

The 2001/2002 Alice Springs Town Council Annual Report

Purpose of this Report

This report highlights the achievements and activities of the Alice Springs Town Council and includes the Financial Statements for the financial year ending 30 June 2002.

Council's performance is reported under the six strategies outlined in the Strategic Plan:

1. Governance
2. Community Development and Services
3. Natural and Built Environment
4. Town and Regional Development
5. Major Projects
6. Organisational Development

The sections of the report are numbered according to the layout of the goals in the Annual Plan.

While this report is primarily produced to satisfy statutory requirements, the report provides an overview for residents, clients, staff, the Department of Local Government and other interested parties.

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Vision

A diversity of people proud to live in a clean, safe, vibrant and progressive town, supported by quality services, a strong and sustainable economy, and a built infrastructure reflective of the town's unique environment

Mission

Working with the local community to achieve a quality lifestyle for all

Values

A Quality Service for the Alice Springs Community

- Teamwork
Working together to achieve common goals.
 - Honesty and Accountability
Open and transparent governance and work practices.
 - Communication
Open and effective communication that clearly promotes understanding, recognition and participation.
 - Quality
Continual improvement of the quality of our services.
 - Responsive Service
Providing timely, useful and friendly service.
 - Respect
Respecting each other's differences with tolerance, friendliness and humour.
 - Satisfaction
An enjoyable and productive workplace.
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Mayor's Message

It is a pleasure to introduce this Annual Report for 2001/2002.

Council has a clear vision for Alice Springs – to work with the local community to achieve a quality lifestyle for all. Over the past year, Council has taken steps towards achieving this vision across all areas of Council operations. The achievements outlined in this report provide evidence that our objectives are being fulfilled.

This year, Council was very successful in attracting funding for community projects that improve the quality of life of residents. These projects included:

- The construction of a skatepark, jointly funded by Council, ATSIC and the NT Government;
- Completion of the Gap Road Child Care Centre, a project managed by Council and completed with funding of \$800,000 from the Commonwealth Government;
- The establishment of an Organic Recycling Centre at the landfill, a partnership project between the Council and Tangentyere Council and funded by the Commonwealth Government to the value of \$275,000;
- Receiving \$470,000 from the Commonwealth's Road to Recovery program which saw the completion of Leichhardt Terrace road works and;
- \$60,000 from Northern Territory Library and Information Services Developmental Grants for the Indigenous Access project in the Public Library.

In addition, Council produced winning submissions to host two high profile events, which will contribute to the economy of Alice Springs. These were Year of the Outback Celebrations to be held in September and the Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly to be held in November 2002. These events will contribute more than \$3 million to the economy and promote Alice Springs as a major regional centre.

Council worked in partnership with the NT Government through the Alice in 10 Projects. This helped in the establishment of the Convention Centre, a Draft CBD Masterplan, a range of complementary measures to trial restrictions on the sale of takeaway alcohol, and preliminary plans for a Desert Knowledge Centre and Desert Peoples Centre.

We are also proud that the Memorandum of Understanding with Tangentyere Council has resulted in improved relationships between the two organisations and employment outcomes for Aboriginal people in couch reduction in the Todd River, and road construction in town camps.

On top of all of this, the Council also launched a new corporate image with a new logo, stationery, buses painted in community themes, and a redeveloped web-site. As well, to ensure improved communications with the community, the Council now produces its own newspaper twice a year.

I'd like to sincerely thank Nick Scarvelis, Chief Executive Officer for the financial year 2001/2002, staff, and members of the community who have helped Council make such strong progress in achieving the outcomes of this report. Each person has played an important role in ensuring great success for the town.

My fellow Elected Members and I look forward to another year of working with the community, building on what we have achieved this year, and striving to make Alice Springs an even better town in which to live.

Fran Kilgariff
MAYOR





Chief Executive Officer's Message

The Alice Springs Town Council has had a successful year in delivering quality services and facilities to the community.

Many community development programs were initiated and resulted in the community getting involved in initiatives that allowed them to be active in the decision making process. This year it included community input into designing the new skatepark, the development of an Access Mobility Map for the CBD, designing images for the new ASBUS buses, and participating in numerous school holiday programs in the library.

The Environmental Health Unit monitored over 400 premises and the By Laws Compliance Unit increased CBD area patrols resulting in reduced litter in targeted areas. Council, assisted by a cemetery advisory committee, made significant improvements in works at the garden cemetery. Three new ASBUS buses were commissioned as replacement vehicles. All of them are fully accessible in terms of disability access for public transport.

Footpaths continued to be a big part of Council's works program with 14 kilometres of new footpaths completed. Some of this was in partnership with Arrernte Council. The construction of shade shelters at Frank McEllister Park and Gosse Street Park saw the introduction of a new design for shade which will be implemented in Council parks over the next few years.

Partnerships with other agencies also proved productive. A Partnership with Centralian College saw extensive landscaping works carried out on Gap Road to assist in training horticultural students. Couch reduction in the Todd River, the building of roads in the town camps and the establishment of the organic recycling centre, were all in partnership with Tangentyere Council.

In managing open space and waste, Council aims to achieve a safe, clean and "green" environment. This means ecologically sustainable development consistent with global and national trends. To this end, Council achieved Milestone 2 for Cities for Climate Protection which aims to reduce energy consumption.

Staff concentrated on a range of training programs to improve skills and stay abreast of changing organisational needs. This resulted in depot staff achieving a combined total of 182 local government competencies through Centralian College in addition to over 140 inhouse training sessions.

Many changes have been made over the year to Council's financial system. This included a new chart of accounts which makes more use of the Authority software, and a move to accrual based accounting.

All in all it has been a very hectic year and I would like to thank, on behalf of Nick Scarvelis, Chief Executive Officer for the 2001/2002 financial year, all the staff for their efforts throughout the year. A great deal has been achieved and I look forward to working closely with both Elected Members and staff to achieve outcomes in the coming year.

Roger Bottrall
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The Elected Council



Back row: CEO Nick Scarvelis, Alderman Geoffrey Bell, Alderman Bob Corby, Mayor Fran Kilgariff, Alderman Russell Naismith, Alderman Michael Jones.

Front row: Alderman Samih Habib, Alderman Raelene Beale, Alderman Susan Jefford, Alderman Jenny Mostran, Alderman David Koch, Alderman Annette Smith.

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Committee Representatives at 30 June 2002

Council Standing Committees

Finance and Management Committee
Chairman Alderman Koch
Alternate Chairman Alderman Jones

Planning, Environment & Infrastructure Committee
Chairman Alderman Naismith
Alternate Chairman Alderman Jones

Economic and Community Development Committee
Chairman Alderman Smith
Alternate Chairman Alderman Jones

Council representation on other committees

Access Advisory Committee
Alderman Smith

Australia Day Committee
Alderman Naismith

National Heritage Trust Selection Committee
Alderman Koch

Alice in Ten Arid Zone Environment Committee
Mayor Kilgariff

Central Australian Masters Games Committee
Mayor Kilgariff

Open Space Reference Group
Alderman Beale
Alderman Habib
Alderman Mostran

Alice in Ten Built Environment Committee
Alderman Beale

Central Australian Tourism Industry Association
Mayor Kilgariff
Alderman Beale
(Alternate Member)

Road Safety Council
Alderman Habib

Alice in Ten Convention Centre Committee
Alderman Koch
Mayor Kilgariff
(Alternate Member)

Cemetery Committee
Alderman Corby
Alderman Habib
Alderman Bell

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee
Alderman Jones

Alice in Ten Mining Committee
Alderman Koch

Central Australian Regional Development Committee
Alderman Mostran

Swimming Pool Advisory Committee
Mayor Kilgariff
Alderman Beale

Alice in Ten Quality of Life Committee
Alderman Smith

Community Grants Sub-committee
Alderman Mostran
Alderman Naismith

Tangentyere Steering Committee
Alderman Beale

Alice in Ten Alice / Ayres Rock Synergy Committee
Alderman Naismith

Development Consent Authority
Alderman Jefford
Alderman Mostran
Alderman Koch
(Alternate Member)

Tidy Town Committee
Mayor Kilgariff
Alderman Jones

Alice in Ten Todd and Charles River Committee
Alderman Bell

Local Government Association NT
(Mayor plus 1 other)
Alderman Mostran
Alderman Naismith
(Alternate Member)

