkadoon, Wangkamahdla, Yullna and Yalarrnga People; the contributions of earlier generations including the Elders, who have advocated for their rights in managing the land, are valued and leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

Annual Report Distribution

Boulia Shire Council's Annual Report is available in hard copy or electronic format. Printed copies can be requested in writing to:

The Chief Executive Officer
Boulia Shire Council
18 Herbert Street
Boulia QLD 4829

It is also available by phoning Council's Administration Centre on (07) 4746 3188 during regular business hours (8.30am - 5.00pm).

Alternatively, you can visit Council's website at <http://www.boulia.qld.gov.au> to download a copy.

Copies are also distributed to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning.

Feedback



In the interest of continuous improvement, Council welcomes your feedback on this report. Please forward your comments in writing to the Chief Executive Officer at the address above or email to:

ceo@boulia.qld.gov.au

**Boulia Shire Council extends its gratitude and recognition
to everyone whose photos have been featured in this report.**

Front cover photo: Ann Britton Photography

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Photo by: Ann Britton



List of Acronyms:

ANZAC	Australian and New Zealand Army Corps
BoR	Building our Regions
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLLR	Councillor
CWRPMG	Central West Regional Pest Management Group
DAF	Department of Primary Industries
EBA	Enterprise Bargaining Agreement
ESL	Emergency Services Levy
LDMG	Local Disaster Management Group
LGA	Local Government Act 2009
LGGSP	Local Government Grants & Subsidies Program
LGR	Local Government Regulation 2012
LGW	Local Government Workcare
LRCI	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure
LRRG	Local Recovery and Resilience Grant
NAIDOC	National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee
NBN	National Broadband Network
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
OHDC	Outback Highway Development Council
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
PPR	Project Proposal Report
QFFFG	Queensland Flooding Flexible Funding Grant
QRRRF	Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund
ORRTG	Outback Regional Roads and Transport Group
QCA	Queensland Competition Authority
QCWA	Queensland Country Women's Association
QLD	Queensland
QRA	Queensland Reconstruction Authority
QTC	Queensland Treasury Corporation
R2R	Roads to Recovery
RADF	Regional Arts Development Fund
RAPAD	Remote Area Planning and Development
RAPADWSA	Remote Area Planning and Development Water and Sewerage Alliance
RCP	Regional Connectivity Program
REPA	Restoration of Essential Public Assets
RFCSNQ	Rural Financial Counselling Service North Queensland
RFDS	Royal Flying Doctor Service
RLPO	Rural Lands Protection Officer
RMPC	Roads Maintenance Performance Contract
RPT	Regular Public Transport
SES	State Emergency Service
TIDS	Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme
TMR (DTMR)	Transport and Main Roads
WA	Western Australia
W4Q	Works for Queensland
WH&S/WHS	Workplace Health and Safety
WQAC	Western Queensland Alliance of Councils

Where we came from....

On 31 July 1879, the 1280 acre township reserve of Boulia was established, and the Boulia Divisional Board was subsequently gazetted in September 1887.

Boulia has gained renown, in part, due to the enigmatic Min Min Light, which first appeared around the old Min Min Hotel, the remains of which are approximately 100km east of Boulia.

The township of Boulia is the pivotal point of the far west, with Mount Isa 300 kilometres to the north and Winton 366 kilometres to the east and linked to Alice Springs to the west via the Donohue Highway. The Shire shares a 320 kilometre common border with the Northern Territory, with the southern part of the Shire's western boundary marking the eastern edge of the mighty Simpson Desert.

The town is acknowledged as the Capital of the Channel Country, which gives rise to the great rivers that flow south to Lake Eyre.

Urandangi, the second town in Boulia Shire, was founded in 1885 by Charlie Webster and James Hutton, who started a general store and the town developed from there. In its heyday, the Dangi, as it's commonly referred to, had three hotels, two stores and a post office. There was also a dance hall, a welcomed site for many a drover.

Where we are heading

Our regions are strong and prosperous - we are members of the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD), which is constituted by six other western Councils: Barcoo, Barcaldine, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina, Longreach, and Winton. These groups work together for regional projects to achieve economies of scale savings as part of this continued Council regional collaboration.

The Council works with the Outback Regional Roads Group, RAPAD Water and Sewerage Alliance and Central West Regional Pest Management Group. Council also maintains a range of community assets to improve lifestyle opportunities for the community and has acquired land for potential future development for residential housing, the Council Community Hub, and is also completing the development of the industrial estate.

We capitalise on unique regional opportunities and assets - Council continues to investigate economic development activities for the community, including the further sealing and development of the Donohue Highway, which forms the eastern part of Australia's longest shortcut - The Outback Way - linking Winton in Queensland with Laverton in Western Australia.

The continued sealing of the Outback Way will deliver better health services to communities, opening mining for green economy opportunities, tourism growth to remote Australia, and better environmental, animal health and WHS outcomes for the Ag industry.

The Outback Way project is an exemplary project for the collaboration of five local government communities, two states, the NT, the Federal Government, Industry, Businesses and State and Federal Government Agencies; it has been a work in progress for over 26 years.

Foreword

Welcome to this Annual Report produced by Boulia Shire Council for the 2023-2024 financial year.

The primary objective of this document is to articulate Council’s vision and goals, its achievements and performance results for the past year, and its challenges, opportunities, and plans for the future.

This Annual Report aims to provide residents, ratepayers, the corporate sector, statutory bodies and other interested parties insight into the primary activities undertaken by, and the financial position of, the Boulia Shire Council throughout 2023-2024.

OUR VISION

‘A progressive Shire creating opportunities for all’

We will be valued as a Shire where people choose to live, work and play and a guardian of a sustainable natural environment that inspires and supports a healthy community.

OUR PURPOSE

‘Delivering our plans, planning for the future’

We are a Council committed to decisive leadership in making locally responsive, informed and responsible decisions. We aim to deliver continuous improvement to provide quality services and facilities which support a sustainable future.

OUR VALUES

Leadership and Collaboration

Building trust, teamwork, communication and a shared understanding that actively listens to our community.

Accountability, Consistency and Transparency

Equal opportunities, fair and open consultation and communication. Accepting responsibility for our actions.

Performance and Value for Money

Achieving the best value for money outcomes for our community. Collaboration, managing expectations and working towards common goals.

Commitment, Teamwork and Staff Development

Continually improve on our achievements and drive innovative solutions. Lead change and continuous improvement in delivering for our community. Promote a positive health and safety culture.

‘No one individual can do this but as a community working together we can deliver a strong framework for the future of our shire’

Our Councillors



Mayor Eric (Rick) Britton

Rick and his photographer wife, Ann, own and operate cattle breeding enterprises in Queensland's North West. Residing just outside of Boulia at Goodwood Station, Rick is a long-term member of the region, with family ties to the shire spanning over several generations. Assigned Councillor Portfolios: Economic Development & Planning, Rural Services & Environmental Management, Infrastructure & Asset Management, Finance & Governance.



Deputy Mayor Jack Neilson

Councillor Jack Neilson is a born and bred local of Boulia and grew up on a cattle property called Two Rivers north of Boulia. Jack is very passionate about the Boulia community and wants to see Boulia grow and develop as a hub for the West through job security, tourism and helping the Beef Industry, which built Boulia town.



Councillor Sam Beauchamp

Elected to Council in 2004, Councillor Beauchamp is one of our longest-standing elected members. Primarily a beef cattle producer, Sam has a strong family history in the shire and is an electrician by trade. He is an active community member, always willing to assist at local events and ceremonies; this characteristic reflects his 2006 Boulia Shire Council Citizen of the Year award.



Councillor Julie Woodhouse

Councillor Woodhouse has spent almost half her life in the Boulia Shire. She has been heavily involved with all organisations as she believes in giving back to the community which welcomes you. Alongside receiving a Boulia Shire Citizen of the Year award, Julie was also the first female president of the Boulia Camel Races. Prior to becoming elected in March 2024, Julie worked for Boulia Shire Council for 23 years. She is passionate in wanting better opportunities for families to live here, such as child care and housing. Julie has made Boulia her forever home and so wishes to see Boulia grow and prosper.



Councillor Jan Norton

Born in Charleville, raised in Augathella and having spent most of her life living in Boulia, Councillor Norton became an elected member in 2020. Over the years, she has experienced the trials and tribulations of living in this remote area; Jan has been in the background of many organisations doing the legwork and taking photos. She is committed to Boulia Shire and believes she can make a difference as part of a team.

Our Councillors

Portfolio Representation

Council has adopted a Councillor portfolio representation system, in which Councillors are assigned as a representative to a specific area of interest within Council. The system does not diminish a Councillor’s statutory responsibilities and obligations under the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act). Portfolio requirements are in addition to the roles, responsibilities and obligations of Councillors, as set out in the Act. The portfolios are focused at the strategic level of Council. The system is not intended to detract from any Councillor’s responsibility to represent all constituents on day-to-day issues. For more indepth information about Portfolio Representation, please refer to Council Policy 164 Portfolio Representative Policy.

Portfolio	Communities, Housing & Public Open Spaces	Economic Development & Planning	Tourism & Events	Rural Services & Environmental Management	Infrastructure & Asset Management	Finance & Governance
Councillor Membership	Cllr Julie Woodhouse Cllr Jan Norton	Mayor Rick Britton Cllr Jack Neilson	Cllr Julie Woodhouse Cllr Sam Beauchamp Cllr Jan Norton	Mayor Rick Britton Cllr Jack Neilson Cllr Sam Beauchamp	Mayor Rick Britton Cllr Jack Neilson Cllr Sam Beauchamp	Mayor Rick Britton Cllr Jack Neilson Cllr Julie Woodhouse
Key Functional Areas	Community Development, Wellbeing & Safety	Agriculture & Horticulture	Tourism Development	Native Title & Indigenous Land Use Agreements	Roads, Transport & Aerodromes	Financial Management & Sustainability and Corporate Planning
	Libraries	Regional Partnerships	Events & Tourism Grants Program	Biosecurity & Weed Management	Waste, Water & Sewerage services	Rates, Budgets & Audits
	Indigenous and Multicultural inclusion	Town Planning, Building & Development	Marketing and Promotion	Town Common and Stock Route	Community Infrastructure & Council Facilities	Information Technology
	Healthy Active Lifestyles	Investment attraction	Local community events	Animal Management and Compliance	Disaster Management	Governance, Policy & Delegations
	Community grants	Innovation & diversification	Event Planning	Environmental Health	Workplace Health and Safety	Performance & Risk Management
	Council Housing Management	Digital Connectivity	Arts & Culture promotion	Renewable Energy Solutions	Fleet and Plant	Land matters, leases, legal matters
Committees	Community Advisory Committee	Outback Highway Development Committee (OHDC)	Outback Qld Tourism Association	Central West Regional Pest Management Group	Plant Committee	Audit & Risk Committee
	Housing Committee	Regional Area Promotion and Development (RAPAD)	Regional Arts Development Fund Reference Panel		RAPAD water and sewerage alliance	Enterprise Bargaining Committee
	Local State Emergency Service (SES)	Western Qld Local Government Association	Tourism Operators Meetings		ORRTG - Strategic group	
			Boulia Historical Society		Local Disaster Management Group	

Responsibilities of the Offices



From left to right: Lynn Moore (Chief Executive Officer), Henry Mascarenhas (Director of Works & Operations), Kaylene Sloman (Director of Corporate & Financial Services) and Paul Bawden (Economic and Community Development Manager)

Chief Executive Officer - Lynn Moore

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for the day-to-day management of Council in accordance with Council's Strategic Plans and Policies, *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The Office of the CEO is responsible for the core administrative and strategic functions of Council including Governance, Economic Development, liaison with State and Federal Government entities and Industrial Relations. In addition, the office of the CEO oversees the legislative functions performed by the elected Councillors.

The Works and Operations Department - Henry Mascarenhas, Director

The Works and Operations Department is responsible for maintenance and improvement works on assets and providing management and administrative support for the Department's functional areas; these include rural roads, town streets, stormwater drainage, culverts, asset management, water & sewerage, plant, works depot, parks & gardens, sporting and recreational facilities, airports, reserves and waste depots. To assist in efficiently and effectively managing the capital, labour, plant and materials resources made available to the Department, the functions are split into separate operational divisions to maximise the delivery of services to the community in accordance with Council's Strategic Plan and Operational Plan.

The Finance & Corporate Services Department - Kaylene Sloman, Director

The Finance and Corporate Services Department is responsible for the financial management practices of Council including preparing Financial Statements, budget reviews, rating valuations, accounts receivable/payable and payroll. In addition, they oversee Council's administration, regulatory compliance, Information Technology network, electronic document management system and customer service. Responsibility for preparing the annual budget, long-term financial planning and asset management documents, along with monthly reporting to Council on the current financial position against the budget, lies with the Finance and Corporate Services Department.

The Community Services Department - Paul Bawden, Economic and Community Development Manager

The Community Services Department is responsible for civic functions, which include Australia Day, NAIDOC Week, Remembrance Day, ANZAC Day, Citizenship Ceremonies and Naturalisations. This department is also responsible for promoting and developing the Council's tourism attractions, such as the Bouliia Heritage Complex and the Min Min Encounter. The department also maintains Council's current housing stock and is responsible for rentals and inspections. Community Services responsibilities include the Aquatic Sports Centre, library facility, public media including Facebook and the local community 'Hotspot' newsletter, the *Channel Country Chatter*.

Organisational Structure

Each year Council adopts a Corporate Structure that is appropriate to the performance of the local government’s responsibilities. This structure affords the Council a sound operational base for the future. It provides employees and the community with a quick, easy-to-understand reference on who employees and internal Council units report to.

Mayor			
Councillors			
Chief Executive Officer			
Office of the CEO	Finance & Corporate Services	Works & Operations Department	Community Services
Governance	Financial Management	Construction (Road Works)	Community Services
Mayor & Council Secretariat	Administration	Maintenance (Road Works)	Housing
Town Planning	Regulatory Compliance	Infrastructure Buildings	Tourism/Events
Strategic Planning	Creditors	Water & Sewerage	Boulia Heritage Complex
Community Relations	Debtors	Airports	Boulia Aquatic Sports Centre
Native Title	Stores	Waste Management	Min Min Encounter
Executive Services	Information Technology	External Contractors	Library Services
Economic Development	Records Management	Property Services	Cultural Development
Human Resources	Payroll	Animal Control	
Local Disaster Management	Debt Recovery	Bio-Security/Weeds/Pests	
SES	Long-Term Financial Planning	Public Cemeteries	
Workplace Health & Safety	Rating & Valuations	Swimming Pools	
	Business Analysis	Community Halls	
	Customer Service	Operational Support - Depot/Workshop	
	Asset Management	Parks, Playing Fields, and Reserves	
	Legal & Insurance	Public Order & Safety	

Mayor's Review 2023-2024



Preface

I am proud to be reporting to you as the Mayor of the Boulia Shire for the 16th year.

March 2024 saw local government elections take place across Queensland and the announcement of election results saw three familiar faces (Sam Beauchamp, Jack Neilson and Jan Norton) return to their Council seats with the addition of a new team member, Julie Woodhouse. On behalf of the Council and constituents, I would like to thank outgoing Councillor Tim Edgar, who chose not to run in the 2024 election, for his efforts during the 2020-2024 term.

I am very appreciative to my fellow Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, Ms Lynn Moore, the Executive Team, Council staff and Contractors for their ongoing commitment towards providing an environment that allows our Council to embrace change and deliver outcomes in the best interests of the community and our many stakeholders.

Accountability, Consistency and Transparency

We continue to have an organisation that is agile and responsive to change. This is imperative in times of higher levels of public accountability, transparency, accounting standards and scrutiny on long-term sustainability while at the same time having lower guaranteed revenue streams.

We acknowledge the challenges that each of us face daily and it is how we deal with them that makes the difference. During this rapidly changing environment, our Council is focused not only on the present but also has an eye on the future of Boulia, where the contributions of each Councillor are highly valued.

Our future in our hands

The Boulia stretch of the Outback Way has seen some great progression over the last 12 months. The first lot of sealing works for the 23-24 financial year were completed October 2023 which was then followed by challenges that arose in relation to sales permits on gravel pits and delays due to rain events. Our CEO worked closely with DAF and representatives of local indigenous parties to define current pits available to ensure the supply of needed materials for projects could continue and, together with road crews patiently waiting for the land to dry up after the rain, these challenges were overcome.

May 2024 saw another stretch of the Donohue Highway sealed - a total of five sections of re-sealing totalling a length of 24.1km. New Outback Highway (Australia's Longest Shortcut) signage was installed on the truck pull off bay near the intersection of the Donohue Highway and Mt Isa Road. This is a great spot to capture motorists and show case the stretch of road network we are all passionate about.

Within the Boulia section there is currently only 70.6km left to seal which is about 30% (locations left are Lake Wanditti and Pituri to Kellys Ck and 2.7km near the emergency airstrip). Further sealing works are scheduled for early in the new financial year. Continued works on this part of the road network is a crucial component in ensuring longevity of employment for both the Boulia Shire Council Road Crew and Boulia's local road contractors. Council continues to work through each PPR application process as a matter of priority to help ensure each submission can be progressed and approved as quickly as possible, and there are no, or at least minimal, hold ups to works.

Supporting connectivity and business growth

The implementation of the \$4.3m NBN fibre to the premises has progressed over the course of the 23-24 period with the network due to be available to the community in late November 2024. Having the proper infrastructure in the right place is our mantra looking forward, and this development will be imperative for growth in our local and regional economy, providing businesses and residents with internet speeds equal to our city counterparts, knocking down another barrier to doing 'business in the bush'.

Working together to achieve great outcomes

Council relies heavily on grants provided either by the State or Federal Government to deliver projects for the community that would otherwise be out of our reach. We are thankful for funding programs the likes of Work for Queensland, Federal Assistance Grants and Roads to Recovery - programs that tick all the boxes for flexibility in small Councils.

