

# Annual Report 2014/2015



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## Vision

*Exceptional Service for an Exceptional Community*

## Mission

To meet the needs of its community through timely and economical provision of quality infrastructure and services.

## Corporate Values

- Innovation
- Customer Service
- Accountability
- Respect
- Excellence

**ICARE**

## Mayor's Report

It gives me pleasure to report on our Council's progress over the 2014-15 reporting period.

We have seen some challenges in our community with the ongoing drought and falling commodity prices causing some mine closures. We continue to experience a reduction in funding from both Federal and State levels of Government. As a consequence, Council accepted a number of voluntary staff redundancies early in 2015.

On a positive note, we have seen renewed interest in our Meat Processing Facility proposal.

During the latter half of 2014, Councillors and officers conducted community consultations in Pentland, Greenvale, Hervey Range and Ravenswood. Councillors and officers also undertook rural road trips to locations such as Bowie Station and Clay Holes and conducted informal consultations with graziers in those areas.

On 29 March 2015, the newly elected State Government held a Community Consultation in Townsville. Councillors, CEO Mr Mark Crawley and Director Planning & Sustainable Development Mr Ramon Jayo met with various Ministers in regard to the Meat Processing Facility, roads funding, irrigated cropping along the Burdekin River, the Inland Highway and other matters regarding infrastructure. There has been a positive outcome from the discussions on irrigated cropping along the Burdekin River.

In April of 2015, Council delegates were invited to participate in a Trade Mission to Huizhou & Guangzhou, China. Chief Executive Mr Mark Crawley and I travelled with the State Minister for Agriculture & Fisheries, the Hon Bill Byrne, the Federal Member for Herbert, Mr Ewen Jones, and representatives from Trade & Invest Queensland, Port of Townsville, Townsville Enterprise Limited, Townsville City Council, and Charters Towers business and beef industry stakeholders.

The mission visited Jinze Logistics Park, Lunxin Cold Chain Warehouse (beef storage), Huizhou Port to inspect a terminal for unloading cattle, Zhongkai District to visit meat processing facility, and the Canton Fair, and concluded with Council signing a Memorandum of Understanding with its Chinese counterparts in Guangzhou Province. Minister Byrne has publicly mentioned on a number of occasions how successful the mission was.

Subsequent to the visit, our Chinese hosts have moved to Charters Towers to spend a number of months gaining an understanding of the region and to progress some of their projects.

Council's endeavours to gain access to water from the Burdekin are progressing and the Queensland government is re-assessing its Upper Burdekin Water Management Plan. Council is pursuing three main objectives, being water licence trading, a Weir on the Big Rocks site on the Burdekin River and increased water allocations for agriculture. The new Weir will hold two to three times the capacity of the existing Weir and should drought- proof the grazing and agricultural properties along the Burdekin.

During 2014-15 Council commenced the process of upgrading the town water supply infrastructure. Following the release of the 2015/2016 Federal Budget, Council was notified of its success in applying for funding under the Federal Government's National Stronger Regions Fund to implement the upgrade program of water infrastructure within Charters Towers to the value of approximately \$8.49M, or 50% subsidy. The Water Infrastructure Upgrade Program's (WIUP) objectives are to future proof Council's water infrastructure assets and ensure they continue to operate effectively and efficiently whilst meeting Council's longer term planning objectives. The upgrade will address the filtration system as well as the pressure problems in the outer areas of Charters Towers and its reservoirs.

The Charters Towers Airport now has a reliable fuel supply, with Council purchasing and upgrading the existing refuelling facilities. The Airport apron will be re-laid and drainage upgraded over the next few months.



## Mayor's Report Cont.

The motor racing facility has progressed well, with land leases finalised. The Drag Racing Facility has now been cleared of vegetation, with assistance through donations. The Off Road Motor Sports Club has built 15kms of track and held a successful race meet, with another to be held in the upcoming months.

We are encountering some challenges with mitigating the ongoing flying fox problem in Charters Towers in terms of lobbying for a change in the current provisions of the State Government's laws governing the relocation of flying foxes away from residential areas. The only successful method of moving them on would appear to be the use of helicopters and regulations prohibit low flying aircraft. Our concern is the flying foxes will grow to plague proportions sooner rather than later, if they are not relocated.

Council continues to advocate on behalf the Region to attract projects which will create employment and ensure sustainability.

**Frank Beveridge**  
**Mayor**

## Council



### Councillors

(L – R)

**Cr Bernie Robertson, Cr Barbara Robinson, Cr Mervyn (known as “Roma”) Bailey, Cr Wally Brewer (Deputy Mayor), Cr Joe Cooper, Cr Brian Beveridge, Cr Frank Beveridge (Mayor)**

	Cr Frank BEVERIDGE – Mayor	Cr Wally BREWER – Deputy Mayor	Cr Roma BAILEY	Cr Brian BEVERIDGE	Cr Joe COOPER	Cr Bernie ROBERTSON	Cr Barbara ROBINSON
Remuneration	\$95,488	\$55,089	\$47,740	\$47,740	\$47,740	\$47,740	\$47,740
Expenses	12,537	6,112	889	947	3,409	1,104	822
Council Meetings attended	12	11	13	13	11	13	11
Superannuation contributions	\$11,459	\$6,611	\$5,729	\$5,729	0	0	0

### No Changes to Councillor Remunerations

For carrying out the duties of the offices as undermentioned, the Councillors of the Charters Towers Regional Council, have been remunerated as follows:

Mayor                               \$95,488 per annum

Deputy Mayor               \$58,089 per annum      Councillor      \$47,740 per annum

## Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy

### 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 1.1 The expenses reimbursement policy is a policy providing for the following -
- (a) payment of reasonable expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by councillors for discharging their duties and responsibilities as councillors;
  - (b) provision of facilities to councillors for that purpose.

### 2. COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY

- 2.1 This Policy will commence from its adoption by resolution of Council's General Meeting of 15 April 2015. It replaces all other policies relating to Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy (whether written or not).

### 3. APPLICATION OF POLICY

- 3.1 This policy complies with the local government principles contained in section 4(2) of the Local Government Act 2009 -
- (a) transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest; and
  - (b) sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services; and
  - (c) democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement; and
  - (d) good governance of, and by, local government; and
  - (e) ethical and legal behaviour of Councillors and local government employees.

### 4. DEFINITIONS

#### 4.1 Council Business:

This is official business conducted on behalf of, and approved by, council where a councillor is required to undertake certain tasks to satisfy legislative requirements or achieve business continuity for the council.

Attendance at Portfolio Meetings.

Council business should result in a benefit being achieved either for the Charters Towers Regional Council and/or the Charters Towers Region.

**Example:** *Council may decide that council business includes civic ceremony duties such as opening a school fete*

Participating in a community group event or being a representative on a board not associated with council, is not regarded as Council business.



## Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy Cont.

### 4.2 Expenses:

Expenses are payments made by council to reimburse councillors for their reasonable expenses incurred or to be incurred when discharging their duties as councillors. These payments are not regarded as remuneration. The expenses may be either reimbursed to councillors or paid direct by council for something that is deemed a necessary cost or charge when performing their roles.

### 4.3 Facilities:

Facilities provided by councils to councillors are the 'tools of trade' required to enable them to perform their duties with relative ease and at a standard appropriate to fulfill their professional role for the community.

### 4.4 Reasonable:

Council must make sound judgements and consider what is prudent, responsible and acceptable to its community when determining reasonable levels of facilities and expenditure. The community expects limits and does not want to see excessive use or abuse of public funds.

## 5. POLICY PROVISIONS

### 5.1 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

Expenses will be paid to a councillor through administrative processes approved by Council's Chief Executive Officer subject to:

- the limits outlined in this policy and
- Council endorsement by resolution

### 5.2 EXPENSE CATEGORIES

#### 5.2.1 Professional Development

Council will reimburse expenses incurred:

- for mandatory professional development eg. Elected Member Updates (LGAQ) and Councillor Information Sessions (Department of Local Government) and discretionary professional development deemed essential for the councillor's role to the limit of \$5000.00 per councillor per term.
- only with the express prior approval of such development expenses by Council.

#### 5.2.2 Travel as required to represent Council

Council may reimburse local and in some cases interstate and overseas travel expenses (eg flights, car, accommodation, meals and associated registration fees) deemed necessary to achieve the business of Council where:

- a councillor is an official representative of Council;
- the activity/event and travel have been endorsed by resolution of Council; and
- the activity/event is in accordance with the Councillor's portfolio responsibilities.

## Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy Cont.

Councillors are to travel via the most direct route, using the most economical and efficient mode of transport.

Council will pay for reasonable expenses incurred for overnight accommodation when required.

The payment of expenses of Councillors' spouses attending Local Government Association of Queensland Inc. Conferences are to be borne by the individual Councillors and this includes spouse's airfares.

If a change is required to airfares, by Councillors, after the airfares have been booked and payment effected, then the cost of the difference is to be borne by the Councillor, unless otherwise stated.

**NOTE:** Any fines incurred while travelling in council-owned vehicles or privately owned vehicles when attending Council business, will be the responsibility of the Councillor incurring the fine.

### 5.2.3 Travel Bookings

All Councillor travel, approved, by Council will be booked and paid for by Council.

Economy class is to be used where possible although Council may approve business class in certain circumstances.

Airline tickets are not transferable and can only be procured for the Councillor's travel on Council business.

They cannot be used to offset other unapproved expenses. (eg. Cost of spouse accompanying the Councillor)

Councillors requesting to fly on specific airlines for the purpose of acquiring frequent flyer points, be invoiced the difference of the cost of a cheaper flight on a different airline, which departs at time within ten (10) minutes of the requested airline, unless otherwise stated by the Chief Executive Officer.

### 5.2.4 Travel transfer costs

Any travel transfer expenses associated with Councillors travelling for Council business will be reimbursed.

**Example:** Trains, taxis, buses and ferry fares

Cab charge vouchers may also be used if approved by Council where Councillors are required to undertake duties relating to the business of Council.

### 5.2.5 Private Vehicle Usage

Councillors private vehicle usage may be reimbursed by Council if:

- the travel has been endorsed by Council resolution;
- a Council vehicle is not available;
- the claim for mileage is substantiated with log book details; and
- the total travel claim does not exceed the cost of the same travel using economy flights plus the cost of taxi transfers.

## **Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy Cont.**

### **5.2.6 Accommodation**

All Councillor accommodation for Council business will be booked and paid for by Council. Council will pay for the most economical and convenient to the event.

Accommodation bookings for Councillors are to be made by staff in the Office of the Chief Officer – Governance, in the first instance.

In the event that the Councillor's flight leaves early morning eg 6.00 a.m. or arrives into the returning airport at eg 10.00 p.m., accommodation will be offered to the Councillor at Council's expense.

### **5.2.7 Meals**

Charters Towers Regional Council will reimburse reasonable costs of meals for a Councillor when:

- the Councillor incurs the cost personally and;
- the meal was not provided within the registration costs of the approved activity/event during an approved flight.

Guidelines relative to meal claims are contained within the Travel and Expenses Claim Form attached to Administrative Directive D0016/COR.

No alcohol will be paid for by Council with the exception of events that are in accordance with Council's Statutory Policy - S0028/REG - Entertainment and Hospitality Expenditure Policy.

In accordance with Section 186(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Councillors attending conferences, ensure that expenses eg breakfasts and dinners (unless included in the registration) be booked to individual Councillors accounts/rooms, to ensure that an accurate reflection of individual Councillor expenses are included in Council's annual report.

### **5.2.8 Incidental Allowance**

Other actual expenses may be paid by Council to cover any incidental costs incurred by Councillors required to travel, and who are away from home overnight, for official Council business provided documentation including but not limited to receipts received and approved by Council.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE MAYOR**

### **5.2.9 Hospitality**

Council may reimburse the Mayor up to \$1,000 per annum for hospitality expenses deemed necessary in the conduct of Council business.

## **5.3 PROVISION OF FACILITIES**

All facilities provided to Councillors remain the property of Council and must be returned to Council when a Councillor's term expires.

## Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy Cont.

### 5.3.1 Private Use of Council owned facilities

Based on the principle that *no private benefit is to be gained* the facilities provided to Councillors by Charters Towers Regional Council are to be used only for Council business unless prior approval has been granted by resolution of Council.

The Council resolution authorising private use of Council owned facilities will set out the term under which the Council will reimburse Council for the percentage of private use. This will apply when Councillors have private use of Council owned motor vehicles and/or mobile telecommunication devices.

Notwithstanding the above and all costs incurred by virtue of the Mayor's garaging of the vehicle assigned to him or her, and its use for travel for and, in association with, Council's business shall be borne by Council.

## 5.4 FACILITIES CATEGORIES

### 5.4.1 Administrative Tools

Administrative tools may be provided to Councillors as required to assist Councillors in their role. Administrative tools include:

- office space and meeting rooms (not allocated)
- laptop computer
- stationery
- publications
- use of Council landline telephones and internet access in Council offices
- use of photocopiers in offices
- Mobile telephone upon request
- Secretarial support may also be provided for Mayor and Councillors
- Council may provide a Councillor with home office equipment including computer, internet access if necessary

### 5.4.2 Maintenance costs of Council owned equipment

Council will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance and reasonable wear and tear costs of Council-owned equipment that is supplied to Councillors for official business use.

This includes the replacement of any facilities which will fall under Council's asset replacement program.

### 5.4.3 Name badge

Council will provide Councillors with a name badge.

### 5.4.4 Safety equipment for Councillors

The necessary safety equipment for use on official business eg. Safety Vest, helmet/boots.

## Councillors' Expenses Reimbursement Policy Cont.

### 5.4.5 Uniforms

All Councillors will receive an allowance of \$500.00 each for the term plus:

- One (1) jacket (branded as per Uniform policy)
- One (1) polo shirt (branded as per Uniform policy)

This allowance is non-transferable.

All Councillors' corporate clothing is to be within Council's corporate clothing range and Council's Corporate Services Directorate will arrange for the corporate branding to be applied.

### 5.4.6 Use of Council vehicles on Council business

Councillors may have access to a Council vehicle for Official business.

### 5.4.7 Private Use of Vehicles

Private use of Council owned vehicles is permitted if prior approval has been granted by resolution of Council. Council will, in its resolution authorise private use, set out the terms for the Councillor to reimburse Council for private use.

### 5.4.8 Telecommunication needs – mobile devices

- (i) Mobile telecommunications devices owned by Council may be used by Councillors for Official Council business use.

Where Council deems it necessary to acquire new mobile devices, extra facilities may be approved by Council resolution.

**Example:** Mobile telephones or hand-held personal digital assistants (ie "Blackberry"/iphone)

- (ii) Council, may by resolution, purchase for Councillors mobile phone/personal digital assistance hardware and software to be owned by those Councillors and to enable Councillors to more efficiently effect their civic duties.

### 5.4.9 Insurance Cover

Council will indemnify or insure Councillors in the event of injury sustained while discharging their civic duties.

Council will pay the excess for injury claims made by a Councillor resulting from conducting official Council business.

### 5.4.10 Fuel Costs

Fuel for a council-owned vehicle used for official Council business including the Mayoral use specifically provided for, herein, will be provided or paid for by Council.

### 5.4.11 Car parking amenities

Council will provide Councillors with:

- Car parking at the Charters Towers Regional Council office premises and/or
- Reimbursement of parking costs paid by Councillors while attending to official Council business on the presentation of an official receipt or Statutory Declaration in the event of no receipts being presented eg. Airport parking

## 6. POLICY REVIEW

The policy is to be reviewed whenever legislation changes, OR every two years if no changes have been required to be enacted, at the direction of the Chief Executive Officer.



## Councillors

Section 186 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, requires that Council's Annual Report contain the number of orders or recommendations made by the Regional Conduct Review Panel or the Mayor in relation to Councillor misconduct or inappropriate conduct. Council must also provide a report on the complaints it has received and dealt with for the financial year in relation to Councillors.

For the 2014/15 financial year there have been no orders or recommendations made and no complaints received in relation to Councillors.

## Administrative Action Complaints

In accordance with *Local Government regulation 2012; S187*, an Administrative Directive has been developed in accordance with Section 187 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for the guidance of staff on the requirements of processing, resolving and recording of customer requests and complaints in the appropriate manner in compliance with Council's General Complaints Process (GCP) Procedures.

A complaint received in writing must be dealt with pursuant to the formal General Complaints Process and entails the formal appointment by the Chief Executive Officer of a Complaints Officer pursuant to the GCP.

Complaints are viewed as an opportunity as they provide feedback to Council about a product or service experience and will assist in continually improving the quality of service provided by Council.

A quality database of timely and accurate information is an integral component of improving customer satisfaction. Consequently, all action requests and complaints are electronically recorded. The medium for recording and tracking action requests and complaints is the Technology One Enterprise Content Management System (or 'ECM').

All action requests and complaints are recorded in the system, whether they are received verbally, in writing or via electronic means. Regular reports from the system are provided to Senior Management as part of Council's overall customer service quality improvement strategy.

In 2014, a complaints management system designed solely for the recording, tracking, resolution and reporting of complaints was implemented to provide Council with greater clarity over the types of complaints received and the efficiency of its systems for tracking, resolving and reporting on complaints.

In accordance with S187 (2) of the Regulation, Council reports the following:

**(a) The Number of administrative action complaints:**

(i) made to Council	10
(ii) resolved by Council under the complaints management process	10
(iii) not resolved by Council under the complaints management process	Nil

**(b) The Number of administrative action complaints not resolved by Council under the complaints management process, that were made in a previous financial year, and now resolved.**

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## Overseas Travel

Name	Position	Dates of Travel	Destination	Purpose	Cost	Further information
Mayor FC Beveridge	Mayor	16 April 2015 to 22 April 2015	Huizhou & Guangzhou, China	Participate in an Official Trade Mission co-ordinated by Trade & Investment Queensland (TIQ)	\$2,377.61	N/A
Mr Mark Crawley	CEO	16 April 2015 to 22 April 2015	Huizhou & Guangzhou, China	Participate in an Official Trade Mission co-ordinated by Trade & Investment Queensland (TIQ)	\$2,074.83	N/A

## Expenditure on Grants, Rebates and In Kind donations to Community Organisations

Expenditure for the financial year on grants to community organisations was **\$275,779**.

### Councillors' Discretionary Donation Funds

In accordance with Section 202(7) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the following discretionary funds have been allocated by each Councillor (Please note: Amounts listed exclude GST where applicable):

#### Mayor FC Beveridge

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Total Allocation 2014-15	Balance Remaining
07-2014				\$3000	\$3000
16-07-14	Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia	"The Long Ride" in support of PCFA	\$150		\$2850
13-11-14	Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre	Assist with renovation of Kernow Centre	\$100		\$2750
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$2650
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$2510
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with track preparation for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$2360
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$2310
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist with research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural and remote areas	\$100		\$2210

#### Deputy Mayor WOE Brewer

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance Remaining
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1900
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$1760
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with track preparation for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1610
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$1560
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist with research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural and remote areas	\$100		\$1460

## Councillors' Discretionary Donation Funds Cont.

### Councillor MJ Bailey

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
17-09-14	Charters Towers Gun Club Inc	Assist with NQ Skeet Shoot Events 2014	\$110		\$1890
13-11-14	Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre	Assist with renovation of Kernow Centre	\$200		\$1690
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1590
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$1450
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with preparation of track for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1300
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural and remote areas	\$100		\$1200

### Councillor BJ Beveridge

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
17-09-14	Charters Towers Gun Club Inc	Assist with NQ Skeet Shoot Events 2014	\$110		\$1890
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1790
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$1650
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with preparation of track for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1500
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$1450
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural & remote areas.	\$100		\$1350

### Councillor JJ Cooper

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1900
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$1760
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with preparation of track for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1610
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$1560

## Councillors' Discretionary Donation Funds Cont.

### Councillor BP Robertson

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
17-09-14	Charters Towers Gun Club Inc	Assist with NQ Skeet Shoot Events 2014	\$110		\$1890
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1790
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with track preparation for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1640
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$1590
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural and remote areas	\$100		\$1490

### Councillor BH Robinson

Date	Organisation	Purpose	Donation amount	Allocation 2014-15	Balance
07-2014				\$2000	\$2000
16-07-14	Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia	"The Long Ride" in support of PCFA	\$150		\$1850
31-07-14	Lions Club of Charters Towers	In support of "The Black Dog Ride"	\$100		\$1750
17-09-14	Charters Towers Gun Club Inc	Assist with NQ Skeet Shoot Events 2014	\$110		\$1640
19-11-14	Towers Players	Support Christmas Pantomime	\$100		\$1540
21-01-15	Isolated Children's Parents Association Charters Towers	Assist with pool hire fees for 2015 Swimming Clinic	\$140		\$1400
18-03-15	Towers Jockey Club	Assist with preparation of track for 21-03-2015 races	\$150		\$1250
20-05-15	Walking Wounded Ltd	Donation to "Traverse of Australia" event to assist physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers	\$50		\$1200
19-06-15	David Morris Reason to Ride	Donation to assist research by Dr David Morris into cancer and promotion of access to specialist medical services for cancer patients incl those in rural and remote areas	\$100		\$1100

## Reserves & Controlled Roads

Charters Towers Regional Council has control of:

1100.77ha of parks (including 79.439ha leased to sporting clubs), on land that comprises 49 reserves under the Land Act 1994; and

4,177 kilometres of local roads and maintains 867.50 kilometres of declared roads on behalf of the Department of Transport & Main Roads, but does not own these roads.

The land does not have a value for Council's financial statements.

## Invitations to Change Tenders

Tender T002/15 Disposal of Plant, Council received submissions below expectations on a couple of items, and as such invited those who tendered for these particular items to submit a revised offer.

### Summary of Concessions to Rates & Charges

Council provides rating concessions on properties owned by Pensioners registered with Centrelink, where the property is their principal place of residence, and where the rate account is fully paid by 15 June within the rating period. The concession for eligible pensioners is made up of a remission calculated on the general rate, to a maximum of 27% of the general rate levy applicable to the rating category designated, capped at \$287.

### Remuneration for Senior Contract Employees

- 1 contract employee with a total remuneration package in the range of \$250,000 and \$350,000;
- 4 contract employees with a total remuneration package in the range of \$150,000 and \$250,000.

### Equal Opportunity

A key corporate objective of this Council is to ensure that the workplace is free of discrimination and that recruitment, selection, promotion and transfer of employees are dealt with on the basis of merit. Since people are our most important resource we must ensure that skills and potential are recognised, developed and used to best advantage, so we obtain the best person for the job. This in turn will ensure we provide a more effective service to the community we serve. During the financial year Council's management group evidenced their commitment to equal opportunity employment principles and merit selection processes by undertaking targeted learning and development opportunities around this. Further, our network of anti-discrimination contact officers was again in operation throughout Council as a point of first contact for employees who want to talk to someone regarding any concerns they have about possible discrimination, bullying/harassment, or unfair treatment in the workplace.

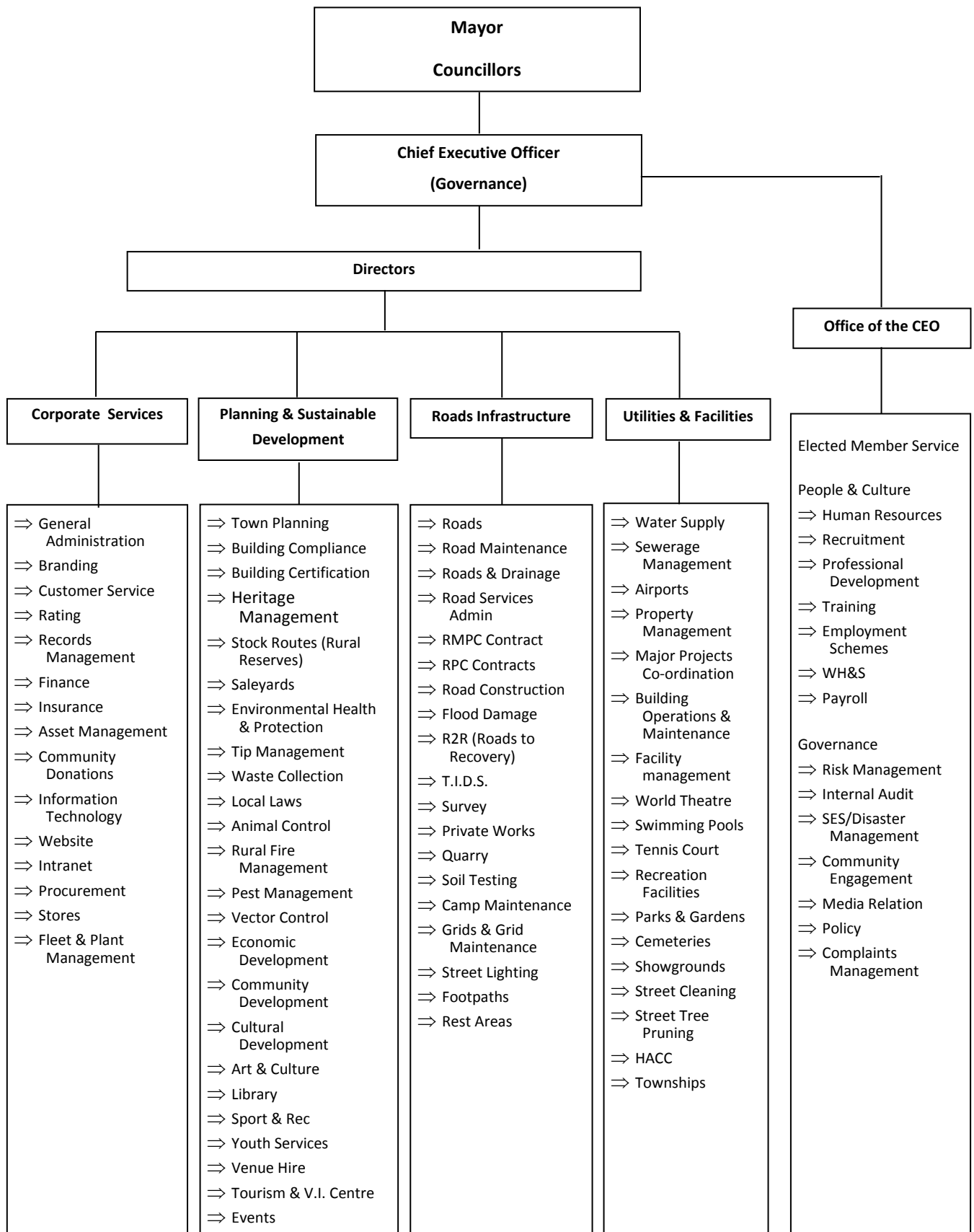


## List of Registers kept by Council

The List of Registers as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, s190, maintained by Council and open for inspection, is as set out hereunder:

SECTION OF ACT	NAME OF REGISTER	HELD BY
Local Government Regulation 2012, S290	Register of Interests of the CEO	Mayor
Local Government Regulation 2012, S290	Councillors' Registers of Interests	Office of the CEO
Local Government Act 2009, S125 -137	Authorised Persons	Office of the CEO
Local Government Act 2009, S260 Local Government Regulation 2012, S305	Register of Delegations by Chief Executive Officer to employees	Office of the CEO
Local Government Act 2009 S181 A(1)	Register of written complaints received by the Office of the CEO, outcome of each complaint including any disciplinary action taken in relation to the complaint.	Office of the CEO
Local Government Act 2009, S98	Register of Planning & Sustainable Development Fees	Corporate Services
Local Government Act 2009, S74 Local Government Regulation 2012, S57	Map and Register of Roads	Roads Infrastructure
Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011	Impounded Animals	Planning & Sustainable Development
Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008, S51	Cat and Dog Register	Planning & Sustainable Development
Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008, S172	Regulated Dog Register	Planning & Sustainable Development
Environmental Protection Act 1994, S540	Environmentally Relevant Activities – Development Approvals	Planning & Sustainable Development
Environmental Protection Act 1994, S540	Environmental Authorities	Planning & Sustainable Development
Environmental Protection Act 1994, S540	Environmental Development Approvals and Registrations	Planning & Sustainable Development
Local Government Act 2009, S31 Local Government Regulation 2012, S14	Register of Local and Subordinate Local Laws	Planning & Sustainable Development
Local Government Regulation 2012, S56	Register of Business Activities to which competitive neutrality applies	Planning & Sustainable Development

## Organisational Structure



## Chief Executive Officer's Report

It is with pleasure that I present my report for the 2014-2015 financial year.

Community consultation was undertaken during the reporting period to review the Strategic Plans of Council. The Corporate Plan was reviewed and updated, the Economic Development Plan was also updated as a consequence of the community feedback from the consultation and we have reviewed and prepared a new Advocacy Action Plan for the next 12 months. For the first time, we also provided a Report Card in relation to our achievements against the Strategic Plans and feedback to the community based on the comments received as part of the consultation process. We trust that you found these documents useful and informative. A copy of each of these can be found on Council's Website.

Council continued its advocacy role on behalf of the Community as we met with State Government Ministers during the Community Round Table in Townsville. We put our projects in front of the State Ministers and advised of the opportunities to partner with Council to stimulate the local and regional economies.

We continued to voice our concerns in relation to the larger Regional economy by attending and being involved in the Regional Organisations, namely Townsville Enterprise Limited, Mount Isa Townsville Economic Development Zone, North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils, North Queensland Local Government Association and working with the various State Government Agencies in Townsville and Brisbane.

One of the largest undertakings during the year happened without the community noticing. A collection of data in relation to all of the services provided by Council was undertaken to further review these services with Community input over the next two financial years. Charters Towers Regional Council was successful in obtaining grant funding to provide the Service Review kits to all 77 Queensland Councils. It is imperative that the Council remains financially sustainable for the long term and with diminishing funds from the other levels of Government, it is Council's own source revenue and appropriate service levels and resources that will assist to achieve this in the longer term. A review of the plant fleet during the reporting period identified a number of surplus items that provided a financial advantage to Council through the disposal of these items.

We continued our digital presence through our Facebook posts to keep the community informed of the happenings at Council. Our website continues to remain the main source of information in relation to your Council. We continue to strive to ensure we load the documents as they are reviewed and updated and continue to post relevant media notices to keep the community informed of what your Council is up to and what is happening in the Region.

I would like to place on the public record my appreciation to the Mayor and Councillors for their support and direction during the past 12 months. Could I also thank the Directors and staff for their support and ongoing commitment to providing Exceptional Service for an Exceptional Community.

**Mark Crawley**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Office of the CEO

### Audit Committee

Council's Audit Committee, established in 2011, meets Council's statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act 2009* and associated regulations, and promotes good governance practice across Council. The Committee comprises two Councillors (Mayor Beveridge and Cr Bernie Robertson) and an external member (Chair). Meetings are also attended by Council's external and internal auditors, a representative of the Queensland Audit Office, the Chief Executive Officer and Directors.

The Audit Committee met twice during the 2014-15 financial year. In April 2014, Mr Rodger Dunstan, of Jessups Accountants and Business Advisors, replaced Mr Tim Cronin as Chair of the Audit Committee. Mr Cronin's expertise and guidance in establishing Council's Audit Committee in 2011 and chairing the meetings was acknowledged.

In consultation with the Audit Committee and Management, an Internal Audit Plan is developed for each reporting period. During 2014-15, the internal audit process reviewed Council's External Customer Service Experience, the Events Management Function, and the administration of the Regional Arts Development Fund, the General Meetings Process & Implementation of Council decisions and Water Management Practices.

At the conclusion of the completed audits, Council is presented with a report outlining the audit's findings and recommendations for consideration and implementation.

### People & Culture

As at 30 June 2015 Charters Towers Regional Council employed 225 staff. The 2014/2015 financial year saw Council undertake the most significant workforce event since amalgamation, a voluntary redundancy process which resulted in 34 positions voluntarily removed from Council's organisational structure. Following on from this, the strategy of the People and Culture unit has been directed to maximising efficiency to assist the organisation in capitalising on Council's existing human resource. There has been a continued focus on the development and implementation of a supervisory capability framework to grow our own talent, assisting with succession planning for targeted technical roles to ensure the organisation is sufficiently resourced into the future. From a workplace health and safety perspective, solid groundwork has been undertaken to significantly improve the implementation of Council's safety management system, with the People and Culture team continuing to drive positive participation in workplace health and safety culture across all business units. Most encouragingly, Council has evidenced continuous improvement across the organisation in the results of a number of workplace health and safety audits throughout the financial year.

### Disaster Management

During the reporting period, Council's Local Disaster Management Group met during September November of 2014 and June of 2015.