Todd and Charles River Trustee Committee
Alderman Bell
Alderman Smith

Alice Alcohol Representative Committee
Alderman Habib

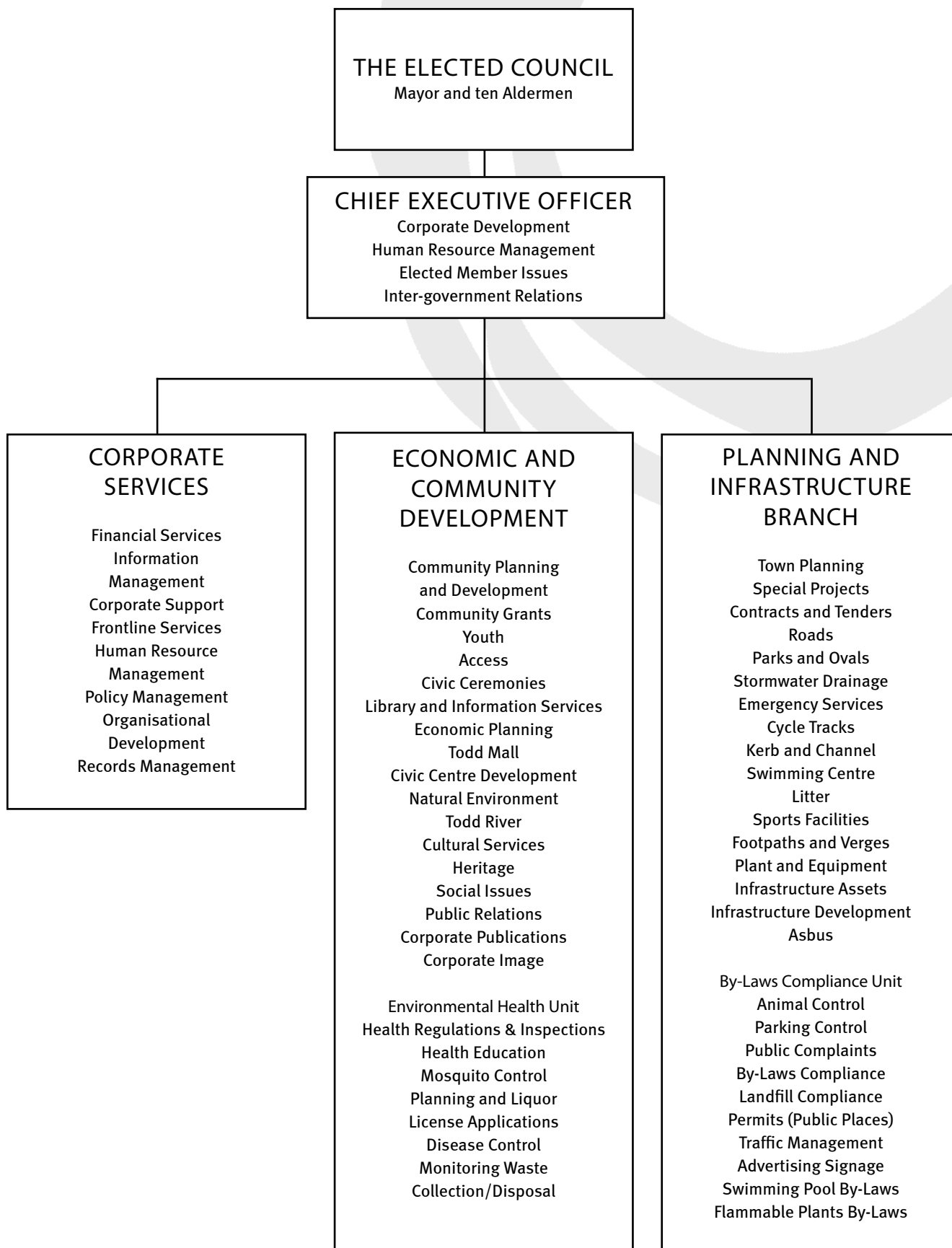
Waste Management Advisory Committee
Alderman Corby

Araluen Advisory Committee
Alderman Beale

Community Grants Sub Committee
Alderman Mostran
Alderman Naismith



Organisational Structure



Council's Goals

The Alice Springs Town Council's Annual Report is divided into six goals:

1. Governance Goal:

A community governed in a way that enables it to be involved in decision-making that impacts on it.

2. Community Development & Services Goal:

A quality lifestyle can be enjoyed by all members of the Community.

3. Natural and Built Environment Goal:

Alice Springs has well-managed, high standard infrastructure and ecologically sustainable open space.

4. Town and Regional Development Goal:

Alice Springs is a thriving, arid zone, regional service centre and a great place to live.

5. Major Projects Goal:

Further development of the town's infrastructure and community amenity will contribute significantly to the lifestyles of present and future generations.

6. Organisational Development Goal:

Well-resourced and skilled staff are competently delivering quality customer focused services.

These goals are not mutually exclusive so a project such as the Waste Management Strategy crosses all six goals in demonstrating good governance, in affecting the community service at the landfill, in reducing waste it benefits our unique natural and cultural environment, in creating new business opportunities it helps economic growth, it is a major infrastructure project and it is part of the Council's organisational development.

Therefore this report on the performance of Council's 2001/2002 Annual Plan features some projects in a different context across several relevant goal areas.



1. Governance

Goal:

A community governed in a way that enables it to be involved in decision-making that impacts on it.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

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| <p>(a) Community Representation – The steering committee established under the Memorandum of Understanding with Tangentyere Council, met on six occasions. Relationships were established with the new Territory Government and senior officers. Partnership agreements may follow, based on protocols to be established. Council representatives attended four meetings of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, and were successful in lobbying the Australian Local Government Association to hold its National General Assembly outside Canberra for the first time.</p> <p>(b) Decision Making – The Strategic Plan was reviewed in April 2002 and republished for community distribution. Minor changes were made to structure and updating of initiatives for 2002/3. A review of by-laws did not occur, but new policies were approved for management of verges and the revitalisation of parks. Considerable progress was made in the review of estimates procedures, use of an Outstanding Matters List, and use of a register to monitor inquiries from Elected Members, and a Decisions Register. The business plan and estimates were prepared in a timely manner, using a form described in the Draft Accounting Code. Senior officers from Division of Local Government provided training on new concepts for financial reporting, to better address the needs of Elected Members. The Council reviewed its standing committee structure, which comprises three committees that report recommendations to the Council for adoption. No changes were made.</p> | <p>(c) Communications – Australia Day celebrations at the Old Telegraph Station were well attended. Council co-ordinated three official citizenship days, Australia Day, Territory Day and Citizenship Day. A total of 55 people received Australian Citizenship.</p> <p>The Council supported a stand at the Alice Springs Show, promoting open space revitalization and recycling themes.</p> <p>Other achievements included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community involvement in deciding the future development of local neighborhood parks. • A new communications strategy was approved. • A new corporate image was developed. • Three new ASBUS buses were commissioned and painted to reflect Central Australian themes. • The Council web site was redeveloped (http://www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au), with additional resources to ensure information on this site and the Council's Intranet site is current. • The Early Bird Draw resulted in approximately 1,900 property owners paying their rates in full by the first instalment date, to qualify as one of ten lucky winners for a refund of their property rates. • Mall markets and a bush Christmas were conducted in the Todd Mall, supported by new decorations and banners. • The Todd Mall Map was revised and |
|--|--|



Santa stole the spotlight at A Bush Christmas, just one of the regular community events hosted by the Alice Springs Town Council.

2. Community Development & Services

Goal:

A quality lifestyle can be enjoyed by all members of the Community.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

(a) Community Needs – A needs and usage study of community facilities in Eastside and Saddadeen was not undertaken. However, a process for the revitalisation of parks was developed with consultation to commence in July 2002.

(b) Harm and Anti-social Behavior – The Northern Territory Government introduced a trial to restrict the sale of take-away alcohol in an attempt reduce consumption. The Council lobbied the Government for measures to address social issues caused by alcohol abuse. A successful Grog Stop advertising campaign commenced in four Indigenous languages and will continue to run over 12 months on Imparja Television and CAAMA radio. Additional lighting was installed at Snow Kenna Park and carpark to improve safety.

(c) Youth – A review of Young Endeavor, Leeuwin, HMAS Arunta, and Youth Outreach programs was completed to recognise Council's desire for a more broadly based program. Recommendations were submitted to Council for implementation of an outdoor experiential program in collaboration with Alice Springs Youth Centre, Red Cross and BUSH MOB, for commencement in late 2002. A program concept involving St Mary's Family Services (Anglicare Central Australia) and the Commanding Officer of HMAS Arunta was developed. Other achievements included:

- Council sponsored a mural art workshop led by local artist Craig Saunders at Gap Youth Centre. The mural was created by young participants and used as a backdrop for the Youth Week concert.
- Council facilitated a three-day residential program for Athletes as Role Models Peer Leadership, involving 22 young local participants and elite athletes including Lauren Byrnes and Jacquie Cooper.
- Skate park management models were researched and data was obtained from other jurisdictions. All data referred to YMCA (X-treme Sports Youth advisory Committee).
- Construction of a skate park. The implementation of an appropriate management model was deferred to 2002/2003. Council will continue to facilitate steps for adoption by user groups with front line management responsibility for park operation.



