SPECIAL SCHEDULES for the year ended 30 June 2017



Special Schedules

for the year ended 30 June 2017

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Background

- (i) These Special Schedules have been designed to meet the requirements of special purpose users such as;
 - the NSW Grants Commission
 - the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS),
 - the NSW Office of Water (NOW), and
 - the Office of Local Government (OLG).
- (ii) The financial data is collected for various uses including;
 - the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants,
 - the incorporation of Local Government financial figures in national statistics,
 - the monitoring of loan approvals,
 - the allocation of borrowing rights, and
 - the monitoring of the financial activities of specific services.

¹ Special Schedules are not audited (with the exception of Special Schedule 8).

Special Schedule 1 – Net Cost of Services for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$'000

Function or activity	Expenses from continuing	Incom continuing	Net cost of services	
	operations	Non-capital	Capital	01 301 11003
Governance	520	6	_	(514)
Administration	1,588	695	_	(893)
Public order and safety				
Fire service levy, fire protection,				
emergency services	285	135	_	(150)
Enforcement of local government regulations	105	_	_	(105)
Animal control	2	32	_	30
Total public order and safety	392	167	_	(225)
Health	265	32	_	(233)
Environment				
Noxious plants and insect/vermin control	187	52	_	(135)
Solid waste management	589	672	_	83
Stormwater management	10	_	_	(10)
Total environment	786	724	_	(62)
Community services and education				
Administration and education	(4)			4
Social protection (welfare)	30		_	(30)
Aged persons and disabled	2,977	2,964	_	(13)
Children's services	1,938	2,008	_	70
Total community services and education	4,941	4,972	_	31
Housing and community amenities	444	20		(445)
Public cemeteries	141	26	_	(115)
Public conveniences	96	-	_	(96) (78)
Town planning	197 282	27 94	92	
Other community amenities	716	147	92	(188) (477)
Total housing and community amenities	710	147	92	(477)
Water supplies	2,989	2,998	169	178
Sewerage services	866	861	239	234

Special Schedule 1 - Net Cost of Services (continued) for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$'000

Function or activity	Expenses from continuing		e from operations	Net cost of services
	operations	Non-capital	Capital	0. 00. 1.000
Recreation and culture				
Public libraries	428	41	_	(387)
Museums	592	116	_	(476)
Community centres and halls	517	176	_	(341)
Other performing arts	9	_	_	(9)
Sporting grounds and venues	505	18	_	(487)
Swimming pools	714	94	_	(620)
Parks and gardens (lakes)	287	_	_	(287)
Total recreation and culture	3,052	445	_	(2,607)
Mining, manufacturing and construction				
Building control	30	1	_	(29)
Total mining, manufacturing and const.	30	1	_	(29)
Transport and communication				
Urban roads (UR) – local	_	(3)	786	784
Urban roads – regional	668	(0)	_	(668)
Sealed rural roads (SRR) – local	4	_	_	(4)
Sealed rural roads (SRR) – regional	_	_	_	_
Unsealed rural roads (URR) – local	5,064	_	_	(5,064)
Unsealed rural roads (URR) - regional	1,201	_	_	(1,201)
Parking areas	7	_	_	(7)
Footpaths	229	_	_	(229)
Aerodromes	285	145	-	(140)
Other transport and communication	7,963	11,301	_	3,337
Total transport and communication	15,421	11,443	786	(3,192)
Economic affairs				
Camping areas and caravan parks	39	139	_	100
Other economic affairs	918	654	_	(264)
Total economic affairs	957	793	_	(164)
Totals – functions	32,523	23,284	1,286	(7,953)
General purpose revenues (1)		11,958		11,958
Share of interests – joint ventures and		,,,,,		,,,,,
associates using the equity method	_	_		
NET OPERATING RESULT (2)	32,523	35,242	1,286	4,005

⁽²⁾ As reported in the Income Statement (1) Includes: rates and annual charges (including ex gratia, excluding water and sewer), non-capital general purpose grants, interest on investments (excluding externally restricted assets) and interest on overdue rates and annual charges

Special Schedule 2(a) – Statement of Long Term Debt (all purpose) for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$'000

		ipal outstai inning of th		New loans		emption the year	Transfers	Interest	at the	ncipal outstanding the end of the year	
Classification of debt	Current	Non- current	Total	raised during the year	From revenue	Sinking funds	to sinking funds	applicable for year	Current	Non- current	Total
Loans (by source)											
Financial institutions	174	1,410	1,584	_	174	_	_	97	223	1,187	1,410
Total loans	174	1,410	1,584	-	174	-	-	97	223	1,187	1,410
Other long term debt											
Finance leases	83	143	226	_	80	_	_	16	51	95	146
Total long term debt	83	143	226	_	80	_	_	16	51	95	146
Total debt	257	1,553	1,810	-	254	_	_	113	274	1,282	1,556

Notes: excludes (i) internal loans and (ii) principal inflows/outflows relating to loan re-financing.

