



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Ordinary Council Meeting

23 May 2024

Agenda Attachments



murchisonshire

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SHIRE OF MURCHISON

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

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Compilation Report

To the Council

Shire of Murchison

Scope

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements.

The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial report has been prepared is to provide information relating to the financial performance and financial position of the Shire that satisfies the information needs of the Council and the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations.

The responsibility of the Shire

The Shire is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent and are appropriate to satisfy the requirements of the Council and the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated regulations.

Our responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Shire, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the significant accounting policies adopted as set out in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the Management provided, into a financial report. Our procedures do not include any verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

To the extent permitted by law, we do not accept liability for any loss or damage which any person, other than the Shire of Murchison, may suffer arising from negligence on our part.

This report was prepared for the benefit of the Council of the Shire of Murchison and the purpose identified above. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the content of the report.

Travis Bate
Signed at GERALDTON

RSM Australia Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Date 20th May 2024

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD

AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING

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RSM Australia Pty Ltd ACN 009 321 377 atf Birdanco Practice Trust ABN 65 319 382 479 trading as RSM

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SHIRE OF MURCHISON
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Statement of Financial Activity

Statements are presented on pages 5 and 6 showing a surplus/(deficit) as at 30 April 2024 of \$2,586,680

Significant Revenue and Expenditure

	Collected / Completed %	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$
Significant Projects				
Beri-Pindar Rd - Resheet Incl Floodway Sections	100%	573,179	477,640	521,894
Carn-Mul Rd 208.68 - 241.74 Reconstruct & Widen vario	62%	3,024,610	2,520,480	1,882,377
Community Swimming Pool	99%	1,050,000	875,000	-
SKA Route General Construction Works	131%	3,045,854	2,538,200	3,990,979
Improvements To drinking Water reticulation	0%	450,000	374,990	94,127
	83%	7,693,643	6,411,320	6,395,250
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions				
Grants, subsidies and contributions	37%	4,317,441	3,622,914	1,584,577
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	89%	6,543,568	5,700,484	5,853,869
	68%	10,861,009	9,323,398	7,438,446
Rates Levied				
	32%	2,253,109	1,999,279	727,033

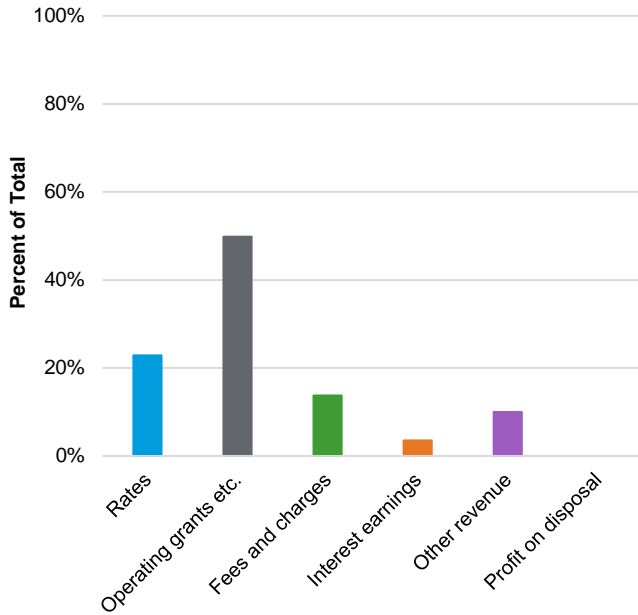
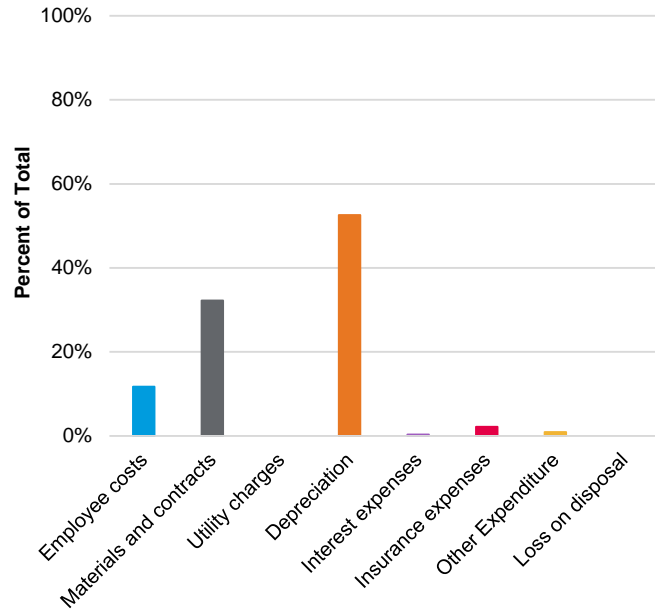
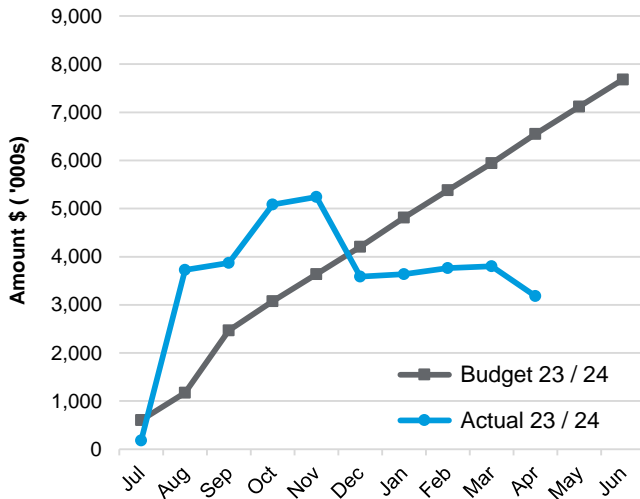
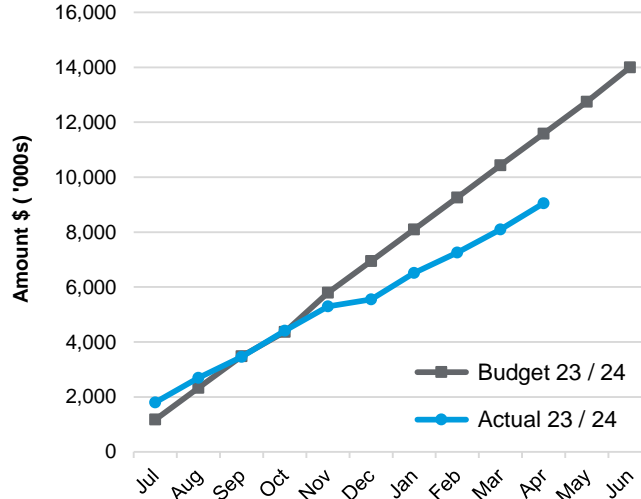
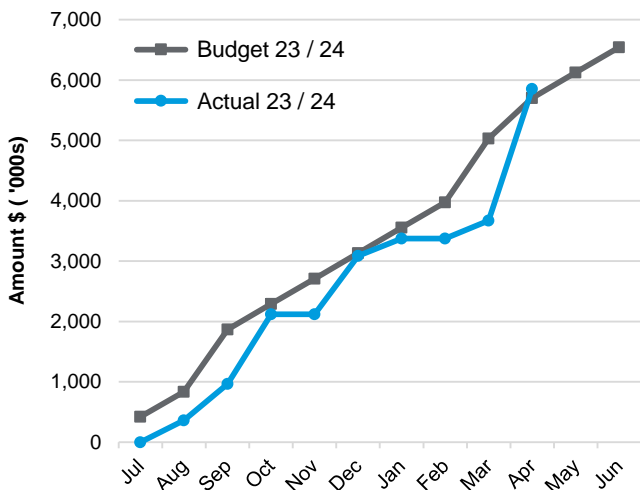
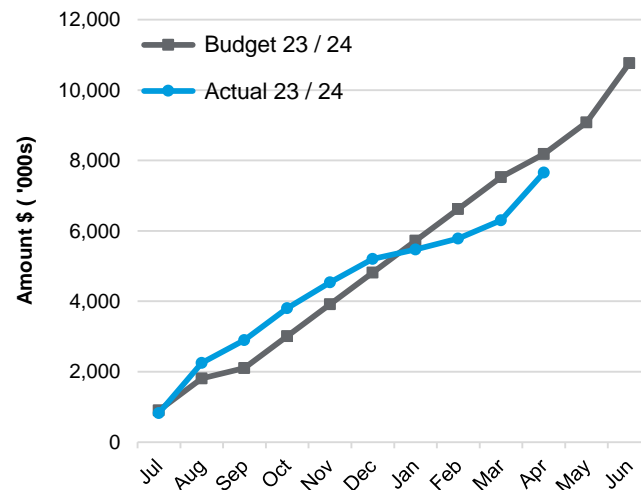
% - Compares current YTD actuals to the Annual Budget

Financial Position

Account	Difference to Prior Year %	Current Year 30 Apr 24 \$	Prior Year 30 Apr 23 \$
Adjusted net current assets	128%	2,586,678	2,024,140
Cash and equivalent - unrestricted	109%	1,760,866	1,615,895
Cash and equivalent - restricted	0%	4,656,523	4,581,435
Receivables - rates	(0%)	(6)	31,588
Receivables - other	129%	2,795,592	2,164,937
Payables	97%	2,452,661	2,517,059

% - Compares current YTD actuals to prior year actuals

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024
SUMMARY GRAPHS

Operating Income**Operating Expenditure****Operating Revenues****Operating Expenses****Capital Revenues - Investing****Capital Expenses**

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

NATURE OR TYPE

	Note	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	Var* \$	Var* %	Var
Revenue from Operating Activities							
Rates	10	2,253,109	1,999,279	727,033	(1,272,246)	(64%)	▼
Grants, subsidies and contributions	12(a)	4,317,441	3,622,914	1,584,577	(2,038,337)	(56%)	▼
Fees and charges		582,824	485,660	437,135	(48,525)	(10%)	
Interest earnings		132,185	110,140	112,675	2,535	2%	
Other revenue		396,598	330,460	318,119	(12,341)	(4%)	
Profit on disposal of assets	8	-	-	-	-		
		7,682,158	6,548,453	3,179,540			
Expenditure from Operating Activities							
Employee costs		(1,461,208)	(1,221,093)	(1,061,830)	159,263	13%	▲
Materials and contracts		(6,374,914)	(5,307,294)	(2,917,579)	2,389,715	45%	▲
Depreciation on non-current assets		(5,697,555)	(4,747,840)	(4,758,557)	(10,717)	(0%)	
Finance cost		(44,738)	(21,901)	(31,317)	(9,416)	(43%)	
Insurance expenses		(197,358)	(164,290)	(197,357)	(33,067)	(20%)	▼
Other expenditure		(164,754)	(139,760)	(84,010)	55,750	40%	▲
Loss on disposal of assets	8	-	-	-	-		
		(13,940,527)	(11,602,178)	(9,050,650)			
Excluded Non-cash Operating Activities							
Depreciation and amortisation		5,697,555	4,747,840	4,758,557			
Movement in Employee Benefits		(25,844)	-	-			
(Profit) / loss on asset disposal		-	-	-			
Net Amount from Operating Activities		(586,658)	(305,885)	(1,112,553)			
Investing Activities							
Inflows from Investing Activities							
Capital grants, subsidies and contribution	12(b)	6,543,568	5,700,484	5,853,869	153,385	3%	
Proceeds from disposal of assets	8	100,000	41,667	-	(41,667)	(100%)	▼
		6,643,568	5,742,151	5,853,869			
Outflows from Investing Activities							
Land and buildings	9(a)	(567,500)	(472,900)	(191,372)	281,528	60%	▲
Plant and equipment	9(c)	(543,000)	(452,490)	(555,742)	(103,252)	(23%)	▼
Furniture and equipment	9(b)	(273,981)	(228,310)	(68,137)	160,173	70%	▲
Infrastructure - roads	9(d)	(7,092,162)	(5,910,030)	(6,613,976)	(703,946)	(12%)	▼
Infrastructure - other	9(e)	(2,250,000)	(1,874,970)	(225,077)	1,649,893	88%	
		(10,726,643)	(8,938,700)	(7,654,303)			
Net Amount from Investing Activities		(4,083,075)	(3,196,549)	(1,800,435)			
Financing Activities							
Inflows from Financing Activities							
Transfer from reserves	7	6,327,983	4,684,983	5,127,983	443,000	(9%)	
		6,327,983	4,684,983	5,127,983			
Outflows from Financing Activities							
Repayment of debentures	11(a)	(189,033)	(189,033)	(189,033)	(0)	(0%)	
Transfer to reserves	7	(2,050,932)	(1,581,383)	(108,515)	1,472,868	93%	▲
		(2,239,965)	(1,770,416)	(297,548)			
Net Amount from Financing Activities		4,088,018	2,914,567	4,830,435			
Movement in Surplus or Deficit							
Opening Funding Surplus / (Deficit)							
Amount attributable to operating activities	3	(586,658)	(305,885)	(1,112,553)			
Amount attributable to investing activities		(4,083,075)	(3,196,549)	(1,800,435)			
Amount attributable to financing activities		4,088,018	2,914,567	4,830,435			
Closing Surplus / (Deficit)	3	87,517	81,365	2,586,679			

* - Note 2 provides an explanation for the relevant variances shown above.