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) received advice of the availability of a Wireless Priority Service System for LDMG's allowing Mayors and CEO's priority access for communication during disasters.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet informed Council of a review heralding changes to the high level governance of disaster management in Queensland. One outcome of the review is the creation of a new Cabinet committee, the Queensland Disaster Management Committee to replace the DMCC and SDMG, reflecting the importance of the prevention, preparation and recovery phases and the importance of a smooth transition between preparation, prevention, recovery and response. While the strategic level disaster management governance arrangements will change, the arrangements for Local Disaster Management Groups will not change.

Council's LDMG entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to promote cooperation between Councils in a disaster event affecting one or more of the Council areas and to promote collaboration between Councils on disaster prevention, preparation, response and recovery. The parties to this Agreement are Tablelands, Cassowary Coast, and Cairns Regional Councils; Mareeba, Cook, Burdekin, Hinchinbrook and Douglas Shire Councils and Townsville City Council.

Council assisted with the recruitment of a new Local Controller for the State Emergency Services.

Mr Iain Mackenzie, Inspector-General Emergency Management, visited Charters Towers on 14th October 2014. Council officers were available to discuss issues being experienced with regard to rural addressing and information provided to emergency services when called out.

The then Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience, the Hon David Crisafulli approved funding of \$5,820.00 for Council for the 2014/2015 Get Ready Queensland program.

2014-15 Get Ready Activity took place at the Charters Towers Weir Boat Ramp on 08 November 2014 and featured:

- SES flood boat exercises and demonstrations;
- A display of Swift water rescue exercises and demonstrations;
- Emergency services display, and
- Council trade display of Disaster Management promotional items.



Charters Towers SES members launch the flood boat at the Charters Towers Weir



Members of the Queensland Rural Fire Services manned a stall at the 2014 Get Ready Day at the Charters Towers Weir

Preparations were made for the launch of the regional flood maps to be held on 29 July 2015, with a workshop to be conducted by Messrs Graeme Milligan and Greg Scroope from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines and Mr Chris MacGeorge from the Bureau of Meteorology. This initiative was funded primarily with Get Ready Funding and Disaster Management funds.

Arrangements were put in place for Mr Paul Cannon, Regional Community Engagement Officer, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Townsville Area Office, to engage with schools and educate students about the importance of being prepared for emergencies. It was considered that engaging with children may be the key to passing on such information to families.

Throughout the year, training needs were reviewed, identified and met with refresher training in the Guardian System (used for managing requests for assistance during a disaster), being conducted in December 2014.

A desk top exercise entitled "Exercise Dam-nation!" was conducted on 23 June 2015. The exercise was designed to allow dam owners and Council's LDMG to practice a range of objectives with an emphasis on evacuation. Several important points were identified during the exercise. A visit to the Paluma Dam was planned in addition to engagement with the residents of Hidden Valley, who live downstream of the Paluma Dam, to discuss their communication and evacuation strategies in the event of flooding.

A review of Council's Local Disaster Management Plan was undertaken during the period. The review was by way of self-assessment tool provided by the Office of the Inspector General, Emergency Management. The results were advised to Council in July 2015 and will be incorporated into the Plan.



## Directors



### Directors - Charters Towers Regional Council

(L - R):

**Mrs Marnie Taylor**, Director Utilities & Facilities, **Mr Ramon Jayo**, Director Planning & Sustainable Development, **Mr Mark Crawley**, Chief Executive Officer, **Mr Cameron Scott**, Director Roads Infrastructure, **Mrs Tammy Power**, Director Corporate Services.

## Planning & Sustainable Development

Director: Ramon Jayo

This report summarises the activities and achievements of the Directorate of Planning & Sustainable Development during the past twelve months. The achievements reflect the combined efforts of Councillors and staff in continuing to ensure a safe, healthy and livable environment for the residents of the region and the efforts to deliver projects and services to the community at large in accordance with the corporate planning processes adopted by Council.

### Planning & Development

*Growing our economic base*

#### Building Certification Services

Comparison of the previous three (3) years.

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Council Certified	128	127	123
Privately Certified	55	49	43
Number of Dwellings Constructed	36	50	33

#### Planning & Development

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Reconfiguration of a Lot	15	14	14
Material Change of Use	15	8	9

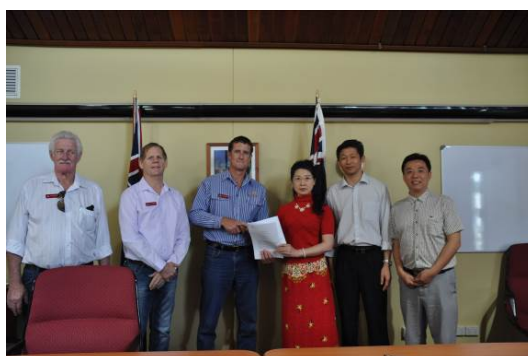
- 9 parcels of industrial land at Cunningham Industrial Estate were offered for sale by tender. Eight (8) parcels remain available for purchase.
- Two parcels on Ben Street were offered for sale by tender and tenders considered by Council and subsequently sold.

#### Economic Development

Council has further progressed in several areas of Economic Development as per its Economic Development Plan 2012 – 2017.

Priorities in this reporting period were focussed on the following areas:

1. Investment Attraction
  - Investor groups briefed in Charters Towers re: region's potential for project development. Projects include a meat processing facility; agricultural/cropping precinct; affordable housing utilising unallocated state lands.
  - Major Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Guandong Province.



- Review of legislation to allow trading between licensees along the Burdekin River System within the Charters Towers Regional Council area; and
  - Assistance to the release of unallocated water from the general reserve maintained under the Water Resource (Burdekin River) Plan 2007 for further allocations within the Upper Burdekin.
2. Building Knowledge and Services Economy
    - Council continues its efforts to secure development of the first regional 5+MW solar photovoltaic utility in the Charters Towers region.
    - Council has also progressed the ambitious concept of an integrated 'Towers Energy and Data' Park (TED), which would see the very first solar powered Data Centre, built in Charters Towers.
    - Tenders have been called for interested parties to develop a solar farm complex and negotiations with interested parties are continuing.
  3. Telecommunications Infrastructure
    - A successful outcome of extended effort (4 years) by Council resulted in approval for funding of a mobile telecommunications tower for Greenvale residents.
    - Following a period of intense lobbying, the National Broadband Network (NBN) Co. has finally confirmed that Charters Towers is now firmly on the 2016 release schedule for wireless and fibre-optic connections across the Charters Towers region.
  4. Regional Business Support
    - Council, jointly with the Charters Towers Chamber of Commerce and Mines organised two business development events during 2014/2015.
    - Business planning, business resilience and co-operation in building regional prosperity were the key themes for those well-attended events.
    - Council sought business sector opinions about the future growth of the region and to development scenarios from a business and community point of view.
  5. Promotion, lobbying and positioning of the Charters Towers region within the Northern Australia space. Council is focusing on accessing a fair share of funding for high priority infrastructure through:
    - \$5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, providing concessional loans for major infrastructure in the north and supporting projects prioritised on the new infrastructure pipeline.
    - New \$600 million roads package to improve key roads in the north, and a \$100 million beef roads program.
    - \$39.6 million to upgrade airstrips and subsidise air services in remote Australia.
    - Investing \$5 million in rail freight analyses — starting with a pre-feasibility analysis, in particular an upgrade of the Townsville to Mount Isa line.



- Following months of preparation, which included compilation of a dedicated business presentation and regional video, Council representatives have attended the Regional Queensland Showcase event in Brisbane.

Majority questions/enquiries, fielded by Council representatives were about skilled job prospects, employment situation and the region's potential for new projects such as minerals processing and boxed beef production.

## Local Laws

### *Strengthening the wellbeing of our communities*

Council has continued its efforts in animal control toward ensuring that the regions animals are kept in an enjoyable and responsible manner without disrupting the amenity or causing nuisance to neighbours and the public at large.

Animal Registration comparison for last three (3) years:

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Dogs	3,082	2,995	3,039
Cats	582	527	503

## Notices

Notices / Complaints	Number	Percentage Complied (%)
Animals complaints received (Customer Requests)	299	100%
Health & Environment complaints received (Customer Requests)	88	100%
Planning & Sustainable Development general (Customer Requests)	25	100%
First and Final Notices (Animal Issues)	261	
Notices / Complaints	Number	Percentage Complied (%)
Cleanup/Overgrown/Intrusive Vegetation Notices	77	
Notices to Remove Abandoned Vehicles	5	
Mosquito/Rainwater Tank Notices	32	
Parthenium/Weed Notices	10	
Proposed Regulated Dog Notices	12	
Regulated Dog Declarations	8	
Impounded Dog Notices	11	
Letters of Intention to Enter	3	
Notices to Abate Nuisance	5	
Infringement Notices Issued	123	



### Microchipping Project:

- Staff currently enrolled in an external TAFE course to qualify them to microchip cats and dogs on release from the pound for minimum cost.

### Improved Pound Facility and Animal Handling:

- In line with improving work place practices and delivery of service in the area of animal handling, a hand washing sink and dog run have been installed at the Council's pound facility. The installation of an exercise yard allows staff to meet communities' expectations in respect of contemporary standards of welfare in the area of maintaining a pound facility. The installation of a hand washing sink meets workplace health and safety standards so far as infection control and enforcing basic hygiene standards.



### Improved service delivery through public awareness:

- Extensive and diverse advertising has been undertaken in the area of Animal Management and local Laws. Council has recognised that the presumption that newspaper advertising informs the wider community is incorrect. Therefore council has undertaken such things as; staff maintaining a presence at the Community Market Day, radio advertising, and an increased presence on Council social media pages.





## Health and Environmental Monitoring - Flying Fox Movements

- Council Rangers monitor flying fox movements on a daily basis. In the month of September, numbers increased from approx. 3,000 to 30,000. In keeping with council's draft flying fox management plan, buffer zones preventing access to the Kennedy Regimental Memorial swimming pool were put in place and monitored.

Staff member undertaking flying fox fogging duties

Note safety clothing worn.



## Mosquito and Dog Registration Inspections

- In line with Council's obligation to ensure the wellbeing of the community, compliance inspection programs pertaining to dog registration and mosquito inspections were carried out between 15 December 2014 and 16 March 2015. Council will continue to ensure that the community amenity is not unduly placed at risk by proactively patrolling to prevent and control the public health risks associated with mosquitoes.
- Dog registrations are enforced to assist in ensuring the wellbeing of the community free from likely risk of threat, harm and nuisance caused by dogs. Registration makes a dog owner responsible for the actions and behaviour of their dog. Non-compliance with dog registration, the keeping of more than 2 dogs (without a permit) and wandering dogs continue to be the main re-occurring issues for Council Rangers.

- Council continued its endeavours to ensure each animal permit holder's circumstances remained accurate in respect of dog's specified and recorded. A new more informative process has since been introduced to ensure professional, equitable and transparent handling of all permits.

### ***Managing our impact on the environment***

#### **Rural Fire Management:**

- Council continues to maintain council controlled areas (including Ravenswood) against wild fire risks to the community. There has been significant inter-agency cooperation between Council Rangers and Department of Natural Resources and Management Officers (State Land Management – Fire and Pest Department of Natural Resources and Mines) who manage USL lands in and around this region to ensure minimal duplication of resources and a cooperative approach to any controlled burn activities.

### ***Remaining transparent and accountable***

#### **Transparency, accountable and equitable handling of customers:**

- Implementation of new digital recording devices to be used in a wider range of customer interactions. The new system is far more user friendly and allows for Council to provide and ensure enhancement of customer service practices with a view to delivering improved customer service and allowing customer complaints to be dealt with much more expediently and objectively in keeping with customer expectation.



### **Environmental Services**

#### ***Remaining transparent and accountable***

#### **Local Law & Other Statutory Licensing**

Council issued the following licences/permits as per requirements:

- 88 x Food Licences
- 7 x Mobile Food Licences
- 1 x Outdoor Dining Permit
- 6 x Stable Permits with conditions
- 6 x Itinerant Vendor Permits with conditions
- 8 x Caravan Park Permits with conditions and one pending

### ***Improving our Service Delivery***

#### **Public Health Alerts**

- Creation and implementation of an email distribution list for 87 businesses within our region to allow food safety alerts to be emailed directly to each food business. Seventy-nine (79) emails were obtained with the remaining eight (8) notified by mail.

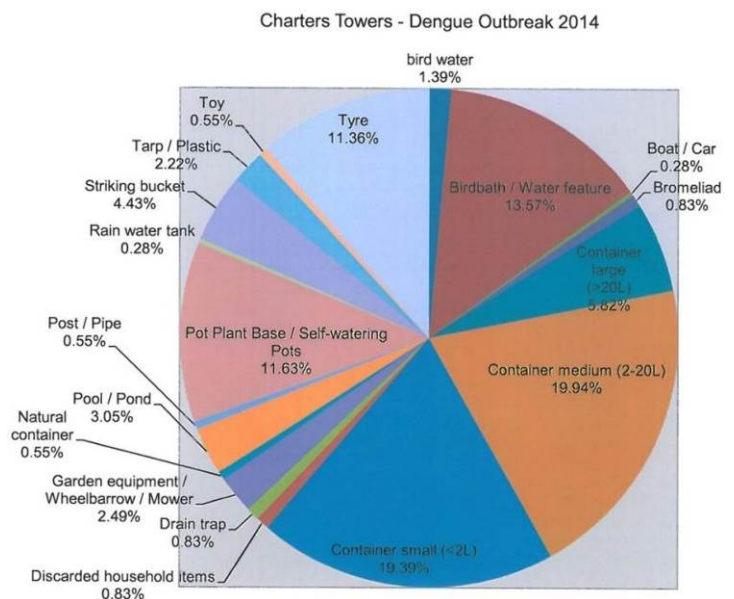
## Asbestos

- Council registered with Queensland Health to be active participants in Asbestos Awareness Month. The campaign covered the whole of November 2014 and its aim was to educate Australian's about the dangers of asbestos in and around homes as Australia has one of the highest rates of asbestos related diseases in the world.
- The scope of the campaign is to inform the community on the dangers of Asbestos and the methods available to minimise this risk.
- Informational flyers were distributed to select businesses and information was provided on Council's web page.

## Remaining transparent and accountable

### Dengue Fever

- During the reporting period, the first locally acquired case of Dengue Type 1 was confirmed, which represented the first case of Dengue in the Charters Towers region since 1993. In response, Queensland Health declared a Dengue outbreak in Charters Towers.
- The last positive reading for Dengue occurred 21 June 2014, however the Dengue response teams from Townsville maintained a presence well into July, and the Dengue outbreak in Charters Towers was declared over 19 September 2014.
- Overall 29 cases were identified in Charters Towers, with 14 notifications from pathology labs, 1 from a GP, 2 from Charters Towers hospital, 10 from themselves or family members, and two through the Notifiable Conditions System (NOCS).
- Nine (9) cases of Ross River virus were detected within the region.



## Managing our impact on the environment

### Flying Foxes

- Ecosure Consulting was commissioned in October 2014 to offer an independent expert opinion and review of the flying fox colony in Lissner Park, including report, site visit and recommendations.
- The site visit noted 4,000 black flying foxes and 50,000 little reds on 11 November 2014.
- The management options provided in the report revolved around In-situ Management and Dispersal.
  - The In-situ management included managing the colony within Lissner Park utilising canopy mounted sprinkler systems, netting of important areas, flying fox deterrent wires, creation of buffer zones to separate the colonies from certain areas, removal of certain trees and education.
  - The Dispersal method discussions concentrated around wildlife management consultants, feasibility analysis of alternate sites and a holistic staged approach, including deterrents through vegetation management and water source reduction.

## *Improving our Service Delivery*

### Education and Promotion

- Council continues to inform food businesses of the latest innovations in food management through the circulation of a bi-monthly newsletter.
- Management inspections are undertaken routinely to ensure compliance. The breakdown of food businesses is summarised in the table below:

Food Business Type	Number
Catering/Dining Halls	5
Farm stays	5
Mobile Businesses	7
Small Manufacture	2
Hotel or Motel	11
Bakery	2
Café or Café/Restaurant	15
Canteen	1
Caravan Park	2
Club House/clubs	6
Hotel Restaurant	2
Restaurant	10
Motel Restaurant	1
Roadhouses	4
Take Away	12
Tavern	1
Tea Rooms	1
Water Tanker	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>

## *Managing our impact on the environment*

### Clean-up Australia Day

- Council organised and participated in a clean-up Australia Day event on Sunday 14 September 2014, meeting at Centenary Park. Twenty-six (26) clean-up bags were collected from the 2 nominated sites (Bi-Lo flats & Weir Road). An end of event report was submitted to Clean-up Australia for final assessment of national attendance and waste collected.



## Bulk Rubbish

- Council commenced its Bulk Rubbish Collection on 17 October and completed same on 24 October 2014. There was a noticeable increase in participation compared to previous years, especially in Charters Towers with the number of participants doubling. The quantity of waste collected from residents in each township is outlined in the table below:

Location	No. of Loads
Hervey Range	16 Truck Loads
Charters Towers	15 Truck Loads
Balfes Creek	1 Truck Loads
Sellheim	1 Ute Load
Homestead	1 Truck Load
Pentland	1 Ute Load
Mingela	½ Truck Load
Ravenswood	½ truck Load
Greenvale	½ Truck Load
<b>TOTAL LOADS</b>	<b>34.5 Trucks + 2 Utes</b>

## Environmental Audit

- In February, Sci Qual International conducted a surveillance audit of Council's Environmental Management System against ISO 14001:2004 to ensure that Council was meeting its JAZ-ANZ certification requirements. The audit was a success with only minor administration issues being noted.

### *Remaining transparent and accountable*

## Environmental Incidents

There were four (4) significant environmental incidents on our roads with four (4) roll-overs encountered. On 16 February, a truck carting Zinc Concentrate from Snow Peak Mine in Mount Garnet rolled over on the first sweeping bend past the Fletcher Creek Toilet Block. The visible portion of spilt concentrate covered an area of about 10 metres wide by 50 metres long with finer particles spreading beyond this point.

The remaining three (3) incidents involved road trains transporting cattle.

## Littering

- Council is currently designing an education package to roll out or make available to tackle this issue. School talks undertaken have been a good opportunity to reinforce the blight on our environment caused by unsightly litter.



## Waste Management Activities

### Stubley Street Landfill

Remaining Transparent and Accountable

The 2014-15 financial year represented the second complete year of weighbridge recordings at the Stubley Street Landfill (refer table below).



### Waste Received Data – Region (2014/15)

Landfill Site	Month	Municipal Solid Waste (tonnes)	Commercial Waste (tonnes)	Demolition Waste (tonnes)	Green Waste (tonnes)	Regulated Waste (tonnes)
Stubley Street Landfill 2014/15	Q1 (July – Sept)	1,868.77	609.03	395.11	460.30	96.22
	Q2 (Oct – Dec)	1,813.84	876.27	219.08	480.00	877.76
	Q3 (Jan – Mar)	2,208.65	850.67	475.03	188.44	24.82
	Q4 (Apr – June)	1,836.44	650.50	268.74	275.68	63.68
Greenvale Landfill	<b>2013/14</b>	170	35	13	7	0
Ravenswood Landfill	<b>2013/14</b>	130	25	0	10	0
Pentland Landfill	<b>2013/14</b>	115	27	0	12	0
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8,142.70</b>	<b>3,073.47</b>	<b>1,370.96</b>	<b>1,433.42</b>	<b>1,062.48</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>15,083.03 tonnes</b>				



## Bomag/Traxcavator Trial

- In 2014/15 Council completed a trial to ascertain the most cost efficient methods for managing waste at the Stubley Street Landfill. The results of the trial are illustrated below. In conclusion, no net benefit could be ascertained by facilitation of a Bomag compactor.

	BOMAG COMPACTOR	TRAXCAVATOR (Skid Steer Loader)
Duration of Trial	11 Days	10 Days
Total Waste Disposed	154.34 tonnes	130.09 tonnes
Total Volume of Waste	200.9 m <sup>3</sup>	190.252 m <sup>3</sup>
Compaction Rate Achieved	768 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	684 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

## Maintaining and improving our major infrastructure

### Site Development - Stubley Street Landfill

- TEG Consulting was commissioned to provide Council with a 'Site Development Plan' for the Stubley Street landfill.
- The key findings of the report included a remaining waste volume of up to 507,000 cubic metres and a remaining life of 18 years (assuming a compaction rate of 640kg/m<sup>3</sup> and an annual tonnage of 13,300 tonnes per annum on average).



## Managing our impact on the environment

### Regional Waste Management

- In 2014/15, Council commissioned and adopted NQ Waste Reduction & Recycling Plan in conjunction with Townsville City, Burdekin Shire and Hinchinbrook Shire Councils. To assist facilitate the plan, a working group between the Councils was established (North Queensland Waste Recycling and Reduction Plan Working Group - NQWRRP), to implement the plan through a collaborative and knowledge sharing approach.

### LAWMAC

- On 26 & 27 February, Council convened and hosted a 2-day workshop/tour/meeting at the Dalrymple Trade Training Centre for LAWMAC Council's from Cooktown to Mackay, to discuss all things waste.

### Water Monitoring Program - Landfills:

- Council continues to monitor the landfills for elevated toxicity levels on an annual basis, including surface and ground water. The results for 2014-15, were positive with no chemical results exceeding acceptable environmental limits.

### Regional Landfills

- Council continues to manage three (3) regional landfills in our townships, namely; Ravenswood, Pentland and Greenvale. The Pentland landfill is well managed by the Pentland Town rural Fire Brigade while the remaining two regional landfills are staffed eight (8) hours a week including four (4) hours on each Saturday.

## Landfill Improvement/Other



- In 2014/15, Council relocated the oil bund at the landfill to improve surveillance of activities and assist contractors with an easier access point.
- Three (3) tip shops in the NQ region were visited with an aim to improving our own recycling opportunities.

## Recycling

- Council continues to support recycling as an important tool in waste management operations, but costs associated with accessing suitable markets limits Council's ability to meet best practice. Totals recycled for the 2014 - 15 year are listed in the table below:

Recyclate	Quantity
Mixed Paper (excluding newsprint)	209 tonnes
Aluminium / Aluminium Cans	8 tonne
Mixed Plastic	22 tonnes
Steel ( including cans)	185 tonne
Stainless Steel	1 tonne
Green Waste	1,360 tonnes
Motor Oil	13,600 litres
Batteries	5 tonne



## *Remaining transparent and accountable*

### **Refuse Collections**

In 2014-15, there were no changes, reductions or expansions to the defined refuse collection areas. A breakdown for each area is provided in the table below.

Breakdown by Area:

Area	Properties	Wheelie Bins
Charters Towers & Environs	3,990	4,888
Greenvale	105	105
Ravenswood	105	115
Pentland	112	121
Hervey Range	70	72
Homestead	33	33
Balfes Creek, Mingela, Sellheim & outer region	57	61
Council as Trustee	6	59
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>5,454</b>



### **Investigations - Kerb-side recycling**

- In 2014/15, an internal report into same found that this service is simply not feasible, markets are unreliable, cost structures are too flexible and the environmental benefits of such a service are questionable. To this end, Council is committed to improving its recycling endeavours, including such possibilities as Container Deposit Legislation and / or a form of a recycling centre.

### **Rural Services**

#### *Maintaining and improving our major infrastructure*

### **Asset Management Plan**

- Developed in May 2015 to include a description of the assets, maps, schematics or other visuals, asset types, lengths, classes, service levels hierarchy, future demand (growth or reduction factors, consumption of the asset, change in technology, seasonal, etc.), risk management/assessment (document risk, risk treatments and action plan to resolve any risk issues), costing of maintenance, operations and capital (renewal, upgrade and new).



## Infrastructure Improvements

### Saleyards

- Commenced internal lighting upgrades with completion by December 2015.
- External export lights to be completed by December 2015.



New amenities block has been completed at the camping area.



### Equestrian Centre

- Completed construction of steps from horse marshalling area to amenities that allows for safer pedestrian access.



- Completed upgrades to rodeo chutes and roping chute.

### Camping and Water Reserves:

- Completed boundary fencing of Flat Rock Camping and Water Reserve.



### *Improving our Service Delivery*

Dalrymple Saleyards provides services other than sales including

Non Sale Cattle Numbers:

• Export Cattle Processed	138,096
• Cattle Tick Treatment only	14,077
• Cattle Tick Clearance	19,783
• Transit Cattle	11,472
• <b>Total</b>	<b>183,428</b>



### *Equestrian Centre*

The Dalrymple Equestrian Centre hosted 35 events for the 2014/2015 season with most weekends being utilised.

Major events included:

- New Year's Eve PBR
- Gold City Camp draft
- Horse of the North
- Charters Towers Rodeo
- NQ Team Roping
- Dryander's Performance Group

### *Growing our economic base*

Dalrymple Saleyards has had another busy year despite another seasonal shortfall being experienced by many parts of Northern Australia. Sale cattle have increased from the previous year due to supply and demand on both the processing and live cattle markets.

Sale Cattle Numbers:

• Combined Fat & Store	36,667
• Special Store Sale	2,901
• Stud Bulls	833
• Horses	110
• Private Treaty	33,481
• <b>Total</b>	<b>73,992</b>
•	



## *Managing our impact on the environment*

### **Pest Management**

#### Wild Dog Baiting Campaign

The September/October 2014 baiting programme:

- 223 property owners were invited to attend within the region
- 22 collection locations
- 94 properties participated
- 15,212 kg of meat used
- 50,908 dog baits produced
- 4,970 pig baits produced
- Averaged 594 baits per property
- 2,974,970 ha of area covered

The May/June 2015 programme:

- 223 property owners were invited to attend within the region
- 22 collection locations
- 107 properties attended (compared to 94 in Sept/Oct 2014)
- 18,497kg of meat used (compared to 15,212kg in Sept/Oct 2014)
- 61,768 dog baits produced (compared to 50,908 baits in Sept/Oct 2014)
- 6,510 pig baits produced (compared to 4,970 baits in Sept/Oct 2014)
- Averaged 638 baits per property
- 3,100,107 ha of area covered

Educational display regarding pest weeds within the Region at the Annual Show. Council shared a site with Dalrymple Land Care at the show and provided pamphlets and advice on pest control.

### **Compliance**

Council is continuing to conduct inspections of known declared plants on properties that have taken on sections of Stock Routes to ascertain infestation levels and review individual pest management plans.

### **Projects**

- Completed a Feral Pig Control Project using aerial platform shooting combined with the use of factory manufactured 1080 baits and Wild Dog Control Project using a combination of trapping and pulse baiting using factory manufactured 1080 baits in the Charters Towers Agricultural Region.
- Organised and coordinated a Pest Advisory Forum attended by over 50 people, including 25 cattle producers and a wild dog trapper.



- Belly Ache Bush Containment and Control within Selected Camping and Watering Reserves of Charters Towers.



## Stock Routes

- Inspections were completed by Council and DNR&M in May 2015 on the southern section of the Stock Route Network. Also completed inspections of several water facilities on the western section of the Stock Route Network near Pentland.
- Updating facilities register for Stock Route Water Facilities to reflect the true and correct status of equipment

## Weed Wash at Saleyards

- The wash-down facility was utilised a total of 1,816 times by 156 customers for a total period of 2,215 hours washing.

## *Remaining transparent and accountable*

- Completed successful Quality Assurance Audits for the operation of the Dalrymple Saleyards by MLA with no Corrective Actions.
- Completed successful on site audit of Dalrymple Saleyards for Live Cattle Export by the Federal Department of Agriculture with no Corrective Actions.

## Events

### *Strengthening the wellbeing of the communities*

Council and the community now have a broad calendar of events which support and partner with the aged, sports and recreation, tourism, the arts, youth and indigenous to name a few. Event staff continues to provide resources, funding and expertise to the broader community organisations to assist in the development of their knowledge, capacity and resources, particularly in relation to the long term sustainability of existing significant local events and the development of new initiatives for the benefit of the community as a whole.

- The 10<sup>th</sup> International Mining History Congress and 20<sup>th</sup> Australasian Mining History Association combined conference was held from the 7-11 July 2014 with over 100 delegates attending throughout the week long conference.
- Assistance provided for the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network Annual Conference.
- Assistance provided with youth outreach programs and school holiday fun days.
- Secured the Sydney Travelling Film Festival.
- Delivered the Gold Fever Healthy Lifestyle Festival and engaged with Townsville Cycling, Townsville Roadrunners and local wellness organisations.
- Partnered with local businesses and organisations to develop the Heritage and Cultural Festival Program.
- Participated in the 2014 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour engaging local schools, aged care facilities and community functions.
- Commemorated Remembrance Day and unveiled the Anzac Centenary Grants project 'Ghosts of Our Military Past' at Lissner Park.
- Assisted with support for the Lions Christmas Fair.
- Sponsorship for PBR New Year's event.
- Celebrated Australia Day Awards and hosted Australia Day Ambassadors Jean Madden and Scott Stidson.
- Commemorated the Centenary of Anzac Day with 400 currently serving army personnel.
- Assisted with the Regional Visitor Information Volunteers Conference.



## Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)

*Strengthening the wellbeing of the communities*

- \$21,000 from Council combined with the Arts Queensland allocation to total \$63,215 in RADF funding.
- Local priorities and Arts Queensland identified Key Performance Outcomes for 2014-15 were:
  - Cultural Tourism - Developing unique and interesting tourism events or activities
  - Capacity Building - Skilling local artists and community members in arts & cultural related endeavours to increase the availability of skilled artists in this region
  - Diversity of Participants and Audience - Encouraging participants and audience members from areas of the community that don't usually participate or attend arts & cultural activities
  - Growth of public value of arts & culture - The general community attending and valuing arts & culture in our region
- Funding utilised to support community arts projects and a strategic initiative.

Summary of Projects funded for 2014-15:

Project Name	Project Summary	RADF \$ FUNDED	Local Priority Addressed by Outcomes
Outdoor Sculpture Workshop	2 Day Pottery Workshops teaching skills in creating an outdoor totem pole	\$2,250.00	Cultural Tourism Capacity Building
Line Dancing Workshops	Engaging a professional choreographer to facilitate a 2day workshop to instruct the community in the art of line dancing	\$2,269.00	Cultural Tourism Capacity Building
Disability Access Week Activities	Song writing and art/craft workshops designed for all ages and abilities	\$4,545.00	Diversity of Participants (Disability Sector)
Make Up Digital Artwork	Developing digital art and make-up skills through the production of 'My Boyfriend's a Zombie'	\$5,352.00	Growth of public value of arts and culture Capacity Building
Writer in the Community W/S	Various Community-based Story-telling & Life-story Writing Workshop (Local and Regional School age - Aged Care - General Community)	\$6,683.00	Diversity of Participants (Elderly)
2day Drumming Circle Training	Enabling 10 local Community & Youth Workers to participate in a 2 day Drumming Workshop facilitated by InRhythm	\$3,129.00	Capacity Building
Supply of technical equipment for production	Workshop for Creation of Digitally Projected Scenery for Theatre Production	\$2,000.00	Diversity of Audience (Regional Community & Children) Capacity Building
Learning Stumpwork with Glenda Semple	A 2 day Learning Stumpwork Workshop facilitated by Glenda Semple	\$2,526.00	Capacity Building
Community Engagement Through Music	Providing Contemporary Music Concert and 2 youth focused music workshops	\$4,159.00	Diversity of Participants & Audience (Youth) Capacity Building



Developmental Sewing Workshop	3x2 day Developmental Sewing Workshops facilitated by Jane Grove	\$5,100.00	Diversity of Participants (Regional Community) Capacity Building
Photography Workshop	2 day Photography Skills Workshop facilitated by Paul Freeman	\$1,636.00	Diversity of Participants (Regional Community) Capacity Building
Rediscovering the Chinese Temple of Ravenswood Project Concept Development	Developing a concept plan to guide a proposed project to research, survey and write the history of the Chinese Temple site in Ravenswood to enhance cultural tourism.	\$2,500.00	Cultural Tourism
Fun with Fabric Colouring Workshops	Conducting 17x1.5 hr fabric colouring workshops at Wheeler House for the 60 & Better Program members	\$432.00	Diversity of Participants (Elderly)
'50 Shades of Art' Workshops	9 x art workshops including Screen and Stencil Printing, Carnival Standees Creation, Embellished Skulls, Mosaics, Ghostly Ladies Sculptures and Lantern Creation	\$4,000.00	Cultural Tourism Capacity Building Diversity of Participants and Audience (Regional Community)
'The Encore Music Camp' Attendance	Attending 3 Day 'The Encore Music Camp' in Glenrock NSW for skill development	\$721.00	Capacity Building
'The Encore Music Camp' Attendance	Attending 3 Day 'The Encore Music Camp' in Glenrock NSW for skill development	\$547.00	Capacity Building
'The Encore Music Camp' Attendance	Attending 3 Day 'The Encore Music Camp' in Glenrock NSW for skill development	\$635.00	Capacity Building
Council Strategic Initiative 2014-15	Building Blocks Workshops to provide local artists with skills and knowledge to grow their arts business	\$12,831.00	Capacity Building Cultural Tourism
RADF Program Community Consultation	Gathering information and ideas from the community regarding the CTRC RADF Program	\$1,900.00	Community Consultation

- CTRC RADF program in the same format as previous years due to the current success of the program and community grants funding being fully utilised for the fourth consecutive year.
- Projects example:

**Project:** Disability Access Week Activities

**Description:** Song writing Workshop with Corey Livey and Arts & Craft Workshops (including mosaic totem poles, book sculpture, junk mail jewellery, recycled bottle lanterns and hand painted silk flags) with Sue Tilley and Maggie Wretham held as part of the Charters Towers Disability Access Week celebrations.