This schedule is prepared using the face value of debt obligations, rather than fair value (which are reported in the GPFS).

Special Schedule 3 — Water Supply Income Statement Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis for the year ended 30 June 2017

		Actuals
\$'000	2017	2016
A Expenses and income Expenses		
1. Management expenses		
a. Administration	158	168
b. Engineering and supervision	98	127
2. Operation and maintenance expenses		
- Mains		
c. Operation expenses	129	76
d. Maintenance expenses	209	191
- Reservoirs		
e. Operation expenses	1	4
f. Maintenance expenses	64	70
- Treatment		
g. Operation expenses (excluding chemical costs)	1,128	1,388
h. Chemical costs	197	162
i. Maintenance expenses	454	484
3. Depreciation expenses		
a. System assets	363	342
4. Total expenses	2,801	3,012

Special Schedule 3 — Water Supply Income Statement (continued) Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Actuals	Actuals
\$'000	2017	2016
Income		
5. Residential charges a. Access (including rates) b. Usage charges	719 2,228	689 2,258
6. Non-residential charges a. Access (including rates)	4	1
7. Interest income	60	66
8. Grants a. Grants for acquisition of assets	182	14
9. Contributions a. Other contributions	-	363
10. Total income	3,193	3,391
11. Operating result	392	379
11a. Operating result (less grants for acquisition of assets)	210	365

Special Schedule 3 – Water Supply Income Statement (continued) Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis

for the year ended 30 June 2017

14. Total amount of pensioner rebates (actual dollars)

\$'00	0	Actuals 2017	Actuals 2016
В	Capital transactions		
NI:I	Non-operating expenditures		
Nil			
С	Rates and charges		
12.	Number of assessments		
	a. Residential (occupied)	1,855	1,848
	b. Residential (unoccupied, ie. vacant lot)	128	128
	c. Non-residential (occupied)	396	400
	d. Non-residential (unoccupied, ie. vacant lot)	22	18
13.	Number of ETs for which developer charges were received	– ET	- ET

\$

23,450

24,194

Special Schedule 4 – Water Supply Statement of Financial Position Includes internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis

as at 30 June 2017

\$'00	0	Actuals Current	Actuals Non-current	Actuals Total
15.	ASSETS Cash and investments a. Other	2,302	_	2,302
16.	Receivables a. Rates and availability charges b. User charges	70 536	_ _	70 536
17.	Inventories	140	_	140
18.	Property, plant and equipment a. System assets	_	12,353	12,353
19.	Total assets	3,048	12,353	15,401
20.	LIABILITIES Creditors	318	_	318
21.	Borrowings	19	_	19
22.	Total liabilities	337	_	337
23.	NET ASSETS COMMITTED	2,711	12,353	15,064
24. 25. 26.	EQUITY Accumulated surplus Asset revaluation reserve TOTAL EQUITY			14,574 490 15,064
27. 28. 29.	Note to system assets: Current replacement cost of system assets Accumulated current cost depreciation of system assets Written down current cost of system assets		_	29,285 (16,932) 12,353

Special Schedule 5 — Sewerage Service Income Statement Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$'000	Actuals 2017	Actuals 2016
A Expenses and income Expenses		
1. Management expenses		
a. Administration	51	47
b. Engineering and supervision	99	70
2. Operation and maintenance expenses – mains		
a. Maintenance expenses	32	37
- Pumping stations		
b. Energy costs	6	3
c. Maintenance expenses	113	39
- Treatment		
d. Operation expenses (excl. chemical, energy, effluent and biosolids management costs)	134	108
e. Chemical costs	6	9
f. Effluent management	59	33
3. Depreciation expenses		
a. System assets	366	367
4. Total expenses	866	713