Mayor's Review 2023-2024

We maintain strong relationships across all levels of government and our partnerships with the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD), the Outback Highway Development Corporation and the Outback Queensland Tourism Association, help to ensure our voice is heard.

Within the shire, Council continues to heavily support community groups such as Camel Races and Campdraft and Rodeo, to deliver programs and events for the improved liveability of our town. The volunteers within these organisations work tirelessly to host events that bring our community closer together, allowing people to connect and support one another.

I feel it is always worth noting that small population local governments like ourselves (478 people), that administer geographic areas larger than many countries, are major contributors to the Gross Regional Product (approx. \$57.425m), overall social fabric and identity of our country. As an economic driver for the state and national economy, Boulia punches well above its weight despite its small population, with 45.1% of people employed in the agricultural industry.

*Mayor Eric (Rick) Britton
Boulia Shire Council*

Photo by: Maryellen Blackett



Chief Executive Officer's Review 2023-2024



I am pleased to present my tenth Annual Report to you. This was a significant financial year for Council as we welcomed a new term of Councillors on board and also welcomed a new Director of Works and Operations and a new Economic and Community Development Manager (the previously titled Community Services Manager position). We are fortunate to have a team of Councillors, staff and contractors that are passionate about our community and the role they play in Council.

Together, we have continued to work our way through the challenges of working in remote rural Australia. The resilience of our contractors and staff has enabled us to overcome obstacles and look towards the future with confidence.

Council undertook a slight refresh to our look with new corporate branding being rolled out. Councillors were passionate in ensuring that the existing logo was retained as a way of acknowledging the shire's all important history.

Grant funding supported by the Federal and State Governments is vital to us

There have been many social betterment projects that have been completed, assets renewed, and local jobs maintained as a result of generous funding programs from the State and Federal Government. These programs have also maintained, and in many cases improved, the economic activity in our shire.

While some of these funding opportunities are very supportive of local government, we sometimes struggle to meet the funding criteria – particularly if it requires a substantial cash commitment, and some of the funding provided has guidelines that do not allow for the use of Council staff in the delivery of projects. As a result, they do not address job creation or job retention where Councils are the major employers and have minimal local contractors to deliver projects. Initiatives such as the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program, that don't require any financial contribution from Council, are therefore a welcome shot in the arm for regional and remote communities.

Local governments in regional and remote Queensland continue to struggle with sustainability issues, as many small local governments like ourselves rely heavily on these State and Federal grant funding programs. This will continue into the future due to our small rate base and sizeable geographical area because our revenue streams are declining in real terms. We are however, forever optimistic and have several 'shovel-ready' projects just waiting to get the go-ahead when the opportunity for funding arises!

Council is fortunate to again be in a strong financial and equally strong compliance position, confirmed by the internal and external audits completed during the year. This information can be reviewed in the Community Financial Report later in this document.

Action at ground level

Ensuring that an adequate standard of housing is available within the community continues to be an area of concern for the Council. The need for better social and public sector housing is one of the high-risk areas for the Council and the state government. Our remote communities have a low standard of accommodation, and it is one area where, with clever and considered public sector investment, we could really improve community stability, grow home ownership and seriously assist in the attraction and retention of critical personnel such as police officers, nurses, school teachers and Council staff.

Chief Executive Officer's Review 2023-2024

Council was fortunate to be the recipient of funding under the State Government's Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program (LGGSP) that enabled the construction of 6 new duplex units to serve primarily as Council staff accommodation. We were also able to utilise funding under the Works for Queensland Program to complete renovations to existing housing, improving the quality of our homes. This is a big leap forward in helping to mitigate housing issues.

Successful submissions under numerous grant programs will enable Council to provide ongoing work for both Council staff and local contractors for the balance of 2024 and into 2025. Some of these projects include:

- Completion of 2023-2024 Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction (QRRRF - State Gov.) project – Remote Flood Warning Infrastructure (total funding received in this program \$381,979.00)
- Completion of Queensland Flooding Flexible Funding Grant Round 2 (QFFFG – State Gov.) project – Remote Flood Warning Infrastructure (total funding received in this program \$100,000.00)
- Completion of Local Recovery and Resilience Grant (LRRG – State Gov.) projects - Wills Street Clinic Culvert Crossing and Flood Warning Infrastructure (total funding received in this program \$1 m)
- Progression of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI - Fed. Gov.) project - Industrial Estate development (total funding received in this program \$1,130,000)
- Outback Way - Donohue Highway sealing \$41,500,000 (Fed. Gov.) - proposed PPR Stage 1 \$3,900,000

Ms Lynn Moore
Chief Executive Officer

Photo by: Rick Britton



Economic Overview

Unique lifestyle values

Boulia Shire is the capital of Queensland's Channel Country, steeped in history and mystery. The life-giving Georgina River flows through the region to Lake Eyre Basin. Boulia township sits on the banks of the Burke River and is known as the Land of the Min Min Light. Only 190 km east of the Northern Territory border and 300 km south of Mount Isa, the three R's apply here – rugged, rural and remote.



Boulia township is located at the junction of three bitumen arterial roads that run east (Winton), north (Mt Isa), south (Bedourie/Birdsville) and west to Alice Springs. Boulia is located at the eastern gateway to the Outback Way (Australia's Longest Shortcut), which stretches from Winton in Queensland to Laverton in Western Australia.

Regular Regional Express passenger flights connect Boulia with Brisbane and Mount Isa Airports four times per week.

The Boulia Racecourse Reserve is home to a spelling facility catering for up to 3000 head of cattle. This facility is also a Certified Organic spelling facility and is a particularly beneficial stop for cattle transport coming from the Northern Territory and travelling southeast through the state or vice-versa.

The township is supplied with sub-artesian potable bore water from six bores strategically located around the town. Town blocks are connected to sewerage and potable water. The town is well-serviced by accommodation providers, with a hotel, motel, and caravan park in Boulia's township. A number of local businesses provide for the daily needs of residents and tourists, and bulk fuel is available for transporters. Robinson Park features a BBQ facility, multi-accessible toilets, modern playground equipment and a skate park.

Agriculture is Boulia Shire's primary economic driver. The cattle industry is the most significant contributor to the region's Gross Regional Product. Sheep also contribute to the region's agricultural output.

Approximately 29,932 tourists overnight in Boulia Shire each year and spend \$27.1 million. Of all visitors to the shire, 58 per cent are tourists. Tourists travel through the region from the Northern Territory (especially Alice Springs) and northern Western Australia. The Min Min Encounter and the Boulia Camel Races are the region's primary tourism experiences.

With its proximity to the North West Minerals Province, mineral exploration is occurring to the north and west of Boulia, with companies basing themselves in Boulia to undertake this work.

To support the regions potential, the Boulia Shire Council is investing in a new industrial area currently under development and has earmarked land for a new residential estate. These developments will support the region's growing agricultural, transportation and tourism sector.

Boulia Shire Fast Facts

Estimated Resident Population

Boulia: 458
Central West: 10,511
(2021 Census)



Heavy Vehicle Movements

50 heavy vehicles pass through Boulia each day (2020)

Median Age

Boulia: 33 years
Central West: 41.6 years
(2021 Census)



Indigenous Population

Boulia: 30.1%
Central West: 4.6%
(2021 Census)



Boulia Shire Area

60,906 km2
3.28% of Queensland's land area



Gross Regional Product

\$36.414 million (2021)

Tourism

29,932 overnight visitors per year
(2020)



Cattle Herd

109,311 head
10.08% of Central West Queensland herd (2020/2021)



Top Industries by Employment

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing

Boulia: 46.5%
Central West: 25.7%

Public Administration and Safety

Boulia: 14.5%
Central West: 12%

Education and Training

Boulia: 4.8%
Central West: 7.7%

Sources: ABS 2021 Population estimates, ABS 2021 Census, QGSO Population medium average projections, Small area labour market data December 2020, 2021 ABS Agriculture census, Stafford Strategy report, Remplan 2020.

Project Pipeline



Community Precinct (Hub)

Capex: \$13 million
Jobs: 10
Status: construction ready

The construction of a new Community Precinct will address the need for a suitable location for a public internet training hub, community library, post office, Boulia Shire Council offices and new office space (currently unavailable). The movement of two facilities into this building will release two Council buildings and allow the development of a childcare facility and potential art gallery in the future.

Extensive community consultation has been undertaken in the development of the project. The project is identified explicitly in Boulia Shire Council's Strategic Corporate Plan 2019 – 2024 and Operational Plan 2023-2024. Designs for the project have been completed and costed and the project is ready to proceed to construction.

Residential Estate Stage 1

Capex: \$1.5 million
Jobs: 10
Status: Ready to construct

Boulia is located on the crossroads linking Mount Isa (north), NSW (south), Northern Territory (west) and the business export centres on the eastern seaboard of Queensland. Our location provides future opportunities for decentralisation, providing a 'hub' for long-haul transport operators, which Boulia's industrial estate supports.

This residential estate will meet current and future demand for residential land. Future demand will, in part, be driven by a medical centre and public schooling up to Year 6, which will attract additional young families to Boulia. Land in Boulia is at a premium, and Stage 1 of the estate (10 blocks in total – noted 'Bore block') is the first step in attracting and retaining new residents to town.



Boulia Airport Upgrade

Capex: \$3.95 million
Jobs: 3
Status: construction ready

The Boulia Airport is a certified aerodrome operable at all times and is maintained to ensure compliance with the Australian Government's Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) standards. The runway resurfacing will address shape and ponding issues, thus ensuring maintenance and operational costs do not escalate.

The airport is used for Regular Public Transport (RPT) services, aeromedical evacuations and private/charter aircraft landings. The RPT service operating in Boulia provides at least two return weekly services between Boulia and Mount Isa and Boulia and Brisbane. The aerodrome also serves as the only reliable night/wet weather backup strip for surrounding properties. The airport provides a vital transport connection during Channel Country floods and is essential for health services.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service provides the region's only GP service supporting the Boulia Clinic and delivers Maternal Health Clinics.

Min Min Encounter Stage 2: Marine Fossil Experience

Capex: \$5 million (estimate)
Jobs: 12 (estimate)
Status: Design Stage

The educational 'experience' concept builds on the theme of Boulia – A Land full of history (inland sea) and mystery (Min Min Lights).

The proposed Stage 2 design expands the already very popular Min Min Light animatronics show designed and constructed over 20 years ago. Over 10,000 people visit Boulia annually, attracted by the annual Boulia Camel Races and events in the broader region – Big Red Bash, Birdsville Races, etc.

The project's scope will complement the existing animatronics show and provide an educational and stimulating experience in pre-miocene times when this area was an inland sea. The 'traveller' will walk backwards through time into a submarine 'experience' viewing extinct marine creatures through a porthole into the past.

*"Seeing spaces – going places.....
Boulia."*



Established in 1997, the iconic Boulia Camel Races (often times referred to as the “Melbourne Cup of Camel Racing”) is the heart of the Boulia annual community events calendar and is a key driver in the long-term sustainability of the Boulia economy.

The 2023 event saw a total of 9,840 spectators attend over the three days of entertainment and racing, with attendees coming from across Queensland, interstate and internationally.

It is estimated that the 2023 Boulia Camel Races generated a direct and incremental expenditure of \$1,342,448 towards the economy of the shire and surrounding regions, and approx. \$1,016,601 towards the Queensland economy as a whole.

Council is a proud supporter of this event which is coordinated by a small community organisation with the help of numerous volunteers both local and visiting.

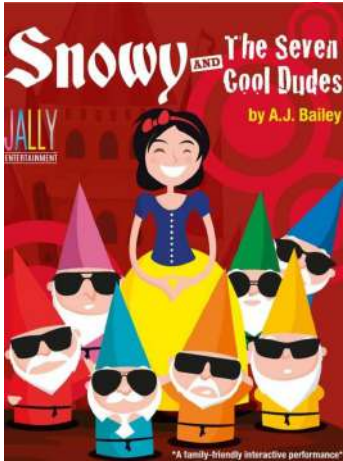
Winners in the 2023 Camel Races – photo by Matt Williams Photography courtesy of the Boulia Camel Races



Community Services 2023-2024

During the 2023-2024 financial year:

- Development of a 2.6 million dollar unit complex to facilitate the provision of quality accommodation for executive staff. This encompassed the full provision of 6 units to provide walk-in solutions for staff engaged from outside of region.
- A focus was placed during this period on the maintenance of housing assets with inspections undertaken and a project outlined to work towards improved outcomes for following year. Administrative support was brought in to assist in the management of Housing Infrastructure.
- Two new signs promoting the Min Min Encounter were custom made to replace the aging tourist signage located in Barcaldine and at the Winton-Boulia turnoff site. Replacement signage to highlight the Min Min Encounter location was also installed in the median strip of town, along with a new Police Barracks sign and a new sign for the Boulia Shire Hall.
- Arts Qld (RADF) funding was utilised in facilitating the attendance of a historical figure of the Boulia Camel Races 'the dancing bear' to demonstrate his unique methods of chainsaw carving at the Boulia Camel Races. The Boulia community's exposure to the performing arts was enriched with the travelling show's 'A Bee Story' & 'Snowy & the Seven Cool Dudes'.
- A third round of drought gift cards under the Community Drought Hardship Agreement was released to eligible shire residents.



Community Services

2023-2024

LIBRARY

Boulia Shire Council provides a modern, welcoming public library, open five (5) days a week for variable hours, Monday to Friday. Opening hours on Mondays was extended to 8.15am – 5.00pm.

The library staff continue to facilitate community events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, Australia Day, NAIDOC Week, organising the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch, and supporting holiday activities in partnership with the Boulia Community Support office.

This year, the library has hosted many events, such as a Breast Cancer Awareness Week morning tea, and raised over \$400 for Cancer research. A Book Club was also established.

The First 5 Forever program, held twice weekly at the town library, continues to enjoy a loyal following of toddlers undertaking many art projects and fun events that help socialisation and creative learning in the under five years. Annual funding from the State Library has enabled these educational activities and purchases of materials to occur.

The Library offers many services to the community, such as:

- Borrowing/lending of books/audio tapes/DVD's
- Free WIFI and computers for use
- Printing, copying, scanning and laminating
- Free swap books
- A play/activity room
- Holiday activities programs
- Craft/reading time

SPORTS COMPLEX:

The 2023-2024 financial year saw a slight change to the administration of the Aquatic Centre pool area, with this section of the complex being leased to a contractor. Council continues to operate the Gymnasium and all other areas of the Sports Centre and has a part-time employee who delivers sports and creative activities to children and adults. A major replacement program for Gym equipment was undertaken during the year.



Community Services

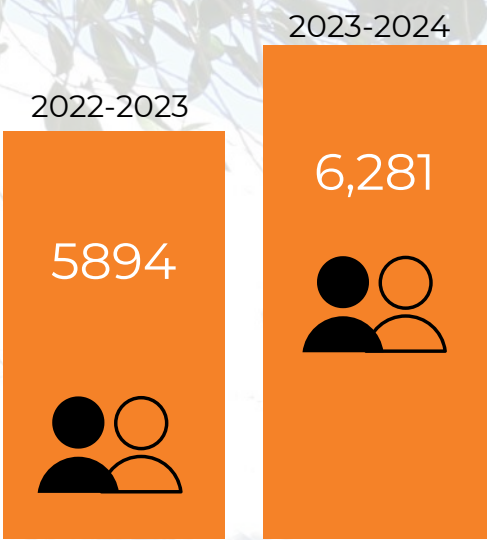
2023-2024

TOURISM

Min Min Encounter:

The Min Min Encounter and Visitor Information Centre continues to promote the Shire to all visitors.

A new range of merchandise has hit the shelves, and new camel merchandise in particular has proven popular. The on-site Min Min show continues to attract people who have heard about it in the media and by word of mouth from other travellers. The story of the Min Min Lights continues to amaze and educate many documentaries and inquisitive television producers and filmmakers alike.



Min Min Encounter Visitor Numbers



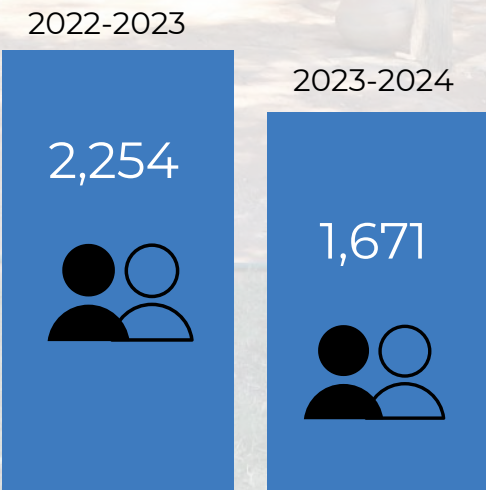
Min Min Encounter Sales



Boulia Heritage Complex:

The complex covers the ages from the dinosaur marine reptile era of one hundred million years ago, Indigenous Heritage, early explorers and European settlers.

Visitors to the complex are amazed at the quality of fossils on display and the presentation of artifacts by dedicated staff. Staff continue to progress the popularity of this complex with creative projects such as establishing a Yarning Circle, where visitors can sit and listen to stories about the Indigenous Heritage of Boulia, the fossils, and the Min Min Lights.



Heritage Complex Visitor Numbers

Works and Operations

2023-2024

The 2023-2024 year continued to see Boulia Shire Council's commitment to aligning our works and services projects to the needs of our community.

Council prides itself on working for and in conjunction with Local Government key stakeholders, including the wider community and the State and Federal governments. This essential collaboration ensures that everyone can access and experience the beauty and resilience of the Boulia Shire and Outback Queensland.

Our Councillors, staff and local contractors work tirelessly to fulfil Council's key priorities. These priorities are:

- Key Priority 1: Social License
- Key Priority 2: Built Environment
- Key Priority 3: Economic Development
- Key Priority 4: Natural Environment
- Key Priority 5: Governance
- Key Priority 6: Lifestyle and Community
- Key Priority 7: Our Team - Our People
- Key Priority 8: Leadership

Council staff and contractors have been busy working on various works and services projects throughout the past 12 months. A number of these projects have been able to be implemented thanks to grant funding received from both the State and Federal Governments. Council is extremely grateful to have been in the fortunate position of receiving this funding because, without it, these projects would not have been able to become a reality. The following sections depict a snapshot of the work that has been proudly carried out during the 2023-2024 financial year.