**Outcomes:** Fun activities designed to challenge all participants' skills and encouraging inclusivity of all abilities. The song writing workshop enabled many individuals that have been excluded from the music scene due to their health and disabilities the opportunity to reconnect with their passion and share thoughts and ideas with like-minded people of all abilities. The workshops provided a social experience for all involved and helped create connections between many different areas of the community.



**Project:** The Encore Music Camp attendance

**Description:** Kasey O'Donoghue attending The Encore Music Camp in Tamworth for professional development and networking opportunities.

**Outcomes:** Developed new skills and knowledge through learning different types of song writing, group collaboration and the recording process. Kasey explored new direction in her music practice moving away from her country roots. Kasey developed new industry networks and connections through her time with industry professionals and other like-minded individuals from around Australia. Kasey contributed to her local community by performing a talk to the Dalrymple Country Music Club sharing her experience and informing the audience of the availability of RADF funding.



- RADF Committee ensured that the approval and distribution of funding were based upon the principles of equity, merit and broad representation of activities within the arts community.
- \$48,976 was allocated to seventeen projects in the 2014-15 financial year. The same number of applications approved as the 2013-14 financial year.
- Engaged with the group of artists utilising Wherry House who identified the success of the facility as an arts hub for the community and tourists.
- Focused on strengthening cultural tourism and commercial and entrepreneurial capacity through a strategic initiative. 15 local artists attended a series of workshops focusing on providing the skills and information necessary to develop an incorporated organisation or a cultural tourism business.
- 2014-15 was an exciting and innovative year for the arts in Charters Towers. The trend for new and exciting projects seems positive for the next 12 months.

## Community Services

### *Strengthening the wellbeing of our communities*

#### Funding Opportunities

- Community Grants Programme offers not-for-profit community organisations the opportunity to apply for funds to assist with the delivery of activities/programs of an artistic, cultural, recreational, sporting or other community related pursuit. This Programme provides grants in an equitable and accountable manner.
- Two (2) rounds were held during 2014/2015, with funding (monetary & in-kind) to the value of \$107,336 allocated to a total of 24 recipients, as listed below:
 

Zara Clark Museum; Free entry for locals	1,500
Family History Association (Mr Jim Callcott); Publishing of Remote Burial Sites Book	5,000

Charters Towers Uniting Church; 2014 Community Carols	1,500
Charters Towers Chamber of Commerce & Mines; 2014 Business Development	5,000
Charters Towers State High School P&C; Delivery of mulch & manure for the Reef Guardian Future Leaders Eco Challenge	300
Charter Towers Christmas Fair Committee; 2014 Christmas Fair	3,000
Isolated Children's Parents' Association; 2014 Pre-Boarding School Workshop	4,000
Excelsior Band; 2014 Running Costs	5,000
Dalrymple Country Music Club; 2014 Dalrymple Country Music Festival	1,000
Fish Stocking Group; 2014 Inland Barra Fishing Classic	1,000
Charters Towers Girl Guides; 2014 Girl Guide Camp & Cent Sale Fundraiser	500
Charters Towers Orchid & Allied Plants Society; 2014 Orchid & Allied Plants Field Day	200
Charters Towers Cricket Association; Masters Bull Twenty-Twenty Competition	5,000
TPAM Show Society; 2014 Charters Towers Annual Show	15,000
Charters Towers Patchwork & Quilting Group Inc; Hire fees for Gold & Beef rooms associated with workshops	1,573
Gold City Country Music Inc; Development of website & waiver of fees for Jamboree	1,000
Charters Towers Chamber of Commerce & Mines Inc; Business development	10,552
Charters Towers & District Pony Club Inc; 2015 PCAQ Jumping Equitation & Showjumping State Championships	13,520
Charters Towers Regional Men's Shed Inc; Building permit fee	632
North Queensland Motor Sports Inc; Development costing & site survey	10,000
Charters Towers RSL Women's Auxiliary; 2015 ANZAC Day Breakfast	600
TPAM Show Society; 2015 Annual Charters Towers Show	9,459
Horse of the North Challenge Inc; 2015 Horse of the North Challenge	10,000
Charters Towers Restorers Club Inc; Charters Towers Motorshow & Swapmeet	2,000

- Funding was received in Round One (1) of the ANZAC Centenary Grant Programme of \$42,500 for the 'Ghosts of our Military Past' Project. This project involved the development of an interacted Web App and mobile technology (landscape guides), and the installation of bar code technology onto bollards that are URL linked to a web page and interactive mapping which can be used to access Charters Towers' WW1 historical content and contribution. The project was launched on Remembrance Day in conjunction with RSL commemorations.
- Funding was received in Round Two (2) of the ANZAC Centenary Grant Programme of \$11,074.39 for the 'WWI Soldiers Honour Board Publications' Project. This Project is a continuation of Charters Towers and Dalrymple Family History Association's project to research and publish information about World War 1 Soldiers whose names appear on the 18 Charters Towers honour boards located throughout this region. Eight (8) books and a CD will be published as part of this Project and will contain the names and dates of over 2,500 soldiers who enlisted from this region. The Project will be acquitted in 2015/2016.



- Exhibitions at World Theatre included outside exhibitions of Eye of the Sahara, Teasing the Domestic, Looking into Leichhardt, Museum Exposed and Yuiart Studio. Council owned exhibitions of Timber and Iron and Council Oils were also displayed.
- Ravenswood Walking Track signage – signs providing details on significant sites and/or buildings of interest have been identified as needing replacement. Quotes were sought for research into each site to facilitate design of each sign, along with quotes for sign manufacturing.
- NQ Sports Foundation, in partnership with Wingate Properties, offered the opportunity for a maximum of two (2) recipients from within the local region to apply for the 2015 Wingate Bursaries, which included a cheque for \$650 to assist with travel costs and a unique embroidered track suit jacket. Two local candidates were chosen from nominations provided to Council, those being Seanne Santo and Hayley Condon. Both candidates received bursaries.
- Agreement with Queensland Music Festival to bring Cooper & Hammond to Charters Towers in July 2015.
- As part of the 'Community Pass' agreement between Museum of Tropical Queensland and Council, an invitation from MTQ was extended to Council to facilitate a Charters Towers display. Discussions were held between Council, MTQ and local organisations of Zara Clark Museum & Charters Towers Archives, with the end result a display entitled 'Gaming, Glass, Goats & Gold'. Good feedback was received, with a request to extend the exhibition accepted.
- In partnership with Metro Arts, a Creative Champion was called for to oversee the creation and implementation of additional activities based around two touring works - Argus & A Library for the End of the World; both of which are to occur in 2015/2016. Rossi Moore was selected for role.
- Local communities of Greenvale, Pentland & Ravenswood surveyed.
- Annual Progress Association meeting held in April at the Excelsior Library to discuss local community issues. Assistance was also given to these Associations throughout the year, along with Grants provided as follows:

Greenvale Progress Association	\$8,600
Hervey Range Community Association	-
Homestead Progress Association	\$7,070
Pentland Progress Association	\$24,000
Ravenswood Restoration & Preservation Association	\$30,935

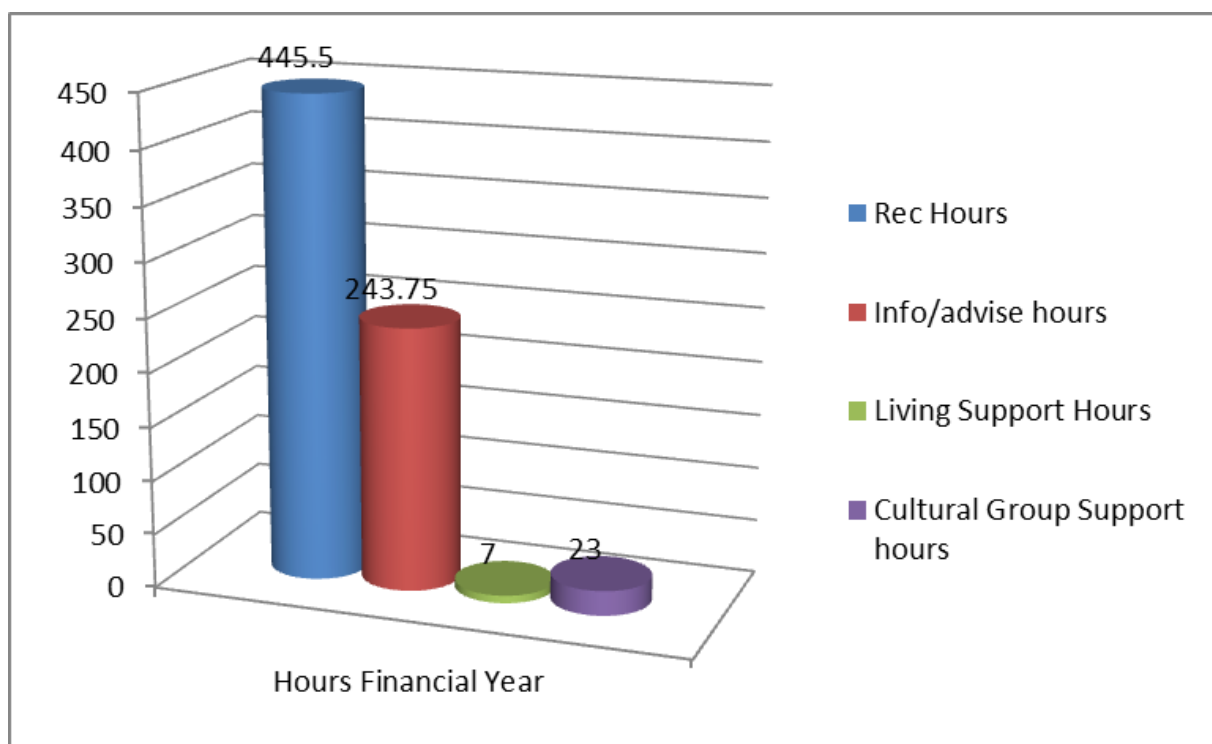
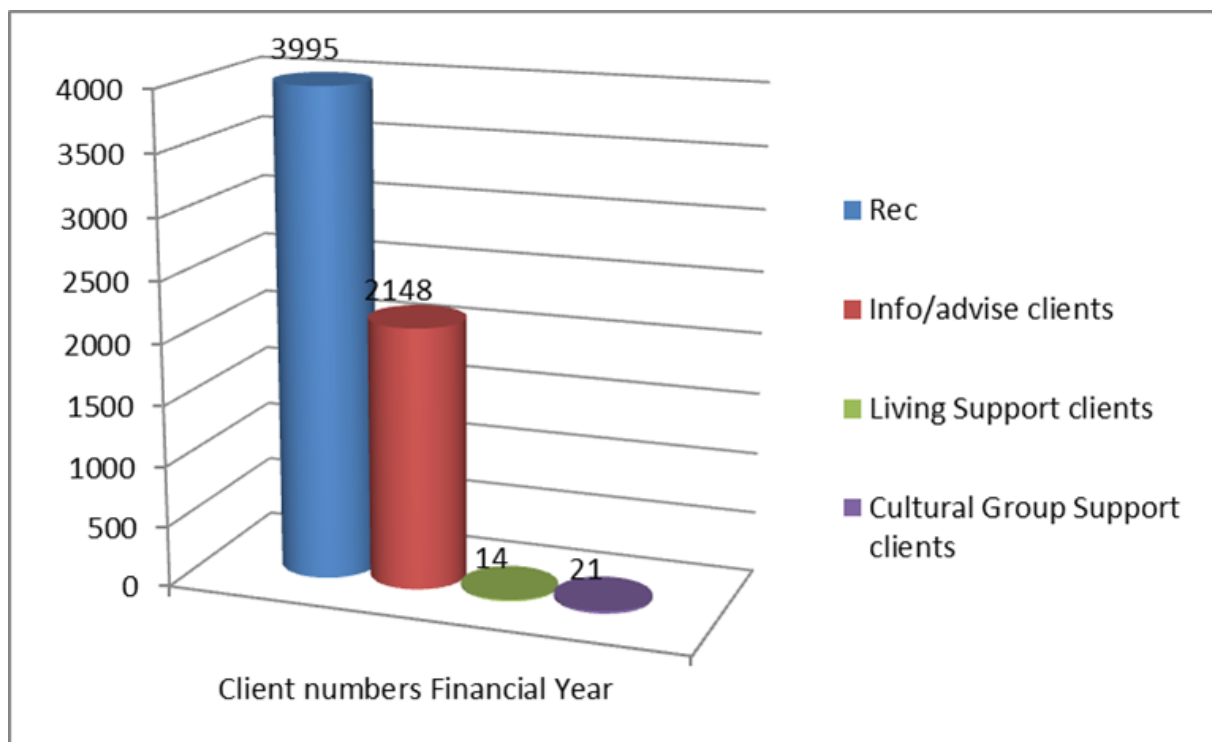
## Youth Services

### *Strengthening the wellbeing of our communities*

Youth Services achieved this objective through the delivery of the Youth At Risk Initiative which provided services which increase young people's participation in the community. Council received funding from the Department of Communities, Children Safety and Disability Services to assist with delivery of the program.

The delivery of this program had four strategic objectives which were:

1. Cultural Group Development
2. Recreation and Leisure
3. General Service Availability : Information, Advice and Referral
4. Living Skills Development



### Strategic Objective 1. Cultural Group Development

Youth Services ran a varied program of activities that sought to enhance the cultural identity of particular community groups through projects such as community days, projects and promoting cultural relevance in mainstream services. Some examples included NAIDOC committee support and Youth Services attendance at school and community ceremonies. Marshalling support for the Healthy Lifestyle Festival and other events to encourage participation of youth at risk in community events, like the Annual Country Music Parade.

These programs encouraged:

- Participation of youth in NAIDOC week celebration.
- Youth to participate in the community.
- Youth engagement and participation in events and events planning.
- Engagement of youth at risk in artistic pursuits with weekly art workshop.
- Engagement of youth in healthy lifestyle festival events and encouraged volunteering.
- Engagement of youth in themed programs.



## Strategic Objective 2. Recreation and Leisure

Youth services supervised & organised diversionary activities, sports, art, music, and technology. Outreaches to small communities of Pentland, Greenvale and Ravenswood occurred twice a year. The service has sought to connect with youth in places where vulnerable young people were congregating, then supported them to participate in community activities and after school hours and school holiday programs. Examples of these programs included Organised Fun days during the school holidays with Jumping Castles and Rock climb wall at Defiance Mill Park and the Art Workshops at Wherry House which were held throughout the year targetting different age groups and using different mediums like clay and collage. This produced social, leisure and arts outcomes through these organised activities. Youth engaged positively in these activities which:

- Engaged youth in recreational activities with their families.
- Engaged at risk children in recreational activities.
- Engaged young people in activities and raised profile of youth in the community.
- Engaged young people and raised awareness of sun safety and hydration, moderation and no pass outs.
- Engaged remote children in recreational activities.
- Engaged youth in the celebration of youth.
- Engaged youth in activity which developed creative expression.
- Encouraged valuing the contribution of grandparents and participation of children and youth with older persons.
- Engaged youth to regular school attendance.
- Encouraged youth awareness of disability and the involvement of disabled youth in recreational activity.



### Strategic Objective 3. General Service availability Information, advice and referral

Provided information, advice referral about local and regional services available to the general public which:

- Engaged young people through soft access point services using the no wrong door approach to service delivery.
- Referred youth 'at risk' to wrap around services.
- Engaged youth to participate as volunteers.
- Engaged parents through raising awareness of the services provided by the Council.
- Developed social and economic development awareness to youth.
- Developed networking relationships key to youth.
- Reported Quarterly to the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.
- Encouraged young mothers to return to education.
- Gathered and distributed information to youth and the community on youth matters.
- Developed key relationships with stake holders.
- Developed key relationships with other council staff members and encouraged collaborative planning.
- Provided services for new residents in town/referral.
- Provided services to specific target groups of young persons including families from non-English speaking backgrounds.
- Promoted young persons to reconnect to parents and family.
- Engaged youth with Centrelink for financial and health care card assistance.
- Strengthened and supported the Charters Towers Regional Youth Network.





#### Strategic Objective 4. Living Skills Development

Providing practical assistance and structure and activities to develop or support the capacity for independent living, social interaction and the use of community facilities. Engage “at risk” children in recreational activities that encouraged development of living skills:

- Engaged children in basic cooking techniques
- Engaged Children and young adults in the festival including volunteering
- Referral of clients to education to further skill and employability
- Provided careers information, Résumés and job application skill development opportunities
- Establish and maintained referral pathways



#### Community Engagements/Partnerships:

The Service has working relationships within the region and actively maintains these partnerships through regular attendance at network meetings and being readily available to meet the needs of young people and other service providers. Through effective communication and partnerships the Service is able to assist and support young people to access services in the community.

The service has engaged with:

- Charters Towers State High School
- Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre
- Alcohol Drug Foundation QLD
- InSTeP Youth Connections
- Queensland Disability Services
- Charters Towers Police Liaison Officers
- Gudjal ATSI Corporation for Justice
- Townsville Youth Justice
- North Queensland TAFE
- Dalrymple Trade Training centre
- Youth Invest Partnership Brokers
- Neato Employment services
- Charters Towers Access Group
- Central State School
- Richmond Hill State School



- Millchester State School
- Soccer Club
- Charters Towers Yarning Circle (in respect of Truancy)
- Circle of Respect (Based at PCYC)
- Jupiter Mossman Community Support Service
- Townsville Department of Justice – Regional Advisor
- Charters Towers Regional Youth Network
- Gudjal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
- Break Thru People Solutions
- NQ Employment
- Job futures



## Library Services

### *Strengthening the wellbeing of our communities*

- Acquired funding from State Library to establish "Best Start" programming to boost programming for under 5s and to provide resources for parents and carers – to help children's early language and literacy development. Four years of practical research and evaluation of family literacy practices in public libraries have been rewarded with this funding, demonstrating a high level of confidence in the ability for State Libraries and Public libraries to work effectively in partnership, to deliver programs proven to improve early literacy.
- Engaged with State Library of Queensland to establish "Best Start" initiative (Now "First Five Forever"). First 5 Forever is a universal family literacy program aimed at supporting stronger language and literacy environments for young children from 0–5 years and their families. First 5 Forever will directly support parents and primary caregivers to be confident as the child's first and most important teacher, and will provide parents with increased access to resources they need through public libraries. First 5 Forever is based on more than four years of consultation, research and pilot programs through the Libraries for Literacy Framework 2. The evidence shows that local libraries, through their targeted programs and services, are well placed to respond to the local needs of children and families.
- Acquired Digital Literacy funding from State Library to establish photographic collections.
- Liaised with Historian Anne Allingham PhD BA in establishing Indigenous Gudjal family photographic collection and Indigenous Book collection.
- Engaged with schools, kindergarten and Daycare facilities in Charters Towers community to introduce First Five Forever, Library Services availability and the RLQ kids only "Green Sheep" membership card. State Library of Queensland has successfully negotiated with famous Australian illustrator Judy Horacek and leading author Mem Fox to use an image from 'Where is the Green Sheep?' on a library card especially designed for kids. The Kids Only campaign will help families with young children in establishing a habit of using their public and school libraries to enhance their learning experience.
- Delivered Children's Activities - 4 School Holiday Period sessions, Regular 'Baby Bounce' and 'Storytime' sessions.
- Improving membership and library attendance through advocacy of Council and State Library Services and collections.
- Delivery/increase of Home Borrowing Service provisions. We currently offer these services once a week to 2 lots of housebound borrowers totalling 36.
- Supporting community groups such as Amnesty, Dalrymple Fishing Stocking Group, Charity Ball, Disability Action Week, Charters Towers Drag Racing Club and Rural Trade Centre by presenting a display for their events/services.
- Engaged with State Library of Queensland to improve and establish industry changes through staff relationships and training requirements.
- Engaged with State Library of Queensland to establish technological development with the introduction of e-services through the RLQ services.
- Evaluated and Improved Regular "Library 2U" Community Library Services to our outer regions such as Greenvale, Pentland and Ravenswood.
- Engaged on regular basis with Progress Associations in smaller communities.
- Engaged with QLD Public Libraries Association to develop a "Professional Placement" initiative.
- Engaged with Indigenous groups in community when showcasing State Library "Tindale" Collection.
- Engaged with Indigenous groups in community when developing "Gudjal Photographic Collection: A Life and History of the aboriginal people".

- Engaged with Cultural groups when providing LOTE, literacy materials and information services.
- Engaged with Townsville Correctional Facility to provide defunct stock.
- Engaged with Local Community Health Services for prospective delivery of library and "First Five Forever".
- Engaged with Gallery Of Modern Art to deliver 4 Holiday programs.
- Engaged with Department of Education & Training to investigate "Abecedarian Approach" for possible inclusion in the "Best Start" programming. The Abecedarian Approach is a combination of teaching and learning enrichment strategies for use in early childhood education settings that is comprised of four key elements: 1) learning games, 2) conversational reading, 3) language priority, and 4) enriched care giving.
- Delivery of Reading Link program - 4 attendees.
- Delivery of "Classics by Candlelight" and Engagement with local thespian group.
- Delivered Invigilation Services to 3 persons.
- Delivery of Adult Literacy Programs (including programs for beginning adult readers and lifelong learning) to 78 persons over 43 sessions.
- Investigated and implemented improved Wi-Fi services.

Type of Membership	2014/15		
	Adult	Young Adult	Junior
Total Regional Membership	2,645	172	1352
New Members	301	44	174
Members withdrawn	15	0	7
Tourist Card Memberships	50		
Total: Temporary Members	4		
Housebound Borrowers	46		
Institutions	12		
Libraries	1		
Staff	9		
STOCK CONTROL	Print Books /Journals/ newspapers	Non-print CDs, DVDs, Electronic Games, Devices	
Items Held	14,274	879	
Acquisitions	389	88	
Withdrawal of Items	2117	57	
Database Subscriptions	2		
CIRCULATION TRANSACTIONS			
Loans	40,669		
Renewals	1,249		
Returns	54,133		

Reservations placed on items	7,128		
Reservations Satisfied	5,473		
Inter-library Loan Request Placed	3,532		
Inter-library Loan Items Received	3,626		
<b>ILL - Requested Items Sent</b>	7,030		
<b>Visitors to the Library</b>	40,983		
<b>Public Access Internet</b>  - Computer Access - Wi-Fi	Terminals	Bookings	Hours
	5	3,692	1,846
	na	744	372
<b>Programs/Public Events</b>	Sessions	Attendees	Hours
	621	4,712	529
<b>Community Visits</b>  - Greenvale - Pentland - Ravenswood - Home/Villa/Eventide	Sessions	Attendees	Book Loans
	4	20	1,080
	4	11	600
	4	8	568
	46	45	4,000
<b>Your Tutor Connections</b> 	Tutorials	Minutes Used	Capacity usage
	39	940	37%
 thecomputerschool.net	0		
<b>Reference Enquiries for Period</b>	1,755		





Holiday fun



Green Sheep Program



BTC students supporting  
First Five Forever



Never too young for Read Up Club



Supporting QLD Cancer Council



Amnesty International Community Display



## Tourism Services

### *Improving our service delivery*

Enhance our Customer Service Practices:

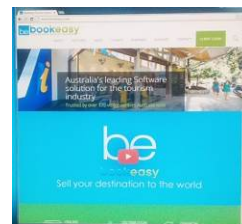
- Professional Development and in-house training - Cert IV Training and Assessment attained by Tourism Manager allowing for more targeted delivery of in-house training of front-line customer service personnel.
- Acquired BookEasy Management System for improved point of sale facility, electronic communication/promotional tool and online facilities.
- CT Showground implemented as an overflow camping/caravan facility with bookings managed in conjunction with Charters Towers town area caravan park operators.



Overflow facility flyer



VIC Volunteers in training



BookEasy Management System

### *Growing our economic base*

Enhance focus on alternative Tourism product including Eco and Agri-Tourism:

- Inclusion in the developing Townsville North Queensland Eco-Tourism Plan.
- Liaise with other regional stakeholders in developing the Regional Townsville North Queensland Destination Tourism Plan and inclusion of Charters Towers assets, attributions and hero experiences in that Plan.
- Develop "What is Eco-Tourism" Fact Sheet - commenced marketing to landowners.
- 2015 Townsville North Queensland Regional Open Day bus tour itinerary inclusion of local property (Virginia Park) promoting agri-tourism ventures in CT region.
- QLD Tourism Infrastructure Fund application submitted for CT Infrastructure project including motivational signage and facilities from the by-pass through to Towers Hill.



Support and encourage continued growth and development of existing small business industry and attraction of new business:

- Supported commencement and growth of three new tour business ventures CT and Ravenswood Ghost Tours, CT Historical Walking Tours and guided short bus tours, L&F Tourism Coach Tours (L&F Mine Transfer Bus Service, Rockhampton). Provided new employment local residents: 1 x FTE, 4 casual positions and additional revenue for three business operations.
- Provide full tour desk service through the Visitor Information Centre for private operators and retail merchandise sales through the Centre's Gift Shop, including locally manufactured craft products. Total sales turnover for the year: \$165,273 represented an increase of 5.04% on the previous year.
- Continue to market Charters Towers' Group Travel and School Excursion business; developed new and branded promotional collateral; acquired up-to-date databases for targeted marketing. Maintained CTCR Tourism staff initiated business levels year-on-year. Additional group travel business was also achieved for the region through encouragement of independent marketing efforts of private operators.
- Communicate professional development opportunities and training for local tourism businesses provided through regional partners via direct email alerts.

General - "Promotion of the attractions in the Charters Towers region"

- Operate the accredited Visitor Information Centre on a 7 day basis attending to a total of approximately 30,000 face-to-face enquiries.
- Top three origins of visitors:  
Domestic: Queensland 13,125 (-9.1% on previous year); NSW 4,928 (-10.9%) VIC 4,526 (+4%).  
International visitor origins remained the same year-on-year being Europe, UK and NZ (in that order) with the combined number of those three regions representing a decrease of -7.7% on the previous year. These three countries represented 10.68% of the total VIC visitor traffic. Visitor

numbers from Japan and Asia remained almost the same year-on-year representing a total of 214 visitors (212 in previous year).

- Supply and distribution of 40,000 copies of Charters Towers Touring Guide locally, regionally, state-wide and nationally through metropolitan consumer trade shows through key partners attending (eg: OQTA, Caravanning Australia) and on-line e-book version for on-line distribution.
- Charters Towers Tourism Map – new edition produced for web and print. Coordinated/ produced by Tourism staff within project cost and revenue budgets.
- Three visitor-focussed Tourism/Holiday expos attended in the Townsville area: Coordinated and attended by Tourism staff in collaboration with CT tourism operators.
  - Developed direct relationships with Brisbane-based TV production companies, publicity consultants and Tourism and Events Queensland publicists encouraging inclusion in programming content, media and journalist famils. Successfully secured an increased exposure including (but not limited to):
    - Queensland Weekender* (TPDmedia) – 3 separate programs broadcast.
    - Creek to Coast* – one program broadcast.
    - The Lucky Country* (KlinicTV) – almost full program (1-hour broadcast nationally)
    - Sunrise TV* – (Channel 7) – live weather crosses (secured through negotiation with OQTA media consultant).
    - Sky News Weather* – (Jessica Braithwaite) incorporated in Townsville segment and social media exposure via Twitter and Instagram.
    - Flight Centre Magazine* – two journalists covered Texas Longhorns, Venus Battery and Towers Hill attractions.
    - RACQ* – Online consumer website/newsletter story with the printed story in consumer magazine yet to be published.
    - Nat Geographic UK* – “Gems in the Outback” social media and print coverage.
    - QLD State-wide inaugural Instameet* – hosted TEQ secured Instagrammer from Tasmania (for Townsville) for half-day CT famil prior for CT content inclusion.
- Involved in the development of the Charters Towers Promotional video by CTRC.
- Attend to Trip Advisor website listings, responding to reviews of Charters Towers VIC and Venus Gold Battery - both listings achieving Certificates of Excellence with 4.5 out of 5 star review ratings.
- Hosted and coordinated the Townsville North Queensland Visitor Information Centres' Volunteer Annual Conference with approximately 100 delegates over 2 days. Conference operating budgets were maintained with external sponsorships secured to assist financial outcomes.

### ***Strengthening the wellbeing of our communities***

Support the development of arts based programs through funds, grants and joint initiatives:

- Worked closely with Ravenswood 2015 Animating Spaces Project Team in the development of three projects and launch event requirements providing advertising and promotional collateral, Council liaison and in-kind assistance, direction, material and cooperative support for electronic and press media and web-based/social media publicity through a variety of media channels.
- Maintained free access for CT residents to Museum of Tropical Queensland (MTQ)
- Provide concessional entry for CT residents to Zara Clark Museum
- Collaborated with Zara Clarke Museum, CT/Dalrymple Archives Group and MTQ staff in presenting a Charters Towers display in the MTQ.

General

- VIC Volunteer Program continued – offering meaningful and valuable contribution by those engaged local residents (approximately 35-40 residents covering all ages and life stages).

### ***Managing our impact on the environment***

Protection of the Natural and built environment:

Adapt to the impacts of Climate Change and reduce Council's energy costs and carbon Footprint:

- Ensure all projects undertaken align and adhere to all Environment and Heritage specifications and legislation – eg: Towers Hill projects, signage installations and development, Venus Gold Battery improvements, Lissner Park World War 1 Heritage Trail development and installation.
- Developed an Environmental Procedures document addressing proactive work practices within the CT VIC and Gift Shop work areas focussing on energy-saving and promoting waste product recycling.

### ***Remaining transparent and accountable***

Maintain membership to regional organisations and attendance at meetings to promote and push local issues. Continue to play a role in the growth of Townsville North Queensland and to a greater extent the development of Northern Australia:

- Continued membership to Regional Tourism Organisations:
  - Townsville Enterprise Ltd – attended various meetings; provided CT input and inclusion into regional tourism plans, promotions and initiatives where available.
- Involved in various TEL conducted initiatives including:
- Member of judging panel for 2014 Townsville North Queensland Annual Regional Tourism Awards – two categories judged and Award night attended.
- Inclusion on Regional Open Day promotion.
- Influenced editorial content of Regional Visitor Guide; provided paid advertising of Charters Towers visitor facilities and attractions.
- Outback Queensland Tourism Association.
- Attended OQTA Annual Symposium event, Charleville.
- Attended pre-Destination Q Forum workshop, Longreach.
- Arranged OQTA Board Member and CEO presentation to Council on the Association's current and future plans, strategies and initiatives.
- Nomination (unsuccessful) of CT Councillor submitted for Board position.
- Contributed additional funds in the Association's 2014-15 application (successful) for Contestable Funds from the State Government for marketing.
- Direct contact via the OQTA admin, management staff and marketing consultants maintained with focus on Charters Towers inclusion on all appropriate activities and initiatives.
- CT Tourism staff attended national Caravanning and Camping Consumer Trade Show cooperative representation of Outback Queensland in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.
- Distribution by OQTA of CT Visitor Guide at all other national trade shows.
- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Association (Overlander's Way Promotions Committee) attendance at all meetings, providing input into all strategic planning and promotional collateral/advertising.
- Great Inland Way (GIW) attendance at all meetings, providing input into all strategic planning for the management and promotion of the touring route including development of the touring route's 5-year living Marketing Plan.
- Caravanning QLD – maintained Membership and inclusion of Charters Towers VIC in print and online promotional publications. Addressed the Townsville/Charters Towers regional meeting of the Association held in Charters Towers.
- QLD Information Centres Assn (QICA) Inclusion of Charters Towers in the QLD VIC app promoting VIC Network and 12 Charters Towers attractions.
- Accredited VIC QLD Network (Visit Queensland) – Desktop and face-to-face Accreditation Audit conducted and renewing of accreditation approved.
- Tourism and Events QLD.
- Liaised with key personnel for suitable inclusion on the "This is Queensland" App launched first half 2015.
- CT VIC selected as one of 62 state-wide locations for installation of "I-Beacon" technology for in-market Smartphone push notification promotion.
- Inclusion in the Queensland Holidays Consumer website and blogs concerning Charters Towers and/or regional online promotions.
- Attended NQ Economic Development Practitioners Network meetings and provided input generally and tourism issues specifically.
- Regions Q Showcase – supply of CT promotional collateral and attendance.
- Department of Tourism, Events and Small Business
- Listed as a case study for the quarterly (December 2014) DTESB Report on the QLD State Drive Strategy.
- Attended the DTESB State Touring Route Forum in Brisbane.
- CT Councillor attended 2014 Destination Q State Forum.
- Department of State Development/Local Government Association Queensland – Collaborated in the delivery of a regional Sustainable Tourism Workshop; attendance by CT Councillor and CTCRC staff, Department of State Development Townsville staff, TEL representative, all other Townsville North Queensland regional local government representation. Outcome determined the development of a regional Ambassador Program and a Service Level Agreement by the Regional Tourism Organisation with associated local government areas.

