Alice Springs Town Council

2003/2004 ANNUAL REPORT



Artist's impression of the new Civic Centre foyer



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The 2003/2004 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 2004.

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

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

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





Mayor's Message

I am pleased to present the 2003 -2004 Alice Springs Town Council's Annual Report.

During this financial year I have been fortunate to lead two teams of committed Aldermen who worked tirelessly to represent the interests of our community. I wish to acknowledge their support and efforts over the past 12 months.

There were many highlights during the course of the year including:

- completing the planning for our new Civic Centre. We will see the development of one of Australia's
 first environmentally friendly local community hubs. The key feature of the Centre is the
 development of more common space for the community;
- receiving the best Northern Territory Recreation Facility Award for our Skate Park at the 2003
 Heart Foundation Local Government Awards. It was a proud moment for Alice Springs. This is a
 demonstration of what can be achieved when young people, parents and the broader community
 work with Council, the Northern Territory Government and the then Aboriginal and Torres Strait
 Islander Commission. Together we can build community capacity in Alice Springs; and
- conducting an extensive community consultation for Alice Springs Town Council. Around 1,000
 people responded to the community survey conducted in early 2004. Through this approach the
 planning and direction for Town Council is truly a reflection of the expectations and needs of the
 community.

Through out the year Aldermen worked closely with the Council's management team to translate the community's needs in setting the strategic direction for the future. Alice Springs Town Council is committed to listening to, working with and reporting to the community as shown in this Annual Report.

On behalf of the community and Aldermen, I would like to thank our management and staff admirably led by the Chief Executive Officer, Rex Mooney for their contribution and commitment to making Alice Springs a better place to live, work, recreate and most importantly visit. Alice Springs is the gateway to Central Australia.

Fran Kilgariff MAYOR





Chief Executive Officer's Message

I am pleased to present this Annual Report to the community.

The key priority for 2003/2004 was to build robust community engagement processes to better inform Council's decision making. We have achieved this through a number of ways including:

- Taking Council to the community staging Council meetings at different venues;
- Conducting an extensive community survey; and
- Responding to inquiries to the community inquiries through Council's Website.

The redevelopment of the Civic Centre will enable Council to provide high quality services which are responsive and consistent with our community needs and expectations.

I am committed to ensuring each employee knows where we are headed as a town and as a Council. It is imperative that the whole team at Council understands our vision for the town and how their individual jobs contribute to our town's future. To this end I have put in place a number of initiatives including:

- Reviewing the Code of Conduct for Elected Members and Staff;
- Developing a Staff Newsletter; and
- Undertaking an Organisational restructure.

With the need to ensure appropriate sustainable planning for the future, our partnerships with Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation and Tangentyere Council will become even more important. We must face our challenges with open minds and celebrate our diversity and ability to achieve as a whole community.

The Council's 2003/2004 Annual Report outlines Alice Springs strong financial position and reflects careful consideration of the strategic direction of the organisation and the community. The Council continued to lobby and pursue funding opportunities from other levels of government for projects important to Alice Springs. During the 2003/2004 financial year Council received funding for a range of projects including the Roads to Recovery and assistance in employing an indigenous environmental health officer.

I would like to thank the Her Worship the Mayor Fran Kilgariff, Aldermen, Council's Executive Management Team and our dedicated employees who have led and contributed to ensuring Alice Springs is a thriving regional service and tourist centre, and most importantly a great place to live.

Rex Mooney CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The Elected Council

The Ninth Council (1 July 2003 - 6 June 2004)



Back row: Alderman Susan Jefford, Alderman Samih Habib, Alderman Bob Corby, Alderman Russell Naismith, Alderman Jenny Mostran, Alderman Geoff Bell

Front row: Alderman Michael Jones, Alderman Raelene Beale, Mayor Fran Kilgariff, Alderman David Koch, Alderman Annette Smith

Mayor Fran Kilgariff

Alderman Michael Jones Alderman Raelene Beale

Alderman Geoff Bell

Alderman Bob Corby

Alderman Russell Naismith

Alderman Susan Jefford Alderman Susan Jefford

The Elected Council

The Tenth Council (7 June 2004 - 30 June 2004)



Front left-right: Alderman Jane Muré, Alderman David Koch, Mayor Fran Kilgariff, Alderman Marguerite Baptiste-Rooke, Alderman Murray Stewart (seated), Alderman Melanie van Haaren(seated).

Back left-right: Alderman Geoff Bell, Alderman Ernie Nicholls, Alderman Samih Habib, Alderman Robyn Lambley.

Absent: Alderman Des Rogers

Mayor Fran Kilgariff

Alderman Marguerite Baptiste-Rooke Alderman Jane Muré

Alderman Geoff Bell Alderman Ernie Nicholls

Alderman Samih Habib Alderman Des Rogers

Alderman David Koch Alderman Murray Stewart

Alderman Robyn Lambley Alderman Melanie van Haaren

Committee Representatives

Council decisions are made through a series of Council and Committee meetings. The Council and Committee structure for the year 2003-2004 follows. More information about Council meetings including meeting schedules, locations, agendas and minutes is available on Council's website at www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

1 July 2003 - 6 June 2004 Council Standing Committees

Finance Committee

Chairman Alderman Geoff Bell

Economic and Community Development Committee

Chairman Alderman Michael Jones

Planning and Infrastructure Committee

Chairman Alderman David Koch

Council representation on other committees

Access Advisory Committee

Alderman Smith

Alice in Ten Built Environment

Committee

Alderman Beale

Alice in Ten Mining Committee

Alderman Koch

Alice in Ten Quality of Life Committee

Alderman Habib

Alice in Ten Todd and Charles River

Committee

Alderman Bell

Araluen Advisory Committee

Alderman Beale

Australia Day Committee

Alderman Corby

Cemetery Committee

Alderman Corby Alderman Habib

Alderman Bell

Central Australian Regional Development Committee

Alderman Mostran

Community Grants Sub-committee

Alderman Mostran Alderman Smith

Development Consent Authority

Alderman Mostran Alderman Koch

Alderman Beale (alternate member)

Evaluations Reference Group

(Liquor Trials)

Alderman Habib

Local Government Association NT

Mayor Kilgariff Alderman Mostran

Alderman Jones (alternate member)