Around town and on the land

- Our Parks and Gardens crews work tirelessly year-round to keep our lawns and gardens beautiful and tidy. With numerous parks, median strips, and town entrances to attend to, it is an ongoing effort to maintain the greenery we are positively praised for in our arid climate.
- The Work Camp has continued to assist Council and local community members and groups with yard maintenance and event support.
- The Rural Lands Protection Officer (RLPO) treated a total of 6124.5kg of meat with 1080 solution using 29,395mls of solution. Over the two rounds of baiting that was conducted, 20 properties participated, either using 2000 De-K9 Manufactured Baits or meat treated with 1080 pig strength solution. Council continued its pest management program regarding the control of feral dogs, cats and pigs, with 167 Feral Dog Scalps and 1033 Pig Snouts being registered (no Feral Cat Tails).
- The RLPO also put out over 3000 liters of herbicide mix spraying the RMPC state roads for pest weeds. In a further bid to combat pest weeds, 30kg of pellets were also distributed around regrowth of Parkinsonia Bushes in old burrow pits/pits that previously could not be accessed.
- New 'Scar Tree' signage - A request was received from the Pitta Pitta Group to have formal identification placed at the site of the Scar Tree situated near a rest area on the Bedourie Road. There were concerns raised that people would think it was a tree which could be used for firewood etc. Council worked with the group to complete the sign which was installed with the approval of the group in September 2023.



Works and Operations 2023-2024

Road Works

- The local Roads Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) Crew has completed maintenance work to the value of \$1.9 million in the last year.
- Continuation of sealing works along the Donohue Highway (Outback Way - 'Australia's Longest Shortcut'): to date a total of five sections of re-sealing totaling a length of 24.1km has been able to be completed along this critical stretch of road between Boulia and the Northern Territory border. Funding for works is thanks to a Federal Government and Council collaboration, the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) program, and the Roads to Recovery program.
- New town entry truck bay: Construction of a designated truck bay on the Winton side town entry was completed. Creating this pullover near the local Roadhouse will assist in increasing community road safety and provide better access to facilities for our valued truck drivers.
- QRA Flood Damage road works totalling \$4.6m were completed.

Infrastructure Improvements

- Saltwater Chlorinator: Thanks to Building our Regions (Round 6) funding, Council completed the installation of a Salt Water Chlorinator at the Boulia Water Treatment Plant. The unit replaced the previous gas chlorination system, which will result in savings in ongoing operational costs due to being more energy efficient. It is also a step toward trying to improve water quality.
- Housing renovations: The 2021-24 Works for Queensland (W4Q) grant program (funded by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) enabled Council to carry out much-needed renovations on aging housing assets. Works included items such as bathroom renovations, new flooring and upgrades to driveway and entry access for the 'Melrose Place' units. The W4Q program is particularly opportune for our shire as it requires no co-contribution to be inputted from Council.
- Construction of six new duplexes: Thanks to funding of \$1.26 million under the 2022-2024 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program (LGGSP), Council has been able to construct 6 two-bedroom units (duplexes) for staff housing. Like most other regional and remote Councils, the Boulia Shire is facing a shortage of housing. As a key employer in the community, attracting and retaining staff due to unsuitable housing options or simply no housing availability was posing very problematic, however this funding has enabled Council to try work towards combatting the issue and we are now pleased to be able to offer staff comfortable modern accommodation with garaged car spaces and a communal BBQ area.



Works and Operations 2023-2024

- NBN Telecommunications Town Fibre to the premises: Council successfully obtained a grant of over \$4m to provide fibre to the premises of Boulia township. With funding through the Regional Connectivity Program (RCP), this project is a collaboration of the efforts of the Federal Government, NBN and Council. Works for this project were in full swing across 23-24 with technicians visiting homes and businesses across the township to begin installation works. Once complete, the community will benefit from improved access to health and education services; improved public safety and regional amenities; community connection and inclusion.

Planning and Development

- Funding from the Building our Regions and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) umbrella (Phase 2 and 3) is enabling Council to develop the Boulia Industrial Estate. The entire project entails the land subdivision, installation of water and communication services and pave and seal works.
- Release of residential estate: Council is planning for the future of Boulia and has developed 9 smaller housing blocks for release in 2025. Two of the blocks have been ear marked for Senior Staff Housing and design work will be completed in 2025.
- Boulia Solar Farm: Council has approved a development application that was submitted by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited for the development of a Renewable Energy Facility (Solar Farm). Located on Selwyn Road in Boulia, the application was assessed against all relevant planning schemes, zoning and code requirements and prior to final approval, also went through a public notification period between February and March (in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning Act 2016* and the Development Assessment Rules) during which no submissions were received.



Works - Rural Roads and Town Streets

2023-2024

Rural Roadworks completed		
Selwyn Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$682,622.92
Selwyn Connection Rd	Flood Damage	\$465,675.84
Fort William Rd	Maintenance	\$1,726.98
Donohue Hwy	Flood Damage, TIDS, Maintenance	\$4,691,341.32
Toolebuc Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$296,056.04
Linda Downs Link Road	Flood Damage	\$264,998.44
Urandangi Border Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$494,832.20
Urandangi South Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$684,509.92
Headingly Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$108,941.12
Elrose Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$81,732.18
Coorabulka Rd	Flood Damage, Betterment, Maintenance	\$931,343.13
Toolebuc-Middleton Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$185,145.80
Warra Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$90,892.39
Urandangi North Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$582,131.86
Slashes Creek Rd	Flood Damage, Betterment, Maintenance	\$619,266.80
Montague Rd	Flood Damage	\$53,232.09
Pathungra Rd	Flood Damage	\$205,763.55
Linda Downs Rd	Flood Damage, Maintenance	\$235,166.38
Town Streets	Maintenance, Betterment	\$59,154.72

Works and Operations 2023-2024

SHIRE ROADS FLOOD DAMAGE SNAPSHOT 1/7/2023 - 30/6/2024

The Boulia Shire road network consists of 20 major roads, 1260 km in length (1070km of gravel roads and 190km of sealed roads).

Council’s Road Contractors carried out various treatments along 4 major flood damage submissions, funding to complete these works is provided by Queensland Reconstruction Authority.

- 1. Slashes Creek submission – BoSC.0025.2223G.REC – 1 Road - \$249,341.07
- 2. Eastern Submission – BoSC.0026.2223G.REC – 10 roads - \$2,746,669.39
- 3. Western submission – BoSC.0028.2223G.REC – 9 roads - \$3,768,655.25
- 4. Coorabulka Floodways (x2) – 30 meters x 8 meters - \$520,000

We have utilised seven major pavement treatments for REPA Works including:

- Bulk excavate surplus material and remove from site
 - Gravel resheeting
- Gravel supply and top up gravel
 - Heavy formation grading
 - Medium formation grading
- Replace markers and guide posts
- Reshape table drains and rock protection

As a result of the Kirrily Flood Event 25/01/2024 – 25/02/2024, Emergent Works (only) were also completed on:

-  Springvale Road
-  Slashes Creek Road
-  Warra Road
-  Coorabulka Road
-  Elrose Road
-  Toolebuc Road
-  Pathungra Road
-  Toolebuc/Middleton Road

Flood Damage Road Contractors completed 32kms of shoulder resheeting on 93E (Boulia – Mt Isa Road) and 8.01kms of batter protection on 93D (Boulia - Bedourie Road), these works were funded by TMR.

BURKE RIVER



Workplace Health and Safety 2023-2024

Work Health and Safety continues to play a predominant place in the Boulia Shire Council's Workplace Agenda.

Boulia Shire Council resubscribed to Safety Hub – an online portal with over two hundred short (3 minute to 12 minute) videos which are shown to staff at Toolboxes on a fortnightly basis. Toolbox meetings are ongoing and held for the Depot staff every fortnight – educating and reminding staff of various safety hazards & risks, and how to minimise them, with the work they complete on a daily basis, including (but not limited to): Manual Handling, Fire Hazards, Eye and Feet Hazards, Sun Safety, Fire Evacuation.



Toolbox meetings for the Admin staff have been held once a month – again covering off on hazards found in the office space – manual handling, computer screen fatigue, fire evacuation.

Over the last 12 months there have been thirteen incidents, with only one resulting in lost time from work. In this case, the worker wrenched his knee as he turned to escape an Inland Taipan Snake, which was within striking distance of him. All other incidents have involved property – broken windscreens, side windows of vehicles etc.

There was a near miss, with an electrical short in speakers used in the Min Min Encounter show. The short was discovered and the fire retarding apparatus within the speaker did its job and prevented the short from catching fire. The speakers are now out of commission, and new speakers have been ordered, to be delivered in time for next year's tourist season.

While safety of workers will always be a major focus, the health side of WHS has had more of a focus in the WHS agenda this year, than in previous years.

Boulia Shire Council has subscribed to Mindrazr – an online portal, which deals with the health and wellbeing of individuals. Mindrazr can be downloaded onto any device, and offers short videos, and advice on many various health and wellbeing aspects staff may encounter. Some of the information available on the app is: 5 minute exercise whilst sitting at your workstation, yoga, assistance with sleep, how to deal with conflict, as well as a number of relaxing musical recordings to be listened to, to assist an individual to de-stress, sleep and gain a better work life balance.

The Boulia Shire Council's 2024-2027 WHS Strategic Plan was finalised, submitted and approved with the Local Government Mutual Services.

Boulia Shire Council has accessed Local Government Association Funding for Remote Councils to assist in funding staff training. Staff have undertaken CPR/First Aid Training, Traffic Management Refresher Courses, Plant Ticket first time receipts/renewals, Fire Warden Training, and three Depot staff have commenced qualifications in Cert III in Civil Construction.

Equal Opportunity in Employment Plan

Through up-to-date policies and procedures, Boulia Shire Council adheres to Equal Employment Opportunity in all human resources practices. For example, such practices as:

- employing the best person for the position.
- praise and promote employees based on merit, and the potential of the employee to handle greater responsibility and their willingness to do so.
- maintain a workplace free of harassment and victimisation.



Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA) and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (LGR) there a number of statutory reporting requirements local governments must include within their Annual Report. This section of the report addresses these obligations.

Expenses Reimbursement Policy and Non-current Physical Assets (LGR section 185 (a)(b))

Pursuant to section 250(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council holds a Councillor Expenses Re-imbursement Policy, policy number 111. The policy, available to view on the Council website, provides guidelines and procedures for the reimbursement to Councillors for expenses incurred in attending to and discharging their official duties as representatives of Boulia Shire Council and is reviewed every three years or as impacted by legislation.

No resolutions of Council were passed under section 206(2) of the regulation during 2023-2024. This provision deals with any resolutions passed that sets an amount for each different type of non-current asset. The notation of how Council deals with this is listed in Note 12 in the financial statements.

All items of plant and equipment with a total value of less than \$5000, and infrastructure assets and buildings with a total value of less than \$10,000 are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised.

Councillor Remuneration, Superannuation, Expenses and facilities provided (LGR section 186)

The below remuneration, superannuation and expenses figures are reflective of all the Councillors that held a seat during the 2023-2024 period.

Name	186 (a) Remuneration	186 (a) Employer Superannuation	186 (b) Expenses incurred*	Total
Mayor Rick Britton	\$109,558	\$13,164	\$22,421	\$145,143
Deputy Mayor Jack Neilson	\$49,538	\$5,931	\$7,335	\$62,804
Cllr Sam Beauchamp	\$44,001	\$5,244	\$4,291	\$53,536
Cllr Jan Norton	\$42,933	\$5,140	\$3,312	\$51,385
Cllr Tim Edgar (July 2023 to March 2024)	\$30,073	\$3,597	\$35	\$33,705
Cllr Julie Woodhouse (elected March 2024)	\$10,100	\$1,212	\$2,953	\$14,265

* This figure is reflective of the cost of expenses incurred by and facilities provided to Councillors. Expenses include such items as travel, accommodation and meals encountered whilst attending to and discharging official duties. All Councillors are provided with a corporate uniform and IT equipment. In addition, the Mayor is also provided with a mobile phone. A total of \$40,347 was incurred in Councillor Expenses for the 23-24 financial year.

Conduct and Performance of Councillors (LGR section 186d)

During the 2023-2024 financial year there were:

- 186d(i) no orders of unsuitable meeting conduct made under section 150I(2) of the LGA
- 186d(ii) no orders of unsuitable meeting conduct of a chairperson made under section 150IA(2)(b) of the LGA
- 185d (iii) no orders of disciplinary action made against Councillors under section 150AH(1) of the LGA
- 186d(iv) no decisions, orders or recommendations made under section 150AR(1) of the LGA in relation to disciplinary action against Councillors.

Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

Complaints about Councillors (LGR section 186 (1)(f))

In the 2023-2024 financial period, there were:

- i. no complaints referred to the assessor under section 150P(2)(a) of the LGA by the Council, a Councillor or the CEO.
- ii. no matters, mentioned in section 150P(3) of the LGA, notified to the Crime and Corruption Commission.
- iii, iv. no notices given under section 150R(2) or 150S(2)(a) of the LGA.
- v. no occasions information was given under section 150AF(3)(a) of the LGA.
- vi. no occasions the Council asked another entity to investigate, under chapter 5A, part 3, division 5 of the LGA for the Council, the suspected conduct breach of a Councillor.
- vii. no applications heard by the conduct tribunal under chapter 5A, part 3, division 6 of the Act about whether a Councillor engaged in misconduct or a conduct breach.
- viii. no referral notices given to the local government under section 150AC(1) of the LGA during the financial year.
- ix. no decisions made by the Council under section 150AG(1) of the LGA during the financial year.
- x. no matters not decided by the end of the financial year under section 150AG(1) of the LGA.

Councillor Meeting attendance (LGR section 186(c))

Elected members form the decision-making body of Council, and matters for consideration are directed through regular Council meetings. Ordinary Meetings of Council are held approximate to the third week of every month.

Special Meetings are convened where necessary to consider specific items such as budget, major projects and future strategic direction. Like Ordinary Meetings, Special Meetings comprise all members of Council and are called as and when required to attend to any urgent business of Council.

All meetings are open to the public, unless Council resolves, under Section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that a meeting be closed. Council, from time to time, needs to discuss matters such as contracts, staff, industrial and legal proceedings 'in confidence' and closes that part of the meeting to the public.

Public notice of days and times of meetings is given each month and copies of the agenda for each meeting are available for public inspection at Council's Administration Centre or on the Council's website at least two days prior to each scheduled meeting. All decisions made by Council are reflected in the Council's Meeting Minutes which are also open for inspection at Council's Administration Centre or on the Council's website.

The below table is reflective of the number of Ordinary and Budget/Special Meetings attended by Councillors. It does not include Councillor attendance at other meetings, for example at representative committee meetings.

Name	Ordinary Meeting	Budget/Special Meetings (includes Post Election Meeting)
Mayor Rick Britton	12	2
Cllr Jack Neilson	12	2
Cllr Sam Beauchamp	12	2
Cllr Tim Edgar (July 2023 to March 2024)	6 (granted 3 leave of absence)	0
Cllr Jan Norton	11 (granted 1 leave of absence)	2
Cllr Julie Woodhouse (elected March 2024)	3	2

Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

Administrative Action Complaints (LGR section 187 (1)(a)(b))

Boulia Shire Council is committed to providing a level of customer service that does not attract complaints however, acknowledges the right of persons to provide feedback, both positive and negative, on its services and/or to lodge a complaint. Council makes a genuine commitment to dealing fairly with administrative action complaints and this is achieved through the adoption of policies and procedures designed to provide confidence in Council's ability to provide feedback and deal with complaints in a fair and equitable manner. Council's policy 127, Complaints Management Policy and Process (available to view on the Council website) specifically provides guidelines on how administrative action complaints are handled.

The complaints process has been instituted to ensure that, to the greatest practical extent, any complaint is dealt with fairly, promptly, professionally, in confidence (subject to any legal requirements) and in a manner respectful to the complainant. To this end, within Council's complaints management process we endeavour to ensure that:

- People with particular needs are assisted – for example people who are in any way disadvantaged by intellectual or physical disability, education, language ability or any other impairment.
- Council officers receive complaints in a professional manner and welcome valid feedback as an opportunity for improvement of the Council's administrative practices.
- Complainants will not suffer any reprisal from Council or its officers for making a complaint.
- Complaints are responded to as quickly as possible and in accordance with the timeframes set out in the complaints process.
- Complaints are properly monitored with a view to continuous improvement of the Council's business processes.
- If a complainant is not satisfied that a complaint has been satisfactorily resolved, they will be informed of any statutory right of review and, if they request, be provided with details of any further review mechanism that is available.

In accordance with section 187(2) of the LGR, Council is pleased to note that during the 2023-2024 period, there were:

- i. no administrative action complaints made to Council
- ii. no administrative action complaints required to be resolved by the Council under the complaints management process
- iii. no administrative action complaints not resolved by the Council under the complaints management process
- iv. no administrative action complaints not resolved by Council under the complaints management process that were made in a previous financial year.

Expenditure from each Councillor's discretionary fund and expenditure on grants to Community Organisations (LGR section 189 and 201B)

The Boulia Shire Council does not have any Councillor discretionary funds, however a strong supportive community environment is a key priority for Council. We are therefore fully committed to assisting our local organisations where possible and are pleased to be able to provide grant support when feasible.

Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

During the 2023-20234 financial year, the following grants to Community Organisations were allocated:

Organisation	Purpose	Approval	Amount
Boulia Camel Races	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/Council	\$59,035.00
Boulia Turf Club	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/ Council	\$14,976.00
Mount Isa School of the Air	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/Council	\$1,893.00
Boulia State School	Bus and Venue Hire	CEO/ Council	\$4,249.00
NWQICCS Boulia Community Support Services	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/Council	\$4,011.00
Boulia Rodeo Association/Boulia Campdraft Club	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/Council	\$51,616.00
Boulia Golf Club	Bus, venue and equipment hire; rates remission	CEO/Council	\$8,196.00
QCWA Boulia	Venue and Equipment Hire	CEO/Council	\$2,323.00
Electoral Commission QLD	Venue Hire	CEO/Council	\$1,887.00
Boulia Outback Chapel	Rates Remission	Council	\$1,254.00
Roman Catholic Trust	Rates Remission	Council	\$1,116.00
Other Donations	Various minor requests for community benefit	CEO/Council	\$1,314.00

Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

Overseas Travel (LGR section 188)

No Councillors or employees of Council undertook any overseas travel during the financial year.

Senior Management Remuneration (LGA section 201)

The following information is listed in increments of \$100,000 of the Senior Management of Boulia Shire Council for the 2023-2024 financial year.

Number of Positions	\$'s
One	\$200,000 - \$300,000
Three	\$100,000 - \$200,000

The total remuneration packages payable in 2023-2024 to Senior Management was \$494,367 (the total of all Senior Executive remuneration).

Changes to Tenders (LGR section 190)

There were no invitations or requests to change tenders issued under section 228(8) of the LGR in 2023/2024.

Beneficial Enterprises (LGA section 41) and Business Activities (LGA section 45)

The Boulia Shire Council had no beneficial enterprises or business activities during the 2023-2024 financial year.

Internal Audit (LGR section 190)

Boulia Shire Council appointed Walsh Accounting as internal auditors in 2018. They have undertaken eleven audit reviews.

Council has an Audit & Risk Management Committee which includes the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and an external party in accordance with the *Local Government Act*. Peter O'Regan from O'Regan & Partners Chartered Accountants, Chair, has retired. Council's new Chair of the committee is Michelle Reynolds from GenEng.

Investigation notices (LGR section 190)

There were no investigation notices given under section 49 of the LGR for competitive neutrality complaints during the year ended 30 June 2024.

Responses to the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) recommendations (LGR section 190)

There were no responses in the financial year on the QCA's recommendations on any competitive neutrality complaints under section 52(3) of the LGR.

Statutory Reporting

2023-2024

List of Registers kept by Boulia Shire Council (LGR section 190(1)(f))

The following registers are kept by the Boulia Shire Council:

Register	Act/Regulation	Purpose
Registers of interests of Councillors, Councillor advisors, Chief Executive Officers and Senior Executive Staff and their related persons	LGA section 201A, 201B and 201C LGR s290, Schedule 5 and 5A	To record certain financial and other personal interests of the Councillors, CEO, Senior Executive Staff and their related parties
Register of Delegations by Council	LGA 2009 section 257, 260	To record all powers delegated by Council
Register of Delegations by Chief Executive Officer	LGA 2009 section 259, 260	To record all delegations made by the CEO
Councillor Conduct Register	LGA 2009 section 150DX-150DY	To record any decisions or orders made relating to unsuitable meeting conduct or suspected conduct breaches
Register of Local Laws	LGA 2009 section 31 and LGR 2012 section 14	To record all Local Laws
Register of Roads	LGA 2009 section 74 LGR section 57	To show details of roads in the Shire available to any person
Register of Land Record	LGR 2012 section 154	To record details of every parcel of rateable land in the Shire
Register of Cost-Recovery Fees	LGA 2009 section 98	To record the cost-recovery fees made under a local law or resolution
Register of business activities to which the competitive neutrality principles apply	LGR 2012 section 56	To record the business activities to which the competitive neutrality principles apply
Asset Register (Register of non-current physical assets)	LGA section 104(5)(b) LGR 2012 section 180	Prepare and keep an up-to-date asset register that includes non-current physical assets

Statutory Reporting 2023-2024

Summary of all Concessions for Rates and Charges Granted by Council (LGR section 190)

Pensioner Rebate

Ratepayers who reside in their own premises in Boulia or Urandangi receive a full rebate on their general rates and a 30% subsidy on service charges (excluding the Emergency Services Levy - ESL) up to a maximum of \$180.00. This subsidy is in addition to the 20% subsidy offered by the State Government (up to a maximum of \$180.00).

Other Remissions

Other remission requests, or rate deferral requests, are assessed on a case-by-case basis. In considering the application of concessions, Council is guided by the principles of:

- Equity: By having regard to different levels of capacity to pay within the local community
- Consistency: The same consistent treatment for ratepayers receiving concessional rating
- Capacity to pay: In determining appropriate arrangements for different groups within the community
- Transparency: By making clear the requirements necessary to receive concession.

Discounts

To encourage prompt payment and to ensure equity, Council offered to all ratepayers a 6% discount on the 'Rates Notice' (excluding interest charges and fire levy), if all current and outstanding rates and charges were paid within at least 30 days after the issue of the rates notice.

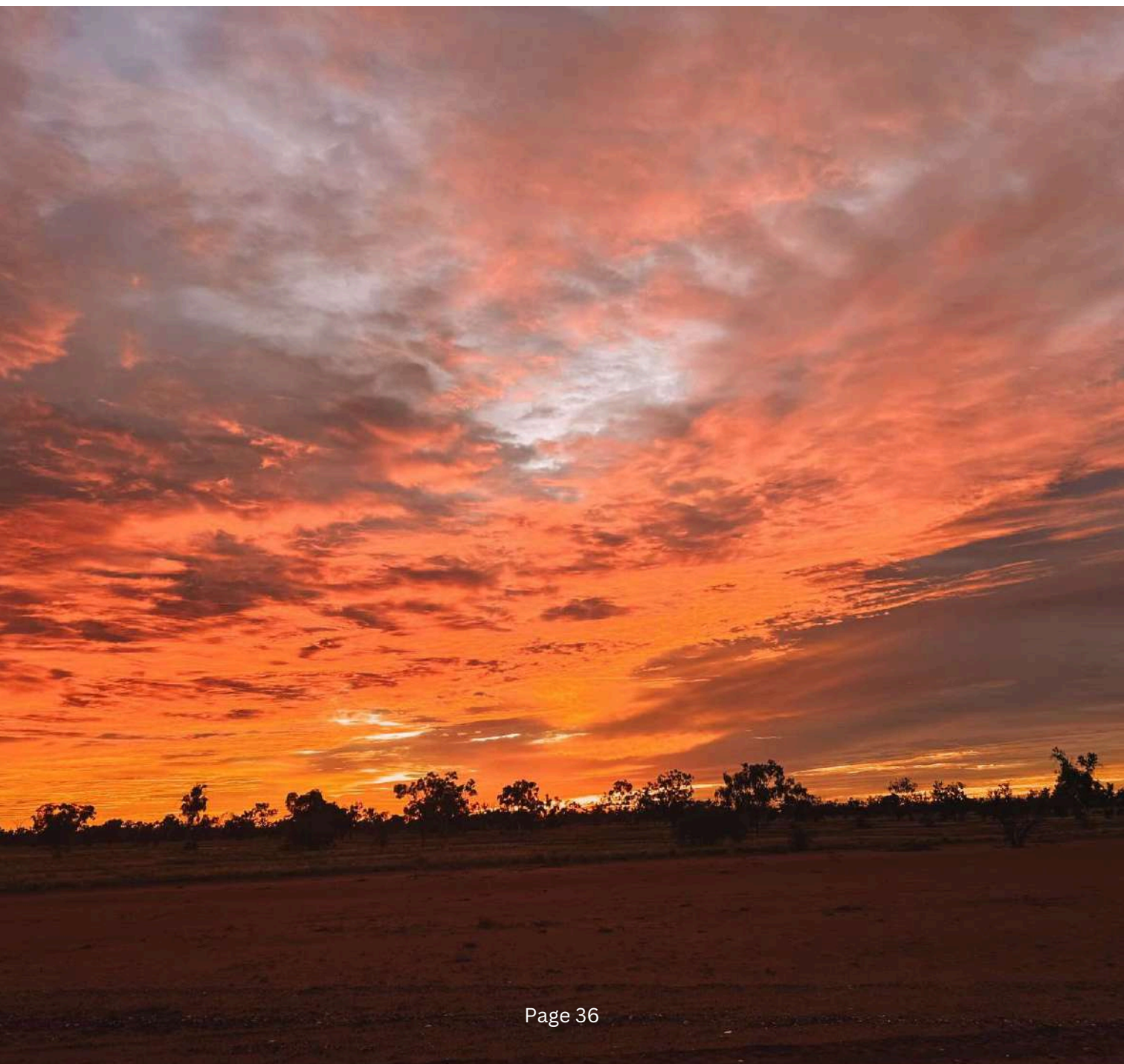


Annual Operational Plan Review 2023-2024

The following pages provide a quick overview of the key priorities outlined in the Boulia Shire Council Operational Plan.

For a full report on the activities of each section of the Operational Plan please visit the Boulia Shire Council website www.boulia.qld.gov.au (Council documents section)

Photo by: Pearl Pocock



Operational Plan Review 2023-2024

Key Priority 1: Social License

Our Shire has a long and proud history. Changing times and often harsh conditions have necessitated a deep resilience. To continue to thrive, our communities need to be cohesive and strong, our people supportive and engaged, and our towns attractive and livable.

- Provision of inkind support to local community organisations – Camel Races, Rodeo etc.
- In conjunction with 'Grant Guru', Boulia Funding Finder website available to all clubs and community members.
- Community events such as NAIDOC, Australia Day supported.
- Council facilities available for local events.
- Library programs for all ages delivered with high attendance numbers.



Key Priority 2: Built Environment

Our built environment, or infrastructure, creates the building blocks for our future. Our access to clean water, reliable energy supplies, communication technology, and public infrastructure is paramount to our standard of living. We will keep pace with demand by planning for the future. We will create green spaces and social infrastructure, manage expansion and provide essential services.

- Airports at Boulia and Urandangi are well maintained by Council.
- Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements for flood events total over \$6m to complete road repairs.
- Outback Highway sealing program continued with 70.6 km left to seal within the Boulia section.
- Regular Plant Committee Meetings to review and formalise Council's plant purchasing and renewal schemes.
- Asset Management Plans progressed.
- Improvements to water infrastructure (new salt water chlorinator).
- Industrial Estate progressed.
- Shelf ready projects on standby, ready for suitable funding opportunities as they arise.
- Residential Estate planning continues to remain in the forefront of Council's future planning.
- Staff housing project (new duplex units in Pituri Street) completed.

Operational Plan Review 2023-2024

Key Priority 3: Economic Development

Economic prosperity creates opportunity. Our economic strength fuels growth across our region and is responsive to opportunities, particularly in the tourism and agricultural markets. We will advocate for local businesses and work to diversify the local economy to include mining and exploration and take full advantage of the resources available to us. To do this, we must work together as a community to identify, promote and activate new initiatives while protecting those lifestyle and community traits we value.

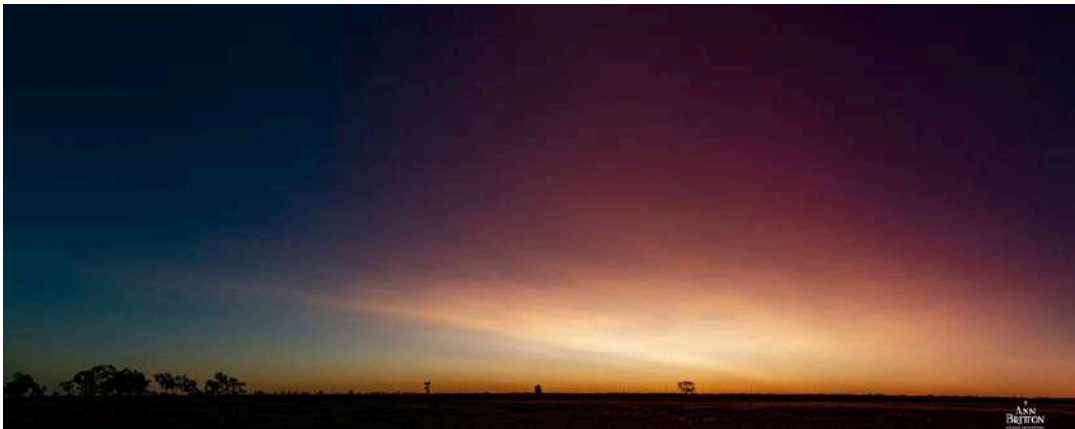
- Ongoing distribution of the Channel Country Chatter.
- Television advertising to support tourism.
- Online booking capabilities for the Min Min Encounter and Boulia Heritage Complex.
- Collaboration with the regions Roads, Water and Pest Management groups.
- Strong representation to support Boulia through involvement in RAPAD, OHDC, WQAC.
- Organic Spelling Yards kept up to certified standards.
- Maintained an active footprint in social media relations with regular postings on Council and Min Min Encounter Facebook pages.



Key Priority 4: Caring for the Environment

We are the guardians of our environment. Our Shire is home to diverse, pristine and culturally sensitive environments. We have a duty of care to preserve and protect our shared environment so it continues to underpin our history, lifestyle and economy. We will encourage sustainable practices, including green energy solutions and responsible land management.

- Cultural Heritage clearances are conducted for all new sites.
- Fogging activities completed after rain events.
- Support of SES members and facilities.
- Support for Boulia Land Care.
- Management of reserves and Town Common.
- Management of pest species - bounty for wild dog scalps and pig snouts with assisted baiting across the Shire.



Operational Plan Review 2023-2024

Key Priority 5: Robust Governance

The decisions made by local government and community organisations change our lives. Decisions made by State and Federal Government affect how we operate. We want a greater say in the process and the allocation of resources, especially in our local communities. We will ensure we have effective processes, procedures and policies to positively change behaviours, supported by the *Local Government Act 2009*, to provide confidence to funding providers.

- Strengthening Boulia Shire – new EBA Agreement reviewed and submitted for registration.
- Audit and Risk Management Committee reviews were completed with no adverse findings.
- WH&S focus across the organisation – toolbox talks, Take-5s, I-Auditor implemented both inside and outside staff.
- Online induction system continues for all Contractors and new staff.
- All policies and procedures are reviewed on time within legislation.
- Long Term Financial Plan was completed using the Queensland Treasury Model.
- Quarterly Operational Plan reviews are reported to Council each quarter along with the budget reviews.
- Drug and Alcohol testing for all staff and Councillors continues.



Key Priority 6: Lifestyle and Community

Active, healthy lifestyles drive our success as a Shire. Health and well-being are building blocks for fulfilling lives. We will support smart lifestyle decisions to reduce the toll of preventable disease and increase our life spans. We understand the importance of open green spaces for recreation and social cohesion and support a work-life balance to remain connected with our colleagues, family and community.

- Provision of Post Office services - mail and parcels etc.
- Ongoing support to SES, Queensland Health, Fire and Police Services.
- Parks and gardens scheduled maintenance projects and town beautification.
- Min Min Encounter and Boulia Heritage Complex to support the local economy.
- Out-of-hours gym key available at the Sports Complex
- Provision of Council facilities for community events: Racecourse Reserve - Easter Races, Campdraft, Camel Races and Rodeo.



Operational Plan Review 2023-2024

Key Priority 7: Our Team - Our People

People are our greatest asset. Unleashing individual potential maximises personal, community and economic outcomes. We will encourage an inclusive community that supports the needs of business people, our staff, the young and the elderly, and we will support the least advantaged, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. We will encourage diversity, foster innovation and use the talents of all - we believe that nobody should be left behind.

- Fostering a WH&S culture across the organisation.
- Performance reviews and staff training plan completed for staff.
- Ongoing availability of the Go1 and SafetyHub platform for online training.
- Continue to support staff and families with the Employee Assistance Program.
- Customer Management system development is in process.
- Partner with Boulia Community Services to deliver after school programs and activities.



Key Priority 8: Leadership

Our Shire is well recognised and respected both in Queensland and the Federal arena, which is critical for the region's future growth. We recognise the challenge that population decline brings and will find ways to manage it and do what we can to reverse the trend. We will build on what already makes our Shire and the surrounding regions great, including our exceptional people, local enterprise, and natural resources, by developing our strategic focus and competitive advantage underpinned by strong regional partnerships.

- Mayor lobbies on behalf of Boulia for the sealing of the Outback Way.
- Representation at key Government functions.
- Council Elected Members have attended all meetings (with only minimal apologies noted).
- Council meetings are uploaded to the website within the timeframe.
- Council has built strong relationships and is well respected by external bodies such as RAPAD, OHDC and LDMG.

Community Financial Report 2023-2024

The Community Financial Report aims to simplify Council’s financial statements through a visual and plain English written explanation of our results for the financial year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

This Community Financial Report consists of 3 key statements. They are:

- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Cash Flows

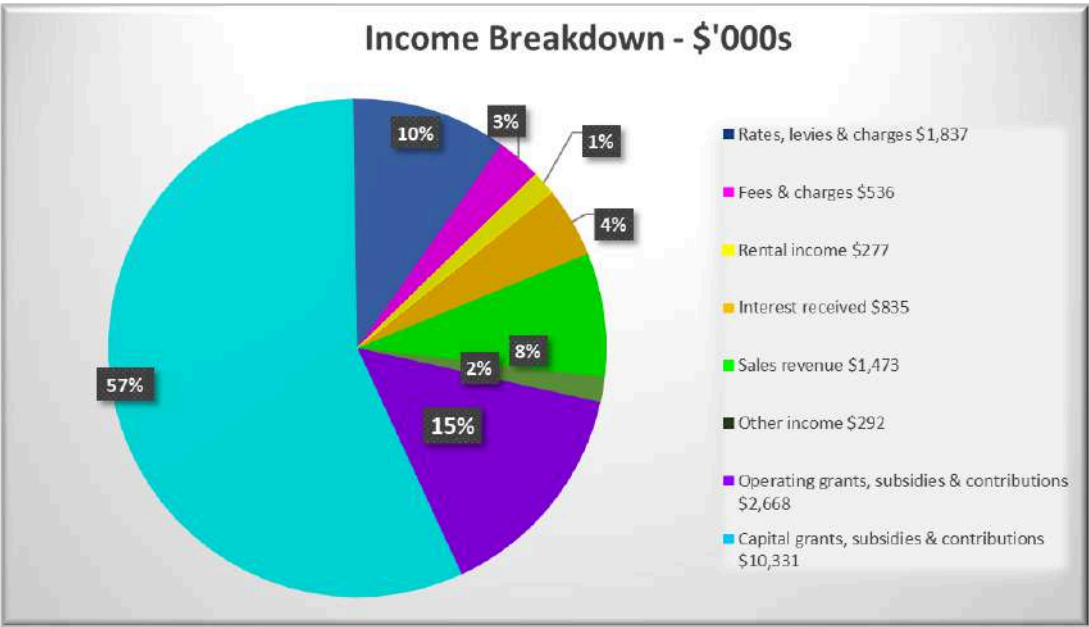
Statement of Comprehensive Income

The Statement of Comprehensive Income reflects how we take the money we receive in our day-to-day operations and spend it to provide the level of services the community expects from our Council. This year Council’s total revenue amounted to \$18.2 million and total expenses amounted to \$16.9 million returning a net result surplus of \$1.3 million.

