



Mareeba Shire Council Annual Report 2024/2025

**Photo: Tourism Tropical North Queensland** 

### A Growing, Confident, Sustainable Shire.

The 2024/25 Annual Report serves as a key communication resource, demonstrating Council's dedication to the community by progressing the strategic priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2024–2028 and achieving the goals of the 2024/25 Operational Plan.

It highlights Council's commitment to strong governance and quality service delivery while fostering public trust and confidence through adherence to statutory and financial reporting requirements.





Kuranda Skate Park

Phone: 1300 308 461

Email: info@msc.qld.gov.au Website: www.msc.qld.gov.au

Customer Service Centre: 65 Rankin Street, MAREEBA QLD 4880

Depot: 11-15 Kowa Street, MAREEBA QLD 4880 Postal Address: PO Box 154, MAREEBA QLD 4880

Disclaimer: Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as such. While Mareeba Shire Council has exercised reasonable care in preparing this document it does not warrant or represent that it is accurate or complete. Council or its officers accept no responsibility for any loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon any material contained in this document.

# **Contents**

Shire Profile	1
What We Look After	2
Key Statistics	3
Mayor and CEO Update	4
Councillors	5
Organisational Structure	9
Corporate Plan	10
Financial Sustainability and Governance	11
Community and Culture	13
Transport and Infrastructure	15
Liveability and Environment	17
Economy and Growth	19
Operational Plan Progress	21
Community Engagement	23
Community Events	24
Legislative Compliances / Disclosures	25
Governance	25
Risk Management	25
Role of Council and Elected Members	25
Elected Member Meeting Attendance	26
Elected Member Remuneration	26
Councillor Conduct Matters	28
Administrative Action Complaints	
Audit	
Compliance Activities	30
Financial Review	<b>35</b>
Financial Statements	44



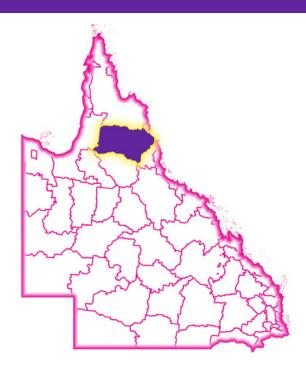
## **♦** Shire Profile

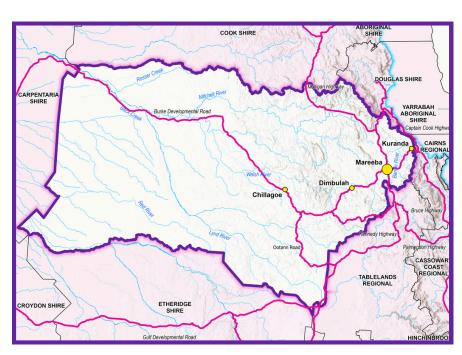
Mareeba Shire is a region of economic and social diversity, home to a population of 24,003. The main regional centre is Mareeba, followed by Kuranda, with smaller communities including Chillagoe, Dimbulah, Biboohra, Koah, Speewah, Mutchilba, Irvinebank, Julatten, and Mount Molloy. As the largest town outside Cairns in Far North Queensland, Mareeba plays a crucial role as a transport and service hub for Northern Australia, including the Cape York Peninsula and Gulf of Carpentaria.

Situated near two World Heritage Areas—the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics—Mareeba Shire is approximately an hour's drive from Cairns International Airport. Spanning 53,547 km<sup>2</sup> across the base of Cape York Peninsula, the Shire encompasses rural and remote agricultural communities, Indigenous communities, and popular tourism destinations.

With up to 300 sunny days annually and access to reliable water from Tinaroo Dam, the region supports year-round cultivation of high-quality produce.

Mareeba Shire Council's vision is to foster a "growing, confident, and sustainable Shire." Council is dedicated to strengthening the local economy, attracting visitors, enhancing the region's profile and liveability, and instilling a strong sense of community pride. Strategic investments in industrial land and a commercial aviation park further support the Shire's long-term growth and prosperity.





### Community

24.003 Residents

**14.3%** Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Population

43 Median Age

**10%** speak a language other than English at home

**75** Different Cultural Associations and Ethnic Backgrounds **Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing** Largest Industry

### **Economy**

**2.242** Local Businesses

**\$270** Median Weekly Rent

\$1,201 Median Weekly Household Income

**\$1.42 billion** Gross Regional Product (30 June 2024)













## **What We Look After**

### **TRANSPORT**

- Total Shire Roads 2,304 km
- Unsealed Roads 1,639 km
- Sealed Roads 665 km
- Footpaths **57 km**
- Kerb & Channel 240 km
- Bridges 81
- Major Culverts **130**
- Minor Culverts 3,071

### **PARKS & OPEN SPACES**

- Parks & Rec Reserves 222 ha
- Cemeteries 10

### **FACILITIES**

- Depots 9
- Caravan Parks 2
- Commercial Buildings 1
- Council Buildings 53
- Aquatic Facilities 3
- Community Housing 108
- Industrial Éstates 1
- Aerodromes 3
- Public Halls 14
- Public Toilets 28

### **WASTE**

- Landfills 1
- Waste Transfer Stations 10

### **WASTEWATER**

- Wastewater Treatment Plants 2
- Reticulation Pump Stations 30
- Sewer Mains maintained 135 km
- Manholes **1,862**
- Wastewater Connections 4,406

### LAND PROTECTION

- Roadside treatment **5,800 km**
- Weed treatment area 3,900 ha







### **COMMUNITY**

- Community Groups & Organisations Supported 109
- Regional Arts Development Fund Contribution \$48,417
- Community Partnerships Program\$329,726
- Subsidised Land and Facilities for Community Groups 55

### **LIBRARIES**

- Membership 9,189
- Visitors
  - In Person **60,343**
  - o Online 20,628
- Items borrowed 93,309

### **FACILITIES**

- Swimming pool admissions 45,338
- Public hall usage 2,389
- Caravan Park site rentals 27,643

# **Key Service Statistics**

#### **DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS**

- Dwellings approved 146
- Planning Development Applications 54

### **BUILDING APPROVALS**

- Value of residential approvals \$53,721,214
- Value of non-residential approvals \$18,590,573
- Total number of building approvals 360

### **REGULATORY SERVICES**

- Dogs registered 3,997
- Environmental Health Officer Inspections
   102

#### **ECONOMY**

- Land Sales at Mareeba Industrial Park \$1,049,344
- Ratable Properties 10,075
- Tourism investment \$576,634

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

- Council website visits (sessions) 180,560
- Call centre calls received 20,184
- Customer requests created 10,911

### **VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES**

- Visitors 162,976
- Volunteer Hours 16,738

### **PARKS & OPEN SPACES**

• Cemeteries Interments 117

### **LAND PROTECTION**

Properties treated for vertebrate pests 80

### **WASTE**

- Waste disposed at Springmount **4,692t**
- Recyclable materials collected **2,585t**

# Mayor and CEO Update



It is with great pleasure that we present the 2024/2025 Annual Report for Mareeba Shire Council. This year, Council has continued to deliver vital services and infrastructure while strengthening resilience, liveability and community connections across the Shire.

There have been several great projects this year including completion of the Coondoo Street streetscape upgrade in Kuranda. This project delivered improvements to street lighting, footpaths and the installation of fairy lights in the heritage-listed fig trees—enhancing both safety and amenity in the town centre.

Significant progress was also made under Council's Water Strategy. Upgrades to the booster pump and filtration system at the Mareeba Water Treatment Plant were completed, ensuring the continued delivery of safe, reliable drinking water into the future.

Council advanced its natural disaster recovery efforts, supported by the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). Major restoration works were carried out on several key roads, including Mt Lewis Road in Julatten, Jarawee Road and Barron Falls Road in Kuranda, Emerald End Road and Carmen Road in Mareeba.

In addition to infrastructure, Council remains focused on enhancing liveability across the shire. This includes maintaining parks and open spaces, supporting local organisations through the Community Partnership Program, and progressing the Public Mural Action Plan—highlighted by new murals at Geraghty Park in Julatten and Mareeba Bi-Lakes Precinct and a new sculpture at the School of Arts Hall Irvinebank. Council also hosted much-loved annual events, such as the Mareeba Multicultural Festival, the Great Wheelbarrow Race and Seniors Morning Tea.

A major initiative that commenced this year is the Mareeba CBD Blueprint. This once-in-a-generation project is guided by community feedback, to deliver construction-ready plans to revitalise Mareeba's main shopping area—addressing drainage, accessibility, lighting, and amenities.

This year also brought moments of reflection and change within the Council Chamber. We express our deepest condolences to the family of Councillor Kevin Davies, who tragically passed away in January 2025. Councillor Davies was deeply passionate about his role and brought extensive knowledge and insight to Council discussions. His loss is felt deeply by all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

In April 2025, we warmly welcomed Councillor Mladen Bosnic to the Council Chamber. We look forward to his contributions as we continue working collaboratively to serve the residents of Mareeba Shire.

We remain committed to our vision - A growing, confident and sustainable Shire, and extend our sincere thanks to our staff, community members, and partners for their ongoing support.

### Councillors

Mareeba Shire Council comprises the Mayor and six Councillors, elected by the community every four years to represent the interests of residents. Councillors actively engage with community groups to stay connected with local needs and ensure Council remains responsive.

With deep regret, Council and the Mareeba Shire community mourned the passing of Councillor Kevin Davies on 14 January 2025. Councillor Davies was a dedicated advocate for Mareeba, whose passion and commitment to the community will be profoundly missed by all who knew and worked alongside him.

At a special meeting on 10 February 2025, Council resolved to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy. Following the by-election on 5 April 2025, Councillor Mladen Bosnic was officially declared elected and formally sworn in at the official ceremony on 16 April 2025.

The committee representation list is presented on the following page, noting a change in representation following the official swearing-in of Councillor Bosnic.



1 July 2024 to 14 January 2025 - Cr Nipper Brown, Cr Ross Cardillo, Deputy Mayor Lenore Wyatt, Mayor Angela Toppin AM, Cr Mary Graham, Cr Amy Braes and Cr Kevin Davies.

## **Council Committee Representation**



Cr Angela Toppin AM Mayor

- Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) (Chair)
- Local Government Association of Queensland, Policy Executive for District 10
  - Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) (Chair)
- Mareeba District Disaster Management Group
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) (Chair)
- Tinaroo Water Committee
- Flexichoice
- Speewah District Residents Association
- Collaborating for Community Safety (Chair)



Cr Lenore Wyatt Deputy Mayor

- Irvinebank Progress Association
- Local Authority Waste Management Advisory Committee (LAWMAC)
- LDMG (Deputy Chair)
- Great Wheelbarrow Race Advisory Committee (Proxy)
- North Queensland Council of Mayors (Proxy)
- Davies Park Sporting Precinct Committee
- FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils
- Mareeba District Disaster Management Group
- Mareeba Area Fire Management Committee
- Mareeba Heritage Centre Management Committee
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)
- Traffic Advisory Committee



Cr Kevin Davies

- Audit Committee
- Crime Stoppers
- Davies Park Sporting Precinct Committee
- Great Wheelbarrow Race Organising Committee
- FNQ Regional Roads Group
- LDMG (Deputy Chair)
- Mareeba Chamber Commerce Sub Committee
- Traffic Advisory Committee
- Chillagoe Alliance (Proxy)
- Irvinebank Progress Association (Proxy)
- Mareeba District Disaster Management Group (Proxy)
- Mareeba Liquor Industry Action Group (Proxy)

### **Council Committee Representation**



Cr Mladen Bosnic

- Flexichoice
- FNQ Regional Roads Group
- Julatten and Molloy Association of Ratepayers and Residents (JAMARR)
- LDMG (Deputy Chair)
- Mareeba Chamber Commerce Sub Committee
- Mareeba Liquor Industry Action Group
- Traffic Advisory Committee



**Cr Amy Braes** 

- LDMG Environment/Infrastructure
- Small Business Friendly Council
- Speewah District Residents Association
- LAWMAC (Proxy)
- Audit Committee
- Barron Catchment Care
- Davies Park Sporting Precinct Committee
- FNQ Regional Roads Group
- Kuranda Interagency Networks
- Reef Guardian



Cr Nipper Brown

- Chillagoe Alliance
- JAMARR
- Kuranda Interagency Networks
- LDMG Community Support
- Mareeba Area Fire Management Committee
- NQ Sports Foundation
- Pest Advisory Committee
- Speewah District Residents Association
- Crime Stoppers
- Great Wheelbarrow Race Organising Committee
- FNQROC Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee
- Northern Gulf Resource Management Group

### **Council Committee Representation**



Cr Ross Cardillo

- NQ Sports Foundation (Proxy)
- Audit Committee
- Barron Catchment Care
- Collaborating for Inclusive outcomes in Mareeba
- Great Wheelbarrow Race Organising Committee
- FNQROC Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee
- LDMG Health and Environment
- Mareeba Chamber Commerce Sub Committee
- Mareeba Multicultural Festival Committee
- Northern Gulf Resource Management Group
- Pest Advisory Committee
- Reef Guardian
- Tinaroo Water Committee



- Audit Committee
- Collaborating for Inclusive outcomes in Mareeba
- Flexichoice
- LDMG Economic Development
- Mareeba Liquor Industry Action Group
- Mareeba Multicultural Festival Committee
- Irvinebank Progress Association



16 April 2025 - 30 June 2025 - Cr Amy Braes, Cr Mladen Bosnic, Cr Mary Graham, Mayor Angela Toppin AM, Deputy Mayor Lenore Wyatt, Cr Ross Cardillo and Cr Nipper Brown.



### **Elected Council Mayor and six Councillors**



**Chief Executive Officer Peter Franks** 

Executive Support, Communications, Disaster Management, **Economic Development & Tourism** 



**Director Corporate & Community Services** Jennifer McCarthy



Executive Support, Town Planning, Building & Plumbing Services, Trade Waste



**Manager Finance Elisa Tatti** 

Statutory Accounting, Budgets & Financial Reporting, Rating & Revenue, Asset Accounting, Stores, Procurement



**Manager Human Resources** 

**Greg Newman** 

Workforce Management, Recruitment & Selection, Training & Development, Payroll, Workplace Health & Safety



### **Manager Information Systems** & Governance

**Roy Ladner** 

Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Business Systems Support, Governance and Compliance, Land Tenure and Leasing, **Records Management** 



**Manager Customer & Community Services** 

**Shellie Buckle** 

Customer Service, Community Engagement, Libraries, Cemetery Records Management, Local Laws, Environmental Health



Director Infrastructure Services **Glenda Kirk** 

Administration & **Executive Support** 



**Manager Technical Services** 

Sam Wakeford

Fleet & Workshop, GIS, Survey Design, Soils Laboratory, Facilities Management, Aerodromes



**Manager Assets & Projects** 

Jacqui Perkowicz

Asset Management, Project & Contract Management, Grant Management



**Manager Works** 

**Andrew Foster** 

Road Maintenance Performance Contracts (RMPC), Transport Infrastructure, Bridges, Parks & Gardens, Land Protection



Manager Water & Waste

**Morris Hamill** 

Water & Wastewater Reticulation, Water & Wastewater Treatment, Waste Services, Dam Management & Safety



**Manager Disaster Recovery** 

**Kael Whitnell** 

Disaster Recovery Projects

# Corporate Plan 2024 -2028

### **Our Vision**

A growing, confident and sustainable Shire.

### **Our Mission**

To promote the prosperity and liveability of our communities by providing cost-effective services, fostering collaborative partnerships and maintaining accountable governance.

### Our Values

Sustainable

United Team

**Customer Focused** 

**C**ommunity Partnerships

**E**thical Conduct

Striving to be Better

Skilled Workforce

### **Our Strategic Priorities**

### **Financial Sustainability and Governance**

A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

### **Community and Culture**

An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

### **Transport and Infrastructure**

The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

### **Liveability and Environment**

Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

### **Economy and Growth**

Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

# **Financial Sustainability and Governance**

A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

### FG1 Effective and sustainable financial management

- All decisions should support Council's strategic direction and Long-Term Financial Plan
- Optimise Council's revenue, based on realistic and equitable policies and practices and consider opportunities for non-rate revenue sources

### **FG2 Effective business management**

- Commitment to continuous improvement in all operations to ensure financial sustainability
- Further develop and implement business practices including information and technology solutions, that meet corporate and customer needs

#### FG3 A Skilled and sustainable workforce

- Continue to provide appropriate opportunities to develop, attract and retain staff
- Enhance an organisational culture which reflects shared vision and values
- Continue to promote a 'safety first' environment

### **FG4 Effective Governance**

- A governance framework that ensures sound organisational management
- Ongoing adherence to the Local Government principles, Act and Regulations
- Ethical, transparent and accountable decision making in the interest of the entire community
- Manage organisational risk in a cost-effective way

### **Major Achievements**

- Long Term Financial Plan adopted with budget in July 2024
- Updated Long Term Asset Management Plan adopted by Council on 16 July 2025
- Capital budget preparation aligns with Long Term Asset Management Plan and Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset revaluation adjustments reflected in 2024/25 financial statements
- Local Government Infrastructure Plan scope of work commenced
- Continuous improvement on reporting options and training available in operating financial systems
- Work continuing on the transition to Employee Self Service (ESS) and other Technology
   One enhancement
- Organisation wide leadership training program continued throughout 2024/25
- Organisation wide training program continues to meet the compliance and operational requirements of Council
- Continuing to engage additional recruitment platforms such as LinkedIn
- Continued implementation of ACSC Essential 8 mitigation strategies
- 100% completion of cyber security training achieved
- Cybersecurity Incident Response partnership renewed
- Ongoing phishing awareness training continued throughout 2024/25
- Full compliance with employment related legislative requirements met
- All requirements of LGW mutual risk met and no outstanding matters
- Safety Management System reviewed and in place
- Internal auditor engagement was finalised
- External audit completed with unmodified opinion
- Annual Report adopted by Council in October 2024
- All Audit committee objectives met

# Financial Sustainability and Governance

Mareeba Shire Council remains committed to being a financially sustainable organisation that applies strategic decision-making and strong governance to deliver cost-effective services to the community. Throughout 2024/25, Council achieved a range of milestones across financial management, business systems, workforce development and governance that reinforce its long-term sustainability and accountability.

