



**The Flinders
Ranges Council**

THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2023-2024

**Adopted by Council
26 June 2023
Version 4.0**

Prepared by Eric Brown, Chief Executive Officer, The Flinders Ranges Council

Introduction

The Flinders Ranges Council Annual Business Plan sets out the services, programs and capital expenditure for 2023-2024 financial year. The Council's objective is to provide programs and services for the community and to progress the achievement of the goals and objectives of The Flinders Ranges Council Strategic Management Plan, which includes the Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Section 8(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999* states that councils must act to ensure the sustainability of the council's long-term financial performance and position. An independent assessment of council's sustainability in 2010 reported that council was required to increase its rates income by 50% over and above inflation to be sustainable. This requirement by law to be sustainable is the basis for Council's decision to increase rates by above the consumer price index in prior years.

The Annual Business Plan, and the resulting current year budget, focus on ensuring the long-term sustainability of Council's financial performance and maintain or replace infrastructure or operating assets according to approved life cycle statements. Council's policy making decisions are aimed at maintaining and enhancing public assets for the benefit of the community and managing infrastructure to deliver the programs and services required by the community within a financial framework the community can reasonably afford.

The Annual Business Plan also recognises the cost of delivering programs and services imposed on Council by the State Government through legislation, regulation and other mechanisms. These programs and services include (but not limited to) waste management, development control, native vegetation and public health. The State Government has also imposed substantial additional costs by increasing Council's compliance and reporting costs.

The cost of providing programs, services, infrastructure and community assets is funded on a full cost attribution basis which allocates overhead and other indirect costs to the program or service that generated those costs and required resources.

Council has developed a Long-Term Financial Plan and Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans as part of Council's Strategic Management Plan suite, which will help guide sustainable decisions into the future. Further, the Community Plan 2019-2028 has been strongly used to make decision regarding this Annual Business Plan.

Programs and services in the Annual Business Plan may be amended or deleted by Council from time to time, due to the resourcing needs and the capacity of the community to pay for those services and programs and the effects of external events outside Council's control. New legislation by State Government frequently imposes new requirements on local government without any resourcing or funding to offset the increased costs.

Significant Influences and Priorities

Several significant factors have influenced the preparation of Council's Annual Business Plan 2023-2024. These include:

- Consumer Price Index increases on relevant goods and services of 7.9% (March 2023).
- Historically, Council's auditors had identified that Council was not operating in a long-term financially sustainable manner and that an improvement to its operating position was required. Over a number of years, Council has proactively moved towards this goal and whilst considerable positive progress has been made, as evidenced in the Annual Financial Statements in recent years, Council continues to move forward with long term financial sustainability in mind.
- The effect of COVID 19 on the local economy, particularly tourism businesses.
- Council's enterprise bargaining agreement wage and salary increases, and National Wage Case increases.
- The effects of Climate change in the region and the increase in frequency of flood events.
- Requirements to maintain and improve infrastructure assets to acceptable standards including roads, footpaths, lighting, storm water drainage, street trees and plantings, open space and Council properties.
- Service and infrastructure needs for a changing population.

- A requirement to address economic development and business investment through an upgrade of community services and infrastructure.
- Commitments to continuing projects and partnership agreements with State and Regional organisations, adjoining Councils involved in shared service delivery and the construction works being undertaken under the much-appreciated Roads to Recovery program funded by Commonwealth Government.
- New fees/charges imposed by governments, regional state authorities and state agencies on the wider community as an element of rates payable or a user charge.
- Maintenance of surplus assets retained at the community's request.
- The increased expectation of detailed public consultation on all activities of Council.
- New legislation imposed by State Government with no corresponding resources provided.