Revenue – Where did Council’s funds come from?

Council’s reported Total Income of \$18.2 million during the 2023/24 financial year is broken up into two areas:

- Operating Income \$ 7.9m
- Capital Income \$ 10.3m



Community Financial Report

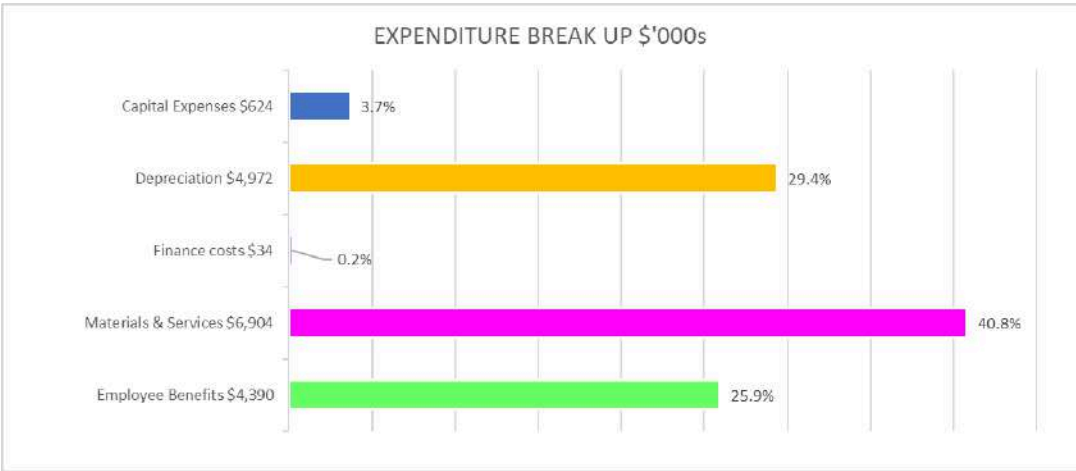
2023-2024

The more significant contributors to Council's revenue stream include:

- Rates, Levies & Charges \$1.8m
- Sales Revenue \$1.5m
- Operating Grants, Subsidies & Contributions \$2.7m
- Capital Grants, Subsidies & Contributions \$10.3m

Expenditure – Where does the money go?

Council incurs both operating and capital expenditure through providing a wide range of services to the community. Expenditure is regularly monitored to ensure funds are used efficiently.



Operating and Capital expenditure is made up of:

- Employee Benefits \$4.39m
- Materials & Services \$6.90m
- Finance Costs \$0.03m
- Depreciation \$4.9m
- Capital Expenses \$0.62m

Employee benefits consists of wages and other entitlements such as superannuation and annual leave which is paid to our staff members.

Materials & Services consists of goods Council purchases to use in day-to-day operations. Wherever possible, Council uses local suppliers and contractors so that the money flows back into our community.

Finance costs consist predominantly of provisions for bad debts, loan and bank charges.

Statement of Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position measures what we own (our assets), what we owe (our liabilities) and our net worth (total community equity) at the end of the financial year.

Total Assets	\$223.0m
Total Liabilities	\$4.2m
Total Community Equity	\$218.8m

Community Financial Report

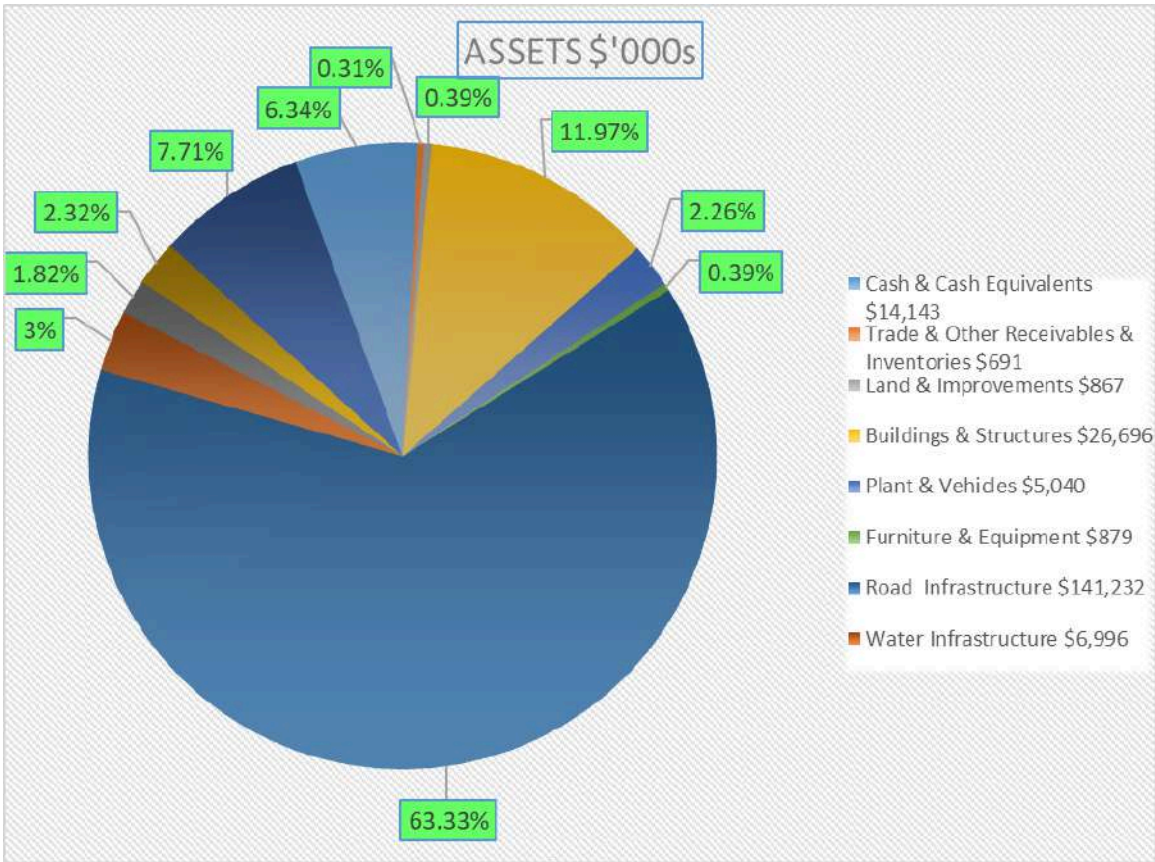
2023-2024

Assets – What the community owns

Assets controlled by Council totalled \$223m of which property, plant and equipment accounts for 90% of Council's assets which includes the road infrastructure, buildings & structures, plant & vehicles, water, sewerage and aerodrome assets. This represents a significant investment of community funds and requires careful management to ensure that the levels of service provided by these assets is maintained and the remaining 10% is our cash and investments.

The major components of our assets include:

- Road network \$141.2m
- Land, buildings & structures \$ 27.6m
- Plant & vehicles \$ 5.0m
- Cash & investments \$14.1m
- Assets Under Construction \$17.2m
- Water Infrastructure \$ 7.0m
- Sewerage Infrastructure \$ 4.1m
- Aerodrome Infrastructure \$ 5.2m
- Trade, other receivables and inventories \$ 0.7m

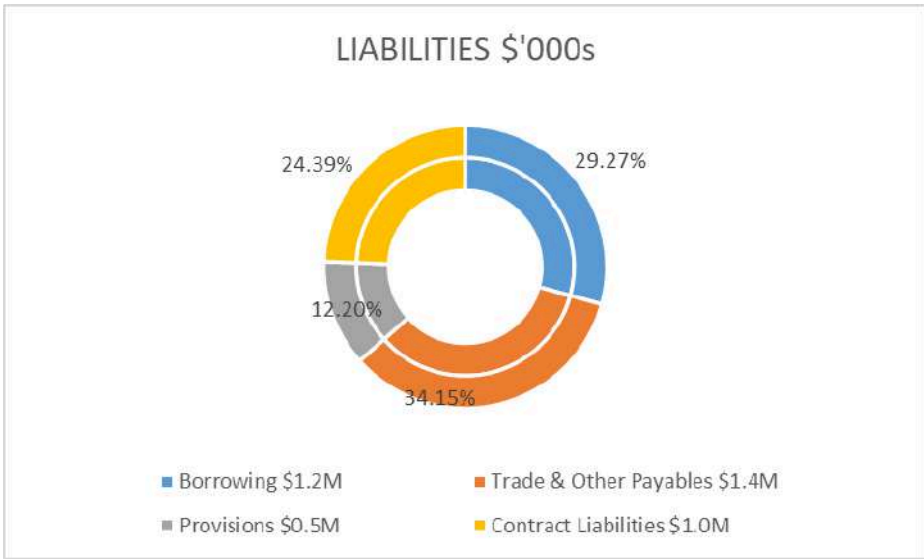


Community Financial Report 2023-2024

Liabilities – What the community owes

The components of our liabilities are:

Borrowing	\$1.2m
Trade & other payables	\$1.4m
Provisions	\$0.5m
Contract liabilities	\$1.0m



Statement of Cash Flows

The statement of cash flows shows Council’s cash received and spent during the year. It shows our ability to pay our bills and put aside some funds for the future. Our final cash balance as at 30 June 2024 was \$14.1m which is a decrease of \$6.4m from the previous year.

This report covers three specific areas: Financing, Investing and Operating activities.

- Financing activities are cash received if Council takes out new loans or cash paid as repayments against loans.
- Investing activities include money Council receives and spends when we buy or sell property, plant and equipment (Capital purchases).
- Operating activities include all other areas such as rates, fees & charges, interest, grants, employee costs, materials & services, interest and administration.

Listed on the following page is a table showing the results of the Cash Flow Statement for the past seven years.

Community Financial Report

2023-2024

	2023/24 \$,000	2022/23 \$,000	2021/22 \$,000	2020/21 \$,000	2019/20 \$,000	2018/19 \$,000	2017/18 \$,000
Opening Cash Balance	20,576	19,080	18,063	21,513	16,408	13,903	14,961
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	(3,119)	7,011	3,114	(3,532)	2,671	4,079	(1,440)
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities (Capital Purchases)	(3,223)	(5,426)	(2,465)	135	2,485	(1,525)	429
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities (Loans)	(91)	(89)	368	(53)	(51)	(49)	(47)
Closing Cash Balance	14,143	20,576	19,080	18,063	21,513	16,408	13,903

Key Sustainability Ratios

The current year financial sustainability statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024*. The amounts used to calculate the six reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the Council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 7)	Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	Narrative
Audited ratios					
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	13.90 months	N/A	Council has achieved a strong liquidity position and, after years of good financial management, is well positioned to meet both the short and long term needs of the community.
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	N/A	-105.8%	-34.8%	It is challenging for Council to achieve a positive operating surplus ratio with continued reliance on grant funding and limited opportunity to generate own source revenue. This ratio is impacted by the Financial Assistance Grant not being received until July 2024. Refer to note 4(i) for details.
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	-42.6%	4.2%	This ratio is impacted by the Financial Assistance Grant not being received until July 2024. Refer to note 4(i) for details.
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 90%	6.1%	80.7%	Council's 5 year average asset sustainability ratio is near the recommended level which suggests that Council has been spending enough on asset renewal to compensate for the deterioration in its asset base.
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	72.7%	78.2%	The target has been achieved for both the current year and five year average. Council manages the consumption rate of assets appropriately.
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 to 3 times	-0.35	-0.51	The target has not been achieved for the current year but is an improvement on the five-year average. Reliance on grant funding impacts this ratio.

Community Financial Report 2023-2024

Overall Financial Summary

\$14,142,671

CASH BALANCE

as at 30 June 2024

\$218,802,058

TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY

as at 30 June 2024



The Future

Council has further consolidated its financial position and is in a sound financial position to face the challenges in the years ahead.



Financial Statements



Boulia Shire Council
Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024



Boulia Shire Council

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

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Boulia Shire Council
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income			
Revenue			
Recurrent revenue			
Rates, levies and charges	3(a)	1,837,052	1,828,330
Fees and charges	3(c)	536,151	425,201
Rental income	3(d)	276,626	244,724
Interest received	3(e)	835,304	503,523
Sales revenue	3(b)	1,473,420	7,127,209
Other income	3(e)	292,226	230,023
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	4(i)	2,668,496	9,366,900
Total recurrent revenue		7,919,275	19,725,910
Capital revenue			
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	4(ii)	10,330,934	7,856,952
Total income		18,250,209	27,582,862
Expenses			
Recurrent expenses			
Employee benefits	6	(4,390,105)	(4,183,715)
Materials and services	7	(6,904,144)	(8,996,109)
Finance costs		(34,497)	(36,785)
Depreciation	11	(4,972,267)	(5,113,326)
Total recurrent expenses		(16,301,033)	(18,329,938)
Capital expenses			
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	5	(624,080)	(370,600)
Total expenses		(16,925,113)	(18,700,538)
Net result		1,325,096	8,882,324
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Increase / (decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	16	5,058,611	(21,133,956)
Total other comprehensive income for the year		5,058,611	(21,133,956)
Total comprehensive income for the year		6,383,707	(12,251,632)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Boulia Shire Council
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	14,142,671	20,575,678
Receivables	9	205,225	536,472
Inventories	10	485,711	384,144
Total current assets		<u>14,833,607</u>	<u>21,496,295</u>
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	208,163,553	194,880,417
Total assets		<u>222,997,160</u>	<u>216,376,712</u>
Current liabilities			
Payables	12	1,431,677	1,460,714
Borrowings	13	93,938	92,785
Provisions	14	440,707	490,437
Contract liabilities	15	1,017,281	662,148
Total current liabilities		<u>2,991,603</u>	<u>2,706,084</u>
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	13	1,104,038	1,196,587
Provisions	14	99,461	55,690
Total non-current liabilities		<u>1,203,499</u>	<u>1,252,277</u>
Total liabilities		<u>4,195,102</u>	<u>3,958,361</u>
Net community assets		<u>218,802,058</u>	<u>212,418,351</u>
Community equity			
Asset revaluation surplus	16	104,340,954	99,282,343
Retained surplus		114,461,104	113,136,008
Total community equity		<u>218,802,058</u>	<u>212,418,351</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Boulia Shire Council
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		4,470,096	10,540,846
Payments to suppliers and employees		(11,422,811)	(13,641,965)
		<u>(6,952,715)</u>	<u>(3,101,119)</u>
Borrowing costs		(34,497)	(36,785)
Interest received	3(e)	835,304	503,523
Rental income	3(d)	276,626	244,724
Non capital grants and contributions		2,756,281	9,400,728
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities	20	<u>(3,119,001)</u>	<u>7,011,071</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(13,999,260)	(12,341,624)
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment	5	178,368	236,217
Capital grants, subsidies, contributions and donations		10,598,281	6,678,676
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from investing activities		<u>(3,222,611)</u>	<u>(5,426,731)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings		(91,396)	(89,040)
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities		<u>(91,396)</u>	<u>(89,040)</u>
Net Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalent held		<u>(6,433,008)</u>	<u>1,495,300</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		20,575,678	19,080,378
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year	8	<u>14,142,671</u>	<u>20,575,678</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Boulia Shire Council
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	Asset revaluation surplus	Retained Surplus	Total
		\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2023		99,282,343	113,136,008	212,418,351
Net result		-	1,325,096	1,325,096
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Increase/(decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	16	5,058,611	-	5,058,611
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>5,058,611</u>	<u>1,325,096</u>	<u>6,383,707</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2024		<u>104,340,954</u>	<u>114,461,104</u>	<u>218,802,058</u>
 Balance as at 1 July 2022		 120,416,299	 104,253,684	 224,669,982
Net result		-	8,882,324	8,882,324
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Increase/(decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	16	(21,133,956)	-	(21,133,956)
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>(21,133,956)</u>	<u>8,882,324</u>	<u>(12,251,632)</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2023		<u>99,282,343</u>	<u>113,136,008</u>	<u>212,418,351</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1 Information about these financial statements

1.a Basis of preparation

Boulia Shire Council is constituted under the Queensland *Local Government Act 2009* and is domiciled in Australia.

These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. They are prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and the Local Government Regulation 2012.

Council is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes and these financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as applicable to not-for-profit entities.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment.

1.b New and revised Accounting Standards adopted during the year

Council adopted all standards which became mandatorily effective for annual reporting periods beginning on 1 July 2023, none of the standards had a material impact on reported position, performance and cash flows. The adoption of the revisions to AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* resulted in disclosure of material accounting policy information only rather than significant accounting policies. This means that accounting policy information is disclosed only if it relates to material transactions, other events or conditions and:

a) Council has changed accounting policy during the reporting period and this change resulted in a material change to the information in the financial statements.

b) Council chose (or was mandated to use) the accounting policy from one or more options permitted by Australian Accounting Standards.

c) the accounting policy was developed in accordance with AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* in the absence of an Australian Accounting Standard that specifically applies.

d) the accounting policy relate to an area for which a Council is required to make significant judgements or assumptions in applying an accounting policy, and the Council discloses those judgements or assumptions in the financial statements.

e) the accounting required for them is complex and users of the entity's financial statements would otherwise not understand those material transactions, other events or conditions.