Council adopted the Long-Term Financial Plan with the 2024/25 budget in July 2024, aligning financial planning with updated asset management sub-plans. The updated Long Term Asset Management Plan, adopted in July 2025, supports capital budget preparation and long-term financial decision-making. As part of the five-year revaluation cycle, updated road asset valuation data were incorporated into the 2024/25 financial statements and scoping for a new Local Government Infrastructure Plan also commenced during the reporting period.

To strengthen business operations, Council continued its focus on improving financial systems and user accessibility. System enhancements enabled more staff to effectively operate and navigate financial systems, with ongoing training and documentation updates supporting this transition. The organisation also progressed the shift to Employee Self Service (ESS) and continued advancement of the TechnologyOne system to CiAnywhere, ensuring contemporary and user-friendly platforms for staff engagement and financial operations.

Council's workforce initiatives centred on building a skilled and sustainable organisation. The Leadership training program continued being delivered throughout 2024/25 and compliance-focused training continued to meet regulatory and operational obligations. Recruitment and employer branding were also prioritised, with platforms such as LinkedIn utilised to expand the reach of talent acquisition and build workforce capability.

Governance and compliance remained a priority throughout the year. Council achieved 100% completion of cybersecurity training, renewed its Cybersecurity Incident Response partnership, and continued to implement the ACSC Essential 8 mitigation strategies. Ongoing phishing awareness training further strengthened organisational resilience.

Council met all employment and legislative compliance requirements and fulfilled its obligations under the Local Government Workcare Mutual Risk program. The Safety Management System was reviewed and updated for implementation, further embedding safety in day-to-day operations. The Annual Report was prepared and adopted in October 2024, meeting all statutory requirements. The external audit was completed with an unmodified opinion, confirming the integrity of Council's financial practices and all Audit Committee objectives were met.

Council's internal audit program was successfully delivered and the Annual Report was adopted by Council in October 2024, meeting all statutory requirements.

These achievements reflect Council's strong performance in maintaining financial sustainability, delivering efficient services, and upholding transparency and accountability across all areas of operation.

# Community and Culture

An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

### **CC1** An engaged community

- Inform, engage and partner with the community on matters of shared importance
- Encourage and support community organisations to enhance their sustainability
- Partner with community groups and individuals for mutual benefit

### CC2 A vibrant and healthy community

- Continue to value the area of arts, culture and heritage to enrich lifestyles and to enhance community cohesion
- Advocate and promote community initiatives that support a healthy lifestyle
- Support and promote key community events

### CC3 A resilient community

- Partner with community stakeholders to build community resilience for emergencies and disasters
- Support the community to be prepared for, mitigate, respond to and recover from disasters
- Support the Local Disaster Management Group to ensure effective decision-making regarding disaster events

### **Major Achievements**

- Proposed Local Laws amendments adopted following consultation and providing further information available online
- Continuous improvement to customer interactions with Council through Forms Express Flexipay payment options
- Website content and on-line forms reviewed for compliance with Information Privacy amendments (IPOLA)
- Community assistance section of MSC website updated for clarity and ease of use
- Online survey options offered for community to provide input Lighter, Affordable, Effective; Arts, Culture Heritage Priorities; Mareeba CBD Project Blueprint
- Public art installations completed at Julatten (mural at Geraghty Park), Irvinebank (sculpture in front of School of Arts Hall) and Bi-Lakes Precinct
- Artist engaged to paint Kuranda amenities block mural. Mural to be completed October 2025
- Continued work on Public Art Audit
- Community arts and cultural priorities consultation completed to develop arts, culture and heritage priorities
- Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Program 2024/2028 adopted by Council
- Community safety initiatives continued to be actioned and supported
- Advocated to Federal Government regarding Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme impacts in Mareeba and Dimbulah
- Mayor Toppin, Cr Wyatt and Cr Braes appointed to the Local Government Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Champions Network.
- Proposed Local Laws amendments adopted following consultation and providing further information available online
- Get Ready event held 10 October 2024
- Local Disaster Community Support Sub-Group meeting held, 29 October 2024
- Community education conducted at Under 8's Day at St Thomas' Primary School and Mareeba State Primary School
- Planning for 'Get Ready Tablelands Event'
- Community Recovery meetings held with Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre and Mareeba Community Centre
- Preparations commenced for 2023-2024 Northern Queensland Bushfires Community Resilience Officer Request for Quote
- Royal Flying Doctor Service Community and Wellbeing Service promoted
- Red Cross Emergency Redi workshops promoted

# Community and Culture

Council's strategic focus on Community and Culture supports the goal of building an informed, engaged and resilient community through effective partnerships and inclusive initiatives. In 2024–2025, significant progress was made across several key strategic priorities to enhance engagement, wellbeing, safety and resilience throughout the Mareeba Shire.

Council improved digital access and communication with the community by updating its website and online services. Enhancements included the implementation of Forms Express Flexipay to streamline customer payment plans and upgrades to the community assistance section of the website, improving clarity and user experience. In response to Information Privacy amendments, website content and online forms were comprehensively reviewed for compliance.

Council also expanded community engagement through online surveys, gathering valuable input on priorities such as arts and culture, affordability, and the Mareeba CBD Project Blueprint. These efforts have ensured community members remain informed and empowered to participate in decision-making processes.

Public art remained a key focus during the year, with mural installations completed at Julatten, Irvinebank and the Bi-Lakes Precinct. An artist was also engaged to deliver a new mural at the Kuranda amenities block, scheduled for completion in October 2025. The development of the Public Art Audit continued, supporting informed planning and investment. To guide future cultural programming, Council conducted a comprehensive community consultation to identify local arts, culture and heritage priorities. The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Program 2024–2028 was adopted, reflecting these community-informed goals.

Community safety also remained a priority, with Council collaborating with Queensland Police and relevant stakeholders to address escalating crime concerns in Mareeba and Kuranda. Council advocated to the Federal Government regarding the local impacts of the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme and supported multiple forums aimed at addressing community safety and social cohesion. Councillors and staff played active roles in the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Network, with participation in awareness campaigns and initiatives across the region.

Council undertook a series of initiatives to strengthen community preparedness and disaster resilience. These included hosting the annual 'Get Ready' event and local disaster support meetings, along with education sessions in schools and community centres. Planning commenced for the 2023–2024 Northern Queensland Bushfires Community Resilience Officer procurement. Council continued to work alongside the Red Cross and Royal Flying Doctor Service to promote community wellbeing, emergency readiness and support services.

Through these initiatives, Council continues to demonstrate its commitment to building a connected, informed and safe community that embraces creativity, partnership and preparedness as foundations for a strong and inclusive future.



# ◆ Transport and Infrastructure

The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

### TI1 Safe, reliable and resilient Infrastructure

- Deliver safe and effective transport networks
- Maintain safe and reliable drinking water supply
- Maintain safe and reliable wastewater service
- Where possible develop infrastructure to mitigate against future severe weather events

### TI2 Sustainable Infrastructure for the future

- Manage Council infrastructure in accordance with Long Term Asset Management and Long Term Financial Plans
- Integrate infrastructure planning to meet future capacity needs
- Partner with community, private sector and government to optimise Council infrastructure
- Advocate for significant local and regional infrastructure through the State and Federal governments

### **Major Achievements**

- Long Term Asset Management Plan 2024-25 to 2033-34 adopted by Council
- Annual review of Asset Management Plan completed
- Continuous review of Asset Management Plan and sub-plans
- Parks and Open Spaces Asset Management Sub Plan developed December 2024
- Project Lifecycle Management (PLM) implementation complete
- DRFA Manager recruitment finalised
- Environmental cleanup completed
- Barron Falls Road, Hilltop Close Landslips practical completion
- Bushy Creek Bridge, Jarawee Road sites nearing completion
- Emerald End Road Culvert, Carman Road Culvert nearing completion
- Tenders for restoration of flood damage underway
- DRFA work tenders have been received and awarded for Western, Mid-Western, Dimbulah and Eastern areas of the shire
- Booster Pump station project commissioned in October 2024
- Water filtration project completed and commissioned in November 2024
- Continuing installation of new water mains
- Water main renewal program for the 2024-2025 FY commenced October 2024
- Asset revaluation adjustments to be reflected in 2024/25 financial statements
- Continuous review and improvement of asset registers
- Facility inspections and defect assessments with condition rating are ongoing
- Stormwater asset data verification ongoing
- Asset Maturity Summary updated December 2024
- Continuous review of Asset Management Plan and sub-plans
- Long Term Asset Management Plan updated and adopted by Council on 16 July 2025
- Capital budget preparation aligns with Long Term Asset Management Plan and Long Term Financial Plan

# Transport and Infrastructure

In 2024–25, Mareeba Shire Council continued to deliver on its commitment to quality infrastructure through proactive planning, delivery and maintenance guided by strong asset management frameworks. With the community's growth in focus, Council invested in initiatives that ensure infrastructure is reliable, resilient and future-ready.

A major outcome for the year was the adoption of the Long Term Asset Management Plan 2024–25 to 2033–34, aligning infrastructure planning with the Long-Term Financial Plan. This was supported by the annual review and continuous refinement of asset management plans and sub-plans, ensuring that Council's investment decisions are based on robust data and long-term sustainability.

Council advanced its asset knowledge base through ongoing data verification, condition assessments and asset revaluations, ensuring decisions are informed by accurate asset performance insights. This underpinned the delivery of critical water infrastructure projects, including the commissioning of the Booster Pump Station and Water Filtration projects and the initiation of the 2024–2025 Water Main Renewal Program.

Maintaining focus on resilience, Council made significant progress in restoring disaster-impacted infrastructure. The DRFA program was successfully delivered across several locations, with tenders awarded for flood damage restoration in Western, Mid-Western, Dimbulah, and Eastern areas. Sites such as Barron Falls Road and Hilltop Close Landslips reached practical completion, while Bushy Creek Bridge, Jarawee Road and Emerald End Road Culvert moved toward finalisation.

Operational improvement was also prioritised, including the implementation of the Project Lifecycle Management (PLM) system and the appointment of a dedicated DRFA Manager, strengthening Council's project governance and delivery capacity.

Council also progressed the Parks and Open Spaces Asset Management Sub Plan and continued work on the Stormwater Asset Maturity Summary and Facility Condition Ratings, reinforcing a culture of continuous improvement in asset management.

These achievements reflect Council's strategic intent to provide high-quality infrastructure services that not only meet current community needs but also anticipate future demands all underpinned by sound asset management practices.



# **Liveability and Environment**

Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

### **LE1 Attractive and accessible public facilities**

- Manage open spaces, parks and council facilities to engage active communities and support quality of life
- Deliver council services which enhance liveability
- Partner with community organisations to enhance the use of existing facilities and promote recreation opportunities
- Enhance connectivity and accessibility within communities

### **LE2 Sustainable Planning and protection of environmental assets**

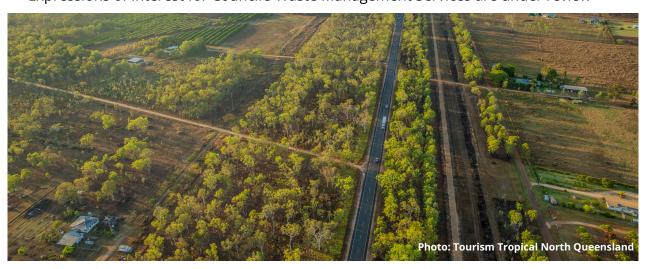
- Maintain a planning scheme that balances the various land uses across the Shire while protecting environmental assets
- Promote water quality of our region's waterways limiting impact on the Great Barrier Reef and Gulf of Carpentaria
- A coordinated approach to land management and the control of biosecurity threats

### LE3 Environmentally responsible service delivery

- Continue to investigate and implement cost-effective practices across council operations to minimise impact on the environment
- Provide environmentally responsible and cost-effective waste services to the community
- Provide community education on sustainable waste management practices, including recycling, circular economy principles and environmental stewardship

### **Major Achievements**

- Final report on Parks and Open Spaces three-year action plan presented to Council 16 April 2025
- Kuranda CBD Streetscape Project Commenced
- Bicentennial Lakes Southern Precinct Footbridges under construction
- Ongoing FNQROC meetings including FNQROC delegation to State and Federal Government scheduled for later in the year
- Meetings have been held with the new State Government Ministers and MPs
- Reef Guardian Action Plan 2024-2028 adopted and implementation continues
- Sewer manhole refurbishment underway
- Awaiting notification from State Government regarding Grant application for funds to review Planning Scheme and to identify amendments to facilitate timely residential housing development
- Regional Waste Coordinator commenced duties with FNQROC
- Expressions of Interest for Council's Waste Management Services are under review



# **Liveability and Environment**

In 2024/25, Council remained focused on enhancing the Liveability and Environment of the Shire by delivering attractive and accessible public facilities, supporting sustainable planning, and providing environmentally responsible service delivery. These efforts reflect Council's commitment to building a Shire that is accessible, environmentally responsible and responsive to community needs.

Council progressed several major initiatives aimed at delivering attractive and accessible public facilities. The Kuranda CBD Streetscape Project was commenced and the final report on the Parks and Open Spaces three-year action plan was presented in April 2025. Construction is also underway on key footbridge infrastructure at Bicentennial Lakes Southern Precinct, further improving community access and connectivity.

Strong regional collaboration remained a central theme, with Council continuing its active participation in FNQROC. Through this forum, Council contributed to ongoing regional advocacy efforts, including delegations to both State and Federal Government. Council also held direct discussions with new State Government Ministers and MPs to advance key local priorities.

In line with Council's goal to ensure sustainable planning and protection of environmental assets, the Reef Guardian Action Plan 2024–2028 progressed into implementation. Planning scheme review activities were initiated, with work underway to secure grant funding to identify amendments that would better support residential housing development in a sustainable way. Critical infrastructure improvements, including sewer manhole refurbishments, were also undertaken to support long-term environmental management.

Progress was also made in delivering environmentally responsible waste management services. A Regional Waste Coordinator was appointed through FNQROC to support coordinated planning and service delivery. Council also invited Expressions of Interest for its Waste Management Services, which are currently under review. These initiatives aim to align local strategy with the broader Regional Waste Plan and support more efficient and sustainable long-term waste management.

Across all initiatives, Council's approach has been grounded in a commitment to enhancing the Shire's amenity while protecting the natural assets that make the region unique. These projects and partnerships demonstrate Council's determination to deliver high-quality, sustainable services that support the wellbeing of the community and the environment.

As Mareeba Shire continues to grow, Council remains focused on planning for the future, advocating for regional priorities and delivering tangible results that improve liveability for all residents.



# **Economy and Growth**

Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

### EG1 Sustainable economic development and growth

- Promote and expand opportunities for business to grow and/or establish themselves within the Shire
- Partner with community, private sector and government to harness opportunities for growth and innovation
- Highlight the positive attributes and benefits of Mareeba Shire to attract and retain business and investment

### **EG2** Effective strategic partnerships

- Advocate Council's strategic and operational position on key issues affecting the community to other government sectors
- Maintain and develop close and productive working relationships with relevant stakeholders, including State and Federal governments
- Fostering and developing relationships with industry groups, community organisations, business and individuals to promote and develop the Shire

### **Major Achievements**

- Council collaborated with Regional Development Australia Tropical North to bring a 'State of the Region Roadshow' to Mareeba in July 2024
- Ongoing partnership with Mareeba Shire Tourism Inc to offer networking, upskilling and promotional opportunities for tourism operators
- Local Laws Amendment for temporary accommodation adopted December 2024
- Celebration of construction completion held on 16 August 2024 for social housing duplex for seniors in Mareeba
- Funding agreement for triplex build for social housing executed, March 2025
- Awaiting notification regarding application to Queensland Government for grant funds to identify appropriate amendments to the Mareeba Shire Council Planning Scheme to increase the rate, density and diversity of residential housing to better meet the needs of the changing population and help build more houses faster
- Design of Mareeba Industrial Park Masterplan is progressing and expected to be finalised in Q1 2025/26, with all developed sites now sold
- Further investment continues at Tom Gilmore Mareeba Aviation Industrial Precinct
- Mareeba Airport development opportunity promoted by Council website, social media and Aviation Trader magazine
- Throughout Small Business Month in May 2025, Mareeba Shire Council coordinated and supported a range of targeted activities across the Shire. These activities were designed to increase digital literacy, support innovation, and improve access to small business services and support agencies. Events were delivered in collaboration with Mareeba Chamber of Commerce, the State Library of Queensland, Launch Y(E)P, the Australian Small Business Advisory Services and various state and federal partners
- Mayoral Alliance for the Pacific roundtable meeting with Minister Conroy, 19 November 2024. Alliance meetings are ongoing
- Talking Tourism Forum February 2025 with key tourism stakeholders
- Ongoing FNQROC meetings
- Meetings have been held with the new State Government Ministers and MPs
- FNQROC delegation to State and Federal Government scheduled for later in the year
- Engagement continues with airport users group and FNQ Aviation Museum

# Economy and Growth

Council remained focused on its Economy and Growth as a strategic objective in 2024/25 to promote and encourage investment in local industry and build a resilient economy. A wide range of initiatives were delivered to attract business activity, support industry growth and position the Mareeba Shire as a competitive, future-ready regional economy.

Targeted efforts to enable sustainable economic development and growth included attracting investment to industrial and aviation precincts, improving the planning framework for housing supply and expanding partnerships with key sectors. Council continued to drive the development of the Mareeba Industrial Park Masterplan, with finalisation anticipated in early 2025/26. All currently developed sites have now been sold, indicating strong market interest and confidence in the local economy. Similarly, new investment in the Tom Gilmore Mareeba Aviation Industrial Precinct helps position the Shire as a regional hub for aviation-based industries.

Council worked to address housing affordability and supply, a critical enabler of workforce attraction and economic resilience. In December 2024, a Local Laws Amendment was adopted to support temporary accommodation options. Council celebrated completion of the social housing duplex in Mareeba in August 2024 and funding agreements for a social housing triplex were executed in March 2025. Council is also seeking Queensland Government support for amendments to the Planning Scheme, aimed at increasing residential density and diversity in response to population and workforce needs.