**Ramon Jayo**  
**Director Planning & Sustainable Development**

## Roads Infrastructure

Director: Cameron Scott

### Highlights from 2014/2015

- Replacement of Grid Bridge over the Burdekin River on the Valley of Lagoons Road
- Culvert Installation over Buchanan Creek at Brisk & East Streets
- Reconstruction of the Rainbow Road Intersection
- Road Reseals in Hervey Range, Pentland, Homestead & Charters Towers
- Form and Sealing of Mafeking and Hulls Roads
- Stabilisation of the Wandovale Jump up on Jessie Springs Road
- Upgrade of Gill Street Pedestrian Crossing
- Installation of Retaining Wall on Hackett Terrace
- Completion of Comprehensive Road Maintenance Programme
- Construction of the Northern Carpark at the Towers Hill Walking Track
- Gill Street Footpath Improvements

### Priorities for 2015/2016

- Road Maintenance Programme to the value of \$4.77 million
- Black Jack Road Form and Seal
- Burdekin Downs Road Form and Seal
- Fletcher Vale Road Reconstruction
- Millchester Road/York Street Intersection Improvement
- Conjuboy Road Stabilisation
- Repair of the Wooden Bridge over Running River on Ewan Road
- Township and Charters Towers Road Reseals
- Boystown Lane Stage Two Form, Seal and Drainage
- Farleigh Crossing on Broughtonview Road
- Rural Road Signage Upgrade
- Millchester School Carpark Upgrade
- York Street Kerb and Channel Realignment
- Disability Access Improvements
- Hackett Terrace Service Road Reconstruction
- Church Street Pedestrian Bridge Replacement
- Hicks Street Drainage Improvement
- Alexandra Road Stage Two Form and Seal
- Tabletop Road Drainage Upgrade (Hervey Range)
- School Zone Signage Upgrade

Roads Infrastructure constructs and maintains the regions network of roads and associated infrastructure, with a commitment to enhancement and prolonging the life of these assets.

### Maintenance

This year Council funded approximately \$7.02 million in maintenance works, these works are a direct result of Council's strategic stance to prolong the life of existing assets. Works included rural and urban road maintenance, footpath maintenance, corner and access improvements along with construction of a retaining wall on Hackett Terrace.



## Capital Works

For this reporting year Council funded approximately \$464,642 in new road works and reseals. Reseals were focused in the Hervey Range and Pentland townships. Within Charters Towers, Hulls and Mafeking Roads were formed and sealed. In the north of the region the Wandovale jump up on the Jessie Springs Road was stabilised to rectify previous overlay and sealing failure. This job was Council betterment on top of previous years flood damage restoration.

## Roads to Recovery (R2R)

The 100% federally funded R2R programme supports maintenance of the nation's local road infrastructure assets, which facilitates greater access with improved safety, economic and social outcomes. For 2014-15 to 2018-19 the Government has provided \$3.2 billion under the programme. For Charters Towers Regional Council this means an additional \$3.93 million over the life of the programme. As Council has recently reviewed and reduced its permanent workforce to address sustainability issues, some of the works funded by this programme will be outsourced. Council has local contractors who have the resources and capacity to undertake these works.

For the 2014-15 year reseals were carried out in Hervey Range, Pentland and Charters Towers. Furthermore, the Rainbow Road intersection reconstruction and Brisk Street culverts over Buchanan Creek also formed part of this programme.



Rainbow Road intersection reconstruction

## Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS)

The 50% state funded and 50% Council funded TIDS programme is aimed at supporting the local transport infrastructure needs of regional, rural and remote communities throughout Queensland. Council completed three key projects in the 2014-15 year with two other projects initiated. Completed projects include the replacement of the grid bridge over the Burdekin River on the Valley of Lagoons Road in the North of the region and installation of a culvert at Buchanan Creek on East Street within the city. Expenditure through the programme equated to \$1.10 million dollars.



Bridge replacement—  
Valley of Lagoons Road

## Road Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC)

Council completed its annual RMPC with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and negotiated a new contract for 2015-16. The RMPC services a total of 867 kilometres of road covering sections of the Flinders Highway to the east and west, Gregory Developmental Road to the north and south in addition to, Burdekin Falls Dam Road, Hervey Range Road and a small section of the Ravenswood to Ayr Road. This contract provides employment for approximately 10 equivalent full-time Roads Infrastructure staff. Approximately \$3.18 million in maintenance works were carried out during the 2014-15 financial year under the RMPC contract.

## Roads Administration

Council has continued its commitment to road safety through its partnership with state departments and community groups as the Road Safety Advisory Committee. Six meetings were held throughout the year with the following road safety initiatives implemented and/or lobbying commenced:

- Lobby for construction of turning/passing lanes at Sellheim.
- Review of speed limits within Charters Towers with the aim of standardising the urban speed limits. This resulted in the reduction of the speed limit from 60km/h to 50km/h on 23 sections of road throughout the urban area.
- Investigation into removing and relaying kerb and channelling from 67 to 69 York Street to enable safe passage in and out of said properties.
- An alternate arrangement for a crossing supervisor to cater for the intake of Year 7 students at Charters Towers State High School. An investigation of the area and consultation with the school resulted in the construction of a drop off zone.
- School zone signage. This project now forms part of Roads Infrastructures programme of works for 2015/16.
- Lobby for state funding to widen single lane sections of Gregory Developmental Road. Preliminary designs have been completed and construction is pending the availability of funding.
- The use of media and social media to engage the community with road safety topics.

Roads Infrastructure undertook a number of improvement initiatives in the 2014-15 year, including:

- The continued provision of an efficient rural maintenance programme for the 2014-15 year. Learnings from adherence to a set programme will yield improved formulation of future rural maintenance programmes.
- A flood study of the Mosman Creek corridor through Charters Towers. This was a joint initiative of Council and the Queensland Government. Following review of the study, Council adopted to allocate funds in the 2016-17 year for design with staged construction over the following two years.



Mosman Creek corridor flood study map

- Permitting and subsequent rectification of grids in the region with 81% of grids permitted. Given the current environmental and economic conditions, rectification of grid defects has been postponed until 2016.
- A review of the Footpath and Road Risk Management Policies. This review incorporated hierarchies to enable repairs, maintenance and capital works to be prioritised and programmed in a rational manner. Following the 12 month inception of the Policies a review will be undertaken to allow for further continuous improvement.
- Completion of initial stages of transition to electronic planning, recording and analysis of maintenance activities were undertaken. The user friendly software will provide an enterprise-wide solution for use in both the field and office environment.
- Submission of Council's renewal application for prequalification with the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The prequalification committee assessed the application and full levels of prequalification were granted to Council for R2 Roadworks and B1 Bridgeworks.

- Installation of the regional welcome signage.



Regional welcome signage

- Preparation of Roads Infrastructure asset management plan.
- Continued accreditation of the Materials Laboratory Facility in the field of construction materials testing.
- Involvement in the local disaster management group with the Director Roads Infrastructure serving as the Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator. Roads Infrastructure and wider Council resources are key components in disaster management and recovery for the region.
- Allocation of rural addressing numbers throughout the region.

### Challenges from 2014/2015

In order to accomplish set targets in the 2014-15 year a number of challenges were faced, including:

- Reduced opportunities for external grant funding.
- Managing community expectations in regard to available Council and external funding.
- Managing customer expectations whilst adhering to programmed works.
- Achieving programmed works with a reduced workforce.

Despite the local challenges, Roads Infrastructure has made meaningful progress with the continued adherence to a set programme of works for maintenance and construction in the 2014-15 year.

Looking forward, the 2015-16 year will be abetted by continued improvement to road risk management processes, ensuing electronic data collection and analysis and scheduling thereof.



Culvert installation - Buchanan Creek at Brisk Street

**Cameron Scott**  
**Director Roads Infrastructure**

## Utilities & Facilities

Director: Marnie Taylor

### Utilities

#### Water

- Prolonged drought conditions continued throughout 2014/2015, however there were only two months (October and November 2014) in which water did not run over the weir, the level of which did not result in a move to Level 1 water restrictions. Given the long term forecasts, it is anticipated that Council will be required to implement water restrictions during 2015/2016.

Council adopted amendments to the Drought Management Plan during the year, which included the modification of trigger points based on the level of the weir. This enables Council to implement water restrictions earlier to provide greater security over future water supplies.

- Council submitted an application for improvements to the Charters Towers water supply by way of the installation of new main from the reservoir at Towers Hill under the Royalties for Regions Round 4 in September 2014. Council was notified in December 2014 that the application was successful, however with the State Election in the new year, there was some uncertainty as to whether the funding would proceed. Funding was confirmed later in the financial year in the amount of \$536,250 and the 2015/2016 budget includes these capital works at a total cost of \$715,000. Council has contracted the services of GHD to commence design works on the main and it is anticipated construction will commence in the first half of the 2015/2016 financial year.



- In November 2014, Council submitted an application for the upgrade to water infrastructure for Charters Towers (based on the Planning Report completed by GHD) to the Federal Government under the National Stronger Regions Fund. Council received confirmation following the delivery of the 2015/2016 federal budget that the application had been approved.

A total of \$8,690,500 (GST exclusive) will be funded by the Federal Government and Council is required to match this amount dollar for dollar. This project will deliver much needed major infrastructure upgrades over the next 3½ years to reticulation mains, reservoirs, water treatment plant and distribution pipelines. Planning is currently underway to deliver the staged project.



**Australian Government**

**Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development**

- Council extracted a total of 5,080 ML from the Charters Towers Weir during the year, which was an increase of almost 11% on the 2013/2014 extraction rates. Council treated and supplied 4,576 ML through FEJ Butcher Water Treatment Plant, an increase of 13% on treated supply in 2013/2014. Of the total water extracted, 429.52 ML was sold as raw water to Evolution Mining under a long standing agreement.



- Total combined treated water supplied to the communities of Ravenswood, Greenvale and Pentland was approximately 314 ML.
- 131 water meters were replaced as part of Council's rolling water meter replacement program.
- 20 new water connections across the region were added during the year.
- Council's customer service levels were met throughout the year.
- During the year, Council entered into a partnership with the Department of Energy and Water Supply to develop the Regional Water Supply Security Assessment. The RWSSA represents a collaborative approach between DEWS and Council to establish a shared understanding of the existing security of Charters Towers' water supply and its capacity to support future growth. This project is expected to be completed during 2015/2016.
- Council is continuing to work with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection regarding the licence conditions for the FEJ Butcher Water Treatment Plant and compliance with same following an inspection. It is anticipated that Council will adopt model conditions for the plant.

## Reticulation

- Capital Works
  - Completion of Duman Road water main replacement
  - Cunningham Estate  
Installed 334m of 100mm water main and installed hydrants and valves for new industrial estate  
Redirected 250m of 32mm water service for roadworks at Cunningham Estate
  - Relocation of reticulation main along Bluff Road (Sam and East Streets) due to realignment of road and new drainage installations.
  - Installed 200m of 32mm water service along McKenzie Lane
  - Commencement of Neylon's Road water main upgrade
  - Commencement of the replacement of the MacPherson Street water main
- Maintenance
  - Charters Towers
    - General maintenance on reticulation system, leaking stop taps, water meters and services
    - Water meter readings
    - Replacement of faulty and stopped meters identified during readings
    - Testing of water meters with excess water readings where required
    - Repair and maintenance of mains
    - Meter installations and relocations
    - Improvements to the water sampling program to ensure better reporting and greater accuracy of test results
    - Hydrant maintenance program - raising of valve and hydrant boxes, locating buried hydrant and valve boxes and replacement of raised pavement markers
    - Testing of backflow prevention devices throughout Charters Towers
    - Flushing and cleaning of dead ends on reticulation system
  - Pentland
    - General operation and maintenance activities on the borefields, reservoir and reticulation mains and services
    - Meter readings and replacements where identified
    - Repairs to rising main
    - Replacement of tank at High Lift Pump
    - Vacuumed water mains for valve installation works
    - Installation of isolating valves

#### Greenvale

- General operation and maintenance activities on the borefield, reservoir and reticulation mains and services
- Meter readings and replacements where identified
- Raising of water meters commenced

#### Ravenswood

- General operation and maintenance activities on the reticulation mains and services
- Meter readings and replacements where identified

### Weir Pump Station

- Replacement of Pump 1 Reflux Valve
- Emergency diesel pump installed at Weir to test run
- Pump No. 1 replaced
- Gantry Crane replaced
- Davit system installed

### Water Treatment Plant

- Installation of acid storage bund at chemical shed
- Southern Cross Reservoir Services completed Towers Hill reservoir cleaning and wet inspection
- Damage sustained to SCADA system as a result of lightning strikes during February 2015. Council claimed insurance for the repairs.

### Sewerage

- 3 new connections
- Council distributed approximately 43% (331 ML) of effluent reuse produced (763 ML) to users on the Effluent Reuse Scheme

Council is continuing to work with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection regarding the licence conditions for the Charters Towers and Greenvale Sewerage Treatment Plants and compliance with same following an inspection. It is anticipated that Council will adopt model conditions for the plants.

### Reticulation

- Capital Works
  - Manhole refurbishment program
  - Cunningham Estate -  
Installed 255m of 150mm sewer, constructed and backfilled 4 manholes for industrial estate expansion
- Maintenance
  - Camera inspection on sewer lines
  - Blockages cleared where identified
  - Inspection and cleaning of sewer pump stations
  - Inspection and cleaning of caravan drop off points
  - Installation of new screens pump

### Sewerage Treatment Plant

- Maintenance
  - Replacement of No. 1 pump with spare
  - Clean up and removal of dead trees in forestry plot
  - Detention tanks drained and cleaned, inspected and returned to service
  - Continual assessment of demand on Effluent Reuse system and adjustments as required

## Facilities

### General

- Maintenance painting attended to at various facilities
- Repairs and maintenance activities at various facilities
- Graffiti removed when identified
- Implementation of Ergon Energy masterkey system for Council sites
- Electricians constructed two camp electrical boards for use at events

### Airports

- Installation of new fuel bowser at refuelling facility at Charters Towers Airport, together with inspection and cleaning of existing tanks. Airfuel Townsville appointed to supply fuel to users under agreement with Council.
- Annual CASA Surveillance inspection – no identified non-conformances
- Staged assessment of Charters Towers 06/24 Runway conducted by Northern Pavement Consultants which included:
  - Falling Weigh Deflectometer Testing Report
  - Structural Remaining Life Report
  - ACN-PCN Assessment Report which recommended adjusting the PCN from 7/F/A/830 (120psi)/U to 8/F/B/830 (120psi)/T
- Council received grant funding under the Regional Aviation Access Programme (RAAP) for Remote Airstrip Upgrade (RAU) Round Two for the following projects:
  - Gravel resheeting of Greenvale Airstrip
  - Installation of solar lighting at Greenvale Airstrip
  - Installation of solar lighting at Pentland Airstrip

The projects have been completed, however there are further works required by Council to clear vegetation around both the Pentland and Greenvale Airstrips to improve the safety when approaching the airstrips. This work will be undertaken during 2015/2016.



Solar lighting at Pentland Airstrip



Illuminated windsock at Greenvale Airstrip

## **Airport Depot**

- Clean up of surplus/unwanted items in preparation for future auction

## **Administration Centre**

- Install LED strip lighting at reception area
- Upgrade lighting in section of office as a result of an audit of lighting

## **Arthur Titley Centre**

- Improvements to sealing of front doors to reduce entry of dust and grit from street
- Plans for new storage sheds commissioned and construction commenced
- Council commissioned an acoustics report for the Arthur Titley Centre to support the application to the Royalties for the Regions Round 4 funding application to address the current issues with acoustics within the building.

## **Cemeteries**

- Concrete spoon drain installed at Charters Towers cemetery

## **Cenotaph**

- Works undertaken to install new monuments commemorating the ANZAC Centenary and replace turf with artificial grass prior to ANZAC Day 2015.
- Application has been submitted refurbish Cenotaph under the Queensland ANZAC Centenary Grants Program Round 3 – Council is yet to be advised of the outcome



Completed Cenotaph prior to ANZAC Day 2015 with new monuments and artificial grass

## **City Hall**

- Installation of additional female toilet

## **Defiance Mill Park Community Centre**

- Installed new path connecting carpark to toilet block for wheelchair access



### **Excelsior Library**

- Lights replaced with LEDs throughout library to enable improved maintenance and energy efficiency
- Insect proofing of Archives storage room
- Air conditioning upgrade for Archives room



Lighting upgrades at Excelsior Library

### **Highway Depot**

- Paved pathway from carpark to staff room replaced with concrete
- Flag poles repaired
- Initial planning undertaken for amalgamation of Airport Depot, Lissner Park Depot and Highway Depot

### **Kennedy Regiment Memorial Pool**

- During Winter shutdown (June/July 2014), replacement of tiles in 50m pool whilst empty
- Concourse repaired to mitigate trip hazards
- Diving blocks (funded by Swimming Club) installed to replace original blocks
- Fabricated and installed shelter for pool cleaner
- Floodlights replaced around 50m pool

## Lissner Park

- Fence repairs around depot and bridge at Church Street
- Repaint Boer War Kiosk
- Repaint Lissner Park office (external)
- Upgrade entrance to Lissner Park office
- External paint of “green” shed at Lissner Park depot
- Conservation management plan produced for Lissner Park



Repaint of Boer War Kiosk

## Old Pumping Station

- Fence around chimney area repaired and alignment adjusted to secure the site

## Residences

- General repairs as required
- Refurbishment of bathroom at Highway Depot residence
- Repairs to front verandah at Highway Depot residence
- Residences 1 & 2 at Water Treatment Plant were tenanted by staff during the year, which provides a presence on site at the WTP
- Install fan to patio area at Richmond Hill residence
- Storm damage sustained to WTP Residence no. 2 which required replacement of a number of light fittings and power points

## Saleyards & Equestrian Centre

- Ablution block at campdraft camping area completed
- Commencement of internal lighting upgrade at Saleyards



New ablution block at campdraft camping area

## SES Depot

- Installed roof between new ablution block
- Sand bund installed
- Fence repaired/replaced
- New kitchen cupboards installed

## Showgrounds

- Disused cattle yards removed prior to annual show by contractor and area tidied up
- Fence installed above retaining wall behind Country Music Shed following removal of yards
- Various works associated with introduction of Overflow Camping at Showgrounds, including supervision by Parks staff, installation of signage, cleaning of toilets and minor repairs
- Internal and external painting of Salatina Hall completed, together with minor repairs being completed
- Old ablution blocks removed by successful tenderer
- New ablution blocks completed



External view of new toilet block at Showgrounds



Internal view of new toilet block at Showgrounds



Salatina Hall internal painting

### Tennis Courts

- Drainage improvement report provided by Flanagan Consulting to assist with application to upgrade Tennis Courts under Get Playing Plus initiative from the Department of Sport and Recreation.

### Towers Hill Walking Track

- Anti-slip coating applied to feature sections of walking track following reports of minor slips
- Commencement of construction of southern carpark at walking track

### Vandalism

- Repairs to property as a result of vandalism and other damage cost approximately \$18,000 during 2014/2015 compared to costs in 2013/2014 of approximately \$53,000. The installation of CCTV throughout the CBD area may have contributed to the significant reduction in vandalism and willful damage events.

### Water Treatment Plant

- General repairs to perimeter fence

### Wheeler's House

- Installed storage/work shed at rear for use by St Vincent de Paul Society (50% contribution to Council for the works)



New shed at Wheeler's House



## World Theatre

- Ongoing repairs to seating throughout cinemas and auditorium in conjunction with local upholsterer
- Replacement of flag pole at front due to damaged sustained by unknown vehicle
- Fire retardant treatment to curtains – valid until February 2020
- Replace fire control panel

## Parks

### General

- Airport Depot clean up works in preparation of LGW audit
- Assist with litter collection at Stubley Street Landfill
- Community Services Program – participants have provided assistance with cleaning of old rubbish dump area and parks
- Tree trimming, stump grinding and problem tree removal as required, initially by Council staff and then a contractor after the departure of tree pruning staff following the voluntary redundancy process
- Street spraying as required
- Slashing as required
- Carry out annual bulk litter collection from various properties/locations on behalf of Planning and Sustainable Development
- Monthly washing of Gill and Mosman Street footpaths and roadways in CBD area in conjunction with Road Infrastructure

### Cemetery

- Completion of new garden bed at Charters Towers Cemetery
- Establishment of new lawn cemetery section
- Resealing of internal Charters Towers Cemetery roads – stage 1
- Burials – 57, Ashes – 5

### Centenary Park

- Installation of 2 light poles with LED lights

### Lissner Park

- “Flying Fox” playground equipment removed from site following a safety inspection
- Rubber soft fall around swings removed due to deterioration, with certified sand being installed
- Ponds in fern house resealed for refilling and returning of features to operation

## Townships

### Ravenswood

- Repairs to various facilities as required
- Refurbishment of fence around Caretaker’s accommodation at Recreation Reserve
- Repairs (new doors and ceiling repairs) carried out to Church to prepare for repainting of the building
- Fabricated and installed shelter for pool cleaner
- Repainting of internal walls of public toilets
- Parks provided labour to clear vegetation from walking trails at Ravenswood and install gravel on paths
- Clear roof sheeting replaced on ablution block at Recreation Reserve and other minor repairs
- Repairs to heritage windmill carried out – now operational

- Repair roof guttering at Ambulance Building and install concrete retaining wall at rear
- Recreation Reserve - Install RCDs on all power “mushrooms” and replaced all broken outlets. Facility now covered by RCD protection.
- School of Arts - Timber repairs carried out and full exterior painting of building completed.



Front view of School of Arts after repainting



Front view of Ravenswood Church after repainting



Rear view of School of Arts after repainting



Church window following repair work and painting



Vegetation clearance and tracks at Ravenswood walking trails

## Pentland

- Repairs to various facilities as required
- Repainting of various facilities
- Repairing of fences at pool and depot
- Fabricated and installed shelter for pool cleaner
- Installation of shower cubicle in disability toilet at Race Club
- Wading pool returned to operation
- Safety improvements at Pool pump house
- Fencing around cemetery replaced to secure the site from stock
- Installation of clear sheeting on roof of public toilets to improve natural lighting
- Install hand/protection rail around/over concrete nib wall
- Installation of concrete pads for plumbers at highlift pumps at Cape River

## Greenvale

- Repairs to various facilities as required
- Removal of large palm trees from around pool to attenuate risks of falling fronds and to stop seeds from palms falling into pool and blocking filtration system
- Fabricated and installed shelter for pool cleaner
- Replaced Community Hall roof
- Made adjustments to Community Hall kitchen to enable dishwasher to be installed
- Relocate surplus shelter from Recreation Reserve to Landfill for supervisor use
- Installed shelter over bore pump equipment at Burdekin River bore pump site

## Homestead

- Installation of clear sheeting on roof of toilet block to improve natural light

## Balfes Creek

- Installation of clear sheeting on roof of toilet block to improve natural light

## Other Locations

### Fletcher Creek

- Damaged bollards along creek replaced with steel pipe and concreted in
- Replace broken mirrors in toilet block

## Projects & Grant Applications

### Charters Towers CCTV Network - Stage 2

- Council received approval under the Local Government Grants and Subsidy Program Infrastructure Subsidy Project 2014-2015, administered by the Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience, to install a CCTV monitoring system at identified crime hot spots within Charters Towers to expand the existing CCTV network to prevent, monitor and report criminal activity. The project was delivered under budget and on time, with additional locations due to cost savings. The expansion of the CCTV network coverage has benefited the community through a feeling of improved personal safety in the surveillance areas. Furthermore, the upgraded CCTV network acts as a deterrent of potential offences of property and/or personal damage. Council has identified a significant downturn in expenditure associated with vandalism since the installation of the first stage of the CCTV network in 2013/2014.

The sites now covered by CCTV include:

- Stage 1
  - Wherry House
  - Excelsior Library
  - Defiance Mill Park
- Stage 2
  - Visitor Information Centre
  - Arthur Titley Centre
  - Police Station
  - Wheeler's House
  - Tennis Courts
  - Administration Centre
  - Charters Towers Airport
  - Showgrounds



CCTV Camera outside Visitor Information Centre





CCTV Camera outside Police Station



CCTV Camera outside Arthur Tittley Centre



CCTV Camera outside Administration Centre

#### Mobile Graffiti prevention equipment – CCTV Trailer mounted camera

- Council received approval under the GraffitiSTOP Clean Up Program 2014-2015, administered by the Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience, for the purchase and deployment of a purpose built, solar-powered mobile CCTV security camera system, mounted on a trailer to be used to monitor and deter acts of graffiti at known or evolving graffiti hot spots.

The CCTV trailer mounted camera has enabled Council to provide a deterrent of potential offences against property and/or personal damage; reducing the associated clean up cost and assisting in making the community feeling safer.





Mobile CCTV Trailer mounted camera

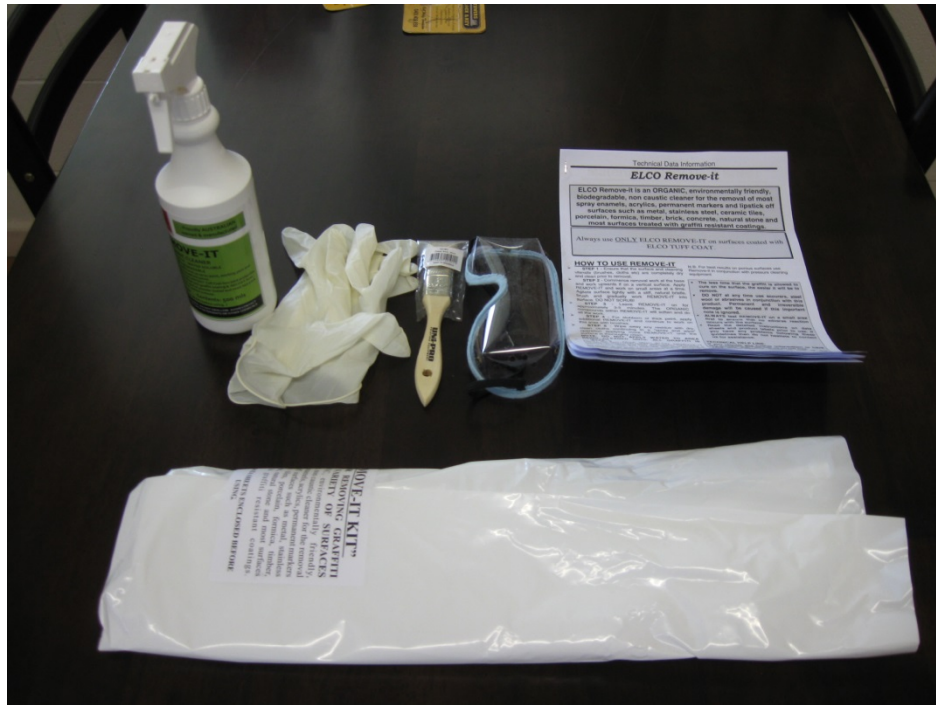
### GraffitiSTOP Kits

- Council was allocated funds from the Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience to support additional graffiti management activities through the removal and prevention of graffiti activities.

Council allocated funds to the following activities:

- The removal of graffiti on Council owned assets
- Purchase of specialised graffiti remover
- Purchase of graffiti removal kits for distribution to community organisations and staff.





Graffiti removal kit

#### Acoustics improvements ATC – Royalties for Regions Round 4

- Council submitted an application for funding to the Department of State Development under the Royalties for Regions Round 4 for the upgrade of the Arthur Titley Centre to address current acoustics problems within the building. Council was unsuccessful in obtaining the funding, however the report produced by PDT will provide a reference for future upgrade works or potential grant funding applications.

#### Get Playing Plus – Tennis Courts upgrade and Parkour facility

- Council submitted an application for funding to the Department of Sport and Recreation under the Get Playing Plus initiative for the upgrade of the Tennis Courts playing surface and drainage works and a Parkour facility at the Skate Park. Council was unsuccessful in obtaining the funding. It is intended to reapply for the works at the Tennis Courts in the event further funding is released in future years.

#### Levels of Service

- A service review was undertaken across Council. A review of 18 various services supplied by Utilities and Facilities was carried out, which has resulted in a number of recommendations. At this stage no significant changes to service delivery have resulted from the review, however there is ongoing assessment of the current services provided to identify where efficiencies can be gained with minimal impact to the community.

#### Voluntary Redundancies

- Through the voluntary redundancy process, 11 staff from the Utilities and Facilities Directorate, left the organisation. The staff were predominantly from the Parks and Building sections. Various adjustments to work practices and procedures have been implemented since the departure of these staff members, however every effort has been made to ensure that there is no interruption to the delivery of service to the community.

## Tropical Energy Audit

- Council contracted the services of Tropical Energy Solutions to undertake an energy audit of 20 of Council's sites with the highest energy usage. A tariff analysis was also undertaken over all 88 electricity accounts of Council. Various recommendations have been provided to Council, which include, but are not limited to replacement of lights with LED fittings, changes to various tariffs depending on usage at the sites, reduction in the number of fridges and hot water systems within Council facilities and the future installation of solar systems to facilitate the reduction of energy usage. Steps are currently underway to implement the various recommendations, however the implementation comes at a cost to Council and needs to be funded over a number of financial years.

## HACC

Council resolved to cease the provision of Home and Community Care (HACC) services upon the expiration of the Service Agreement which expired on 30 June 2015. As a result, two local service providers were allocated the existing clients from Council as follows:

- Warringnu Home Care Services were transferred all under 65 clients (17 in total)
- Warringnu Home Care Services were transferred 50% of over 65 clients (65 in total)
- Bluecare were transferred 50% of over 65 clients (66 in total)

## HACC Budget

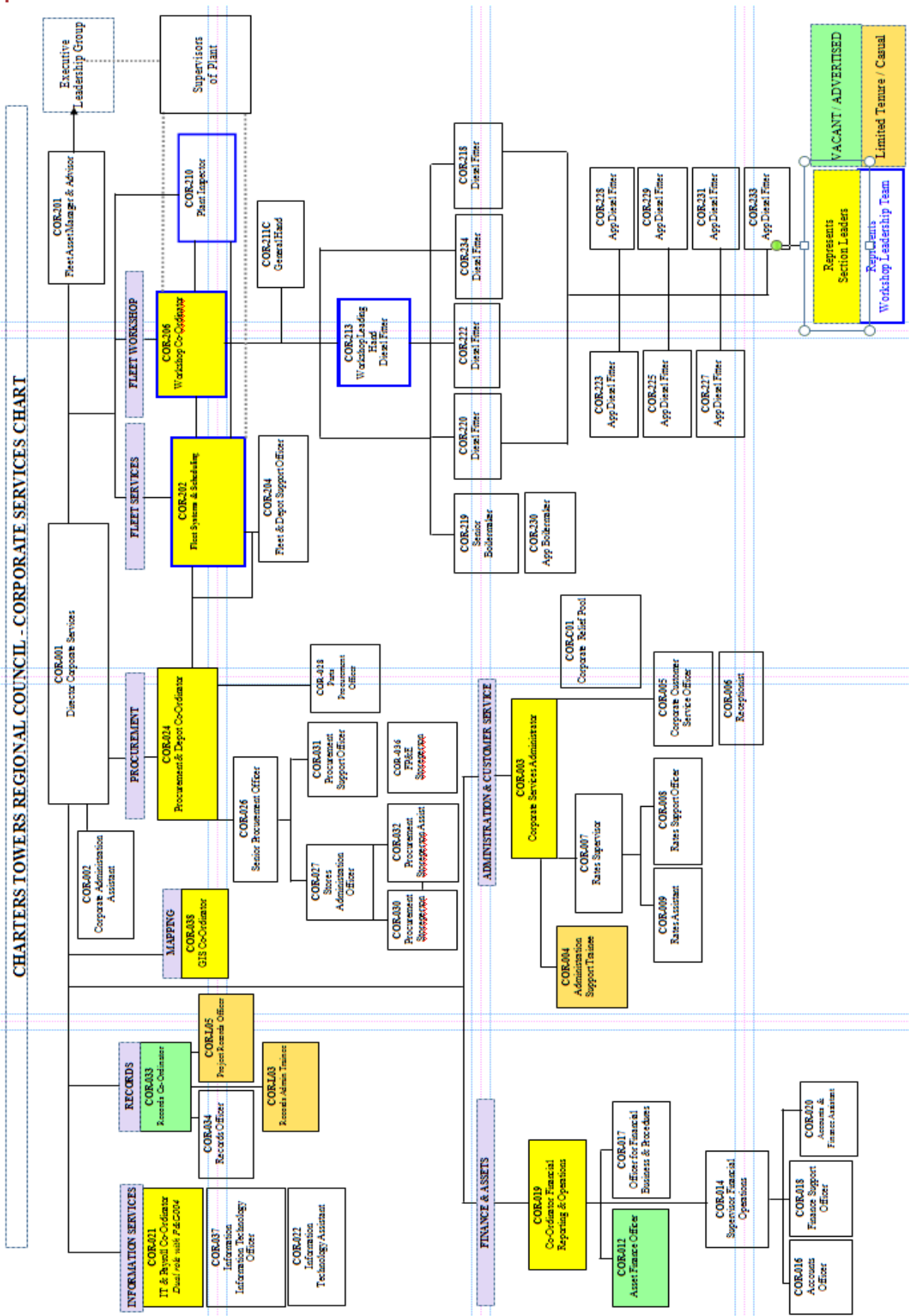
- The 2014/2015 Budget was \$124,724; \$108,282 was allocated to services to clients over 65yrs funded by the Commonwealth Government and \$16,442 was allocated to clients under 65yrs funded by the State Government.
- Council was funded \$35 for each service hour, delivered to 131 clients over 65yrs and 17 clients under 65yrs, per month.