1.c Standards issued by the AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations which are not effective at 30 June 2024. These standards have not been adopted by Council and will be included in the financial statements on their effective date. Where the standard is expected to have a material impact for Council then further information has been provided in this note.

These standards are not expected to have a material impact on the council when they are adopted.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1 Information about these financial statements (continued)

1.d Estimates and judgements

Council makes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements. These are based on the best information available to Council at the time, however due to the passage of time, these assumptions may change and therefore the recorded balances may not reflect the final outcomes. The significant judgements, estimates and assumptions relate to the following items and specific information is provided in the following relevant notes:

Revenue Recognition (Note 3 and Note 4)
Valuation and depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 11)
Impairment of property, plant and equipment (Note 11)
Contingent liabilities (Note 18)
Financial instruments and financial liabilities (note 22)

1.e Rounding

The Council uses the Australian dollar as its functional currency and its presentation currency and rounds to the nearest dollar.

1.f Taxation

Council is exempt from income tax, however council is subject to Fringe Benefits Tax, Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and payroll tax on certain activities. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2 Analysis of results by function

2 (a) Components of Council functions

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

Corporate Support

Secure revenue from governments and ratepayers to finance the general activities of Council.

Provide support functions for the Mayor and Councillors, Council and committee meetings and statutory requirements including disaster management, civic receptions and regional services

Provide Council and corporate management of the organisation including:

- Financial and administrative services
- Encourage and monitor the planning and construction of the building environment
- Information technology
- Human resources and payroll
- Plan and design Council's infrastructure and provide general engineering and operational support
- Provision of tourism attractions and museums and assist with the promotion and development of the local tourism industry
- Provide leadership and key industry contacts for the diversification and growth of local industry
- Procure and service Council's mobile fleet

Environmental and Natural Resources

Ensure a high level of environmental health is maintained for all residents and visitors. Protect the natural environment and undertake projects to enhance economic and environmental return from use of reserves.

Protect and enhance the environmental and natural resources within the Shire. This includes:

- Property pest management
- Stock route management
- Animal control
- Environmental licenses and approvals

Community and Lifestyle Services

Enhance community development and equity through targeted assistance and development activities

Provide activities and services to improve the lifestyle of residents including:

- Accessible and quality library materials to residents
- Entertainment venues for all residents
- Community housing for both staff and non-staff members of the Shire
- Community services
- Parks and gardens
- Cemeteries

Health and Welfare

Provide facilities and activities to enhance the health and welfare of residents. Lobby government for improved facilities.

Water, Sewerage and Garbage

Water Infrastructure

- Supply urban residents and businesses with a clean and reliable water supply
- Improve the conservation of water use by the community

Sewerage Infrastructure

- Provide sewerage services to the urban community

Garbage Infrastructure

- Provide urban residents and businesses with an efficient refuse collection and disposal service.

Roads

Provide, maintain and upgrade roads, streets and drainage to the highest standard within limits of resources

Undertake road construction and maintenance works for third parties

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2 Analysis of results by function

(b) Income and expenses defined between recurring and capital are attributed to the following functions:

Functions	Gross Program Income				Total income	Gross Program Expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurrent operations	Net Result	Assets
	Recurrent		Capital			Recurrent	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other							
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Corporate Support	2,081,595	3,009,320	-	-	5,090,915	(4,713,770)	67,883	(4,645,887)	377,145	445,028	64,852,341
Environmental & Natural Resources	-	23,739	-	-	23,739	(97,160)	-	(97,109)	(73,430)	(73,430)	-
Community & Lifestyle Services	-	365,716	-	-	365,716	(2,224,818)	-	(2,224,818)	(1,859,102)	(1,859,102)	115,049
Health & Welfare	48,107	-	-	-	48,107	(30,053)	-	(30,053)	18,054	18,054	-
Water Sewerage & Garbage	-	296,286	-	-	296,286	(767,902)	(691,963)	(1,460,866)	(471,616)	(1,163,579)	11,095,454
Roads	536,794	1,555,718	10,330,934	-	12,422,446	(8,467,321)	-	(8,467,321)	(6,372,809)	3,958,125	146,964,316
Total	2,668,496	5,250,779	10,330,934	-	18,250,209	(16,391,633)	(624,080)	(16,925,113)	(8,381,758)	1,325,096	222,997,160

Year ended 30 June 2023

Functions	Gross Program Income				Total income	Gross program expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurrent operations	Net Result	Assets
	Recurrent		Capital			Recurrent	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other							
	\$	\$	\$	\$							
Corporate Support	8,740,026	2,575,147	-	-	11,315,173	(5,310,434)	(370,600)	(5,690,035)	5,995,739	5,025,136	34,073,070
Environmental & Natural Resources	-	10,389	-	-	10,389	(33,686)	-	(33,686)	(23,297)	(23,297)	866,577
Community & Lifestyle	-	334,362	-	-	334,362	(1,512,607)	-	(1,512,607)	(1,178,445)	(1,178,445)	26,717,658
Health & Welfare	15,508	-	-	-	15,508	(63,901)	-	(63,901)	(48,392)	(48,392)	201
Water Sewerage & Garbage	-	297,446	-	-	297,446	(840,552)	-	(840,552)	(543,106)	(543,106)	10,914,360
Roads	611,366	7,141,668	7,856,952	-	15,609,985	(10,559,557)	-	(10,559,557)	(2,806,524)	5,050,428	143,004,045
Total	9,366,900	10,359,610	7,856,952	-	27,582,852	(18,329,537)	(370,600)	(18,700,538)	1,395,973	8,882,324	216,376,711

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

3 Revenue

(a) Rates, Levies and Charges

Rates, levies and charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
General rates		1,470,929	1,505,402
Water		176,695	177,036
Sewerage		119,590	120,410
Garbage charges		107,513	104,890
Waste Management levies		28,010	27,735
Total rates and utility charge revenue		1,902,737	1,935,473
Less: discounts		(65,325)	(106,783)
Less: pensioner remissions		(360)	(360)
		<u>1,837,052</u>	<u>1,828,330</u>

(b) Sales revenue

Sale of goods revenue is recognised at the point in time that the customer obtains control of the goods, generally at delivery. Revenue from services is recognised when the service is rendered.

Revenue from contracts and recoverable works generally comprises a recoupment of material costs together with an hourly charge for use of equipment and employees. This revenue and the associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity based on costs incurred at the reporting date. Where consideration is received for the service in advance it is included in other liabilities and is recognised as revenue in the period when the service is performed. The contract work carried out is not subject to retentions.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Rendering of services			
Contract and recoverable works		<u>1,398,593</u>	<u>7,046,073</u>
		<u>1,398,593</u>	<u>7,046,073</u>
Sale of goods			
Merchandise sales		<u>74,827</u>	<u>81,136</u>
		<u>74,827</u>	<u>81,136</u>
Total sales revenue		<u>1,473,420</u>	<u>7,127,209</u>

(c) Fees and charges

Revenue arising from fees and charges are recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the 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 or in some cases, the customer is required to pay on arrival, for example caravan parks. There is no material obligation for council in relation to refunds or returns.

Licences granted by council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

Revenue from infringements is recognised on issue of infringement notice after applying the expected credit loss model relating to impairment of receivables for initial recognition of statutory receivables.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

(c) Fees and charges (continued)

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Administration fees		46,387	36,863
Admission Fees		130,278	139,835
Avgas Sales Income		121,757	95,347
Other fees and charges		237,729	153,156
		<u>536,151</u>	<u>425,201</u>

(d) Rental income

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Housing rental income		248,027	220,815
Other rental income		28,599	23,909
		<u>276,626</u>	<u>244,724</u>

(e) Interest and other income

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
(i) Interest received			
Interest from financial institutions		812,130	488,891
Interest from other sources		23,174	14,632
		<u>835,304</u>	<u>503,523</u>
(ii) Other income			
Commission		73,767	61,743
Diesel fuel rebate		75,580	58,208
Other revenue		16,767	8,936
Paddock income		126,112	101,136
		<u>292,226</u>	<u>230,023</u>

4 Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

Grant Income under AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied.

Performance obligations vary in each agreement. 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.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Where control is transferred over time, revenue is recognised using either costs or time incurred.

Grant Income under AASB 1058

Where Council receives an asset for significantly below fair value, the asset is recognised at fair value, related liability (or equity items) are recorded and income then is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

Capital Grants

Where Council receives funding under an enforceable contract to acquire or construct a specified item of property, plant and equipment which will be under Council's control on completion, revenue is recognised 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.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

4 Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations (continued)

		2024	2023
	Note	\$	\$
(i) Operating			
General purpose grants		218,352	8,598,597
State government and other subsidies and grants		2,450,144	768,303
		<u>2,668,496</u>	<u>9,366,900</u>

In June 2023, Council received \$6,550,461 equating to 100% of the 2023-24 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant allocation. As these grants are considered untied grants, they were recognised upon receipt in the 2022-23 financial year. In the 2023-24 financial year, Council received only \$168,769 under the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant, and as such, there is a decrease in Council revenue.

(ii) Capital

Capital Revenue includes grants and subsidies received which are tied to specific projects for the replacement or upgrade of existing non-current assets and/or investment in new assets. It also includes non-cash contributions which are usually infrastructure assets received from developers

State government subsidies and grants	9,194,023	7,299,944
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	1,136,911	557,008
	<u>10,330,934</u>	<u>7,856,952</u>

(iii) Timing of revenue recognition for grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

	2024		2023	
	Revenue recognised at a point in time	Revenue recognised over time	Revenue recognised at a point in time	Revenue recognised over time
Note	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants, subsidies, donations and contributions	2,668,496	10,330,934	9,352,974	7,870,878
	<u>2,668,496</u>	<u>10,330,934</u>	<u>9,352,974</u>	<u>7,870,878</u>

5 Capital (expenses) / revenue

	Note	2024	2023
		\$	\$
Gain / (loss) on disposal of non-current assets			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		178,368	236,217
Less: Carrying value of disposed property, plant and equipment		(802,448)	(606,817)
		<u>(624,080)</u>	<u>(370,600)</u>

6 Employee benefits

		2024	2023
	Note	\$	\$
Staff wages and salaries		3,495,072	2,932,031
Councillors' remuneration		285,938	269,157
Termination benefits		-	-
Annual, sick, long service leave and entitlements		442,475	656,111
Superannuation	19	426,208	391,367
		<u>4,649,693</u>	<u>4,248,666</u>
Other employee related expenses		45,101	34,036
		<u>4,694,794</u>	<u>4,282,702</u>
Less: Capitalised employee expenses		(304,689)	(98,988)
		<u>4,390,105</u>	<u>4,183,715</u>

Councillor remuneration represents salary, and other allowances paid in respect of carrying out their duties.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

6 Employee benefits (continued)

Superannuation

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the contribution the Council makes to the superannuation plan which provides benefits to its employees. Details of those arrangements are set out in Note 19.

Total council employees at the reporting date:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Elected members	5	5
Administration staff	23	21
Depot and outdoors staff	23	23
Total full time equivalent employees	51	49

7 Materials and services

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Administration supplies and consumables		2,371,512	2,212,741
Audit of annual financial statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland		60,913	93,883
Communications and IT		721,133	634,441
Consultants		613,702	338,118
Donations paid		107,506	84,546
Housing		424,284	224,456
Repairs and maintenance		1,540,394	2,219,971
Roads		452,869	2,492,492
Water & Sewerage		302,937	411,360
Other materials and services		308,894	284,101
		6,904,144	8,996,109

Total audit fees quoted by the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2023-24 financial statements are \$67,500 (2023 - \$62,750). Figures exclusive of GST.

8 Cash and cash equivalents

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash at bank and on-hand		329,823	128,066
Deposits at-call		13,812,848	20,447,612
Balance per Statement of Financial Position		14,142,671	20,575,678

Council is exposed to credit risk through its investments in the QTC Cash Fund and QTC Working Capital Facility. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio investing in a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with the QTC Cash Fund are capital guaranteed. Working Capital Facility deposits have a duration of one day and all investments are required to have a minimum credit rating of "A-", the likelihood of the counterparty not having capacity to meet its financial commitments is low.

Cash and cash equivalents		14,142,671	20,575,678
Less: externally imposed restrictions on cash	(i)	(1,017,281)	(662,148)
Unrestricted cash		13,125,390	19,913,530

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

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

8 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
(i) Externally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date relate to the following cash assets:			
Unspent government grants and subsidies		1,017,281	662,148
Total externally imposed restrictions on cash		<u>1,017,281</u>	<u>662,148</u>
(ii) Internal allocations of cash at the reporting date:			
Future capital works		3,001,521	1,881,354
Future asset replacement		1,612,950	3,023,249
Future recurrent expenditure		1,797,425	13,734,000
Total internally allocated cash		<u>6,411,896</u>	<u>18,638,603</u>

Cash and deposits at call are held in the Commonwealth Bank in term deposits and business cheque accounts.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a separate trust bank account and separate accounting records are maintained for funds held on behalf of outside parties. Funds held in the trust account include those funds for security deposits lodged and auspicings projects. The Council performs only a custodian role in respect of these monies and because the monies cannot be used for Council purposes, they are not considered revenue nor brought to account in the financial statements since Council has no control over the assets.

Trust Funds Held for Outside Parties

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Monies collected or held on behalf of other entities yet to be paid out to or on behalf of those entities			
Auspicings		19,662	14,005
Security deposits		5,676	3,576
		<u>25,338</u>	<u>17,581</u>

9 Receivables

Settlement of receivables is required within 30 days after the invoice is issued.

Council is empowered under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* to sell an owner's property to recover outstanding rate debts and the expected credit loss is immaterial.

Current	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Rateable revenue and utility charges		215,939	170,839
Other debtors & Accrued Revenue		17,947	66,092
Less: Loss Allowance		(161,126)	(59,759)
GST recoverable		179,542	405,592
Rates received in advance		(47,077)	(46,292)
		<u>205,225</u>	<u>536,472</u>

Interest rate charged on outstanding rates as at 1st July 2024 is 12.35%. No interest is charged on other debtors. There is no concentration of credit risk for rates and utility charges, fees and other debtors receivable.

Council applies normal business credit protection procedures prior to providing goods or services to minimise credit risk. The council does not require collateral in respect of trade and other receivables.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

9 Receivables (continued)

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Movement in accumulated impairment losses of rateable revenue and utility charges and other debtors is as follows:			
Opening balance at 1 July		59,759	41,854
Additional impairments recognised		101,367	17,905
Closing balance at 30 June		<u>161,126</u>	<u>59,759</u>

The increase in impairment losses relates to the flood event in the town of Urandangi which devastated properties and dislocated residents. The future of the area is uncertain.

10 Inventories

Costs are assigned on the basis of weighted average cost.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Inventories held for sale			
Miscellaneous sales items		<u>122,193</u>	<u>101,116</u>
		<u>122,193</u>	<u>101,116</u>
Inventories held for distribution			
Quarry and road materials		<u>363,518</u>	<u>283,028</u>
		<u>363,518</u>	<u>283,028</u>
Total Inventories		<u>485,711</u>	<u>384,144</u>

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment

30 June 2024

	Land	Buildings and structures	Plant and vehicles	Furniture & equipment	Road infrastructure	Water infrastructure	Sewerage infrastructure	Aerodrome infrastructure	Work in Progress	Total
	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	
Asset values	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2023	866,577	31,939,246	8,504,065	1,966,056	164,046,926	9,986,480	4,020,567	7,867,790	5,262,998	254,480,733
Additions	864	186,148	348,985	21,224	-	-	78,473	-	13,501,508	14,117,602
Disposals	-	(3,500)	(122,158)	-	-	(947,500)	(237,554)	-	-	(1,310,712)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus	-	14,605,711	-	-	-	166,089	1,276,128	64,600	-	10,104,027
Reversal of roads restoration cost to asset revaluation surplus (Note 1)	-	-	-	-	(1,585,369)	-	-	-	-	(1,585,368)
Transfers between classes (Note 1)	-	-	-	(187,019)	1,763,017	-	-	-	(1,260,398)	-
Closing gross value as at 30 June 2024	867,441	46,727,605	8,730,892	1,789,661	164,244,544	9,205,078	5,136,634	7,922,489	17,199,508	261,836,852
Accumulated depreciation and impairment										
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2023	-	9,633,933	3,181,916	790,990	40,467,721	2,240,062	853,955	2,482,770	-	59,600,317
Depreciation expense	-	1,175,019	526,804	116,800	2,693,783	218,294	114,167	215,330	-	4,972,207
Depreciation on disposals	-	-	(15,173)	-	-	(391,151)	(101,940)	-	-	(508,264)
Adjustment on opening balance	-	-	(1,968)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,968)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus	-	9,222,791	-	-	724	132,309	204,357	40,940	-	9,600,927
Transfers between classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation as at 30 June 2024	-	20,031,713	3,690,669	910,790	43,012,228	2,208,710	1,070,549	2,738,640	-	73,663,299
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2024	867,441	26,695,892	5,040,223	878,871	141,232,316	6,996,368	4,066,085	5,183,849	17,199,508	208,163,553
Range of estimated useful life in years	Not depreciated	20-100	2-20	3-10	10-100	30-60	25-75	20-100	-	-
Additions comprise:										
Renewals	-	186,148	-	21,224	-	-	78,473	-	-	285,845
Other additions	864	-	348,985	-	-	-	-	-	-	349,849
Total additions	864	186,148	348,985	21,224	-	-	78,473	-	-	635,694

Note 1: Correction to the opening roads infrastructure restoration cost and opening work in progress to reflect the revaluation of work in progress not recognised in the prior year. The correction is not material to property, plant and equipment, has no depreciation impact and is reflected in an adjustment to the asset revaluation surplus.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment
30 June 2023