Council's commitment to attracting and retaining business and investment was further demonstrated through high-profile events and regional collaboration. The Mareeba-hosted State of the Region Roadshow, in partnership with Regional Development Australia Tropical North, highlighted local investment opportunities to key stakeholders. Ongoing work with Mareeba Shire Tourism Inc provided direct benefits to tourism operators, including marketing support and capacity-building. Council's total investment in tourism for 2024/25 was \$576,634. This spend includes contributions towards Mareeba Shire Tourism LTO, Mareeba Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Information Centres.

Council also strengthened effective strategic partnerships to build long-term economic resilience. In May 2025, Council coordinated a successful Small Business Month program, delivering events with partners such as the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce, Launch Y(E)P, and the Australian Small Business Advisory Service. These activities supported digital capability, innovation and access to essential business support services.

Council remained an active participant in FNQROC and other regional networks, advocating for the Shire through meetings with State and Federal Ministers and progressing shared priorities through tourism and aviation forums.

These achievements reflect Council's commitment to enabling industry success, stimulating local investment and securing a robust economic future for the Mareeba Shire.



# Operational Plan Progress

Council develops key performance measures as part of the annual Operational Plan. The table below outlines the Operational Plan objectives for the 2024/25 financial year and provides a measure of achievement for each. These objectives are actionable targets that move us closer to our vision 'A growing, confident and sustainable Shire'.

Completed In Progress

Not Commenced

Project	Outcome	Progress
Long-term Financial Plan	Effective and sustainable financial management	<b>⊘</b>
Comprehensive Asset Revaluations: • Roads	<ul> <li>Effective and sustainable</li> <li>Financial management</li> <li>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future</li> </ul>	
Internal Access to Financial Information	<ul> <li>Effective Business         Management</li> <li>A Skilled and Sustainable         Workforce</li> </ul>	<b>⊘</b>
Information Systems Strategy implementation	Effective business management	<b>Ø</b>
Sustainable Workforce	A skilled and sustainable workforce	<b>Ø</b>
Workforce Management	A skilled and sustainable workforce	<b>Ø</b>
Cybersecurity Enhancements	Effective governance	<b>Ø</b>
Compliance Monitoring	Effective governance	<b>Ø</b>
Accountable Decision Making	Effective governance	<b>Ø</b>
Arts Connection to Tourism	A vibrant and healthy community	<b>Ø</b>
Enhanced Online Presence	An engaged community	<b>Ø</b>
Community Safety	<ul><li>A vibrant and healthy community</li><li>Effective strategic partnerships</li></ul>	<b>Ø</b>
Disaster Resilience	A resilient community	<b>Ø</b>

Project	Outcome	Progress
Review Asset Management Plans across asset classes	<ul> <li>Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure</li> <li>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future</li> <li>Attractive and accessible public facilities</li> <li>Effective and sustainable financial management</li> </ul>	
Restoration of assets	Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure	•
Secure Water Supply	Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure	C C
Waste Management Services Strategy	Environmentally responsible service delivery	•
Planning Scheme Review	<ul> <li>Sustainable Planning and protection of environmental assets</li> </ul>	
Reef Guardian Council	<ul> <li>Sustainable Planning and protection of environmental assets</li> </ul>	<b>②</b>
Parks and Open Spaces Strategy	Attractive and accessible public facilities	<b>②</b>
Strategic Partnerships	<ul> <li>Effective strategic partnerships</li> <li>A vibrant and healthy community</li> <li>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future</li> <li>Attractive and accessible public facilities</li> </ul>	
Housing Strategy	Sustainable economic development and growth	0
Mareeba Industrial Estate	Sustainable economic development and growth	0
Tom Gilmore Mareeba Aviation Industrial Precinct	<ul><li>Sustainable economic development and growth</li><li>Effective strategic partnerships</li></ul>	

# Community Engagement

Disaster recovery engagement activities commenced in 2023 and continued in 2024/25. Department funded Mareeba Community Centre (MCC) and Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre (KNC) Community Recovery Connect Workers, Department Communities Recovery Lead Officer and Council officers met regularly to ensure support continued for affected residents. The implementation of a mental health program operated by the Royal Flying Doctor Service has had a significant impact in the shire.

The Muluridji Tribal Aboriginal Corporation registered native title body corporate (RNTBC) played a pivotal role in implementing an Ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper environmental clean-up project. Working with Council officers and consultants the Corporation supported the removal of rubbish safely and respectfully from the Granite Creek.

Robust engagement continued for the Lighter Infrastructure, Affordable Improvements, Effective Solutions (LAE) project commenced in April 2024. Community survey results provided mixed feedback on the safety and accessibility improvements to the walking and cycling network at sites across Mareeba.

Specific engagement activities were carried out for the Mareeba Centenary Park footpaths and fencing, Byrnes Street safety and garden improvements, Ray Road drainage issues and the Coondoo Street Kuranda footpaths, plantings and lighting project. Council officers also worked with Almaden residents to resolve street naming issues in the township.

A comprehensive community engagement plan kicked off for a once in a generation planning project for Mareeba.

Project Blueprint will develop a shared vision for the future of Mareeba's main shopping area, delivering a precinct plan and construction ready plans for future grant applications. The Mareeba Chamber of Commerce is a major partner in the project and the Stakeholder Reference Group formed for the project is integral in the engagement plan.

In June 2025 property owners, business operators, residents and visitors were invited to help shape a vibrant, sustainable town centre that reflects the needs and aspirations of our community. Pop-up drop-in sessions were held over four days and an online survey conducted.

2024/25 saw Councillors begin a tour of the shire connecting with residents. Sessions were held in Dimbulah, Julatten, Speewah, Irvinebank and Mount Molloy. Residents were invited to come along for a chat and share what matters to them and their community.

Project Blueprint engagement and Councillors Connecting with Community will continue in 2025/26.

Council remains committed to delivering the Community Partnerships Program and provided \$329,726 in support to not-for-profit community groups in 2024/25:

Grants to Community Organisations	Amount
Cash	\$24,357
Rate Rebates and Charge Remissions	\$167,720
In-Kind Assistance	\$11,232
Community Loan	\$78,000
Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)	\$48,417
Total	\$329,729













# **Community Events**

Mareeba Shire Council plays an active role in hosting events throughout the year.

### **ANZAC Day**

Partnering with RSLs across the Shire, Council helps deliver ANZAC Day ceremonies. This important day is an opportunity to thank all men and women who have served Australia and to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

### **Australia Day Awards**

The Australia Day Awards celebrate the achievements and exceptional contributions of people in Mareeba Shire. Twenty-nine nominations were received, with Cheryl Emmerson awarded 'Citizen of the Year' and Steven Young receiving 'Young Citizen of the Year'.

### **Australian Citizenship Ceremonies**

Five ceremonies were held, welcoming 40 new Australian citizens from 14 different countries, with the Philippines, New Zealand and the United Kingdom being the most popular countries of origin.

### **Get Ready Tablelands**

Together with Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Council delivered the first Get Ready Tablelands event at the Mareeba Drive-In. Residents were invited to connect with local services and learn how to prepare for disasters. *The Stories of Jasper* documentary and a free family movie were aired in the evening.

### **Great Wheelbarrow Race**

Raising over \$260,000 for local charities, the Great Wheelbarrow Race saw nearly 50 teams travel 140km from Mareeba to Chillagoe over an action-packed, three-day weekend of fun and endurance.

#### Mareeba Multicultural Festival

A highlight for the community, the Mareeba Multicultural Festival returned for the 26<sup>th</sup> year, bringing people together to enjoy delicious traditional food and incredible non-stop performances.

### **Seniors Morning Tea**

To celebrate Seniors month in October, Council hosts a free Seniors Morning Tea, providing catering and entertainment for 250 residents at the Mareeba International Club.



# **Legislative Compliances / Disclosures**

### **GOVERNANCE**

Mareeba Shire Council continues to be a responsible local government, operating in accordance with legislation and focusing on the ethical business activities and relationships between Councillors, senior management, employees, the community, government departments, business clients and other key stakeholders.

Council has a governance framework outlined below, that enhances organisational performance, whilst monitoring and maintaining compliance with legislative and other controls.

- Building awareness of organisational responsibilities and accountabilities;
- Strong financial stewardship and fiscal responsibility;
- Monitoring and maintaining compliance with legislation, policy, standards and controls;
- Integral practices, procedures and ethical decision-making with continuous improvement activities and transparent reporting; and
- Involving the community as a key stakeholder in decision-making and consultation opportunities.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Risk management is the identification, assessment and prioritisation of risks. It also includes the steps taken to minimise such risks. Council has an Enterprise Risk Management Policy, Framework and Process, which guides Council to identifying risks in all aspects of Council operations. Council risk management is integrated into other governance instruments of Council to ensure identification, mitigation and monitoring. All identified risks are annually reviewed, monitored and reported to the Audit Committee and Council.

Council will continue its commitment to ongoing work towards integrating risk management activities into all organisational areas to ensure compliance with ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management – Guideline. Additionally, Council continues to support a commitment to best practice via representative attendance at regional and inter-state risk focus events.

#### **ROLE OF COUNCIL AND ELECTED MEMBERS**

Council and its Elected Members continue to fulfil their roles and responsibilities in accordance with legislative requirements. Council is committed to effective, transparent, and accountable governance.

Section 12 of the Local Government Act 2009 states that the role of elected members is to:

- represent the current and future interests of residents in the local government area;
- ensure that Council acts responsibly, achieves the goals set out in the Corporate Plan and complies with all laws that apply to local governments;
- provide high-quality leadership to the region and Council;
- participate in Council meetings, policy development and decision making, for the benefit of the local government area and
- be accountable to the community for the local government's performance.

The Mayor and Elected Members perform their roles by attending and participating in Council meetings, engaging with residents within Council area, participating in policy development and decision-making processes.

The Mayor has additional responsibilities to those listed above, which include chairing Council meetings, being a member of each standing committee of the local government, leading and advising Council's Chief Executive Officer and representing Council at ceremonial or civic functions.

The Mayor and Elected Members are elected democratically by the community to represent the current and future interests of the residents within the entire local government area. One of Councillors is elected as Deputy Mayor by their fellow Councillors.

The Mayor and Elected Members hold monthly Ordinary Meetings to consider and decide on strategic matters of interest to the residents of Council's local government area and Council's operation. In addition to Ordinary Meetings, Special Meetings are held when required to discuss and decide upon urgent strategic matters.

#### **ELECTED MEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE**

The below list outlines Councillor attendance at Council meetings held between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025. Leave was granted for all unattended meetings by Councillors.

#### Note:

- Cr Davies served until 14 January 2025
- Cr Bosnic commenced his term on 16 April 2025

	Ordinary Meeting	Special Meeting
Mayor Angela Toppin AM	11	2
Deputy Mayor Lenore Wyatt	11	2
Cr Mladen Bosnic	2	0
Cr Amy Braes	12	2
Cr Edward (Nipper) Brown	12	2
Cr Ross Cardillo	12	2
Cr Kevin Davies	5	1
Cr Mary Graham	12	2

### **Meetings Held**

Ordinary meetings: 12Special meetings: 2

#### **ELECTED MEMBER REMUNERATION**

The amount of remuneration paid to Local Government Councillors for the time and effort spent on Council business is determined by the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal (The Tribunal).

The Tribunal has determined that the Mareeba Shire Council is a Category two Council and the following annual remuneration amounts applied to Category two Councils during the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

- Mayor \$146,239
- Deputy Mayor \$91,399
- Councillors \$77,688

The total remuneration paid to each Councillor and the total superannuation contribution paid on behalf of each Councillor during the pay periods falling between 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 is listed in the table below.

In addition to remuneration for time spent on Council business, Local Government Councillors are also entitled to receive reimbursement of all approved expenses incurred in undertaking their role as a Councillor. Council has adopted the Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources policy as required by section 250 of the *Local Government Regulation* 2012 on 15 April 2020.

In accordance with the policy, Councillors are provided with reimbursements of expenditure for their vehicles, as well as incidental costs such as mobile phone costs and other costs related to Council business.

The total amount of expenses reimbursed to each Councillor during the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 is as follows:

Councillor	Remuneration Paid	Superannuation Paid	Reimbursement Paid
Cr Angela Toppin AM	146,239	17,485	3,709
Cr Lenore Wyatt	91,399	10,913	3,709
Cr Mladen Bosnic	15,537	1,443	599
Cr Amy Braes	77,688	9,270	3,709
Cr Nipper Brown	77,688	9,270	3,709
Cr Ross Cardillo	77,688	9,270	3,709
Cr Kevin Davies	41,832	5,326	2,140
Cr Mary Graham	77,688	9,270	3,709

In accordance with policy provisions, Councillors were also provided with the facilities and resources necessary to effectively undertake the requirements of their position.

These facilities and resources include:

- Administrative and secretarial support
- Office space and Council meeting rooms
- Access to computers
- Use of Council landline telephone and internet access
- Access to fax, photocopier, scanner, printer and stationery
- Council owned vehicles available for business use by all Councillors
- Insurance cover under relevant Council policies (Public Liability, Councillors' Liability, Personal Accident, Workers Compensation)
- Provision of meals (lunches/morning teas) when attending Council meetings and workshops
- Attendance at approved work-related conferences and workshops
- Travel and accommodation to attend Council related business



### **COUNCILLOR CONDUCT MATTERS**

The table below reflects complaints dealt with during the financial year in accordance with Councillor conduct framework provided for under Chapter 5A of the *Local Government Act* 2009 (the Act) and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation).

Orders made under section 150I(2) of the Act  Referral Notices given to the Local Government under section 150AC(1) of the Act	Nil
Peferral Notices given to the Local Government under section 1504C(1) of the Act	
Refer at Notices given to the Local Government under Section 130AC(1) of the Act	Nil
Total number of suspected conduct breaches under section 186(1)(g) of the Regulation	Nil
Total number of suspected conduct breaches under section 186(1)(g) of the Regulation,	Nil
for which an investigation was not started or discontinued under section 150AEA of the	
Act	
Orders made under section 150IA(2)(b) of the Act	Nil
Orders made under section 150AH(1) of the Act	Nil
Decisions, orders and recommendations made under section 150AR(1) of the Act	Nil
Complaints referred to the Independent Assessor under section 150P(2)(a) of the Act	1
Notifications made to the Crime and Corruption Commission under section 150P(3) of	
the Act	Nil
Notifications made to the Independent Assessor under section 150R(2) of the Act	Nil
Notifications made to the Independent Assessor under section 150S(2)(a) of the Act	Nil
Information provided to the Independent Assessor under section 150AF(3)(a) of the Act	
Decisions made under section 150AG(1) of the Act	Nil
Number of matters not decided by the end of the financial year under section 150AG(a)	Nil
of the Act	
Average time taken to make a decision under section 150AG(1) of the Act	N/a
Number of occasions Council requested another entity to investigate Councillor conduct	Nil
under Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 5 of the Act	
Complaints referred to the Independent Assessor for which no further action was taken	Nil
under section 150Y of the Act	
Complaints referred back to Council by the Independent Assessor under section	Nil
150W(b) for investigation under section 150AF of the Act	

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION COMPLAINTS**

Council is committed to dealing fairly with administrative action complaints. All complaints are processed in accordance with the provisions of Council's adopted Administrative Action Complaints Management Policy. The objectives of the policy are to ensure that Council has an organised process for responding to, recording, reporting and using complaints to improve service to the community.

The Complaints Management System governed by the policy aims to:

- Be fair and objective. All complaints are considered on their merits and the principles of natural justice are observed.
- Support continuous improvement. Where applicable, the outcomes from a complaints management process are applied to improve business operations, policies and procedures.
- Be open and accountable. The decisions and outcomes regarding a complaint are made available to the affected person, subject to statutory provisions.
- Be accessible and simple to understand. The process facilitates feedback from the community in a form that encourages participation.

The table below reflects Council's performance in resolving complaints during the financial year. The 2024/25 financial year experienced a 1 unit increase in complaints carried over from the previous 2023/24 financial year. The total number of complaints lodged during the 2024/25 financial year decreased by 12 units in comparison with the previous 2023/24 financial year. The number of complaints outstanding at the end of the 2024/25 financial year remained consistent with the previous 2023/24 financial year at 3 units.

Administrative action complaints carried over from the previous financial year	3
Administrative action complaints lodged during 2024/25	45
Administrative action complaints resolved during 2024/25	45
Administrative action complaints not resolved at close of the financial year	3
Administrative action complaints not resolved at close of the financial year	0
2024/25 which were lodged during the previous financial year 2023/24	

#### **AUDIT**

#### **Audit Committee**

Council's Audit Committee comprises three (3) members, an independent member as chairperson (John Andrejic) and two (2) Councillors. The two Councillors elected as audit committee members were Cr Kevin Davies and Cr Mary Graham. Cr Amy Braes and Cr Ross Cardillo (as Proxy) were appointed as audit committee members on 16 April 2025, replacing Cr Kevin Davies. The independent chairperson is also responsible for probity audits.

Three meetings of the Audit Committee were held during the financial year – 14 August 2024, 1 October 2024 and 12 March 2025.

Items considered by the Audit Committee throughout the 2024/25 year included:

- Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025
- External Audit strategy, results and recommendations for the 2024/25 financial year
- Internal Audit strategy and project status
- Enterprise Risk Management including Business Continuity Plans, Compliance Checklist and Policy renewals
- Probity audit review outcomes
- Audit Committee Self-Assessment

# Three-year Strategic Internal Audit Plan, incorporating the 2024/25 Annual Internal Audit Plan

The projects that are included in 2025/26 and 2026/27 of the Strategic Internal Audit Plan are subject to an annual review process to ensure they remain relevant. This may involve revision of planned projects and re-prioritisation, where appropriate, to meet the changing needs of the organisation.

Year	Project	Department
2024/25	Town Planning, Building & Plumbing Efficiency, Effectiveness & Performance focus	Planning & Building Services
2025/26	Customer Services Efficiency, Effectiveness & Performance focus	Customer & Community Services
2025/26	Procurement Practices Compliance & Processes, Control Effectiveness (Process Improvement & Compliance focus)	Finance
2026/27	Customer Request Management Processes (Process Improvement & Compliance focus)	Customer & Community Services
2026/27	Facilities Management (Efficiency, Effectiveness & Performance focus)	Technical Services

### **COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES**

Compliance with section 23 Public Sector Ethics Act 1994

Council's commitment to Queensland's public sector ethical principles and the local government principles is reflected in our policies and procedures. Our internal administrative procedures and management practices also have due regard to the ethical principles, local government principles, and Council's Employee Code of Conduct.