**Marnie Taylor**  
**Director Utilities & Facilities**



## Corporate Services Chart



## Corporate Services

**Director: Tammy Power**

Many functions within Corporate Services are centralised services designed to horizontally serve the other Directorates and the Office of the CEO, allowing them to focus on their core functions which directly serve the Community. There are seven primary areas within the Directorate, and a brief summary has been prepared by each section.

### Administration Services

2014/2015 has been a year of finalising a number of initiatives and the continuation of identifying improvements for work processes, to ensure that a high level of service is provided.

#### Customer Service

Final stages to the pilot program commenced in 2012/2013 for our Customer Service area completed with the implementation of Council's Customer Service Charter & Customer Service Survey.

Also, Scripting documentation distributed across Council's Customer Service areas providing information to enable Staff to have a unified and consistent approach to the delivery of information to enhance the provision of 'exceptional service'.

Additionally, through our regular staff meetings, feedback and collaborative discussions about operational matters we identify issues that may need addressing and utilise such meetings as an avenue for channelling and actioning information.

#### Rating

2014/2015 was the second year under the new Differential Rating Categories, and the methodology of all properties rated based on their valuation as handed down by the State Government, with no capping or remissions, is proving to be achieving the required consistency and equity.

With the continuation of severe drought, Council again offered special payment terms for Rural Declared Properties between Rate Categories 230 and 265.

#### Service Reviews

At the end of 2014 a Service Review of the Administration & Customer Service Section was completed and suggestions for improvements provided. To mention a few provided in the report as follows:

- Current telephone system limitations after hours messaging service
- Electronic form option for Customer Service Requests instead of the current book format requirement
- Rate Instalment Arrangements process reviewed to streamline processes for Council and Customers

#### Relief Pool

Throughout the year, members of the Relief Pool have been a tremendous support in providing backfill in a variety of roles across Council, maintaining stability in day to day operations.

#### Training and Personnel Development

Administration Services employed our 8<sup>th</sup> Trainee Administration Support Officer, since 2008, under Council's twelve month traineeship program.

A most rewarding opportunity was made available to Staff to participate in the LGMA Qld Rural Management Challenge that was conducted in November 2014. Pre-Challenge tasks were required and Teams worked together to complete specific tasks & Report prior to the Challenge Day. Administration Services had a representative in the Team, in which feedback on the experience has been provided below.

Report provided by Customer Service Officer Liz Sullivan:

*I had the opportunity to represent Council and participate in the LGMA Rural Management Challenge which was held in Port Douglas in Nov 2014, where we achieved success that led us to the Management Challenge in Brisbane in March 2015.*

*The LGMA Queensland Rural Management Challenge is a professional development activity. Teams are given a number of specific business-related tasks and activities to complete. They are also required to deal with and respond to a number of simulated situations and scenarios. These scenarios relate to various business and management themes, as well as to the specific local government business environment.*

*Members of our team were from four different directorates which certainly added a diverse knowledge base that I believe lead to our successful outcome. Working with Council staff that you would not normally have the opportunity to do so, was the highlight for me. I would encourage anyone to take part if you get the chance, as it is also a great self-development tool.*



Members of the Management Challenge Team  
(David Fletcher, Liz Sullivan, Tracey Almond, Nikki Urquhart, Dallis Von Wald & Ashley Blokland)

Throughout the year, a variety of training sessions were conducted and attended by Administration Services Staff to enhance skill sets, and be provided up to date training relevant and vital to support roles and responsibilities:

- Safety Re-Induction Training
- Take 5 Safety Training
- WH&S Hazard Alert Form Training
- Guardian Training (CTRC Disaster Management)
- Uniting Care Community – Telephone Skills in Tough Times Workshop
- Annual Refresher Training Take 5's
- TP Human Capital – Dealing with Difficult Conversations
- iCase Complaints Management System Training
- Mental Health Month Seminar
- LGMA Qld - Report Writing Workshop
- Ashdale Workplace Solutions – Investigation Training Workshop
- People & Culture - Manager & Supervisor Workshops

### In Closing

The aim of continual improvement and learning within Administration Services has been achieved and throughout the year Council's objectives have been attained.

## Financial Services

Throughout 2014-2015 the Financial Services team, consisting of six staff, performed consistently to facilitate the financial operations and reporting needs across the functions of council. Operational demands are those required on a daily basis; bank reconciliation, accounts payable and receivable, corporate purchasing card reconciliations, month end balancing and cost allocation enquiries. Additionally, financial reporting involves production of fortnightly expenditure and revenue reports, completion of grant acquittals, compliance monitoring and reporting, constant budget monitoring teamed with monthly budget variance analysis and councils yearly financial statements.

Council again achieved an Unqualified Audit Opinion from the Queensland Audit Office for the 2014-2015 financial statements. This confirms the consistent standard of financial management and procedures delivered by the financial services team and upheld by staff across Council through ensuring the spending of community funds is accountable and focused on sustainability.

At the end of 2014-2015 Council paid the final instalment of a 10 year plant replacement loan held with Queensland Treasury Corporation. Council's borrowings are now currently nil.

### Assets

The strategic and long term management of Council's assets has continued throughout the year. This involves all relevant Council functions to bring together specialised knowledge in the areas of:

- Land
- Buildings & Structures
- Plant Fleet
- Equipment
- City Roads and Drainage
- Rural Roads
- Water Infrastructure and
- Sewerage Infrastructure

A combination of factors saw changes in the way infrastructure asset valuations are reported. Combined with a change in staff, and a change in external asset valuers, this aspect was quite challenging this year. However, the process has presented opportunities to improve controls in respect to asset management, and this is an important gain towards Council's overall financial sustainability, considering that Council's assets are valued at \$618 million.



## Procurement & Highway Depot

### SCI QUAL and LGW Audits

Continual improvement has been made in regards to the requirements under both auditing regimes. Some of these improvements have been;

- Implementation of visitor inductions at the Highway Depot.
- Painting of walkways within the workshop (stage one).
- Implementation of the Chemaalert software program to maintain Council's chemical register, safety data sheets and assist with storage requirements.
- Progressive improvements with housekeeping and general safety awareness at the Highway depot.
- Completion of a spill control audit and upgrade of spill control kits.
- Tender and Quotation documents have been revamped to include strengthen branding and WHS requirements.

### Stores

Over the 14/15 financial year the remaining stock items located at the Airport Depot Store were relocated to the Highway Depot Store. This has assisted with greater stock control and housekeeping assuring Council's resources are utilised and maintained in the most efficient way possible.

### Stock Levels

Stock levels and inventory continue to be monitored to ensure Council is not committing financial resources unnecessarily. Investigations are under way with identifying goods that are utilised by various Council areas and identifying where possible savings can be made by accumulating these purchases through a centralised stores area, therefore minimising the need for individual areas to carry excessive emergency stock.

### Advertised Tenders and Quotes

The following tenders, quotes and expressions of interests were advertised during the 2014/2015 financial year

Tenders	Expressions of Interests	Advertised Quotations	
		Q007/14	Security Services - Council Facilities
		Q008/14	Provision of Washroom Services
T006/14			Mulching of Green Waste – Stubley Street Landfill
T011/14			Register of Pre-Qualified Suppliers for Crushing/Screening of Materials
T012/14			Register of Preferred Suppliers for Wet and Dry Hire of Plant
T013/14			Register of Preferred Suppliers - Provision of Slashing and Associated Services for RMPC
	E002/14		EOI - Slashing & Baling of Grass on Council Reserves
		Q001/15	Supply & Delivery of CCTV mounted to Trailer
	E001/15		Council Catering Services
	E002/15		Management of World Theatre
		Q002/15	Preparation of Environmental Impact study
		Q003/15	Injury Management General Practitioner (GP)
		Q004/15	Alcohol & Drug Testing
		Q005/15	Revaluation of Water & Sewerage Infrastructure Assets
T002/15			Disposal of Plant 2015
		Q006/15	One 12,000L Water Tank
		Q007/15	One 30,000L Semi Trailer Water Tanker
		Q008/15	One Wheeled Skid Steer Loader
		Q009/15	Five Mowers
	E003/15		Provision of Animal Impoundment Facility

### Plant disposal (Tender T002/15)

Public tenders were called for the disposal of surplus plant and equipment which resulted in the following statistics.

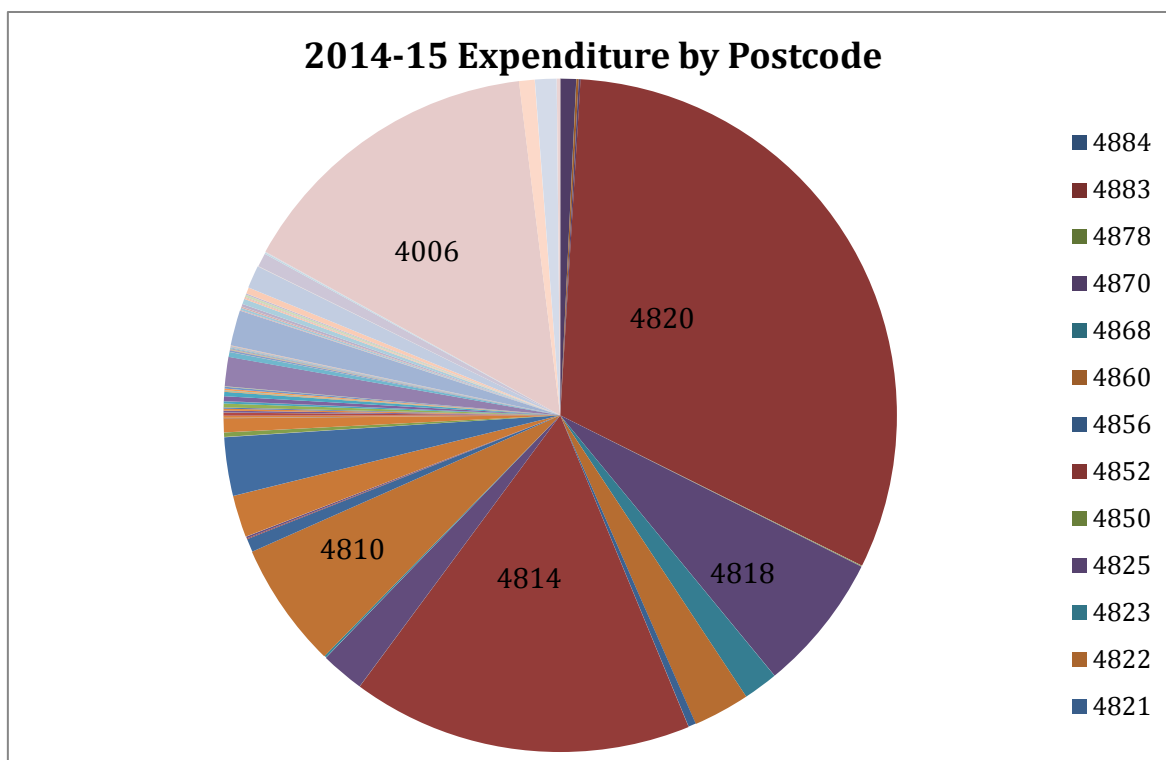
- Approximately 150 individuals requested documentation.
- 3650 people viewed Council's Facebook page in relation to this tender.
- Council received 2767 visits on its web page in relation to this tender.
- 445 individual submissions were received.



The public tender process proved successful in that the combined offers exceeded budget expectations.

### Buying Local

A number of local businesses have taken the opportunity to discuss the products and services they offer and these opportunities to support local business are encouraged and welcomed. A graph is included below to show the distribution of Charters Towers Regional Council spending, via the issue of purchase orders, throughout Queensland's regions. Certain services can only be procured from other regions within Queensland due to the nature of the service. An example of these would be electricity, insurance, vehicle registrations etc. A point worth noting is with the conclusion of flood money at the end of June 2014, along with the reduced funding from both State and Federal Governments, came a sudden decline in the amount of money injected into the Charters Towers economy. Funding from both tiers of Government flows through to local contractors and businesses indirectly through Charters Towers Regional Council contracts. Excluded data in the graph below, is spend via corporate credit cards. This data has been excluded due to reporting functionality allowing a breakdown of credit card transactions via post code not being available. This being said, a substantial proportion of these transactions are made within Charters Towers.



## Fleet Services

Work commenced during the 14/15 financial year towards right sizing Council's plant fleet based on the changing needs of the organisation. While further assessment will progressively take place, 67 items were identified for disposal. 63 were disposed via public tender, while 4, having not met the expected reserve, will be reoffered next financial year.

With a reduced fleet that is better balanced to meet operational requirements, Council anticipates that plant utilisation rates will improve on remaining plant, while the overall operational financial position for fleet services should improve with less operational and maintenance costs on under-utilised plant.

The Navman Wireless Vehicle Tracking System was introduced during the 13/14 financial year, and has been installed in just under 60 pieces of plant. The system continues to assist with risk prevention, by knowing where plant and staff are located, especially when travelling long distances to and from rural locations; while also providing a better understanding of each plant's utilisation.

In respect to recording plant hire, a two tier methodology has been used, but this method was found to be complicated and did not result in consistent records. During this financial year, a single tier methodology was developed. Plant was reviewed, and 'target utilisation hours' were set for each item which enabled new hire rates to be applied. The new methodology will commence at the beginning of the 15/16 financial year.

This financial year saw the retirement of the Workshop Coordinator after eleven years with Council, while Fleet Services saw the voluntary redundancy approval granted to three members of fleet services; two workshop employees and one fleet services administration officer. Together with the reduction in plant fleet, the above staff departures resulted in a restructure within the workshop. This has resulted in a review of processes, which is still ongoing, yet proving to be moving to fresh ideas and efficiencies.

A positive impact on the restructure was the earlier establishment of a new position of Plant Inspector. This position has allowed preventative maintenance to step up a notch, by the introduction of a program for Risk Assessments, channelled through a cloud based data base, together with improved structure around a program of Technical Inspections. This position is also responsible to undertake independent inspections, against job cards, of plant exiting the Workshop, prior to release; all adding together to greatly improve preventative maintenance.

## Information Technology

### Administration Centre

Council's server hardware and disk storage was at end of life after reaching almost seven (7) years operation and required replacement in this financial year. The old hardware was replaced by new server hardware, disk storage and network switches to provide updated technology which gives better and faster access to council's data. This upgrade also provided more data capacity and better disaster recovery by having a server and disk storage located at City Hall and connected via a fibre optic cable. In the event of a system failure at the Administration Centre the system could be run from City Hall until the problem could be rectified. The new hardware was ordered in September 2014 and received in October 2014. This upgrade and installation was performed by council's IT staff and was configured, tested and deployed in early December 2014 with no interruption to council's normal business operations.

An additional air conditioner was installed in the server room due to the currently installed air conditioning units failing and unable to keep the room at the temperature required to cool the server hardware. This was highlighted when a unit failed and the main air conditioning unit's shut down timer cut in after normal business hours and had to be manually started during the night because of the override timer only running for four hours after being manually started.

## **Security Camera Installations**

There were security cameras installed at the front of the Administration Centre, Visitor Information Centre, Arthur Titley Centre, Police Station, Wheeler's House, Show Grounds and the Airport Hanger near the terminal building. This involved some work by contractors to do cabling and mounting of cameras in a couple of locations and additional cable runs on the Towers Hill communications tower to allow more wireless radio links to be installed. The rest of the work requiring some cabling, installation of wireless radio links and mounting of cameras was performed by council's IT staff with some assistance from the building staff and electricians. The configuration and connection to network and software was also done by council's IT staff. A laptop was also configured and supplied to the Charters Towers Police to allow real time monitoring of the CCTV cameras with the ability to export footage at any time for the purpose of investigations without having to request and wait for IT staff to extract and forward footage to the police. A new addition to the CCTV security system is the purchase of a mobile security camera trailer that is fully operational and can be deployed to any location. This trailer can be connected to the council network via wireless radio connection or 3G/4G mobile phone network connection to the internet to be remotely monitored. The trailer is powered by on board battery and charged by solar panel fitted to the trailer.

## **Saleyards**

Further improvement to the saleyards network cabling was performed by a contractor to extend the existing fibre optic cable from the middle scale house to the back scale house. This will remove another wireless radio link and will provide a faster and more reliable network connection to the saleyards server. The computer hardware was replaced with new hardware in readiness for the deployment of new saleyards software. This cable upgrade and hardware upgrade will optimise the use of new saleyards software being installed to replace old software currently being used. The new software was installed later in the year for testing and will be deployed early in the new year when testing has been completed.

## **Other work**

Other work performed by IT staff during the year includes:

- Network configurations changes to allow for Public WiFi at the library and Visitor Information Centre,
- Upgrade of server operating system and migration of software for council's email system.
- Upgrade of other servers to newer operating systems and upgrade of other software packages to comply with operating system changes.

## **Hardware Replacements**

The replacement of PCs and laptops was extended from three years to a four year scheduled replacement to reduce the costs of replacements and optimise the use of existing hardware. There have also been repairs and maintenance on hardware such as PCs and Laptops, printers, wireless radio network hardware and other network related devices as required. Mobile phones, other mobile devices and satellite phone purchases, repairs and replacements are also attended to as part of IT hardware maintenance.

## **IT HelpDesk**

IT requests are an important part of the IT operations, and the helpdesk is resourced inhouse, with only limited contracted assistance. The requests are monitored throughout each day and are dealt with on a priority basis; as soon as possible; so as to keep 'downtime' and/or 'disruption' to a minimum.

## **Regional Computer Reliability**

Central Server hardware and software is continually monitored to ensure Council has a reliable and stable system, with downtime during normal business hours limited to emergent and unavoidable outages. Council has completed the steps to be 100% self-sufficient relative to AC Power to the central server, and all operations within the Administration Centre, by installing a generator large enough to run the entire Administration complex when 'mains power' is unavailable. The setup is now fully operational and will 'self-start' within one minute of main's power being lost. The generator is started and run every three months to power the Administration Centre from 6:00am to 5:00pm to ensure the generator is operational.



## Mapping Services

Geographic Information Systems, commonly referred to as GIS, is the description given to define the creation, development, management and dissemination of spatial information. While being an approved position within the initial 2008 regional council organisational structure, the position of GIS Coordinator within Charters Towers Regional Council was newly appointed this year, in February, 2015, and positioned under the Corporate Services Directorate. This position is responsible for the provision of spatial products and services to Council and the community.

The main aim during the 2014-15 financial year was to understand the existing GIS platforms and workflows within the organisation, and offer recommendations to the future direction of GIS within the Council. The outcome resulted in a change to the GIS platform to enable an improved service delivery, and to align with a number of other adjacent and regional Government entities. Some of the immediate benefits from adopting the change saw efficiencies gained in the process of installing rural addressing, and an increase in mapped accuracy for licencing requirements.

The aims moving into the 2015-16 financial year include:

- Review of the currently mapped road network.
- Develop workflows to capture, review and maintain the locational and attribute information pertaining to the water and sewer networks.
- Develop workflows to capture, review and maintain the locational data, and attribute information that may assist each facilities workgroup. Items may include Parks and Building assets.
- Review and advance the accessibility of spatial information to Council and the community.

## Records

The last few months of the reporting year has seen this section in caretaker mode following the Coordinator position becoming vacant.

Meanwhile, quality record services have continued while also seeing operational improvements in respect to document disposal, decentralised registrations for bulk records such as Take 5 Questionnaires, improved processes for capturing outgoing correspondence and the implementation of improved scanning software known as Trapeze.

The section again supported a trainee, resulting in the opportunity for the trainee to gain exposure and onsite learning in respect to record management and other administration functions; whilst also acquiring a Tafe certification.

Council has a Records User Group, made up of key users from across Council, involved in regular usage of Council's electronic records platform. In the later part of the reporting year, regular meetings have again taken place, with a commitment for this to continue. These meetings prove to be an effective way to share ideas and recommendations or ask questions, while also enabling the Key Users to take information back to their section, and provide decentralised support.

## Financial Statements

### Audited Financial Statements

Many months go into undertaking the processes which combine to compile the figures disclosed in Council's Annual Audited Financial Statements. In addition to Council resources, Contract Auditors, employed by the Queensland Audit Office spend approximately 10 weeks of working hours auditing Council's financial management and asset management practices; as well as confirming the accuracy of the reported movement and final year-end position. During 2014/2015 these hours were undertaken by three auditors investing two weeks in the first quarter of the calendar year and two auditors investing a further two weeks in the final quarter.

The following 2014/2015 Financial Statements received are a very clean and positive audit recommendation from the Queensland Audit Office, and this is a credit to the dedicated effort of many staff across Council who work within their allocated budgets and are committed to adhering to sound and compliant financial management principles; together with the dedicated finance project team responsible for bringing the statements together. Thank you to each and everyone involved.

### Community Financial Report

Following the Audited Financial Statements, Council has developed a Community Financial Report aimed at communicating Council's financial activity and position in a less formal and more readable format. It is hoped that this document successfully communicates Council's financial position at a quick glance.

#### Feedback

If you have any suggestions on what additional information, or format changes you would like to see in the Community Financial Report, your feedback would be most appreciated.

Both of the abovementioned reports start on the next page.

**Tammy Power**  
**Director Corporate Services**





**CHARTERS TOWERS**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ended

30 June 2015





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

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**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	Council 2015	Council 2014
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Recurrent Revenue</b>			
Rates, Levies and Charges	3 (a)	18,872,266	17,699,347
Fees and Charges	3 (b)	2,121,703	2,140,106
Interest	3 (c)	1,242,349	1,510,904
Sales - Contract and Recoverable Works	3 (d)	3,471,302	11,264,409
Other Income		190,021	199,214
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations	4 (a)	7,352,347	17,380,209
<b>Total Recurrent Revenue</b>		<b>33,249,988</b>	<b>50,194,189</b>
<b>Capital Income and Revenue</b>			
Gain on Sale of Non-Current Assets	5 (a)	195,785	226,945
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations	4 (a)	2,152,079	5,200,522
<b>Total Capital Income and Revenue</b>		<b>2,347,864</b>	<b>5,427,467</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>35,597,852</b>	<b>55,621,656</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
<b>Recurrent Expenses</b>			
Employee Benefits	6	(20,856,473)	(19,790,585)
Materials, Services, Maintenance and Other	7	(11,568,609)	(36,085,286)
Depreciation	8&15(a)	(7,049,816)	(6,856,044)
Finance Costs	9	(37,574)	(40,086)
<b>Total Recurrent Expenses</b>		<b>(39,512,472)</b>	<b>(62,772,001)</b>
<b>Capital Expenses</b>			
Loss on Sale of Non-Current Assets	5 (b)	(472,429)	(148,575)
Non-Current Assets Write-Offs	5 (c)	(6,938,240)	(1,355,817)
<b>Total Capital Expenses</b>		<b>(7,410,669)</b>	<b>(1,504,392)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>(46,923,141)</b>	<b>(64,276,392)</b>
<b>NET OPERATING RESULT</b>	27	<b>(11,325,289)</b>	<b>(8,654,736)</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to net result</b>			
Increase in Asset Revaluation Surplus	19	14,309,230	16,136,195
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		<b>14,309,230</b>	<b>16,136,195</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>2,983,941</b>	<b>7,481,459</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.



# CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2015

	Note	Council 2015	Council 2014
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10	30,533,230	34,478,452
Investments	11	1,000,000	1,000,000
Trade and Other Receivables	12 (a)	3,666,188	7,911,880
Inventories	14	578,778	632,088
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>35,778,196</b>	<b>44,022,419</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	15 (a)	480,707,828	473,132,786
Trade and Other Receivables	12 (b)	67,881	80,490
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>480,775,709</b>	<b>473,213,276</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>516,553,905</b>	<b>517,235,695</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	16 (a)	5,530,943	9,319,395
Borrowings	17 (a)	-	84,243
Provisions	18 (a)	1,782,086	1,706,968
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>7,313,029</b>	<b>11,110,606</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	16 (b)	-	-
Provisions	18 (b)	873,084	741,236
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>873,084</b>	<b>741,236</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>8,186,113</b>	<b>11,851,842</b>
<b>NET COMMUNITY ASSETS</b>		<b>508,367,792</b>	<b>505,383,853</b>
<b>COMMUNITY EQUITY</b>			
Retained Surplus		31,524,098	35,471,920
Council Capital		320,237,845	327,615,313
Asset Revaluation Surplus	19	156,605,850	142,296,620
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY</b>		<b>508,367,792</b>	<b>505,383,853</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

Description of Movements	Retained Surplus (Deficiency)	Council Capital	Asset Revaluation Surplus	TOTAL
Notes:	1(v)(iii)	1(v)(i)	1(v)(ii) & 19	
	30/06/15	30/06/15	30/06/15	30/06/15
Balance as at 1 July 2014	35,471,919	327,615,313	142,296,620	505,383,852
<b>COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Net Operating Result	(11,325,289)	-	-	(11,325,289)
Increase/(Decrease) in Asset Revaluation Surplus	-	-	14,309,230	14,309,230
				-
<b>TOTAL Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		-		2,983,941
Transfers to/from Council Capital	7,377,468	(7,377,468)	-	-
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>31,524,098</b>	<b>320,237,845</b>	<b>156,605,850</b>	<b>508,367,793</b>

Description of Movements	Retained Surplus (Deficiency)	Council Capital	Asset Revaluation Surplus	TOTAL
Notes:	1(v)(iii)	1(v)(i)	1(v)(ii) & 19	
	30/06/14	30/06/14	30/06/14	30/06/14
Opening Balance as at 1 July 2013	45,016,999	326,724,969	126,160,425	497,902,393
<b>COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Net Operating Result	(8,654,736)	-	-	(8,654,736)
Increase/(Decrease) in Asset Revaluation Surplus	-	-	16,136,195	16,136,195
				-
<b>TOTAL Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		-		7,481,459
Transfers to/from Council Capital	(890,344)	890,344	-	-
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>35,471,919</b>	<b>327,615,313</b>	<b>142,296,620</b>	<b>505,383,852</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.





# CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	Council 2015	Council 2014
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts From Customers		33,669,207	38,232,665
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(41,063,504)	(61,206,121)
		(7,394,297)	(22,973,456)
Interest Received		1,239,879	1,507,374
Non Capital Grants and Contributions		7,352,347	17,380,209
Borrowing Costs	17 (c)	(3,256)	(7,021)
<b>Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) From Operating Activities</b>	20	<b>1,194,673</b>	<b>(4,092,894)</b>
<b>CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payments For Property, Plant and Equipment		(8,688,997)	(10,541,766)
Receivables-Community Loans		15,078	(21,537)
Proceeds From Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	5	1,466,186	625,672
Capital Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations		2,152,079	4,569,659
<b>Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) From Investing Activities</b>		<b>(5,055,654)</b>	<b>(5,367,973)</b>
<b>CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Repayment of Loan Borrowings	17 (c)	(84,241)	(84,213)
<b>Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) From Financing Activities</b>		<b>(84,241)</b>	<b>(84,213)</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD</b>		<b>(3,945,222)</b>	<b>(9,545,079)</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of the Financial Year</b>	10	<b>34,478,451</b>	<b>44,023,531</b>
<b>CASH and CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	10	<b>30,533,229</b>	<b>34,478,451</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

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**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

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**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The significant policies adopted in the preparation of these Financial Statements are:

**(a) Basis of Preparation**

These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and have been prepared in compliance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. Consequently, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain Non-Current Assets.

**Recurrent/Capital Classification**

Revenue and expenditure are presented as “recurrent” or “capital” in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on the following basis:

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

The following transactions are either classified as either “Capital Income” or “Capital Expenses” depending on whether they result in accounting gains or losses:

- Disposal of non-current assets

All other revenue and expenses have been classified as “recurrent”.

Grants and contributions are to be classified as operating or capital depending on the purpose for which they were received and not on the purpose for which they are spent. General purpose grants and contributions are all classified as operating regardless of how they are spent.

**(b) Statement of Compliance**

These general purpose financial statements comply with all accounting standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to Council’s operations and effective for the current reporting period. Because the Council is a not-for-profit entity and the Australian Accounting Standards include requirements for not-for-profit entities which are inconsistent with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), to the extent these inconsistencies are applied, these financial statements do not comply with IFRS. The main impacts are the offsetting of revaluation and impairment gains and losses within a class of assets and the timing of the recognition of non-reciprocal grant revenue.

**(c) Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards**

In the current year, Council adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations has not resulted in any material changes to Council’s accounting policies.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(c) Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standard cont'd**

Charters Towers Regional Council has not applied any Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective. Council applies standards and interpretations in accordance with their respective commencement dates.

At the date of authorisation of the financial report, AASB 9 *Financial Instruments* is the only new accounting standard with a future application date that is expected to have a material impact on council's financial statements.

AASB 9 Financial Instruments (effective from 1 January 2018)

AASB 9, which replaces AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*, is effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 and must be applied retrospectively. The main impact of AASB 9 is to change the requirements for the classification, measurement and disclosures associated with financial assets. Under the new requirements, the four current categories of financial assets stipulated in AASB 139 will be replaced with two measurement categories: fair value and amortised cost and financial assets will only be able to be measured at amortised cost where very specific conditions are met. As a result, Council may be required to measure certain financial assets at fair value. Council has yet to assess the impact of changes to AASB 9.

Due to its recent release, Council is still reviewing the way that revenue is measured and recognised to identify whether AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* will have a material impact.

AASB 15 is effective from 1 January 2017 and will replace AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 111 *Construction Contracts* and a number of Interpretations. It contains a comprehensive and robust framework for the recognition, measurement and disclosure of revenue from contracts with customers.

From 1 July 2016 AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* will apply to Council. This means that council will disclose more information about related parties and transactions with those related parties. Council is taking steps to prepare for this change by identifying related parties. Related parties will include the Mayor, councillors and some council staff. In addition the close family member of those people and any organisations that they control or are associated with will be classified as related parties.

From 1 July 2016 AASB 2015-7 amends AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* to provide disclosure relief to not-for-profit public sector entities from certain disclosures about the fair value measurements of property, plant and equipment held for their current service potential rather than to generate net cash flows. This includes relief from disclosures of quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs used in fair value measurements and of the sensitivity of certain fair value measurements to changes in unobservable inputs.

The amended Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretation which were issued at the date of authorization of the financial report, but have future commencement dates are not likely to have a material impact on the financial statement.



# CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### For the year ended 30 June 2015

#### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd

##### (c) Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards cont'd

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

##### Effective for Annual Report periods beginning on and after:

AASB 9 <i>Financial Instruments</i> (December 2009)	1-Jan-18
AASB 14 <i>Regulatory Deferral Accounts</i>	1-Jan-16
AASB 15 <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i>	1-Jan-17
AASB 1056 <i>Superannuation Entities</i>	1-Jul-16
AASB 2010-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010)	1-Jan-18
AASB 2013-9 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments</i> [Operative dates: Part A Conceptual Framework - 20 Dec 2013; Part B Materiality - 1 Jan 2014; Part C Financial Instruments - 1 Jan 2015]	Refer Title
AASB 2014-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i>	Part D - 1-Jan-16 Part E - 1-Jan-18
AASB 2014-3 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards-Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations</i>	1-Jan-16
AASB 2014-4 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards-Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation</i>	1-Jan-16
AASB 2014-5 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15</i>	1-Jan-17
AASB 2014-6 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards-Agriculture: Bearer Plants</i>	1-Jan-16
AASB 2014-7 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)</i>	1-Jan-18
AASB 2014-8 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)-Application of AASB 9 (December 2010)</i>	1-Jan-15
AASB 2014-9 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements</i> [AASB 1, 127 & 128]	1-Jan-16
AASB 2014-10 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture</i> [AASB 10 & AASB 128]	1-Jan-16
AASB 2015-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards -Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-2014 Cycle</i> [AASB 1, AASB 2, AASB 3, AASB 5, AASB 7, AASB 11, AASB 110, AASB 119, AASB 121, AASB 133, AASB 134, AASB 137 & AASB 140]	1-Jan-16
AASB 2015-2 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards -Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101</i> [AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 134 & AASB 1049]	1-Jan-16
AASB 2015-3 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031 Materiality</i>	1-Jul-15
AASB 2015-4 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Financial Reporting Requirements for Australian Groups with a Foreign Parent</i> [AASB 127 & AASB 128]	1-Jul-15
AASB 2015-5 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Investment Entities: Applying the Consolidation Exception</i> [AASB 10, AASB 12 & AASB 128]	1-Jan-16

##### (d) Constitution

The Charters Towers Regional Council is constituted under the Queensland Local Government Act 2009 and is domiciled in Australia.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(e) Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of Council's accounting policies, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and ongoing assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in future periods as relevant.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a potential significant effect are outlined in the following financial statement notes:

Valuation and depreciation of property, plant and equipment – Note 1(p) and Note 15

Provisions – Note 1(r), 1(s) and Note 18

Contingent liabilities – Note 25

**(f) Currency**

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

**(g) Date of Authorisation**

The financial statements were authorised for issue on the date they were submitted to the Auditor-General for final signature. This is the date the management certificate is signed.

**(h) Trust Funds Held for Outside Parties**

Funds held in the trust account on behalf of outside parties include security deposits lodged for venue hire, fees for subdivision works yet to be performed and cash contributions for future works. 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.

The monies are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements for information purposes only in Note 21.

**(i) Revenue**

Rates, levies, grants and other revenue are recognised as revenue on receipt of funds or earlier upon unconditional entitlement to the funds.

**(i) Rates and Levies**

Where rate monies are received prior to the commencement of the rating/levying period, the amount is recognised as revenue in the period in which they are received, otherwise rates are recognised at the commencement of the rating period. See Note 3.

**(ii) Grants and Subsidies**

Grants, subsidies and contributions that are non-reciprocal in nature are recognised as revenue in the year in which Council obtains control over them. Unspent non-reciprocal capital grants are recognised as restricted cash and disclosed in Note 10.

Where grants are received that are reciprocal in nature, revenue is recognised as the various performance obligations under the funding agreement are fulfilled. Council does not currently have any reciprocal grants.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(i) Revenue Cont'd**

**(iii) Contracts and Recoverable Works Income**

Contracts and recoverable works income is recognised upon unconditional entitlement to the funds. Contract revenue and associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity at the reporting date. Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable in relation to that activity. Where consideration is received for the service in advance it is included in other liabilities and is recognised in the period when the service is performed.

**(iv) Non-Cash Contributions**

Non-cash contributions with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds set out in Note 1(p)(i), are recognised as revenue and as non-current assets. Non-cash contributions below the thresholds are recorded as revenue and expenses.

Physical assets contributed to Council by developers in the form of road works, stormwater, water and wastewater infrastructure and park equipment are recognised as revenue when the development becomes "on maintenance" (ie. the Council obtains control of the assets and becomes liable for any ongoing maintenance) and there is sufficient data in the form of drawings and plans to determine the approximate specifications and values of such assets. All non-cash contributions are recognised at the fair value of the contribution received on the date of acquisition.

**(v) Cash Contributions**

Council receives cash contributions from property developers to construct assets such as roads and footpaths and to connect new property developments to water and sewerage networks in the local government area. Where agreements between Council and developers relating to these contributions are determined to fall within the scope of AASB Interpretation 18 Transfers of Assets from Customers these contributions are recognised as revenue when the related service obligations are fulfilled.

Developers may also pay infrastructure charges for trunk infrastructure, such as pumping stations, treatment works, mains, sewers and water pollution control works. These infrastructure charges are not within the scope of AASB Interpretation 18 because there is no performance obligation associated with these contributions. Consequently, these infrastructure charges are recognised as income when received.

**(vi) Interest Income**

Interest received from term deposits is accrued over the term of the investment.

**(vii) Fees and Charges**

Fees and charges are recognised upon unconditional entitlement to the funds. Generally this is upon lodgement of the relevant applications or documents, issuing of the infringement notice or when the service is provided.

**(j) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, all cash and cheques receipted but not banked at the year end, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(k) Receivables**

Trade receivables are recognised at the amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery, ie. the agreed purchase price/contract price. Settlement of these amounts is required within 30 days from invoice date.

The collectability of receivables is assessed periodically and, if there is objective evidence that Council will not be able to collect all amounts due, the carrying amount is reduced for impairment. The loss is recognised in finance costs. The amount of impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate.

All known bad debts are written-off at 30 June. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off in the same period are recognised as finance costs in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. If an amount is recovered in a subsequent period it is recognised as revenue.

Because Council is empowered under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* to sell an owner's property to recover outstanding rate debts, Council does not impair any rate receivables.

Loans and advances are recognised in the same way as other receivables. Terms are usually a maximum of five years with interest charged at commercial rates. Security is not normally obtained.

***Credit Risk Receivables***

The maximum credit risk exposure of Receivables as at 30 June 2015 is the carrying amount of these assets as shown in Note 12 and Note 26.

**(l) Other Financial Assets**

Other financial assets are recognised at cost. No Financial Assets recognised in the current year.

**(m) Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities**

***Categorisation***

Council recognises a financial asset or a financial liability in its Statement of Financial Position when, and only when, Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Charters Towers Regional Council has categorised and measured the financial assets and financial liabilities held at balance date as follows:

<b>Financial Assets</b>	<b>Categorisation</b>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	Note 1(j)
Trade and Other Receivables	Loans and receivables (at amortised cost) - Note 1(k)
Other Financial Assets	At cost – Note 1(l)
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>Categorisation</b>
Trade and Other Payables	Financial liability (at amortised cost) – Note 1(t)
Borrowings	Financial liability (at amortised cost) – Note 1(u)

Financial assets and financial liabilities are presented separately from each other and offsetting has not been applied.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(n) Inventories**

Inventories are reported at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to the Inventory on the basis of weighted average cost.

Inventories held for distribution are:

- Goods to be supplied at no, or nominal charge, and
- Goods to be used for the provision of services at no, or nominal, charge.

These goods are valued at cost, adjusted, when applicable, for any loss of service potential.

**(o) Investments**

Term deposits in excess of three months are reported as investments, with deposits at call and term deposits with a short maturity of three months or less are treated as cash equivalents. At 30 June 2015, Council held an investment with a term greater than three months. Refer Note 11.

**(p) Property, Plant and Equipment**

**(i) Non-Current Assets Threshold**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Work in Progress is not depreciated. Items of property, plant and equipment with a value less than the thresholds listed below, that are not included as network assets, are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. The threshold amounts are reviewed by Council from time to time and adjusted accordingly. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised.

The classes of property, plant and equipment and the relevant thresholds recognised by the Council are:

	<b>Council Thresholds 2015</b>	<b>Council Thresholds 2014</b>
• Land	Nil	Nil
• Buildings & Structures	\$10,000	\$10,000
• Plant	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
• Equipment	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
• City Roads & Drainage	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
• Rural Roads	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
• Water Infrastructure	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
• Sewerage Infrastructure	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
• Landfill Rehabilitation	Nil	-



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(p) Property, Plant & Equipment Cont.**

**(ii) Capital and Operating Expenditure**

Direct wages and materials expenditure incurred for the acquisition or construction of assets are treated as capital expenditure. Assets under construction are not depreciated until they are completed and commissioned, at which time they are reclassified from work in progress to the appropriate property, plant and equipment class.

Routine operating maintenance, repair costs and minor renewals to maintain the operational capacity 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.

**(iii) Acquisition**

Acquisitions of assets are initially recorded at cost. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including freight in, architect's fees and engineering design fees and all other establishment costs.

Non-monetary assets, including property, plant and equipment, received in the form of grants or contributions, are recognised as assets and revenues at fair value by Council valuation, where that value exceeds the recognition thresholds for the respective asset classes.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

**(iv) Valuation**

Land, buildings and structures, city roads and drainage, rural roads, water and sewerage infrastructure are measured on the revaluation basis, at fair value, in accordance with AASB116 *Property, Plant and Equipment* and AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*. This revaluation may involve the application of a suitable index to the cost elements of each asset, or may involve an independent assessment of the value.

Non-current physical assets measured at fair value are revalued where required so that the carrying amount of each class of asset does not materially differ from its fair value at the reporting date. This is achieved by comprehensively revaluing these assets at least once every five years. In the intervening years interim valuations are performed to reflect any material variation using the applicable index. Where comprehensive revaluations are undertaken, an independent valuer physically sights a representative sample of Council assets and making their own assessment of the conditions of the assets at the date of inspection. Details of valuers and methods of valuations are disclosed in Note 15 (b). All other non-current assets, primarily plant, equipment and work in progress, are measured at cost.

Any revaluation increment arising on the revaluation of an asset is credited to the appropriate class of the asset revaluation surplus, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrement for the class previously recognised as an expense. A decrease in the carrying amount on revaluation is charged as an expense to the extent it exceeds the balance, if any, in the revaluation surplus of that asset class.

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.

Separately identified components of assets are measured on the same basis as the asset to which they relate.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(p) Property, Plant & Equipment cont'd**

**(v) Depreciation of Property, Plant & Equipment**

To achieve a systematic and rational allocation of the value of non-current assets over their estimated useful lives, depreciation represents the consumption of the service potential of the asset. Straight line depreciation is applied to all assets except Land, which is not depreciated as it has an unlimited useful life.

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition, or, if internally constructed, from the date the asset is completed and commissioned ready for use. Where assets have separately identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned useful lives distinct from the asset to which they relate. 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.

Depreciation methods, estimated useful lives and residual values of property, plant and equipment, if applicable to the asset class, are reviewed at the end of each reporting period and adjusted where necessary to reflect any changes in the consumption, physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence, or management intentions. 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 remaining useful lives of these assets at each reporting date.

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 estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment are reviewed annually. Details of the range of useful lives, for each class of asset, are as follows:

	<u>Years</u>
• <b>Land – Not Depreciated</b>	N/A
• <b>Buildings &amp; Structures</b>	10-210
• <b>Plant Fleet</b>	3-50
• <b>Equipment</b>	3-50
• <b>City Roads &amp; Drainage</b>	10-200
• <b>Rural Roads</b>	15-200
• <b>Water Infrastructure</b>	5-152
• <b>Sewerage Infrastructure</b>	10-102
• <b>Land Rehabilitation</b>	20

**(vi) Impairment of Non-Current Assets**

All non-current physical assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of possible impairment exists, Council determines the asset's recoverable amount. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(p) Property, Plant & Equipment cont'd**

An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately 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.

**(vii) Land Under Roads**

The Charters Towers Regional Council does not control any land under roads. All land under the road network within the Council area that has been dedicated and opened for public use under the *Land Act 1994* or the *Land Title Act 1994* is not controlled by Council but is controlled by the State pursuant to the relevant legislation. Therefore this land is not recognised in these financial statements.

**(viii) Landfill Rehabilitation**

The primary regional 'Stubbley Street Landfill' is valued at 30 June 2015 by creating a complementary asset equivalent, to the future provision for restoration of the landfill site, and depreciating the cost over the effective remaining life of the asset.

There are three small landfills in the Townships of Greenvale, Pentland and Ravenswood, and provisions for these will be considered in future years. At this time, activity is very low and there is ample room.

The valuation process was performed as follows:

- Commissioned a report by TMI Consulting Pty Ltd, Innisfail addressing Survey, Drawings, Design, Staging, Volumes, Staging Cost Benefits, Cell Lining, Capping, Rehabilitation, Gas & Ground water Monitoring and proposed future use.
- Management has assessed the report for completeness and accuracy and calculated the budget required over the remaining life of the landfill, to undertake the staged recommendations, in accordance with the Site Development Plan and licence conditions, through to full rehabilitation and future use.

**(q) Capital Works in Progress**

The cost of property plant and equipment being constructed by the Council includes the cost of purchased services, materials, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of labour overheads.

**(r) Employee Benefits**

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. Where the obligation is possible for the leave to be paid in the next twelve months the liability is treated as a current liability.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(r) Employee Benefits cont'd**

**(i) Wages and Salaries**

A liability for wages and salaries 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 in Note 16.

**(ii) Long Service Leave**

A liability for Long Service Leave is measured as 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 value of 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 applicable, as at the reporting date, to Commonwealth Government guaranteed securities are used to discount the estimated future cash outflows to their present value. This liability is reported in Note 18 as a provision.

Where employees have met the prerequisite length of service and council does not have an unconditional right to defer this liability beyond 12 months long service leave is classified as a current liability. Otherwise it is classified as non-current.

**(iii) Annual Leave**

A liability for Annual Leave is recognised. Amounts expected to be settled within 12 months (the current portion) are calculated on current wage and salary levels and includes related employment on-costs. Amounts not expected to be settled within 12 months (the non-current portion) are calculated on projected future wage and salary levels and related employee on-costs, and are discounted to present values. This liability represents an accrued expense and is reported in Note 16 as payable.

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

**(iv) Rostered Days Off (RDO) and Time off in Lieu (TOIL)**

A liability for Rostered Days Off and Time off in Lieu is recognised. The current portion is based on current wage and salary levels and includes related employee on-costs. This liability is treated as a payable and not as a provision and is reported at Note 16. When Annual Leave and Long Service Leave are taken any accrued RDOs or TOIL is used prior to other leave balances and any remaining balances are paid out to employees on an annual basis as at 1 February in accordance with Council's Enterprise Agreement.

**(v) Superannuation**

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the statutory contribution made by Council to the employee's superannuation plan which provides benefits to its employees. Details of arrangements are set out in Note 23.

**(s) Landfill Rehabilitation Provision**

The provision represents the present value of the anticipated future costs associated with the closure and rehabilitation of the Landfill. The calculation of this provision requires assumptions such as environmental legislation, site closure dates, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. Due to the long term nature of the liability, the provision is reviewed annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(t) Payables**

Trade and other payables are recognised as a liability at the time of the goods being received, or the service being performed. The amount recognised for each creditor is based on the agreed purchase or contract costs. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled within 30 working days.

**(u) Borrowings and Borrowing Costs**

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition these liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument.

Borrowing costs, which includes interest calculated using the effective interest method and administration fees, are expensed in the period in which they are incurred. Costs that are not settled in the period in which they are incurred, are added to the carrying amount of the borrowing.

Borrowing costs are treated as an expense, as assets constructed by the council are generally completed within one year and therefore are not considered to be qualifying assets. Gains and losses on the early redemption of borrowings are recorded in other revenue/expense.

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council adopt an annual debt policy that sets out Council's planned borrowings for the next nine years. Council aims to comply with the Queensland Treasury Corporation's borrowing guidelines and ensure that sustainability indicators remain within acceptable levels at all times.

**(v) Components of Equity**

**(i) Council Capital**

The Capital account, combined with the Asset Revaluation Surplus represent the amount of Capital, currently required, and in use by the Council, to maintain assets and infrastructure at existing levels of operating capability.

**(ii) Asset Revaluation Surplus**

The Asset Revaluation Surplus comprises adjustments relating to changes in value of property, plant and equipment that do not result from the use of those assets. Net incremental changes in the carrying value of classes of non-current assets since their initial recognition are accumulated in the Asset Revaluation Surplus. See Note 19 for further information.

Increases and decreases on revaluation are offset within a class of assets. Where a class of assets is decreased on revaluation, the decrease is offset 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.

**(iii) Retained Surplus/(Deficiency)**

This account represents Council's net funds at the end of the year, including restricted cash internally designated across business units and functions as resolved at each budget meeting.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES Cont'd**

**(w) National Competition Policy**

The Charters Towers Regional Council has not elected to apply the code of competitive conduct (CCC) to any of its' activities.

**(x) Rounding and Comparatives**

Amounts included in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest \$1. Amounts shown in the financial statements may not add to the correct subtotals or totals due to rounding.

Comparative information has been restated where necessary to be consistent with disclosures in the current reporting period.

**(y) Taxation**

Income of local authorities and public authorities is exempt from Commonwealth taxation except for Fringe Benefit Tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST). The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

The Council pays payroll tax to the Queensland Government on certain activities.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**2. FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**(a) ANALYSIS OF RESULTS BY FUNCTION**

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

Year ended 30 June 2015

FUNCTIONS	Gross program income				Elimination of inter-function transactions 2015	Total income 2015	Gross program expenses		Elimination of inter-function transactions 2015	Total expenses 2015	Net result from recurring operations 2015	Net result attributable to council within the reporting period 2015	Assets 2015
	Recurring 2015		Capital 2015				Recurring 2015	Capital 2015					
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other									
Corporate & Governance Services	6,788,152	10,991,685	74,197	25,678	-	17,879,712	4,080,994	1,655,679	-	5,736,673	13,698,843	12,143,039	55,119,119
Planning & Sustainable Development	40,114	2,802,524	-	-	-	2,842,638	4,068,683	4,636,275	-	8,704,958	(1,226,045)	(5,862,320)	6,312,187
Roads Infrastructure	(9,867)	3,236,139	1,682,773	93,150	-	5,002,195	13,967,944	683,604	-	14,651,548	(10,741,672)	(9,649,353)	311,487,545
Fleet	159,541	11,821	-	170,107	-	341,469	1,590,301	304,715	-	1,895,016	(1,418,939)	(1,553,547)	21,750,556
Water	-	5,489,989	-	43,060	-	5,533,049	5,047,489	1,426	-	5,048,915	442,500	484,134	42,734,705
Sewerage	-	3,048,521	-	21,560	-	3,070,081	2,486,020	-	-	2,486,020	562,501	584,061	17,237,370
Community Services	311,489	379,880	215,089	22,250	-	928,708	8,271,042	128,969	-	8,400,011	(7,579,673)	(7,471,303)	61,912,423
Total Council	7,289,429	25,960,559	1,972,059	375,805	-	35,597,852	39,512,473	7,410,668	-	46,923,141	(6,262,485)	(11,325,289)	516,553,905

Year ended 30 June 2014

FUNCTIONS	Gross program income				Elimination of inter-function transactions 2014	Total income 2014	Gross program expenses		Elimination of inter-function transactions 2014	Total expenses 2014	Net result from recurring operations 2014	Net result attributable to council within the reporting period 2014	Assets 2014
	Recurring 2014		Capital 2014				Recurring 2014	Capital 2014					
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other									
Corporate & Governance Services	3,288,058	11,572,457	9,438	-	-	14,869,953	2,731,692	-	-	2,731,692	12,128,823	12,138,261	65,649,484
Planning & Sustainable Development	1,000	2,713,728	15,462	-	-	2,730,190	4,305,575	-	-	4,305,575	(1,590,847)	(1,575,385)	10,359,933
Roads Infrastructure	13,630,501	10,822,322	4,010,970	665,246	-	29,129,039	39,102,991	1,340,617	-	40,443,608	(14,650,168)	(11,314,569)	296,382,022
Fleet	144,990	5,198	-	226,945	-	377,133	831,201	155,209	-	986,410	(681,013)	(609,277)	21,225,387
Water	-	4,618,044	46,093	29,894	-	4,694,031	5,080,651	-	-	5,080,651	(462,607)	(386,620)	43,546,916
Sewerage	-	2,723,422	-	14,197	-	2,737,619	2,479,705	-	-	2,479,705	243,717	257,914	18,467,884
Community Services	261,754	412,715	396,222	13,000	-	1,083,691	8,240,185	8,566	-	8,248,751	(7,565,716)	(7,165,060)	61,604,069
Total Council	17,326,303	32,867,886	4,478,185	949,282	-	55,621,656	62,772,000	1,504,392	-	64,276,392	(12,577,811)	(8,654,736)	517,235,695



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2015

#### 2. FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT Cont'd

- (b) Total assets shown in the "Analysis By Function" Report are reconciled with the amounts shown for assets in the statement of financial position as follows:

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Current Assets	35,778,196	44,022,419
Non-Current Assets	480,775,709	473,213,276
	<b>516,553,905</b>	<b>517,235,695</b>

- (c) The activities of the Council are categorised into four directorates plus the Office of the CEO. The functions below identify how the activities are shared across directorates.

#### **CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE & OFFICE OF THE CEO (Governance)**

##### **Corporate Services**

Corporate Services objective is to supply Council and the public with high quality administrative, financial and support services, such as records management, procurement and information technology.

**Customer Service Operations** – Customer Service, General Administration, Website, Rating and Administration Facilities

**Records** - Records Management

**Finance** - Financial Service, Grants Commission, Business and Procedures, Investments, Asset Management, Procurement and Insurance

**Information Technology** - Computer and Technology Infrastructure Support

##### **Governance**

The objective of the functions; Councillors, Office of the CEO and Governance, is to provide for the good rule and government of its constituents. The object of Council's People and Culture function is to facilitate positive organisational culture, ensure council has and retains people that match the vision, mission and values of council and secure the health and safety of the workforce.

**Councillors** - Community Consultation, Official Functions and Delegations, Media Relations and Elections

**Office of the CEO** - Corporate and Business Planning, Organisation Performance and Corporate Branding and Image

**Governance** - Enterprise Risk Management, Disaster Management Coordination, Agenda and Minutes, Administrative Review, Internal Audit and State Emergency Service Coordination

**People and Culture** - Employees Relations, Organisational Learning and Development, Cultural Development, Health and Safety and Workforce Planning

#### **PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE**

The key objective of the Planning and Sustainable Directorate is to promote economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the region.

##### **Environmental Services**

**Health**- Environmental Health, Environment Protection, Business Licences and Permits

**Waste Management** – Refuse Collection, Refuse Disposal and Recycling Program

##### **Planning and Development**

**Town Planning** – Land Use Planning and Heritage Management

##### **Building**

**Building and Plumbing Service** – Building Compliance

##### **Rural Services**

**Saleyards** – Selling Centre and Stock Routes & Reserves

**Land Management** – Pest Management and Vector and Vermin Control

##### **Local Laws** – Regulation

**Animal Management** – Animal Related Customer Requests

##### **Economic Development**

**Economic Development** – Investment Attraction

**Climate Smart Business Initiative** – Energy Efficiency



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2015

## 2. FUNCTIONS/ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT Cont'd

### ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

The primary objective for Council's Roads Infrastructure Directorate is to facilitate the movement of all commuters, both within the region and adjoining areas, through ensuring the road network stays accessible and safe.

#### Road Construction

**Road Contracts** – Infrastructure Construction

**RPC Contracts** – Infrastructure Construction

**Survey** – Design

**Roads to Recovery** – Infrastructure Construction

#### Road Maintenance

**Road Maintenance** – Infrastructure Maintenance

**RMPC Contracts** – Infrastructure Maintenance

**Flood Damage Repairs** – Restorations of Assets

**Private Works** – Third Party Works

#### Soils Laboratory

**Soil Testing** – Mainly in-house to ensure Quality Roadworks

#### Quality Assurance

**Engineering Documentation** – Mainly in-house Quality Documentation

### FLEET SERVICES FUNCTION - Workshop and Fleet (Now under Corporate Services Directorate)

Fleet Services objective is to facilitate the strategic management of Council's fleet which includes asset management and fleet maintenance programs.

### UTILITIES AND FACILITIES DIRECTORATE

The objective of the Utilities and Facilities Directorate is to ensure the effective and efficient supply of water and sewerage services that satisfy customer requirements of the region.

#### Water

**Water Supply and Treatment** – Supply Quality Drinking Water

**Water Reticulation** – Distribution of Quality Water

#### Sewerage

**Sewerage Reticulation** – Maintain Network for Sewerage

**Sewerage Treatment** – Collection, Treating and Disposing Waste Water

**Waste Water Reuse** – Disposal of Wastewater

### COMMUNITY SERVICES FUNCTION

*Now split between Directorates - Utilities & Facilities and Planning & Sustainable Development*

The objective of Property Services within the Community Services Function is to ensure the facilities provide by Council are accessible and equitable. Community Developments objectives are to promote social and cultural growth whilst enabling the community to actively engage in recreational activities.

#### Property Services (Utilities & Facilities Directorate)

**Building Services** – Facility Maintenance

**Facilities Management** – World Theatre and Cinema Facility, Council Staff Residences, Corporate Facilities and Community Facilities

**Parks and Gardens** – Cemetery, Parks and Gardens, Street and Drainage Cleaning

**Airport** – Airport Operations

**Showgrounds** – Facility Maintenance

**Urban Safety** – CCTV Security

#### Community Development (Planning & Sustainable Development Directorate)

**Library** – Library Services

**Tourism** – Tourism Promotion, Visitor Information Centre and Tourism Facilities/Attractions

**Youth Services** – Youth Related Activities

**Sport and Recreation** – Sport and Recreation Funded Activities

**Galleries** – Galleries and Exhibitions and World Theatre Gallery

**Events** – Event Management and General Event Activity

**Community Development** – Community Development Contributions, Senior Services, Regional Arts Development and Arts and Culture



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**3. REVENUE ANALYSIS**

**(a) Rates, Levies and Charges**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
General Rates	11,021,198	11,055,879
Cleansing / Refuse	1,051,009	1,013,592
Water Services	4,883,906	4,308,839
Water – Excess Allocation	684,387	615,323
Sewerage	3,142,048	2,951,974
<b>Total Rates, Levies and Charges Revenue</b>	<b>20,782,548</b>	<b>19,945,607</b>
Less: Discounts	(1,650,009)	(1,992,141)
Pensioner Remissions	(260,273)	(254,119)
<b>Net Rates, Levies and Charges</b>	<b>18,872,266</b>	<b>17,699,347</b>

**(b) Fees and Charges**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Animal Control Fees and Charges	(10,042)	284,963
Cemetery Fees and Charges	71,333	70,542
Landfill Fees and Charges	206,480	176,840
Reserve Rental	35,441	22,145
Saleyards Fees and Charges	1,359,484	1,081,293
Search Fees	35,331	38,946
Water Services	55,799	40,349
World Theatre Fees and Charges	37,816	43,915
Other Regulatory Fees and Charges	145,462	151,283
Other Rental/Hire Fee and Charges	101,599	89,320
Other Fees and Charges	83,000	140,510
<b>Total Fees and Charges</b>	<b>2,121,703</b>	<b>2,140,106</b>

**(c) Interest**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Interest received on Investments	1,142,094	1,443,951
Interest received on Community Loans	2,470	3,530
Interest received on Overdue Rates and Charges	97,785	63,423
<b>Total Interest Income</b>	<b>1,242,349</b>	<b>1,510,904</b>

**(d) Sales – Contract and Recoverable Works**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Private Works	88,722	245,342
Main Roads Contract	3,197,872	6,097,292
Flood Event 2012 Day Labour Contract	-	4,712,069
Other	184,708	209,706
<b>Total Sales Income</b>	<b>3,471,302</b>	<b>11,264,409</b>

The amount recognised as revenue for contract sales during the period is the value of works undertaken in respect of invoices issued during the period. There are no contracts in progress at the year end. The contract work carried out is not subject to retentions.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**4(a). GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
<b>i) Recurrent</b>		
General Purpose Grants	6,663,359	3,142,238
Government Grants and Subsidies	626,070	18,896,136
<sup>1</sup> Less: Flood Event 2012 Day Labour Contract	-	(4,712,069)
Contributions	62,918	53,904
Donations	-	-
<b>Total Recurrent Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations</b>	<b>7,352,347</b>	<b>17,380,209</b>
<b>ii) Capital</b>		
Government Grants and Subsidies	1,972,059	4,478,186
Contributions	180,020	722,336
<b>Total Capital Grants and Subsidies</b>	<b>2,152,079</b>	<b>5,200,522</b>
<b>Total Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations</b>	<b>9,504,426</b>	<b>22,580,731</b>
<b>Reconciles to:</b>		
Grants and Subsidies Total	9,261,488	21,804,491
Contributions Total	242,938	776,240
Donations	-	-
	<b>9,504,426</b>	<b>22,580,731</b>

**Footnote 1**

*Council was one of the contractors undertaking the Flood Event 2012 works. While Subsidy was initially received under NDRRA subsidy, subsidy covering the Council Contract was paid out against flood damage and re-receipted in a second time as Contract Income, offsetting Contract Expense. To avoid double disclosure of both income and expense, it is being disclosed on the statements as Council Contract activity however, the initial inflow of monies as NDRRA subsidy is disclosed in the note above.*



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**4(b). GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES DETAIL**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
<b>Corporate Services and Governance</b>		
Emergency Services (SES Operations)	23,238	58,728
Natural Disaster Risk Management and Recovery	3,354	16,572
Staff Training and Development	58,932	31,250
Infrastructure	74,197	9,438
Organisation Performance	39,270	39,270
Sub-total	198,991	155,258
<b>Planning and Sustainable Development</b>		
Land/Pest Management	40,114	1,000
Saleyards	-	15,462
Sub-total	40,114	16,462
<b>Roads Infrastructure</b>		
Roads - Flood Damage/Disaster	(21,867)	20,393,839
Less: Flood Event 2012 Day Labour Contract		(4,712,069)
Energy Grants Scheme	159,541	144,990
Roads - Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS)	435,681	439,558
Roads - Roads to Recovery	1,247,093	1,520,145
Roads - General	12,000	-
Sub-total	1,832,448	17,786,463
<b>Water</b>		
Fluoridation	-	46,093
Sub-total	-	46,093
<b>Community Services - Property Services</b>		
Passenger Transport	56,227	-
Airport	48,437	45,250
Facilities Management	87,028	350,972
Sub-total	191,692	396,222
<b>Community Services - Community Development</b>		
Cultural/Heritage	99,281	55,021
Youth Services	57,633	74,424
Health and Community Care	132,407	128,309
Community Development	22,167	4,000
Urban Safety	23,396	-
Sub-total	334,884	261,754
<b>General Purpose Grants</b>	6,663,359	3,142,238
<b>Total Grant &amp; Subsidy Revenue</b>	<b>9,261,488</b>	<b>21,804,491</b>

Grants and contributions which were recognised as revenues during the reporting period which were obtained on the condition that they be expended on defined activities but had yet to be applied in that manner as at the reporting date were:

Land/Pest Management	14,113	-
Passenger Transport	56,227	-
Regional Airport Development Scheme	-	45,250
Cultural/Heritage	13,024	-
	<b>83,364</b>	<b>42,520</b>



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**4.(c) CONTRIBUTIONS DETAIL**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
<b>Roads Infrastructure</b>		
Road Infrastructure Cash Contributions	127,877	46,382
Road Infrastructure Non Cash Contributions	-	630,863
Sub-total	127,877	677,245
<b>Water</b>		
Water Headworks	43,060	29,894
Sub-total	43,060	29,894
<b>Sewerage</b>		
Sewerage Headworks	21,560	14,197
Sub-total	21,560	14,197
<b>Community Services - Property Services</b>		
Showgrounds	-	7,545
Airport	479	818
Community Structures	7,250	-
Parks and Gardens	15,000	16,000
Sub-total	22,729	24,363
<b>Community Services - Community Development</b>		
Tourism/Sport and Recreation	27,712	30,541
Sub-total	27,712	30,541
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>242,938</b>	<b>776,240</b>



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**5. CAPITAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**(a) GAIN ON SALE OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	520,897	395,603
Less: Written Down Value of Sold Assets	(325,112)	(168,658)
<b>TOTAL GAIN ON SALE</b>	<b>195,785</b>	<b>226,945</b>