Special Schedule 5 – Sewerage Service Income Statement (continued) Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Actuals	Actuals
\$'000	2017	2016
Income		
5. Residential charges (including rates)	568	621
6. Non-residential charges a. Usage charges	253	165
7. Trade waste charges a. Usage charges	7	4
8. Interest income	56	36
9. Grantsa. Grants for acquisition of assets	239	163
b. Grants for pensioner rebates	11	12
10. Total income	1,134	1,001
11. Operating result	268	288
11a. Operating result (less grants for acquisition of assets)	29	125

Special Schedule 5 – Sewerage Service Income Statement (continued) Includes all internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis

for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$'00	0	Actuals 2017	Actuals 2016
В	Capital transactions		
Nil	Non-operating expenditures		
С	Rates and charges		
12.	Number of assessments		
	a. Residential (occupied)	1,607	1,605
	b. Residential (unoccupied, ie. vacant lot)	51	52
	c. Non-residential (occupied)	163	159
	d. Non-residential (unoccupied, ie. vacant lot)	22	7
13.	Number of ETs for which developer charges were received	– ET	– ET
14.	Total amount of pensioner rebates (actual dollars)	\$ 19,699	\$ 20,846

Special Schedule 6 – Sewerage Service Statement of Financial Position Includes internal transactions, i.e. prepared on a gross basis

as at 30 June 2017

\$'000		Actuals Current	Actuals Non-current	Actuals Total
\$ 000		Current	Non-current	Total
	SSETS ash and investments			
	Other	2,215	_	2,215
16. Re	eceivables			
a.	Rates and availability charges	100	_	100
17. In	ventories	3	_	3
18. Pr	roperty, plant and equipment			
a.	System assets	_	11,846	11,846
19. To	otal assets	2,318	11,846	14,164
LI.	ABILITIES			
20. Cr	reditors	6	-	6
21. Bo	orrowings	2	_	2
22. To	otal liabilities	8		8
23. NI	ET ASSETS COMMITTED	2,310	11,846	14,156
	QUITY			
	ccumulated surplus			3,929
	sset revaluation reserve ther reserves			10,227
			_	44.450
27. TO	OTAL EQUITY		=	14,156
	ote to system assets:			
	urrent replacement cost of system assets			19,630
	ccumulated current cost depreciation of system assets ritten down current cost of system assets		_	(7,784) 11,846

Notes to Special Schedules 3 and 5

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Administration (1)

(item 1a of Special Schedules 3 and 5) comprises the following:

- Administration staff:
 - Salaries and allowance
 - Travelling expenses
 - Accrual of leave entitlements
 - Employment overheads.
- Meter reading
- Bad and doubtful debts
- Other administrative/corporate support services

Engineering and supervision (1)

(item 1b of Special Schedules 3 and 5) comprises the following:

- Engineering staff:
 - Salaries and allowance
 - Travelling expenses
 - Accrual of leave entitlements
 - Employment overheads.
- Other technical and supervision staff:
 - Salaries and allowance
 - Travelling expenses
 - Accrual of leave entitlements
 - Employment overheads.

Operational expenses (item 2 of Special Schedules 3 and 5) comprise the day to day operational expenses excluding maintenance expenses.

Maintenance expenses (item 2 of Special Schedules 3 and 5) comprise the day to day repair and maintenance expenses. (Refer to Section 5 of the Local Government Asset Accounting Manual regarding capitalisation principles and the distinction between capital and maintenance expenditure).

Other expenses (item 4c of Special Schedules 3 and 5) includes all expenses not recorded elsewhere.

Revaluation decrements (item 4b of Special Schedules 3 and 5) is to be used when I,PP&E decreases in FV.

Impairment losses (item 4d and 4e of Special Schedules 3 and 5) are to be used when the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount (refer to page D-31).

Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewerage Program (item 4f of Special Schedules 3 and 5) is to be used when operation and maintenance work has been undertaken on behalf of the Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewerage Program. Similarly, income for item 11a of Special Schedule 3 and item 12a of Special Schedule 5 are for services provided to the Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewerage Program and is not part of Council's water supply and sewerage revenue.

Residential charges ⁽²⁾ (items 6a, 6b and item 6 of Special Schedules 3 and 5 respectively) include all income from residential charges. Item 6 of Schedule 3 should be separated into 6a access charges (including rates if applicable) and 6b usage charges.