The *Public-Sector Ethics Act 1994* requires that the Annual Report of each public-sector entity (which includes a Local Government) must include an implementation statement giving details of the action taken during the reporting period to comply with those sections of the Act relating to the preparation of codes of conduct and access to, and education and training in, the ethics principles and public-sector ethics.

The four (4) ethics principles are:

- 1. Integrity and impartiality
- 2. Promoting the public good
- 3. Commitment to the system of government
- 4. Accountability and transparency

Council's Employee Code of Conduct is compliant with current legislation, in particular, the ethics principles outlined above. Education and training in relation to the ethics principles and the Employee Code of Conduct are included as part of the induction process for all new employees and periodic refresher training is provided to all employees.

Topics covered by this training include:

- The operation of the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*
- The application of ethics, principles and obligations
- The contents of the Employee Code of Conduct to include alignment with Council's corporate values and principles and strategic priorities and
- The rights and obligations of employees in relation to a contravention of the Employee Code of Conduct

Education and training have been provided to new employees, contractors, volunteers and students on work experience.

Copies of the ethics principles and Employee Code of Conduct are provided at each workplace for access by Council staff. Any person, other than Council staff, can obtain access to, or purchase a copy of the Code of Conduct at any of Council's administration offices.

The administrative procedures and management practices of Council have regard to the ethics obligations of public officials and Council's Employee Code of Conduct and all employees are required to act in ways which give a commitment to a high standard of ethics and which ensure the highest standards of public administration.

### **Registers kept by Council**

Council's registers provide a source of truth for various subject matters and help ensure efficient, effective, and transparent governance processes. Council kept the following registers during the 2024/25 year:

Register of Members Interests
Register of Councillor Conduct
Register of Delegations by Council
Register of Delegations by the Chief Executive Officer
Register of Roads
Register of Assets
Register of Cost Recovery Fees
Register of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
Register of Lands
Register of Policies
Cemetery Register
Impounding Register
Gifts and Benefits Register
Register of On-site Sewerage Facilities
Beneficial Enterprises
General Complaints Database
Large Contracts Register
Preferred Suppliers
Pre-qualified Suppliers
Register of Councillors
Register of Electoral Gifts
Right to Information Database
Sole Supplier Register

### **Overseas Travel**

No overseas travel was undertaken during the 2024/25 financial year.

### **Senior Management Remuneration**

The below table shows the range of remuneration (excluding superannuation) for the 12 month period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 provided to Council's senior management staff.

The total remuneration payable (excluding superannuation) in 2024/25 to senior management was \$915,285.33.

Package Range	Number
\$400,000 - \$499,000	1
\$200,000 - \$299,000	2

#### **Councillor Advisors**

Council has not resolved to allow a Councillor to appoint Councillor Advisors.

### **Special Rates and Charges**

Council did not, during the year, take any action in relation to, or expend funds on, a service, facility or activity, under section 190(d) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

- supplied by another local government under an agreement for conducting a joint government activity; and
- for which the local government levied special rates or charges for the financial year.

### **Concessions for Rates and Charges**

The Rate Rebate and Remission Policy sets out Council policy, as per annual budget resolution, in relation to the granting of rebates and remissions on rates and charges.

The Local Government Regulation 2012 - Chapter 4, Part 10 Concessions, gives local governments the power to grant concessions for rates and charges.

A concession may only be of the following types:

- a) a rebate of all or part of the rates or charges
- b) an agreement to defer payment of the rates or charges
- c) an agreement to accept a transfer of unencumbered land in full or part payment of the rates or charges

A concession may only be granted by resolution of Council and, for Mareeba Shire Council, this is done as part of the annual budget adoption process and also noted in the adopted Revenue Statement.

#### **Conduct of Business Activities**

### Application of Code of Competitive Conduct

The following business activities were conducted by Council during the 2024/25 financial year:

- Water Supply
- Sewerage
- Waste Management
- Soil Laboratory
- Building Certification

The Local Government Act 2009 section 45(b) requires that a Council's Annual Report must identify the business activities that are a significant business activity. Significant business activity does not include a roads activity, or an activity related to the provision of library services. All significant business activities have had the Competitive Neutrality Principles applied. The Local Government Regulation 2012 section 19 identifies the following expenditure thresholds for significant business activities:

- 10,000 or more premises being connected to water service for the provision of combined water and sewerage services
- \$9.7 million for another business activity

The Regulation also provides that a Local Government must use the financial information for the previous financial year that was presented to the Local Government's budget meeting to identify each new significant business activity for the financial year. None of Council's business activities exceeded the threshold for a significant business activity for the 2024/25 financial year. The business activities listed above were also conducted by Council in the previous financial year (2023/24) and there were no new business activities commenced in 2024/25.

### **Changes to Tender**

There were no occasions during the year where persons who submitted a tender were invited to change their tender to take account of a change in the tender specification prior to Council making a decision under section 228(7) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

### **Competitive Neutrality complaints**

During the 2024/25 financial year Council was not in receipt of any competitive neutrality complaints. During the same period, Council was not in receipt of any Queensland Productivity Commission notices of investigations, nor any Queensland Productivity Commission recommendations on any competitive neutrality complaints.

### **Summary of Investigation Notices**

During the 2024/25-year, Council did not receive any notices of investigation by the Queensland Competition Authority, under section 49 of the *Local Government Regulation* 2012.

During the same period, Council did not receive Queensland Competition Authority recommendations on any competitive neutrality complaints under section 52(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012.* 

#### **Particular Resolutions**

### Non-Current Assets as an Expense

There were no resolutions made during the year under section 206(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (setting an amount for each different type of non-current physical asset below which the value of an asset of the same type must be treated as an expense). It has previously been determined that the threshold for capitalisation of asset classes other than land is \$5,000. These details form part of Note 13 to the Financial Statements.

### **Debt Policy**

The Debt Policy details the principles upon which Council bases its decisions when considering the type of expenditure to be funded by borrowings for the financial years 2024/25 to 2033/34, the total current and projected borrowings and the ranges of periods over which they will be repaid.

### **Revenue Policy**

The Revenue Policy (adopted annually) governs the principles used by Council for making and levying rates and utility charges, exercising powers to grant rebates and concessions, for recovering unpaid amounts of rates and charges and the setting of miscellaneous fees and charges.

#### **Procurement**

Council procurement is governed by the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and Council's own Procurement Policy and associated procedures.

As set out in section 104(3) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council employees must have regard for the sound contracting principles when conducting procurement activities.

## These principles are:

- Value for money;
- Open and effective competition;
- The development of competitive local business and industry;
- Environmental protection;
- Ethical behaviour and fair dealing.

Council is required to publicly tender work that has an expected value of more than \$200,000 (exclusive of GST). Council is not required to publicly tender work of more than \$200,000 where there is an exemption. Exemptions include the use of Localbuy, Council's registers of pre-qualified suppliers and sole suppliers. To be considered a sole supplier, Council must be satisfied that the supplier is the only supplier who is reasonably available to Council. Council uses VendorPanel, an online portal to manage public tenders and some of its quotation processes.

### **Major Construction Contracts Awarded**

Council values economic development in our region and aims to support local businesses whenever possible. The page shows the total number of major construction contracts awarded and provides a breakdown of those contracts by the geographical location of the supplier.

Supplier Location	Number
Contracts awarded to suppliers within Council's local government area	13
Contracts awarded to suppliers within Far North Queensland	14
Contracts awarded to suppliers outside Far North Queensland	2
Contracts awarded to interstate suppliers	1

### **Bicentennial Lakes Revitalisation Project**



**Keeble Street Footbridge Restoration** 



**Pump Track Installation** 



# Financial Review

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

Council has successfully completed its Financial Statements within the statutory deadlines set by the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The independent Queensland Audit Office audit report presents an unqualified result, reflecting the accuracy and integrity of Council's financial records.

To foster transparency and understanding within the community, we have produced a Community Financial Report. This report is designed to provide a clear and accessible overview of our financial performance and position over the past financial year. To improve stakeholders comprehension of the key elements of our financial statements, the Community Financial Report utilises language and visual aids such as graphs and tables to present Council's 2024/25 results.

During the 2024/25 financial year, Council has:

- Continued to refine and implement our Asset Management Plan, supporting informed and strategic asset management decisions;
- Maintained a robust financial position, resulting in an operating surplus of \$21 million, which continues to strengthen Council's long-term financial sustainability. This operating surplus is committed to fund asset renewals and upgrades in accordance with long term asset management plans and
- Kept debt levels relatively low, with an end-of-year loan balance of \$6.1 million.

## **About the Financial Report**

The Community Financial Report is prepared in accordance with Section 179 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the Financial Review below focuses on the following elements:

- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Statement of Cash Flows and
- Measures of Financial Sustainability Performance.

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The Statement of Comprehensive Income (often referred to as the Profit and Loss Statement) shows the details of Council's operating and capital income and expenses for a specified reporting period. Income minus expenses result in either a profit or loss amount known as the net result.

A Summarised Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025 is shown in the table below.

Summary of Statement of Comprehensive Income	2024/25 \$'000	2023/24 \$'000
Operating Revenue	93,104	64,498
Less: Operating Expenses	(72,037)	(60,880)
Operating Result	21,067	3,618
Plus: Capital Income	28,893	18,455
Less: Capital Expenses	(1,458)	(2,999)
Net Result	48,502	19,074

It is important to note that the Net Result does not represent surplus cash funds available. A significant portion of Council's income is restricted to specific purposes and cannot be used for general operations. For instance, Benefited Area income and funds governed by legislative provisions are earmarked for designated uses. Additionally, capital grants are allocated specifically to maintain or expand Council's infrastructure and are not available for operational expenditure.

## **Operating Results**

Council's operating position reflects the ability to meet running costs using operating revenue. This includes Council's ability to fund future acquisition and replacement of assets.

Operating position is calculated by subtracting operating expense from operating revenue. This calculation does not include revenue or expenses for capital projects (assets).

Summary of Statement of Comprehensive Income	2024/25 \$'000	2023/24 \$'000
OPERATING REVENUE		
Rates & Utility Charges (Net of discount and remissions)	42,014	38,962
Fees & Charges	2,420	2,103
Operating Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	35,934	12,197
Sales & Services Revenue	6,780	5,453
Interest – Investment & Rates	4,419	4,432
Other Revenue	680	563
Lease and Rental Income	857	788
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	93,104	64,498
OPERATING EXPENDITURE		
Employee Benefits	19,786	19,005
Materials & Services	38,815	28,915
Finance Costs	317	329
Depreciation & Amortisation	13,119	12,631
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	72,037	60,880
OPERATING RESULT	21,067	3,618

### **Operating Revenue and Expenditure**

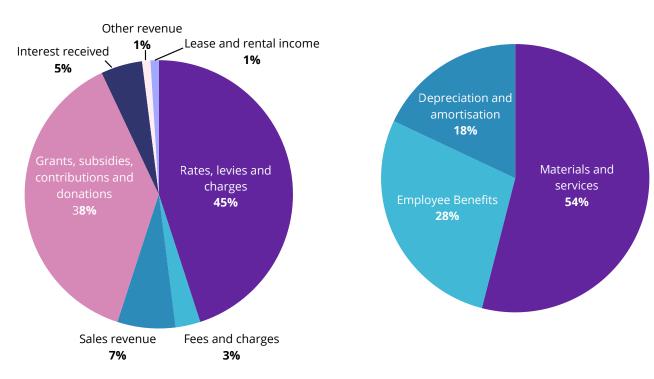
Council's operating position for the year ended 30 June 2025 reflects a surplus of \$21 million. The gross surplus shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, represents the difference between income and expenses for a given period. However, it doesn't necessarily equate to actual surplus cash available for general use. Various factors, like restricted funds, non-cash items and specific allocations mean that it doesn't translate directly into extra cash available for discretionary use.

The notable increase in surplus from 2023/24 to 2024/25 is primarily attributed to the early receipt of the Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grant which is an allocation towards the 2025/26 financial year. There was also an increase in the receipt of funds from the Disaster Funding Recovery Arrangements in 2024/25.

Accounting depreciation continues to have a substantial impact on Council's operating results. Depreciation and amortisation expenses totalling \$13.1 million have been recorded to reflect the usage and deterioration of community assets over their expected lifespans.

Council received \$93 million in operating revenue during the 2024/25 financial year. The primary source of this revenue was Rates and Charges, which contributed \$42 million (45%). The second largest revenue source came from grants, subsidies, contributions and donations, which provided \$35 million (38%). The remaining operating revenue was generated from fees and charges, rental income, interest revenue and other income sources.

Council's operating expenses for the 2024/25 financial year totalled \$72 million. The major expenses were materials and services, which accounted for \$38 million (54%), employee benefits totalling \$19 million (28%), and depreciation and amortisation amounting to \$13 million (18%).



### **Net Result**

Council's net result is determined by subtracting total expenses (operating and capital) from total revenue (operating and capital), excluding any adjustments for asset revaluations. For the 2024/25 financial year, the net result includes the following key items:

- \$28 million in capital grants, subsidies, contributions, and donations received from various government agencies to support the provision of capital infrastructure. Of this amount, \$1 million was recorded as contributed assets, representing non-cash revenue; and
- \$1.4 million in capital expenses, primarily reflecting the value of assets that were replaced or disposed of during the year.

## **Other Comprehensive Income**

Council conducted a comprehensive valuation of Roads, along with a desktop revaluation of all other asset classes (excluding Plant and Fleet) to report fair values as at 30 June 2025. This process resulted in an increase in Council's total asset values by \$115 million.

## **Capital Expenditure**

Key capital works completed during the year include:

- \$3.5M for upgrades towards Mareeba Water Treatment Plant;
- \$2.4M for Mareeba water main replacements;
- \$2.6M to widen and seal parts of Ootann Road;
- \$9.8M for Gamboola bridge construction;
- \$3.6M for Bushy Creek bridge construction;
- \$1M for Kuranda Coondoo Street refurbishment;
- \$1.4M for Herberton Constance Streets intersection upgrade and
- \$1.5M for Emerald End culvert replacement.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The Statement of Financial Position, commonly known as the Balance Sheet, provides a snapshot of Council's assets and liabilities at a point in time. This statement measures what Council owns (assets) and what it owes (liabilities). The difference between these two elements represents the net wealth (equity) of Council and the community, known as Community Equity.

Each section of the Statement of Financial Position is broken down into detailed subheadings, with cross-references to Notes in the Financial Statements for further clarification.

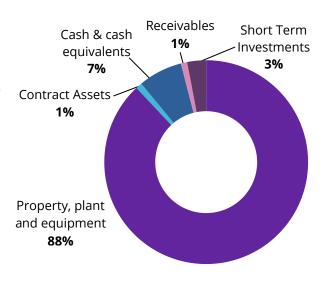


#### **Assets**

Assets represent a resource owned Council which provides economic value. There are two asset categories, current and non-current.

- Current assets include cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, inventories, and other financial assets that can be converted into cash within one year.
- Non-current assets consist of property, plant, and equipment, intangibles, and other financial assets.

As of 30 June 2025, Council reached an exciting milestone, with total assets surpassing \$1 billion for the first time. This includes \$126 million in current assets (liquid assets or amounts receivable within twelve months) and \$906 million in non-current assets. The most significant portion of Council's assets is in property, plant, and equipment, valued at \$906 million, which accounts for 88% of the total assets.



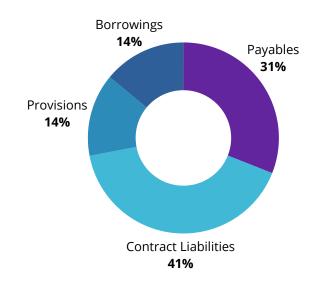
Asset	What is it?	Why it matters?	30 June 2025 \$'000
Cash & Cash Equivalents	Cash on hand and bank balances.	It shows how much cash is readily available to meet immediate expenses or emergencies.	66,574
Short term investments	Term Deposits less than a year.	Provides a way for Council to earn some interest while keeping funds accessible for future needs.	34,500
Receivables	Amounts owed to Council by others, such as unpaid rates, fees, or other charges that residents or businesses need to pay.	It indicates expected cash inflows, helping to plan for future cash availability.	9,432
Property, Plant & Equipment	All physical assets owned by Council such as land, buildings, roads, water and wastewater.	Represents Councils investment in assets that are essential for delivering services to the community.	906,428
Contract Assets	These are amounts Council is yet to receive for works already provided.	It shows money that is expected to come in, to offset expenditure that has already been incurred.	14,523
Inventories	The total value of goods and materials on hand to be used in works or to be sold.	Provides insight into resources available for future use.	1,558

### Liabilities

Liabilities represent what Council owes. There are two liability categories, current and non-current.

- Current liabilities are short term financial obligations that are due within one year. For example amounts payable to suppliers.
- Non-current liabilities are financial obligations that are not due for more than a year. This includes loans, employee leave entitlements, and provisions for future expenditures, such as landfill restoration cost.

As of 30 June 2025, Council's total liabilities stood at \$45 million, comprising \$35 million in current liabilities and \$10 million in non-current liabilities. Current liabilities are obligations that are due to be settled within twelve months.



Liability	What is it?	Why it matters?	30 June 2025 \$'000
Payables	These are amounts the council owes to suppliers or contractors for goods and services already received but not yet paid for.	It shows the council's current obligations, helping to understand what payments are due in the near future.	13,426
Provisions	Amounts set aside to cover future liabilities or expenses that are likely to occur but where the exact amount or timing is uncertain. This could include things like employee leave entitlements.	It reflects the council's preparedness to meet future obligations, ensuring that funds are available when these liabilities arise.	6,526
Contract Liabilities	These are amounts Council has received in advance for goods or services that it has yet to provide.	It shows money that is expected to be incurred, to offset revenue that has already been received.	18,556
Borrowings	Council's borrowings consist of a loan from the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC).	It indicates the level of debt the council is carrying, helping to assess the long-term financial commitments and the impact on future budgets.	6,127

## **Queensland Treasury Debt**

The Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) is the State Government's lending agency, providing financing to local governments and state agencies within Queensland for infrastructure projects.