A funding partnership between the Council, NT Government and ATSIC contributed to the construction of the skate park.

(d) Access – A physical access map for the CBD area was updated and reprinted, and has been included on Council's Internet site. Ramp access in the Todd Mall area and Library was improved, and indications are that Council is exceeding community expectations in this area. Cultural awareness training was conducted for staff.

(e) Library Marketing and Promotion – The Public Library continued to successfully promote services and achieved increased public awareness with some 200,000 visitors this year. In addition to fundamental services provided by the Public Library, other services included Aboriginal liaison, internal training, and holiday programs.

(f) Children and the Aged – The Gap Road Child Care Centre was completed, with funds of \$800,000 from the Commonwealth. Council provided project management services and landscaping. The Public Library conducted an active school holiday program, and employed an Indigenous project officer to work with Indigenous children to improve their library skills. Activities in the Park was an initiative developed as a trial program for pre-school age children, and it will

continue in 2002/3.

Council continued to support the Senior Citizens, acquiring a \$100,000 Commonwealth Regional Solutions grant to improve their centre. A free service to remove garden cuttings was provided for pensioners in May and November.

- (g) Arts, Culture and Festivals – Council assisted with planning and supply of services for the Yeperenye Dreaming Festival. The Arts Festival was combined with Year of the Outback celebrations. Council provided support to Henley on Todd, Finke Desert Race, and other events. While the visit by HMAS Arunta was cancelled due to military requirements, the Roulettes conducted an aerobatics display over Alice Springs. Council was a sponsor and exhibitor at the NT Expo.
- (h) Heritage – An application was submitted for a Regional Solutions grant to develop the Snow Kenna Park and Totem Theatre, with over \$200,000 received for the Totem Theatre. Restoration of Council's art collection continued and all of the Papunya Tula boards were conserved and mounted in frames. A condition report was finalized for art works on paper.
- (i) Aboriginal Relations – Improved relations were achieved through cooperative ventures with Tangentyere Council under a Memorandum of Understanding. A Commonwealth grant of \$275,000 assisted in the development of a total organic recycling centre. Arrernte Council work crews carried out footpath construction, amounting to approximately \$300,000.
- (j) Aboriginal Employment – An Aboriginal trainee was employed in By-laws and the Public Library.
- (k) Community Grants – Approximately \$69,000 was distributed by Council to community groups under programs for Araluen, Community Support, Community Assistance, and Community Development. Policy and guidelines were reviewed.
- (l) Waste Minimization, Recycling and Litter Reduction – Council received strong support for the introduction of container deposit legislation from the Northern Territory Government. Other achievements included:
 - The Tip Shop was opened at the Landfill by Bowerbird Enterprise.
 - A green waste recycling plant was developed with Tangentyere Council.
 - By-law controls and operations were satisfactory.
 - A new staff roster for the removal of litter from the CBD was introduced.
 - A litter strategy was adopted.
 - Community awareness improved with regard to recycling options.
- (m) Traffic Management – A Local Area Traffic Management project was carried out at The Links and a round-about was constructed in Stokes Street. There were no other significant traffic problems, but illegal parking continues to be an issue.
- (n) Sport and Recreation – Council maintained sport and recreational facilities to a high standard. Negotiations continued with sports user groups (i.e. hockey, netball, football, etc) to establish deeds of agreement with Council. Agreements will apply at major venues. The purpose of agreements is to secure user contributions towards venue maintenance costs incurred by Council, establish roles and accountabilities, and regulate venue usage to avoid conflict between different users. The preparation of agreements will continue. Significant developments will occur at Traeger Park, as the Northern Territory Government pledged \$5 million for improvements. A masterplan will be required to guide future developments.



Tangentyere President Daniel Forrester and Mayor Fran Kilgariff inspect the workings of the tub grinder at the Organic Recycling Centre which was funded by the Commonwealth Government.



Young people enjoy the diversity of books and other resources in the youth collection at the public library.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes for Community Services were:

- (a) Library Services – The Public Library continued to meet customer expectations for a wide range of services, including:
 - reference services
 - local studies
 - inter-library loans services
 - children services and holiday programs
 - outreach services to Old Timers, Red Cross and country borrowers
 - data base of community organisations
 - community calendar
 - community programs
 - Community Information Centre
- (b) Environmental Health – Council provided Environmental Health services under agreement with the Northern Territory Government. This included monitoring 400 registered premises to ensure performance requirements of the agreement were met. 500 reported incidents were dealt with.



Council's new ASBUS buses are all fully accessible in terms of disability as well as brightly painted with community themes.

- (c) By-laws Enforcement – The principal By-laws activities were parking, litter, public places, and animal control. Achievements included increased CBD area patrols resulting in reduced litter in targeted areas and improved cooperation under a Memorandum of Understanding with Tangentyere Council. 80% of reported incidents were finalized within seven days.
- (d) Landfill Operations – Development continued and included the construction of a collection dam and fencing. The Landfill is operated under contract to Council. The site complies with the latest environmental protection standards set by the Northern Territory Government, and regular monitoring is performed to ensure compliance with licensing conditions. A green waste recycling plant was established on the site under agreement with Tangentyere Council, as an Aboriginal business enterprise.
- (e) ASBUS - Three new buses were commissioned as replacement vehicles, and were painted in corporate colours with designs depicting images of Central Australia.
- (f) Cemetery Services – Council was assisted by an advisory committee, which was set up to initiate significant improvement works at the Garden Cemetery. This included construction of new roads, plots, and a sealed/kerbed carpark. The existing cemetery is to be extended in size, and fencing of the extension commenced this year. The Cemetery continued to meet community expectations.
- (g) Public Conveniences – The maintenance of public toilets and showers continued to place a high demand on resources. Future developments could include a new public toilet for the CBD area.
- (h) Cleaning and Sweeping – A range of services was provided including servicing litter bins, removal of litter from Todd and Charles Rivers, general litter control, cleaning of CBD footpaths, and general sweeping. Good performance was evidenced by monitoring and no more than 20 complaints were received regarding litter bins. Council gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Correctional Services Department in litter control.

3. Natural and Built Environment

Goal:

Alice Springs has well-managed, high standard infrastructure and ecologically sustainable open space.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

- (a) **Asset Management** – An investigation into the sustainable use of physical resources and the management of risks associated with asset failures was completed. The defining of service levels and procedures for monitoring performance was 85% completed, and the introduction of continuous improvement in asset management practices will be investigated next year. Assets included roads, drains, footpaths, parks furniture, and buildings.

Other achievements were:

- Programmed building maintenance was completed along with carry over works from the previous year.
- Programmed open drain works were completed, and the drainage system was still in good condition.
- Programmed underground drains works were completed.
- Roadside repairs were completed under the Lintel replacement program, removing grates that were hazardous to bicycles.
- Council maintained a road network condition rating of between 70% - 75% of the new condition for sealed roads, using an asset management system supported by annual road survey report of actual condition.
- Unsealed roads and laneways were maintained to suit local requirements.
- A good level of service was achieved in terms of street furniture and accessories, evidenced by no complaints. Council started to progressively replace seating in the Todd Mall.
- Approximately 14 kilometres of new footpaths were constructed. The footpath program was accelerated so that every residence in the urban area will be within 200 metres of a footpath or cycle path on one side of the road within the next two years.
- A cycle path in Schwartz Crescent was completed to ensure safer cycling across the causeway, particularly for school students.
- Two new bus stop shelters were provided.
- Council accepted ongoing responsibility for

the maintenance of 11.4 kilometres town camp roads pursuant to an agreement which provided for extra Government funding to bring the roads up to a good standard.

- (b) **Open Space** – Achievements included:

- The construction of two shade structures at the Frank McEllister Park, and one at Gosse Street park.
- Two park precinct committees were formed under Council's newly adopted Revitalization of Parks policy.
- Service standards were used to ensure adequate maintenance was provided.
- Service agreements with landowners were investigated to improve the management of verges.
- Extensive landscaping took place on Gap Road. This was a joint venture with Centralian



Horticultural students gained valuable practical experience while working on the landscaping on Gap Road outside of the hospital.

College to assist in training horticultural students.

- Eight ovals were maintained in accordance with established service standards.
- Parks and reserves, the swimming pool, and grounds of childcare centres were maintained in accordance with established service standards.
- Council achieved Milestone 2 for Cities for Climate Protection, which aims to reduce

4. Town & Regional Development

Goal:

Alice Springs is a thriving, arid zone, regional service centre and a great place to live.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

- (a) Town Development - Council provided \$25,000 to the CSIRO for the Tourism Futures Project, to fund research into developing a stronger market and service centre based on tourism. The project should be completed next financial year. Council continued to support the Northern Territory Government's "The Face of Alice in Ten Years Project" and collaborative projects with non-government organisations. Council actively promoted support for another airline to service Alice Springs following the collapse of Ansett Airlines in conjunction with CATIA, by offering a \$100,000 security that was not taken up.