This statement needs to be read in conjunction with the accompanying Financial Statements and Notes.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024
REPORTING PROGRAM

	Note	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	Var* \$	Var* %
Revenue from Operating Activities						
Governance		45,469	37,890	19,528	(18,362)	(48%)
General purpose funding		2,592,788	2,307,603	996,852	(1,310,751)	(57%)
Law, order and public safety		20,669	17,210	19,708	2,498	15%
Housing		-	-	11,607	11,607	
Recreation and culture		8,075	6,650	(2,858)	(9,508)	(143%)
Transport		3,934,619	3,278,700	1,346,549	(1,932,151)	(59%)
Economic services		960,486	800,360	720,850	(79,510)	(10%)
Other property and services		120,051	100,040	67,211	(32,829)	(33%)
		7,682,158	6,548,453	3,179,541		
Expenditure from Operating Activities						
Governance		(849,644)	(704,864)	(539,563)	165,301	23%
General purpose funding		(13,971)	(11,620)	(39,516)	(27,896)	(240%)
Law, order and public safety		(75,062)	(62,490)	(70,299)	(7,809)	(12%)
Health		(41,665)	(34,680)	(46,734)	(12,054)	(35%)
Education and welfare		(9,984)	(8,940)	(70)	8,870	99%
Housing		(87,503)	(72,480)	(83,891)	(11,411)	(16%)
Community amenities		(200,878)	(169,690)	(126,684)	43,006	25%
Recreation and culture		(424,078)	(353,120)	(262,024)	91,096	26%
Transport		(9,933,228)	(8,261,539)	(5,892,680)	2,368,859	29%
Economic services		(2,169,257)	(1,807,210)	(1,563,222)	243,988	14%
Other property and services		(135,260)	(115,545)	(425,966)	(310,421)	(269%)
		(13,940,529)	(11,602,178)	(9,050,650)		
Excluded Non-cash Operating Activities						
Depreciation and amortisation		5,697,555	4,747,840	4,758,557		
Movement in Employee Benefits		(25,844)	-	-		
(Profit) / loss on asset disposal	8	-	-	-		
Net Amount from Operating Activities		(586,660)	(305,885)	(1,112,552)		
Investing Activities						
Inflows from Investing Activities						
Capital grants, subsidies and contributor	12(b)	6,543,568	5,700,484	5,853,869	153,385	3%
Proceeds from disposal of assets	8	100,000	41,667	-	(41,667)	(100%)
		6,643,568	5,742,151	5,853,869		
Outflows from Investing Activities						
Land and buildings	9(a)	(567,500)	(472,900)	(191,372)	281,528	60%
Plant and equipment	9(c)	(543,000)	(452,490)	(555,742)	(103,252)	(23%)
Furniture and equipment	9(b)	(273,981)	(228,310)	(68,137)	160,173	70%
Infrastructure - roads	9(d)	(7,092,162)	(5,910,030)	(6,613,976)	(703,946)	(12%)
Infrastructure - other	9(e)	(2,250,000)	(1,874,970)	(225,077)	1,649,893	88%
		(10,726,643)	(8,938,700)	(7,654,303)		
Net Amount from Investing Activities		(4,083,075)	(3,196,549)	(1,800,435)		
Financing Activities						
Inflows from Financing Activities						
Proceeds from New Loans	11(c)	-	-	-	-	
Proceeds from self supporting loans	11(b)	-	-	-	-	
Proceeds from long term borrowings	11(a)	-	-	-	-	
Transfer from reserves	7	6,327,983	4,684,983	5,127,983	443,000	9%
		6,327,983	4,684,983	5,127,983		
Outflows from Financing Activities						
Repayment of debentures	11(a)	(189,033)	(189,033)	(189,033)	(0)	(0%)
Transfer to reserves	7	(2,050,932)	(1,581,383)	(108,515)	1,472,868	93%
		(2,239,965)	(1,770,416)	(297,548)		
Net Amount from Financing Activities		4,088,018	2,914,567	4,830,435		
Movement in Surplus or Deficit						
Opening Funding Surplus / (Deficit)	3	669,232	669,232	669,232		
Amount attributable to operating activities		(586,660)	(305,885)	(1,112,552)		
Amount attributable to investing activities		(4,083,075)	(3,196,549)	(1,800,435)		
Amount attributable to financing activities		4,088,018	2,914,567	4,830,435		
Closing Funding Surplus / (Deficit)	3	87,515	81,365	2,586,680		

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

	<u>NOTE</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>30 April 2024</u>	<u>FY 2023</u> <u>30 June 2023</u>
		\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	6,417,388	10,542,523
Trade and other receivables	5	2,988,675	301,632
Inventories		223,438	230,472
Other assets	7	0	1,752,976
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		9,629,501	12,827,603
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Other financial assets		20,372	20,372
Property, plant and equipment	9	13,277,796	13,172,851
Infrastructure	9	94,383,389	91,592,587
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		107,681,557	104,785,810
TOTAL ASSETS		117,311,059	117,613,413
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	14	2,391,819	1,443,082
Other liabilities		0	1,044,818
Borrowings	11(a)	95,824	189,033
Employee related provisions		246,429	246,429
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,734,072	2,923,361
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	11(a)	1,438,014	1,533,838
Employee related provisions		60,087	60,087
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,498,101	1,593,925
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,232,173	4,517,286
NET ASSETS		113,078,885	113,096,127
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		28,674,756	26,547,831
Reserve accounts	7	4,989,061	7,133,228
Revaluation surplus		79,415,068	79,415,068
TOTAL EQUITY		113,078,885	113,096,127

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

STATEMENT OF CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS AND FUNDING

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS AND FUNDING

		Annual Budget	YTD Actual Total
Asset Group	Note	\$	\$
Land and buildings	9(a)	567,500	191,372
Plant and equipment	9(c)	543,000	555,742
Furniture and equipment	9(b)	273,981	68,137
Infrastructure - roads	9(d)	7,092,162	6,613,976
Infrastructure - other	9(e)	2,250,000	225,077
Total Capital Expenditure		10,726,643	7,654,303
Capital Acquisitions Funded by:			
Capital grants and contributions		6,543,568	5,853,869
Borrowings		-	-
Other (disposals and c/fwd)		100,000	-
Council contribution - from reserves		1,643,000	443,000
Council contribution - operations		2,440,075	1,357,435
Total Capital Acquisitions Funding		10,726,643	7,654,303

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This report is prepared to meet the requirements of *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34*.

The material variance adopted by the Shire of Murchison for the 2023/24 year is \$10,000 or 10%, whichever is greater. Items considered to be of material variance are disclosed in Note 2.

The statements and accompanying notes are prepared based on all transactions recorded at the time of preparation and may vary due to transactions being processed for the reporting period after the date of preparation. The preparation also requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions which effect the application of policies and the reported amounts in the statements and notes. These estimated figures are based on historical experience or other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Therefore, the actual results may differ from these reported amounts.

Actual and Budget comparatives are presented in year to date format unless otherwise stated. The Adopted Budget is used in the report until superseded by the Budget Review.

Preparation

Prepared by: Bertus Lochner
Reviewed by: Travis Bate
Date prepared: 20 May 24

(a) Basis of Preparation

The following financial statements are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, Authoritative Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1995*, and regulations, within the context in which they relate to local governments and not-for-profit entities.

With the exception of the cash flow statement and rate setting information, the following report has been prepared on an accrual basis with balances measured at historical cost unless subject to fair value adjustments. Items subject to fair value adjustments include certain non-current assets, financial assets, and financial liabilities. Items such as assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses have been recognised in accordance with the definitions and recognition criteria set out in the Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements.

These financial statements comply with, and supersede, the Australian Accounting Standards with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* where applicable. Further information is provided in Note 1(i).

The functional and presentation currency of the report is Australian dollars.

(b) The Local Government Reporting Entity

The Australian Accounting Standards define local government as a reporting entity which can be a single entity or a group comprising a parent and all its subsidiaries. All funds controlled by the Shire in order to provide its services have formed part of the following report. Transactions and balances related to these controlled funds, such as transfers to and from reserves, were eliminated during the preparation of the report.

Funds held in Trust, which are controlled but not owned by the Shire, do not form part of the financial statements. Further information on the Shire funds in Trust are provided in Note 5.

(c) Rounding of Amounts

The Shire is an entity to which the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* applies and, accordingly amounts in the financial report have been rounded to the dollar except for amounts shown as a rate in the dollar. Where total assets exceed \$10,000,000 in the prior audited annual financial report, the amounts may be rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

(e) Superannuation

The Shire contributes to a number of superannuation funds on behalf of employees. All funds to which the Shire contributes are defined contribution plans.

(f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents normally include cash on hand, cash at bank, deposits on demand with banks, other short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown as short term borrowings in current liabilities in Note 3 - Net Current Assets.

(g) Financial Assets at Amortised Cost

The Shire classifies financial assets at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- the asset is held within a business model whose objective is to collect the contractual cashflows, and
- the contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

(h) Inventories

General

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs related to completion and its sale.

Land Held for Resale

Land held for development and sale is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes the cost of acquisition, development, borrowing costs and holding costs until completion of development. Finance costs and holding charges incurred after development is completed are expensed. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss at the time of signing an unconditional contract of sale if significant risks and rewards, and effective control over the land, are passed on to the buyer at this point. Land held for sale is classified as current except where it is held as non-current based on Council's intentions to release for sale.

(i) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and other receivables include amounts due from ratepayers for unpaid rates and service charges and other amounts due from third parties for grants, contributions, reimbursements, and goods sold and services performed on the ordinary course of business.

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional, unless they contain significant financing components, when they are recognised at fair value.

Trade receivables are held with the objective to collect the contractual cashflows and therefore the Shire measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Due to the short term nature of current receivables, their carrying amount is considered to be the same as their fair value. Non-current receivables are indexed to inflation, any difference between the face value and fair value is considered immaterial.

The Shire applies the AASB 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses using a lifetime expected credit loss allowance for all trade receivables. To measure the expected credit losses, rates receivables are separated from other trade receivables due to the difference in payment terms and security for rates receivable.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(j) Fixed Assets

Each class of fixed assets within either plant and equipment or infrastructure, is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Recognition of Assets

Assets for which the fair value as at the date of acquisition is under \$5,000 are not recognised as an asset in accordance with Financial Management Regulation 17A (5). These assets are expensed immediately.

Where multiple individual low value assets are purchased together as part of a larger asset or collectively forming a larger asset exceeding the threshold, the individual assets are recognised as one asset and capitalised.

Gains and Losses on Disposal

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in profit or loss in the period which they arise.

(i) Depreciation of Non-current Assets

The depreciable amount of fixed assets included in buildings but excluding freehold land, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the individual asset's useful life from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvements.

The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Major depreciation periods used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Asset Class	Useful life
Buildings & Improvements	7 to 90 years
Furniture and equipment	3 to 25 years
Plant and equipment	5 to 20 years
Sealed roads and streets	
formation	not depreciated
pavement	12 years
seal	10 years
- bituminous seals	20 years
- asphalt surfaces	25 years
Gravel roads	
formation	not depreciated
pavement	45 years
Footpaths	10 years
Culverts	60 years
Signs	20 years
Stock Grids	80 years
Floodways	21 years
Water supply piping and drainage systems	75 years
Bridges	80 years

SHIRE OF MURCHISON**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY****For the Period Ending 30 April 2024****1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)****(l) Trade and Other Payables**

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Shire prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the Shire becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured, are recognised as a current liability and are normally paid within 30 days of recognition. The carrying amounts of trade and other payables are considered to be the same as their fair values, due to their short-term nature.

(m) Prepaid Rates

Prepaid rates are, until the taxable event has occurred (start of the next financial year), refundable at the request of the ratepayer. Rates received in advance are initially recognised as a financial liability. When the taxable event occurs, the financial liability is extinguished and the Shire recognises revenue for the prepaid rates that have not been refunded.

(n) Employee Benefits**Short-term employee benefits**

Provision is made for the Shire's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled. The Shire's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the determination of the net current asset position. The Shire's obligations for employees' annual leave and long service leave entitlements are recognised as provisions in the determination of the net current asset position.

Other long-term employee benefits

Long-term employee benefits provisions are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Shire's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current provisions in the statement of financial position, except where the Shire does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current provisions.

(o) Interest-bearing Loans and Borrowings

All loans and borrowings are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The annual government guarantee fee is expensed in the year incurred.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date.

Borrowing Costs

The Shire has elected to recognise borrowing costs as an expense when incurred regardless of how the borrowings are applied. Fair values of borrowings are not materially different to their carrying amount, since the interest payable on those borrowings is either close to current market rates or the borrowings are of a short term nature. Borrowings fair values are based on the discounted cash flows using a current borrowing rate. They are classified as level 3 fair values in the fair value hierarchy due to the unobservable inputs, including own credit risk.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(p) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Shire has a present legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measure using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(q) Contract Liabilities

Contract liabilities represent the Shire's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Shire has received consideration from the customer.