Local Government Association NT

Area Consultative Committee

Alderman Smith

National Heritage Trust Selection

Committee

Alderman Koch

Open Space Reference Group

Alderman Beale Alderman Habib Alderman Mostran Road Safety Council

Alderman Habib

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee

Alderman Jones

Swimming Pool Centre Advisory Committee

Alderman Beale

Alderman Jefford

Tangentyere Steering Committee

Mayor Kilgariff

Alderman Mostran

Tidy Town Committee

Alderman Jones

Todd and Charles River Trustee

Committee

Alderman Bell

Alderman Koch

Waste Management Advisory

Committee

Alderman Jefford



Committee Representatives at 30 June 2004

Council Standing Committees

Finance Committee

Chairman Alderman Geoff Bell

Corporate and Community Services Committee

Chairman Alderman Robyn Lambley

Technical Services Committee

Chairman Alderman Ernie Nicholls

Council representation on other committees

Access Advisory Committee

Alderman Baptiste-Rooke

Alice in Ten Built Environment

Committee

Alderman Bell

Alice in Ten Quality of Life - Safer

Communities

Alderman Habib

Alice in Ten Quality of Life -

Substance Misuse

Alderman Lambley

Alice Springs Festival

Alderman Baptiste-Rooke

Alice Springs Marketing

Alderman Stewart

Alice Springs Town Council and Tangentyere Council Steering

Committee

Mayor Kilgariff

Alderman Habib

Alliance of Inlands Towns Group

Mayor Kilgariff

Alice Springs Visioning

Mayor Kilgariff

Araluen Advisory Committee

Alderman Muré

Australia Day Committee

Alderman Lambley

Central Australian Tourism Industry

Association

Alderman Nicholls

Community Grants Sub-committee

Alderman Habib

Alderman van Haaren

Development Consent Authority

Alderman Koch

Alderman Rogers

Garden Cemetery

Alderman Habib

Alderman Bell

Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory

Committee

Mayor Kilgariff

Local Government Association NT

Mayor Kilgariff

Alderman van Haaren

NT Grants Commission

Mayor Kilgariff

Regional Development Board

Mayor Kilgariff

Sports Facilities Advisory Committee

Alderman Stewart

Swimming Pool Centre Advisory

Committee

Alderman Stewart

Alderman Muré

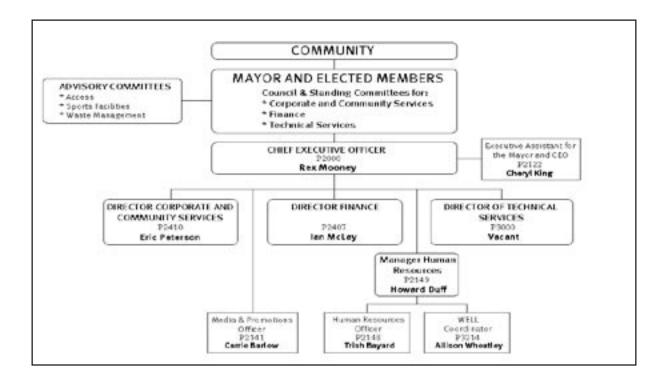
Waste Management Advisory

Committee

Alderman Lambley



Organisational Structure at June 2004



A complete organisational chart is available at www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

Council's Goals

The Alice Springs Town Council's Annual Report is divided into a number of 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. Organisational Development Goal:

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

Governance

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

Aldermen and Council Officer's commitment is aligned to Council's Vision and Goals through adherence to the Elected Members and Officers Code of Conduct. Alice Springs Town Council was the first local government in the Northern Territory to adopt such a Code of Conduct.

The development of a policy guide for community consultation in 2003/2004, has enabled Council to ensure that community engagement processes are effective to inform Council decision making processes.

During the year Aldermen and officers met with a diverse range of individuals and groups to discuss many issues of interest and importance.

'Taking Council to the community' was assisted by holding Council meetings in different locations across the town. This allowed people to show and discuss issues and projects with aldermen that were of relevance to their local communities. Council plans to continue this program into the future.

Council has placed a high priority on the distribution of timely, quality information across the community using a range of techniques. These included; producing a quarterly Council Newsletter, putting press releases following every Council meeting and the Mayor maintaininga regular weekly spot on our local radio station.

Alice Springs future is its dynamic and diverse community. The Partnership Agreement signed between Alice Springs Town Council and the Lhere Artepe, the traditional owners of the land of Alice Springs will produce benefits for all members of our community.



Signing of the Lhere Artepe and Alice Springs Town Council Partnership Agreement

Alice Springs Town Council operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with Tangentyere Council. This has improved Indigenous/non-Indigenous relations and provided more employment and training opportunities for Indigenous people.

Community Development & Services

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

Targeting Young People - Investing in our future

Youth Web Page - www.youthhangout.com

The 'Youthhangout' website has been developed and captured by our youth. It is an interactive and practical support resource for 12 - 24 year old marginalised youth, offering the opportunity for young people to tell their stories, read other people's stories, express themselves, find out what's happening, hear about work experience opportunities, communicate, learn about Bush Mob journeys, and other relevant and dynamic activities and information.

	Summary by Month									
		Daily Avg					Monthly	/ Totals		
Month	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBvtes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Nov 2004	564	331	140	40	601	96415	1212	4215	9951	16927
Oct 2004	497	310	106	32	470	80446	1022	3298	9617	15420
Sep 2004	438	317	124	32	560	94209	987	3744	9528	13168
Aug 2004	706	373	119	29	475	88334	922	3701	11571	21905
Jul 2004	380	235	73	26	300	58221	807	2293	7307	11796
Jun 2004	735	352	113	29	456	89164	872	3400	10587	22058
May 2004	1970	654	260	29	488	190130	925	8073	20281	61094
Apr 2004	1172	563	143	23	318	117196	704	4300	16890	35167
Mar 2004	2053	652	270	36	376	183559	1137	8387	20242	63660
Feb 2004	683	343	86	21	284	74988	610	2521	9974	19817
Jan 2004	548	337	91	20	290	77073	632	2838	10450	17003
Dec 2003	759	425	156	27	310	111148	844	4862	13202	23547
Totals				100		1260883	10674	51632	149600	321562

While the website is vibrant and has strong youth appeal, the site will be rejuvenated next year to give it an exciting new look.

Bush Mob

Bush Mob is an adventure therapy, life skills development program designed by and for all young people aged 8-25 years of age, with an aim of empowering young people to have a good life, through participation in adventure and recreation activities.

Alice Springs Town Council has supported Bush Mob in successfully carrying out three x three day Journey of Discovery trips with indigenous and non-indigenous youth from different socio economic backgrounds. The 'journeys' were aimed at fostering awareness, understanding and respect between young people. The focus was on personal interaction within a group dynamic. The young people committed to an unknown situation involving cultural exchange, persisted through the difficulties of language, gained skills in bush tucker, didgeridoo playing, tracking and learnt the strength of each other's differences and an understanding of what it would take to build a better community in Alice Springs.



Some feedback from young people:

"We enjoyed meeting them white kids, normally we wouldn't have anything to do with each other, but we all like the same clothes and sorts of music, and family ways it's different but not too much." "Three days was too short...you get to know someone and it's finished."

"It would be good for them kids to see more of our way and us the same"

The trips were such a success that another trip is planned for December 2004.

Youth ARUNTA Program

St Mary's Family Services (Anglicare Central Australia) (Anglicare) is the HMAS ARUNTA's chosen charity. Whenever a contingent of the crew visit Alice Springs they include an all-day work program at the village and interact with the children.

The Youth ARUNTA Program represents Council's complementary support of the crew's commitment. It is designed to provide an opportunity, which may otherwise be denied by the vast majority of students, to broaden their perspective of life by experiencing a totally different environment to that which they are used to, both within their own communities and indeed Alice Springs.

Some 30 Anglicare youth, all from remote Central Australian communities, travelled to Darwin to visit the ARUNTA in 2003. All the children were aged between 6 and 11 and many had never seen the sea before.

During their visit they saw the sea, turtles, dolphins, crocodiles, tigers, lions and the sea again and again. The highlight was definitely the visit to the HMAS Arunta. They could not have felt more welcomed by the sailers on HMAS Arunta or by the people of Darwin. Even on an evening drive to Nightcliff jetty members of the public offered our children to have a try of their fishing rods or lines. Everyone spoke to us and welcomed us to the top end.

It was a long drive there and back but well worth the effort by the staff to see the faces of our children enjoying so many new experiences They also visited included Mataranka, Parliament House, the Museum and other places of interest during that trip.

The youth found the trip to be extremely exciting and informative. It will be repeated whenever the



Senior Citizens

Council recognises the contributions of our senior citizens and provides a number of services to improve the quality of life for them. These include annual activities co-ordinated through the Senior Citizens Centre in Wills Terrace, discounts for Asbus travel, pet registration and free gardening pruning pick up service.