Council did not undertake any new borrowings during the 2024/25 financial year. As of 30 June 2025, the loan balance was \$6.1 million. Repayments of this debt are made quarterly, covering both principal and interest, in accordance with the terms and conditions set by the Queensland Treasury Corporation.

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

The difference between assets and liabilities represents the total community equity or net wealth of Council. The Statement of Changes in Equity illustrates the overall change in Council's "net wealth" over the year. As of 30 June 2025, Council's net wealth was \$988 million. This community equity comprises an asset revaluation reserve and retained surpluses, which increased by \$115 million and \$48 million, respectively, during the year. The asset revaluation surplus reflects the changes in the value of Council's assets over time.

Council's retained surplus represents funds available to be reinvested into assets, either now or in the future, to support community services. These surpluses also serve as a buffer against unforeseen financial challenges or adverse changes to the business environment.

#### STATEMENT OF CASHFLOW

The Statement of Cashflow measures the inflow and outflow of cash during the reporting period, categorised into three main activities:

- Operating activities: These are the routine, day-to-day functions of Council, including receipts from rates, fees and charges, interest earned on investments, and payments for employee wages, materials, and services;
- Investing activities: This category includes capital grants for the purchase and construction of property, plant, and equipment, as well as proceeds from the sale of assets, including term deposits and
- Financing activities: These involve the repayment of loans and any inflows from new loans drawn down during the year (if applicable).

Statement of Cashflow	2024/25 \$'000	2023/24 \$'000
Opening Balance	68,372	70,993
Plus: Cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities	40,802	17,853
Cash inflow (outflow) from investing activities	(42,164)	(20,051)
Cash inflow (outflow) from financing activities	(436)	(423)
OPERATING CASH AVAILABLE AT END OF YEAR	66,574	68,372

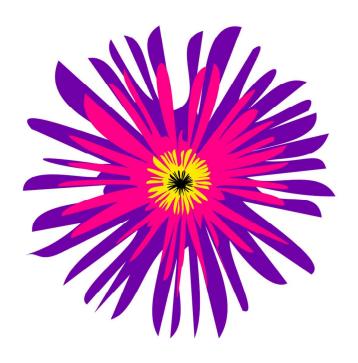
## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY RATIOS

Financial sustainability measures indicate whether Council is operating in a financially sustainable manner. There are 8 ratios Council is required to report on.

#	† Type Measure		Rationale	Target Met
1	Financial Capacity	Council Controlled Revenue Ratio	Capacity to generate revenue internally	•
2	Financial Capacity	Population Growth Ratio	Population growth/decline pressures on Council	•
3	Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	Holistic overview of Council operating performance	•
4	Operating Performance	Operating Cash Ratio	Cash operating performance (less depreciation and other non-cash items)	•
5	Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Unconstrained liquidity available to Council	<b>Ø</b>
6	Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Capital renewals program performance	<b>Ø</b>
7	Asset Management	Asset Consumption Ratio	Extent to which assets are being consumed	<b>Ø</b>
8	Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	Ability to repay existing debt	<b>Ø</b>

Measure	Target	Actual Current Year	5 Year Average	Narrative
Council Controlled Revenue Ratio	N/A	47.73%	57.82%	A higher council-controlled revenue ratio suggests a council can generate its own operating revenue effectively, reducing dependence on external sources and enabling better response to unexpected financial challenges. A lower ratio indicates limited capacity to influence revenue, making the council more reliant on external, often less reliable, income sources like grants and contracts.
Population Growth Ratio	N/A	1.43%	1.05%	A growing council population enhances the ability to generate revenue through rates and statutory charges but also increases the need for investment in new infrastructure. In contrast, a shrinking population reduces opportunities for revenue generation and requires adjustments in spending to match the declining use of infrastructure and community assets.

Measure	Target	Actual Current Year	5 Year Average	Narrative
Operating Surplus Ratio	Greater than 0%	22.63%	14.97%	An operating surplus ratio above 0% indicates that a council is managing its finances well, generating surplus funds for capital or other needs. A ratio below 0% suggests operating expenses exceed revenue. While a single-year deficit isn't necessarily concerning, long-term deficits can hinder a council's ability to fund capital projects and initiatives internally, potentially leading to a reliance on external funding.
Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	36.89%	33.14%	A positive operating cash ratio suggests that a council is generating surplus cash from its core operations, indicating the ability to self-fund capital expenditures. A negative operating cash ratio signals financial sustainability challenges and potential liquidity issues, as it means the council's cash position is declining, with revenues failing to cover operational costs.
Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	16.8 months	N/A	A higher unrestricted cash expense cover ratio indicates that a council has enough free cash to cover future planned or unplanned expenses, such as infrastructure investments or disaster recovery. However, an excessively high ratio might suggest cash hoarding, poor cash management, or large upcoming capital needs. A low ratio points to limited liquidity for capital investment or emergencies, but this isn't a concern for councils with efficient cash management and strong borrowing capacity. However, if a council also has a negative operating cash ratio, a very low or negative unrestricted cash expense cover ratio could indicate potential solvency issues.
Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 80%	99.03%	127.90%	An asset sustainability ratio close to 100% indicates that a council is adequately spending on asset renewal to offset deterioration, as approximated by depreciation. Ratios significantly below this level may suggest underspending on capital replacement. However, because this measure relies on depreciation rather than detailed asset planning data, it may not fully reflect the needs of councils with large investments in new capital assets, especially in rapidly growing communities. In such cases, a lower asset sustainability ratio is not concerning if the council is addressing the capital needs of its current and future population.
Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	74.03%	75.70%	A minimum target of 60% for the asset sustainability ratio suggests that a council's assets are being consumed in line with their estimated useful lives. If the ratio falls below this target, the council may need to increase investment in asset replacement or maintenance to ensure assets meet community needs. Conversely, if the ratio is significantly higher than the target, the council might need to review its asset management plans to reassess current service levels or the accuracy of the estimated useful lives of its assets.
Leverage Ratio	0 – 3 times	0.2 times	0.3 times	A higher leverage ratio signifies that a council's capacity to take on additional debt is limited due to high existing debt levels or decreasing operational performance. Conversely, a lower ratio suggests greater capacity for additional borrowing. However, a lower leverage ratio does not automatically ensure that further debt will be approved, as borrowings are assessed through a separate process by the Department and QTC, which considers various factors. Similarly, councils with higher leverage ratios may still be eligible for additional borrowings if there are other mitigating circumstances.



# **GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

# **General Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Con	tents	Page
Prim	ary Financial Statements	
State:	ment of Comprehensive Income ment of Financial Position ment of Changes in Equity ment of Cash Flows	3 4 5 6
Note	s to the Financial Statements	
1	Information about these financial statements	7
2	Analysis of results by function	9
3	Revenue	11
4	Interest and other income	14
5	Capital income	15
6	Employee benefits	15
7	Materials and services	16
8	Finance costs	16
9	Capital expenses	16
10	Cash and cash equivalents	17
11	Receivables	18
12	Inventories	19
13	Property, plant and equipment	20
14	Intangible assets	25
15	Contract balances	25
16	Leases	26
17	Payables	27
18	Borrowings	28
19	Provisions	28
20	Other liabilities	29
21	Asset revaluation surplus	30
22	Commitments for expenditure	30
23	Contingent liabilities	31
24	Superannuation – regional defined benefit fund	31
25	Reconciliation of Operating Result	32
26	Reconciliation of liabilities arising from finance activities	33
27	Prior Year Adjustment	33
28	Events after the reporting period	35
29	Financial instruments and financial risk management	35
30	National competition policy	37
31	Transactions with related parties	38

## **Management Certificate**

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

## **General Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

### **Contents**

## **Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025**

### **Audited ratios**

Certificate of Accuracy (audited ratios)
Independent Auditor's Report - Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement
Contextual ratios - unaudited
Certificate of Accuracy (contextual ratios - unaudited)

## Unaudited Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement prepared as at 30 June 2025

Certificate of Accuracy - Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement

## **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Natas	2025 \$ '000	2024 · \$ '000
	Notes	\$ 000	\$ 000
Income			
Recurrent revenue			
Rates, levies and charges	3a	42,014	38,962
Fees and charges	3b	2,420	2,103
Sales revenue Grants, subsidies and contributions	3c 3d(i)	6,780 35,934	5,453 12,197
Total recurrent revenue	3u(I)	87,148	58,715
Other income			
Rental income	16	857	788
Interest income	4a	4,419	4,432
Other income	4b	680	563
Total other income		5,956	5,783
Total operating revenue		93,104	64,498
Capital income			
Grants, subsidies and contributions	3d(ii)	28,773	18,095
Capital income	5	120	360
Total capital income		28,893	18,455
Total income		121,997	82,953
Expenses			
Recurrent expenses			
Employee benefits	6	19,786	19,005
Materials and services	7	38,815 317	28,915
Finance costs  Penragiation and amortication:	8	317	329
Depreciation and amortisation: - Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13	13,030	12,510
- Intangible assets	14	89	121
Total recurrent expenses		72,037	60,880
Other expenses			
Capital expenses	9	1,458	2,999
Total other expenses		1,458	2,999
Total expenses		73,495	63,879
Net result		48,502	19,074
Other comprehensive income			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the net result	40	145.070	20 500
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	13	115,972	29,599
Total other comprehensive income for the year		115,972	29,599
Total comprehensive income for the year		164,474	48,673

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and material accounting policies.

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{(*)}}$  Comparative figures have been restated. Refer to Note 27 for further information

## **Statement of Financial Position**

as at 30 June 2025

		2025	2024 .
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	66,574	68,372
Short term investments	10	34,500	15,000
Receivables	11	9,349	4,913
Inventories	12	1,558	1,686
Contract assets	15	14,523	12,834
Total current assets		126,504	102,805
Non-current assets			
Receivables	11	83	47
Property, plant and equipment	13	906,428	758,709
Intangible assets	14	348	437
Total non-current assets		906,859	759,193
Total Assets		1,033,363	861,998
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Payables	17	10,797	13,168
Contract liabilities	15	18,556	10,212
Borrowings	18	450	431
Provisions	19	4,686	4,475
Other liabilities	20	186	178
Total current liabilities		34,675	28,464
Non-current liabilities		2 620	1 100
Payables Borrowings	17	2,629 5,677	1,183 6,059
Provisions	18 19	1,840	2,038
Other liabilities	20	198	384
Total non-current liabilities	20	10,344	9,664
Total Liabilities		45,019	38,128
Net community assets		988,344	823,870
Community equity		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,
Asset revaluation surplus		395,405	279,433
Retained surplus		592,939	544,437
Total community equity		988,344	823,870
7 1 7			

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and material accounting policies.

<sup>(\*)</sup> Comparative figures have been restated. Refer to Note 27 for further information

## **Statement of Changes in Equity**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	Asset revaluation surplus \$ '000	Retained surplus \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000
Balance as at 1 July 2024		279,433	544,437	823,870
Net result		-	48,502	48,502
Other comprehensive income for the year Increase in asset revaluation surplus	13	115,972	_	115,972
Total comprehensive income for the year		115,972	48,502	164,474
Balance as at 30 June 2025		395,405	592,939	988,344
		Asset revaluation surplus	Retained surplus	Total equity
	Notes	revaluation		
Balance as at 1 July 2023	Notes	revaluation surplus	surplus <sup>*</sup> Restated	equity Restated
Balance as at 1 July 2023  Net result	Notes	revaluation surplus \$ '000	surplus ' Restated \$ '000	equity Restated
	Notes 13	revaluation surplus \$ '000	surplus Restated \$ '000	equity Restated \$ '000

279,433

544,437

823,870

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and material accounting policies.

Balance as at 30 June 2024

<sup>(\*)</sup> Comparative figures have been restated. Refer to Note 27 for further information

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		47,812	49,335
Payments to suppliers and employees		(58,679)	(52,544)
Interest received		3,921	4,565
Non capital grants and contributions		47,983	16,742
Borrowing costs		(235)	(245)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities	25	40,802	17,853
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		243	362
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations		22,243	8,057
Net movement in short term investments		(19,500)	6,000
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(45,150)	(34,470)
Net cash inflow (outflow) from investing activities		(42,164)	(20,051)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings		(404)	(393)
Other financing activity payments		(32)	(30)
Net cash flow inflow (outflow) from financing activities		(436)	(423)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		(1,798)	(2,621)
plus: cash and cash equivalents - beginning		68,372	70,993
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	10	66,574	68,372

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and material accounting policies.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 1. Information about these financial statements

#### (a) Basis of preparation

Mareeba Shire Council ("Council") is constituted under the *Queensland Local Government Act 2009* and is domiciled in Australia.

These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. They are prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Council is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes and these financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as applicable to not-for-profit entities.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment which are measured at fair value.

### (b) Recurrent/capital classification

Revenue and expenditure are presented as "recurrent" or "capital" in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on the following basis: Capital revenue includes grants and subsidies received which are tied to specific projects for the replacement or upgrade of existing non-current assets and/or investment in new assets. It also includes non-cash contributions which are usually infrastructure assets received from developers.

The following transactions are classified as either "capital income" or "capital expenses" depending on whether they result in accounting gains or losses:

- · disposal of non-current assets
- · discount rate adjustments to restoration provisions
- revaluations of property, plant and equipment (Note 13)

### (c) New and revised Accounting Standards adopted during the year

Council adopted all standards which became mandatorily effective for annual reporting periods beginning on 1 July 2024.

The relevant standards for Council were:

- AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (amended by AASB 2020-1, AASB 2020-6, AASB 2022-6, AASB 2023-3) relating to current / non-current classification of liabilities
- AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement (amended by AASB 2022-10)

### (d) Standards issued by the AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations which are not mandatorily effective at 30 June 2025, these standards have not been adopted by Council and will be included in the financial statements on their effective date. The standards are not expected to have a material impact for Council.

Council has assessed all the standards / interpretations currently issued which are not yet effective and have determined that there is no expected material impact on the reported financial position or performance.

#### (e) Estimates and Judgements

Council makes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements. These are based on the best information available to Council at the time, however due to the passage of time, these assumptions may change and therefore the recorded balances may not reflect the final outcomes. The significant judgements, estimates and assumptions relate to the following items and specific information is provided in the relevant note:

- · Revenue Note 3
- Valuation, impairment and depreciation of property, plant and equipment Note 13
- Provisions Note 19
- · Contingent liabilities Note 23
- Financial instruments and financial risk management Note 29

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 1. Information about these financial statements (continued)

## (f) Rounding and Comparatives

The financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000 or, where that amount is \$500 or less, to zero, unless otherwise stated. Council uses the Australian dollar as its functional currency and its presentation currency. Comparative information is generally restated for reclassifications, errors and changes in accounting policies unless permitted otherwise by transition rules in a new Accounting Standard. The comparative figures have been restated, refer to Note 27 for further information.

## (g) Volunteer Services

Council utilises volunteers in the following services:

- Kuranda Visitor Information Centre
- Mareeba Library Service
- · Advisory Committees to Council:
  - Regional Arts Development Fund
  - Multicultural Festival
  - Great Wheelbarrow Race

Council's volunteers perform a range of unpaid activities. Their contributions to Council would not have been purchased if they had not been donated, hence their contributions cannot be readily identifiable and measured at fair value as they cannot be reliably measured.

### (h) Taxation

Council is exempt from income tax, however Council is subject to Fringe Benefits Tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST) and payroll tax on certain activities. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 2. Analysis of results by function

### (a) Components of Council functions

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

#### Governance and corporate services

The objective of governance and corporate services is for Council to be open, accountable, transparent, and to deliver value for money on community outcomes, provide accurate, timely and appropriate information to support sound decision making and meet statutory requirements.

The Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive Officer are included in governance.

The corporate services function includes: finance, information services, record management and human resources. Roles within this function include budget support, financial accounting, customer service and information technology services.

#### Community services

The goal of community services is to ensure Council is a healthy, vibrant, contemporary and connected community. Community services provide well managed and maintained community facilities, and ensure the effective delivery of cultural, health, welfare, environmental, recreational services and the promotion of tourism.

This function includes:

- Libraries
- · Environmental licences and approvals

#### Planning and development

This function facilitates the Shire's growth and prosperity through well planned and quality development. The objective of planning and development is to ensure the Mareeba Shire is well designed, efficient and facilitates growth yet also preserves the character and natural environment of the Shire. This function includes activities and services related to neighbourhood and regional planning, and management of development approval processes.

#### Works infrastructure

The objective of the works infrastructure program is to ensure the community is serviced by a quality and effective road network. This function provides and maintains transport infrastructure, including the maintenance and provision of the drainage network and provides maintenance for all parks and gardens.

### Waste management

The goal of this function is to protect and support our community and natural environment by sustainably managing refuse. This function provides refuse collection and disposal services.

#### Water infrastructure

The goal of this program is to support a healthy, safe community through sustainable water services. This function manages the supply of water to the community.

#### Sewerage infrastructure

This function protects and supports the health of our community by sustainably managing sewerage services including maintaining infrastructure for sewerage collection and treatment.