Contract liabilities represent obligations which are not yet satisfied. Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue when the performance obligations in the contract are satisfied.

(r) Current and Non-current Classification

The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next 12 months, being the Shire's operational cycle. In the case of liabilities where the Shire does not have the unconditional right to defer settlement beyond 12 months, such as vested long service leave, the liability is classified as current even if not expected to be settled within the next 12 months. Inventories held for trading are classified as current or non-current based on the Shire's intentions to release for sale.

(p) Nature or Type Classifications

Rates

All rates levied under the *Local Government Act 1995*. Includes general, differential, specific area rates, minimum rates, interim rates, back rates, ex-gratia rates, less discounts offered. Exclude administration fees, interest on instalments, interest on arrears and service charges.

Grants, Subsidies and Contributions

Refer to all amounts received as grants, subsidies and contributions that are not capital grants.

Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions

Amounts received specifically for the acquisition, construction of new or the upgrading of non--current assets paid to a local government, irrespective of whether these amounts are received as capital grants, subsidies, contributions or donations.

Revenue from Contracts with Customers

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised when the local government satisfies its performance obligations under the contract.

Profit on Asset Disposal

Gain on the disposal of assets including gains on the disposal of long term investments.

Fees and Charges

Revenues (other than service charges) from the use of facilities and charges made for local government services, sewerage rates, rentals, hire charges, fee for service, photocopying charges, licences, sale of goods or information, fines, penalties and administration fees.

Service Charges

Service charges imposed under *Division 6 of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 1995*. Regulation 54 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* identifies these as television and radio broadcasting, underground electricity and neighbourhood surveillance services. Excluding rubbish removal charges, interest and other items of a similar nature received from bank and investment accounts, interest on rate instalments, interest on rate arrears and interest on debtors.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY****For the Period Ending 30 April 2024****1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)****(p) Nature or Type Classifications (Continued)****Interest Earnings**

Interest and other items of a similar nature received from bank and investment accounts, interest on rate instalments, interest on rate arrears and interest on debtors.

Other Revenue / Income

Other revenue, which can not be classified under the above headings, includes dividends, discounts, rebates etc.

Employee Costs

All costs associated with the employment of a person such as salaries, wages, allowances, benefits such as vehicle and housing, superannuation, employment expenses, removal expenses, relocation expenses, worker's compensation insurance, training costs, conferences, safety expenses, medical examinations, fringe benefit tax, etc.

Materials and Contracts

All expenditures on materials, supplies and contracts not classified under other headings. These include supply of goods and materials, legal expenses, consultancy, maintenance agreements, communication expenses (such as telephone and internet charges), advertising expenses, membership, periodicals, publications, hire expenses, rental, leases, postage and freight etc.

Utilities (Gas, Electricity, Water, etc.)

Expenditures made to the respective agencies for the provision of power, gas, water and communication expenses. Exclude expenditures incurred for the reinstatement of roadwork on behalf of these agencies.

Insurance

All insurance other than worker's compensation and health benefit insurance included as a cost of employment.

Loss on Asset Disposal

Loss on the disposal of fixed assets.

Depreciation on Non-current Assets

Depreciation expense raised on all classes of assets.

Finance Cost

Interest and other costs of finance paid, including costs of finance for loan debentures, overdraft accommodation and refinancing expenses.

Other Expenditure

Statutory fees, taxes, provision for bad debts, member's fees or State taxes, donations and subsidies made to community groups.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(q) Program Classifications (Function / Activity)

Council operations as disclosed in these financial statements encompass the following service orientated activities/programs.

GOVERNANCE

Administration and operation of facilities and services to members of Council. Other costs that relate to the task of assisting elected members and electors on matters which do not concern specific Council services.

GENERAL PURPOSE FUNDING

Rates, general purpose government grants and interest revenue.

LAW, ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Supervision of various by-laws, fire prevention and animal control.

HEALTH

Monitor health control standards within the community, provide support and assistance with airstrips to enable all residents access to the Royal Flying Doctor for regular and emergency health services.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE

Support of education facilities within the Shire and of any external resources necessary to assist with education programmes for all residents.

HOUSING

Provision and maintenance of staff housing.

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Maintain a refuse site for the settlement.

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Provide a library and museum and operation thereof. Maintain recreation centre, sports field, parks, gardens and other recreational facilities.

TRANSPORT

Construction and maintenance of roads, drainage works and traffic signs. Maintenance of the settlement airstrip.

ECONOMIC SERVICES

Building control, provision of power and water supplies. Supply and maintenance of television re-broadcasting installation. Provision of radio communication. Maintenance of caravan park. Vermin control and area promotion.

OTHER PROPERTY AND SERVICES

Private works operations, plant repairs and operation costs.

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(r) Revenue Recognition Policy

Recognition of revenue is dependant on the source of revenue and the associated terms and conditions associated with each source of revenue and recognised as follows:

Revenue Category	Nature of goods and services	When obligations typically satisfied	Payment terms	Returns / Refunds / Warranties	Determination of transaction price	Allocating transaction price	Measuring obligations for returns	Timing of revenue recognition
Rates	General Rates	Over time	Payment dates adopted by Council during the year	None	Adopted by council annually	When taxable event occurs	Not applicable	When rates notice is issued
Service charges	Charge for specific service	Over time	Payment dates adopted by Council during the year	Refund in event monies are unspent	Adopted by council annually	When taxable event occurs	Not applicable	When rates notice is issued
Grant contracts with customers	Community events, minor facilities, research, design, planning evaluation and services	Over time	Fixed terms transfer of funds based on agreed milestones and reporting	Contract obligation if project not complete	Set by mutual agreement with the customer	Based on the progress of works to match performance obligations	Returns limited to repayment of transaction price of terms breached	Output method based on project milestones and/or completion date matched to performance obligations as inputs are shared
Grants, subsidies or contributions for the construction of non-financial assets	Construction or acquisition of recognisable non-financial assets to be controlled by the local government	Over time	Fixed terms transfer of funds based on agreed milestones and reporting	Contract obligation if project not complete	Set by mutual agreement with the customer	Based on the progress of works to match performance obligations	Returns limited to repayment of transaction price of terms breached	Output method based on project milestones and/or completion date matched to performance obligations as inputs are shared
Grants with no contract commitments	General appropriations and contributions with no reciprocal commitment	No obligations	Not applicable	Not applicable	Cash received	On receipt of funds	Not applicable	When assets are controlled
Licences/ Registrations/ Approvals	Building, planning, development and animal management, having the same nature as a licence regardless of naming.	Single point in time	Full payment prior to issue	None	Set by State legislation or limited by legislation to the cost of provision	Based on timing of issue of the associated rights	No refunds	On payment and issue of the licence, registration or approval
Pool inspections	Compliance safety check	Single point in time	Equal proportion based on an equal annually fee	None	Set by State legislation	Apportioned equally across the inspection cycle	No refunds	After inspection complete based on a 4 year cycle

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(r) Revenue Recognition Policy (Continued)

Revenue Category	Nature of goods and services	When obligations typically satisfied	Payment terms	Returns / Refunds / Warranties	Determination of transaction price	Allocating transaction price	Measuring obligations for returns	Timing of revenue recognition
Other inspections	Regulatory Food, Health and Safety	Single point in time	Full payment prior to inspection	None	Set by State legislation or limited by legislation to the cost of provision	Applied fully on timing of inspection	Not applicable	Revenue recognised after inspection event occurs
Property hire and entry	Use of halls and facilities	Single point in time	In full in advance	Refund if event cancelled within 7 days	Adopted by council annually	Based on timing of entry to facility	Returns limited to repayment of transaction price	On entry or at conclusion of hire
Fees and charges for other goods and services	Cemetery services, library fees, reinstatements and private works	Single point in time	Payment in full in advance	None	Adopted by council annually	Applied fully based on timing of provision	Not applicable	Output method based on provision of service or completion of works
Sale of stock	Roadhouse fuel & kiosk sales.	Single point in time	In full in advance, on 15 day credit	Refund for faulty goods	Adopted by council policy & annual fees and charges review, set by mutual agreement	Applied fully based on timing of provision	Returns limited to repayment of transaction price	Output method based on goods
Commissions	Commissions on licencing and ticket sales	Over time	Payment in full on sale	None	Set by mutual agreement with the customer	On receipt of funds	Not applicable	When assets are controlled
Reimbursements	Insurance claims	Single point in time	Payment in arrears for claimable event	None	Set by mutual agreement with the customer	When claim is agreed	Not applicable	When claim is agreed

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

2. EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL VARIANCES

Variances which have exceeded the thresholds are listed below by Program. Significant variances within the Program are listed underneath it by Nature or Type.

The material variance adopted by Council for the 2023/24 year is \$10,000 and 10%.

Nature or Type Operating Revenues	Var \$	Var %	Timing / Permanent	Var	Explanation of Variance
Rates	(1,272,246)	(64%)	▼	Permanent	Rates on Miscellaneous Mining Licences refunded Apr 24.
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	(2,038,337)	(56%)	▼	Timing	Main contribution to difference relates to flood damage timing of claims opposed to budget profile.

Operating Expense

Employee Costs	159,263	13%	▲	Timing	Below budget year to date expenditure due to vacancies.
Materials and contracts	2,389,715	45%	▲	Timing	Mainly due to timing of Flood Damage works on rain events March 2022 and February 2021.
Insurance Expenses	(33,067)	(20%)	▼	Timing	Timing of budget profile. Expense in line with full year budget.
Other expenditure	55,750	40%	▲	Timing	Timing differences in relation to payment of member costs.

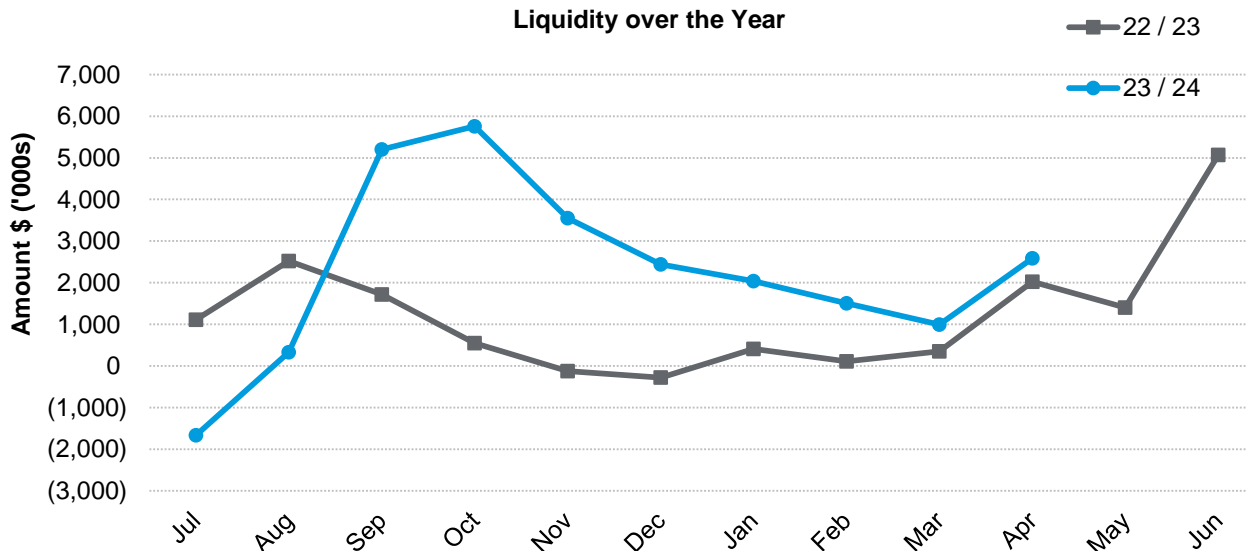
SHIRE OF MURCHISON
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

17.2.1 - May 2024

3. NET CURRENT FUNDING POSITION

	Note	Current Month 30 Apr 24	Prior Year Closing 30 Jun 23	This Time Last Year 30 Apr 23
Current Assets		\$	\$	\$
Cash unrestricted	4	1,760,866	866,532	1,615,895
Cash restricted	4	4,656,523	9,675,991	4,581,435
Receivables - rates	6(a)	(6)	(21,870)	31,588
Receivables - sundry	6(b)	2,795,592	87,289	2,164,937
Receivables - other		166,402	162,366	274,814
Provision for doubtful debts		(8,295)	(8,295)	(16,493)
Contract assets		-	1,752,976	182,020
Inventories		223,438	230,472	186,916
Total Current Assets		9,594,519	12,745,460	9,021,112
Current Liabilities				
Payables - sundry		(1,580,251)	(237,916)	(1,235,204)
Payables - other		(157,982)	87,277	(185,920)
PAYG Tax withheld		(66,301)	(50,303)	-
Accrued salaries and wages		-	(47,726)	(41,429)
Accrued expenses		(38,750)	(595,541)	-
Accrued interest on loans		-	-	(6,492)
Trust Liability		(357,605)	(353,351)	-
Deposits and bonds		(155,949)	(157,860)	(576,757)
Contract liabilities		-	(1,044,818)	(377,174)
Loan liabilities	11(a)	(95,824)	(194,552)	(94,083)
Total Payables		(2,452,661)	(2,594,790)	(2,517,059)
Provisions		(246,429)	(246,429)	(183,760)
Total Current Liabilities		(2,699,090)	(2,841,218)	(2,700,819)
Less: cash reserves	7	(4,656,523)	(9,675,991)	(4,581,435)
Less: movement in provisions (non current)		246,429	246,429	183,760
Add: Disposal of Asset TBA		-	-	7,439
Add: Loan principal (current)		101,343	194,552	94,083
Net Funding Position - Surplus / (Deficit)		2,586,678	669,232	2,024,140