His Honour Mr Ted Egan AO, Administrator of the NT at the Inaugural Seniors Talk Fest

During this year, a significant amount of work has been done with local seniors with the establishment and running of the 'Positive Ageing Program' for seniors which consisted of workshops and activities which encouraged healthy, positive and active ageing. In June we held the inaugural Seniors Talk Fest, at which time, 5 action groups were established to work on improving the quality of life for all Alice Springs' Seniors. Work began on setting up the new University of the 3rd Age (U3A) Program, and the development of a 'Seniors Living in Alice' resource booklet.

The Senior Citizens Centre on Wills Terrace is sporting \$90,000 worth of improvements, including new floor coverings, a sealed car park, bus shelter, landscaping and fence. Council completed the project with funding from the Commonwealth Government. The new Children's Section of the Library



 $\label{power} \mbox{Home work Help Tutor Lauren Blackwood in action .}$



Inspiration and movement was introduced into the library in this year.

The walls were painted in bold colours, shelving was moved to create separate zones for different activities and to maximise the available space to make the library more accessible by all user groups. New public toilets were added to support the new community programs introduced in the library.

The renewed library building has also been used to hold exhibitions. Illustrator Ann James used our space to exhibit the original artwork for her award winning book Little Humpty. This exhibition was visited by school groups who were involved with the Illustrator in writing and illustrating workshops in the library.

The Strehlow Research Centre also used our space for a photographic exhibition Desert Honeymoon - Bertha Strehlow and the Petermann Ranges Expedition of 1936.

The introduction of the homework program has also itself created colour and movement amongst the



Natural and Built Environment

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

Asset Management Roads and Services

Major works were funded through the Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Program(\$1.3M). Council has improved driving conditions and car parking along many our major routes including Leichhardt Terrace, Stuart Terrace and Simpson Terrace as part of the planned improvement of the quality and safety of our roads.

Commonwealth grants also assisted the establishment and redevelopment of child care centres.

Civic Centre

An enormous amount of work went into community consultation and planning to ensure the Centre will meet the future needs of our community including environmental sustainability.

As a result of this work, the Centre will become the community hub of the town in providing more public meeting space, additional toilets and car parking. A number of community organisations have already expressed interest in becoming regular users of the new facility.

Traegar Park

The redevelopment of Traegar Park would not have been possible without the support of the Northern Territory Government.

Council's turf management team worked hard to implement a special turf management program devised by Adelaide Oval curator Les Burdett.

A four year security program commenced to protect the oval and other valued community facilities in the Park.





Adelaide Oval curator Mr Les Burdett inspecting the pitch at the Traeger Park Oval

Footpath Program

The acceleration of Council's footpath program has provided safe and secure roads for the bicyclists and pedestrians. The work also included rehabilitation of surrounding landscapes, seating, and picnic tables.

Skate Park

As a result of active campaigning from young people and their supports, the original designers of the skate park were brought back to Alice Springs to plan extensions to make it less attractive for skate board riders to ride in the Mall and other areas around town. The plan will be to expand the skate park to incorporate street elements eg steps, rails etc, which were not included in the original design.

By doing so it was hoped the park would more readily accommodate both BMX and skateboarders as the major user groups.

The extensions, and the accreditation of a local skateboarder, whereby coaching clinics, workshops and competitions can be regularly conducted under the auspices of Skating Australia, are major objectives for achievement in the 2004/05 Financial Year.

Open Space

Consultation with community based precinct groups supported Council's planning processes to revitalise a number of parks and verges. Alice Springs residents are working with Alice Springs Council to determine the future of their parks.

Special thanks to the members of the Eastside Precinct Work Group for their work in formulating a comprehensive 10 Year Work Plan.



Nearly 600 native seedlings were planted by the community along the BMX track in Gosse Park for National Tree Day on 25 July.



The Eastside Park Group Working Bee in action at Gosse Park

The continued maintenance of sporting facilities at a high standard enabled the hosting of a match of the AFL preseason competition in Alice Springs. Work was also undertaken on a range of other facilities for the Masters Games to be held later in the year.

A feasibility study demonstrated the benefits of collocating the YMCA at the Swimming Pool Centre. The planning has commenced to incorporate the design of an environmentally sustainable facility in conjunction with the development of a 25 metre indoor pool at the Swimming Pool Centre site.

Town & Regional Development

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

Council has strengthened its networks with all levels of government, business and the community to position Alice Springs as a major regional centre for business, development, lifestyle, events and tourism.

Desert Knowledge

Alice Springs Town Councilis represented on the Desert Knowledge Australia Steering Committee. Desert Knowledge Australia began in Alice Springs with the support of the Northern Territory Government. It is a consortium of desert Australian industry, Aboriginal organisations, government and non government parties. Desert Knowledge Australia aims to build thriving desert knowledge economies, operating on the basic principles of harmony, sustainability and wealth creation.

Over the last twelve months Council participated in discussions about a number of programs including the establishment of the Desert Knowledge Precinct to be located on a 130 hectare greenfield site near town. The Precinct will not only provide a physical focal point for Desert Knowledge Australia it will provide major economic and social benefits for the

town.

Civic Centre

Extensive community consultation and planning will ensure the Centre will meet the future needs of our community. As a result of this work, the environmentally building will provide more public meeting space, toilets and additional car parking and be the community hub of the town.

Other Community Facilities

Council developed a new policy for the use of community facilities. It is Council's aim to provide safe, quality venues for sport and recreation activities in Alice Springs to allow us to effectively manage risks and meet the community's needs.

Improved lighting at sporting facilities, car parks and the Todd Mall has enhanced community safety in these areas.

Council has continued to allocate significant resources to remove litter and improve the look and feel of our streets. Litter is a problem that all the



Organisational Development

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

Ensuring the Council is ready to respond and meet the community needs requires a large amount of input from an organisational basis. This year has been no exception with new staff being appointed and new policies adopted.

In addition to our commitment to provide exceptional service to our community, we also understand that our employees are our greatest asset. Our new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement is designed to support the diverse needs of our employees and help them manage the demands of balancing life and work.

Workforce Development

Certification of the Alice Springs Town Council Workplace Partnership Agreement 2004

In January 2004, employees supported a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement which comprises a number of positive developments including:

- Broadbanding for Municipal Employees.
- Introduction of a basket of leave for personal/ caring/bereavement purposes.
- Introduction of Defence Service and Emergency Community Service leave.
- · Paid maternity leave

Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

Council is working towards the development of a new policy consistent with the legislative requirements.

Indigenous Environmental Health Worker

An indigenous environmental health worker has joined the environmental health services unit. Council continues its active program to train and employ members of the local communities.

Financial Management

During 2003/4 there have been major improvements to the Financial Reporting systems of Council. The introduction of a new accounting package to add reporting to the existing 'authority' accounting system was the most significant. The software is called Business Information System (BIS) and provides easy to read financial reports at all levels required by Managers of the Council and Council itself.

The reporting from BIS will assist Council to make informed financial decisions and to track expenditure and income to the Business Plan of Council.

BIS also enables Council to comply with requirements of the Northern Territory Accounting Code, in line with Australian Accounting Standards and the requirements of the Northern Territory Grants Commission. It will be instrumental in assisting Council in moving to accrual budgeting from 1st July 2005.



Roslyn MacDonald and Max Bloomfield started their environmental health apprenticeships this year under a partnership agreement between the Alice Springs Town Council, Arrernte and Tangentyere Councils.