Non-residential charges ⁽²⁾ (items 7a, 7b of Special Schedules 3 and 5) include all income from non-residential charges separated into 7a access charges (including rates if applicable) and 7b usage charges.

Trade waste charges (item 8 of Special Schedule 5) include all income from trade waste charges separated into 8a annual fees, 8b usage charges and 8c excess mass charges and 8d re-inspection fees.

Other income (items 10 and 11 of Special Schedules 3 and 5 respectively) include all income not recorded elsewhere.

Other contributions (items 12c and 13c of Special Schedules 3 and 5 respectively) including capital contributions for water supply or sewerage services received by Council under Section 565 of the *Local Government Act*.

Notes:

- (1) Administration and engineering costs for the development of capital works projects should be reported as part of the capital cost of the project and not as part of the recurrent expenditure (ie. in item 16 for water supply and item 17 for sewerage, and **not** in items 1a and 1b).
- (2) To enable accurate reporting of **residential revenue from usage charges**, it is essential for councils to accurately separate their residential (item 6) charges and non-residential (item 7) charges.

Special Schedule 7 – Report on Infrastructure Assets as at 30 June 2017

\$'000

2,000												
	Asset category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of	2016/17	2016/17 Actual	Net carrying	Gross replacement cost (GRC)	replacement cost				
Asset class		standard	service set by Council		maintenance	amount		1	2	3	4	5
Buildings	Buildings – non-specialised	1,504	1,547	195	199	5,770	12,971	0%	23%	53%	21%	3%
	Buildings – specialised	1,957	1,003	566	617	18,903	37,744	0%	14%	46%	28%	12%
	Sub-total	3,461	2,550	761	816	24,673	50,715	0.0%	16.3%	47.8%	26.2%	9.7%
Other	Other structures	91	5	18	_	612	1,172	10%	27%	19%	43%	1%
structures	Sub-total	91	5	18	_	612	1,172	10.0%	27.0%	19.0%	43.0%	1.0%
Roads	Sealed roads	2,175	4,841	719	204	81,835	115,555	19%	63%	12%	4%	2%
	Unsealed roads	11,733	13,872	2,435	2,385	111,038	121,758	62%	2%	7%	18%	11%
	Bridges	_	_	24	_	3,298	4,882	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%
	Footpaths	_	_	65	201	2,909	4,139	15%	50%	35%	0%	0%
	Kerb & Guttering	_	_	47	68	6,481	9,441	3%	76%	21%	0%	0%
	Bulk earthworks	_	_	_	_	14,031	14,031	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Rural Drainage	92	527	49	88	1,101	2,441	0%	8%	70%	22%	0%
	Sub-total	14,000	19,240	3,339	2,946	222,210	272,247	41.2%	31.9%	11.0%	10.1%	5.7%

Special Schedule 7 – Report on Infrastructure Assets as at 30 June 2017 (continued)

\$'000

Ψ 000												
Asset class	Asset category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council	2016/17 Required maintenance ^a	2016/17 Actual maintenance	Net carrying amount	Gross replacement cost (GRC)			on as a per lacement of	rcentage c	of gross
		1										-
Water supply	Water supply network	915	5,166	420	578	11,330	28,264	6%	21%	59%	14%	0%
network	Sub-total	915	5,166	420	578	11,330	28,264	6.0%	21.0%	59.0%	14.0%	0.0%
Sewerage	Sewerage network	42	150	202	123	11,297	19,082	1%	46%	52%	1%	0%
network	Sub-total	42	150	202	123	11,297	19,082	1.0%	46.0%	52.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Stormwater	Stormwater drainage	_		32	10	4,741	6,450	3%	97%	0%	0%	0%
drainage	Sub-total	_	_	32	10	4,741	6,450	3.0%	97.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Onen energ/	Outing points and a selection			5 4	404	4.700	0.004	00/	201	1000/	00/	
Open space/	Swimming pools	-		54	121	1,703	2,684	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
recreational	Other	205	893	370	189	2,259	6,536	14%	26%	36%	21%	3%
assets	Sub-total	205	893	424	310	3,962	9,220	9.9%	18.4%	54.6%	14.9%	2.1%
	TOTAL – ALL ASSETS	18,714	28,004	5,196	4,783	278,825	387,150	29.8%	30.5%	22.3%	12.1%	5.3%