Liquidity over the Year



SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

4. CASH AND FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Institution	Interest	Maturity
	\$	\$	\$		Rate	Date
Cash					%	
Murchison Community Fund	357,653		357,653	Westpac	Variable	N/A
Municipal	745,271		745,271	Westpac	Variable	N/A
Cash On Hand	500		500	Cash on hand	Nil	N/A
Muni Short Term Investment	155,769		155,769	Westpac	Variable	N/A
Roadhouse	494,265		494,265	Westpac	Variable	N/A
CSIRO	7,407		7,407	Westpac	Variable	N/A
Reserve Funds		4,656,523	4,656,523	Westpac	Variable	N/A
Total Cash and Financial Assets	1,760,866	4,656,523	6,417,388			

5. TRUST FUND

There are no funds held at balance date over which the Shire has no control

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

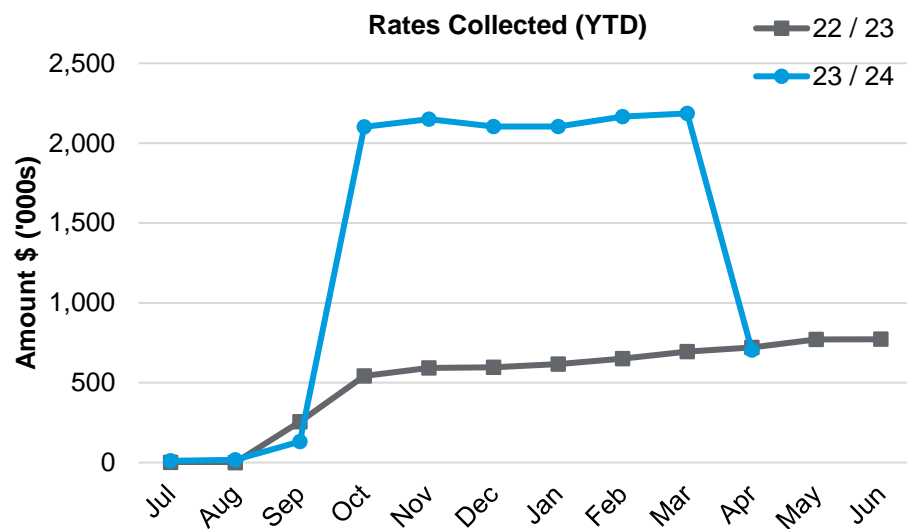
6. RECEIVABLES

(a) Rates Receivable

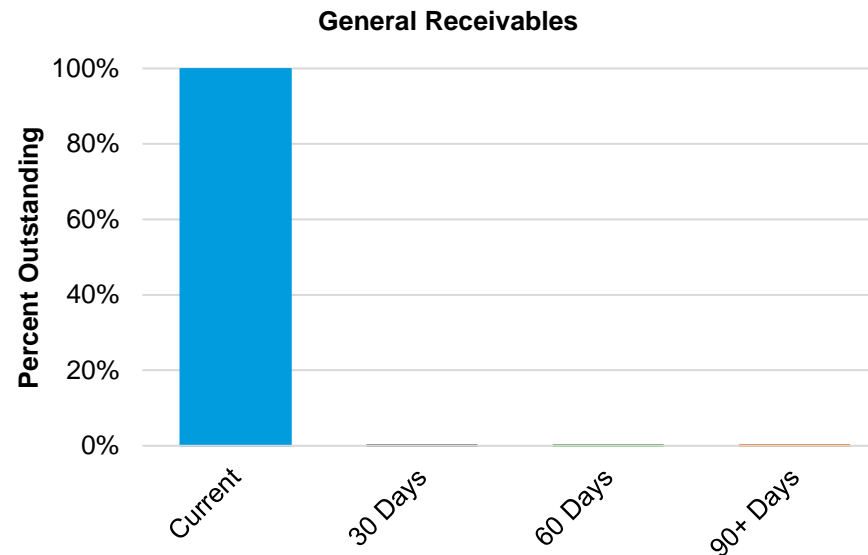
	30 Apr 24
	\$
Rates receivables	(6)
Total Rates Receivable Outstanding	(6)
Closing balances - prior year	(21,870)
Rates levied this year	727,033
Closing balances - current month	6
Total Rates Collected to Date	705,169

(b) General Receivables

	30 Apr 24
	\$
Current	2,790,707
30 Days	700
60 Days	800
90+ Days	3,385
Total General Receivables Outstanding	2,795,592



Comments / Notes



Comments / Notes

Amounts shown above include GST (where applicable)

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

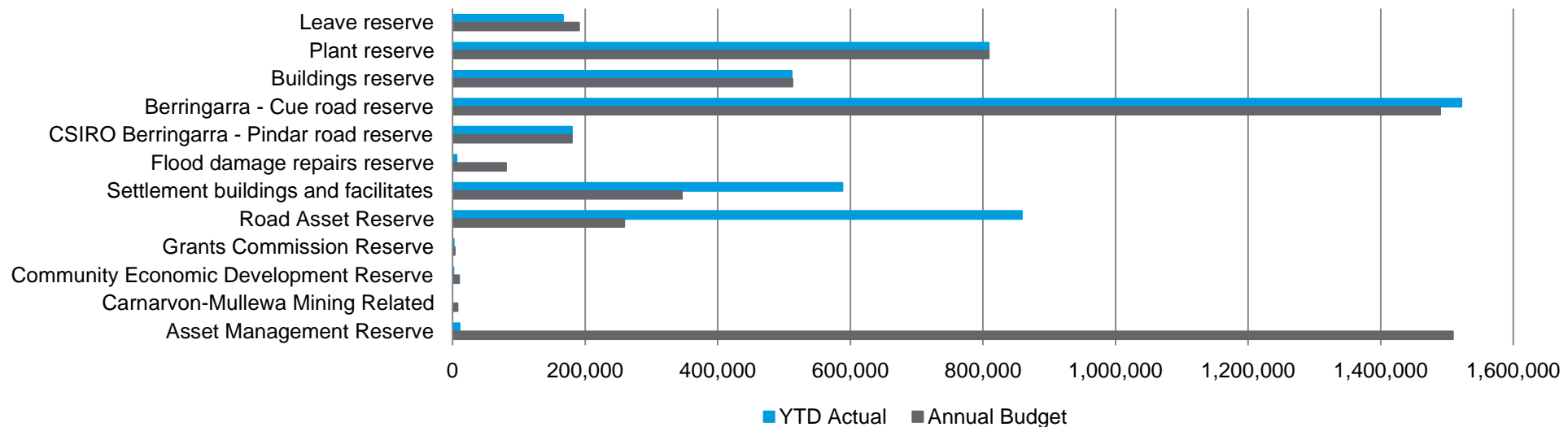
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

7. CASH BACKED RESERVES

Restricted by council:	Annual Budget				YTD Actual			
	Balance 01 Jul 23 \$	Transfers from \$	Transfer to \$	Balance 30 Jun 24 \$	Balance 01 Jul 23 \$	Transfers from \$	Transfer to \$	Balance 30 Apr 24 \$
Reserve Name								
Leave reserve	164,992	-	25,844	190,836	164,992	-	1,871	166,863
Plant reserve	1,251,758	(443,000)	-	808,758	1,251,758	(443,000)	-	808,758
Buildings reserve	505,854	-	7,081	512,935	505,854	-	5,738	511,592
Berringarra - Cue road reserve	1,441,587	-	48,279	1,489,866	1,441,587	-	80,216	1,521,803
CSIRO Berringarra - Pindar road reserve	178,214	-	1,875	180,089	178,214	-	2,021	180,235
Flood damage repairs reserve	5,968	-	75,000	80,968	5,968	-	-	5,968
Settlement buildings and facilities	581,416	(600,000)	364,713	346,129	581,775	-	6,450	588,225
Road Asset Reserve	858,912	(600,000)	-	258,912	858,912	-	-	858,912
Grants Commission Reserve	4,685,590	(4,684,983)	2,800	3,407	4,685,590	(4,684,983)	1,409	2,016
Community Economic Development Reserve	1,335	-	8,839	10,174	1,335	-	12	1,347
Carnarvon-Mullewa Mining Related	-	-	7,500	7,500	-	-	-	-
Asset Management Reserve	-	-	1,509,001	1,509,001	-	-	10,798	10,798
Total Cash Backed Reserves	9,675,626	(6,327,983)	2,050,932	5,398,575	9,675,985	(5,127,983)	108,515	4,656,517

Annual Budget v YTD Actual



SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

8. DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Annual Budget

	WDV	Proceeds	Profit	(Loss)
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Transport				
Plant and Equipment				
Plant and Equipment	100,000	100,000	-	-
Total Disposal of Assets	100,000	100,000	-	-
Total Profit or (Loss)				-

YTD Actual

	WDV	Proceeds	Profit	(Loss)
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other Property & Services				
Motor Vehicle	-	-	-	-
				-
				-
				-
Total Disposal of Assets	-	-	-	-
Total Profit or (Loss)				-

SHIRE OF MURCHISON
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

9. CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS

(a) Land and Buildings

	Funding Source	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	YTD Variance \$	% Complete
Community Amenities						
Container Deposit Shed		10,000	8,330	-	8,330	0%
Economic Services						
Tour Area Prom Buildings & Improvements		507,500	422,910	191,372	231,538	38%
Tour Area Prom Infrastructure		50,000	41,660	-	41,660	0%
Total Land and Buildings		567,500	472,900	191,372	281,528	

(b) Furniture & Equipment

	Funding Source	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	YTD Variance \$	% Complete
Housing						
Staff Housing Furniture & Equipment		3,000	2,500	16,573	(14,073)	100%
Economic Services						
Cap Ex Point Of Sale System Roadhouse		25,000	20,830	7,460	13,370	30%
Capex - Washing Machines		20,945	17,450	20,945	(3,495)	100%
Roadhouse Appliances		214,536	178,780	23,159	155,621	11%
Roadhouse Furniture		10,500	8,750	-	8,750	0%
Total Furniture & Equipment		273,981	228,310	68,137	160,173	

(c) Plant and Equipment

	Funding Source	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	YTD Variance \$	% Complete
Transport						
Road Plant Purchases		478,953	399,120	476,279	(77,159)	99%
Governance						
Administration Vehicles Purchases		64,047	53,370	64,047	(10,677)	100%
Other Property & Services						
Mechanical Tools & Equipment		-	-	15,416	(15,416)	#DIV/0!
Total Plant and Equipment		543,000	452,490	555,742	(87,836)	

9. CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS (Continued)

(d) Infrastructure - Roads	Funding Source	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	% Complete
		\$	\$	\$	\$	
Transport						
Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flower Works		50,819	42,330	30,086	12,244	
Beri-Pindar Rd - Resheet Incl Floodway Sections		573,179	477,640	521,894	(44,254)	100%
Carn-Mul Rd - Resheet Incl Floodway Sections		120,648	100,540	120,648	(20,108)	100%
Carn-Mul Rd 208.68 - 241.74 Reconstruct & Widen various s		3,024,610	2,520,480	1,882,377	638,103	62%
Reseal Works		175,000	145,830	-	145,830	0%
SKA Route General Construction Works		3,045,854	2,538,200	3,990,979	(1,452,779)	131%
SKA Route Gravel Stockpiling Works		-	-	38,344	(38,344)	
SKA Route Twin Peaks - Wooleen Rd		2,052	1,700	15,037	(13,337)	
Capex Grids General		100,000	83,310	14,611	68,699	15%
		7,092,162	5,910,030	6,613,976	(703,946)	
Total Infrastructure - Roads		7,092,162	5,910,030	6,613,976	(703,946)	

(e) Infrastructure - Other	Funding Source	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	% Complete
		\$	\$	\$	\$	
Recreation & Culture						
Community Swimming Pool		1,050,000	875,000	-	875,000	0%
Sports Club Access Upgrade		30,000	25,000	-	25,000	0%
Community Splash Pool		350,000	291,660	-	291,660	0%
Economic Services						
Roadhouse & C/V Park Precinct Works		20,000	16,660	-	16,660	0%
Improvements To drinking Water reticulation		450,000	374,990	94,127	280,863	21%
Power Supply Upgrade		350,000	291,660	130,950	160,710	37%
Community Amenities						
Total Infrastructure - Other		2,250,000	1,874,970	225,077	1,649,893	
Total Capital Expenditure		10,726,643	8,938,700	7,654,303	1,299,812	