Other important achievements were:

- Successful lobbying of the Australian Local Government Association, to hold its National General Assembly outside Canberra for the first time, as part of the Year of the Outback celebrations.
 - Successfully lobbied for and promoted the Year of the Outback and Desert Knowledge Symposium.
 - Coordination with other Councils along the proposed Outback Highway, to promote its national significance and the need for important upgrading works.
- (b) Working Relationships with Aboriginal Organisations – Council was very successful in establishing good working relations with key Aboriginal organisations. A Memorandum of Understanding was established with Tangentyere Council. A Commonwealth grant was received for



Tangentyere President Daniel Forrester and Mayor Fran Kilgariff with prizes for Best Overall and Community Services categories in the Northern Territory Better Practice in Local Government Awards 2001.

the joint development of a green waste recycling plant. Council also signed an agreement with Tangentyere Council to provide for the future maintenance of town camp roads, which included an additional grant of approximately \$580,000 to upgrade those roads to a good standard. Tangentyere Council work crews did some of the work. Arrernte Council works crews undertook construction of footpaths, costing approximately \$300,000.

- (c) Increased Grants – Additional grants were received as noted above. Council's Federal Assistance Grant was increased by approximately \$287,000 or 18% from 2000/1 to approximately \$1.86 million. This level of funding is unlikely to be sustained, given changes to funding criteria by the Commonwealth to apply in 2002/3.



The Council contributed to the development of the Alice Springs Convention Centre through membership on the Face of Alice in Ten Years project.

5. Major Projects

Goal:

Further development of the town's infrastructure and community amenity will contribute significantly to the lifestyles of present and future generations.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

- (a) Town Centre – The Northern Territory Government continued developing a Central Area Masterplan for Alice Springs, partially funded by Council. Completion of the Masterplan was delayed, and is expected next financial year. The Masterplan will provide guidance for the future development of the CBD to ensure sustained progress.
- (b) Todd and Charles Rivers - Council developed a program to remove couch grass from the riverbed, in consultation with the Traditional Owners. Funding was provided by Council, the Territory Government, and Tangentyere Council to purchase quads specially equipped for spraying. Works for the removal of couch grass will continue.
- (c) Civic Centre Redevelopment – An investigation commenced for redeveloping the Civic Centre, to meet the future needs of the municipality. The project is expected to commence next year.
- (d) Other Major Infrastructure – Council received approximately \$470,000 in Roads to Recovery grants, which were expended on the redevelopment of Leichhardt Terrace. The program was accelerated to achieve completion of the whole project, and this resulted in future grants being received sooner due to the slow uptake by some other Councils. Preliminary design commenced for the redevelopment of Stuart Terrace, the next project to be funded by the Roads to Recovery program. An agreement was finalized with the Northern Territory Government

Employees of Tangentyere Council have contributed greatly to the reduction of couch grass in the Todd River particularly in the area near Heavitree Gap.



6. Organisational Development

Goal:

Well-resourced and skilled staff are competently delivering quality customer focused services.

The principal supporting objectives and outcomes were:

(a) Human Resource Management – The management of human resources focused on three areas:

- Training – A Workplace English Language and Literacy (WELL) training program commenced as an initiative of Council to kick-start the introduction of local government competencies. Depot staff achieved a combined total of 182 local government competencies at Centralian College, supported by a \$60,000 Commonwealth grant. A further 210 hours of training was provided in-house over 149 sessions. The WELL program will be extended in 2002/3 to include Library and Civic Centre staff. Other training undertaken by staff included cultural awareness, conflict resolution, computing, and formal studies.
- Recruitment – A high level of recruitment was



Mr Rick Palmer receiving acknowledgement for training completed as part of improving skills in the outdoor workforce.

undertaken, representing approximately 30% staff turnover of permanent positions relative to an employment base of 110. A similar level of casual positions was also recruited.

- Workplace Relations – Council continued to enjoy good relationships with staff and unions. The need for improved communications was identified in a staff survey, and further progress

will occur in 2002/3. A risk management program was introduced with the Territory Insurance Office (TIO) to provide for localised case management of claims. TIO advised that Council has earned a claims experience refund of \$24,000. The organisation has benefited from placement of three workers (from other employers at no cost to Council) as part of their rehabilitation, providing much needed support mainly in administrative areas. Other people have been engaged under a work experience program.

(b) Financial Management – A new chart of accounts was introduced to increase access to a wider range of reporting options, by making more effective use of our Authority software. The manner of financial reporting was reviewed to recognise requirements of Elected Members for monthly reporting, and for accounting concepts relevant to the preparation of estimates and the annual report. Council sought advice from the Division of Local Government on these matters, and the Minister for Local Government approved a formal inquiry. The inquiry reported in March and made six recommendations concerning accounting policies and procedures, training for Elected Members, and human resource issues. Other important outcomes included:

- Workshops were conducted by Divisional Officers with Elected Members and staff, and the development of new financial reporting formats will occur in 2002/3.
- The review of financial policies and procedures will continue in 2002/3, with the preparation of an accounting manual for the organisation.
- A decision was made by Council to allocate approximately \$800,000 from accumulated surpluses from prior years, to new projects and a reserve for future infrastructure needs.
- The 2002/3 estimates were developed using accrual accounting methodology.
- Fees and charges were adopted with estimates for the first time.
- The estimates were supported by a business plan based on the proposed Accounting Code.
- Public exhibition occurred for the first time of the Estimates and Business Plan for a period

of 28 days.

(c) Information Technology – IT equipment was replaced on a regular basis, which recognises the need to improve productivity and take full advantage of more effective software. Achievements included:

- Alice Springs was one of the first Councils in Australia to receive the new Version 4.6 Authority upgrade.
- Technology and bandwidth was put in place to provide for current and future needs.
- New private line modems were installed to increase the speed and efficiency of Depot computing.
- Microsoft Office Suite was confirmed, after a review of options, as the most appropriate for Council's needs.
- Computer users were provided with training to fully utilize latest system improvements.
- Replacement options for a new telephone operating system were evaluated, with installation to occur in 2002/3. The new telephone system will enhance customer service by providing new features resulting in more incoming calls being answered more quickly.
- A ground-up redesign of the community website (www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au) was

completed and launched in September. Key staff members were involved in extensive training, and web site maintenance software was purchased allowing site maintenance to be distributed across the organisation.

- The need for web site coordination, intranet maintenance, and staff training resulted in an additional IT Support Officer being employed.
- Improved data flow from the Landfill weighbridge to Civic Centre provided increased efficiency.

(d) Internal Communications (Records Management) – Replacement of the records management system became critical, following a decision by the software supplier to discontinue support. Research into electronic filing systems began, and replacement is planned for 2002/3. More information was added to Council's internal Intranet system, so that staff members were better informed.

(e) Occupational Health & Safety – Administrative procedures were changed to improve awareness of injury trends, and include an incident report which requires that corrective measures be specified to minimize the risk of reoccurrence. A number of safety issues were

**2001/2002
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL**

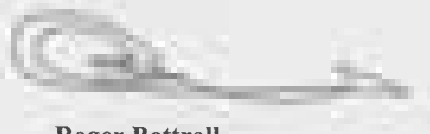


**ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002
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ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002
OFFICER'S STATEMENT

I, Roger Bottrall, Acting CEO/Town Clerk of the Municipality of Alice Springs certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the annual Financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2002 have been properly drawn up in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, 1991 (as amended), so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs and the result for the year. The statements are in accordance with the accounting and other records of the Council.



Roger Bottrall
Acting CEO/Town Clerk

Laid before the Council at the Meeting held on 25th November 2002

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

Scope

We have audited the financial report of Alice Springs Town Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2002 as set out on pages 4 to 27. The Council Clerk is responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the Council.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian auditing standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly, in accordance with accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit opinion

In our opinion:

- a) The prescribed accounting, other records, accounting manual and registers required to be kept by the Council have been properly kept;
- b) The receipt, expenditure and investment of monies and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Council during the year have been in accordance with the prescribed requirements;
- c) The financial statements have been properly drawn up in accordance with the prescribed requirements and are in agreement with the accounts and records;
- d) The financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council and the results for the year ended 30 June 2002;
- e) The Council has complied with the provisions under the Act in respect of the conduct of its financial affairs; and
- f) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Act, the regulations and the applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



W R MCAINSH
PARTNER

Alice Springs  November 2002

The liability of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu is limited by, and to the extent of, the Accountants' Scheme under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW).