Information Technology

Information Technology has been also a major focus for Council and apart from the maintenance of an integrated computer network throughout the organisation there have been some significant additions to the Council information systems;

Registry

A new registry system was purchased from Civica who currently provide and support the 'authority local government' data base for the Council. The new registry system will provide Council with the ability to hold and reference documents electronically so that the manual maintenance of files will be largely overcome. The package will add enormously to the efficiency of Council and enable compliance with future legislation.

Weighbridge System

Planning for the introduction of a contemporary weighbridge system was a significant issue for the year to overcome shortcomings with the existing weighbridge system and to enable better data collection and accounting for the management of the community use of the landfill.

Web-Site Development

The current website is a popular community resource receiving 45,000 visits a month. Favourite pages include a searchable Advocate index, local plants database, community calendar and community directory.

A major redevelopment of the Alice Springs Town Council web-site has commenced and in the coming years this vital link with the community and the outside world will be better able to meet the challenges. The redevelopments planned will enhance the speed and easy location of information about the Council and the community of Alice Springs. In addition, customers will be able to complete transactions online with a secure integrated payment system.



Financial Snapshot

Council finished the financial year in excellent shape.

A strong cash position of Council which covers all commitments and significant reserves. The Reserves are:

		\$'000
•	Infrastructure Reserve	3,963
•	Sports Facility Reserve	531
•	Developer Contributions	275
•	Swimming Pool Development Reserve	<u>77</u>
	Total Reserves	4,846

The Council has no debt at balance date and managed to expend more on capital replacement than depreciation of Council assets for the year.

Some of the major capital works for the year were:

		\$'000
•	Significant security lighting to the mall and for Flynn Park	190
•	Roads resurfacing & maintenance	678
•	Footpaths	407
•	Cycle Paths	209
•	Mall Paving	26
•	Landscaping	96
•	Shade Structures	220
•	Council community facilities upgrades	592
•	Council plant & vehicle replacement	<u>1,169</u>
Total	capital expenditure for 2003/2004	3,587

A major redevelopment to the Civic Centre is planned to commence on the 1st September 2004. Funding for this project is possible through the significant funds in the Infrastructure Reserve and the establishment of a commercial loan of \$5M.

The operating deficit for the year was evidence of Council delivery of local government services to the community of Alice Springs in line with the published Business Plan. The only funds carried forward for spending into 2004/2005 were 'tied' grant funds for specific projects and the major portion of these were for projects such as the Footpaths Urban Landscape (to construct walking paths along the Todd River) and the refurbishment of the Totem Theatre, where unavoidable delays have been experienced.

2003/2004 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL



General Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2004

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ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2004

STATEMENT BY CEO

The attached Annual Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with

- The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made thereunder
- The Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- The Local Government Asset Accounting Manual.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, these reports

- Present fairly the Council's financial position and operating result for the year, and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records

I am not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 25th October 2004

Rex Mooney

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OPERATING STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2004

	Notes	Actual 2004	Actual 2003
EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	3	\$'000	\$'000
Employee Costs	3	6,450	5,704
Materials & Contracts	•	7,193	6,200
Borrowing Costs	3	-	8
Depreciation & Amortisation	3	2,937	2,935
Other Expenses	3	1,170	1,100
Total Expenses from Ordinary Activities	_	17,750	15,947
	_	•	
REVENUES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	3		
Rates & Annual Charges	4	9,434	9,177
User Charges & Fees	4	2,187	2,252
Investment Revenues	4	457	341
Grants & Contributions - Operating	4	3,456	2,527
Other Revenues	4	705	89
Profit from Disposal of Assets	5	164	95
Revenues from Ordinary Activities before Capital Amounts		16,403	14,481
SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY OPERATIONS BEFORE CAPITAL AMOUNTS	-	(1,347)	(1,466)
Grants & Contributions - Capital SURPLUS(DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY	4 _	1,020	2,229
OPERATIONS AFTER CAPITAL AMOUNTS		(327)	763
TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY	- =	(327)	763

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2004

CURRENT ASSETS Cash Assets Receivables Inventories Other TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	Notes 6 7 8 8	Actual 2004 \$'000 6,110 1,027 96 - 7,233	Actual 2003 \$'000 6,808 878 92 22 7,800
NON-CURRENT ASSETS Receivables Property, Plant & Equipment TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL ASSETS	7 9 —	59 137,014 137,073 144,306	74 136,896 136,970 144,770
CURRENT LIABILITIES Payables Borrowings Provisions TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	10 10 10	689 - 800 1,489	868 - 539 1,407
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Provisions TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES TOTAL LIABILITIES	10	184 184 1,673	403 403 1,810
NET ASSETS		142,633	142,960
EQUITY Accumulated Surplus Reserves Council Equity Interest TOTAL EQUITY	 	13,944 128,689 142,633 142,633	15,175 127,785 142,960 142,960

STATEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL as at 30 June 2004

		Actual	Actual
	Notes	2004	2003
CURRENT ASSETS		\$'000	\$'000
Cash Assets	6	610	808
Investments	6	5,500	6,000
Receivables	7	1,027	878
Inventories	8	96	92
Other	8	-	22
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	-	7,233	7,800
Less CURRENT LIABILITIES Creditors Borrowings Provisions TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	10 10 10	689 - 800 1,489	868 - 539 1,407
NET CURRENT ASSETS Working Capital)	-	5,744	6,393
Current Ratio			
Current Assets		<u>7,233</u> 4.86:1	<u>7,800</u> 5.54:1
Current Liabilities		1,489	1,407

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Accum Surplus	Asset Revaluation	Asset Replacement	Sports Facility	Developer Contributions	Swimming Pool Development	Total
Balance at beginning of the reporting period	\$'000 15,175	\$'000 123,842	\$'000 3,041	\$'000 453	\$'000 361	\$'000 88	\$'000 142,960
Change in Net Assets recognised in the Statement of Financial performance	(327)	-	-	-	-	-	(327)
Transfers to Reserves Transfers from Reserve	(1,155) 252	-	922 -	154 (76)	79 (165)	0 (11)	-
Balance at end of the reporting period	13,945	123,842	3,963	531	275	77	142,633

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 June 2004

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes	Actual 2004 \$'000	Actual 2003 \$'000
Receipts Rates & Annual Charges User Charges & Fees Investment Income Grants & Contributions Other operating receipts		9,213 2,136 450 3,404 645	8,941 2,727 549 3,929 655
Payments Employee Costs Materials & Contracts Borrowing Costs Other operating payments	_	(6,466) (6,718) - (1,163)	(5,628) (7,471) (137) (1,426)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	11(b)	1,501	2,138
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of Property, Plant & Equipment Repayments from Deferred Debtors		368 -	182 (2)
Payments Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment Other Loans to Deferred Debtors		(3,587) - -	(2,282) (20)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	_	(3,219)	(2,122)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Receipts			
Grants for Capital Purposes Payments		1,020	1,126
Repayments of Borrowings & Advances	_		(135)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		1,020	991
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held	_	(698)	1,007
Cash at beginning of reporting period Cash at end of reporting period	11(a) 11(a)	6,808 6,110	5,801 6,808

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

1. The Local Government Reporting Entity

These General Purpose Financial Statements include the consolidated fund and other entities through which the Council controls resources to carry on its functions. 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.

To meet the reporting requirements of various funding bodies certain administrative overhead costs are recharged between functions. These charges are not significant to the financial report and have not been eliminated because the cost of doing so is considered to outweigh the benefits.