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

10. RATING INFORMATION

	Rateable Value \$	Rate in \$	Number of Properties #	Annual Budget Revenue \$	Rate Revenue \$	Interim Rates CY \$	Interim Rates PY \$	YTD Actual Revenue \$
General Rates								
UV Pastoral	1,232,909	0.088894	22	109,655	109,655	(637)	-	109,019
UV Mining	16,725,080	0.169410	21	1,823,074	1,817,517	(1,518,281)	-	299,236
UV Prospecting and exploration	1,754,201	0.169410	61	297,180	297,180	(1,602)	-	295,579
Total General Rates				2,229,909	2,224,352	(1,520,519)	-	703,833
Minimum Rates								
UV Pastoral	21,304	800	6	4,800	4,800	-	-	4,800
UV Mining	8,140	800	4	4,000	4,000	-	-	4,000
UV Prospecting and exploration	43,144	800	18	14,400	14,400	-	-	14,400
Total Minimum Rates				23,200	23,200	-	-	23,200
Total General and Minimum Rates				2,253,109	2,247,552	(1,520,519)	-	727,033
Other Rate Revenue								
Facilities fees (Ex Gratia)								-
Total Rate Revenue				2,253,109				727,033

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

11. INFORMATION ON BORROWINGS

(a) Debenture Repayments

(i) Loan 2 Roadworks in 2020-21

	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$
Transport			
Opening balance	1,722,871	1,722,871	1,722,871
Principal payment	(189,033)	(189,033)	(189,033)
Principal Outstanding	1,533,838	1,533,838	1,533,838
Finance cost payment	(30,870)	(30,871)	(15,869)
Service fee			
Total Principal, Finance Cost and Fees Paid	(219,903)	(219,904)	(204,901)
Total Principal Outstanding	1,533,838	1,533,838	1,533,838
Total Principal Repayments	(189,033)	(189,033)	(189,033)

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

12. GRANTS, SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

(a) Grants, Subsidies and Contributions

Program / Details	Grant Provider	Annual Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$
General Purpose Funding				
F.A.G Grant - General	WALGGC	151,325	151,324	113,494
F.A.G. Grant - Roads	WALGGC	55,694	46,410	41,770
Law, Order and Public Safety				
DFES Operating Grant	DFES	20,481	17,060	19,520
Recreation & Culture				
Unspent ILA Grant - Pia Remote		-	-	(6,999)
Transport				
MRWA Direct	MRWA	269,961	224,960	269,961
WANDRRA Flood Damage	MRWA	3,479,962	2,899,960	1,075,711
MRWA - SKA Roads	MRWA	182,816	152,340	-
Economic Services				
Tour Area Prom Revenue		32,000	26,660	3,909
Roadhouse Other Revenue		5,000	4,160	-
Other Property & Services				
Diesel Fuel Rebate		120,202	100,040	67,211
Total Grants, Subsidies and Contributions		4,317,441	3,622,914	1,584,577

(b) Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions

Transport				
MRWA Specific	MRWA	1,062,746	885,620	720,000
Roads to Recovery		635,471	529,550	635,471
LRCIP		632,708	632,708	162,317
MRWA - SKA Roads	MRWA	3,352,697	2,793,910	3,480,110
Mining Related Road Contributions		7,500	6,250	-
Recreation & Culture				
Other Rec & Sport Grants		852,446	852,446	855,970
Total Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions		6,543,568	5,700,484	5,853,869
Total Grants, Subsidies and Contributions		10,861,009	9,323,398	7,438,446

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
		Opening Surplus			161,144		161,144
03100	03100	ABC Expenses - Rate Revenue		Budget Review	372	-	161,516
03102	03102	Valuation Exp.& Title Searches		Budget Review	-	(221)	161,295
03105	03105	Penalty Interest Raised on Rates		Budget Review	-	(847)	160,449
03107	03107	Back Rates Levied		Budget Review	13,919	-	174,368
03114	03114	Rates Levied		Budget Review	-	(1,022,075)	(847,708)
03204	03204	Interest Earned - Municipal		Budget Review	-	(1,615)	(849,323)
03206	03206	Interest Earned - Reserve		Budget Review	45,978	-	(803,345)
03207	03207	Interest Received - Other (Not Reserves)		Budget Review	569	-	(802,776)
03210	03210	Transfer to Grants Commission Reserve		Budget Review	-	(2,800)	(805,576)
03212	03212	Transfer to Asset Management Reserve		Budget Review	1,022,075	-	216,499
04101	04101	Members Conference Expenses		Budget Review	-	(37)	216,463
04101	04101	Members Conference Expenses		Budget Review	-	(1,066)	215,397
04102	04102	Council Election Expenses		Budget Review	6,684	-	222,081
04104	04104	Members - Refresh & Receptions		Budget Review	-	(2,954)	219,127
04105	04105	Members - Insurance		Budget Review	-	(83)	219,045
04110	04110	Civic Receptions		Budget Review	5,230	-	224,274
04110	04110	Civic Receptions		Budget Review	-	(2,436)	221,838
04110	04110	Civic Receptions		Budget Review	-	(2,370)	219,468
04113	04113	ABC Expenses - Members		Budget Review	10,961	-	230,429
04116	CHFURN	Council Chambers Communications Gear/Tables		Budget Review	15,000	-	245,429
04150	04150	Other Governance Revenue		Budget Review	1,000	-	246,429
04200	04200	ABC Expenses - Other Governance		Budget Review	24,364	-	270,793
05100	05100	ABC Expenses - Fire Prevention		Budget Review	374	-	271,167
05101	05101	Insurance - Fire Prevention		Budget Review	-	(223)	270,944
05102	05102	Income Relating to Fire Prevention		Budget Review	1,921	-	272,864
05102	05102	Income Relating to Fire Prevention		Budget Review	-	(907)	271,958
05108	05108	Depreciation - Fire Prevention		Budget Review			271,958
05108	05108	Depreciation - Fire Prevention		Budget Review			271,958
05200	05200	Animal Control Expenses		Budget Review	-	(7,336)	264,621
05202	05202	Dog Registration Fee Income		Budget Review	88	-	264,709
05307	05307	CESM Program Expenses		Budget Review	5,274	-	269,983
05310	05310	ABC Expenses - O.L.O. & P.S.		Budget Review	374	-	270,356
07400	07400	Administration & Inspection		Budget Review	-	(2,248)	268,109
07404	07404	Analytical Expenses		Budget Review	-	(220)	267,889
07406	07406	ABC Expenses - Prev. Services		Budget Review	374	-	268,262
07503	07503	ABC Expenses - Pest Control		Budget Review	374	-	268,636
07700	07700	Medical Centre Expenses		Budget Review	-	(350)	268,285
07702	07702	Maintain Patient Transfer Vehicle		Budget Review	-	(2,005)	266,281
07705	07705	ABC Expenses - Other Health		Budget Review	374	-	266,654
07706	07706	Depreciation Ambulance Centre		Budget Review			266,654

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
08002	08002	ABC Expenses - Education & Welfare		Budget Review	374	-	267,028
09101	M2OFF	Maintenance 2 Office Road (CEO)		Budget Review	-	(719)	266,309
09102	M4AKU	Maintenance 4A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(64)	266,244
09102	M4AKU	Maintenance 4A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(90)	266,154
09103	M4BKU	Maintenance 4B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(64)	266,090
09103	M4BKU	Maintenance 4B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(118)	265,972
09104	M6KU	Maintenance 6 Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(267)	265,705
09104	M6KU	Maintenance 6 Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(66)	265,639
09105	M8KU	Maintenance 8 Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(169)	265,470
09106	M10AKU	Maintenance 10A Kurara Way		Budget Review	19	-	265,489
09106	M10AKU	Maintenance 10A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(156)	265,333
09107	M10BKU	Maintenance 10B Kurara Way		Budget Review	19	-	265,352
09107	M10BKU	Maintenance 10B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(152)	265,200
09108	M12AKU	Maintenance 12A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(214)	264,986
09108	M12AKU	Maintenance 12A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(82)	264,904
09109	M12BKU	Maintenance 12B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(214)	264,690
09109	M12BKU	Maintenance 12B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(177)	264,513
09110	M14MUL	Maintenance 14 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(764)	263,748
09110	M14MUL	Maintenance 14 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	164	-	263,913
09110	M14MUL	Maintenance 14 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(762)	263,151
09110	M14MUL	Maintenance 14 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(245)	262,906
09111	M16MUL	Maintenance 16 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(1,120)	261,786
09111	M16MUL	Maintenance 16 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(24)	261,762
09113	09113	Staff Housing Costs Reallocated		Budget Review	6,485	-	268,247
09117	M8MUL	Maintenance 8 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(538)	267,709
09117	M8MUL	Maintenance 8 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(22)	267,687
09118	M10MUL	Maintenance 10 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(615)	267,071
09118	M10MUL	Maintenance 10 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(44)	267,028
09121	09121	Foxtel 2 Office Road (CEO)		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,992
09122	09122	Foxtel 4A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(254)	266,739
09123	09123	Foxtel 4B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,703
09124	09124	Foxtel 6 Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,668
09125	09125	Foxtel 8 Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(254)	266,414
09126	09126	Foxtel 10A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,379
09127	09127	Foxtel 10B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,344
09128	09128	Foxtel 12A Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(35)	266,308
09129	09129	Foxtel 12B Kurara Way		Budget Review	-	(363)	265,946
09130	09130	Foxtel 14 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(117)	265,828
09131	09131	Income 16 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(390)	265,438
09135	09135	Foxtel 8 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(199)	265,239
09136	09136	Foxtel 10 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(35)	265,204

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
09137	09137	Foxtel 12 Mulga Cres		Budget Review	-	(390)	264,814
09140	09140	Foxtel Roadhouse Residence		Budget Review	-	(63)	264,751
09151	09151	Transfer to Reserves - Buildings		Budget Review	-	(1,756)	262,995
10100	MSANH	Household Refuse Removal		Budget Review	-	(404)	262,591
10100	MSANH	Household Refuse Removal		Budget Review	-		262,591
10100	MSANH	Household Refuse Removal		Budget Review	29	-	262,620
10100	MSANH	Household Refuse Removal		Budget Review	-	(848)	261,772
10100	MSANH	Household Refuse Removal		Budget Review	-	(582)	261,191
10103	MTIP	Tip Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(298)	260,892
10103	MTIP	Tip Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(309)	260,584
10103	MTIP	Tip Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(569)	260,015
10105	10105	ABC Expenses - H'sehold Refuse		Budget Review	374	-	260,388
10303	10303	ABC Expenses - Sewerage		Budget Review	374	-	260,762
10500	MSANO	Gen Exp Relating To Protection Of Environment		Budget Review	-	(572)	260,190
10500	MSANO	Gen Exp Relating To Protection Of Environment		Budget Review	-	(579)	259,611
10503	10503	ABC Exp. - Protection of Env.		Budget Review	388	-	259,999
10600	10600	Town Plng & Reg. Dev Expenses		Budget Review	20,000	-	279,999
10604	10604	ABC Exp - Town Plng & Reg. Dev.		Budget Review	323	-	280,322
10700	OCOP	Other Community Operations		Budget Review	-	(5,203)	275,119
10700	OCOP	Other Community Operations		Budget Review	-	(5,063)	270,056
10700	OLDDPT	Maintenance - Old Depot Shed (Gardener's Shed)		Budget Review	-	(23)	270,032
10700	OLDDPT	Maintenance - Old Depot Shed (Gardener's Shed)		Budget Review	-	(34)	269,998
10704	MPTOIL	Maintenance - Public Conveniences (Near Roadhouse)		Budget Review	-	(975)	269,023
10704	MPTOIL	Maintenance - Public Conveniences (Near Roadhouse)		Budget Review	-	(187)	268,835
10704	MPTOIL	Maintenance - Public Conveniences (Near Roadhouse)		Budget Review	-	(366)	268,469
10704	MPTOIL	Maintenance - Public Conveniences (Near Roadhouse)		Budget Review	-	(45)	268,425
10705	MCEMET	Maintenance - Cemetery		Budget Review	-	(639)	267,786
10705	MCEMET	Maintenance - Cemetery		Budget Review	-	(166)	267,620
10705	MCEMET	Maintenance - Cemetery		Budget Review	-	(423)	267,197
10705	MCEMET	Maintenance - Cemetery		Budget Review	-	(671)	266,525
10709	10709	ABC Expenses - O.C.A.		Budget Review	388	-	266,914
11300	11300	ABC Expenses - Other Rec. & Sport		Budget Review	477	-	267,391
11301	11301	Income - Other Recreation & Sport		Budget Review	1,000	-	268,391
11304	MPARKS	Maintenance - Parks And Reserves		Budget Review	5	-	268,396
11304	MPARKS	Maintenance - Parks And Reserves		Budget Review	-	(1,495)	266,900
11305	MSPORT	Maintenance - Murchison Sports Club		Budget Review	-	(500)	266,400
11305	MSPORT	Maintenance - Murchison Sports Club		Budget Review	-	(578)	265,822
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	-	(1,773)	264,049
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	5,000	-	269,049
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	4,746	-	273,796
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	-	(291)	273,505