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

OPERATING STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

	Note	\$	2002 \$	\$	2001 \$
REVENUES					
Rates - levied	4	8,771,843		8,488,696	
User Charges		2,173,769		2,250,356	
Interest		295,002		332,978	
Other		77,744		35,522	
Plant Hire and Project Management capital		43,336			
			11,361,694		11,107,552
Government grants for:	5				
Specific Purposes		3,439,943		2,430,564	
Other Purposes		1,857,787		927,123	
	5	5,297,730		3,357,687	
Other grants & contributions	5	692,144		140,936	
			5,989,874		3,498,623
Surplus on disposal of assets	6		208,609		46,141
TOTAL REVENUE			17,560,177		14,652,316
LESS EXPENDITURE					
Employee Costs		5,526,189		5,237,267	
Materials & Operational Costs		6,339,864		4,886,618	
Interest on long term loans		79,552		160,566	
Depreciation	7	2,801,424		2,844,545	
Other	8	121,268		120,955	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			14,868,298	14,859,475	13,249,951
SURPLUS ON OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR BEFORE ABNORMAL ITEMS					
			2,691,879		1,402,365
Less - Abnormal Items	9				
Surplus on Operations			2,691,879		1,402,365
Add/(Less) Revaluation of Assets	1(g)				2,770,565
Add Accumulated Funds previous year			13,971,615		12,693,762
Adjustment to Accumulated Funds			-		
Transfers from reserves	10		235,028		32,970
LESS: Transfers to reserves	10		(1,225,289)		(2,928,047)
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT YEAR END			15,673,233		13,971,615

Notes to the financial statements are included out on pages 7 to 27.



ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

	Note	\$	2002 \$	\$	2001 \$
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at Bank and on hand		5,800,832		5,633,089	
Receivables	11	994,198		463,757	
Prepayments		22,151		22,820	
Stores, Materials and Loose Tools		97,433		98,651	
Accrued Income		226,619		76,700	
			7,141,233		6,295,017
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors and Provisions	12	1,537,647		1,064,382	
Accrued Expenses		267,979		209,084	
Trust Deposits	13	359,727		171,055	
Term Loans	17	134,775		585,838	
			2,300,128		2,030,359
NET CURRENT ASSETS			4,841,105		4,264,658
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Fixed Assets	14	137,637,315		135,665,032	
Deferred Assets	16	-		-	
Receivables	11	72,157		94,019	
		1,066,355	137,709,472		135,759,051
LESS NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Term Loans	17	-		134,775	
Provisions	12	352,576		382,812	
			352,576		517,587
NET NON-CURRENT ASSETS			137,356,896		135,241,464
TOTAL NET ASSETS			142,198,001		139,506,122
MUNICIPAL EQUITY					
Specific Purpose Reserves	10	126,524,768		125,534,507	
Accumulated Funds	10	15,673,233		13,971,615	
TOTAL EQUITY			142,198,001		139,506,122

Notes to the financial statements are included out on pages 7 to 27.

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
MOVEMENTS IN COUNCIL EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
General Purpose Funds		
Balance at start of reporting period	13,971,615	12,693,762
Balance from Revenue Statement	2,691,879	1,402,365
Revaluation of Assets	-	2,770,565
Transfers from Reserves	235,028	32,970
Transfers to Reserves	(1,225,289)	(2,928,047)
	<u>1,701,618</u>	<u>1,277,853</u>
Accumulated General Purpose Funds	<u>15,673,233</u>	<u>13,971,615</u>
Specific Purpose Reserves		
Asset Replacement Reserve	1,882,500	750,000
Developer Contributions Reserve	360,316	367,746
Sports Facilities Contributions Reserve	411,153	509,046
Asset Revaluation Reserve	123,842,715	123,842,715
Swimming Pool Development Reserve	28,084	65,000
	<u>126,524,768</u>	<u>125,534,507</u>
Total Specific Purpose Reserve Funds	<u>126,524,768</u>	<u>125,534,507</u>
TOTAL COUNCIL EQUITY	<u>142,198,001</u>	<u>139,506,122</u>

Notes to the financial statements are included out on pages 7 to 27.

Alice Springs Town Council
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

	Note	2002 \$	2001 \$
Cash Flows From Operating Activities			
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee Costs	(5,662,382)	(5,217,954)	
Materials and Operational Costs	(5,704,607)	(5,539,235)	
Interest on long term loans	(79,552)	(160,566)	
Other	(473,264)	(537,037)	
Total Payments		(11,919,805)	(11,454,792)
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates levied	8,175,183	8,774,774	
User charges	1,624,950	1,362,272	
Receipts from Customers	796,781	756,559	
GST paid to Authorities	511,492	300,150	
Interest	295,002	332,978	
Other	278,943	318,359	
Total Receipts		11,682,351	11,845,092
<u>Grant Income</u>			
Government Grants - Recurrent Purposes	3,612,819	2,544,257	
Other Grants and Contributions	108,740	52,133	
Total Grants		3,721,559	2,596,390
Net Cash generated by Operating Activities	18	3,484,106	2,986,690
Cash Flows From Investing Activities			
Purchase of Plant and Equipment	(4,927,956)	(1,501,317)	
Proceeds from Sale of Plant and Equipment	354,750	88,704	
Net Cash used in Investing Activities		(4,573,206)	(1,412,613)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities			
Government Grants - Capital Purposes	1,863,346	1,002,046	
Loans Advanced/ (Repaid)	(585,838)	(621,217)	
Net Cash from Financing Activities		1,277,508	380,829
Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash Held		188,408	1,954,906
Cash At Beginning Of Reporting Period		5,633,089	3,678,183
Cash At End of Reporting Period		5,800,832	5,633,089

Notes to the financial statements are included out on pages 7 to 27.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002****NOTE 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- (a) The Local Government reporting entity.

All funds through which the Council controls resources to carry out its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

In the process of reporting on the local government entity as a single unit, all transactions and balances between those funds (for example, loans and transfers between funds) have been eliminated.

- (b) Basis of Accounting

This financial report has been prepared as a general purpose financial report to comply with the Northern Territory Local Government (accounting) Regulations 1991, including amendments and applicable Accounting Standards. It has been prepared on the accrual basis under the convention of historical cost accounting except for certain non-current assets which are carried at valuation as described below. The accounting policies adopted for the reporting period are consistent with those of the previous reporting period. Disclosure of certain comparative figures have been amended to conform with current year figures.

- (c) Depreciation of non-current assets

All non-current assets comprising plant, equipment, and office furniture and equipment assets that have a value in excess of \$2,000 and which have a limited useful life, are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis using a fixed annual amount calculated on the estimated residual value and useful life of the asset

The following estimated useful lives are used in the calculation of depreciation

· Buildings	30-100 Years
· Plant & Equipment	2 - 10 Years
· Furniture & Office Equipment	5 Years
· Roads	100 Years
· Storm-water Drainage	100 Years

- (d) Employee entitlements

Employee entitlements are accrued on a pro rata basis for annual leave and long service leave in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Such accruals are assessed as at each reporting date, having regard to current rates of pay and other factors including period of service.

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the contribution the Council makes to the superannuation plan that provides benefits to its employees.

- (e) Investments

Investments are valued at cost. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.



(f) Rates, Grants, Donations and Other Contributions

Rates, grants, donations and other contributions are recognised as revenues when the local government obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control over assets acquired from rates is obtained at the commencement of the rating period. Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt or upon prior notification that a grant has been secured.

Non received contributions over which the local government entity has control are recognised as receivables. In respect of uncollected rates, provision is made for amounts considered uncollectable.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the nature of and amounts pertaining to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in Note 5. That note also discloses the amount of contributions recognised as revenues in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the local government's operations for the current reporting period.

(g) Asset revaluation

Freehold land is valued on the basis of current market buying values. The revalued amount is in accordance with a valuation by the Valuer General of the Northern Territory. The last triennial valuation of all municipal land was carried out in 2000.

Roads and storm water drains are valued on the basis of estimated current market replacement cost. The revalued amount is in accordance with a valuation by the Director Planning & Infrastructure. The valuation has been performed.

Buildings, Major plant, furniture and equipment and other community infrastructure are valued on the basis of deprival values. The revalued amount is in accordance with an independent valuation by the Australian Valuation Office.

The Art Collection is valued on the basis of current market values. The revalued amount is in accordance with an independent valuation in 2000 by Accredited Valuer William Mora.

(h) Financial Instruments

Other than disclosed in note 11(a), the Council does not have any significant credit risk exposure to any single counter-party. Trade debtors and creditors do not bear interest and are expected to be settled within 12 months. The interest rates on rates debtors, bank and loan balances are disclosed in the relevant notes. There is no material difference between the carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities and their respective net fair values.