2. Basis of Accounting

2.1 Compliance

The financial report complies with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements, the requirements of the Local Government Act and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the Local Government Asset Accounting Manual. For the convenience of users the reference to the equivalent AASB Accounting Standard is also given.

2.2 Basis

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, except where specifically indicated in these Notes, in accordance with the historical cost convention.

The accounting policies adopted for the reporting period are consistent with those of the previous reporting period except where otherwise indicated.

This financial report includes accounting estimates formulated in accordance with the above standards and have regard to the substance rather than the form of transactions. Nothing contained within this report may be taken to be an admission of any liability to any person under any circumstance.

3. Rates

The rating period and reporting period for the Council coincide and, accordingly, all rates levied for the year are recognised as revenues. Uncollected rates are recognised as receivables after providing for amounts due from unknown owners and postponed rates in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

4. Grants, Contributions and Donations

Grants, donations and other contributions are recognised as revenues when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt. Where prior advice of grants has been received and expenditure has been incurred in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions, unreceived grant entitlements are recorded as receivables.

Unreceived contributions over which the Council has control are recognised as receivables.

Where grants, contributions and donations 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 amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in these notes as restricted assets. Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as revenues in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

5. Cash Assets and Investment Securities

Investments in Bank Bills and Term Deposits are recognised at cost. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Where cash and investments held are subject to restrictions and Council's management plan for the ensuing reporting period does not provide for the discharge of those restrictions, the amounts have been classified as non-current.

6. Receivables

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations and Determinations made thereunder.

Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate provision made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

7. Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued by using the weighted average cost on a continual basis, after adjustment for loss of service potential. Inventories held in respect of business undertakings have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

8. Property, Plant & Equipment

8.1 Transitional Provisions

At the date of these accounts, the following infrastructure assets have not been capitalised: Land under Roads

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use".

8.2 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life.

8.3 Valuation

The "Recoverable Amount Test" of paragraph 30 of AAS 10 (AASB 1010) does not apply to the Council except in relation to recognised trading operations.

At 1 July 2000 upon the commencement of Australian Accounting Standard AAS 38 (AASB 1041) "Revaluation of Non-Current Assets", Council elected pursuant to paragraph 10.4(a) of the standard to revert to the cost basis for all classes of assets previously carried at revalued amounts.

Plant, equipment and similar assets are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation.

8.4 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis. Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are provided in Note 9 to these accounts. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

9. Payables

Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

10. Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

11. Employee Benefits

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences (other than long service leave not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date) are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based oncosts) measured in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1028 "Employee Benefits". The financial effect of changes from Australian Accounting Standard AAS 30, applicable to the previous reporting period were not material in amount.

Liabilities for long service leave not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based oncosts) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

12. Financial Instruments

Council complies with Australian Accounting Standard AAS 33 (AASB 1033) "Presentation & Disclosure of Financial Instruments"; the disclosures required by that Standard are made in Note 19 (Financial Instruments).

13. Construction Contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties (principally the Roads & Traffic Authority for works on national and state highways) are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance.

14. GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 31 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

15. Budget Information

The Statement of Financial Performance provides budget information of revenues and expenditures by type and for each of the major activities of the Council. Budget figures presented are those approved by Council at the beginning of the financial year and do not include Council approved variations throughout the year. Information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request.

16. Rounding

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice all amounts shown in the Financial Statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

17. Comparative Information

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to be consistent with the current year disclosure of equivalent information.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 2 - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Administration

Costs relating to Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, meetings and associated activities, area representation, and public disclosure and compliance, together with related administration costs.

Public Order & Safety

Animal controll, enforcement of local government regulations, other.

Health

Administration and inspection, food control, insect & vermin control, noxious plants, health centres, other.

Community Services & Education

Administration, child-care, youth services, aged and disabled, Aboriginal services, other community services, education.

Housing & Community Amenities

Domestic waste management services, other waste management services, street cleaning, other sanitation and garbage, urban stormwater drainage, environmental protection, public cemeteries, public conveniences, other community amenities.

Recreation & Culture

Public libraries, community centres, public halls, other cultural services, swimming pools, sporting grounds, parks and gardens, other sport and recreation.

Transport & Communication

Roads and streets, bridges, footpaths, parking areas, bus shelters and services.

Economic Affairs

Other business undertakings

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 3 - EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

EMPLOYEE COSTS	2004 \$'000	2003 \$'000
Salaries and Wages	4,907	4,206
Employee Leave Entitlements	458	878
Superannuation	540	484
Workers' Compensation Insurance	139	130
Fringe Benefits Tax	43	-
Other	363	6
Total Operating Employee Costs	6,450	5,704
Total Number of Employees	161	167
(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)		
BORROWING COSTS		
Interest on Loans		8 8
Total Interest Charges		8
DEDDECIATION & AMODICATION		
DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION	COF	700
Plant and Equipment	695	706
Furniture & Fittings	33	91
Land Improvements	347	323
Buildings	169	165
 roads, bridges & footpaths 	1,326	1,283
- stormwater drainage	367	367
Total Depreciation & Amortisation	2,937	2,935
OTHER EXPENSES		4=0
Advertising Auditor's Remuneration	142	150
- Audit Services	20	17
Donations & Contributions to Local & Regional Bodies	130	124
Insurances	162	126
Legal Expenses	102	120
	7	20
- Other Legal Expenses	7	29
Light, Power & Heating	159	150
Mayoral Allowance	40	35
Members' Fees & Allowances	80	73
Members' Expenses	10	4
Street Lighting	336	327
Telephone & Communications	84	65
Total Other Expenses	1,170	1,100
•	, -	, 2

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 4 - REVENUES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2004	2003
RATES & ANNUAL CHARGES	\$'000	\$'000
Ordinary Rates		
Residential	6,416	8,698
Farmland	233	
CBD	502	
Business	2,283	479_
Total Rates & Annual Charges	9,434	9,177
USER CHARGES & FEES		
<u>User Charges</u>		
Domestic Waste Management	1,139	1,071
Other Waste Management	651	651
Other	288_	261_
	2,078	1,983
<u>Fees</u>		
Registration Fees	54	91
Cemeteries	-	56
Rent & Hire of Council Property	18	66
Admission & Service Fees	-	22
Other	37	34
	109	269
Total User Charges & Fees	2,187	2,252
INVESTMENT DEVENUES		
INVESTMENT REVENUES Interest on overdue rates & charges	85	46
Interest on investments attributable to	03	40
Other Investments	372	295
Gross Investment Revenues	457	341
Total Investment Revenues	457	341
Total investment nevenues	401	041
OTHER REVENUES		
Fines	53	23
Insurance Claims	53	26
Legal Fees Recovery (Rates)	-	32
Other	599	8
Total Other Revenues	705	89

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 4 - REVENUES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES (cont)

OPERAT	ING	CAPITAL	_
2004	2003	2004	2003
1,028	1,110	-	-
124	100	-	-
712	67	900	1,773
46	55		
-	-	90	200
55	227	-	162
1,491	968	30	94
3,456	2,527	1,020	2,229
-		-	-
3,456	2,527	1,020	2,229
	2004 1,028 124 712 46 - 55 1,491 3,456	1,028 1,110 124 100 712 67 46 55 55 227 1,491 968 3,456 2,527	2004 2003 2004 1,028 1,110 - 124 100 - 712 67 900 46 55 - - - 90 55 227 - 1,491 968 30 3,456 2,527 1,020

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 5 - GAIN OR LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

	2004 \$'000	2003 \$'000
DISPOSAL OF PLANT & EQUIPMENT Proceeds from disposal Less: Carrying amount of assets sold Gain (Loss) on disposal	368 204 164	187 92 95
TOTAL GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS	164_	95