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 2. Analysis of results by function (continued)

## (b) Income, expenses and assets attributed to Council functions

		Gross program	income			Gross program e	xpenses		Net result from		
	Recurring grants	Recurring other	Capital grants	Capital other	Total income	Recurring	Capital	Total expenses	recurring operations	Net result	Tota assets
Functions	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
2025											
Governance and corporate											
services	13,280	24,903	9,594	_	47,777	(3,843)	(940)	(4,783)	34,340	42,994	314,279
Community services	2,544	1,660	_	_	4,204	(10,381)	_	(10,381)	(6,177)	(6,177)	-
Planning and development	_	1,524	_	_	1,524	(1,423)	_	(1,423)	101	101	_
Works infrastructure	19,837	6,124	13,470	120	39,551	(39,815)	_	(39,815)	(13,854)	(264)	531,668
Waste management	256	6,214	_	_	6,470	(5,110)	_	(5,110)	1,360	1,360	7,271
Water infrastructure	17	9,533	4,137	_	13,687	(6,570)	(29)	(6,599)	2,980	7,088	84,255
Sewerage infrastructure	_	7,212	1,572	_	8,784	(4,895)	(489)	(5,384)	2,317	3,400	95,890
Total	35,934	57,170	28,773	120	121,997	(72,037)	(1,458)	(73,495)	21,067	48,502	1,033,363
2024											
Restated					_			_	_	_	
Governance and corporate											
services	543	22,039	_	_	22,582	(7,100)	(1,819)	(8,919)	15,482	13,663	278,229
Community services	515	1,452	_	_	1,967	(7,743)	(315)	(8,058)	(5,776)	(6,091)	-
Planning and development	_	1,369	_	-	1,369	(1,105)	_	(1,105)	264	264	-
Works infrastructure	11,068	5,142	13,989	360	30,559	(29,768)	_	(29,768)	(13,558)	791	414,970
Waste management	54	5,911	_	_	5,965	(5,219)	_	(5,219)	746	746	6,582
Water infrastructure	17	9,362	2,406	_	11,785	(5,597)	(721)	(6,318)	3,782	5,467	73,686
Sewerage infrastructure	_	7,026	1,700	_	8,726	(4,348)	(144)	(4,492)	2,678	4,234	88,531
Total	12,197	52,301	18,095	360	82,953	(60,880)	(2,999)	(63,879)	3,618	19,074	861,998

for the year ended 30 June 2025

### Note 3. Revenue

2025	2024
\$ '000	\$ '000

## (a) Rates, levies and charges

Rates, levies and charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

General rates	23,807	21,708
Separate rates	302	330
Water	6,161	5,810
Water consumption, rental and sundries	2,735	2,612
Sewerage	6,517	6,127
Waste management	4,914	4,607
Total rates and utility charge revenue	44,436	41,194
Less: discounts	(2,018)	(1,836)
Less: pensioner remissions	(404)	(396)
Total rates, levies and charges	42,014	38,962

### (b) Fees and charges

Revenue arising from fees and charges are recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of service or in some cases, the customers required to pay on arrival. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences are recognised at the time the licence is granted rather than over the term of the licence.

Revenue from infringements is recognised on issue of infringement notice after applying the expected credit loss model relating to impairment of receivables for initial recognition of statutory receivables.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Fines, penalties and infringements	161	110
Permits, licences and registrations	345	290
Applications	239	191
Cemetery services	314	326
Building/plumbing domestic applications	214	167
Building/plumbing commercial applications	18	26
Water, wastewater and waste fees	742	603
Other fees and charges	387	390
Total fees and charges	2,420	2,103

for the year ended 30 June 2025

### Note 3. Revenue (continued)

### (c) Sales revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods and materials is recognised at the point in time that the customer obtains control of the goods, generally at delivery. Revenue from services is recognised when the service is rendered.

Proceeds from the sale of land held for development, less the cost of the land sold are recognised in revenue on the signing of a valid unconditional contract of sale (Note 12).

Council generates revenues from contract and recoverable works, which generally comprises a recoupment of material costs together with an hourly charge for use of equipment and employees. Contract revenue and associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity based on costs incurred at the reporting date. Revenue is measured at the fair value of contract received or receivable in relation to that activity. Where consideration is received for the service in advance it is included in other liabilities and is recognised as revenue in the period when the service is performed.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Rendering of services		
Contract and recoverable works	5,729	4,409
Total sale of services	5,729	4,409
Sale of goods		
Sale of scrap / surplus plant	123	162
Sale of goods / materials	47	42
Net revenue from sales of land held for development	881	840
Total sale of goods	1,051	1,044
Total sales revenue	6,780	5,453

#### (d) Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

#### Grant income under AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied.

The performance obligations vary in each agreement. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others. Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, revenue is recognised using either costs or time incurred.

#### Grant income under AASB 1058

Assets arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 is recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 3. Revenue (continued)

#### Capital grants

Where Council receives funding under an enforceable contract to acquire or construct a specified item of property, plant and equipment which will be under Council's control on completion, revenue is recognised as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed. For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred.

#### Donations and contributions

Where assets are donated or purchased for significantly below fair value, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the council.

Donations and contributions are generally recognised on receipt of the asset since there are no enforceable performance obligations.

Physical assets contributed to Council by developers in the form of road works, stormwater, water and wastewater infrastructure and park equipment are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control of the asset and there is sufficient data in the form of drawings and plans to determine the approximate specifications and values of such assets. Non-cash contributions with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds are recognised as non-current assets. Those below the thresholds are recorded as expenses.

	2025	2024 Restated	
	\$ '000	\$ '000	
(i) On a wating	,	,	
(i) Operating			
State government subsidies and grants	711	559	
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	13,199	412	
Disaster recovery funding arrangements (DRFA)	19,777	10,946	
Contributions	2,247	280	
Total recurrent grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	35,934	12,197	

The Financial Assistance Grant is provided by the Commonwealth under the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 (Commonwealth) and is recognised upon receipt according to accounting standards. In 2024/25 Council received its full allocation of the financial assistance grant for the corresponding financial year (\$8.6 million) as well as a 50% advance of the 2025/26 allocation (\$4.5 million). In the 2023/24 financial year, Council received 4% of the Commonwealth financial assistance grant allocation as 96% of the advance grant funding was received in 2022/23.

20:	25 2024
	Restated
\$ '0	000 \$ '000

#### (ii) Capital

Capital revenue includes grants and subsidies received which are tied to specific projects for the replacement or upgrade of existing non-current assets and/or investment of new assets. It also included non-cash contributions which are usually infrastructure assets received from developers. Council received a significant amount of capital grants during the year in response to declared disaster events in previous years. These grants were provided to support reconstruction activities to essential public assets.

State government subsidies and grants	19,720	13,165
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	7,268	3,078
Donated assets	1,208	1,015
Contributions	577	837
Total capital grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	28,773	18,095

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 3. Revenue (continued)

### (iii) Timing of revenue recognition for grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

	2025		202	4
	Revenue recognised at a point in time \$ '000	Revenue recognised over time \$ '000	Revenue recognised at a point in time \$ '000	Revenue recognised over time \$ '000
Grants and subsidies	16,528	44,147	2,198	25,962
Donated assets	1,208	_	1,015	_
Contributions	2,824	_	1,117	_
	20,560	44,147	4,330	25,962

## Note 4. Interest and other income

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Interest income		
Interest received from term deposits	1,299	1,118
Interest from overdue rates and utility charges	231	177
Interest received from Queensland Treasury Corporation	2,889	3,137
Total interest income	4,419	4,432

## (b) Other income

Council's main source of 'other income' is animal impounding, legal recoveries, fuel rebates and various other income sources.

Animal impounding	20	12
Legal recoveries	135	186
Fuel rebates	98	84
Other income	427	281
Total other income	680	563

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Total full time equivalent employees

## Note 5. Capital income

		2025	2024
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Gain / loss on disposal of non-current assets			
·		75	262
Proceeds from the disposal of property, plant and equipment	40	75 (123)	362
Less: carrying value of disposed property, plant and equipment	13	(123) (48)	(2) 360
		(40)	300
(b) Other			
Insurance Recoveries		168	_
		168	_
Total capital income	_	120	360
Note 6. Employee benefits			
		2025	2024
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
	140103	<u> </u>	<b>4</b> 000
Staff wages and salaries		17,662	17,239
Councillors' remuneration		606	543
Termination benefits		480	208
Superannuation	24	2,035	1,999
		20,783	19,989
Other employee related expenses		228	231
		21,011	20,220
Less: capitalised employee expenses		(1,225)	(1,215)
Total Employee benefits		19,786	19,005
Councillor remuneration represents salaries paid in respect of carrying of	out their duties.		,
		2025	2024
		Number	Number
Additional information:			
Total full time equivalent Council employees at the reporting date:			
Elected members		7	7
Administration staff		89	97
Depot and outdoors staff		95	97

201

191

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 7. Materials and services

	2025	2024
		Restated
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Audit of annual financial statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland*	136	131
Communications and IT	1,700	1,224
All contractors excluding hire of plant	27,058	20,147
Donations paid	663	401
Electricity	1,590	1,046
Rent, rates and leasing expenses	332	318
Insurance	383	397
Bulk water purchase	757	551
Fuels and oils	577	664
Goods and materials	4,033	2,672
Legal	285	274
Licences, fees, subscriptions and memberships	660	534
Professional/consultancy services	151	311
Other materials and services	490	245
Total materials and services	38,815	28,915

<sup>\*</sup>Total audit fees quoted by the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2024/25 financial statements are \$135,500 (2023/24: \$131,100).

## Note 8. Finance costs

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Finance costs charged by the Queensland Treasury Corporation	157	170
Unwinding of discount on provision for restoration	81	83
Interest on leases	1	_
Bank charges	78	76
Total finance costs	317	329

## Note 9. Capital expenses

		2025	2024
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
Write-off of buildings		6	1,042
Write-off of roads and bridges		911	599
Write-off of sewerage		489	234
Write-off of water		29	724
Write-off of drainage		23	67
Write-off of land and improvements		_	333
Total capital expenses		1,458	2,999

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 10. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash float	2	2
Petty cash	1	1
Cash at bank	565	2,426
Deposits at call	66,006	65,943
Balance per Statement of Financial Position	66,574	68,372
Balance per Statement of Cash Flows	66,574	68,372
Short term investments - current		
Term deposits	34,500	15,000
Total short term investments	34,500	15,000

### Restricted and internally allocated cash and cash equivalents

#### Unrestricted cash

Council is exposed to credit risk through its investments in the QTC Cash Fund. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio investing in a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with the QTC Cash Fund are capital guaranteed.

Cash and cash equivalents	66,574	68,372
Short term investments	34,500	15,000
Less: externally imposed restrictions on cash	(18,556)	(1,189)
Unrestricted cash	82,518	82,183

Council's cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

# (i) Externally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date relate to the following cash assets:

Unspent government grants and subsidies	18,556	1,189
Waste levy refund received in advance	384	563
Total externally imposed restrictions on cash assets	18,940	1,752
(ii) Internal allocations of cash at the reporting date: Internal allocations of cash may be lifted by a Council with a resolution.		
Constrained works	7,661	7,819
Future capital works	38,960	30,513
Future non-capital works	3,030	2,345
Total internally allocated cash	49,651	40,677

Cash at bank and cash on hand at 30 June 2025 includes \$384,430 received in advance from the State Government for the State Waste Levy for the years 2025/26 through to 2026/27. This money has been set aside to help fund the Council's future waste levy expenses through to 2026/27.

Cash and deposits at call are held in various financial institutions in normal term deposits and business cheque accounts. These financial institutions have a short term credit rating of between A1+ to A3.

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 10. Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

2024	2025
\$ '000	\$ '000

#### **Trust Funds**

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a separate trust bank account and separate accounting records are maintained for funds held on behalf of outside parties. Funds held in the trust account include those funds from the sale of land for arrears in rates, deposits for the contracted sale of land, security deposits lodged to guarantee performance and unclaimed monies (e.g. wages). The Council performs only a custodian role in respect of these monies and because the monies cannot be used for Council purposes, they are not considered revenue nor brought to account in the financial statements since Council has no control over the assets.

#### Trust funds held for outside parties

Monies collected or held on behalf of other entities yet to be paid out to or on behalf of		
those entities	1,325	1,198
	1,325	1,198

### Note 11. Receivables

Settlement of receivables is required within 30 days from invoice date.

Receivables are measured at amortised cost which approximates fair value at reporting date.

Rates and Charges: Council is empowered under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* to sell an owner's property to recover outstanding rate debts and therefore the expected credit loss is immaterial. Impairment of rates and charges will occur only if arrears are deemed to be greater than the proceeds Council would receive from the sale of the respective property.

Other Debtors: Council identifies other debtors as receivables that are not rates and charges or government receivables for community organisation loans.

Government Receivables: Federal and State government organisations that are a statutory receivables to Council; these monies are guaranteed and payments are made to Council in the required timeframes. Historical data has shown no history of defaults by government agencies and therefore no material risk in default.

Loans to community organisations are recognised at their face value. Terms are for a maximum of 10 years with no interest charged. Security is not normally obtained.

	2025	2024
	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Current		
Rateable revenue and utility charges	2,757	1,970
GST recoverable	922	886
Accrued income	5,069	985
Prepayments	946	1,067
Other debtors	553	559
Loans and advances to community organisations	29	5
Total	10,276	5,472
less: Provision for impairment		
Provision for doubtful debts	(927)	(559)
Total provision for impairment - receivables	(927)	(559)
Total current receivables	9,349	4,913

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 11. Receivables (continued)

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Non-current		
Loans and advances to community organisations	83	47
Total non-current receivables	83	47

The impairment of receivables reflects the unpaid rates for mining leases. Council acts in accordance with its Debt Recovery Policy and current internal processes that are in place to retreive the outstanding debts.

Interest is charged on outstanding rates in accordance with section 133 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. No interest is charged on other debtors. Council applies normal business credit protection procedures prior to providing goods or services to minimise credit risk. There is no concentration of credit risk for rates and utility charges, fees and other debtors receivable.

The council does not require collateral in respect of trade and other receivables.

## Note 12. Inventories

#### Stores and raw materials

Costs are assigned on the basis of weighted average cost except for land where the cost is allocated to the relevant parcel.

#### Land held for resale

Land acquired by Council with the intention of reselling it (with or without further development) is classified as inventory.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Inventories held for sale		
Miscellaneous saleable items	4	4
(b) Inventories held for distribution		
Plant and equipment stores	883	877
(c) Land purchased for development and sale		
Land	671	805
Total inventories	1,558	1,686

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 13. Property, plant and equipment

				Road, drainage			Other		
	Land	Buildings	Plant and fleet	and bridge network	Water	Sewerage	infrastructure	Work in progress	Tota
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	work in progress	\$ '000
	<b>\$ 000</b>	<b>\$ 000</b>	\$ 000	<b>\$ 000</b>	φ 000	φ 000	<b>\$ 000</b>	\$ 000	ψ 000
2025									
Measurement basis	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	
Fair value category	Level 2 & 3	Level 3		Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	
Opening gross balance at 1 July	18,816	105,235	7,258	534,299	128,180	125,800	48,219	66,935	1,034,742
Additions	_	_	_	908	106	193	_	45,151	46,358
Disposals	_	(17)	(409)	(1,063)	(147)	(895)	(9)	_	(2,540)
Revaluation increments to equity (ARS)	_	7,577	_	106,544	_	_	_	_	114,121
Work in progress transfers	_	60	1,794	8,304	12,157	9,636	382	(32,333)	-
Total gross value of property, plant and									
equipment at 30 June	18,816	112,855	8,643	648,992	140,296	134,734	48,592	79,753	1,192,681
Opening accumulated depreciation and									
impairment at 1 July	_	34,962	4,210	127,531	54,495	37,269	17,566	_	276,033
Depreciation expense	_	1,603	405	6,251	1,664	1,980	1,127	_	13,030
Depreciation on disposals	_	(11)	(287)	(128)	(118)	(406)	(9)	_	(959)
Revaluation increments (decrements) to equity (ARS)		2,632		(4,483)					(1,851)
Total accumulated depreciation and impairment property, plant and equipment at									
30 June	_	39,186	4,328	129,171	56,041	38,843	18,684	_	286,253
Total net book value of property, plant and equipment	18,816	73,669	4,315	519,821	84,255	95,891	29,908	79,753	906,428
-	*		·		·	·			·
Other information Range of estimated useful life (years) *Asset additions comprise	Not depreciated	11-185	1-16	10-130	5-150	7-200	5-120	Not depreciated	
Asset renewals	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	12,502	12,502
Other additions	_	_	_	908	106	193	_	32,649	33,856
Total asset additions	_	_	_	908	106	193	_	45,151	46,358

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 13. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

				Road, drainage and bridge			Other infrastructure		
	Land	Buildings	Plant and fleet	network	Water	Sewerage		Work in progress Restated	Total
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
2024									
Measurement basis	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	
Fair value category	Level 2 & 3	Level 3		Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	
Opening gross balance at 1 July	15,819	86,899	6,866	531,655	115,523	113,209	43,945	33,921	947,837
Additions	_	_	_	472	161	382	_	42,788	43,803
Disposals	(402)	(1,508)	(169)	(902)	(1,942)	(476)	(37)	_	(5,436)
Revaluation increments to equity (ARS)	3,399	19,016	_	_	11,522	11,574	3,106	_	48,617
Work in progress transfers	_	927	561	3,074	2,916	1,111	1,106	(9,774)	(79)
Total gross value of property, plant and									
equipment at 30 June	18,816	105,334	7,258	534,299	128,180	125,800	48,120	66,935	1,034,742
Opening accumulated depreciation and									
impairment at 1 July	=	24,572	4,005	121,458	49,193	32,341	15,299	=	246,868
Depreciation expense	-	1,535	371	6,308	1,489	1,727	1,080	-	12,510
Depreciation on disposals	_	(465)	(166)	(235)	(1,218)	(242)	(37)	-	(2,363)
Revaluation increments (decrements) to equity (ARS)		9,378	_	_	5,031	3,443	1,166	_	19,018
Total accumulated depreciation and impairment property, plant and equipment at									
30 June		35,020	4,210	127,531	54,495	37,269	17,508	_	276,033
Total net book value of property, plant and equipment	18.816	70,314	3,048	406.768	73.685	88,531	30.612	66,935	758,709
		. 0,0	0,0.0	,	. 0,000	33,331	33,3.2		
Other information Range of estimated useful life (years) *Asset additions comprise	Not depreciated	11-185	1-16	10-130	5-150	7-200	5-120	Not depreciated	
Asset renewals	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	10,807	10,807
Other additions	_	_	_	472	161	382	_	31,981	32,996
Total asset additions	_	_	_	472	161	382	_	42,788	43,803
				2				12,130	10,000

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 13. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

### (a) Recognition

Each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at amortised cost or fair value. Items of plant and equipment with a total value of less than \$5,000, and infrastructure assets and buildings with a total value of less than \$5,000 are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised.

Land under roads and reserve land under the *Land Act 1994* or the *Land Title Act 1994* is controlled by Queensland State Government and not recognised in Council's financial statements.

## (b) Measurement

Property, plant and equipment assets are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value (as shown in the table above) less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

## (c) Depreciation

Land is not depreciated as it has an unlimited useful life. Depreciation on other property, plant and equipment assets is calculated on a straight-line basis so as to write-off the net cost or revalued amount of each depreciable asset, less its estimated residual value, progressively over its estimated useful life to Council. Management believe that the straight-line basis appropriately reflects the pattern of consumption of all Council assets.