(i) Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to inventory on hand using average cost.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables. Operating receipts and payables in the statement of cash flows are stated inclusive of GST.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002****NOTE 2(a) OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES**

Total operating revenues and expenses for the reporting period were as follows:

	2002 \$	2001 \$
REVENUE		
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	354,750	88,704
Operating Revenues	17,351,568	14,606,175
	<u>17,706,318</u>	<u>14,694,879</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Book value Plant and Equipment sold	146,141	42,564
Other Expenses	14,868,298	13,249,951
	<u>15,014,439</u>	<u>13,292,515</u>
SURPLUS ON OPERATIONS	<u>2,691,879</u>	<u>1,402,364</u>

NOTE 2(b)

**FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE MUNICIPALITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002**

Revenues, expenses and assets have been attributed to the following functions
Details of those are set out in Note 2(c)

	Governance	Community Development	Natural & Built Environment	Town & Regional Development	Major Projects	Organisational Development	Total 2002
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
EXPENSES	1,123,267	4,277,909	7,739,415	110,150	20,978	1,596,580	14,868,299
REVENUES							
Grants and Tied Funding	1,150,465	1,471,345	2,744,245		471,443	152,377	5,989,875
Rates	26,646					8,745,197	8,771,842
Other	17,971	2,053,033	279,578	5,150	0	422,064	2,777,797
Total Revenue	1,195,082	3,524,378	3,023,823	5,150	471,443	9,319,638	17,539,513
Net change in Assets Resulting from Operations							2,671,215
Total Assets							144,850,705

NOTE 2(c) EXPLANATION OF COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

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

Governance	
Community Representation	Community Representation Local Government Activities Governance Support Elected Members Planning Manage Business Elected Members Development Public Relations Corporate Image Todd Mall Promotions
Decision Making	
Communications	
Community Development	Community Needs Alcohol Youth Access Community Events Heritage Community Grants Waste Litter Recycling Sport & Recreation Library Services By Laws Waste Management / Landfill Operations ASBus Operations Funerals Cleaning Public Conveniences Litter Control Pest Control
Quality Lifestyle	
Community Services	
Natural & Built Environment	
Programming & Maintenance	Programmed Asset Maintenance Administration Transport Flood Repairs Plant & Vehicles Infrastructure Operations BAMS Cemeteries Ovals, parks and reserves Drains Sports Facility Projects Open Space Program Development Environment Natural Heritage Trust Urban Environment
Manage & Maintain Assets	
Open Space	
Town and Regional Development	
Regional development	
Major Projects	
Town Centre	CBD Master Plan Work
Other Major projects	Roads To Recovery
Organisational Development	
Human Resources	Human Resources Management Training
Financial Services	
Information Technology	
Internal Communications	
Occupational Health & Safety	

NOTE 3

**BUDGET COMPARISON 2002 ADOPTED ESTIMATES TO ACTUAL
EXPENDITURE & INCOME**

	As per note 2 Operating Stat	Actual \$	Adopted Estimates \$	Variance \$	Variance %
EXPENDITURE					
Governance	1,123,267	1,051,917	1,040,609	11,308	1%
Community Development	4,277,909	4,864,822	5,037,296	(172,474)	-3%
Natural and Built	7,739,415	9,361,286	8,052,383	1,308,903	16%
Town & Regional Development	110,150	110,150	25,000	85,150	341%
Major Projects	20,978	625,093	438,152	186,941	43%
Organisational Development	1,596,580	2,261,973	2,212,825	49,148	2%
	14,868,299	18,275,241	16,806,265	1,468,976	9%
INCOME					
Governance	1,195,082	1,195,082	934,963	260,119	28%
Community Development	3,524,378	3,600,301	3,308,417	291,884	9%
Natural and Built	3,023,823	3,959,849	3,202,130	757,719	24%
Town & Regional Development	5,150	5,150	-	5,150	
Major Projects	471,443	471,443	338,152	133,291	39%
Organisational Development	9,319,638	9,319,638	9,022,809	296,829	3%
	17,539,514	18,551,463	16,806,471	1,744,992	10%
Surplus (Deficit)	2,671,215	276,222	206	276,016	

The operating surplus of \$2.7m is explained by the following reconciliation of the operating surplus to the budget surplus.

Reconciliation of Operating Surplus to Budget Surplus, 2001/2002.	
	\$'000
Operating Surplus	2,671
Add back depreciation	2,801
Less Capital Expenditure	(4,928)
Less Loans Repaid	(586)
Proceeds of Plant Disposal	355
Add Increase Provision for Doubtful Debts	-
Less reduced provision for Annual and Long Service Leave	(37)
BUDGET SURPLUS	276
Compared to above Surplus	276

Note: The Budget Surplus of \$276,000 compares to the estimated surplus of \$350,000 applied to the 2002/3 Estimates. (Refer also to Schedule 3.)

NOTE 3

BUDGET COMPARISON 2002 ADOPTED ESTIMATES TO ACTUAL
EXPENDITURE & INCOME

	<i>increases in expenditure</i>	<i>increases in income</i>
	\$	\$
<i>Council during the year approved variations to the budget as follows</i>		
<i>Additional expenditure funded from prior years surpluses :</i>		
Public toilets in CBD	125,000	
Environment Officer	30,000	
Stokes Street Roundabout	25,000	
Garden cemetery Development	50,000	
Footpath program	150,000	
Depot Office	30,000	
Drainage Grates	30,000	
CBD bins	20,000	
Garden cemetery Development	85,000	
	545,000	

NOTE 3

BUDGET COMPARISON 2002 ADOPTED ESTIMATES TO ACTUAL
EXPENDITURE & INCOME

	increases in expenditure \$	increases in income \$
<i>As per meeting Council Meeting in October 2001 Council authorised an Additional \$1.7 million of expenditure for works in progress carried over from 30 June 2001.</i>		
Albrecht Drive Fencing	10,000	
IT Equipment	10,693	
New Office at Depot	11,241	
Hardware Support	12,000	
Town Camp Roads	12,003	
Treager Park Security	14,500	
Access	16,500	
Rhonda Diano Shade & Extensions	17,000	
Not Safe - Snow Kenna lighting	18,500	
Thesaurus Grant	19,607	
Todd Mall promotions	19,930	
Open Drains	20,000	
Public Toilets	21,160	
Reporting & Management Project	21,919	
Traffic Lights	22,096	
Art Collection	24,657	
Five year Strategic Plan	30,250	
Bus Painting	37,000	
WELLS Co-ordinator	43,636	
Schwarz Crescent	44,600	
Treager Park	44,991	
Grog Stop Grant	46,949	
Kurrajong Park Enhancement Grant	49,159	
Corporate image	57,820	
Shade Construction Program	59,091	
BAMS	72,082	
NHT Grant Carry Over	75,736	
Leichhardt Tce	81,692	
Tip Face operations	101,075	
Footpath Program	120,000	
Extra Oval Maintenance	127,764	
Operational Plant & Vehicles	317,910	
Other Sundry Items Under \$10,000	115,600	
List Available		
	1,697,161	

Note:

The above \$1,697,161 were works that were not completed in the financial year ending June 2001 and therefore the amount was surplus for that year. These works were therefore included in the 2001/02 financial year by way of a variation to the adopted estimates.

NOTE 3

BUDGET COMPARISON 2002 ADOPTED ESTIMATES TO ACTUAL
EXPENDITURE & INCOME

	<i>increases in expenditure</i>	<i>increases in income</i>
	\$	\$
<i>During the year additional Expenditure was Incurred and was offset by additional grants. Additional Grant monies were received for FAGS grant and Roads to Recovery</i>		
Increase in FAG		355,984
Skate Park	175,927	175,927
Library Grant		60,000
YOTO	80,000	
TV Black Spot		
Gap Child Care	786,474	786,474
Braitling Child Care	20,586	20,586
Additional interest received on Investments		85,000
Roads to Recovery		95,741
	1,062,987	1,223,728
TOTAL	3,305,148	1,223,728



NOTE 4. RATES

	2002 \$	2001 \$
(a) Rates Levied		
<u>General Rates</u>		
General Rates Levied	8,280,589	8,014,696
<u>Local Rates</u>		
Town Centre Improvement	457,953	439,291
Todd Mall Promotion	33,301	34,709
Rate Income	8,771,843	8,488,696
Hearne Place Car Park	-	7,995
Total Rates Levied	8,771,843	8,496,691
 ADD: Penalty for late payment	 31,801	 27,498
Recoverable Legal Costs	55,073	18,027
Total Net Rates Levied	8,858,717	8,542,216
 (b) Rate Arrears		
Arrears at beginning of year	281,362	567,440
Total Net Rates levied for year	8,858,717	8,542,216
LESS: Cash collections	(8,947,641)	(8,828,294)
Total Arrears at end of year	192,438	281,362
LESS: Rates deferred (refer Note 11)	(72,157)	(94,019)
Current Rate Arrears at End of year	120,281	187,343

Interest at 16.4% (prior year 16.4%) per annum is levied on overdue rates.