Basis of measurement

Asset values

Opening gross value as at 1 July 2022

Additions

Disposals

Prior year adjustments

Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus

Reversal of roads restoration cost to asset revaluation surplus

Transfers between classes

Closing gross value as at 30 June 2023

Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Opening balance as at 1 July 2022

Depreciation expense

Depreciation on disposals

Adjustment on opening balance

Prior year Adjustments

Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus

Transfers between classes

Accumulated depreciation as at 30 June 2023

Carrying amount as at 30 June 2023

Range of estimated useful life in years

Additions comprise:

Renewals

Other additions

Total additions

Note	Land	Buildings and Structures	Plant and Vehicles	Furniture & Equipment	Road Infrastructure	Water Infrastructure	Sewerage Infrastructure	Aerodrome Infrastructure	Work in Progress	Total
	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	866,577	31,253,936	8,009,389	1,913,919	182,838,938	10,387,889	3,963,165	7,745,576	13,614,385	260,591,178
	-	-	-	9,911	-	-	-	-	12,331,713	12,341,624
	-	-	(712,267)	(5,100)	(105,735)	(401,400)	-	-	-	(1,224,502)
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	(13,380,423)	-	-	(18,624)	-	(13,399,047)
	-	-	-	-	(3,828,520)	-	-	-	-	(3,828,520)
	-	965,311	1,209,942	47,326	18,522,964	-	57,422	140,439	(20,653,104)	-
	866,577	31,939,246	8,504,065	1,966,056	164,046,525	9,985,489	4,020,587	7,885,769	6,292,008	254,459,733
	-	8,681,744	3,205,601	685,245	39,454,450	2,115,260	749,717	2,406,273	-	51,198,020
	-	1,050,245	422,804	110,845	3,000,761	241,863	104,238	182,571	-	5,113,528
	-	-	(446,479)	(5,100)	(58,042)	(108,064)	-	-	-	(617,685)
	-	1,913	-	-	1,770,805	-	-	62,551	-	1,895,369
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	2,231,847	-	-	(186,627)	-	2,043,020
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	9,633,903	3,181,916	790,930	40,407,721	2,249,062	893,956	2,482,770	-	59,000,317
	866,577	22,305,343	5,322,149	1,175,066	143,639,204	7,737,427	3,166,632	5,385,020	5,282,998	194,880,417
	Not depreciated	20-100	2-20	3-10	10-100	30-80	25-75	20-100	-	-
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	-	685,310	1,169,693	47,326	6,335,706	-	57,422	140,439	-	8,435,696
	-	-	40,250	9,911	12,100,930	-	-	-	-	12,237,119
	-	885,310	1,209,943	57,237	18,522,964	-	57,422	140,439	-	20,673,015

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Recognition

The asset capitalisation threshold for Council is:

- Land	\$10,000
- Plant and equipment	\$5,000
- Infrastructure assets	\$10,000

Land under roads and reserve land under the Land Act 1994 or Land Title Act 1994 is controlled by the Queensland State Government and is not recognised in the Council's financial statements.

(b) Measurement

Property plant and equipment assets are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

Routine operating maintenance, repair costs and minor renewals to maintain the operational capacity and useful life of the non-current asset is expensed as incurred, while expenditure that relates to replacement of a major component of an asset to maintain its service potential is capitalised.

Expenditure incurred in accordance with Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements on road assets is analysed to determine whether the expenditure is capital in nature. The analysis of the expenditure requires Council engineers to review the nature and extent of expenditure on a given asset. For example, expenditure that patches a road is generally maintenance in nature, whereas a kerb to kerb rebuild is treated as capital. Material expenditure that extends the useful life or renews the service potential of the asset is capitalised.

(c) Depreciation

Land and work in progress are not depreciated.

Depreciation, where applicable, is calculated on a straight-line basis. Management believe that the straight-line basis appropriately reflects the pattern of consumption of all Council assets.

Key judgements and estimates:

Any expenditure that increases the originally assessed capacity or service potential of an asset is capitalised and the new depreciable amount is depreciated over the remaining useful life of the asset to the Council. Major spares purchased specifically for particular assets that are above the asset recognition threshold are capitalised and depreciated on the same basis as the asset to which they relate.

The depreciable amount of improvements to or on leasehold land is allocated progressively over the estimated useful lives of the improvements to the Council or the unexpired period of the lease, whichever is the shorter.

The condition assessments performed as part of the annual valuation process for assets measured at written down current replacement cost are used to estimate the useful lives of these assets at each reporting date.

(d) Impairment

An impairment loss is recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. When the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the asset revaluation surplus of the relevant class to the extent available.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation surplus increase.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(e) Valuation

Council considers the carrying amount of its property, plant and equipment on an annual basis compared to fair value and makes adjustment where these are materially different. Every 5 years, council performs a full comprehensive revaluation by engaging an external professionally qualified valuer.

In the intervening years, Council undertakes a management valuation using internal engineers and asset managers to assess the condition and cost assumptions associated with all infrastructure assets and an appropriate cost index for the region. A "desktop" valuation for land and improvements, buildings and infrastructure asset classes involves management providing updated information to the valuer regarding additions, deletions and changes in assumptions such as useful life, residual value and condition rating. The valuer then determines suitable indices which are applied to each of these asset classes.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life.

An analysis performed by management has indicated that, on average, the variance between an indexed asset value and the valuation by an independent valuer when performed is not significant and the indices used by Council are sound. Further details in relation to valuers, the methods of valuation and the key assumptions used in valuing each different asset class are disclosed below.

Property plant and equipment assets are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

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

The following table categorises fair value measurements as either Level 2 or Level 3 in accordance with AASB 13. Council does not have any assets or liabilities measured at fair value which meet the criteria for categorisation as Level 1.

The fair values of the assets are determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable data, where it is available, and minimise the use of entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an asset are observable, the asset is included in Level 2. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the asset is included in Level 3. This is the case for Council infrastructure assets, which are of a specialist nature for which there is no active market for similar or identical assets. These assets are valued using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs.

The table presents the Council's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value at 30 June 2024.

	Note	Level 2 (Observable inputs)		Level 3 (Unobservable inputs)		Total	
		\$		\$		\$	
		2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
		Recurring fair value measurements					
Land	11	867,441	866,577	-	-	867,441	866,577
Buildings and structures	11	1,520,000	-	25,175,892	22,305,343	26,695,892	22,305,343
Road infrastructure	11	-	-	141,232,316	143,639,204	141,232,316	143,639,204
Water infrastructure	11	-	-	6,996,368	7,737,427	6,996,368	7,737,427
Sewerage infrastructure	11	-	-	4,069,085	3,166,632	4,069,085	3,166,632
Aerodrome infrastructure	11	-	-	5,183,849	5,385,020	5,183,849	5,385,020
		<u>2,387,441</u>	<u>866,577</u>	<u>182,657,510</u>	<u>182,233,626</u>	<u>185,044,951</u>	<u>183,100,203</u>

There were no transfers between categories during the year.

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

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Fair value measurement

(a) Recognised fair value

Fair values are classified into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 - fair value based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 - Fair value based on inputs that are directly or indirectly observable, such as prices for similar assets, for the asset or liability
- Level 3 - Fair value based on unobservable inputs for the asset and liability., such as prices for similar assets, for the asset or liability

(b) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations

Specific valuation techniques used to value Council assets comprise:

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)
Land	Market value (MV)	30 June 2020	APV Valuers and Asset Management	Current zoning Sale prices per square metre (database of recent sales) of comparable properties, adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size)	N/A
Buildings (Level 2)	Market value (MV)	30 June 2024	AVR Consulting	The valuer has considered inputs such as location, building size, type of construction, land size, geography, asset condition, land use/zoning, topography and easements and restrictions.	N/A
Buildings (level 3)	Current replacement cost (CRC)	30 June 2024	AVR Consulting	Inputs into the cost approach are often a mix of observable and unobservable inputs. Listed below are some examples of Cost Approach inputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuer's opinion of physical condition • Unit rate (\$/m² or \$/linear metre) • Contemporary construction cost data • Cost guide unit rates, such as Cordell's or Rawlinson's • Regional loading indices • Building size, material, type, and structure • Condition assessment (unobservable / subjective) • Useful life and remaining useful If the valuer has had to rely upon a substantial amount of unobservable data and employ a significant level of professional judgement in determining value, the valuation has been based on Level 3 inputs.	N/A

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations (continued)

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)
Structures (level 3)	Current replacement cost (CRC)	30 June 2024	AVR Consulting	<p>CRC was measured by reference to the lowest cost at which the gross future economic benefits of the asset could currently be obtained in the normal course of business. Where existing assets were over designed, had excess capacity, or were redundant an adjustment was made so that the resulting valuation reflected the cost of replacing the existing economic benefits based on an efficient set of modern equivalent assets to achieve the required level of service output within the Council's planning horizon.</p> <p>The unit rates (Labour and materials) and quantities applied to determine the CRC of an asset or asset component were based on a "Greenfield" assumption meaning that the CRC was determined as the full cost of replacement with a new asset including components that may not need to be replaced, such as earthworks. The written down current replacement cost was determined using methods relevant to the asset class as described under individual asset categories below.</p>	N/A
Roads and Aerodrome (level 3)	Current replacement cost (CRC)	30 June 2023	Shepherd Services Pty Ltd	<p>The road Network has been segmented. Unit rates are applied to the individual road components seal, pavement, formation, footpaths, floodways, culverts and kerb and channel of each road in order to determine the replacement cost.</p> <p>The unit rates assume an incremental Greenfields approach and exclude Brownfield cost components. These unit rates are estimated using information collated from cost guides, historical costs, contractor rates, future works, regional information and the Queensland Road Alliance project data. Primary factors used in assumptions on unit rates are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Raw materials have been sourced locally from gravel pits for unsealed roads; 2) Water is available at low to moderate cost for rural road work (<20 km); 3) Contract crushing utilised for aggregate for sealing and aggregation of sealing projects and renewals to reduce low quantity works and increase economies of scale; 4) Quality of material used in pavement construction and extent of compaction of formation varied based on road type and hierarchy. <p>In determining the level of accumulated depreciation, remaining useful lives were determined based on condition assessments. Remaining lives used in the depreciation calculations are estimated using three (3) different methods: condition, known age and estimated age.</p>	Indexation not applied during the year.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(b) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations (continued)

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)
Water and sewerage assets (level 3)	Current replacement cost (CRC)	30 June 2024	AVR Consulting	<p>The valuer adopted a cost-based approach for the valuation of all water and sewerage infrastructure assets</p> <p>Inputs into the cost approach are often a mix of observable and unobservable inputs. Listed below are some examples of Cost Approach inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuer's opinion of physical condition • Unit rate (\$/m² or \$/linear metre) • Contemporary construction cost data • Cost guide unit rates, such as Cordell's or Rawlinson's • Regional loading indices • Building size, material, type, and structure • Condition assessment (unobservable / subjective) • Useful life and remaining useful 	N/A

(d) Valuation processes

Council's valuation policies and procedures are set by the finance committee of the executive management team which comprises the Chief Executive Officer and Director of Corporate Services. They are reviewed annually taking into consideration an analysis of movements in fair value and other relevant information. Council's current policy for the valuation of property, plant and equipment (recurring fair value measurements) is set out in this note. Non-recurring fair value measurements are made at the point of reclassification by a registered valuer.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

12 Payables

Creditors are recognised when goods or services are received, at the amount owed. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

Liabilities are recognised for employee benefits such as wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave in respect of services provided by the employees up to the reporting date. Liabilities for employee benefits are assessed at each reporting date.

Salaries and Wages

A liability for salaries and wages is recognised and measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current pay rates in respect of employees' services up to that date. This liability represents an accrued expense and is reported as a payable.

Annual Leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised. Amounts expected to be settled within 12 months are calculated on current wage and salary levels and includes related employee on-costs.

As Council does not have an unconditional right to defer this liability beyond 12 months annual leave is classified as a current liability.

Sick Leave

Council has an obligation to pay sick leave on termination to employees and therefore a liability has been recognised for this obligation. This liability represents an accrued expense and is reported as a payable.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current			
Creditors and accruals		648,004	660,370
Annual leave		432,564	471,727
Sick leave		312,189	309,878
Other entitlements		38,900	18,739
		<u>1,431,677</u>	<u>1,460,714</u>

13 Borrowings

Interest is expensed as accrued, no interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. Expected final repayment dates vary from 31 December 2024 to 31 December 2027.

Council adopts an annual debt policy that sets out council's planned borrowings for the next nine years. Council's current policy is to only borrow for capital projects and for a term no longer than the expected life of the asset. Council also aims to comply with the Queensland Treasury Corporation's (QTC) borrowing guidelines and ensure that sustainability indicators remain within acceptable levels at all times.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current			
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation		61,938	60,785
Loan - Economic Development Queensland		32,000	32,000
		<u>93,938</u>	<u>92,785</u>
Non-current			
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation		777,740	838,289
Loan - Economic Development Queensland		326,296	356,296
		<u>1,104,036</u>	<u>1,194,585</u>
Total borrowings		<u>1,197,976</u>	<u>1,287,370</u>

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

13 Borrowings (continued)

The QTC loan market value at the reporting date was \$800,545. This represents the value of the debt if Council repaid it at that date. As it is the intention of Council to hold the debt for its term, no provision is required to be made in these accounts.

No assets have been pledged as security by the council for any liabilities, however all loans are guaranteed by the Queensland Government. There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the 2024 or 2023 financial years.

The Economic Development Queensland Loan is an interest-free loan. A single annual repayment of \$32,000 is required each year. The term of the loan expires in the year ended 30 June 2036.

All borrowings are in \$A denominated amounts and carried at amortised cost, interest being expensed as it accrues. Expected final repayment date is 28th February 2036. There has been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the period.

Principal and Interest repayments are made quarterly in arrears.

14 Provisions

Long Service Leave

The provision for long service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The liability is calculated using current pay rates and projected future increases in those rates and includes related employee on-costs. The estimates are adjusted for the probability of the employee remaining in the Council's employment or other associated employment which would result in the Council being required to meet the liability. Adjustments are then made to allow for the proportion of the benefit earned to date, and the result is discounted to present value. The interest rates attaching to Commonwealth Government guaranteed securities at the reporting date are used to discount the estimated future cash outflows to their present value.

Landfill Rehabilitation

A provision is made for the cost of restoring landfill where it is probable the council will have an obligation to rehabilitate the site when the use of the facilities is complete.

The calculation of the provisions use assumptions including application of environmental legislation, site closure dates, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from amounts currently provided. The provisions are reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time.

Landfill provision represents the present value of anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the landfill sites, refilling the basin, reclamation and rehabilitation, decontamination and monitoring of historical residues and leaching on these sites. As landfills are on state reserves which the Council does not control, the provision for restoration is treated as an expense in the year the provision is first recognised. Changes in the provision are treated as an expense or income.

		2024	2023
	Note	\$	\$
Current			
Long service leave		448,707	490,437
		<u>448,707</u>	<u>490,437</u>
Non-current			
Long service leave - non-current		79,461	35,690
Landfill Rehabilitation		20,000	20,000
		<u>99,461</u>	<u>55,690</u>
Movements in non-employee benefit provisions:			
Landfill Rehabilitation			
Balance at beginning of financial year		20,000	20,000
Movement in the year		-	-
Balance at end of financial year		<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>

This is the present value of the estimated cost of restoring the landfill site to a useable state at the end of its useful life which is expected to be 2029.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

15 Contract balances

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
(a) Contract liabilities			
Funds received upfront to construct Council controlled assets		881,741	614,393
Deposits received in advance of services provided (e.g. retirement home fees, performance obligations in grants)		135,540	47,755
		<u>1,017,281</u>	<u>662,148</u>
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year			
Funds to construct Council controlled assets		129,651	1,792,280
Deposits received in advance of services provided		-	13,926
		<u>129,651</u>	<u>1,806,206</u>

Satisfaction of contract liabilities

The contract liabilities in relation to capital and non-capital grants relate to funding received prior to the work being performed since revenue is recognised as Council constructs the assets. Council expects to recognise the contract liability as income when projects are completed within two financial years.

(b) Significant changes in contract balances

Significant movements in contract assets and contract liabilities that have occurred were due to the change in the timing of the work and significant monies received in advance.

16 Asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus comprises revaluation movements on property, plant and equipment.

Net incremental changes in the carrying value of classes of non-current assets since their initial recognition are accumulated in the asset revaluation surplus.

Where a class of assets is decreased on revaluation, that decrease is offset first against the amount remaining in the asset revaluation surplus in respect of that class. Any excess is treated as an expense.

When an asset is disposed of, the amount reported in surplus in respect of that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus and not transferred to retained surplus.

17 Commitments for expenditure

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Contractual commitments			
Contractual commitments at the end of the financial year that have not been recognised in the financial statements.			
Plant and Vehicles		-	451,381
Industrial Estate		-	598,880
Town Infrastructure		-	334,239
Housing		-	2,359,254
Roads		-	155,234
Water infrastructure		-	248,369
Sewerage infrastructure		-	199,000
		<u>-</u>	<u>4,346,357</u>

There were no contractual commitments not recognised in the financial statements at the end of the financial year as all projects in progress had been completed and brought to account.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

18 Contingent liabilities

Details and estimates of maximum amounts of contingent liabilities are as follows:

Local Government Mutual

Council is a member of the local government mutual liability self-insurance pool, LGM Queensland. In the event of the pool being wound up or it being unable to meet its debts as they fall due, the trust deed and rules provide that any accumulated deficit will be met by the individual pool members in the same proportion as their contribution is to the total pool contributions in respect to any year that a deficit arises.

As at 30 June 2024 the financial statements LGM Queensland reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

Local Government Workcare

The Council is a member of the Queensland local government worker's compensation self-insurance scheme, Local Government Workcare. Under this scheme, the Council has provided an indemnity towards a bank guarantee to cover bad debts which may remain should the Self Insurance License be cancelled and there was insufficient funds available to cover outstanding liabilities. Only the Queensland Government's Workers Compensation Authority may call on any part of the guarantee should the above circumstances arise. The council's maximum exposure to the bank guarantee is \$59,578 (2023 : \$57,320).