In response to these factors, and to minimise the burden on ratepayers, the Annual Business Plan has been prepared within the following guidelines:

- The Annual Business Plan will result in the total revenue raised through general rates increasing by an average of 4.95% per rateable property above last year's rates (Rate Rebate policy for exceptions)
- Consideration given to major projects including those partnered with other entities i.e., Federal, State, community.
- Maintenance of program and service levels for continuing Council programs and services
- Shared service opportunities with governmental agencies and other local government authorities
- The application for grants for existing programs, services and infrastructure
- Working with Community Corrections and "Work for the Dole" volunteers
- Working with community groups and sporting clubs to provide and maintain public facilities.

Continuing Services

All Councils have basic responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1999*. In total, Local Government has 64 Acts of State and Federal legislation which it is required to consider. Approximately 50% of these are applicable to The Flinders Ranges Council. By way of example some of these various Acts influence or control:

- Governance activities e.g. maintaining the voters roll and supporting the elected Council.
- Preparing a Strategic Management Plan, a Long-Term Financial Plan, an Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan, an Annual Business Plan, an Annual Budget, setting rates and service charges, collecting levies for external State agencies.
- Management of basic infrastructure including roads, footpaths, parks, public open space and storm-water drainage.
- Development planning and control, including building fire safety assessment.
- Dog and cat management.
- Public and environmental health services, planning & safety of food premises.
- Work health and safety standards and guidelines.
- Waste management.
- Natural resources management & Native vegetation.
- Cemeteries.
- Community wastewater management systems (CWMS) and reporting to various agencies.
- Community lands.
- Fire prevention & Emergency management.

In response to community needs and aspirations the Council also provides further services and programs including:

- Library services
- Swimming pools
- Ovals and other sporting infrastructure
- Community centres/halls
- Economic development
- Tourism services (Visitor Information Centre)
- Environmental programs
- Climate Change programs
- Park management
- Community support (e.g., Community buses)
- Industry support programs
- Youth programs.
- Street and public space lighting
- Corella control
- Flora parks & reserves

Council operates a number of these programs and services on a subsidised fee basis. These provide important community benefits while also generating minimal revenue for programs and services of benefit to the community. Council seeks to be responsive to the changing needs of the community and the impact of external factors such as State Government legislative changes. Community consultation is undertaken periodically to check levels of satisfaction and areas for improvement.

How does Council determine what services it will provide?

Council's suite of Strategic Management Plans outlines the longer-term objectives and priorities for the Council region. These Plans plus this Annual Business Plan determine the infrastructure needs and services Council will provide including the costs required to deliver these services. Council consults the community widely during the formulation of these plans.

Council adopted its Community Plan 2019-28 in June 2019. This Community Plan has been considered in the formulation of the Annual Business Plan.

From the Community Plan 2019 – 2028:

Our Vision

Our community shares a deep respect for the Flinders Ranges region, history and people, and a commitment to its social, economic and environmental sustainability for both current and future generations. Together the people and places that comprise the Flinders Ranges community make this a great place to live, raise a family, conduct business, visit and stay a while.

Our Mission

To support the ongoing development of the Flinders Ranges as a secure, sustainable & vibrant community by:

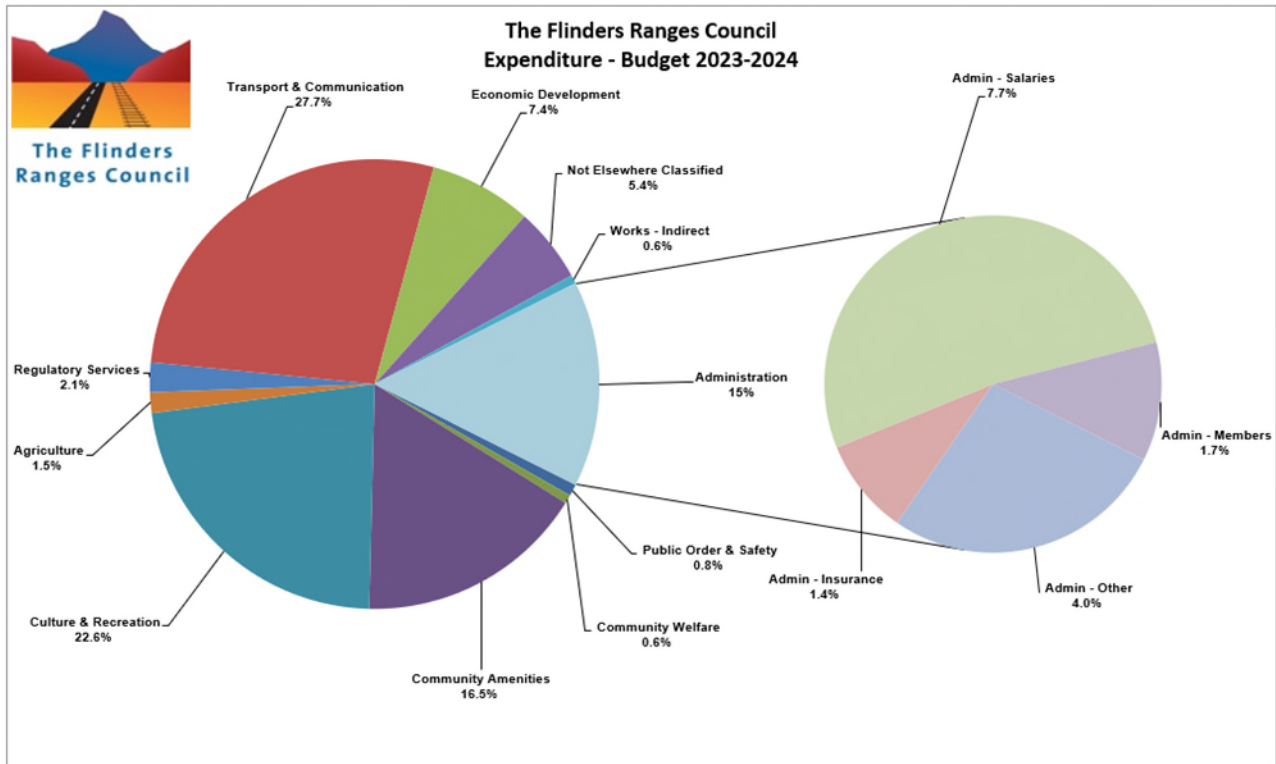
- Demonstrating leadership while consulting with our community.
- Advocating for the retention and enhancement of essential services.
- Acting for the preservation of the unique and natural state of the Flinders Ranges for current and future generations.
- Providing quality services and infrastructure whilst demonstrating fiscal responsibility in our decision making.
- Encouraging sustainable economic development and tourism in support of a growing population and opportunities for all.

Four Pillars of the Plan

1. Lead – Demonstrate leadership and engage with our community.
2. Protect – Protect our environment for current and future generations.
3. Service – Provide quality services and infrastructure whilst demonstrating fiscal responsibility in our decision making.
4. Enhance – Encourage economic development and a growing population.

Council Services and Annual Business Activities for 2023-2024

Council expenditure for the 2023-2024 Budget and for the Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2043 is determined by the above strategic objectives. This Annual Business Plan prioritises the strategic objectives for the ensuing year and beyond in the Long-Term Financial Plan. The following summarises the expenditure.



Transport

Council maintains a road network with a total length of 1,263 kilometres. Council undertakes road maintenance works to ensure traffic and user safety, and to sustain the serviceability of the road and associated signs and facilities. Including, flood repairs, footpath maintenance, patrol grading, road re-sheeting and the sealing of unsealed town streets.

Council also provides safe pedestrian footpaths, cycleways and maintains the aerodromes at Hawker and Quorn.

Culture & Recreation

This activity includes public conveniences, playgrounds, swimming pools and recreational facilities, town and community halls, parks and gardens, cemeteries, library funding, emergency management, camping areas and walking trails for residents and visitors.

Community Welfare & Amenities

Provision and management of waste collection and disposal services, street litter bins, weed control in public places, maintaining community wastewater management systems, youth support, and community buses.