NOTE 5(a)

GOVERNMENT GRANTS PROVIDED AND USED FOR THE YEAR

Grants which were received during the reporting period and which were obtained on the condition that they be expended on Specific Purposes were:

	2002 B/F	Provided	Used	Remaining	2001 B/F	Provided	Used	Remaining
Community Assets								
Gap Child Care		786,474	786,474	-				
Braitling Child Care		20,586	20,586	-				
Eastside Child care		10,165	10,165	-				
Environment	-			-				
Waste Recycling	4,719			4,719	4,719	-	-	4,719
We Care Week	-			-	2,000	6,000	8,000	-
Natural Heritage Trust	75,736		22,685	53,051	43,026	66,800	34,090	75,736
Natural Heritage Trust - Vegetation Management		42,000	-	42,000				
Natural Heritage Trust - Private Land		85,490	6,626	78,864				
Green Waste Recycling		256,532	256,532	-				
Cities For Climate Protection	2,000	2,000	4,000	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
Health	-			-				
Health Devolution	-	216,970	216,970	-	-	197,353	197,353	-
Healthy Choices	-			-	23,812		23,812	-
Human Services	-			-				
Riding for the Disabled	3,534	15,000	24,268	5,734	-	25,000	21,466	3,534
Community Info Centre	-	32,000	32,000	-	-	32,000	32,000	-
Grog Stop	24,500		8,369	16,131	-	29,500	5,000	24,500
Centenary of Federation	2,727		2,727	-	-	2,727	-	2,727
Athletics as Role Models		15,000	15,000	-				
Recreation								
Library Operation	-	439,346	439,346	-	-	433,862	433,862	-
Library Needs Analysis	5,000		5,000	-	5,000	5,345	5,345	5,000
Library Indexing Advocate	-			-	15,323	-	15,323	-
Library Thesaurus	19,607		6,312	13,295	22,615	-	3,008	19,607
Library 5 Year Strategic Plan	30,250		17,500	12,750	-	30,250	-	30,250
Library Indigenous Access Projects		60,000		60,000				
Sporting Facilities (DSR)	44,991		3,740	41,251	44,991		-	44,991
Traeger Park Security	14,500			14,500	14,500	-	-	14,500
Traeger Park Car park	-			-	20,000	-	20,000	-
Rhonda Diano Oval Shade	5,000		5,000	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Flynn Oval Shade	720			720	4,860	-	4,140	720
2000 Sports Facility	34,000		23,809	10,191	-	50,000	16,000	34,000
Kurragong Park Enhancements	49,159	20,841	34,536	35,464		49,159	-	49,159
Traeger Park Baseball Lights		30,000	30,000	-				
Netball court resurfacing		30,000	30,000	-				
Skate Park - ATSIC		65,000	65,000	-				
Skate Park - Sport & recreation		59,100	59,100	-				
Sport & Recreation Officer		12,500	12,500	-				
Transportation				-				
ASBUS Operation	-	556,429	556,429		-	471,045	471,045	-
Road Grant	-	707,323	707,323		-	644,007	644,007	-
LATM Grant	-			-	-	16,115	16,115	-
Undoolya/Winnecke LATM	5,724		3,847	1,877	5,724	-	-	5,724
Gap Road Black Spot	-			-	-	149,727	149,727	-
Roads to Recovery	81,692	471,443	528,122	25,013	-	84,538	2,846	81,692
NT Safe - Snow Kenna Park Lighting	8,500		8,500	-	-	8,500	-	8,500
Unallocated								
Finance Reporting (DLG)	21,919		10,060	11,859	45,000	-	23,081	21,919
NT Grants Commission	-	1,150,464	1,150,464	-	-	927,123	927,123	-
Couch Reduction	-	85,000	85,000	-	-	48,000	48,000	-
WELS Coordinator	43,636	13,634	56,008	1,262	-	43,636	-	43,636
WELS Coordinator Year 2		30,000		30,000				
Memorandum of Understanding	-			-	-	35,000	35,000	-
TV Black Spot		84,433	84,433	-				
	477,914	5,297,730	5,328,431	447,213	256,570	3,357,687	3,136,343	477,914

NOTE 5(b)

OTHER GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED AND USED FOR
THE YEAR

Other Grants and Contributions which were received during the reporting period and which were obtained on the condition that they be expended on specific purposes were:

	2002 B/F	Provided	Used	Remaining	2001 B/F	Provided	Used	Remaining
Health								
Mosquito Control	-			-	1,731	5,390	7,121	-
Human Services								
Pioneer Cemetery	3,383			3,383	3,383	-	-	3,383
Transport								
Town Camp Roads Maintenance	12,003	583,404	330,021	265,386		45,455	33,452	12,003
Unallocated								
Pensioner Concessions	-	108,740	108,740	-	-	88,803	88,803	-
River Drainage Improvements LPE	-			-	12,000	1,288	13,288	-
	15,386	692,144	438,761	268,769	17,114	140,936	142,664	15,386
TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	493,300	5,989,874	5,767,192	715,982	273,684	3,498,623	3,279,007	493,300

NOTE 6. DISPOSAL OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2002 \$	2001 \$
Proceeds from Sales	354,750	88,704
LESS: Book value of assets sold	(146,141)	(42,563)
Surplus/(deficit) on disposals	<u>208,609</u>	<u>46,141</u>

NOTE 7. DEPRECIATION

Depreciation expense for the reporting period was charged in respect of:

Buildings	163,139	214,543
Plant and Equipment	670,849	627,607
Furniture & Office Equipment	66,954	131,108
Roads	1,272,841	1,204,841
Stormwater Drainage	366,996	366,442
Other Infrastructure	260,563	300,004
	<u>2,801,342</u>	<u>2,844,545</u>

NOTE 8. OTHER EXPENSES

Other Expenses for the reporting period included:

Auditor's fees	15,975	15,655
Elected Members fees	107,768	105,300
	<u>123,743</u>	<u>120,955</u>

NOTE 9. ABNORMAL ITEM

No abnormal item for the year ending 2002 or 2001.

NOTE 10. RESERVES SUMMARY

	SPECIFIC RESERVES						TOTAL
	ACCUMULATE D FUNDS	ASSET REPLACEMENT	SPORTS FACILITY	DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS	ASSET REVALUATION	SWIMMING POOL DEVELOPMENT	
Opening Period	13,971,615	750,000	509,046	367,746	123,842,715	65,000	139,506,122
Surplus For Period	2,691,879	-	-	-	-	-	2,691,879
Asset Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from reserves	235,028	-	(142,682)	(27,430)	-	(64,916)	0
Transfers to reserves	(1,225,289)	1,132,500	44,789	20,000	-	28,000	-
CLOSING BALANCE	15,673,233	1,882,500	411,153	360,316	123,842,715	28,084	142,198,001

Note 11. RECEIVABLES

	2002 \$	2001 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Rates Outstanding (Refer note 4)	120,281	187,343
LESS: Provision for doubtful debts (a)	(21,485)	(58,424)
	<u>98,796</u>	<u>128,919</u>
Garbage Charges Outstanding	33,395	32,282
Sundry Debtors accounts outstanding	918,945	322,556
LESS: Provision for doubtful debts (a)	(56,939)	(20,000)
	<u>895,402</u>	<u>334,838</u>
Total Current	<u>994,198</u>	<u>463,757</u>
<u>Non-current</u>		
Rates deferred (b)	72,157	94,019
Total Receivables	<u>1,066,355</u>	<u>557,776</u>

(a) Provision for Doubtful Debts

The Public Benevolent Institution status of a number of organisations is yet to be determined and it is not possible to determine at this stage the total amount of rates to be refunded and other fees to be charged to the Council. The Council has taken a prudent approach to this matter in these financial statements. Provision has also been made for other debtors, when there is doubt in collection and a general provision of 6% applied to the remaining.

(b) Rates Deferred

Where land is zoned and re-valued as R2 R3 B1 B3 or SU pursuant to the Alice Springs Town Plan, but is used and occupied for single residential purposes, application may be made for deferral of that portion of the rates levied which equates to the difference between rates as levied and those rates which would have been levied had the zoning of the subject land been consistent with the use of the land. Should the land use change, or should there be a sale, a transfer of the land or other change in circumstances, the deferrals granted during the previous five (5) years will become immediately repayable. Rates deferred longer than 5 years are written off.