**(b) LOSS ON SALE OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	945,289	230,068
Less: Written Down Value of Sold Assets	(1,417,718)	(378,643)
<b>TOTAL LOSS ON SALE</b>	<b>(472,429)</b>	<b>(148,575)</b>

**(c) NON-CURRENT ASSETS WRITE-OFFS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Gross Value of Write-offs	(8,790,553)	(3,288,742)
Add: Accumulated Depreciation of Write-offs	1,852,313	1,932,925
<b>TOTAL LOSS ON WRITE-OFFS</b>	<b>(6,938,240)</b>	<b>(1,355,817)</b>

**6. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Total Staff Salaries and Wages	15,661,782	16,248,318
Councillors' Remuneration	389,277	372,533
Annual, Sick and Long Service Leave Entitlements	2,291,434	1,554,668
Superannuation	1,887,957	1,880,602
<b>Total Direct Employee Costs</b>	<b>20,230,450</b>	<b>20,056,121</b>
Other Employee Costs	1,540,440	662,564
	<b>21,770,890</b>	<b>20,718,685</b>
<b>Less: Capitalised Employee Expenses</b>	<b>(914,417)</b>	<b>(928,100)</b>
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>	<b>20,856,473</b>	<b>19,790,585</b>

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

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Employee Numbers - Full-time Equivalents	205	245
as at 30 June 2015 - Casual	15	16
- Councillors (incl. Mayor)	7	7



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**7. MATERIALS, SERVICES, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Advertising and Marketing	64,879	55,962
Administration Supplies and Consumables	144,402	157,600
Audit of Annual Financial Statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland	65,600	43,675
Audit Fees – Internal	97,464	12,820
Communications and IT	618,829	1,009,624
Consultants	108,467	208,075
Contractors	261,236	238,472
Donations Paid	362,084	337,464
Flood Events Materials and Services	-	19,913,002
Roadworks Performance Contract Materials and Services	-	2,882,731
Flood Event 2012 Contract Materials and Services	-	3,810,013
Repairs and Maintenance and Other Materials	5,259,316	2,821,830
Sewerage Repairs and Maintenance	1,366,711	1,373,742
Subscriptions and Registrations	110,834	102,599
Water Repairs and Maintenance	3,108,787	3,117,677
<b>TOTAL MATERIALS, SERVICES, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER</b>	<b>11,568,609</b>	<b>36,085,286</b>





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**8. DEPRECIATION**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Buildings and Structures	914,617	943,067
Plant	1,479,501	1,578,447
Equipment	330,231	297,855
City Roads and Drainage	802,631	769,321
Rural Roads	1,951,568	1,901,116
Water Infrastructure	991,567	821,390
Sewerage Infrastructure	579,701	544,848
<b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>7,049,816</b>	<b>6,856,044</b>

**9. FINANCE COSTS**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Finance Costs Charged by Queensland Treasury Corporation	3,256	7,021
Bank Charges	34,318	33,065
<b>TOTAL FINANCE COSTS</b>	<b>37,574</b>	<b>40,086</b>



# CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Council 2015	Council 2014
<b>10. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash at Bank	325,238	240,299
Working Capital Floats	9,132	6,532
Deposits at Call	30,198,860	34,231,621
	<b>30,533,230</b>	<b>34,478,452</b>
Cash at bank is held with the Commonwealth Bank in a normal business account with a credit rating of AA. Deposits at call are held with Queensland Treasury Corporation Cash Fund. Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include: *Internally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date:		
Infrastructure	17,555,633	17,377,365
Plant	1,500,094	2,270,446
Sustainability	680,000	4,800,000
Long Service Leave	1,200,000	1,200,000
Special Projects	3,600,000	3,100,000
Information Technology	775,000	741,020
Total Unspent Restricted Cash	25,310,727	29,488,831
*These restrictions were previously allocated as reserves.		
<b>11. INVESTMENTS</b>		
Term Deposits	1,000,000	1,000,000
	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
A single Term Deposit is held with Queensland Country Credit Union, which is an unrated Credit Union.		
<b>12. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>		
<b>(a) Current</b>		
Rateable Revenue and Utility Charges	979,897	796,617
Prepayments	471,027	465,913
Other Debtors	2,215,264	6,649,350
	<b>3,666,188</b>	<b>7,911,880</b>
<b>(b) Non-Current</b>		
<b>Long Term Community Loans</b>		
Charters Towers Mens' Bowling Club	1,555	3,175
Towers Players	20,045	23,824
Pentland Race Club	10,990	12,276
CT Rugby League Club	35,291	41,215
	<b>67,881</b>	<b>80,490</b>
Interest is charged on outstanding rates at a rate of 11% per annum. No interest is charged on other debtors. There is no concentration of credit risk for rates and utility charges and fees.		
Loans relate to advances made to various sporting bodies and community groups. These loans arise from time to time and are subject to negotiated interest rates. The credit risk on these loans is considered low.		
<b>13. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		
None to report at this time	-	-
<b>14. INVENTORIES</b>		
<b>Inventories Held for Sale</b>		
World Theatre Candy Bar	5,233	-
Visitor Information Gift Shop	30,292	40,178
<b>Inventories Held for Distribution</b>		
Works Depot Stores	543,252	591,910
	<b>578,778</b>	<b>632,088</b>
Valued at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential.		



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

**15(a). PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - 30 JUNE 2015**

CATEGORIES	Note	Opening Gross Value As at 1 July 2014	Recognised Assets Gross Value	Transfer Between Classes	Additions At Cost	WIP Take-Ons Gross	WIP Transfers To Expense	Sales Gross Value	Write-offs Gross Value	Revaluation Adjustments to Asset Revaluation Surplus	Closing Gross Value As at 30 June 2015	Opening Balance As at 1 July 2014 Accumulated Depreciation	Transfers Between Asset Classes	Sales Accumulated Depreciation	Write-Offs Accumulated Depreciation	Revaluation Adjustments Accum.Dep. to Revaluation Surplus	Annual Depreciation	Accumulated Depreciation As at 30 June 2015	Written Down Value As at 30 June 2015	Residual Value
LAND	15(b)(i)	15,136,500	-	-	-	285,000	-	(435,000)	(1,600,000)	-	13,386,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,386,500	
BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES	15(b)(ii)	92,618,212	-	-	453,761	432,151	-	(178,285)	(5,283,506)	1,637,492	89,679,824	(9,513,609)	-	47,086	647,231	(1,104,561)	(914,617)	(10,838,470)	78,841,354	
PLANT	15(b)(iii)	25,969,067	-	-	3,117,878	-	-	(3,767,526)	(106,946)	-	25,212,473	(14,922,501)	-	2,590,896	90,011	-	(1,479,501)	(13,721,095)	11,491,377	4,470,670
EQUIPMENT	15(b)(iv)	3,625,834	-	-	150,435	17,804	-	-	-	-	3,794,073	(1,600,861)	-	-	-	-	(330,231)	(1,931,093)	1,862,980	82,350
CITY ROADS & DRAINAGE	15(b)(v)	108,627,236	-	-	392,691	2,010,617	-	-	(414,889)	1,767,011	112,382,666	(10,843,189)	-	-	191,783	4,292,900	(802,631)	(7,161,137)	105,221,529	-
RURAL ROADS	15(b)(vi)	252,764,682	-	-	433,260	426,160	-	-	(1,381,678)	4,081,258	256,323,682	(53,652,898)	-	-	921,179	4,454,982	(1,951,568)	(50,228,305)	206,095,377	-
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	15(b)(vii)	70,871,920	-	-	169,238	249,326	-	-	(3,535)	4,349,454	75,636,403	(28,611,312)	-	-	2,109	(4,424,714)	(991,567)	(34,025,484)	41,610,919	-
SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE	15(b)(vii)	37,165,546	-	-	102,994	106,289	-	-	-	(991,249)	36,383,580	(19,209,753)	-	-	-	246,657	(579,701)	(19,542,797)	16,840,783	-
LANDFILL REHABILITATION	15(b)(viii)	-	600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600,000	
Sub-Total		<b>606,778,997</b>	<b>600,000</b>	-	<b>4,820,256</b>	<b>3,527,347</b>	-	<b>(4,380,812)</b>	<b>(8,790,553)</b>	<b>10,843,966</b>	<b>613,399,202</b>	<b>(138,354,123)</b>	-	<b>2,637,982</b>	<b>1,852,313</b>	<b>3,465,263</b>	<b>(7,049,817)</b>	<b>(137,448,382)</b>	<b>475,950,819</b>	<b>4,553,020</b>
Rounding											-									
Work in Progress	15(c)	4,707,912	-	-	3,889,795	(3,527,347)	(313,351)	-	-	-	4,757,009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,757,009	-
TOTAL Property, Plant & Equipment		<b>611,486,909</b>	<b>600,000</b>	-	<b>8,710,051</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(313,351)</b>	<b>(4,380,812)</b>	<b>(8,790,553)</b>	<b>10,843,966</b>	<b>618,156,211</b>	<b>(138,354,123)</b>	-	<b>2,637,982</b>	<b>1,852,313</b>	<b>3,465,263</b>	<b>(7,049,817)</b>	<b>(137,448,382)</b>	<b>480,707,828</b>	<b>4,553,020</b>

ADDITIONS COMPRISE	RENEWALS	OTHER ADDITIONS	TOTAL
LAND	-	5,333	5,333
BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	175,713	490,577	666,290
PLANT	3,197,157	-	3,197,157
EQUIPMENT	391,944	239,056	631,000
CITY ROADS & DRAINAGE	955,587	1,277,545	2,233,132
RURAL ROADS	1,555,008		1,555,008
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	264,294	40,045	304,339
SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE	22,548	95,244	117,792
TOTAL	<b>6,562,251</b>	<b>2,147,800</b>	<b>8,710,051</b>



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15(a). PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - 30 JUNE 2014**

CATEGORIES	Note	Opening Gross Value As at 1 July 2013	Contributed Assets Gross Value	Transfer Between Classes	Additions At Cost	WIP Take-Ons Gross	WIP Transfers To Expense	Sales Gross Value	Write-offs Gross Value	Revaluation Adjustments to Asset Revaluation Surplus	Closing Gross Value As at 30 June 2014	Opening Balance As at 1 July 2013 Accumulated Depreciation	Transfers Between Asset Classes	Sales Accumulated Depreciation	Write-Offs Accumulated Depreciation	Revaluation Adjustments Accum.Dep. to Revaluation Surplus	Annual Depreciation	Accumulated Depreciation As at 30 June 2014	Written Down Value As at 30 June 2014	Residual Value
LAND	15(b)(i)	15,136,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,136,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,136,500	15,136,500
BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES	15(b)(ii)	91,270,051	-	-	625,147	116,479	-	-	-	606,534	92,618,212	(9,073,157)	-	-	-	502,615	(943,067)	(9,513,609)	83,104,603	43,603,252
PLANT	15(b)(iii)	26,982,867	-	-	1,429,542	124,419	-	(2,445,375)	(122,387)	-	25,969,067	(15,357,880)	-	1,898,073	115,753	-	(1,578,447)	(14,922,501)	11,046,566	4,083,050
EQUIPMENT	15(b)(iv)	4,334,054	-	-	119,293	337,616	-	-	(1,165,128)	-	3,625,834	(2,459,569)	-	-	1,156,562	-	(297,855)	(1,600,861)	2,024,973	82,350
CITY ROADS & DRAINAGE	15(b)(v)	107,063,589	513,057	-	545,837	160,627	-	-	(7,380)	351,506	108,627,236	(10,137,974)	-	-	3,585	60,521	(769,321)	(10,843,189)	97,784,046	59,374,916
RURAL ROADS	15(b)(vi)	241,942,726	117,806	-	3,664,088	1,063,799	-	-	(1,993,847)	7,970,111	252,764,682	(56,228,895)	-	-	657,026	3,820,088	(1,901,116)	(53,652,898)	199,111,785	67,499,712
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	15(b)(vii)	68,754,858	-	-	17,047	101,835	-	-	-	1,998,180	70,871,920	(28,305,904)	-	-	-	515,982	(821,390)	(28,611,312)	42,260,608	12,702,853
SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE	15(b)(viii)	36,509,288	-	-	-	6,737	-	-	-	649,521	37,165,546	(18,326,042)	-	-	-	(338,863)	(544,848)	(19,209,753)	17,955,793	1,445,712
Sub-Total		591,993,934	630,863	-	6,400,954	1,911,511	-	(2,445,375)	(3,288,742)	11,575,852	606,778,997	(139,889,421)	-	1,898,073	1,932,925	4,560,343	(6,856,044)	(138,354,124)	468,424,874	203,928,345
Rounding		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Work in Progress	15(c)	2,739,351	-	-	4,249,094	(1,911,511)	(369,021)	-	-	-	4,707,912	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,707,912	-
TOTAL Property, Plant & Equipment		594,733,284	630,863	-	10,650,048	-	(369,021)	(2,445,375)	(3,288,742)	11,575,852	611,486,909	(139,889,421)	-	1,898,073	1,932,925	4,560,343	(6,856,044)	(138,354,124)	473,132,786	203,928,345



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2015

### 15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd

#### 15(b). Valuations of Non-Current Assets are determined as follows:

This note is to be read in conjunction with the table in **Note 15(a)**.

In respect to all classes, annual additions, replacements and write-offs are adjusted and depreciated on a straight line basis. In respect to Buildings, Roads and Water and Sewerage, this year saw the removal of residual values, consistent with the AASB's May 2015 decision regarding AASB 116, which in some assets resulted in adjustment to lives and/or above average movement in annual depreciation.

#### (i) Land

Land assets have been included at fair value as at 30 June 2015 as determined independently by Michelle Cross (Registered Valuer No: QLD 3428) of APV Valuers and Asset Management. Valuations are based on the sale prices of comparable land sites in close proximity and are adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. Reserve land and land under infrastructure have not been given a value for the purpose of these financial statements.

#### (ii) Buildings & Structures

Council buildings and structures are recognised at fair value and have been included at their written down current replacement value at 30 June 2015 as determined independently by Michelle Cross (Registered Valuer No: QLD 3428) of APV Valuers and Asset Management, by way of interim valuation. This process involved applying the appropriate indices to the value of the building from prior years. The written down valuation of each building is determined by assessing the replacement value of each of the components, adjusted to reflect the assessed condition. A comprehensive valuation was carried out by APV Valuers and Asset Management as at 30 June 2013, and a physical valuation is again proposed for early 2016.

#### (iii) Plant Fleet

Plant Fleet is measured at original cost less accumulated depreciation.

#### (iv) Equipment

Equipment is measured at original cost less accumulated depreciation.

#### (v) City Roads & Drainage

Council city roads and drainage assets are recognised at fair value and have been included at their written down current replacement value at 30 June 2015 as determined independently by Alf Ponticello (Registered Valuer No: QLD 1816) of APV Valuers and Asset Management, by way of interim valuation. This process involved applying the appropriate indices to the values determined in prior years. The written down valuation of each road is determined by assessing the replacement value of each of the components, adjusted to reflect the assessed condition. A comprehensive valuation was carried out by APV Valuers and Asset Management as at 30 June 2013.

#### (vi) Rural Roads

Council rural roads are recognised at fair value and have been included at their written down current replacement value at 30 June 2015 as determined independently by Janaka Weerasinghe (Aust. Civil Eng. No: ASC02124-11) of APV Valuers and Asset Management, by way of a comprehensive revaluation.

#### (vii) Water & Sewerage Infrastructure

Council water infrastructure assets and sewerage infrastructure assets are recognised at fair value and have been recorded at their written down current replacement value at 30 June 2015, as determined independently by GHD Pty Ltd by way of a comprehensive revaluation.

#### (viii) Landfill Rehabilitation

The primary regional 'Stubley Street Landfill' is valued at 30 June 2015 by creating a complementary asset equivalent, to the future provision for restoration of the landfill site, and depreciating the cost over the effective remaining life of the asset. TMI Consulting Pty Ltd, Innisfail prepared a Site Development Plan reflecting the design, approach, volumes and stages to line, cap, and rehabilitate by the end of its projected life. The Plan has identified four primary rehabilitation stages every five years across the remaining 20 year useful life. In-house, the annual provision to undertake the four stages has been calculated.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(c). Capital Work in Progress**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Land	104,408	99,075
Buildings & Structures	393,524	1,159,304
Plant	88,279	8,999
Equipment	542,603	17,008
City Roads & Drainage	1,959,150	2,549,453
Rural Roads	1,397,414	349,807
Water Infrastructure	250,377	405,681
Sewerage Infrastructure	21,254	118,585
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,757,009</b>	<b>4,707,912</b>

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement**

**(i) Recognised fair value measurements**

This section explains the judgements and estimates made in determining fair values used in the financial statements.

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

Property, plant and equipment

- Land
- Buildings and Structures
- City Roads and Drainage
- Rural Roads
- Water Infrastructure
- Sewerage Infrastructure

There are no assets valued where it is assumed that the highest and best use was other than its current use.

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

Council has assets and liabilities which are not measured at fair value, but for which values are disclosed in other notes.

Council borrowings are measured at amortised cost with interest recognised in profit or loss when incurred. The fair value of borrowings disclosed in note 17 is provided by the Queensland Treasury Corporation and represents the contractual undiscounted cash flows at balance date (level 2).

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

In accordance with AASB 13 fair value measurements are categorised on the following basis:

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



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

**(i) Recognised fair value measurements cont'd**

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 2015.

**At 30 June 2015**

	<b>Level 2 (Significant other observable inputs)</b>		<b>Level 3 (Significant unobservable inputs)</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>Recurring fair value measurements</b>	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>	<b>Total 2015</b>	<b>Total 2014</b>
Land	11,893,500	13,643,500	1,493,000	1,493,000	<b>13,386,500</b>	<b>15,136,500</b>
Land Rehabilitation			600,000		<b>600,000</b>	<b>-</b>
Buildings and Structures			78,841,353	83,104,603	<b>78,841,353</b>	<b>83,104,603</b>
City Roads and Drainage			105,221,528	97,784,046	<b>105,221,528</b>	<b>97,784,046</b>
Rural Roads			206,095,377	199,111,785	<b>206,095,377</b>	<b>199,111,785</b>
Water Infrastructure			41,610,918	42,260,608	<b>41,610,918</b>	<b>42,260,608</b>
Sewerage Infrastructure			16,840,783	17,955,793	<b>16,840,783</b>	<b>17,955,793</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,893,500</b>	<b>13,643,500</b>	<b>450,702,959</b>	<b>441,709,835</b>	<b>462,596,459</b>	<b>455,353,335</b>

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2 during the year, nor between levels 2 and 3.

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

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

**Specific valuation techniques used to value Council assets comprise:**

**Land (level 2 and level 3)**

All land assets have been valued by external independent valuers, APV Valuers and Asset Management, using a combination of level 2 and level 3 inputs.

Level 2 valuation inputs were used to value land held in freehold title where sale prices of comparable land in close proximity could be adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. The most significant inputs into this valuation approach are price per square metre.



# **CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL** **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **For the year ended 30 June 2015**

## **15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

### **15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

#### **(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations cont'd**

Other land for which there was no observable market evidence of sales prices for comparable sites in close proximity was valued at the level 3 valuation input hierarchy. Professional judgement of a registered valuer was used to adjust the price per square metre of sales from sites not in close proximity which provided only a low level of comparability.

#### **Buildings and Structures (level 3)**

All buildings and structures assets have been valued by external independent valuers, APV Valuers and Asset Management. As the buildings are specialised in nature the use of level 3 valuation inputs using the cost approach is most appropriate. The approach estimated the replacement cost for each building by componentising the buildings into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on square metres could be supported from market evidence (level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of useful life, asset condition and pattern of consumption including the split between short-life and long-life parts of each component) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such these assets were classified as having been valued using level 3 valuation inputs.

The consumption rating scale and the level of consumed service potential is the basis for which the accumulated depreciation is calculated. The valuer has determined the asset consumption rating scale for each asset type based on the interrelationship between a range of factors. The consumption rating scales were based initially on the past experience of the valuation firm and industry guides and were then updated to take into account the experience and understanding of Council staff. The results of the valuation were further evaluated by confirmation against Council's own understanding of the assets and the level of remaining service potential.

The consumption rating scale is assessed in line with the condition score in the following table:

Condition Score	Assessment
0.00 to 0.99	New or very good condition – very high level of remaining service potential.
1.00 to 1.99	Not new but in very good condition with no indicators of any future obsolescence and providing a high level of remaining service potential.
2.00 to 2.99	Aged and in good condition, providing an adequate level of remaining service potential. No signs of immediate or short term obsolescence.
3.00 to 3.99	Providing an adequate level of remaining service potential but there are some concerns over the asset's ability to continue to provide an adequate level of service in the short to medium term. May be signs of obsolescence in short to mid-term.
4.00 to 4.99	Indicators showing the need to renew, upgrade or scrap in near future. Should be reflected by inclusion in the Capital Works Plan to renew or replace in short-term. Very low level of remaining service potential.
5.00	At intervention point. No longer providing an acceptable level of service. If remedial action is not taken immediately the asset will need to be closed or decommissioned.

The sensitivity of the valuation to these inputs is impacted in the following ways:

Input	Application	Impact
Unit Rate	Applied to all assets.	A small increase in unit rate applied to common assets (eg. formation) will have a far greater impact on fair values than the same increase to less common assets (eg. road furniture).
Relationship between asset consumption rating scale and level of consumed service potential	Used in calculating accumulated depreciation	Accumulated depreciation may be misstated if an incorrect consumption rating scale is applied or if the level of consumed service potential is misstated.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

**(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations cont'd**

**City Roads and Drainage (Level 3)**

City Road and Drainage assets were valued by external independent valuers, APV Valuers and Asset Management, using level 3 valuation inputs using the cost approach. The approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on square metres or similar capacity could be supported from market evidence (level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of useful life, asset condition and pattern of consumption including the split between short-life and long-life parts of each component) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such these assets were classified as having been valued using level 3 valuation inputs.

During the year there were a number of new projects completed where the actual cost was recorded and the impact of depreciation at year end was negligible. While these could be classified as valued at level 2, given the low proportion of the total portfolio that these represented and the likelihood that in future valuation they would most likely be valued at level 3, a policy that all road, water and sewer infrastructure assets are deemed to be valued at level 3.

The consumption rating scale and the level of consumed service potential is the basis for which the accumulated depreciation is calculated. The valuer has determined the asset consumption rating scale for each asset type based on the interrelationship between a range of factors. The consumption rating scales were based initially on the past experience of the valuation firm and industry guides and were then updated to take into account the experience and understanding of Council staff. The results of the valuation were further evaluated by confirmation against Council's own understanding of the assets and the level of remaining service potential.

The consumption rating scale is assessed in line with the condition score in the following table:

<b>Condition Score</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
0.00 to 0.99	New or very good condition – very high level of remaining service potential.
1.00 to 1.99	Not new but in very good condition with no indicators of any future obsolescence and providing a high level of remaining service potential.
2.00 to 2.99	Aged and in good condition, providing an adequate level of remaining service potential. No signs of immediate or short term obsolescence.
3.00 to 3.99	Providing an adequate level of remaining service potential but there are some concerns over the asset's ability to continue to provide an adequate level of service in the short to medium term. May be signs of obsolescence in short to mid-term.
4.00 to 4.99	Indicators showing the need to renew, upgrade or scrap in near future. Should be reflected by inclusion in the Capital Works Plan to renew or replace in short-term. Very low level of remaining service potential.
5.00	At intervention point. No longer providing an acceptable level of service. If remedial action is not taken immediately the asset will need to be closed or decommissioned.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

**(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations cont'd**

The sensitivity of the valuation to these inputs is impacted in the following ways:

<b>Input</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Impact</b>
Unit Rate	Applied to all assets.	A small increase in unit rate applied to common assets (eg. formation) will have a far greater impact on fair values than the same increase to less common assets (eg. road furniture).
Relationship between asset consumption rating scale and level of consumed service potential	Used in calculating accumulated depreciation	Accumulated depreciation may be misstated if an incorrect consumption rating scale is applied or if the level of consumed service potential is misstated.

**Rural Roads (Level 3)**

Rural Roads Infrastructure assets are valued by external independent valuers, APV Valuers and Asset Management, using level 3 valuation inputs based on the cost approach. This approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on square metres or similar capacity could be supported from market evidence (level 2) other inputs (such as estimates of useful life, asset condition and pattern of consumption including the split between short-life and long-life parts of each component) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such these assets were classified as having been valued using level 3 valuation inputs.

During the year there were a number of new projects completed where the actual cost was recorded and the impact of depreciation at year end was negligible. While these could be classified as valued at level 2, given the low proportion of the total portfolio that these represented and the likelihood that in future valuation they would most likely be valued at level 3, a policy that all road, water and sewer infrastructure assets are deemed to be valued at level 3.

The consumption rating scale and the level of consumed service potential is the basis for which the accumulated depreciation is calculated. The valuer has determined the asset consumption rating scale for each asset type based on the interrelationship between a range of factors. The consumption rating scales were based initially on the past experience of the valuation firm and industry guides and were then updated to take into account the experience and understanding of Council staff. The results of the valuation were further evaluated by confirmation against Council's own understanding of the assets and the level of remaining service potential.





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

**(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations cont'd**

The consumption rating scale is assessed in line with the condition score in the following table:

<b>Condition Score</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
0.00 to 0.99	New or very good condition – very high level of remaining service potential.
1.00 to 1.99	Not new but in very good condition with no indicators of any future obsolescence and providing a high level of remaining service potential.
2.00 to 2.99	Aged and in good condition, providing an adequate level of remaining service potential. No signs of immediate or short term obsolescence.
3.00 to 3.99	Providing an adequate level of remaining service potential but there are some concerns over the asset's ability to continue to provide an adequate level of service in the short to medium term. May be signs of obsolescence in short to mid-term.
4.00 to 4.99	Indicators showing the need to renew, upgrade or scrap in near future. Should be reflected by inclusion in the Capital Works Plan to renew or replace in short-term. Very low level of remaining service potential.
5.00	At intervention point. No longer providing an acceptable level of service. If remedial action is not taken immediately the asset will need to be closed or decommissioned.

The sensitivity of the valuation to these inputs is impacted in the following ways:

<b>Input</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Impact</b>
Unit Rate	Applied to all assets.	A small increase in unit rate applied to common assets (eg. gravel or formation) will have a far greater impact on fair values than the same increase to less common assets (eg.RCBC culverts).
Remaining useful life	Used in calculating accumulated depreciation	Under estimation of remaining useful life will inflate accumulated depreciation calculations, while over estimation will deflate accumulated depreciation calculations.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT Cont'd**

**15(d). Fair Value Measurement cont'd**

**(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive fair values for level 2 and level 3 valuations cont'd**

**Water and Sewerage Infrastructure (level 3)**

Water and Sewerage Infrastructure assets were valued by external independent consulting engineers, GHD Pty Ltd, using level 3 valuation inputs using the cost approach. The approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors

The accumulated depreciation of the assets has been calculated by applying the assessed condition of the assets as a remaining useful life. This is then applied as a proportion of replacement cost. The assessed condition of the assets is based on the expected remaining useful life of the asset. As the majority of water and sewerage infrastructure assets are buried assets, the remaining useful life is determined by applying the anticipated asset life to the installation date of the asset. This remaining useful life is then adjusted appropriately if information (such as line break data) is available which indicates that the remaining useful of the particular asset, will be materially different from the calculated remaining useful life.

The sensitivity of the valuation to these inputs is impacted in the following ways:

<b>Input</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Impact</b>
Unit Rate	Applied to passive assets (eg. Pipes & Connections)	A small increase in unit rate applied to common pipe sizes (eg. 100mm & 150mm) will have a far greater impact on fair values than the same increase to less common sizes (eg. >375mm water main).
Remaining useful life	Used in calculating accumulated depreciation	Under estimation of remaining useful life will inflate accumulated depreciation calculations, while over estimation will deflate accumulated depreciation calculations.

**(iii) Changes in Fair Value Measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)**

The changes in level 3 assets with recurring fair value measurements are detailed in note 15(a) (Property, Plant and Equipment). There have been no transfers between level 1, 2 or 3 measurements during the year.

**(iv) Valuation processes**

Council's valuation policies and procedures are set by Council as part of the annual budget process. This is done after appropriate consultation with the Director of Corporate Service, members of the Audit Committee and relevant finance staff. Council's current policy for the valuation of property, plant and equipment (recurring fair value measurements) is set out in note 1(p). Non-recurring fair value measurements are made at the point of reclassification by a registered valuer.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Council 2015	Council 2014
<b>16. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES</b>		
<b>(a) Current</b>		
Sundry Creditors, including Contract Retentions	3,382,764	6,802,675
Employee Benefits - Annual Leave	2,081,825	2,390,212
Employee Benefits - RDO & TOIL	66,354	126,508
	<b>5,530,943</b>	<b>9,319,395</b>
<b>(b) Non-Current</b>		
Annual Leave	-	-
	-	-
<b>17. BORROWINGS</b>		
<b>(a) Current</b>		
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation	-	84,243
	-	<b>84,243</b>
<b>(b) Non-Current</b>		
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation	-	-
	-	-
<b>(c) Loan Summary</b>		
<b>Queensland Treasury Corporation</b>		
Opening Balance at Beginning of Financial Year	84,243	168,455
Loans Raised	-	-
Repayments	(87,499)	(91,234)
Interest	3,256	7,021
Book Value at Period End	-	<b>84,243</b>
Classified As:		
Current	-	84,243
Non-Current	-	-
	-	<b>84,243</b>
The loan market value at 30 June 2015 was zero (2014: \$86,170). Councils debt with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) was held to term. Borrowings are all in Australian dollar denominated amounts.		
<b>18. PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>(a) Current</b>		
Long Service Leave	1,782,086	1,706,968
	<b>1,782,086</b>	<b>1,706,968</b>
<b>(b) Non-Current</b>		
Long Service Leave	273,084	741,236
Landfill Rehabilitation	600,000	-
	<b>873,084</b>	<b>741,236</b>
<b>(c) Long Service Leave Summary</b>		
Balance at Beginning of Financial Year	2,448,204	2,689,186
Long Service Leave Entitlement Arising	431,313	93,771
Long Service Leave Entitlement Extinguished	-	-
Long Service Leave Entitlement Paid	(824,347)	(334,753)
Balance at the End of the Period	<b>2,055,170</b>	<b>2,448,204</b>
Classified As:		
Current	1,782,086	1,706,968
Non-Current	273,084	741,236
	<b>2,055,170</b>	<b>2,448,204</b>

The total current liability of \$1,782,086 is not expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

A provision of \$600,000 has been recognised as the present value of the estimated cost of rehabilitating Council's landfill to the condition required by the licence. The rehabilitation costs are expected to be incurred at 5 year intervals over the next 20 years.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**19. ASSET REVALUATION SURPLUS**

Movements represent fair value adjustments during the reporting period. See Note 1(v)(ii).

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Movements in the Asset Revaluation Surplus were as follows:		
Balance at beginning of financial year	<b>142,296,620</b>	<b>126,160,425</b>
Net adjustment to non-current assets at end of period to reflect a change in current fair value:		
Water Infrastructure	(75,259)	2,514,162
Sewerage Infrastructure	(744,592)	310,657
City Roads & Drainage	6,059,911	412,027
Rural Roads	8,536,239	11,790,199
Buildings & Structures	532,931	1,109,150
Land	-	-
Sub Total of Annual Movement	<b>14,309,230</b>	<b>16,136,195</b>
<b>Balance at end of financial year</b>	<b>156,605,850</b>	<b>142,296,620</b>

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Asset Revaluation Surplus Analysis		
The closing balance of the Asset Revaluation Surplus comprises the following asset categories:		
Water Infrastructure	12,575,062	12,650,321
Sewerage Infrastructure	4,644,054	5,388,646
City Roads & Drainage	34,629,183	28,569,272
Rural Roads	75,993,707	67,457,468
Buildings & Structures	23,505,577	22,972,646
Land	5,258,267	5,258,267
	<b>156,605,850</b>	<b>142,296,620</b>



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**20. RECONCILIATION OF NET RESULT FOR THE YEAR TO THE NET CASH INFLOW (OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Net Operating Result	(11,325,289)	(8,654,736)
Non-cash Operating Items:		
Depreciation	7,049,816	6,856,044
Write-offs of Property, Plant and Equipment	7,410,669	1,504,392
Opening WIP Moved to Expense	292,298	260,739
Community Loan Interest Charged	(2,470)	(3,530)
	14,750,314	8,617,645
Investing and Development Activities:		
Net (Profit) Loss on Disposal of Non Current Assets	(195,785)	(226,945)
Capital Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations	(2,152,079)	(5,200,522)
	(2,347,864)	(5,427,467)
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase) Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	4,245,692	(426,141)
(Increase) Decrease in Financial Assets	-	-
(Increase) Decrease in Inventories	53,310	81,907
Increase (Decrease) in Trade and Other Payables	(3,788,456)	1,956,880
Increase (Decrease) in Provisions	(393,034)	(240,982)
	117,512	1,371,664
<b>Net Cash Inflow (Outflows) from Operating Activities</b>	<b>1,194,673</b>	<b>(4,092,894)</b>

**21. TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR OUTSIDE PARTIES**

	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
Monies Held in Trust are as Follows:		
Sundries	61,290	60,756
NQROC – Operating Funds	1,345	-
Animal Trap Deposits	223	155
Relocation of Buildings	13,644	35,043
Subdivision – Roadworks	84,558	157,212
Subdivision – Water Connections	54,667	47,977
Subdivision – Sewerage Connections	15,000	15,000
Temporary Library Memberships	446	446
Arthur Titley Centre Hire Security Deposits	1,836	3,956
Equestrian Centre Hire Security Deposits	1,557	1,933
Cemetery/Monument Works	735	484
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>235,301</b>	<b>322,962</b>

The Charters Towers Regional Council performs only a custodial role in respect of these monies. As these funds cannot be used by the Council, they are not brought to account in these financial statements.





## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2015

### 22. EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

There were no material adjusting or non-adjusting events after the balance date.

### 23. SUPERANNUATION

The Charters Towers Regional Council contributes to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme (Qld) (the scheme). The scheme is a Multi-employer Plan as defined in the Australian Accounting Standard AASB119 *Employee Benefits*.

The Queensland Local Government Superannuation Board, the trustee of the scheme, advised that the local government superannuation scheme was a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation.

The scheme has three elements referred to:

- The City Defined Benefits Fund (CDBF) which covers former members of the City Super Defined Benefits Fund.
- The Regional Defined Benefits Fund (Regional DBF) which covers defined benefit fund members working for regional local governments; and
- The Accumulation Benefits Fund (ABF).

The ABF is a defined contribution scheme as defined in AASB119. Council has no liability to or interest in the ABF other than the payment of the statutory contributions as required by the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Council does not have any employees who are members CDBF and, therefore, is not exposed to the obligations, assets or costs associated with this fund.

The Regional DBF is a defined benefit plan as defined in AASB119. The Council is not able to account for the Regional DBF as a defined benefit plan in accordance with AASB119 because the scheme is unable to account to the Council for its proportionate share of the defined benefit obligation, plan assets and costs. The funding policy adopted in respect of the Regional DBF is directed at insuring that the benefits accruing to members and beneficiaries are fully funded as they fall due.

To ensure the on-going solvency of the Regional DBF, the scheme trustee can vary the rate of contributions from relevant local government employers subject to advice from the scheme's actuary. As 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.

Any amount by which either fund is over or under funded would only affect future benefits and contributions to the Regional DBF, and is not an asset or liability of the Council. Accordingly there is no recognition in the financial statements of any over or under funding of the scheme.

As at the reporting date, the assets of the scheme are sufficient to meet the vested benefits.

The most recent actuarial assessment of the scheme was undertaken as at 1 July 2012. The actuary indicated that "the Regional DBF is currently in a satisfactory but modest financial position and remains vulnerable to adverse short and medium term experience".

Following the previous actuarial assessment in 2009, Councils were advised by the trustee of the scheme, following advice from the scheme's actuary, that additional contributions may be imposed in the future at a level necessary to protect the entitlements of Regional DBF members. In the 2012 actuarial report the actuary has recommended no change to the employer contribution levels at this time.



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2015

### 23. SUPERANNUATION Cont'd

Under the *Local Government Act 2009* the trustee of the scheme has the power to levy additional contributions on Councils which have employees in the Regional DBF when the actuary advises such additional contributions are payable – normally when the assets of the DBF are insufficient to meet member's benefits.

There are currently 71 entities contributing to the Regional DBF plan and any changes in contribution rates would apply equally to all 71 entities. Charters Towers Regional Council made less than 4% of the total contributions to the plan in the 2014-15 financial year. The amount of superannuation contributions paid by Charters Towers Regional Council to the scheme in this period for the benefit of employees was \$1,887,957 (2014: \$1,880,602).

The next actuarial investigation will be made as at 1 July 2015.

### 24. CAPITAL AND OPERATING COMMITMENTS

At 30 June 2015 capital and operating commitments of \$200,093 for contracted saleyard services expenses (expires 1 January 2016), \$184,277 for 2015/2016 electricity annual orders, \$111,890 for external audit services, \$109,440 for roads capital works under the TIDS program, \$82,700 for sewerage SCADA upgrade, \$80,389 for plant capital expenditure, \$72,727 for the 2016 election, \$70,455 for landfill contract expenses (expires 1 December 2015) and \$63,506 for economic development special projects existed but were not recognised in the financial statements. Commitments reported at 30 June 2014 totalled \$1,305,145.

### 25. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

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

#### Local Government Workcare

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 any bad debts which may remain should the self-insurance licence be cancelled or insufficient funds be 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 \$478,718 (2014: \$534,581).

#### 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 is 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 2015, the financial statements reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

### 26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Council's activities expose it to the financial risks arising from financial instruments – credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk.

This note provides information (both qualitative and quantitative) to assist statement users evaluate the significance of financial instruments on the Council's financial position and financial performance, including the nature and extent of risks and how the Council manages these exposures.



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2015

### 26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Cont'd

#### Financial Risk Management

Exposure to financial risks is managed in accordance with Council approved policies on financial risk management. These policies focus on managing the volatility of financial markets and seek to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council. The Council minimises its exposure to financial risk in the following ways:

Investments in financial assets are only made where those assets are with a bank or other financial institution in Australia. The Council does not invest in derivatives or other high risk investments.

When Council borrows, it borrows from the Queensland Treasury Corporation unless another financial institution can offer a more beneficial rate, taking into account any risk. Borrowing by the Council is constrained by the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.

Council measures risk exposure using a variety of methods as follows –

<b>Risk Exposure</b>	<b>Measurement Method</b>
(i) Credit Risk	Ageing Analysis
(ii) Liquidity Risk	Maturity Analysis
(iii) Market Risk	Sensitivity Analysis

#### (i) Credit Risk

Credit risk exposure refers to the situation where Council may incur financial loss as a result of another party to a financial instrument failing to discharge their obligations.

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:

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Council 2015</b>	<b>Council 2014</b>
<b>Financial Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10	30,533,230	34,478,452
Investments	11	1,000,000	1,000,000
Receivables – Rates	12(a)	979,897	796,617
Loans to Community Organisations	12(b)	67,881	80,490
Other Debtors	12(a)	2,215,264	6,649,350
<b>Other Credit Exposures</b>			
Bank Guarantee	25	478,718	534,581
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>35,274,990</b>	<b>43,539,490</b>

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Council is exposed to credit risk through its investments with the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) and deposits held with banks or other financial institutions. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio that invests with a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with QTC Cash Fund are capital guaranteed.

Other cash investments are held with highly rated/regulated banks and financial institutions and whilst not capital guaranteed, the likelihood of the counterparty having capacity to meet its financial commitments is strong.



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Cont'd**

**(i) Credit Risk cont'd**

**Trade and Other Receivables**

In the case of rate receivables, Council has the power to sell the property to recover any defaulted amounts. In effect this power protects 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.

By the nature of Council operations, there is geographical concentration of risk in Council's area. Because the area is largely agricultural, there is also a concentration in the grazing sector.

No collateral is held as security relating to the financial assets held by Council.

No financial assets have had their terms renegotiated so as to prevent them from being past due or impaired and are stated at the carrying amounts as indicated.

Ageing of past due receivables and the amount of any impairment is disclosed in the following table:

	Not Past Due	Past Due			Impaired	Total
		30-60 Days	61-90 Days	More than 90 Days		
<b>Financial Assets</b>						
2015 Other Debtors	1,954,786	146,009	22,594	91,875	-	<b>2,215,264</b>
2014 Other Debtors	6,485,109	76,096	12,056	76,089	-	<b>6,649,350</b>



# **CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL** **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **For the year ended 30 June 2015**

## **26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Cont'd**

### **(ii) Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk refers to the situation where Council may encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business and borrowings from Queensland Treasury Corporation for capital works.

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.

The following table sets out the liquidity risk of financial liabilities held by Council in a format as it might be provided to management. The amounts disclosed in the maturity analysis represent the contractual undiscounted cash flows (principal and interest) of financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period, excluding the impact of netting agreements:

### **Contractual Maturity of Financial Liabilities and Trade Payables**

Financial Liabilities	0 to 1 year	1 to 5 Years	Over 5 Years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Amount
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2015</b>					
Trade & Other Payables	3,382,764	-	-	3,382,764	3,382,764
Loans – QTC	-	-	-	-	-
	3,382,764	-	-	3,382,764	3,382,764
<b>2014</b>					
Trade & Other Payables	6,802,675	-	-	6,802,675	6,802,675
Loans - QTC	87,518	-	-	87,518	84,243
	6,890,193	-	-	6,890,193	6,886,918

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

### **(iii) 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 its borrowings from the Queensland Treasury Corporation and investments held with financial institutions. The risk in borrowing is effectively managed by borrowing from Queensland Treasury Corporation and having access to a mix of fixed and variable funding sources so that the interest rate risk exposure can be minimized. The fair value interest rate risk in other areas is minimal. Council does not undertake any hedging of interest rate risk.

### **Sensitivity**

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





**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Cont'd**

**(iii) Market Risk cont'd**

**Interest Rate Sensitivity Analysis**

The following interest rate sensitivity analysis is based on a report similar to that which would be provided to management as to 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 calculations assume that the rate would be held constant over the next financial year, with the change occurring at the beginning of that year. It is assumed that interest rates on overdue rates would not change.

	Profit				Equity			
	2015		2014		2015		2014	
	1% Increase	1% Decrease	1% Increase	1% Decrease	1% Increase	1% Decrease	1% Increase	1% Decrease
Financial Assets	315,532	(315,532)	354,785	(354,785)	315,532	(315,532)	354,785	(354,785)
Financial Liabilities	-	-	(842)	842	-	-	(842)	842
<b>Net</b>	<b>315,532</b>	<b>(315,532)</b>	<b>353,942</b>	<b>(353,942)</b>	<b>315,532</b>	<b>(315,532)</b>	<b>353,942</b>	<b>(353,942)</b>



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE  
For the year ended 30 June 2015**

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 50, 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

Frank Beveridge

Date: 29.10.15

Chief Executive Officer

Mark Crawley

Date: 29.10.15

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor of Charters Towers Regional Council

### Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Charters Towers Regional Council, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and certificates given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

#### *The Council's Responsibility for the Financial Report*

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with prescribed accounting requirements identified in the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*, including compliance with Australian Accounting Standards. The Council's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the *Auditor-General of Queensland Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit is planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control, other than in expressing an opinion on compliance with prescribed requirements. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

#### *Independence*

The *Auditor-General Act 2009* promotes the independence of the Auditor-General and all authorised auditors. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Queensland public sector entities and can be removed only by Parliament.

The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

### *Opinion*

In accordance with s.40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009* –

- (a) I have received all the information and explanations which I have required; and
- (b) in my opinion -
  - (i) the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
  - (ii) the financial report presents a true and fair view, in accordance with the prescribed accounting standards, of the financial performance and cash flows of Charters Towers Regional Council for the financial year 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.

### **Other Matters - Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Report**

Those viewing an electronic presentation of these financial statements should note that audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the information presented electronically and does not provide an opinion on any information which may be hyperlinked to or from the financial statements. If users of the financial statements are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic presentation of information, they are advised to refer to the printed copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the accuracy of this electronically presented information.



J F Welsh FCPA  
as Delegate of the Auditor-General of Queensland



Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

**Current-year Financial Sustainability**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2015**

Measures of Financial Sustainability	How the measure is calculated	Actual Council	Target
Council's performance at 30 June 2015 against key financial ratios and targets:			
Operating surplus ratio	Net result (excluding capital items) divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	-19%	Between 0% and 10%
Asset sustainability ratio	Capital expenditure on the replacement of assets (renewals) divided by depreciation expense.	57%	Greater than 90%
Net financial liabilities ratio	Total liabilities less current assets divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	-83%	Not greater than 60%

**Note 1 - Basis of Preparation**

The current year financial sustainability statement is a special purpose statement prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013*. The amounts used to calculate the three reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are primarily drawn from the Council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015.

**Certificate of Accuracy**  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

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  
Frank Beveridge

Date: 29.10.15

Chief Executive Officer  
Mark Crawley

Date: 29.10.15



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor of Charters Towers Regional Council

### **Report on the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement**

I have audited the accompanying current-year financial sustainability statement, which is a special purpose financial report of Charters Towers Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2015, comprising the statement and explanatory notes, and certificates given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

#### *The Council's Responsibility for the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement*

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current-year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The Council's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Council determines 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 Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the current-year financial sustainability statement based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the *Auditor-General of Queensland Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit is planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Council's preparation and fair presentation of the statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the statement.

My responsibility is to form an opinion as to whether the statement has been accurately calculated based on the Council's general purpose financial report. 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.

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

### *Independence*

The *Auditor-General Act 2009* promotes the independence of the Auditor-General and all authorised auditors. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Queensland public sector entities and can be removed only by Parliament.

The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

### *Opinion*

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 Charters Towers Regional Council, for the year ended 30 June 2015, has been accurately calculated.

### *Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting*

Without modifying my opinion, attention is drawn to Note 1 which describes the basis of accounting. The current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013* 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.

### **Other Matters - Electronic Presentation of the Audited Statement**

Those viewing an electronic presentation of this special purpose financial report should note that audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the information presented electronically and does not provide an opinion on any information which may be hyperlinked to or from the financial statements. If users of the financial statements are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic presentation of information, they are advised to refer to the printed copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the accuracy of this electronically presented information.



J F Welsh FCPA  
as Delegate of the Auditor-General of Queensland



Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane



**CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**  
**Prepared as at 30 June 2015**

**Long-Term Financial Sustainability**  
**Prepared as at 30 June 2015**

Measures of Financial Sustainability	How the measure is calculated	Target	Actuals at 30 June 2015	Projected for the year ended								
				30-Jun-16	30-Jun-17	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-20	30-Jun-21	30-Jun-22	30-Jun-23	30-Jun-24
Council												
Operating surplus ratio	Net result (excluding capital items) divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	Between 0% and 10%	-19%	-21%	-18%	-15%	-14%	-13%	-12%	-10%	-6%	-3%
Asset sustainability ratio	Capital expenditure on the replacement of assets (renewals) divided by depreciation expense.	greater than 90%	57%	175%	105%	83%	58%	86%	71%	54%	71%	65%
Net financial liabilities ratio	Total liabilities less current assets divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	not greater than 60%	-83%	-46%	-29%	-9%	-1%	1%	2%	-2%	-5%	-12%

**Charters Towers Regional Council Financial Management Strategy**

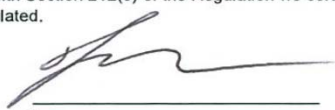
Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long-term financial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

**Certificate of Accuracy**

For the long-term financial sustainability statement prepared as at 30 June 2015

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  
 Frank Beveridge  
 Date: 29.10.15

  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Mark Crawley  
 Date: 29.10.15



**CHARTERS TOWERS**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
For the year ended  
30 June 2015



CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT  
For the year ended 30 June 2015

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## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is often referred to as a Revenue & Expenditure Statement and shows how Council has performed throughout the period.

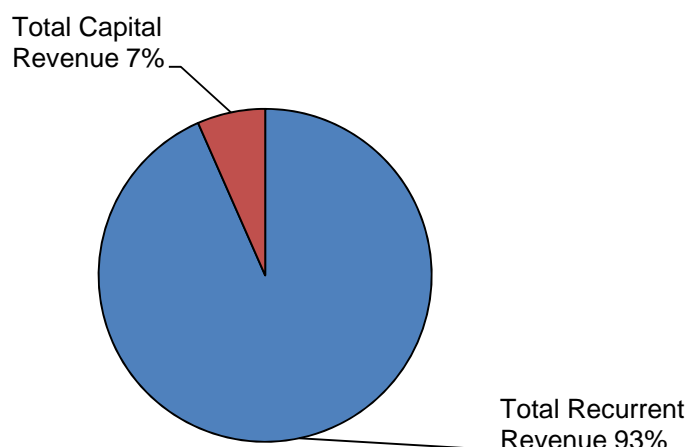
This Statement shows the annual movement between Council's 'incoming funds', referred to as Revenue plus 'outgoing operational funds', referred to as Expenditure.

The net result of these two figures represents money that is directed to Loan repayments; Reimbursement to Reserves for pre-spent subsidy; New community assets; or, allocation to a reserve for pending replacement of existing assets.

### Revenue

There are two main categories of revenue for the financial year, Recurrent Revenue and Capital Revenue.

### Revenue Categories 2014-2015



**Council's Recurrent Revenue** is income which Council relies on being available every year for funding the operations of Council. Council raises Recurrent Revenue from sources such as rate levies, fees and charges, grants, subsidies, contributions, donations, contract and recoverable works and interest. Council continues to be heavily reliant on grants and subsidies and the Recurrent Revenue for 2014-2015 includes **\$6.6 million** from the Federal Assistant Grant and just under **\$3.2 million** of income received through contracts with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

**Council's Capital Revenue** is sourced for the purpose of constructing Council's assets now and in the future. Council's Capital Revenue consists of capital grants, subsidies, contributions and donations and any gain on sale of non-current assets.



# CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

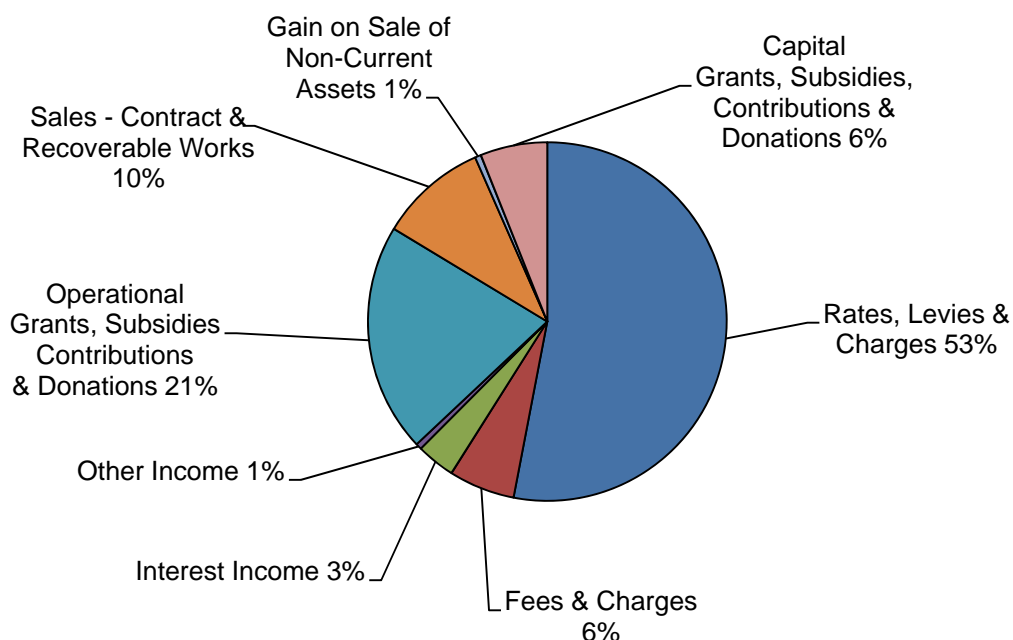
## COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 June 2015

### Revenue Cont.

INCOME	\$
<b>Recurrent Revenue</b>	
Rates, Levies and Charges	18,872,266
Fees & Charges	2,121,703
Interest Income	1,242,349
Other income	190,021
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations	7,352,347
Sales - Contract and recoverable works	3,471,302
<b>Total Recurrent Revenue</b>	<b>33,249,988</b>
<b>Capital Revenue</b>	
Gain on sale of non-current assets	195,785
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations	2,152,079
<b>Total Capital Revenue</b>	<b>2,347,864</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>35,597,852</b>

Total Income 2014-2015





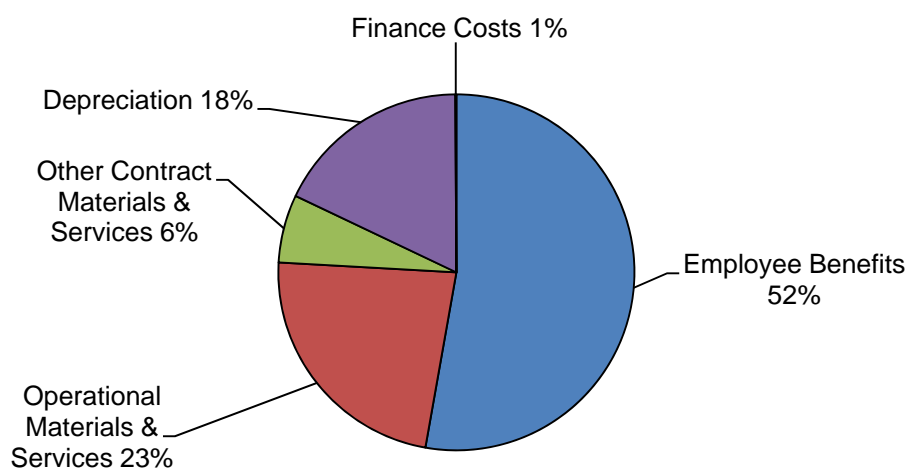
## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### Expenditure

Council incurs both Recurrent Expense and Capital Expense. Recurrent Expenses include employee benefits, made up of wages (*excluding wages for building or replacing assets, reported under capital expenditure within the Statement of Financial Position*) and other employee entitlements, plus the cost of materials, services, depreciation and finance costs required to deliver services, operate facilities and maintain assets.

<b>Recurrent Expense</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee Benefits	20,856,473
Materials and Services	11,568,609
Depreciation	7,049,816
Finance Costs	37,574
<b>Total Recurrent Expenses</b>	<b>39,512,472</b>

### Recurrent Expense 2014-2015



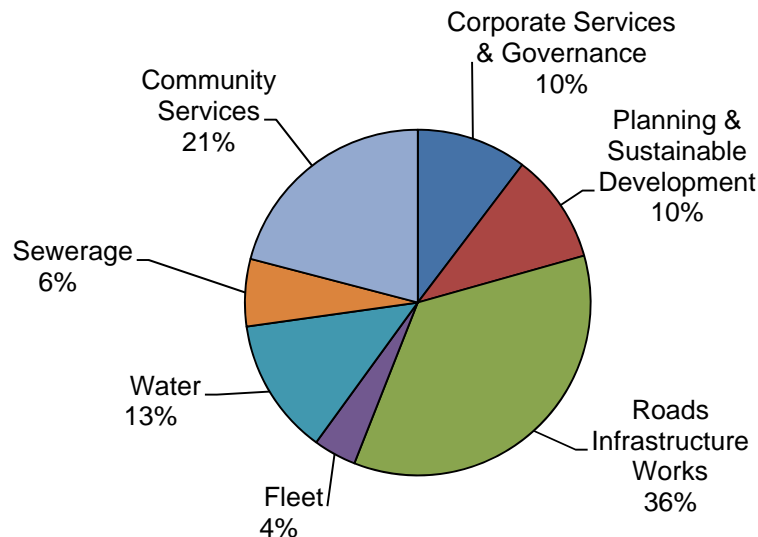


## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### Expenditure Cont.

Funds raised through Recurrent Revenue are used to provide services such as corporate services and governance functions, planning and sustainable development functions, roads infrastructure works, fleet, water, sewerage and community services. These funds were consumed across the functions in the proportions shown. Expenditure on Council roads infrastructure works was just over 35% of Council's total Recurrent Expense, which amounted to \$13.9 million of the total \$39.5 million.

### Expenditure by Function 2014-2015



### Significant Revenue and Expenditure

Recurrent Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations are again down on those funds Council received for the prior year (\$7.4 million in 2014-2015 down from \$17.3 million in 2013-2014). The significant drop in total expenditure on Materials and Services (\$11.6 million in 2014-2015 down from \$36.0 million in 2013-2014) can be attributed largely to the activities associated with Flood Event 2012 Restoration Works, which had a completion date of 30 June 2014. Operational expenditure on Materials and Services remain consistent with the prior year.



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

This statement is often referred to as the Balance Sheet and summarises the financial position of the Council at the end of the financial year.

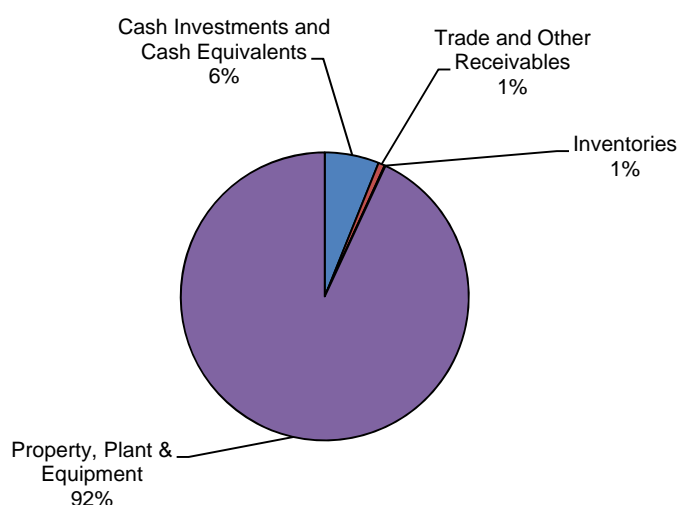
The statement measures what Council owns (referred to as assets) and what Council owes (referred to as liabilities) at the end of the financial year, with the difference between these two components being the net community wealth (referred to as equity) of the Council.

**Current Assets** consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, while it also represents monies owing to Council.

**Non Current Assets** are primarily in the form of fixed assets or property, plant and equipment. These assets make up 93% of the assets on Council's Statement of Financial Position. Infrastructure assets such as roads, drainage and the water and sewerage network, make up the bulk of the property, plant and equipment.

CURRENT ASSETS	\$
Cash Investments and Cash Equivalents	31,533,230
Trade and Other Receivables	3,666,188
Inventories	578,778
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>35,778,196</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Property, Plant & Equipment	480,707,828
Trade and other Receivables	67,881
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>480,775,709</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>516,553,905</b>

### Asset Types 2014-2015







## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

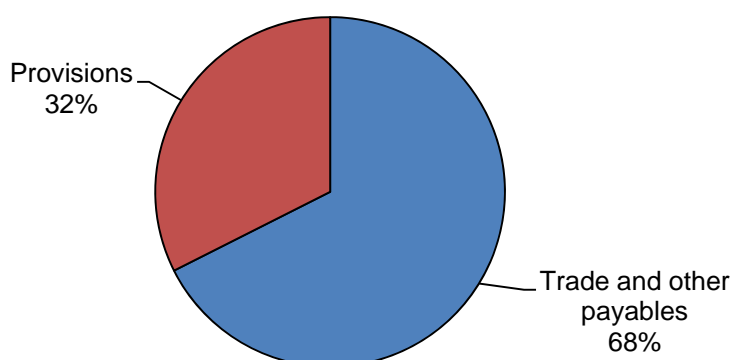
### Liabilities

Liabilities are the amounts that Council owes to suppliers, employees and lenders both now and in the future.

78% of provisions represent employee entitlements, with the remaining 22% representing further rehabilitation costs for the landfill servicing the Charters Towers township.

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>
Trade and other payables	5,530,943
Borrowings	-
Provisions	1,782,086
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>7,313,029</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Provisions	873,084
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>873,084</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,186,113</b>

### Liabilities 2014-2015





## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

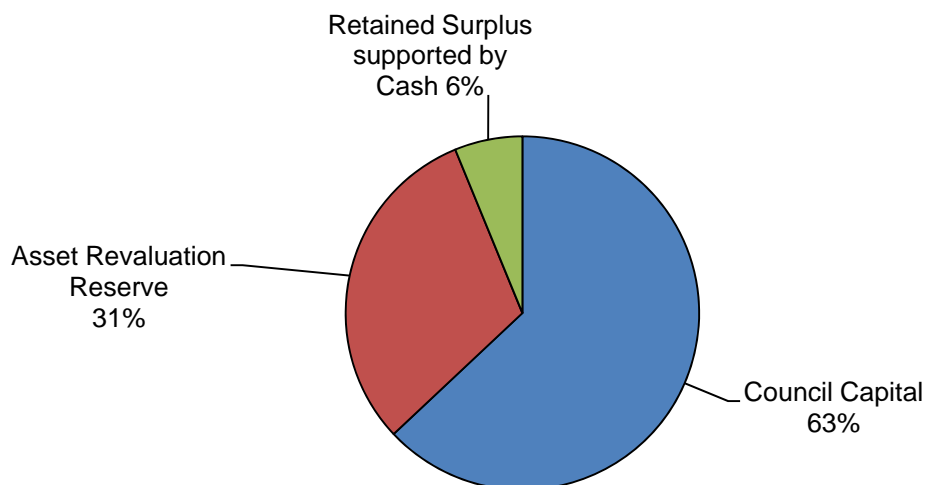
### Equity

The difference between assets and liabilities is the total community equity or the net worth of Community Assets.

At 30 June 2015 this was an amount of \$508 million.

The Equity consists of Council Capital, Asset Revaluation Surplus and Retained Surplus.

### Equity 2014-2015





## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### STATEMENT CASH FLOWS

The Statement of Cash Flows identifies the cash received and the cash spent throughout the year, excluding 'Cash out on Long Term Investment'.

2015	\$
Cash and Short Term Investments - Opening Balance	34,478,451
Net Decrease in Cash Held	(3,945,222)
<b>Cash and Short Term Investments available at end of year</b>	<b>30,533,229</b>

The net decrease in cash can be attributed to:

- Limited capacity to increase own-source revenue and
- Operating deficit resulting from reduced funding compared to increased costs.

### COUNCIL's Retained Surplus

Council's Retained Surplus is made up of Reserve Funds as resolved by Council at its annual Budget Meeting. Outside of both the Project Reserves and Sustainability Reserves, all Council Reserves are monies relied upon within Council's Asset Management framework, for the replacement of existing assets, or, relied upon for planned operational activity.

Asset Replacement Reserves	\$
Roads and General Works	6,510,380
Plant Fleet	1,500,094
Water Infrastructure	7,785,393
Sewerage Infrastructure	9,473,230
Long Service Leave due to employees	1,200,000
Information Technology Replacements - Hardware and network	775,000
Sustainability Reserve	680,000
Available Project Funds	3,600,000
<b>TOTAL RESERVES (including Long Term Investments)</b>	<b>\$31,524,097</b>
Add cash floats utilised across council	9,132
<b>CLOSING CASH (including Long Term Investments)</b>	<b>\$31,533,229</b>



## CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended 30 June 2015

### MEASURES OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The audited financial statements which precede this Community Financial Report indicate that Council has finished the 2014-2015 financial year in a sound financial position. However, work is required to progressively close the deficit gap between annual income and expenditure, over the next few years, to achieve a surplus annual operating position which can fund the long term replacement of Council Assets with the assistance of borrowings where required.

Throughout 2014-2015 considerable work commenced to undertake the necessary reviews and implement more cost effective processes and reduce the cost of services.

Charters Towers Regional Council is committed to sustainable financial management through long term financial planning, aimed at achieving the success and stability of the region.

### FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY RATIOS

INDICATOR	COUNCIL'S CALCULATED RATIO		STATE GOVERNMENT TARGET <sup>1</sup>
	2013/2014	2014/2015	
Asset sustainability ratio	117.39%	57%	Greater than 90%
Operating surplus ratio	(25.06)%	(19)% <sup>2</sup>	Between 0% and 10%
Net financial liabilities ratio	(64.09)%	(83)% <sup>3</sup>	Not greater than 60%

<sup>1</sup> Target data has been sourced from the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013 prepared by the Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience.

<sup>2</sup> Operating deficits can indicate that the local government is expecting to not be able to generate sufficient revenues to cover operating expenses and offset past or future operating deficits or act as a funding source for proposed capital expenditure and/or debt repayments.

<sup>3</sup> The Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013 states that a ratio less than zero (negative) indicates that current assets exceed total liabilities and therefore the local government appears to have significant financial capacity and the ability to enter into loan borrowings if necessary. As at June 2015, Council has NIL borrowings.



## Annual Report 2014/2015

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