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES

CURITIES	AAESTMENT SECOL	NOTE 0 - CASH ASSETS & II
2003	2004	
<u>Current</u>	<u>Current</u>	
\$'000	\$'000	CASH ASSETS
808	610	Cash on Hand and at Bank
o 6,000	5,500	Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc
6,808	6,110	Total Cash Assets
6,808	6,110	TOTAL CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES
NTS	AND INVESTMENTS	RESTRICTED CASH A
2003	2004	Ref
<u>Current</u>	<u>Current</u>	
\$'000	\$'000	EXTERNAL RESTRICTIONS
		ncluded in liabilities
		Other
72	-	
		Other
	275	Developer Contributions 16
	1,353	Unexpended Grants 14
52 1,723		Other
		Total External Restrictions
	1,628	
	4,571	Total Internal Restrictions TOTAL UNRESTRICTED
9) 1,431	(89)	
6,808	6,110	TOTAL CASH ASSETS &
	,	NVESTMENT SECURITIES
_	6,11	NVESTMENT SECURITIES

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2003

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES (cont)

DETAILS OF MOVEMENTS & UTILISATION OF RESTRICTED CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES

		Opening Movements		Clasing Palance	Proposed Utilisation of Restriction			
	Notes	Balance 30 June 2003	Transfers To Restriction	Transfers From Restriction	Closing Balance 30 June 2004	Less than 1 Year	Between 1 and 5 years	Greater than 5 years
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
External Restrictions Developer Contributions Unexpended grants Other	16	361 1,309 72	79 4,476 -	165 4,432 72	275 1,353 -	20 1,353 -	255 - -	- - -
Total External Restrictions		1,742	4,555	4,669	5,687	5,432	255	-

External Restrictions arise pursuant to section 159(3) of the Local Government Act. Further information relating to Developer Contributions is provided in Note 17 and Unexpended Grants in Note 14. Amounts raised by special rates for Domestic Waste Management may only be used for those purposes.

	Opening	Move	ements	Closing Polonos	Proposed	Utilisation of R	estriction
Balance 30 June 2003		Transfers To Restriction	Transfers From Restriction	Closing Balance 30 June 2004	Less than 1 Year	Between 1 and 5 years	Greater than 5 years
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3,041	812	-	3,853	3,853	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	110	-	110	110	-	-
	453	154	76	531	200	331	-

27

4,190

50

381

11

Internal Restrictions

Employee Leave Entitlements
Construction of Buildings
Replacement - Plant & Vehicles
Office Equipment
Other
Sports Facilities Development
Swimming Pool Development
Total Internal Restrictions

Subsequent Events: \$3,800,000 from Construction of Buildings and a commercial loan of \$5,000,000 will be used to redevelop the Alice Springs Civic Centre. The loan is from the Westpac Banking Corporation at a fixed interest of 6.75% for 15 years and will be fully drawn down on the 1st December 2004.

1,076

88

3,582

Internal Restrictions arise pursuant to resolutions of Council to set aside reserves of cash resources either relating to liabilities recognised in these reports or to fund future expenditure for the stated purpose.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 7 - RECEIVABLES

	20	04	2003		
	Current \$'000	Non-Current \$'000	Current \$'000	Non-Current \$'000	
User Charges & Fees	803		861		
Accrued Revenues Deferred Debtors	66	59	18	74	
Other levels of Government Other	89 114		56 20		
Total	1,072	59	955	74	
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts Rates & Annual Charges User Charges & Fees	40 5		- 		
Total Receivables	1,027	59	878	74	

Rates and Annual Charges

Overdue rates and annual charges (being amounts not paid on or before the due date determined in accordance with the Local Government Act) are secured over the relevant land and are subject to simple interest at a rate of 16.00%

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 8 - INVENTORIES & OTHER ASSETS

	2	004	2	2003
	<u>Current</u>	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
INVENTORIES				
Stores & Materials	90		86	
Other	6		6	
Total Inventories	96		92	-
OTHER ASSETS Prepayments Other Total Other Assets	-	-	22	-

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 9 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

		2003			DUNT MOVEMENT	S DURING YEAR	2004		
	AT	ACCUM	CARRYING	Asset	Asset	Depreciation	AT	ACCUM	CARRYING
	COST	DEPN	AMOUNT	Purchases	Disposals	· .	COST	DEPN	AMOUNT
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Plant & Equipment	4,301	(1,331)	2,420	1,041	(199)	(695)	4,593	(2,026)	2,56
Furniture & Fittings	789	(909)	430	128	(333)	(33)	626	(434)	19
Land		` '			, ,	` '		, í	
-Freehold	17,941	-	17,941	-	-	-	17,941	-	17,94
-Improvements	6,144	(1,646)	4,498	776		(347)	6,920	(1,993)	4,92
Buildings	15,289	(1,001)	14,288	315	-	(169)	15,604	(1,170)	- 14,43
Infrastructure									
- Sealed Roads	60,822	(5,980)	54,842	1,327	-	(1,262)	62,149	(7,242)	54,90
- Unsealed Roads	6,379	(319)	6,060	-		(64)	6,379	(383)	5,99
- Drains	36,700	(1,832)	34,868	-		(367)	36,700	(2,199)	34,50
Art Collections	1,549	-	1,549	-	-	-	- 1,549	-	1,54
Totals	149,914	(13,018)	136,896	3,587	(532)	(2,937)	152,461	(15,447)	137,01

^{* 2003} VALUES HAVE BEEN CORRECTED BETWEEN CATEGORIES, HOWEVER IN TOTAL WRITTEN DOWN VALUATION THEY AGREE TO VALUE REPORTED LAST YEAR

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 9 (cont) - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Valuation of Assets

At 1 July 2000 upon the commencement of Australian Accounting Standard AAS 38 (AASB 1041) "Revaluation of Non-Current Assets", Council elected pursuant to paragraph 10.4(a) of the standard to revert to the cost basis for all classes of assets previously carried at revalued amounts.

Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings, Leased Plant & Equipment

Assets acquired after 1 July 1996 are recorded at cost. Assets acquired prior to that date and depreciated in accordance with the Local Government Accounting Regulations 1979 are recorded at deemed cost, being the carrying value of those assets at 30 June 2004.

Major depreciation periods are:

Office Equipment 5 to 10 years
Office Furniture 10 to 20 years
Vehicles & Road-making Equip 5 to 8 years
Other Plant & Equipment 5 to 15 years

Land - Council owned and Council controlled

Freehold land was valued by independent valuation in the reporting period ended 30 June 1996. Buildings were valued by the Australian Valuation Office, as at 30 June 1996 in accordance with recognised valuation procedures as to fair and reasonable value.

Current valuation

An independent valuation of freehold land based on market value was undertaken as at 30 June 2000 by the Australian Valuation Office.

A valuation of controlled land was undertaken as at 30 June 2000.

Buildings

Buildings were valued by the Australian Valuation Office, as at 30 June 1996 in accordance with recognised valuation procedures as to fair and reasonable value, useful life and remaining life. .