Governance

Achieving the goals and objectives of the Community Plan is driven by good governance using open and transparent processes and accountability to the community. Governance includes monitoring performance of the organisation, compliance with continually changing legislation imposing more cost on Council, ensuring appropriate risk management procedures and processes are implemented and actioned, providing a safe workplace compliant with work health and safety obligations and responsibilities, continuing strategic alliances with external bodies, and supporting the role of the Elected Members in representing and informing their community. Media and communication include newsletters, website and social media. Public consultation processes. Community feedback mechanisms. Legislative reporting.

Administration

Includes customer service, rates, payroll, debtors, creditors, treasury management, website maintenance, monitoring organisational functionality, achieving work health and safety objectives and risk management minimisation programs, asset and infrastructure management, grants.

Regulatory Services

The activities associated with building control, development plan compliance, food and food premises hygiene, public & environmental health, drinking water testing, swimming pool inspections, parking, litter, building and fire safety, dog and cat management & control.

Community Services and Health

Fire Prevention Officer, fire breaks, ongoing vandalism repairs, support for SES and CFS, Immunisations. Support of aged care and support services.

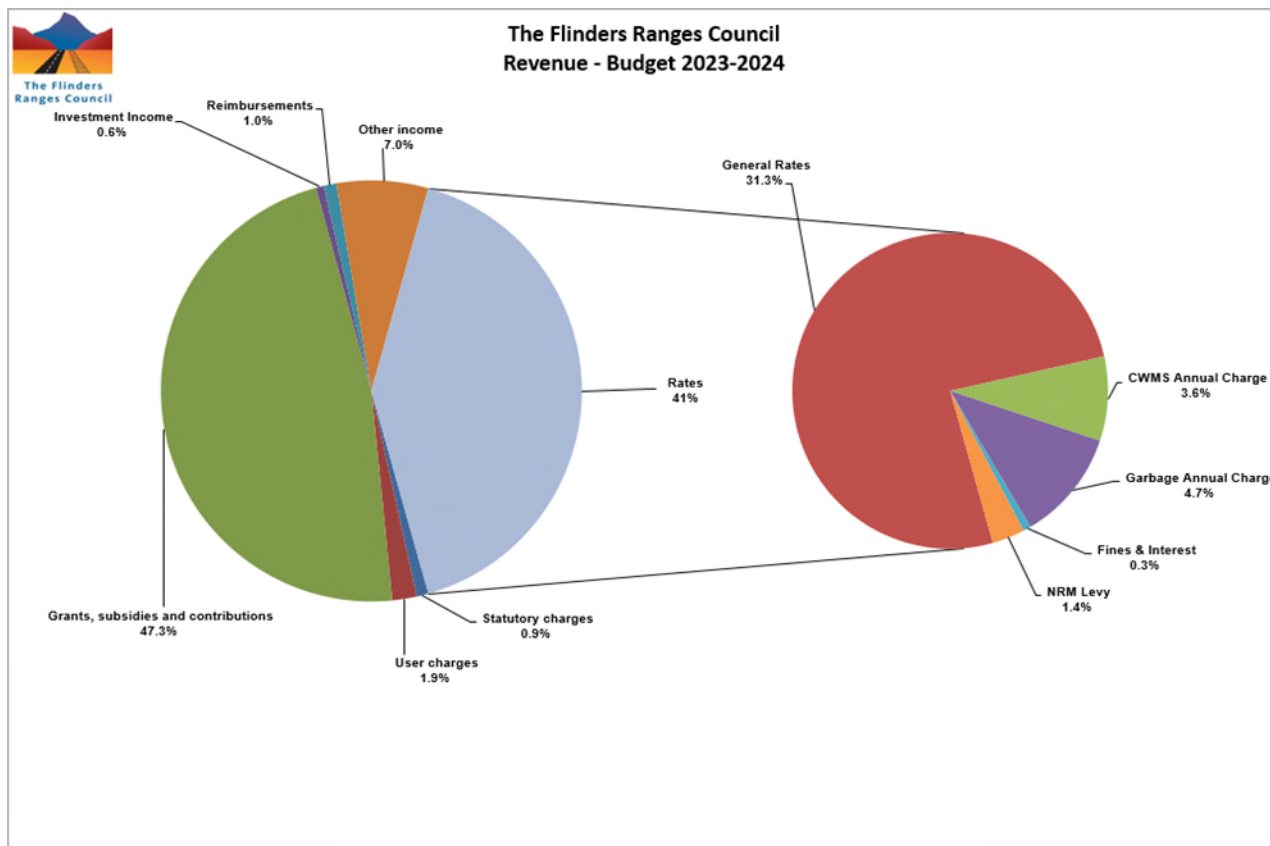
Economic Development and Tourism

Tourism activities such as the Flinders Ranges Visitor Information Centre, contribution toward a regional Tourism Adviser and Economic Development Officer based with the Regional Development Australia Far North. Support for Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society. Grant applications. Marketing the council region to prospective investors, businesses and residents. Seeking employment opportunities for residents. Supporting the film industry.

Listed below are some of the proposed significant undertakings for the 2023-2024 financial year (not in any order of priority and are **subject to change**):

- \$30,000 Greening Programs in both Hawker & Quorn
- \$193,333 Sealing of Richmond Street (part)
- \$193,333 Sealing of Hayward Street
- \$96,667 Quorn Netball/Tennis Court resurfacing
- \$150,000 Resheeting of Simmonstown Road (6 km)
- \$222,859 Hospital Road Upgrade
- \$48,600 Resealing Wonoka Terrace
- \$74,250 Resealing part of Elder Terrace
- \$14,500 Public Square Art Mural
- \$13,500 Little Corella Control