Depreciation methods, estimated useful lives and residual values of property, plant and equipment assets are reviewed at the end of each reporting period and adjusted where necessary to reflect any changes in the pattern of consumption, physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence, or management intentions. The condition assessments performed as part of the annual valuation process for assets measured at depreciated current replacement cost are used to estimate the useful lives of these infrastructure assets at each reporting date. Details of the range of estimated useful lives for each class of asset are shown in Note 13.

#### (d) Impairment

Property, plant and equipment held at cost is assessed for indicators of impairment annually. If an indicator of possible impairment exists, Council determines the asset's recoverable amount. Any amount by which the assets carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

### (e) Valuation

Land, buildings, roads, drainage, bridges, water, sewerage and other infrastructure assets are measured on the revaluation basis, at fair value, in accordance with AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment. Plant and fleet, and work in progress are measured at cost.

Non-current physical assets measured at fair value are revalued, where required, so that the carrying amount of each class of asset does not materially differ from its fair value at the reporting date. This is achieved by engaging independent, professionally qualified valuers to determine the fair value for each class of property, plant and equipment assets at least once every 5 years. This process involves the valuer physically sighting a representative sample of Council assets across all asset classes and making their own assessments of the condition of the assets at the date of inspection.

In the intervening years, Council uses internal engineers and asset managers to assess the condition and cost assumptions associated with all infrastructure assets, the results of which are considered in combination with an appropriate cost index for the region. Together these are used to form the basis of a management valuation for infrastructure asset classes in each of the intervening years. With respect to the valuation of the land and improvements, buildings and major plant asset classes in the intervening years, management engage independent, professionally qualified valuers to perform a "desktop" valuation. A desktop valuation involves management providing updated information to the valuer regarding additions, deletions and changes in assumptions such as useful life, residual value and condition rating. The valuer then determines suitable indices which are applied to each of these asset classes.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 13. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Fair values are classified into three levels as follows:

Level 1 - fair value based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 - fair value based on inputs that are directly or indirectly observable, such as prices for similar assets for the asset or liability

Level 3 - fair value based from data unobservable in the market

There were no transfers between levels during the year.

#### Valuation techniques used to derive level 2 and level 3 fair values

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Land and improvements (level 2 and level 3)	Market approach by direct comparison	30/06/24	APV Valuers & Asset Management	APV asset revaluation index applied 0%	Nil

#### Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)

- Current zoning
- Sales transactions of other properties (price per square metre of land area) within the region adjusted for differences between key attributes of the properties.

Buildings (level 3)	Current replacement cos	30/06/24 t	APV Valuers & Asset Management	APV civic building construction costs index applied	Nil
				7.2%	

#### Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)

- Actual construction or purchase prices for recent projects paid by Council
- Appropriate APV Valuers & Asset Management database record details of actual cost from recent projects that are sourced directly from Rawlinson's Construction Guide or similar (such as Cordells)
- · Benchmarking against other valuations

Roads (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/25	APV Valuers & Asset Management	N/A	Nil
Drainage (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/21	APV Valuers & Asset Management	APV asset revaluation index applied 6.5%	Nil
Bridges (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/22	APV Valuers & Asset Management	APV asset revaluation index applied 9.8%	Nil
Kerb and Channel (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/23	APV Valuers & Asset Management	APV asset revaluation index applied 9.0%	Nil
Footpaths (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/21	Australis Advisory Group	APV asset revaluation index applied 13.7%	Nil

## Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)

Characterisation of assets

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 13. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

		Last		Index applied (change in index	Other interim
Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	recognised this year)	revaluation adjustment

- · Unit rates were established from listed data sources and verified with recent projects where possible
- Cost guide unit rates were based on the Brisbane Metro area and factors applied to adjust for regional location where primary local project data was not available.
- The roads asset class was comprehensively revalued by APV Valuers & Asset Management in the 2024/25 financial
  year.

Water and sewerage assets	Current	31/12/22	Australis Advisory	N/A	Nil
(level 3)	replacement cost		Group		

#### Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)

- · Rates assume an incremental Greenfields approach and exclude Brownfield cost components
- Council engineering team involved when developing replacement costs and relied on combination of sources, cost guides, historical costs, contractor rates, future works and regional information
- Location factor applied to unit rates
- No indexation was applied in the 2024/25 financial year as the index did not meet Council materiality threshold of 5%.

Other infrastructure assets (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/19	APV Valuers & Asset	N/A	Nil
(.0.0.0)	ropiacomoni coci		Management		

#### Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)

- Actual construction or purchase prices for recent projects paid by Council
- Benchmarking against other valuations
- No indexation was applied in the 2024/25 financial year as the index did not meet Council materiality threshold of 5%.

for the year ended 30 June 2025

# Note 14. Intangible assets

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Intangible assets are as follows:		
Software		
Opening gross carrying value	2,826	2,746
Additions	-	80
Closing gross carrying value	2,826	2,826
Opening accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,389)	(2,268)
Amortisation charges	(89)	(121)
Closing accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,478)	(2,389)
Net carrying value at end of financial year	348	437
Total intangible assets - net book value <sup>1</sup>	348	437

<sup>(1)</sup> The software has a finite life estimated at 10 years. Straight line amortisation has been used with no residual value.

## Note 15. Contract balances

	0005	0004
	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Contract assets		
Current		
Contract assets	14,523	12,834
Total current contract assets	14,523	12,834

## (b) Contract liabilities

Where Council has invoiced the customer or the grantor amounts in excess of what it has incurred in relation to a contract or in constructing an asset, this gives rise to a contract liability.

### Current

Grants received upfront to construct Council controlled assets Non-capital performance obligations not yet satisfied Total current contract liabilities	8,248 10,308 18,556	9,930 282 10,212
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year		

Funds to construct Council controlled assets	9,930	5,485
Non-capital performance obligations	282	215
Total revenue included in the contract liability	10,212	5,700

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 15. Contract balances (continued)

#### Satisfaction of contract liabilities

The contract liabilities in relation to capital grants relate to funding received prior to the work being performed since revenue is recognised as Council constructs the assets. Council expects to recognise the contract liability as income in the next year.

#### (c) Significant changes in contract balances

The changes in contract liabilities are mainly due to Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) restoration works and the receipt of advance payments ahead of the completion of the related works.

#### Note 16. Leases

#### Council as a lessee

Council does not separate lease and non-lease components for any class of assets and has accounted for lease payments as a single component.

The right of use asset is measured using the cost model. The right of use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

Council has made an assessment that no right of use assets and associated lease liabilities have been identified in the leases where Council is a lessee.

#### **Exceptions to lease accounting**

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Council has reviewed commitments for expenditure as previously reported and has not identified any commitments required to be recognised under AASB 16 Leases. Refer to Note 22 for commitments for expenditure.

#### Leases at significantly below market value / concessionary leases

Council has a number of leases at significantly below market value for land and buildings which are used for:

- Visitor centre
- Community halls
- · Sporting facilities

The leases can range between 10 to 30 year terms and require payments of \$1 per annum if demanded. The use of right of use assets is restricted by the lessors to specified community services which Council must provide, these services are detailed in the leases.

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated liability at initial recognition. Council does not believe that these leases are individually material.

#### Council as a lessor

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components, then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 16. Leases (continued)

2025	2024
\$ '000	\$ '000

### **Operating leases**

Where Council retains the risk and rewards relating to a lease, the lease is classified as an operating lease.

#### The minimum lease receipts are as follows:

Not later than one year	711	412
Between one and five years	3,139	1,909
Later than five years	3,434	3,785
Total lease receipts	7,284	6,106

The relevant assets are included in Property, Plant and Equipment (Note 13) as the rental is incidental or the asset is held to meet Council service delivery.

Lease and rental income	857	788
Total operating lease income (rental income)	857	788

## Note 17. Payables

2025	2024
\$ '000	\$ '000

Creditors are recognised when goods or services are received, at the amount owed. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

#### Current

Creditors	5,253	4,595
Accrued expenses	5,396	6,993
Other entitlements	148	134
Security deposit (capping of landfill)	_	1,446
Total current payables	10,797	13,168
Non-current		
Security deposit (capping of landfill)	2,629	1,183
Total non-current payables	2 629	1 183

#### Security deposit (capping of landfill)

The Second Waste Disposal Agreement with Veolia, dated 19 June 2017 provides for Council to charge a security deposit per tonnage. Under that contract, the security deposit is accessible by Council in the event that Veolia fails to fulfil their landfill capping obligations. An apportionment of the security deposit is to be refunded once the capping of the landfill commences.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 18. Borrowings

Interest is expensed as accrued, no interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. Expected final repayment dates vary from 16 March 2036 to 15 June 2040.

Council adopts an annual debt policy that sets out Council's planned borrowings for the next ten years. Council's current policy is to only borrow for capital projects and for a term no longer than the expected life of the asset. Council also aims to comply with the Queensland Treasury Corporation's (QTC) borrowing guidelines and ensure that sustainability indicators remain within acceptable levels at all times.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Current		
Loans - QTC	420	410
Loans - Other	30	21
Total current borrowings	450	431
Non-current		
Loans - QTC	5,646	6,059
Loans - Other	31	_
Total non-current borrowings	5,677	6,059

The QTC loan market value at the reporting date was \$5,248,885. This represents the value of the debt if Council repaid it at that date. As it is the intention of Council to hold the debt for its term, no adjustment is required to be made in these accounts.

No assets have been pledged as security by Council for any liabilities, however all loans are guaranteed by the Queensland Government. There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the 2024/25 financial year.

All borrowings are in \$A denominated amounts and carried at amortised cost.

#### Note 19. Provisions

#### Annual Leave

A liability for annual leave is recognised. Amounts expected to be settled within 12 months are calculated on current wage and salary levels and include related employee on-costs. Amounts not expected to be settled within 12 months are calculated on projected future wage and salary levels and related employee on-costs, and are discounted to present values. This liability represents an accrued expense.

As Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the annual leave beyond 12 months after the reporting date, annual leave is classified as a current liability.

#### **Refuse Restoration**

A provision is made for the cost of restoring refuse dumps where it is probable Council will have an obligation to rehabilitate the site when the use of the facilities is complete.

The calculation of the provisions use assumptions including application of environmental legislation, site closure dates, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from amounts currently provided. The provisions are reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time.

Refuse restoration provision represents the present value of anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the dump sites, decontamination and monitoring of historical residues and leaching on these sites.

As refuse dumps are on state reserves which the Council does not control, the provision for restoration is treated as an expense in the year the provision is first recognised. Changes in the provision are treated as an expense or income.

The provision recognised for refuse sites is reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time. The provision for 2024/25 is for two sites in Mareeba. One Mareeba site was closed in the 2017/18

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 19. Provisions (continued)

financial year. The second site in Mareeba closed in the 2021/22 financial year, however Council is not financially responsible for the capping costs of this site, only the ongoing monitoring and maintenance costs.

#### Long Service Leave

A liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The value of the liability is calculated using current pay rates and projected future increases in those rates and includes related employee on-costs. The estimates are adjusted for the probability of the employee remaining in Council's employment or other associated employment which would result in Council being required to meet the liability. Adjustments are then made to allow for the proportion of the benefit earned to date, and the result is discounted to present value. The interest rates attaching to Commonwealth Government guaranteed securities at the reporting date are used to discount the estimated future cash outflows to their present value. The provision is discounted using the Commonwealth Bond yield rates published on the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning website.

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

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Current		
Annual leave	2,476	2,409
Long service leave	2,093	1,957
Refuse restoration	117	109
Total current provisions	4,686	4,475
Non-current		
Long service leave	173	258
Refuse restoration	1,667	1,780
Total non-current provisions	1,840	2,038
Details of movements in provisions		
Refuse restoration		
Balance at beginning of financial year	1,889	2,063
Increase due to unwinding of discount	81	82
Amounts used	(99)	(150)
Increase/(decrease) in provision due to change in rates	(87)	(106)
Balance at end of financial year	1,784	1,889

#### Note 20. Other liabilities

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Current		
Waste levy refund received in advance	186	178
Total current other liabilities	186	178
Non-current		
Waste levy refund received in advance	198	384
Total non-current other liabilities	198	384

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 20. Other liabilities (continued)

#### Waste levy received in advance

The State Government had made an advance payment to Council in June 2022, to mitigate the impact on households which took effect from 1 July 2022. In June 2023, another advance payment was made to pay four years' of worth of advance waste levy payments to councils for the years 2022/23 through to 2026/27. The apportioned amounts have been recognised as a current liability and non current liability respectively as at 30 June 2025.

## Note 21. Asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus (ARS) comprises revaluation movements on property, plant and equipment.

## Note 22. Commitments for expenditure

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
(a) Contractual commitments		
Contractual commitments at end of financial year but not recognised in the financial statements are as follows:		
Waste contracts	5,884	10,779
Cleaning and maintenance contracts	6,023	343
	11,907	11,122

## (b) Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

Commitment for the construction of the following assets contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities:

#### Property, plant and equipment

Transport	482	3,196
Water	750	3,274
Wastewater	5,424	1,281
Buildings	157	236
Plant and fleet	56	45
Other infrastructure	2,689	309
Total commitments	9,558	8,341
Total commitments  These expenditures are payable as follows:	9,558	8,341
	9,558	8,341 6,399
These expenditures are payable as follows:		· · ·

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 23. Contingent liabilities

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

#### **Local Government Mutual**

The Council is a member of the local government mutual liability self-insurance pool, LGM Queensland. In the event of the pool being wound up or it is unable to meet its debts as they fall due, the trust deed and rules provide that any accumulated deficit will be met by the individual pool members in the same proportion as their contribution is to the total pool contributions in respect to any year that a deficit arises.

As at 30 June 2024 the financial statements reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

#### **Local Government Workcare**

Council is a member of the Queensland local government worker's compensation self-insurance scheme, Local Government Workcare. Under this scheme Council has provided an indemnity towards a bank guarantee to cover bad debts which may remain should the self insurance licence be cancelled and there was insufficient funds available to cover outstanding liabilities. Only the Queensland Government's worker's compensation authority may call on any part of the guarantee should the above circumstances arise. The indemnity amount provided by Council as at 30 June 2025 in relation to the Local Government Workcare Bank Guarantee is \$496,666.

## Note 24. Superannuation - regional defined benefit fund

Council contributes to the Brighter Super Regional Defined Benefits Fund (the scheme), at the rate of 12% for each standard permanent employee who is a defined benefit member. This rate is set in accordance with the Brighter Super trust deed and may be varied on the advice of an actuary. The Regional Defined Benefits Fund is a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation and is also governed by the *Local Government Act 2009*. The scheme is managed by the Brighter Super trustee.

The scheme is a pooled defined benefit plan and it is not in accordance with the deed to allocate obligations, plan assets and costs at the Council level.

Any amount by which the scheme is over or under funded may affect future contribution rate obligations, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Council may be liable to the scheme for a portion of another local governments' obligations should that local government be unable to meet them, however the risk of this occurring is extremely low and in accordance with the Brighter Super trust deed changes to council's obligations will only be made on the advice of an actuary.

The last completed triennial actuarial assessment of the scheme as required under *Superannuation Prudential Standard 160* was undertaken as at 1 July 2024. The actuary indicated that "At the valuation date of 1 July 2024, the net assets of the scheme exceeded the vested benefits and the scheme was in a satisfactory financial position as at the valuation date." The measure of vested benefits represents the value of benefit entitlements should all participating employees voluntarily exit the scheme. The Council is not aware of anything that has happened since that time that indicates the assets of the scheme are not sufficient to meet the vested benefits as at the reporting date.

No changes have been made to prescribed employer contributions which remain at 12% of employee salary or wages and there are no known requirements to change the rate of contributions.

The next triennial actuarial review is not due until 1 July 2027.

The most significant risks that may result in Brighter Super increasing the contribution rate, on the advice of the actuary, are:

Investment risk - The risk that the scheme's investment returns will be lower than assumed and additional contributions are needed to fund the shortfall.

Salary growth risk - The risk that wages or salaries will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing vested benefits to be funded.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 24. Superannuation - regional defined benefit fund (continued)

		2025	2024
	Notes	\$ '000	\$ '000
Superannuation contributions made to the Regional Defined Benefits Fund		113	106
Other superannuation contributions for employees		1,922	1,893
Total superannuation contributions paid by Council for		.,,,	.,
employees	6	2,035	1,999
			,
Note 25. Reconciliation of Operating Result			
		2025	2024
		\$ '000	\$ '000
Net operating result from income statement	_	48,502	19,074
Non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation		13,119	12,631
Finance costs - unwinding of discount		81	83
Finance income - accrued income		(949)	(451)
Bad debts written off		393	370
		12,644	12,633
Investing and development activities			
Net (profit)/loss on disposal of assets		1,338	2,640
Capital grants and contributions		(27,565)	(17,080)
Donated assets		(1,208)	(1,015)
	_	(27,435)	(15,455)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
(Increase)/decrease in receivables		(3,915)	391
(Increase)/decrease in inventories		128	256
(Increase)/decrease in contract assets		2,023	(7,135)
Increase/(decrease) in payables		(1,103)	3,736
Increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities		10,026	4,367
Increase/(decrease) in provisions		(68)	(14)
	_	7,091	1,601
Net cash inflow/outflow from operating activities		40,802	17,853

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 26. Reconciliation of liabilities arising from finance activities

	As at 30/06/24			As at 30/06/25
	Opening Balance	Balance Cashflows leases)	changes (new leases)	Closing balance
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Loans	6,469	(404)	_	6,065
Loans - Other	21	(32)	73	62
	6,490	(436)	73	6,127

	As at 30/06/23		As at 30/06/24
	Opening Balance	Cashflows	Closing balance
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Loans	6,863	(393)	6,469
Loans - Other	51	(30)	21
	6,914	(423)	6,490

## Note 27. Prior Year Adjustment

#### Nature of prior-period error

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

In February 2022, Gamboola Crossing sustained damage during the Far North Queensland Low Pressure Trough event. Council subsequently secured funding from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) under the Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA) program. The funding and associated expenditure were initially recognised as operational revenue and operational expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2024.