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	-	(18)	273,487
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	-	(2,337)	271,150
11306	MPOLOC	Maintenance - Polocrosse Fields		Budget Review	-	(4,428)	266,722
11307	MSTOIL	Maintenance - Two Sports Toilet Blocks (Near Clubrooms And Between Fields)- Op Exp		Budget Review	-	(25)	266,696
11307	MSTOIL	Maintenance - Two Sports Toilet Blocks (Near Clubrooms And Between Fields)- Op Exp		Budget Review	-	(2)	266,694
11309	GARDEN	Garden Expenses Other		Budget Review	-	(525)	266,169
11309	GARDEN	Garden Expenses Other		Budget Review	-	(511)	265,658
11400	11400	Television Rebroadcasting		Budget Review	-	(273)	265,386
11404	11404	ABC Exp - TV Rebroadcasting		Budget Review	369	-	265,754
11500	11500	Library Costs		Budget Review	-	(688)	265,067
11500	11500	Library Costs		Budget Review	-	(420)	264,647
11502	11502	ABC Expenses - Libraries		Budget Review	1,069	-	265,716
11600	MOSAIC	Mosaic Project Expenses		Budget Review	-	(58)	265,658
11602	MUSEUM	Maintenance - Museum		Budget Review	-	(600)	265,058
11602	MUSEUM	Maintenance - Museum		Budget Review	-	(223)	264,835
11602	MUSEUM	Maintenance - Museum		Budget Review	-	(584)	264,251
11604	MUCOTT	Maintenance - Museum Cottage		Budget Review	-	(552)	263,699
11604	MUCOTT	Maintenance - Museum Cottage		Budget Review	-	(176)	263,523
11604	MUCOTT	Maintenance - Museum Cottage		Budget Review	-	(693)	262,830
11604	MUCOTT	Maintenance - Museum Cottage		Budget Review	-	(94)	262,736
11606	11606	ABC Expenses - Other Culture		Budget Review	757	-	263,493
12108	CGR000	Capex Grids General		Budget Review	-	(29,222)	234,271
12108	CGR000	Capex Grids General		Budget Review	29,222	-	263,493
12118	C12031	Carn-Mul Rd 208.68 - 241.74 Reconstruct & Widen various sections		Budget Review	-	(12,669)	250,824
12118	C12031	Carn-Mul Rd 208.68 - 241.74 Reconstruct & Widen various sections		Budget Review	-	(720,490)	(469,665)
12119	C12033	Reseal Works		Budget Review	-	(26,470)	(496,135)
12120	C12026	Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flowers Works		Budget Review	-	(5,446)	(501,581)
12120	C12026	Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flowers Works		Budget Review	-	(2,571)	(504,152)
12120	C12026	Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flowers Works		Budget Review	-	(34,932)	(539,084)
12120	C12026	Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flowers Works		Budget Review	-	(5,300)	(544,383)
12120	C12026	Beri-Pindar Rd Wreath Flowers Works		Budget Review	-	(2,570)	(546,954)
12120	C12027	Beri-Pindar Rd 288.05 - 309.50 Resheet incl Floodways		Budget Review	-	(1,482)	(548,436)
12120	C12027	Beri-Pindar Rd 288.05 - 309.50 Resheet incl Floodways		Budget Review	53,193	-	(495,242)
12120	C12027	Beri-Pindar Rd 288.05 - 309.50 Resheet incl Floodways		Budget Review	-	(1,442)	(496,684)
12120	C12028	Carn-Mul Rd 82.62 - 83.54 & 86.90 - 88.05 Resheet incl Floodways		Budget Review	1,186	-	(495,498)
12120	C12035	SKA Route General Construction Works		Budget Review	-	(5,486)	(500,984)
12120	C12035	SKA Route General Construction Works		Budget Review	16,163	-	(484,821)
12120	C12035	SKA Route General Construction Works		Budget Review	-	(10,677)	(495,498)
12120	C12037	SKA Route Twin Peaks-Wooleen Rd Proj No 1		Budget Review	-	(1,040)	(496,538)
12120	C12037	SKA Route Twin Peaks-Wooleen Rd Proj No 1		Budget Review	-	(1,012)	(497,550)
12151	12151	Trans. to Res - Berrigarra - Cue		Budget Review	-	(38,279)	(535,829)

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
12200	12200	Depreciation - Roads & Depot		Budget Review	-		(535,829)
12200	12200	Depreciation - Roads & Depot		Budget Review	-		(535,829)
12200	12200	Depreciation - Roads & Depot		Budget Review	-		(535,829)
12203	R0001	Beringarra-Pindar Road		Budget Review	-	(9,053)	(544,882)
12203	R0004	Twin Peaks - Wooleen Road		Budget Review	-	(3,941)	(548,823)
12203	R0004	Twin Peaks - Wooleen Road		Budget Review	-	(4,146)	(552,969)
12203	R0004	Twin Peaks - Wooleen Road		Budget Review	-	(9,556)	(562,524)
12203	R0005	Boolardy - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(15,260)	(577,784)
12203	R0005	Boolardy - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(7,297)	(585,081)
12203	R0005	Boolardy - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(20,078)	(605,159)
12203	R0006	Byro - Woodleigh Road		Budget Review	-	(274)	(605,433)
12203	R0006	Byro - Woodleigh Road		Budget Review	-	(2,224)	(607,657)
12203	R0008	New Forrest - Yallalong Road		Budget Review	-	(259)	(607,916)
12203	R0008	New Forrest - Yallalong Road		Budget Review	-	(2,879)	(610,795)
12203	R0010	Coolcalalaya Road		Budget Review	-	(1,952)	(612,747)
12203	R0010	Coolcalalaya Road		Budget Review	-	(2,094)	(614,841)
12203	R0010	Coolcalalaya Road		Budget Review	-	(4,704)	(619,545)
12203	R0011	Mileura - Nookawarra Road		Budget Review	-	(4,621)	(624,166)
12203	R0011	Mileura - Nookawarra Road		Budget Review	-	(4,501)	(628,667)
12203	R0011	Mileura - Nookawarra Road		Budget Review	-	(14,048)	(642,715)
12203	R0024	Boolardy Station Access Road		Budget Review	-	(1,178)	(643,893)
12203	R0024	Boolardy Station Access Road		Budget Review	-	(1,147)	(645,040)
12203	R0024	Boolardy Station Access Road		Budget Review	-	(2,770)	(647,810)
12203	R0027	Wooleen - Mt Wittenoom Road		Budget Review	-	(1,680)	(649,490)
12203	R0027	Wooleen - Mt Wittenoom Road		Budget Review	-	(30,750)	(680,240)
12203	R0027	Wooleen - Mt Wittenoom Road		Budget Review	-	(1,741)	(681,981)
12203	R0027	Wooleen - Mt Wittenoom Road		Budget Review	-	(261)	(682,242)
12203	R0033	Cue - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(4,218)	(686,461)
12203	R0033	Cue - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(4,166)	(690,626)
12203	R0033	Cue - Kalli Road		Budget Review	-	(4,691)	(695,317)
12203	RMPIA1	Pia Settlement Roads Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(1,512)	(696,829)
12203	RMPIA1	Pia Settlement Roads Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(1,471)	(698,300)
12203	RMPIA1	Pia Settlement Roads Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(3,754)	(702,054)
12204	DEPOT	Depot Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(3,427)	(705,481)
12204	DEPOT	Depot Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(1,868)	(707,349)
12204	DEPOT	Depot Maintenance		Budget Review	354	-	(706,995)
12204	DEPOT	Depot Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(4,254)	(711,249)
12204	DEPOT	Depot Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(2)	(711,251)
12206	TSIGNS	Traffic Signs Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(17,153)	(728,403)
12207	MBRIDG	Bridges Maintenance		Budget Review	168	-	(728,236)
12216	12216	Grant - Roads to Recovery		Budget Review	347,350	-	(380,886)

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
12219	12219	Grant - Wandrra Flood Damage		Budget Review	-	(1,407,084)	(1,787,970)
12220	12220	Traffic Licencing Commissions		Budget Review	151	-	(1,787,818)
12220	12220	Traffic Licencing Commissions		Budget Review	729	-	(1,787,089)
12230	SKA00	SKA Roads Maintenance General		Budget Review	-	(166,196)	(1,953,286)
12235	FLOOD8	Flood Damage Feb 2020		Budget Review	1,677,235	-	(276,050)
12235	FLOOD9	Flood Damage from Rain Event May 2021		Budget Review	6,109	-	(269,941)
12235	FLOOD9	Flood Damage from Rain Event May 2021		Budget Review	72,639	-	(197,302)
12235	FLOOD9	Flood Damage from Rain Event May 2021		Budget Review	5,372	-	(191,931)
12235	FLOOD11	Flood Damage from Rain Event Mar April 2023		Budget Review	-	(8,568)	(200,499)
12236	12236	MRWA - SKA Roads Operating Grant		Budget Review	182,816	-	(17,682)
12237	12237	MRWA - SKA Roads Capital Grant		Budget Review	395,887	-	378,204
12241	12241	ABC Exp - Roads & Depot		Budget Review	7,233	-	385,438
12243	12243	Housing Costs Road Maint		Budget Review	-	(2,788)	382,649
12302	12302	Road Plant Purchases		Budget Review	64,047	-	446,696
12604	MAIRPT	Airport Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(13,614)	433,082
12604	MAIRPT	Airport Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(1,154)	431,928
12604	MAIRPT	Airport Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(5)	431,923
12605	12605	ABC Exp. - Aerodrome		Budget Review	354	-	432,277
13101	13101	Vermin Control		Budget Review	-	(4,315)	427,962
13103	13103	ABC Exp - Rural Services		Budget Review	562	-	428,525
13202	C13021	Caravan Park Furniture & Equipment		Budget Review	22,000	-	450,525
13202	C13021	Caravan Park Furniture & Equipment		Budget Review	-	(20,945)	429,580
13202	C13023	Roadhouse Appliances		Budget Review	-	(4,536)	425,044
13202	C13023	Roadhouse Appliances		Budget Review	-	(194,000)	231,044
13207	13207	ABC Exp- Tourism/Area Prom.		Budget Review	1,566	-	232,610
13211	13211	Trans to Res - Com Econ Dev		Budget Review	-	(2,119)	230,491
13612	13612	Trans to Res - Sett. Bldg & Facs.		Budget Review	-	(55,752)	174,739
13619	RHOPER	Roadhouse Business Operational		Budget Review	-	(16,899)	157,840
13619	RHOTH	Roadhouse - Other		Budget Review	-	(172)	157,668
13620	CPKEXP	Caravan Park Expenses - Grounds		Budget Review	-	(467)	157,201
13620	CPBULD	Cabins Caravan Park Expenses		Budget Review	-	(341)	156,860
13620	RHACM	Maintenance of Tourist Accommodation Units		Budget Review	-	(512)	156,349
13620	RHACM	Maintenance of Tourist Accommodation Units		Budget Review	-	(2,422)	153,926
13640	RHM	Roadhouse Cafe Bldg Maint		Budget Review	-	(5,387)	148,539
13640	RHM	Roadhouse Cafe Bldg Maint		Budget Review	-	(1,688)	146,851
13640	RHM	Roadhouse Cafe Bldg Maint		Budget Review	-	(845)	146,007
13640	RHM	Roadhouse Cafe Bldg Maint		Budget Review	927	-	146,933
13640	RHRES	Roadhouse Residence		Budget Review	-	(1,379)	145,555
13640	RHRES	Roadhouse Residence		Budget Review	-	(382)	145,173
13640	RHRES	Roadhouse Residence		Budget Review	-	(109)	145,063
13655	CMULBC	Murchison Roads Planning and Design Project		Budget Review	10	-	145,073