- \$29,000 Buckaringa Building Works
- \$10,000 Skatepark Lighting removal
- \$10,000 Craft Shop works
- \$264,000 Patrol Grading
- \$651,000 Flood damage repairs

Funding the Annual Business Plan 2023-2024



Council's long term financial sustainability is dependent on ensuring that, on average and over time, its expenses (including capital expenses) are less than its revenue, and its' own revenue raising (i.e. rates) is increased to reduce the reliance on grants and external funding sources.

Council's revenue is sourced from:

- Rates & Landscape Separate Rate – applied on a per property basis calculated on capital value (a **tax**, not a fee for service)
- Annual Service Charges (included under rates in the above chart) – annual service charges for Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS) and solid waste management (garbage & recyclables) for properties serviced.
- User Charges – hire of facilities and equipment, waste dumping fees, photocopying, swimming pool fees, recreation fees.
- Statutory Charges and Fees – charges and fees set by legislation and collected by Council for regulatory services such as development and building assessments, dog licensing and control.
- Grants – Council receives financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government under the provisions of the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act, 1995 for general purpose and road activities, funds under the *Roads to Recovery* program for specific road works, and other grant opportunities accessible by Local Government from time to time.
- Investment Income – Council receives interest on funds deposited in Council's reserves which are mainly held by the Local Government Finance Authority. Council also receives interest from operating accounts held with the National Australia Bank.
- Other Income – Council may receive contributions from community groups to co-fund certain Council projects or activities.
- Reimbursements – Council expenditure on a project, service or activity is fully or partially reimbursed by another organisation.

Capital items such as plant purchases / replacements are funded from either loans or reserves created by budget allocations or funded depreciation expense.

Expected General Rate Income

As part of the Annual Business Plan, Councils are required to provide details regarding the expected revenue from general rates for the coming financial year, in comparison to the amounts that were raised in the previous financial year. Comparatives are required in both dollar and percentage terms. As Council utilises land use as a differentiating factor, the information and comparatives are also required to be provided at a land use level.