During the year, Council identified that the works involved the construction of a new low level bridge to replace the damaged crossing, which was deemed non compliant and prone to flooding. The new structure was required to achieve compliance with Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation standards. As such, the works resulted in the creation of a new asset rather than a restoration of an existing asset. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the construction costs should have been capitalised as work in progress (property, plant and equipment) and the associated grant funding recognised as capital grant revenue.

The change in treatment has resulted in the reclassification of \$8.2 million of expenditure as capital rather than operational. Council has corrected this by restating the comparative figures in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, and relevant notes to the financial statements. The expenditure has been reclassified to work in progress, and the grant funding to capital revenue.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 27. Prior Year Adjustment (continued)

Adjustments impacting financial statement line items for the 2023/24 comparative year are presented below.

	2024 \$'000	2024 Adjustment \$'000	2024 Restated \$'000
Statement of comprehensive income (extract)			
Revenue Grants, subsidies and contributions	20,445	(0.240)	12,197
Total recurrent revenue	66,963	(8,248) (8,248)	58,715
Total operating revenue	72,746	(8,248)	64,498
Capital income	12,140	(0,240)	04,430
Grants, subsidies and contributions	9,847	8,248	18,095
Total capital income	10,207	8,248	18,455
Expenses			
Materials and services	37,163	(8,248)	28,915
Total recurrent expenses	69,128	(8,248)	60,880
Total expenses	72,127	(8,248)	63,879
Net result	10,826	8,248	19,074
	2024 \$'000	2024 Adjustment \$'000	2024 Restated \$'000
Statement of financial position (extract) Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	750,461	8,248	758,709
Total non-current assets	750,945	8,248	759,193
Total assets	853,750	8,248	861,998
Net community assets	815,622	8,248	823,870
Community equity			
Retained surplus	536,189	8,248	544,437
Total community equity	815,622	8,248	823,870
	2024	2024	2024
	\$'000	Adjustment \$'000	Restated \$'000
Statement of changes in equity (extract)			
Prior period adjustment for recognition of non-current asset			
Net result	10,826	8,248	19,074
Balance of retained surplus	536,189	8,248	544,437
Total equity	815,622	8,248	823,870

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 28. Events after the reporting period

There has not been any event that occurred after the end of the reporting period that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the current or future financial results of the Council.

## Note 29. Financial instruments and financial risk management

#### (a) Financial assets and financial liabilities

Council has exposure to the following risks arising from financial instruments; (i) market risk, (ii) credit risk, and (iii) liquidity risk.

This note provides information (both qualitative and quantitative) to assist statement users evaluate the significance of financial instruments on the Council's financial position and financial performance, including the nature and extent of risks and how the Council manages these exposures.

#### Risk management framework

Council is responsible for the establishment and oversight of the risk management framework, together with developing and monitoring risk management policies.

Council approves policies for overall risk management, as well as specifically for managing credit, liquidity and market risk.

Council's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced, to set appropriate limits and controls and to monitor these risks and adherence against limits. Council aims to manage volatility to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of Council.

Council's audit committee oversees how management monitors compliance with Council's risk management policies and procedures, and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by Council. Council's audit committee is assisted in its oversight role by internal audit. Internal audit undertakes both regular and ad hoc reviews of risk management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to the audit committee.

Council does not enter into derivatives.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. These obligations arise principally from Council's investments and receivables from customers.

Exposure to credit risk is managed through regular analysis of credit counterparty ability to meet payment obligations. Investments in financial instruments are required to be made with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) or similar state/commonwealth bodies or financial institutions in Australia, in line with the requirements of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.

The carrying amounts of financial assets at the end of the reporting period represent the maximum exposure to credit risk for the Council, refer to Notes 10 and 11.

Council does not require collateral in respect of trade and other receivables. Council does not have trade receivables for which no loss allowance is recognised because of collateral.

At reporting date, the exposure to credit risk for trade receivables by type of counterparty was as follows:

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 29. Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Property charges	2,757	1,970
GST recoverable	922	886
Community organisations	112	52
Other	19,219	18,747
Total	23,010	21,655

### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

Council's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stress conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Council's reputation.

#### Exposure to liquidity risk

Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its normal course of business and through its borrowings with the Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Council manages its exposure to liquidity risk by maintaining sufficient cash deposits to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows.

			_	Total	
	0 to 1	1 to 5	Over 5	contractual	Carrying
	year	years	years	cash flows	amount
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
2025					
Payables	10,983	198	2,629	13,810	13,810
Loans - QTC	560	2,242	4,266	7,068	6,066
Loans - other	30	31	_	61	61
	11,573	2,471	6,895	20,939	19,937
2024					
Payables	13,346	1,567	_	14,913	14,913
Loans - QTC	560	2,242	4,826	7,628	6,469
Loans - other	21	_	_	21	21
	13,927	3,809	4,826	22,562	21,403

The outflows in the above table are not expected to occur significantly earlier and are not expected to be for significantly different amounts than indicated in the table.

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market indices, such as interest rates, will affect the Council's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

#### Interest rate risk

Council is exposed to interest rate risk through investments and borrowings with QTC.

Council has access to a mix of variable and fixed rate funding options through QTC so that interest rate risk exposure can be minimised.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 29. Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

The impact of a reasonably priced change in interest rates (assumed to be 1%) would not be expected to have a material impact on Council's future profits or equity.

Council does not account for any fixed-rate financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, therefore a change in interest rates at the reporting date would not affect profit or loss.

#### (b) Fair value

The fair value of trade and other receivables and payables is assumed to approximate the value of the original transaction, less any allowance for impairment.

The fair value of borrowings with QTC is based on the market value of debt outstanding. The market value of a debt obligation is the discounted value of future cash flows based on prevailing market rates and represents the amount required to be repaid if this was to occur at balance date. The market value of debt is provided by QTC and is disclosed in Note 18.

QTC applies a book rate approach in the management of debt and interest rate risk, to limit the impact of market value movements to clients' cost of funding. The book value represents the carrying value based on amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## Note 30. National competition policy

Council applies the competitive code of conduct to the following activities:

- Water services
- · Sewerage services
- · Waste management
- Laboratory services
- Building services

This requires the application of full cost pricing, identifying the cost of community service obligations (CSO) and eliminating the advantages and disadvantages of public ownership within that activity.

The CSO value is determined by Council, and represents an activities cost(s) which would not be incurred if the primary objective of the activities was to make a profit. Council provides funding from general revenue to the business activity to cover the cost of providing non-commercial community services or costs deemed to be CSO's by Council.

#### The following activity statements are for activities subject to the competitive code of conduct:

	Water services 2025 \$'000	Sewerage services 2025 \$'000	Waste management 2025 \$'000	Laboratory services 2025 \$'000	Building services 2025 \$'000
Revenue for services provided to the Council	452	53	305	-	-
Revenue for services provided to external clients	9,550	7,212	6,329	116	-
Community service obligations	-	-	-	-	_
	10,002	7,265	6,634	116	-
Less: expenditure	7,022	4,948	5,274	321	7
Surplus (Deficit)	2,980	2,317	1,360	(205)	(7)

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 31. Transactions with related parties

#### (a) Key management personnel

#### Transactions with key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities either directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) at Council. KMP include the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and some executive management.

	2025	2024
	\$ '000	\$ '000
The compensation paid to key management personnel comprises:		
Short-term employee benefits	1,591	1,499
Post-employment benefits	161	146
Total	1,752	1,645

## (b) Other Related Parties

#### Transactions with other related parties

Other related parties include the close family members of KMP and any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members. Close family members include a spouse, child and dependent of a KMP or their spouse.

Details of transactions between Council and other related parties include:

Transaction type Additional information		2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by KMP	31(b)(i)	1,477	402
Employee expenses for close family members	31(b)(ii)	84	82
		1,561	484

(i) Council purchased the following material and services from entities that are controlled by members of KMP. All materials and services purchased from entities controlled by KMP were at arm's length and were in the normal course of Council operations.

	2025 \$ '000	2024 \$ '000
Transport Services	1	2
Minor Purchases (magazines and newspapers)	4	5
Waste Contract Services	1,472	395
	1,477	402

(ii) Council employs 191 full time equivalent employees of which 1 is a close family member of KMP. All close family members of KMP were employed through an arm's length process. They are paid in accordance with the Award for the job they perform.

### (c) Outstanding balances

There were no balances outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

## Note 31. Transactions with related parties (continued)

## (d) Loans and guarantees to/from related parties

Council does not make loans to or receive loans from related parties. No guarantees have been provided.

## (e) Commitments to/from other related parties

There were no commitments in the 2024/25 financial year.

## (f) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within the Mareeba Shire. Therefore on a regular basis, ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Some examples include:

- Payment of rates
- Dog registration
- Use of public pool
- Borrowing books from a Council library

Council has not included these types of transactions in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

## **General Purpose Financial Statements**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

#### **Management Certificate**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

These General Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared pursuant to sections 176 and 177 of the *Local Government Regulation* 2012 (the Regulation) and other prescribed requirements.

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation, we certify that:

- i. the prescribed requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulations 2012* for the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- ii. the general purpose financial statements, as set out on pages 1 to 39, present a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, of the Council's transactions for the financial year and financial position at the end of the year.

Angela Toppin

Doppen

Mayor

30 / 09 / 2025

Peter Franks

Chief Executive Officer

30 /09 /2025



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Mareeba Shire Council

#### Report on the audit of the financial report

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the financial report of Mareeba Shire Council.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information and the certificate given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the council's financial position as at 30 June 2025, and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards.

#### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the Auditor-General Auditing Standards.

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

#### Other information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Mareeba Shire Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 was the current year financial sustainability statement, current year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios and unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.



My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of the councillors for the financial report

The councillors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The councillors are also responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the council or to otherwise cease operations of the council.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

## Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

In accordance with s. 40 of the Auditor-General Act 2009, for the year ended 30 June 2025:

- a) I received all the information and explanations I required
- b) I consider that, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.



## Prescribed requirements scope

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Local Government Act 2009*, and the Local Government Regulation 2012. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the council's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.

2 October 2025

Sri Narasimhan as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office Brisbane

## Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025

Target	Actual	5 Yr Av.
Tier 4	2025	2020-25

#### **Audited ratios**

Council's performance at 30 June 2025 against key financial ratios and targets.

#### Liquidity

#### 1. Unrestricted cash expense coverage ratio

Total cash and equivalents add current investments add available ongoing QTC working capital limit less externally restricted cash

Total operating expenditure less depreciation and amortisation less finance costs

Greater than 4 months

N/A

The unrestricted cash expense cover ratio is an indicator of the unconstrained liquidity available to a council to meet ongoing and emergent financial demands, which is a key component to solvency. It represents the number of months a council can continue operating based on current monthly expenses. In 2024/25, Council has sufficient unrestricted cash to cover a portion of its future planned expenses, such as infrastructure investments, and if necessary, address unplanned expenses or disaster recovery effects.

#### **Operating Performance**

#### 2. Operating surplus ratio

Operating result Greater than 0% 22.63% 14.97%

The operating surplus ratio is an indicator of the extent to which operating revenues generated cover operational expenses. Any operating surplus would be available for capital funding or other purposes. In 2024/25 Council closed the financial year with a reasonable operating result without reliance of the early payment of the Financial Assistance Grant.

#### 3. Operating cash ratio

Operating result add depreciation and amortisation add finance costs
Total operating revenue

Greater than 0%

36.89%
33.14%

The operating cash ratio is a measure of council's ability to cover its core operational expenses and generate a cash surplus excluding depreciation, amortisation, and finance costs. Council budgets a surplus each year to ensure it generates a surplus from its core operations, enabling it to primarily self fund capital expenditure in line with Asset Management Plan and the Long Term Financial Forecast.

#### **Asset management**

## 4. Asset sustainability ratio

Capital expenditure on replacement of infrastructure assets (renewals)

Depreciation expenditure on infrastructure assets

Greater than 80%

99.03%

127.90%

The asset sustainability ratio approximates the extent to which the infrastructure assets managed by a council are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives. Over the long term, Council is adequately renewing its assets as they reach the end of their useful lives.

#### 5. Asset consumption ratio

Written down replacement cost of depreciable infrastructure assets

Current replacement cost of depreciable infrastructure assets

Greater than 60%

74.03%

75.70%

The asset consumption ratio approximates the extent to which Council's infrastructure assets have been consumed compared to what it would cost to build a new asset with the same benefit to the community. Council's assets are being consumed in line with their estimated useful lives.

## Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025 (continued)

	Target Tier 4	Actual 2025	5 Yr Av. 2020-25
Debt servicing capacity			
6. Leverage ratio			
Book value of debt		0.0	0.2
Total operating revenue less total operating expenditure add depreciation and amortisation	0 <b>-</b> 3 times	0.2 times	0.3 times

The leverage ratio is an indicator of a council's ability to repay its existing debt. It measures the relative size of the council's debt to its operating performance. In 2024/25 Council has the ability to repay its existing debt and maintain a relatively low level of debt.

#### Note 1 - basis of preparation

The current year financial sustainability statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the 6 reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the Council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

oppin

## Certificate of Accuracy (audited ratios)

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.

Angela Toppin

**Mayor** 30 / 09 / 2025

Peter Franks

Chief Executive Officer 30/09 /2025



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Councillors of Mareeba Shire Council

# Report on the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement Opinion

I have audited the accompanying current year financial sustainability statement of Mareeba Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2025, comprising the statement, explanatory notes, and the certificate of accuracy given by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with s.212 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, in my opinion, in all material respects, the current year financial sustainability statement of Mareeba Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 has been accurately calculated.

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the statement in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the Auditor-General Auditing Standards.

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

#### Emphasis of matter - basis of accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 which describes the basis of accounting. The current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 for the purpose of fulfilling the council's reporting responsibilities under the Local Government Regulation 2012. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Other Information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial sustainability statement and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Mareeba Shire Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 was the general-purpose financial statements, current-year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios, and the unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.

My opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



Better public services

However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the general-purpose financial report.

In connection with my audit of the financial sustainability statement, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial sustainability statement and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of the councillors for the current year financial sustainability statement

The councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012. The councillors responsibility also includes such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is accurately calculated and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the current year financial sustainability statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this statement.

My responsibility does not extend to forming an opinion on the appropriateness or relevance of the reported ratios, nor on the council's future sustainability.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
  procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of
  expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of material accounting policy information used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.



I communicate with the council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Sri Narasimhan as delegate of the Auditor-General

2 October 2025 Queensland Audit Office Brisbane

## Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Actual	5 Yr Av.
	2025	2020-25
Contextual ratios (unaudited)		
Financial Capacity		
1. Council controlled revenue		
Net rates, levies and charges add fees and charges	47 720/	57.82%
T L L	<del></del>	5/.62%

Council controlled revenue is an indicator of a council's financial flexibility, ability to influence its operating income, and capacity to respond to unexpected financial shocks. The outcome is influenced by a moderate proportion of rates revenue, which accounts for 45% of operating revenue and fees and charges contributing just 3%. As a result, Council has limited flexibility to increase revenue and is somewhat dependent on grants and contracts.

#### 2. Population growth

Total operating revenue

Prior year estimated population -1 1.43% 1.05%

Population growth is a key driver of a council's operating income, service needs, and infrastructure requirements into the future. Inputs for this ratio are provided by the State. The population growth is in line with Council estimate.

#### Note 1 - basis of preparation

The current year financial sustainability statement - Contextual Ratios is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the 2 reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

oppin

## Certificate of Accuracy (contextual ratios - unaudited)

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.

Angel Toppin

**Mayor** 30 / 09 / 2025

Peter Franks

Chief Executive Officer 30 / 09 / 2025

## Unaudited Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement prepared as at 30 June 2025

Target	Actual					Fore	cast				
2025	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035

### Measures of financial sustainability

### Liquidity

1. Unrestricted cash expense coverage ratio

Greater than 4 months months

16.8 N/A for long term sustainability statement

The unrestricted cash expense cover ratio is an indicator of the unconstrained liquidity available to a council to meet ongoing and emergent financial demands, which is a key component to solvency. It represents the number of months a council can continue operating based on current monthly expenses.

## **Operating Performance**

**2. Operating surplus ratio**Greater than 0%

Greater than 0%

22.6%

8.2%

9.1%

9.1%

7.1%

6.7%

6.2%

6.0%

6.0%

5.5%

4.7%

The operating surplus ratio is an indicator of the extent to which operating revenues generated cover operational expenses. Any operating surplus would be available for capital funding or other purposes.

3. Operating cash ratio

Greater than 0%

36.9% 30.1% 31.0%

The operating cash ratio is a measure of council's ability to cover its core operational expenses and generate a cash surplus excluding depreciation, amortisation, and finance costs.

### **Asset Management**

**4. Asset sustainability ratio**Greater than 80%

99%

82%

106%

98%

96%

94%

90%

90%

84%

101%

97%

The asset sustainability ratio approximates the extent to which the infrastructure assets managed by a council are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives.

**5. Asset consumption ratio**Greater than 60% **74%**63%
64%
63%
61%
60%
58%
57%
56%
56%
57%

The asset consumption ratio approximates the extent to which council's infrastructure assets have been consumed compared to what it would cost to build a new asset with the same benefit to the community.

	Target	Actual		Forecast								
	2025	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Debt servicing capacity												
7. Leverage ratio	0 - 3 times	0.2 times	0.3 times	0.3 times	0.2 times	0.2 times	0.2 times	0.2 times	0.1 times	0.1 times	0.1 times	0.1 times

The leverage ratio is an indicator of a council's ability to repay its existing debt. It measures the relative size of the council's debt to its operating performance.

## **Financial Capacity**

**8. Council controlled revenue** N/A **47.7%** 76.9% 77.3% 77.3% 77.3% 77.4% 77.4% 77.4% 77.5% 77.5%

Council controlled revenue is an indicator of a council's financial flexibility, ability to influence its operating income, and capacity to respond to unexpected financial shocks.

9. Population growth N/A 1.4% 0.9%

Population growth is a key driver of a council's operating income, service needs, and infrastructure requirements into the future.

#### Mareeba Shire Council Financial Management Strategy

Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long-term financial forecast shows a sound financial position whilst also being able to meet the community's current and future needs.

possin

## Certificate of Accuracy - Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement

This long-term financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this long-term financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.

Angela Toppin

**Mayor** 30 / 09 / 2025

Peter Franks

Chief Executive Officer 30 / 09 / 2025