19 Superannuation - Regional Defined Benefit Fund

Council contributes to the Brighter Super Regional Defined Benefits Fund (the scheme), at the rate of 12% (2023: 12%) for each standard permanent employee who is a defined benefit member. This rate is set in accordance with the Brighter Super trust deed and may be varied on the advice of an actuary. The Regional Defined Benefits Fund is a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation and is also governed by the Local Government Act 2009. The scheme is managed by the Brighter Super trustee.

The scheme is a pooled defined benefit plan and it is not in accordance with the deed to allocate obligations, plan assets and costs at the council level.

Any amount by which the scheme is over or under funded may affect future benefits and result in a change to the contribution rate, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Council can be liable to the scheme for a portion of another local governments' obligations should that local government be unable to meet them. However the risk of this occurring is extremely low and in accordance with the LGIASuper trust deed changes to council's obligations will only be made on the advice of an actuary.

The last completed triennial actuarial assessment of the scheme as required under Superannuation Prudential Standard 160 was undertaken as at 1 July 2021. The actuary indicated that "At the valuation date of 1 July 2021, the net assets of the scheme exceeded the vested benefits and the scheme was in a satisfactory financial position as at the valuation date." The measure of vested benefits represents the value of benefit entitlements should all participating employees voluntarily exit the scheme. The Council is not aware of anything that has happened since that time that indicates the assets of the scheme are not sufficient to meet the vested benefits, as at the reporting date.

No changes have been made to prescribed employer contributions which remain at 12% of employee assets and there are no known requirements to change the rate of contributions.

The next triennial actuarial review is due on 1 July 2024.

The most significant risks that may result in Brighter Super increasing the contribution rate, on the advice of the actuary, are:

Investment risk - The risk that the scheme's investment returns will be lower than assumed and additional contributions are needed to fund the shortfall.

Salary growth risk - The risk that wages or salaries will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing vested benefits to be funded.

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Superannuation contributions made to the Regional Defined Benefits Fund		7,000	8,760
Other superannuation contributions for employees		419,208	382,607
Total superannuation contributions paid by Council for employees:	6	426,208	391,367

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

20 Reconciliation of net result for the year to net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Net result		1,325,096	8,882,324
Non-cash items:			
Depreciation		4,972,287	5,113,328
Investing and development activities (non-cash):			
Net (profit)/loss on disposal of non-current assets	5	624,080	370,600
Capital grants and contributions	4(ii)	(10,330,934)	(7,856,952)
		(9,706,854)	(7,486,352)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
(Increase)/decrease in receivables		331,247	930,083
(Increase)/decrease in inventory		(101,567)	54,234
Increase/(decrease) in payables		(29,036)	(581,931)
Increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities		87,785	33,828
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		2,041	-
		290,470	501,769
Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities		(3,119,001)	7,011,070

21 Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

2024	Note	As at 1 July 2023 \$	Cash flows \$	Non-cash changes \$	As at 30 June 2024 \$
Loans	13	1,269,372	(91,396)	-	1,197,976
2023	Note	As at 1 July 2022 \$	Cash flows \$	Non-cash changes \$	As at 30 June 2023 \$
Loans	13	1,378,413	(89,041)	-	1,289,372

22 Financial instruments and financial risk management

(a) Financial assets and financial liabilities

Boulia Shire Council has exposure to the following risks arising from financial instruments:

- Credit risk
- Liquidity risk
- Market risk

Risk management framework

Boulia Shire Council is responsible for the establishment and oversight of the Risk Management Framework, together with developing and monitoring Risk Management Policies.

Council's management approves policies for overall risk management, as well as specifically for managing credit, liquidity and market risk.

The Council's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced, to set appropriate limits and controls and to monitor these risks and adherence against limits. The Council aims to manage volatility to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Boulia Shire Council does not enter into derivatives.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

22 Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

Credit Risk

Credit Risk is the risk of financial loss if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. These obligations arise principally from the Council's investments and receivables from customers.

Exposure to credit risk is managed through regular analysis of credit counterparty ability to meet payment obligations.

Investments in financial instruments are required to be made with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) or similar State / Commonwealth Bodies or financial institutions in Australia, in line with the requirements of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.

No Collateral is held as security relating to the financial assets held by Boulia Shire Council. The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure.

The following table represents the maximum exposure to credit risk based on the carrying amounts of financial assets at the end of the reporting period:

Financial Assets	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash and equivalents	8	14,142,671	20,575,678
Receivables - rates		54,813	112,040
Receivables - other		17,947	65,132
Total Financial Assets		14,215,431	20,752,850

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Council may be exposed to credit risk through its Investments in the QTC Cash Fund and QTC Working Capital Facility. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio that invests with a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with the QTC cash fund are capital guaranteed. Working capital facility deposits have a duration of one day and all investments are required to have a minimum credit rating of "A-", therefore the likelihood of the counterparty having capacity to meet its financial commitments is strong.

Other Financial Assets

Other investments are held with financial institutions, which are rated A-1+ and AA- based on rating agency Standard and Poor ratings, and whilst not capital guaranteed, the likelihood of a credit failure is assessed as remote.

Receivables

In the case of rate receivables, the Council has the power to sell the property to recover any defaulted amounts. In effect this power partially protects the Council against credit risk in the case of defaults.

In other cases, the Council assesses the credit risk before providing goods or services and applies normal business credit protection procedures to minimise the risk.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

22 Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

Exposure to liquidity risk

Boulia Shire Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its normal course of business and through its borrowings with QTC.

The Council manages its exposure to liquidity risk by maintaining sufficient cash deposits and undrawn facilities, both short and long term, to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows. These facilities are disclosed in Note 8.

The following table sets out the liquidity risk in relation to financial liabilities held by Council. It represents the remaining contractual cash flows (Principal and interest) of financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period, excluding the impact of netting agreements. Trade payables are expected to be paid within 1 year.

	0 to 1 year	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Amount
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2024					
Loans - others	32,000	128,000	198,298	358,298	358,298
Loans - QTC	94,897	379,588	569,382	1,043,867	839,678
	<u>126,897</u>	<u>507,588</u>	<u>767,680</u>	<u>1,402,165</u>	<u>1,197,976</u>
2023					
Loans - others	32,000	128,000	230,298	390,298	390,298
Loans - QTC	94,897	379,588	664,279	1,138,764	899,074
	<u>126,897</u>	<u>507,588</u>	<u>894,577</u>	<u>1,529,062</u>	<u>1,289,372</u>

The outflows in the above table are not expected to occur significantly earlier or for significantly different amounts than indicated in the table.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates, will affect the Council's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

Interest Rate Risk

Council is exposed to interest rate risk through Investments with QTC and other financial institutions.

Council has access to a mix of variable and fixed rate funding options through QTC so that interest rate risk exposure can be minimised.

Sensitivity

Sensitivity to interest rate movements is shown for variable financial assets and liabilities based on the carrying amount at reporting date.

The following interest rate sensitivity analysis depicts what effect a reasonably possible change in interest rates (assumed to be 1%) would have on the profit and equity, based on the carrying values at the end of the reporting period. The calculation assumes that the change in interest rates would be held constant over the period.

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

22 Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

	Net Carrying Amount	Effect on Net Result		Effect on Equity	
		1% increase	1% decrease	1% increase	1% decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2024					
QTC Cash Fund	13,612,840	138,128	(138,128)	138,128	(138,128)
Loans*	(1,197,976)	-	-	-	-
Net Total	12,614,872	138,128	(138,128)	138,128	(138,128)
2023					
QTC Cash Fund	20,447,612	204,476	(204,476)	204,476	(204,476)
Loans*	(1,289,373)	-	-	-	-
Net Total	19,158,239	204,476	(204,476)	204,476	(204,476)

*QTC Generic Debt Pool - the Generic Debt Pool products approximate a fixed rate loan. There is negligible impact on interest sensitivity from changes in interest rates for Generic Debt Pool borrowings. Similarly, the Economic Development Queensland Loan is an interest-free loan and will not be affected by changes in interest rates.

(b) Fair Value

The fair value of receivables and payables is assumed to approximate the value of the original transaction, less any allowance for impairment.

The fair value of borrowings with QTC is based on the market value of debt outstanding. The market value of a debt obligation is the discounted value of future cash flows based on prevailing market rates and represents the amount required to be repaid if this was to occur at balance date. The market value of debt is provided by QTC and is disclosed in Note 13.

QTC applies a book rate approach in the management of debt and interest rate risk, to limit the impact of market value movements to client's cost of funding. The book value represents the carrying value based on amortised cost using the effective interest method.

23 Events after the reporting period

There has not been any event that occurred after the end of the reporting period that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the current or future financial results of the Council.

Boulia Shire Council

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

24 Transactions with related parties

(a) Transactions with key management personnel (KMP)

KMP include the Mayor, Councillors, Council's Chief Executive Officer and some executive management. The compensation paid to KMP comprises:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	770,470	724,302
Post-employment benefits	91,465	82,878
Long-term benefits	93,367	92,595
Total	955,302	899,775

Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the annual report.

(b) Transactions with other related parties

Other related parties include the close family members of KMP and any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members. Close family members include a spouse, child and dependent of a KMP or their spouse.

Details of transactions between Council and other related parties are disclosed below:

Details of Transaction	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Employee expenses for close family members of key management personnel	351,961	313,791
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	444,740	421,531

(i) All close family members of key management personnel were employed through an arm's length process. They are paid in accordance with the Award for the job they perform.

Number of employees of close family members comprises:

FTE	2024	2023
Total number of council employees	46	51
Close family members of key management personnel	6	6
% of total number of council employees	13%	12%

(ii) The purchases of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel were on an arm's length basis in accordance with Council's procurement policies. The total disclosed includes the following:

Payments charged by entities controlled by key management personnel	Details of related party	2024	2023
		\$	\$
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	Tim Edgar, a contractor employed by Council to undertake various electrical works throughout the course of the year, is a related party of Councillor Rebecka Britton. He was engaged on commercial terms and all transactions have occurred in accordance with Council's relevant procurement policy.	264,491	265,444
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	Dannileah Stewart, a contractor employed by Council to undertake various cleaning works throughout the course of the year, is a related party of Ron Callope. She was engaged on commercial terms and all transactions have occurred in accordance with Council's relevant procurement policy.	145,048	139,288
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	Various other minor and immaterial related party transactions.	35,200	16,800
Total		444,739	421,532

Boulia Shire Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

24 Transactions with related parties (continued)

(c) Outstanding balances

There were no outstanding balances at 30 June 2024 (2023: nil)

(d) Loans and guarantees to/from related parties

Council does not make loans to or receive loans from related parties. No guarantees have been provided.

(e) Commitments to/from other related parties

Council does not have any commitments to/from other related parties other than disclosed above.

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

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within the Boulia Shire Council. Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Some examples include:

- Payment of rates
- Gym membership
- Dog registration
- Venue hiring
- Borrowing books from a council library

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


Boulia Shire Council
Financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Management Certificate
For the year ended 30 June 2024

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to sections 176 and 177 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) and other prescribed requirements.

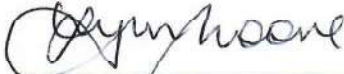
In accordance with section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that:

- (i) the prescribed requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* for the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- (ii) the general purpose financial statements, as set out on pages 1 to 32, present a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, of the Council's transactions for the financial year and financial position at the end of the year.



Mayor
Eric Britton

Date: 31, 10, 24



Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore

Date: 31, 10, 24

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Boulia Shire Council

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Boulia Shire Council.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows or the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information and the certificate given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the council's financial position as at 30 June 2024, and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

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

Other information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Boulia Shire Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 was the current-year financial sustainability statement audited, unaudited current-year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios and unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement audited.

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

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the financial report

The councillors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The councillors are also responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the council or to otherwise cease operations of the council.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

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

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

In accordance with s.40 of the Auditor-General Act 2009, for the year ended 30 June 2024:

- (a) I received all the information and explanations I required, and
- (b) I consider that the entity complied with the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts in all material respects.

Prescribed requirements scope

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Local Government Act 2009*, and the Local Government Regulation 2012. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the council's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.



Michael Claydon
as delegate of the Auditor-General

31 October 2024

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Boulia Shire Council
Current-year Financial Sustainability Statement Audited
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 7)	Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	Narrative
Audited ratios					
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	13.90 months	N/A	Council has achieved a strong liquidity position end, after years of good financial management, and is well positioned to meet both the short and long term needs of the community.
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	N/A	-105.8%	-34.8%	It is challenging for Council to achieve a positive operating surplus ratio with continued reliance on grant funding and limited opportunity to generate own source revenue. This ratio is impacted by the Financial Assistance Grant not being received until July 2024. Refer to note 4(i) for details.
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	-42.6%	4.2%	This ratio is impacted by the Financial Assistance Grant not being received until July 2024. Refer to note 4(i) for details.
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 90%	6.1%	80.7%	Council's 5 year average asset sustainability ratio is near the recommended level which suggests that Council has been spending enough on asset renewal to compensate for the deterioration in its asset base.
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 00%	72.7%	76.2%	The target has been achieved for both the current year and five year average. Council manages the consumption rate of assets appropriately.
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 to 3 times	-0.35	-0.51	The target has not been achieved for the current year but is an improvement on the five-year average. Reliance on grant funding impacts this ratio.


The current year financial sustainability statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024*. The amounts used to calculate the six reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Boulia Shire Council
Audited Current-year Financial Sustainability Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2024

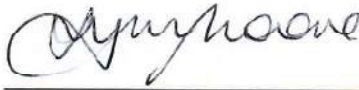
Certificate of Accuracy
For the year ended 30 June 2024

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current-year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



Mayor
Eric Britton
Date: 31, 10, 24



Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore
Date: 31, 10, 24

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Boulia Shire Council

Report on the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying current year financial sustainability statement of Boulia Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2024, comprising the statement, explanatory notes, and the certificate of accuracy given by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with s.212 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, in my opinion, in all material respects, the current year financial sustainability statement of Boulia Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been accurately calculated.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the statement in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

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

Emphasis of matter – basis of accounting

I draw attention to the note to the statement which describes the basis of accounting. The current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 for the purpose of fulfilling the council's reporting responsibilities under the Local Government Regulation 2012. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial sustainability statement and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information Boulia Shire Council annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 was the general-purpose financial report, unaudited current-year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios, and the unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.

My opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the general-purpose financial report.

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

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the current year financial sustainability statement

The councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012. The councillors responsibility also includes such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is accurately calculated and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement

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

My responsibility does not extend to forming an opinion on the appropriateness or relevance of the reported ratios, nor on the council's future sustainability.

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of material accounting policy information used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.

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



31 October 2024

Michael Claydon
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Boulia Shire Council
Unaudited Current-year Financial Sustainability Statement - Contextual Ratios
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 7)	Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	Narrative
Contextual ratios (unaudited)					
Financial Capacity	Council-Controlled Revenue	N/A	30%	16%	The Council's average ratio has remained stable over the past five years. The significant increase in FY2024 is due to the decrease in recurrent grants affected by FA Grants.
	Population Growth	N/A	1%	2%	

*The Council-Controlled Revenue, and Population Growth measures are reported for contextual purposes only and are not audited by the QAO.

The current year financial sustainability statement - Contextual Ratios is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024*. The amounts used to calculate the two reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the Council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Boulia Shire Council

Unaudited Current-year Financial Sustainability Statement - Contextual Ratios

For the year ended 30 June 2024

**Certificate of Accuracy
For the year ended 30 June 2024**


This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government*

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current-year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



Mayor
Eric Britton

Date: 31, 10, 24



Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore

Date: 31, 10, 24

Boulia Shire Council
Unaudited Long-Term Financial Sustainability Statement
Prepared as at 30 June 2024

Type	Measure	Target (1 tier 7)	Actuals as at 30 June 2024	30 June 2025	30 June 2026	30 June 2027	30 June 2028	30 June 2029	30 June 2030	30 June 2031	30 June 2032	30 June 2033
Financial Capacity	Council-Controlled Revenue	N/A	29.97%	12.75%	14.66%	14.66%	14.67%	14.59%	14.55%	13.22%	13.16%	14.43%
	Population Growth	N/A	0.85%	0.84%	0.00%	-1.88%	-1.62%	-1.01%	-1.01%	-1.01%	-1.01%	-1.01%
Asset Management	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	N/A	N/A for long-term sustainability statement									
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	N/A	-105.84%	-9.81%	-156.27%	-25.82%	-29.35%	-29.75%	-28.94%	-17.48%	-15.53%	-27.24%
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	-42.62%	17.17%	-110.05%	26.62%	23.60%	24.11%	24.33%	31.20%	31.59%	24.96%
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	N/A for long-term sustainability statement									
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 30%	6.12%	1497.89%	593.45%	174.51%	33.52%	45.10%	124.28%	63.59%	67.60%	6.83%
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	72.73%	76.62%	76.31%	83.33%	93.66%	80.00%	96.62%	87.17%	90.91%	89.60%
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 to 3 times	-0.30	0.42	-0.00	0.44	0.44	0.39	0.35	0.23	0.20	0.24

Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long-term financial forecast shows a sound financial position whilst also being able to meet the community's current and future needs.

Boulia Shire Council
Long-term Financial Sustainability Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2024

Certificate of Accuracy
For the year ended 30 June 2024


This long-term financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this long term financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



Mayor
Eric Britton

Date: 31/10/24



Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore

Date: 31/10/24

Boulia Shire Council Administration Office

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<https://www.facebook.com/BouliaCouncil/>

Min Min Encounter Visitor Information Centre

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Email: tourism@boulia.qld.gov.au
<https://www.facebook.com/MinMinEncounterVisitorInformationCentre/>

Boulia Heritage Complex

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Email: stonehouse@boulia.qld.gov.au

Boulia Sports and Aquatic Centre

Burke Street
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Ph: (07) 4746 3527

Boulia Shire Council Library Service

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Email: library@boulia.qld.gov.au

Boulia Shire Council Depot

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