Please note that these are based purely on the rates as raised for the previous financial year and are indicative only. Land use changes and relative movements in valuation may also impact on the level of general rates revenue for the year. It is also noted that the formal adoption of valuations and the declaration or striking of general rates does not occur until after the adoption of the Annual Business Plan and Budget.

Based on the proposed 4.95 per cent increase, the following general rates (net of rebates) are expected.

Valuation	Net Rates	Rates	No of	% total	Average	Average	Expected Rates 2023-2024				
	2022-2023	2021-2022	Assess	Assess	2022-2023	2021-2022	Total \$	Change \$	Average \$	Ave Inc \$	Ave Inc %
Residential	925,479.70	876,086.06	753	46.2%	1,229.06	\$ 1,165.01	971,290.95	45,811.25	1,289.90	60.84	4.95
Commercial - Shop	31,436.00	29,146.90	19	1.2%	1,654.53	\$ 1,619.27	32,992.08	1,556.08	1,736.43	81.90	4.95
Commercial - Office	1,128.00	1,100.40	1	0.1%	1,128.00	\$ 1,100.40	1,183.84	55.84	1,183.84	55.84	4.95
Commercial - Other	96,873.60	98,062.20	45	2.8%	2,152.75	\$ 2,086.43	101,668.84	4,795.24	2,259.31	106.56	4.95
Industry - Light	4,191.00	4,001.05	4	0.2%	1,047.75	\$ 1,000.26	4,398.45	207.45	1,099.61	51.86	4.95
Industry - Other	6,991.20	6,677.00	6	0.4%	1,165.20	\$ 1,112.83	7,337.26	346.06	1,222.88	57.68	4.95
Primary Production	779,400.30	734,968.95	518	31.8%	1,504.63	\$ 1,449.64	817,980.61	38,580.31	1,579.11	74.48	4.95
Vacant Land	139,444.90	139,115.12	258	15.8%	540.48	\$ 539.21	146,347.42	6,902.52	567.24	26.75	4.95
Other	7,510.75	7,144.36	27	1.7%	278.18	\$ 264.61	7,882.53	371.78	291.95	13.77	4.95
TOTAL	1,992,455.45	1,896,302.04	1631	100.0%	1,221.62	\$ 1,170.56	2,091,081.99	98,626.54	1,282.09	60.47	4.95
Total Increase							98,626.54				
							4.70 per cent				

Regional Landscape Levy (State Government)

Councils are required by the State Government, to collect an amount specified by the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 on all rateable properties. Funds are used to manage natural resources by the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board.

Until this year, the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board declared a levy payable by The Flinders Ranges Council based on capital value which was \$48,116 for the 2023-2024.

Following an extensive consultation process, the Board has received Parliamentary sign-off to change the basis of the levy as part of its transition process to one of a differential fixed amount dependent on Land Use. The total contribution from this area is also expected to be substantially increased to be in the vicinity of \$92,000.

More information in relation to the levy is included within the 2023-2024 Rating Policy and from the Board's website.

Any queries relating to the Regional Landscape Levy should be directed to:

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board
1 Jervois Street, PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700
P: 08 8648 5300
E: saal.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au

Rating Policy and what it means for Ratepayers

In setting its rates for the 2023-2024 financial year Council considered the impact of the rates to be charged on the well-being of the community. Council will consider during the rate setting process:

- COVID 19 and the longstanding drought and the effect of both on economic activity.
- The availability of hardship provisions to rate payers.
- The 2023-24 rate and fees and charges increase of 4.95%.
- Council's adopted 2019-2028 Community Plan as informed by the Community.
- The movement in the Construction Industry Cost Indices and the Local Government Cost Index, and movement in the Consumer Price Index as an indicator of community economic activity.
- The Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2043 developed as part of the Strategic Management suite of documents.
- The current economic climate, as reported by various public bodies, in which major factors are low inflation, higher commodity prices and limited local employment opportunities.
- The need to ensure that appropriate provisions are made for long service leave, annual leave and similar mandated employment costs.
- That reserves are created for the future replacement of infrastructure and the charges for use of the infrastructure to reflect inter generation use of the infrastructure.
- The impact of rates on the community, including but not limited to:
 - The need to distribute the rate burden equitably between ratepayers;
 - The distribution of the benefits received from the services that are provided by Council.
 - The minimising of the general rates by levying annual service charges for the provision of Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) and solid waste management services on a user pays basis where it's possible to recover the full cost of operating the service, with provision for pensioners concession on CWMS to those members of the community who meet the criteria.
- Recommendations from the Rate Discussion Paper presented to Council in March 2023.
- The impact of Government Legislative amendments and the burden of continuous cost shifting by the State Government.
- The specific issues of the community including the need to deliver an ever-increasing range of services across economic, environmental and social functions.
- The need to continue to replace and upgrade infrastructure and other assets including both plant and machinery and the road network.
- The objective of attracting and continuing to attract new residents and the support of business activity to generate economic development.
- Householders, businesses and farmers.
- Employed, unemployed & pensioners.
- Taking into account changes in valuations by the State Valuation Office.
- Climate Change.
- The legacy of Government Grant Commission funding decisions (e.g., the freezing of indexation and withdrawal of supplementary road funding - \$400,000 over 3 years)

The Rating Policy is a separate policy document. The Rating Policy 2023-2024 was consulted on concurrently with the Annual Business Plan 2023-2024.

Environmental Stewardship

The unique and attractive natural environment of the Flinders Ranges region is widely renowned, and highly valued by our residents. The significant uptake of renewable energy systems (e.g., solar hot water and power); recycling; energy conservation; and re-vegetation reduces our 'carbon footprint' and enhances sustainability. In our arid climate, we address water shortage through extensive rainwater and stormwater harvesting, water reuse initiatives, water conservation and community education. We are recognised for our conservation efforts, including our heritage streetscapes, town 'greening' to create native fauna and flora havens, domestic energy and water self-sufficiency.



THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL 2023-2024 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

Version Number
Issued
Next Review
GDS
Page

4/2024
26 June 2023
June 2024
7.11.1
10 of 11

Uniform Presentation of Finances



The Flinders Ranges Council LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023 - 2043 UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

Draft v3.0 - 22 June 2023

	2020	2021	2022	Budget 2023	YTD 30 Apr 2023	Budget 2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2043
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Operating Revenues	6,208,903	6,221,103	6,374,129	5,692,760	6,174,579	6,476,200	6,276,300	6,499,000	6,698,100	6,829,300	6,993,100	7,160,300	7,329,800	7,503,000	7,681,100	99,633,800
less: Operating Expenses	(6,101,399)	(6,075,729)	(6,263,660)	(6,150,017)	(5,048,360)	(6,577,642)	(6,498,622)	(6,566,772)	(6,663,806)	(6,748,223)	(6,852,500)	(6,963,000)	(7,096,300)	(7,206,100)	(7,329,200)	(96,099,400)
Adjusted Operating Surplus / (Deficit) before Capital Amounts	107,503	145,374	110,469	(457,257)	1,126,219	(101,442)	(192,622)	(73,772)	(5,906)	81,077	140,600	197,300	233,600	296,900	351,900	13,534,400
Net Outlays on Existing Assets																
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	(591,822)	(1,270,205)	(1,336,736)	(1,360,921)	(687,297)	(769,250)	(1,377,200)	(1,260,100)	(1,483,225)	(1,210,193)	(1,110,224)	(1,329,596)	(1,778,890)	(1,155,527)	(1,280,406)	(20,311,406)
add back: Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	1,528,517	1,512,969	1,517,345	1,657,300	1,111,463	1,626,400	1,596,400	1,576,200	1,594,600	1,507,500	1,480,900	1,460,000	1,452,500	1,424,600	1,399,400	19,085,100
add back: Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	-	45,455	8,773	14,000	1,918	50,000	113,900	80,200	143,300	44,600	43,300	53,800	175,900	17,800	26,200	1,154,000
	936,695	288,219	190,382	310,379	426,084	907,150	333,100	396,300	214,675	341,907	413,976	184,264	(150,690)	286,673	145,194	(72,306)
Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets																
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets	(844,362)	(1,661,398)	(1,822,449)	(638,533)	(1,710,506)	(252,359)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(304,000)	(6,384,300)
add back: Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	-	742,455	983,062	666,700	357,011	237,359	221,000	205,900	221,500	237,700	254,300	271,500	255,700	273,800	262,500	3,914,800
add back: Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(844,362)	(918,943)	(839,387)	(27,767)	(1,353,495)	(15,000)	(83,000)	(98,100)	(82,500)	(86,300)	(49,700)	(32,500)	(48,300)	(30,200)	(11,500)	(2,469,500)
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	199,476	(486,160)	(638,606)	(119,119)	196,806	790,708	67,478	224,428	126,689	348,884	694,878	349,594	36,210	663,373	486,694	10,892,694