Notes:

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

Infrastructure asset condition assessment 'key'

1 Excellent No work required (normal maintenance)

Good Only minor maintenance work required

3 Average Maintenance work required

4 Poor Renewal required

5 Very poor Urgent renewal/upgrading required

Special Schedule 7 - Report on Infrastructure Assets (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Amounts	Indicator		Prior	periods
\$ '000	2017	2017	Benchmark	2016	2015
Infrastructure asset performance indicator consolidated	rs *				
1. Infrastructure renewals ratio Asset renewals (1) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	1,945 5,249	37.05%	>= 100%	82.99%	65.89%
2. Infrastructure backlog ratio Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	18,714 268,271	6.98%	< 2.00%	15.73%	10.35%
3. Asset maintenance ratio Actual asset maintenance Required asset maintenance	4,783 5,196	0.92	> 1.00	0.53	0.42
4. Cost to bring assets to agreed service level Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council Gross replacement cost	28,004 387,150	7.23%		0.00%	

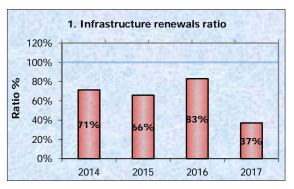
Notes

^{*} All asset performance indicators are calculated using the asset classes identified in the previous table.

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

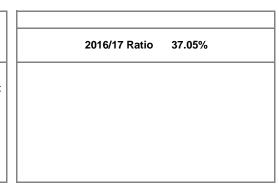
Special Schedule 7 - Report on Infrastructure Assets (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2017



Purpose of asset renewals ratio

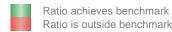
To assess the rate at which these assets are being renewed relative to the rate at which they are depreciating.

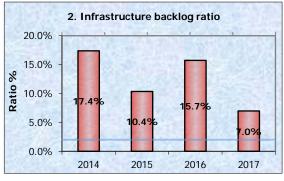


Benchmark:

Minimum >=100.00%

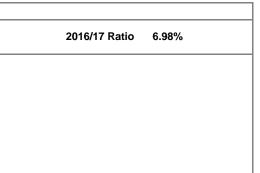
Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #25





Purpose of infrastructure backlog ratio

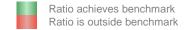
This ratio shows what proportion the backlog is against the total value of a Council's infrastructure.

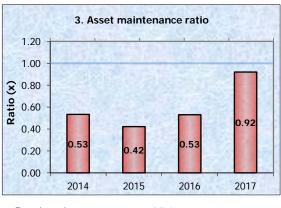


Benchmark:

Maximum <2.00%

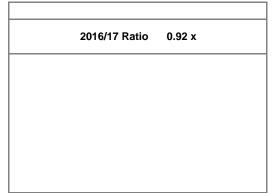
Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #25





Purpose of asset maintenance ratio

Compares actual vs. required annual asset maintenance. A ratio above 1.0 indicates Council is investing enough funds to stop the infrastructure backlog growing.

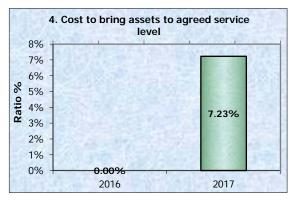


Benchmark:

Minimum >1.00

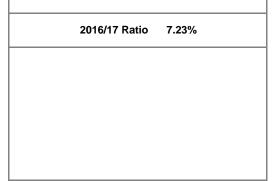
Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #25





Purpose of agreed service level ratio

This ratio provides a snapshot of the proportion of outstanding renewal works compared to the total value of assets under Council's care and stewardship.



Special Schedule 7 - Report on Infrastructure Assets (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2017

\$ '000	Benchmark	Water 2017	Sewer 2017	General ⁽¹⁾ 2017
Infrastructure asset performance indicators by fund				
1. Infrastructure renewals ratio Asset renewals (2)	>= 100%	63.36%	30.05%	35.51%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	prior period:	135.09%	0.00%	85.59%
2. Infrastructure backlog ratio				
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	< 2.00%	8.08%	0.37%	7.23%
, g	prior period:	183.81%	31.10%	7.45%
3. Asset maintenance ratio				
Actual asset maintenance Required asset maintenance	> 1.00	1.38	0.61	0.89
Required asset maintenance	prior period:	0.41	0.32	0.56
4. Cost to bring assets to agreed service level				
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council Gross replacement cost		18.28%	0.79%	6.68%

Notes

⁽¹⁾ General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its water and sewer activities which are listed separately.