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
13655	TOUR	Tourism Operational Expenses		Budget Review	22,764	-	167,837
13600	13600	ABC Expenses - Other Economic Services		Budget Review	2,567	-	170,404
13601	WATER	Settlement Water Supply		Budget Review	-	(840)	169,563
13601	WATER	Settlement Water Supply		Budget Review	-	(122)	169,442
13601	WATER	Settlement Water Supply		Budget Review	-	(1,008)	168,434
13601	WATER	Settlement Water Supply		Budget Review	-	(17)	168,417
13602	POWER	Settlement Power Generation		Budget Review	-	(237)	168,180
13602	POWER	Settlement Power Generation		Budget Review	-	(1,555)	166,625
13602	PHFUEL	Powerhouse Fuel		Budget Review	-	(10,700)	155,925
13602	GEN098	Powerhouse Generator No 1		Budget Review	1,110	-	157,036
13602	GEN099	Powerhouse Generator No 2		Budget Review	-	(155)	156,880
13602	GEN099	Powerhouse Generator No 2		Budget Review	1,110	-	157,990
13602	GEN099	Powerhouse Generator No 2		Budget Review	-	(1,331)	156,659
13603	FREGHT	Settlement Freight Service		Budget Review	-	(450)	156,210
13603	FREGHT	Settlement Freight Service		Budget Review	-	(10)	156,200
13603	FREGHT	Settlement Freight Service		Budget Review	998	-	157,197
13603	FREGHT	Settlement Freight Service		Budget Review	-	(440)	156,757
13603	FREGHT	Settlement Freight Service		Budget Review	-	(18)	156,739
13606	RHFEXP	Roadhouse Fuel Other Expenses		Budget Review	-	(50)	156,689
13607	13607	Income Other Economic Services		Budget Review	15,128	-	171,816
13641	ECOOOTH	Other Economic Services Expenses		Budget Review	-	(171)	171,645
13656	13656	Housing Costs Allocated Economic Services		Budget Review	-	(3,888)	167,757
13657	C14720	Improvements To drinking Water reticulation		Budget Review	-	(89)	167,668
13657	C14720	Improvements To drinking Water reticulation		Budget Review	89	-	167,757
14200	14200	Plant Expenses PWOH		Budget Review	-	(6,873)	160,883
14202	14202	Sick Leave Expense		Budget Review	-	(146)	160,737
14203	14203	Annual & LSL - Works		Budget Review	-	(100,982)	59,756
14205	OFFWKS	Works Salaries & Wages		Budget Review	-	(36,526)	23,229
14206	14206	Consultant Expenses (Inc RAMM)		Budget Review	-	(8,633)	14,597
14207	14207	Less PWO Allocated to Works		Budget Review	79,066	-	93,663
14211	14211	Camp Expenses		Budget Review	-	(810)	92,853
14213	14213	TOIL - Works		Budget Review	713	-	93,566
14214	14214	Public Holidays - Works		Budget Review	-	(6,406)	87,160
14215	14215	ABC Expenses - P.W.Overheads		Budget Review	4,522	-	91,682
14217	14217	Superannuation - P.W.O.		Budget Review	-	(5,399)	86,283
14302	14302	Insurance - Plant		Budget Review	-	(3,707)	82,576
14303	14303	Fuel & Oils		Budget Review	-	(35,267)	47,309
14305	14305	Parts & Repairs		Budget Review	-	(2,588)	44,721
14305	14305	Parts & Repairs		Budget Review	-	(6,917)	37,805
14309	14309	Plant Operation Costs Allocated to Works		Budget Review	125,141	-	162,945
14312	14312	Plant - Tools & Minor Equipment		Budget Review	-	(7,157)	155,788

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

For the Period Ending 30 April 2024

13. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GL Code	Job Code	Description	Council Resolution	Classification	Increase in Cash	Decrease in Cash	Running Balance
14313	14313	ABC Expenses - Plant Operation Costs		Budget Review	7,413	-	163,201
14404	14404	Diesel Fuel Rebate		Budget Review	35,051	-	198,252
14500	14500	General Office and Administration		Budget Review	-	(995)	197,257
14500	14500	General Office and Administration		Budget Review	-	(1,630)	195,627
14501	OFFADM	Administration Office Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(2,385)	193,242
14501	OFFADM	Administration Office Maintenance		Budget Review	357	-	193,599
14501	OFFADM	Administration Office Maintenance		Budget Review	-	(234)	193,364
14502	14502	Workers Comp. - Administration		Budget Review	-	(15,894)	177,470
14503	14503	IT Expense		Budget Review	-	(3,037)	174,433
14504	14504	Telecommunications - Admin		Budget Review	7,886	-	182,318
14504	14504	Telecommunications - Admin		Budget Review	-	(6,699)	175,619
14505	14505	Travel & Accommodation - Admin		Budget Review	-	(3,532)	172,087
14505	14505	Travel & Accommodation - Admin		Budget Review	-	(93)	171,995
14506	14506	Legal Expenses Administration		Budget Review	-	(24,000)	147,995
14506	14506	Legal Expenses Administration		Budget Review	-	(12,000)	135,995
14512	14512	Income Relating to Administration		Budget Review	-	(4,967)	131,028
14512	14512	Income Relating to Administration		Budget Review	-	(4,222)	126,806
14512	14512	Income Relating to Administration		Budget Review	8,189	-	134,995
14517	14517	Insurance - Admin		Budget Review	627	-	135,622
14518	14518	Salaries - Administration		Budget Review	115,678	-	251,300
14519	14519	Staff Appointment Expenses		Budget Review	-	(1,406)	249,894
14520	14520	Superannuation - Admin		Budget Review	-	(8,350)	241,544
14521	14521	Audit Fees (Administration)		Budget Review	2,678	-	244,222
14522	14522	Consultants Administration		Budget Review	30,000	-	274,222
14523	14523	Accounting Support Services		Budget Review	15,000	-	289,222
14523	14523	Accounting Support Services		Budget Review	-	(31,451)	257,771
14523	14523	Accounting Support Services		Budget Review	1,000	-	258,771
14524	14524	Subscriptions		Budget Review	4,057	-	262,827
14527	ADMVEH	Vehicle Expenses Administration		Budget Review	7,089	-	269,916
14550	14550	Less ABC Costs Alloc to W & S		Budget Review	-	(66,674)	203,243
14565	14565	Administration Vehicles Purchases		Budget Review	-	(64,047)	139,195
12203	NEW JOB	Gravel Pit Establishment		Budget Review	-	(57,696)	81,499



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Rating Analysis Review

May 2024

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Introduction

The following Rating Strategy Review provides a summary of various matters that relevant to consideration of rates that are adopted annually, as well as providing guidance on an a long-term policy basis.

Legislative Provisions

The legislative provisions for rating are lengthy and complex. The following relevant summary highlights relevant legislative provisions under the *Local Government 1995* that are provided as a snap shot as part of this Rating Strategy Review

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

Rateable Land – s6.26

Except as provided all land within a district is rateable land. Exemptions include:

- ~ Land which is the property of the Crown and used or held for a public purpose.
- ~ Land owned by the local government and used for that purpose by the local government.
- ~ Land used exclusively for charitable purposes.
- ~ Land which is exempt from rates under any written law
- ~ Land which is declared by the Minister to be exempt from rates.

Basis of Rates – s 6.28

Land is rated according to the method of valuation as determined by the Minister. ie

- ~ unimproved value for land use predominately for rural purposes (UV); or
- ~ gross rental value for land used predominately for non-rural purposes (GRV).

Rates are based on valuations under the *Valuation of Land Act 1978*. The local government sets a rate in the dollar which is applied to this valuation to give the rates liability for each property.

Mining Valuations and Rates – s6.29

Unless otherwise provided for mining tenements under the *Mining Act 1978* or permit drilling leases or licences under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967* are rated on unimproved value.

Rates and Service Charges - s 6.32

Rates are established at the time Council adopts its budget to make up the budget deficiency. The following may be imposed:

- ~ a general rate imposed either uniformly or differentially.
- ~ a special area rate of minimum payment and
- ~ service charges

Where a rate is imposed it is required to be expressed rate in the dollar of the gross rental value of rateable land or on the unimproved value of rateable land depending on the circumstances.

Differential General Rates – s6.33

A local government may impose a single general rate which applies to all the properties in the unimproved value or gross rental value category; or alternatively, the local government can distinguish between land in either category on the basis of its zoning, use or whether or not it is vacant land (or a combination of these factors) and apply a differential rate to each.

Ministerial approval is required where a differential rate which is more than twice the lowest differential rate is to be imposed by it.

Limit on Revenue from General Rates – s 6.34

Unless otherwise approved by the Minister the amount shown in the annual budget as being yielded from general rates shall be within 90 and 110%of the budget deficiency.

Minimum Payment – s 6.35

A local government may impose on any rateable land in its district a minimum payment which is greater than the general rate which would otherwise be payable on that land. A minimum payment is to be a general minimum but, must ensure that the general minimum is imposed on not greater than —

- ~ 50% of the total number of separately rated properties in the district; or
- ~ 50% of the number of properties in each category being land rated on gross rental value, unimproved value to each differential rating category where a differential general rate is imposed.

A minimum payment is not to be imposed on more than the prescribed percentage separately rated properties or the number of properties rated under gross rental value, (GRV), unimproved value (UV) or in each differential rate category where this is imposed. The current prescribed limits are set under the *Local Government Financial Regulations 1996*.

There is no restriction on the proportion of properties subject to the minimum providing the minimum is not more than \$200. If the minimum is over \$200, no more than half of the properties (50%) can be subject to the minimum unless the differential rating category is for vacant land **and** Ministerial approval is granted.

Local Government to give notice of certain rates – s6.36

Before imposing any differential general rates or a minimum payment applying to a differential rate category a local government is to

- ~ give local public notice of its intention to do so.
- ~ prepare a document describing the objects of, and reasons for, each proposed rate and minimum payment and to publish the document on the local government's official website.
- ~ provide opportunity to receive and hear any submissions.

Service Charges – s 6.38

The money from any service charge imposed on owners or occupiers can only be used to meet the cost of providing a specific service. Under the *Local Government Financial Regulations 1996* prescribed works include property surveillance and security, television and radio rebroadcasting, underground electricity, and water.

Rates Charges on Land- s 6.43

Subject to the *Rates and Charges (Rebates and Deferments) Act 1992*, rates remain a charge on the land.

VALUATION OF LAND ACT 1978

4. Terms used

(1) In this Act unless the context requires otherwise —

rateable land means land in respect of which any rate or tax is assessed under any of the rating and taxing Acts or is, in the opinion of the Valuer-General, reasonably likely to be assessed under any of those Acts prior to such land being valued in a general valuation;

rating and taxing Acts means an Act or Acts under which any rate or tax is assessed in respect of land;

rating or taxing authority means any person entitled under any Act to assess any rate or tax in respect of land;

rateable land means land in respect of which any rate or tax is assessed under any of the rating and taxing Acts or is, in the opinion of the Valuer-General, reasonably likely to be assessed under any of those Acts prior to such land being valued in a general valuation;

rating and taxing Acts means an Act or Acts under which any rate or tax is assessed in respect of land;

rating or taxing authority means any person entitled under any

Act to assess any rate or tax in respect of land;

unimproved value means —

(a) in relation to any land situate within a townsite, except land referred to in paragraph (b)(ii), the site value;

(b) in relation to any land not included in any area referred to in paragraph (a), where any such land is —

(i) land —

(I) held under a lease granted under the *Land Administration Act 1997*, or any Act repealed thereby, for grazing purposes; or

(II) held under a lease, licence or permit under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*; or

(III) other than a mining tenement, held pursuant to an agreement made with the Crown in the right of the State and scheduled to an Act approving the agreement,

the value thereof is an amount equal to 20 times the annual rental reserved by the lease or agreement or the value of the land in fee simple, whichever is the lesser sum;

(ii) *land in respect of which —*

(I) *a mining tenement is held pursuant to an agreement made with the Crown in the right of the State and scheduled to an Act approving the agreement —*

(A) *5 times the annual rent per hectare for the first 1 000 h or part thereof;*

(B) *2.5 times the annual rent per hectare for the next 9 000 h or part thereof;*

(C) *0.25 times the annual rent per hectare for each hectare in excess of 10 000 h,*

where the annual rent referred to is the annual rent that would be used to calculate unimproved value under item (II) or (III) if the mining tenement were held under the Mining Act 1978;

or

(II) *an exploration licence is held under the Mining Act 1978 —*

(A) *2.5 times the annual rent payable for the licence under that Act if it is the first year of the term of the licence; or*

(B) *2.5 times the annual rent that would be payable for the licence under that Act if it were the first year of the term of the licence;*

or

(III) *any other licence or a lease is held under the Mining Act 1978 — 5 times the annual rent payable for the licence or lease under that Act; or*

(IV) *a licence or lease is held under the Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 — 2.5 times the annual fee payable for the licence or lease under that Act; or*

(VA) *a permit or drilling reservation is held under the Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 — the annual fee payable for the permit or drilling reservation under that Act; or*

(V) *any mineral estate or interest in land is registered under the Transfer of Land Act 1893 — 5 times the rent that would be payable if the land were held as a mining lease under the Mining Act 1978;*

value *in relation to land means the assessed value, the capital value, the gross rental value, the site value, the unimproved value and a value determined or assessed under section 39(1) of the land or any one or more of those values; to value means to determine or assess those values or any one or more of them; and determination of value or valuation means a determination or assessment of those values or any one or more of them.*

Valuation Methodology

As indicated above under Legislative Provisions the Valuation of Land Act specifies the methodology undertaken with respect to the determination of Unimproved Values which applies to rating within the Shire. In essence valuations are a statutory method based on some form of multiple of the applicable rents charged for pastoral leases or mining tenements as outlined the extracts from Valuation of Land Act 1978 under the Legislative Provisions section above. The exact multiplier varies according to the type of lease or license.

The actual methodology in establishing rents for pastoral properties is as undertaken by Landgate who as part of their methodology examine review the potential carrying capacity (PCC) of the property where the PCC is defined as being the estimated number of livestock equivalents that can be carried annually over a long-term on a lease while maintaining or improving rangeland condition. Landgate periodically reviews this assessment with any changes to flowing through to the rents charge annually. The valuation is then set as 20 times the annual rent.