All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost. Major depreciation periods are:

Buildings - masonry 50 to 100 years Buildings - other construction 20 to 40 years

Land Improvements, Other Structures and Infrastructure

Land improvements and other structures were valued by independent valuation during the reporting period ended 30 June 1996. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost. Major depreciation periods are:

Park Structures - masonry

Park Structures - other construction

Playground equipment

Benches, seats, etc

50 to 100 years
20 to 40 years
5 to 15 years
10 to 20 years

Asset capitalisation thresholds include:

Park Furniture & Equipment \$2,000

Transportation assets were valued by Council officers at written down current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 1996 and pursuant to Council's election are disclosed at deemed cost. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost. Major depreciation periods are:

Sealed Roads - Surface 15 to 25 years
Sealed Roads - Structure 20 to 50 years
Unsealed Roads 10 to 20 years
Bridges - Concrete 80 to 100 years
Bulk Earthworks indefinite

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Note 9 - Property, Plant & Equipment (cont) Stormwater drainage infrastructure was valued by Council officers as at 30 June 1996. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost. Major depreciation periods are: **Drains** 80 to 100 years Culverts 50 to 75 years Flood Control Structures 80 to 100 years All other assets Assets acquired after 30 June 1996 are recorded at cost. Assets acquired prior to that date and depreciated in accordance with the Local Government Accounting Regulations 1979 are recorded at deemed cost, being the carrying value of those assets at 30 June 2003. Major depreciation periods are: Library Books 5 years Artworks indefinite **Next Valuation of Assets**; The next valuation of Council assets will be the 1st July 2004. All assets currently being depreciated will be revalued at that time.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 10 - LIABILITIES

	2004	4	200)3			
PAYABLES Goods & Services Accrued Expenses Deposits, Retentions Other	Current \$'000 468 166 55	Non-Current \$'000 - - -	Current \$'000 549 139 180	Non-Current \$'000 - - -			
Total Payables	689	-	868	-			
BORROWINGS Loans	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
Total Borrowings		_					
All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council. PROVISIONS							
Annual Leave Long Service Leave Other	542 210 48	20 164	460 71 8	403			
Total Provisions	800	184	539	403			

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. 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:

Total Cash Assets Less: Bank Overdraft Balances per Statement of Cash F	(Note 6) Flows	2004 \$'000 6,110 - 6,110	2003 \$'000 6,808 - 6,808
(b) Reconciliation of Change in		h	
from Operating Activities Change in Net Assets resulting from Minority Interest in Operating Resulting Add: Depreciation and Amortisation Increase in provision for doubtfu	om Operations ult	(327) - 2,937 -	763 - 2,935
Increase in employee leave entit Increase in other provisions Decrease in receivables Decrease in inventories Decrease in other current assets	tlements	42 - - - 22	76 - 364 5 -
Increase in creditors Increase in accrued expenses paragraphics Increase in other payables	ayable	27 	- - - - 4,143
Less: Decrease in provision for doubtf Decrease in employee leave ent		33	-
Decrease in other provisions Increase in receivables Increase in inventories		- 102 4	14 -
Increase in other current assets Decrease in creditors Decrease in accrued expenses p Decrease in other payables	payable	- 81 - 125	- 461 129 180
Gain on Sale of Assets Non-cash Capital Grants and Co Net Cash provided by (or used i		164 691 1,501	95 1,126 2,138

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 12 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

(a) Capital Commitments	2004 \$'000	2003 \$'000
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting financial statements as liabilities:	date but not recog	nised in the
Land	-	-
Buildings	-	-
Other Structures	-	401
Plant & Equipment		140
	-	541
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	-	541
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	-	
Later than 5 years	-	-
•		541

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 13 - STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

	Amounts \$'000	2004 Indicators	2003	2002	2001
Current Ratio Current Assets Current Liabilities	<u>7,233</u> 1,489	4.86:1	5.54:1	3.1:1	3.1:1
Unrestricted Current Ratio Unrestricted Current Assets* Current Liabilities not relating to Restricted Assets * as defined in the Code	<u>5,605</u> 1,489	3.76:1	4.27:1	2.48:1	2.46:1
Debt Service Ratio Net Debt Service Cost Operating Revenue	0 16,403	0.00%	1.09%	5.18%	5.98%
Rate & Annual Charges Coverage Ratio Rates & Annual Charges Revenues Total Revenues	<u>9,434</u> 17,423	54.15%	54.92%	49.95%	52.56%
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Rates & Annual Charges Collectible	<u>345</u> 9,673	3.57%	3.33%	0.83%	1.55%

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

Note 14 - Grants and Contributions

Master Account	2003 b/forward \$	Provided \$	Used \$	Remaining \$
Operational	τ	·	•	r
Sports & Recreational Officer	0	45,000	45,000	C
ASBUS Operations	0	634,146	634,146	C
Todd River Rechannelling	247,517	0	165,310	82,207
Sportsfest	0	3,000	3,000	·
NTGC - Roads	0	712,457	712,457	C
Town Camp Roads	68,342	0	2,606	65,736
NTGC - FAA	0	1,027,799	1,027,799	C
Pensioner Concessions	0	124,493	124,493	C
Riding for Disabled	0	10,000	10,000	C
Senior Citizens	89,620	0	70,814	18,806
WELL	0	44,182	44,182	C
Kurrajong & Gosse St Parks	22,555	0	13,792	8,763
2 Speed Indicator Systems	5,455	0	5,455	C
Waste Oil Transfer Station	54,108	30,000	0	84,108
Creating History Project	9,000	0	0	9,000
Seniors Wellness Program	0	2,700	0	2,700
Volunteer Resource Centre	0	27,600	22,600	5,000
Skate Park	0	29,991	22,144	7,847
EHO Operational	0	224,779	224,779	C
EHO Mosquitoes	0	3,508	3,508	C
Library Operational	0	456,486	456,486	C
Library Development Project	0	42,968	0	42,968
Homework Tutor	32,000	0	0	32,000
Children / Youth Professional Development	0	5,130	0	5,130
Library Access	0	32,000	32,000	C
Total Operational Grants	528,597	3,456,239	3,620,571	364,265
Capital:				
Roads to Recovery	91,240	499,780	591,020	C
Footpaths Urban Landscape	545,900	400,000	165,785	780,115
Motor Home Dump Point	0	30,455	30,455	C
Totem Theatre	184,940	89,620	66,341	208,219
Total Capital Grants	822,080	1,019,855	853,601	988,334
Total for Year	1,350,677	4,476,094	4,474,172	1,352,599

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

Note 15 - COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL ESTIMATES WITH ACTUAL

Council's original budget comprised part of the Business Plan adopted by Council on **28th July 2003**. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by decisions and new grant programs initiated by State and Federal Governments and by decisions made by the Council.

This Note sets out the principal variations between the original Budget and Actual results for the Statement of Financial Performance.

Further information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request.

Category	Budget	Actual	Variation	%	
Expenses					
Employee Costs	5,774	6,450	(676)	(11.7)	
Materials & Contacts	6,965	7,193	(228)	(3.3)	
Borrowing Costs	0	0	0	0	
Depreciation & Amortisation	2,937	2,937	0	0	
Other expenses	1,656	1,170	486	29.3	
Total Expenses	17,332	17,750	(418)	(2.4)	
Revenues					
Rates & Annual Charges	9,429	9,434	5	.1	
User Charges & Fees	2,122	2,187	65	3.1	
Investment Revenues	493	457	(36)	(7.3)	
Grants & Cont – Operating	3,399	3,456	57	1.7	
Other Revenues	727	705	(22)	(3.0)	
Profit From Disposal Of Assets	-	164	164	0	
Total Revenues	16,170	16,403	233	1.4	_
Capital Grants & Contributions	1,345	1,020	(325)	(24.2)	
Surplus/(Deficit)	183	(327)	(276)		

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 16 - STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION PLANS

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

		CONTRIBUTIONS		INTEREST				
		RECE	RECEIVED		EXPENDED	EXPENDED	HELD AS	WORKS
	OPENING	DURING	3 YEAR	DURING	DURING	IN	RESTRICTED	PROVIDED
PURPOSE	BALANCE	CASH	NON-CASH	YEAR	YEAR	ADVANCE	ASSET	TO DATE
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Roads	184	79	-	-	147	-	116	-
Traffic Facilities	30	-	-	-	-	-	30	-
Open Space	129	-	-	-	18	-	111	-
Community facilities	15	-	-	-	-	-	15	-
Other	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Total Contributions	361	79	-	-	165	-	275	-

Note: The above summary of contribution plans represents the total of Council's individual contribution plans. Individual plan details are shown below.