	2002 \$	2001 \$
Rates deferred at beginning of year	94,019	97,749
Rates deferred during reporting period	9,830	21,212
Deferrals written off	(20,967)	(13,610)
Deferrals made due and adjustments	(10,725)	(11,332)
Total Rates deferred at end of year	<u>72,157</u>	<u>94,019</u>



NOTE 12. CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS

	2002 \$	2001 \$
<u>Current</u>		
Creditors	1,010,772	502,042
Provision for Legal Fees	-	-
Provision for Annual Leave	464,656	496,060
Provision for Long Service Leave	62,219	66,280
	<u>1,537,647</u>	<u>1,064,382</u>
<u>Non-current</u>		
Provision for Long Service Leave	352,576	382,812
Total Creditors and Provisions	<u>1,890,223</u>	<u>1,447,194</u>

NOTE 13. TRUST DEPOSITS

The council operates a Trust Fund in accordance with Sections 157 and 159 of the Local Government Act.

Details of the amounts and purposes of monies held in trust are set out in Schedule 1 to these Notes. Trust deposits represent refundable deposits held by the Council.

Note 14.

SUMMARY OF FIXED ASSETS

	Land	Buildings	Major Plant	Furniture & Equipment	Roads	Drainage Works	Other Community Infrastructure	Art Collection	Total
Cost of Assets									
Balance at start of Year	17,941,100	14,711,473	3,822,096	695,737	63,393,261	36,688,520	5,704,378	1,548,695	144,505,260
Additions		1,170,377	1,363,609	135,936	710,346	11,100	1,536,588		4,927,956
Disposals			(683,046)	(15,500)					(698,546)
Revaluation									0
Balance At end of Year	17,941,100	15,881,850	4,502,659	816,173	64,103,607	36,699,620	7,240,966	1,548,695	148,734,670
Accumulated Depreciation									
Balance at start of Year		754,178	1,765,075	498,768	3,583,082	1,098,413	1,140,712		8,840,228
Additions		163,139	670,849	66,954	1,272,841	366,996	260,563		2,801,342
Disposals			(528,715)	(15,500)					(544,215)
Revaluation									0
Balance At end of Year	-	917,317	1,907,209	550,222	4,855,923	1,465,409	1,401,275	-	11,097,355
Net book Value									
Balance at start of Year	17,941,100	13,957,295	2,057,021	196,969	59,810,179	35,590,107	4,563,666	1,548,695	135,665,032
Balance At end of Year	17,941,100	14,964,533	2,595,450	265,951	59,247,684	35,234,211	5,839,691	1,548,695	137,637,315



NOTE 15. COMMITMENTS FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

At the reporting date, the Council had entered into contracts for the following capital expenditure:

	2002 \$	2001 \$
Infrastructure	279,629	45,000
Plant and Equipment	307,294	317,910

<u>586,923</u>	<u>362,910</u>
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	2002 \$	2002 \$ Grant Funding
Councils capital expenditure commitment under contract		
Plant & Equipment after proceeds from sale	307,294	
Verge Landscaping	75,000	
Depot Office	10,200	
Seal Mall Pavers	9,090	
Roads to Recovery	25,013	25,013
PABX	85,000	
Shade Construction	54,573	
Disabled Toilet Library	20,753	
	<u>586,923</u>	
Councils other capital commitments		
2002 Sports Facility / Rovers Club Rooms	10,000	10,000
Rover clubrooms	73,000	
Traeger Park Security	14,500	14,500
Kurragong Park Enhancements	35,464	35,464
Exaloos	122,000	
	<u>254,964</u>	<u>84,977</u>
TOTAL WORKS IN PROGRESS	<u>841,887</u>	<u>84,977</u>
Net after grants funding	<u>756,910</u>	

NOTE 16. DEFERRED ASSETS

	2002 \$	2001 \$
Development Cost	92,870	92,870
Less Local Rates Prior Years	(92,870)	(84,875)
Less Local Rate revenue current year	-	(7,995)

<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
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NOTE 17. TERM LOANS

Loans at commencement of year	720,613	1,341,830
New Loans	-	
LESS: Principal repayments	(585,838)	(621,217)

<u>134,775</u>	<u>720,613</u>
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Loan liability		
- Current	134,775	585,838
- Non-current	-	134,775

<u>134,775</u>	<u>720,613</u>
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NOTE 18. RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO OPERATING RESULT

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Operating Result	2,691,879	1,402,365
Depreciation	2,801,424	2,844,545
(Profit) Deficit on Sale of Assets	(208,609)	(46,141)
Government Grants Capital	(1,834,574)	(1,002,046)
(Decrease) Increase in Provision for Doubtful Debts	0	(461,576)
Decrease (Increase) in Receivables	(530,441)	118,394
Decrease (Increase) in non-current Receivables	21,862	3,730
Decrease (Increase) in Prepayments	669	(1,019)
Decrease (Increase) in Inventory	1,218	7,466
Decrease (Increase) in Accrued Income	(149,919)	66,925
(Decrease) Increase in Creditors & Provisions	473,265	(19,829)
(Decrease) Increase in Accrued Expenses	58,895	28,295
(Decrease) Increase in Trust Deposits	188,672	38,908
(Increase) Decrease in Deferred Asset	0	7,995
Increase (Decrease) in Non-Current Provisions	(30,236)	(1,322)
	<u>792,227</u>	<u>1,584,325</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>3,484,106</u>	<u>2,986,690</u>

NOTE 19. RECONCILIATION OF CASH

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Council considers cash to include cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Cash on Hand and in Banks	5,800,832	5,633,089
	<u>5,800,832</u>	<u>5,633,089</u>

Money Market Investments earned interest at 5.5% (prior year 6%) on average during the year.

NOTE 20. TAX STATUS

The activities of the Council are exempt from Income Taxation



NOTE 21. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	2002 \$	2001 \$
(a) Rentals charged to operating result	123,541	145,367
(b) At the reporting date the Council had the following obligations under non-cancellable operating leases (these obligations are not recognised as liabilities).		
Not longer than one year	81,626	123,541
Longer than one year and not longer than two years	-	81,626
Longer than two years and not longer than five years		-
Longer than five years		
Minimum lease payments	<u>81,626</u>	<u>205,167</u>

SCHEDULE 1

TRUST FUND & RESERVES

	Balance 30/06/01 \$	Receipts \$	Council Contribution \$	Payments \$	Balance 30/06/02 \$
RESERVES					
Asset Replacement Reserve	750,000		1,132,500		1,882,500
Developer Contributions for Works	367,746		20,000	27,430	360,316
Sports Facilities Development Reserve	509,046	20,663	24,126	142,682	411,153
Asset Revaluation Reserve	123,842,715				123,842,715
Swimming Pool Development Reserve	65,000		28,000	64,916	28,084
	<u>125,534,507</u>	<u>20,663</u>	<u>1,204,626</u>	<u>235,028</u>	<u>126,524,768</u>

TRUST DEPOSITS

Cleaning Deposits	3,190	3,136		3,786	2,540
Equipment Security	3,405	1,340		1,420	3,325
Contract Retention & Security	78,435	53,107		53,180	78,362
Miscellaneous	33,499	2,783		3,166	33,116
Grants for Administration by Council	52,526	259,986		70,128	242,384
	<u>171,055</u>	<u>320,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>131,680</u>	<u>359,727</u>



SCHEDULE 2

LONG TERM LOANS

Purpose of Loan	Interest Rate %	Date Received	Loan Term (Years)	Frequency of Repayments	Initial Amount of Loan \$	Balance of Loan 30/06/02 \$	Balance of Loan 30/06/01 \$
Consolidated Loan Civil Works	14.50	1/06/90	13	Six-monthly	3,686,062	134,775	691,797
Road Construction, Traffic Lights	10.23	18/06/92	10	Six-monthly	155,000	-	21,494
Computer Equipment	8.219	23/09/99	2	Monthly	66,000	-	7,322
						134,775	720,613

SCHEDULE 3

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS FUNDS

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Current assets	7,141,233	6,295,017
Non current assets Deferred rates	72,157	94,019
Creditors & provisions	(1,537,647)	(1,064,382)
Accrued expenses	(267,979)	(209,084)
Trust deposits	(359,727)	(171,055)
Non current provisions	(352,576)	(382,812)
	4,695,461	4,561,703
Capital works in progress not tied funded	(756,910)	(1,203,861)
Unexpended grants	(715,982)	(493,300)
Specific reserves:-		
Asset Replacement Reserves	(1,882,500)	(750,000)
Developer Contributions for Works	(360,316)	(367,746)
Swimming Pool Development Reserve	(28,084)	(65,000)
Sports Facilities Development Reserve	(411,153)	(509,046)
	(4,154,945)	(3,388,953)
Balance Surplus Funds at 30th. June	540,516	1,172,750
Increase / (Decrease) In Surplus Funds for the year		(632,234)

Notes:

1. This is the method accepted by Council in consultation with the Division of Local Government for measuring Councils financial position.
2. The Council in adopting the 2002/3 Estimates used surplus funds of \$350,000. The remaining balance of surplus funds after the adoption of Estimates for 2002/3 was \$190,000. (Refer also to Note 3.)