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

Special Schedule 8 – Permissible Income Calculation

for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$'000		Calculation 2016/17	Calculation 2017/18
Notional general income calculation (1)			
Last year notional general income yield	а	3,698	3,771
Plus or minus adjustments (2)	b	8	_
Notional general income	c = (a + b)	3,706	3,771
Permissible income calculation			
Special variation percentage (3)	d	0.00%	0.00%
or rate peg percentage	е	1.80%	1.50%
or crown land adjustment (incl. rate peg percentage)	f	0.00%	0.00%
Less expiring special variation amount	g	_	_
Plus special variation amount	$h = d \times (c - g)$	_	_
Or plus rate peg amount	$i = c \times e$	67	57
or plus Crown land adjustment and rate peg amount	$j = c \times f$		_
Sub-total Sub-total	k = (c + g + h + i + j)	3,773	3,828
Plus (or minus) last year's carry forward total	I	(0)	2
Less valuation objections claimed in the previous year	m		_
Sub-total Sub-total	n = (I + m)	(0)	2
Total permissible income	o = k + n	3,773	3,829
Less notional general income yield	р	3,771	3,827
Catch-up or (excess) result	d = o - b	2	2
Plus income lost due to valuation objections claimed (4,	r	_	_
Less unused catch-up (5)	s		
Carry forward to next year	t = q + r - s	2	2

Notes

- (1) The notional general income will not reconcile with rate income in the financial statements in the corresponding year. The statements are reported on an accrual accounting basis which include amounts that relate to prior years' rates income.
- (2) Adjustments account for changes in the number of assessments and any increase or decrease in land value occurring during the year. The adjustments are called 'supplementary valuations' as defined in the *Valuation of Land Act 1916*.
- (3) The 'special variation percentage' is inclusive of the rate peg percentage and where applicable Crown land adjustment.
- (4) Valuation objections are unexpected changes in land values as a result of land owners successfully objecting to the land value issued by the Valuer-General. Councils can claim the value of the income lost due to valuation objections in any single year.
- (5) Unused catch-up amounts will be deducted if they are not caught up within 2 years. Usually councils will have a nominal carry forward figure. These amounts can be adjusted for in setting the rates in a future year.
- (6) Carry forward amounts which are in excess (an amount that exceeds the permissible income) require ministerial approval by order published in the NSW Government Gazette in accordance with section 512 of the Local Government Act 1993. The OLG will extract these amounts from Council's Special Schedule 8 in the financial data return (FDR) to administer this process.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Special Schedule No. 8 Cobar Shire Council

To the Councillors of Cobar Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial statement comprising the reconciliation of total permissible general income (Special Schedule No. 8) of Cobar Shire Council (the Council) for the year ending 30 June 2018.

In my opinion, Special Schedule No. 8 of Cobar Shire Council for 30 June 2018 is prepared, in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (LG Code) issued by the Office of Local Government (OLG), and is in accordance with the books and records of the Council.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report, and in particular the Emphasis of Matter paragraph, which describes the basis of accounting.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of Special Schedule No. 8' section of my report.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the notes and explanations in Special Schedule No. 8 that instruct councils in its preparation so it complies with OLG's requirements as described in the LG Code. As a result, Special Schedule No. 8 may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Matter

Special Schedule No. 8 of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2017 was audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on Special Schedule No. 8 on 28 October 2016.

Councillors' Responsibility for Special Schedule No. 8

The Councillors of the Council are responsible for the preparation of Special Schedule No. 8 in accordance with the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Special Schedule No. 8 that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing Special Schedule No. 8, the Councillors must assess the Council's ability to continue as a going concern except where the Council will be dissolved or amalgamated by an Act of Parliament. The assessment must disclose, as applicable, matters related to going concern and the appropriateness of using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of Special Schedule No. 8

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance whether Special Schedule No. 8 as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on Special Schedule No. 8.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of Special Schedule No. 8 is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar8.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

My opinion does not provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited Special Schedule No. 8 on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from Special Schedule No. 8.

James Sugumar

Director, Financial Audit Services

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29 November 2017 SYDNEY