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - Subdivisions

		CONTRIBUTIONS		INTEREST				
		RECEIVED		EARNED	EXPENDED	EXPENDED	HELD AS	WORKS
	OPENING	DURING	G YEAR	DURING	DURING	IN	RESTRICTED	PROVIDED
PURPOSE	BALANCE	CASH	NON-CASH	YEAR	YEAR	ADVANCE	ASSET	TO DATE
Roads	86	79			147		18	
Traffic Facilities	30						30	
Open Space	129				18		111	
Community facilities	15						15	
Other	3	-					3	
Total	263	79	-	-	165	-	177	-

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - Carpark

		CONTRI	BUTIONS	INTEREST				
		RECE	IVED	EARNED	EXPENDED	EXPENDED	HELD AS	WORKS
	OPENING	DURING	G YEAR	DURING	DURING	IN	RESTRICTED	PROVIDED
PURPOSE	BALANCE	CASH	NON-CASH	YEAR	YEAR	ADVANCE	ASSET	TO DATE
Roads	98						98	
Total	98	-	-	-	-	-	98	-

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 17 - FUNCTION RESULTS

REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

	REVEN	IUES	EXPE	NSES		NG RESULT
	ORIGINAL		ORIGINAL		ORIGINAL	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004
ADMINISTRATION	13,048	12,882	9,215	10,982	3,833	1,900
PUBLIC ORDER &	,	,	-,	,	2,222	1,000
SAFETY	78	84	446	462	(368)	(378)
					` '	` ′
HEALTH	245	280	275	269	(30)	11
WELFARE	1	3	39	18		
,	·	•	00		(38)	(15)
HOUSING & COMMUNITY	4.040		0.050			
AMENITIES	1,046	1,233	3,350	2,621	(0.004)	(4.000)
					(2,304)	(1,388)
RECREATION & CULTURE	732	621	2,439	2,074	(1,707)	(1,453)
TRANSPORT &						
COMMUNICATION	2,365	2,320	1,469	1,251	896	1,069
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	-	-	99	73	(99)	(73)
TOTALS - FUNCTIONS	17,515	17,423	17,332	17,750	183	(327)

The above functions conform to those used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and provide a basis for comparison with other Councils.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

Note 18 - Statement of Surplus Funds

Previously, the Council has accepted the Statement of Surplus Funds table as a method of measuring the level of unrestricted surplus funds. It derives the figure by deducting from current assets all those amounts that have a restricted or specific purposes.

Item	2004 \$'000	2003 \$'000
Current Assets	7,233	7,800
Non Current assets Deferred rates	59	74
Creditors & Provisions	(867)	(1,268)
Accrued Expenses	(166)	(139)
Trust deposits	(55)	(175)
Non current provisions	0	(403)
Capital Works in progress not tied funded	0	(545)
Unexpended grants	(1,353)	(1,387)
Specific reserves:-		
Asset Replacement Reserves	(3,963)	(3,041)
Developer Contributions for Works	(275)	(361)
Swimming Pool Development Reserve	(77)	(88)
Sports Facilities Development Reserve	(532)	(453)
Balance Surplus Funds at 30 th June	4	14

NOTE:

This is the method accepted by Council in consultation with the Division of Local Government in the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs in measuring the Councils financial position.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 19 (CONT) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Interest Rate Risk Exposures		Floating	Fixed	interest mat	uring in	Non-	
2004		Interest	1 year	> 1 year	> 5 years	interest	Total
200.		Rate	<u> </u>	≥ 5 years	r o youro	bearing	rotar
Financial Assets		. 1010		,		\$'000	\$'000
Cash Assets		6,110	-	-	-	0	6,110
Receivables		·					•
User Charges & Fees		-	763	-	-		763
Deferred Debtors		-	-	59	-	-	59
Other levels of Govt.		-	-	-	-	89	89
Other						66	66
Other assets		-	-	-	-	109	109
	Total	6,110	763	59	-	264	7,196
Weighted Average Interest Rate	_	5.50%	16.00%	16.00%			
Financial Liabilities							
Payables							
Goods & Services		-	-	-	-	468	46
Deposits, Retentions, Bonds						55	5
	Total	-	-	_	_	523	523
Weighted Average Interest Rate							
2003							
Financial Assets							
Cash Assets		6,808	-	-	-	-	6,808
<u>Receivables</u>							
User Charges & Fees		-	783	-	-	-	783
Deferred Debtors		-	-	74	-	-	74
Other levels of Govt.		-	-	-	-	56	56
Other		-	-	-	-	39	39
	Total	6,808	783	74	-	95	7,760
Weighted Average Interest Rate		4.00%	4.20%	4.50%			
Financial Liabilities							
<u>Payables</u>							
Goods & Services		-	-	-	-	549	549
Deposits, Retentions, Bonds	_	-	-	-	-	180	180
	Total	_	_			729	729

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2004

Note 19 (CONT) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Credit Risk Exposures

Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any provision for doubtful debts. Except as detailed in Note 7 in relation to individual classes of financial assets, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries within the Northern Territory, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Reconciliation of Financial Assets & Liabilities

	2004	2003
	\$'000	\$'000
Net financial assets from previous page		
Financial Assets	7,196	7,760
Financial Liabilities	523	729
	6,673	7,031
Non-financial assets and liabilities		
Accrued Revenue	s -	22
Inventories	96	92
Property, Plant & I	Equipment 137,014	136,896
Other Assets	-	22
Accrued Expenses	(166)	(139)
Provisions	(984)	(942)
Other liabilities	_	<u> </u>
	142,633	142,960
Net Assets per Statement of Financial Position	142,633	142,960

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. With the exception of investments, there is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

Deloitte

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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 2004 as set out on pages 2 to 33.

The chief executive officer 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 and we agreed the budget amounts included in the financial statements to the budget approved by the Council. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects:

- a) the prescribed accounting records, other records, accounting manual and registers required to be kept by the council have been properly kept;
- b) the receipt, expenditure and investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the council during the year have been in accordance with the Local Government Act;
- c) the financial statements have been properly drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 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;
- e) the council has complied with the provisions under the Local Government Act in respect of the conduct of its financial affairs; and
- f) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations, all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and the applicable Local Government Accounting Code.

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

Deloitte.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL (continued)

Audit Opinion

In our opinion:

- a) the prescribed accounting records, other records, accounting manual and registers required to be kept by the council have been properly kept;
- b) the receipt, expenditure and investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the council during the year have been in accordance with the Local Government Act;
- c) the financial statements have been properly drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 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;
- e) the council has complied with the provisions under the Local Government Act in respect of the conduct of its financial affairs; and
- f) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations, all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and the applicable Local Government Accounting Code.

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Deloite Louche Tohnster

W R McAinsh

Partner

Chartered Accountants

M. R. Mellers

Alice Springs, 26/10/2004