Annual Business Plan, Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan

A full copy of the Annual Business Plan is available for inspection at no charge at the principal office 1 Seventh Street Quorn SA 5433 or Hawker Service Centre (Hawker Motors) Corner Cradock and Wilpena Roads Hawker or can be downloaded from Council's website at: www.frc.sa.gov.au

DISCLAIMER

A rate cannot be challenged on the basis of non-compliance with this policy and must be paid in accordance with the required payment provisions.

Where a ratepayer believes that the Council has failed to properly apply a policy, they should raise the matter with Council by writing to the Chief Executive Officer, The Flinders Ranges Council, PO Box 43, QUORN SA 5433.

Consultation on changes to Council's method of Rating:

The Rating Policy 2023-2024 contains no changes to Council's rating methodology from the Rating Policy 2022-2023. The budgeted average rate increase is 4.95%. Refer to Council's Rating Policy 2023-2024 for more detail. Please note that monies raised for Service Charges and Separate Rates can only be used for the purpose raised.

Council is required under **Section 151 & Section 156** of the *Local Government Act 1999*, to consult the public on any changes to rating methodologies. Consultation was undertaken in conjunction with the consultation required for the Annual Business Plan, which is expressly allowed under that Act by Section 151(8a).

Suggestions and Feedback on the 2023-2024 Annual Business Plan

Feedback and suggestions regarding Council's draft Annual Business Plan 2023-2024, draft Rating Policy 2023-2024, draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-2043 and draft Fees and Charges 2023-2024 were required in writing by 5:00pm on 16 June 2023. Written feedback or suggestions were to be addressed to the Director of Finance and Administration, The Flinders Ranges Council, PO Box 43, Quorn SA 5433.

Council also set aside one hour at the commencement of its Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 20 June 2023 commencing at 6:30pm for Residents or Ratepayers who wish to address the Council on the draft Annual Business Plan 2023-2024, draft Rating Policy 2023-2024, draft Long Term Financial Plan 2023-2043 and/or draft Fees and Charges 2023-2024. Ratepayers were required to phone Council on 8620 0500 to register their interest in making a verbal presentation to Council on the draft Annual Business Plan 2023-2024, draft Rating Policy 2023-2024, draft Long Term Financial Plan 2023-2043 and/or draft Fees and Charges 2023-2024.

Council also accepted email submissions to council@frc.sa.gov.au provided a contact name, address and phone number are included in the email and provided a facility from the Council website for people to ask questions regarding, or make submissions on, the draft plans.

All submissions made, both written and verbal, were taken into account and considered by Council at the June 2023 Ordinary Meeting prior to any final changes being made as a result. Formal adoption was undertaken at a Special Meeting held on 26 June 2023.

Please Note that Council endeavours to identify cost savings and alternative revenue sources on an ongoing basis to minimise future rate rises. Council continues to utilise shared services as a means of efficient and cost-effective service delivery.