With respect to Mining Tenement the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety determines the relevant rents applicable annually for each type of mining tenement or license. Amounts also vary according to the area of the license, number of blocks involved and number of years. The rationale for the setting of these fees and charges is unknown. Each type of mining tenement or license will also attract a different multiplier ranging from 0.25 to 5 depending on the circumstances.

The net effect of these requirements provides for valuations that appear to have little or no equity in part as each approach is different. Rents and valuations for the pastoral sector has some form of occupational assessment whilst for mining it appears to be set arbitrarily or potential a CPI type basis.

For instance, compounding this situation it appears that pastoral rents and valuations have zero or perhaps negative change since 2015 whilst mining rents and valuations have risen for between 52% and 100%.

This results in significant inequities which local government rating attempts to address. It also explains why the mining rates have understandably risen as a result.

A Value and Principle Approach

Through the Local Government Act 1995, Part 6, the Western Australian Parliament has conferred upon local government the power to levy and collect property tax in the form of rates. Property taxes with rare exemptions, are not fees for service or relate to directly or indirectly an any specific services provided by the Shire. Just like income tax they are a just that, a tax; with the property owner responsible for paying, although it is doubtful whether all ratepayers would necessarily see this in this light.

The application of Councils rate and budget setting are partly outlined in the Minister's policy approach when exercising his / her discretionary powers in relation to Minimum Payments, and differential rating with key values of **objectivity, fairness and equity, consistency, transparency, and administrative efficiency** required to be demonstrated. So long as Council meets these criteria the rating regime should comply.

However, this does not really provide much guidance when it comes to determining matters such as the levels and nexus between differential rates and minimums or any specific justification.

As with all taxation systems there are various well-established principles that have been applied in other local government jurisdictions. Some of these seem to have been included in the above values but perhaps the most useful in this regard a few points to consider.

Does the tax burden fall appropriately across different classes of ratepayers? Equity is a subjective concept that is difficult to define. What is considered fair for one person may be considered unfair for another. There are two main equity concepts used to guide the development of rating strategies (and taxation more generally): namely the Benefit Principle (Horizontal Equity) and Capacity to Pay Principle (Vertical Equity).

Benefit Principle

Taxpayers should receive some benefits from paying tax, but not necessarily to the extent of the tax paid. Ratepayers in similar situations should pay similar amounts (ensured mainly by accurate property valuations undertaken in a consistent manner, their classification into homogenous property classes and the right of appeal against valuation).

Example of this is the application of a fixed charge or minimum rate component of a rating system; although the minimum payment example applies on a 'sliding' scale and unlike the fixed charge is not applied equally to all ratepayers.

In many local government jurisdictions this must be applied the same across all differential rate sectors whilst in Western Australia it can vary between differential rates sectors, although in doing so it could be argued that it weakens this principle.

Capacity to Pay Principle

In levying taxes, the ability of the taxpayer to pay the tax must be considered. Those who are better off should pay more than those worse off (the rationale applies for the use of progressive and proportional income taxation. It implies a "relativity" dimension to the fairness of the tax burden).

Example of this is the rate in the \$ component and differential rate classification. How this is balanced is open to question. Benchmarking with other local governments are a useful exercise although only provides a guide.

Rating Nuances

A few rating nuances.

- i There is a common misconception that rates are directly set by property values when in fact they are only derived in part from them after Council has considered a raft of budget and equity considerations.
- ii If property's value increase generally due to market forces by say 10%, rarely do rates increase by that amount and if property values decline, rates do not normally reduce. In each instance the rate in the \$ and potentially the minimum rate is adjusted.
- iii Property valuations are a surrogate for income when it comes to the application of the Capacity to Pay Principle, even though this may not reflect in a personal sense. Just because a property valuation is higher than another doesn't necessarily mean that owner has an actual greater capacity to pay, just that on proportional basis they will attract under this principle a larger proportion of rates levied.
- iv For properties that have a perpetual life and continue to exist from one year to the next, when property valuations increase through market forces, in reality there may be no change to the rates base. If, however, a property has its GRV expanded by a capital development or subdivision or say a new tenement or changes its rating category then that is often termed "natural growth." If that element is not segmented for analysis purposes, then a rates base does not grow, adversely affecting the financial capacity of the local government and leads to new "growth" ratepayers subsidising old ones. This situation also applies reverse where a property such as a mining tenement or lease ceases to exist and disappears from the rates base.

As a result, any increase in the rate should be expressed in terms of a % revenue increase "*excluding natural decline or growth.*"

However, for UV properties this situation is far less clear as there is no easily identifiable increase through natural growth as would be the case for GRV or Capital Values which apply in other rating systems.

Given that the Government sets rents and has significantly increased mining rents and hence valuations, then it is not unreasonable to assume that this aspect could be considered as a form of growth which would then potentially attract growth in rates.
- v For properties such as in the mining sector that do not have a perpetual life and are often highly speculative and can come and go regularly, property numbers and valuations from year to year can vary markedly. This makes it more difficult to treat in the same manner as perpetual life properties in part as the use of the capacity pay principle may be relatively short lived and often any rates levied do not necessarily remain a charge on the land. Yet the entire value of the infrastructure and services provided by the Shire are also available to all ratepayers regardless and invariably this can only be addressed through differential rating. Not unreasonably high to very high differentials could be expected.
- vi With perhaps the exception of perpetual life mining type properties given the vagaries and variables of valuations, differential rates, minimum rates and rates in the \$, the best and least unreliable comparator is properties' actual rates from one year to another and on sector and a district wide basis the average rate in a sector.

Rates Analysis

Like previous years, benchmarking included comparisons with neighbouring Shires. In 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 the depth of analysis expanded with the addition of two additional sparsely populated Shires more akin in makeup with Murchison and with a far more expansive comparison was undertaken. This year's analysis has been further developed.

As indicated in the attached (*Rates Analysis Details*), whilst such an exercise is far from perfect and not conclusive there are common themes.

Like all local governments the Grants Commission undertakes a more systematic amongst other things to establish an average local governments rate capacity and with it an assessed level applied to each local government. This analysis is also presented.

The following tables and graphs are attached. Summary comments are also shown.

Benchmarking

- Fig 1 Valuation Base \$
Provided as the "base" as this aspect is not subject to Council Policy influences. Murchison has way and far the smallest valuation base.
- Fig 2 Average Valuations \$
Murchison's average UV Valuation for the mining sector is significantly greater all of the others. However, a number also have GRV mining values whereas some don't.
- Fig 3 Rate Revenue \$
Provided as the "base" as this aspect is not subject to Council Policy influences. Murchison is way and far the smallest rate base.
- Fig 4 Rate Revenue Growth \$
Provided as the "base" as this aspect is not subject to Council Policy influences. Due to the smaller size of Murchison's rate base growth is way and far the smallest notwithstanding the 2024 correction which had a one-off larger impact than normal.
- Fig 5 Rate Revenue by Sector %
On a % but not \$ basis Murchison has a higher contribution from the pastoral sector, but this is largely a reflection of the smaller amount of mining activity compared to other local governments in the region.
- Fig 6 Average Rates by Sector \$
The average mining rates paid in Murchison on the surface are well much greater than those of other Shires. This can partly be explained by the small size of the mining sector compared to other local governments but also that Murchison's Mining Tenements have higher valuations.
- Fig 7 Rate Cents in \$ by Sector
The Pastoral and Mining Exploration Rates in the \$ appear low compared to others. However as indicated under points i and vi above under Rating Nuances; rates in the \$ are not a good comparator per say.
- Fig 8 Highest Differential Rate in \$ v Pastoral Rate in the \$
In 2023 the Mining Rate differential for Murchison appeared very high compared to others but as other figs show there are a range of relevant reasons. The Threshold triggering requirements to obtain Ministerial Approval is also shown which now shows the effect of the 2024 correction.
- Fig 9 % of ratepayers based on Minimum Payment
No major difference compared to others in the region.
- Fig 10 Min UV Rates Comparison \$
Min UV Rates for Murchison appear within the parameters of others. However, the amount is really a function of the rates base and equity considerations.

Fig 11 % of Pastoral Properties vs Others

The apparent larger % numbers for Murchison compared to others merely reflects the smaller % of mining properties compared to others.

Fig 12 UV Rates Comparison as % of Rates Base.

In % terms the Pastoral sector in Murchison appears to contribute to greater extent than other areas most likely reflecting the lack of GRV rates

Fig 13 Min Rates

Min Rates for Murchison are within parameters of others. However, the amount is really a function of the rates base and equity considerations.

Fig 14 Grant Commission 3 Year Average Rates Assessments 2022-23 \$

Grants Commission have assessed Murchison as having significant capacity to lift rates in the pastoral sectors but also conversely reduce rates in the mining sector. However, this situation is not dissimilar to most other Shires.

Fig 15 Grants Commission 3 Year Average Rates Comparison (%)

Grants Commission have assessed Murchison as having significant capacity to lift rates in the pastoral sectors but also conversely reduce rates in the mining sector. However, this situation is not dissimilar to most other Shires.

Fig 16 Non-Current Assets \$

This shows a general snapshot of the value of assets that each Shire is required to manage and provides some broad context to the comparison as rate revenue is a significant source of own source funds. By comparison Murchison has a moderately large infrastructure component to manage but as shown elsewhere has the smallest rate base by some measure

Fig 17 Depreciation Non-Current Assets

As per Fig 16

Fig 18 Rates as a % of Depreciation.

This highlights the importance of lifting overall levels of rate revenue as the proportion is very low, especially as there will be likely increase in new or upgraded assets which will need to be funded and replaced over time.

Fig 19 Revenue Rates & Grants Commission 2022-23 (\$)

This shows the continued lack of rate revenue compared to others and thereby greater reliance on Grants Commission Revenue.

Fig 20 Revenue Rates & Grants Commission %

As per Fig 19 but also shows the larger road network required to be serviced compared to others, a situation that also arises as Murchison has no State Highway funded by Main Repads WA within its boundaries.

Fig 21 Mining Rent Changes from 2015 base %

It shows that the Government through setting its fees and charges has significantly lifted mining rents and thereby valuations for mining tenements.

Murchison Comparisons

Fig A Murchison Grants Commission Average Rates Yearly Comparison \$

This shows the start of a policy approach to lift the quantum of rate revenue and in doing so distribute rate revenue across sectors with increases in the Pastoral and Processing & Exploration Sector but with a reduction in the Mining Sector. 2024 figures which have yet to be obtained will add to trend.

Fig B Murchison Differential Rates History

This shows empirically a reduction in the ratio of differentials between the mining and pastoral sectors over time. In 2023/24 for the first time the maximum differential has fallen below 2.0 as per the Council's policy aim

- Fig C Murchison Average Valuation Changes from 2015 base %
This shows the increased valuation base in the mining and prospection and exploration sectors.
- Fig D Murchison Average Rates Changes from 2015 base %
This shows the increased rates that result from increased valuation base in the mining and prospection and exploration sectors
- Fig E UV Valuations
Shows decline in Pastoral Valuations relative to Mining over the period. Both sectors have stable numbers. Exploration sector has risen significantly mainly as numbers have changed dramatically.
- Fig F Sector UV Rates
Shows relativity between sectors. Mining sector has risen significantly whilst Pastoral Sector has seen minimal change. Both sectors have stable numbers. Exploration sector has risen significantly mainly as numbers have changed dramatically.
- Fig G UV Sector Average Rates
See Comments below
- Fig H UV Pastoral Average Rates
Pastoral Sector has gradual change with major uplift correction in 2024.
- Fig I UV Mining Average Rates
Mining Sector has seen moderate change but with greater net effect and a reduction in 2024 as part of a major correction.
- Fig J UV Exploration Average Rates
Exploration Sector has seen steady significant growth from a low base with a major uplift correction in 2024.

Other Observations

The following observations are also noted.

- 1 The Mining rate appears on the surface to be too high in comparison to other rating categories. However, asAs outlined in *DLGSC Rates Detailed Discussion Paper* a differential of 4 times the lowest differential rate has been suggested instead of the current level requiring rates to obtain Ministerial approval. This implies a recognition that large differentials are not exceptional and as indicated in Fig 21 are substantially driven by mining tenement rents as set by the State Government
- 2 As shown Murchison's rate base is very very much smaller by some margin in comparison with others. Other Shires also have larger numbers within the Other (Mining and Other GRV) than Murchison. By contrast Murchison has a more infrastructure to manage relative to our rates base so the current differences are in part explainable.
- 3 Even though the Pastoral Rate makes up a small percentage of the rates base the average rate appears low in comparison and in 2021/22 a program to lift this commenced. Given the then apparent and arguable over reliance on the mining sector, lifting the pastoral rates was considered appropriate and in 2023/24 this objective could more or less be considered as having been achieved.
- 4 As indicated in the previous analysis in a number of figures there was a significant inequity between the current mining and pastoral rate. The 2023 differential of 5.05 (even though reducing) was considered too large. When one considers that the rating methodology ignores capital improvements, which are mainly only applicable to pastoral properties, then this inequity is further compounded hence the 2024 correction to bring this differential back to less than 2.0
- 5 The current average rate for a pastoral property of \$4,088 is virtually the same as for Prospecting and Exploration but pales into insignificance compared the average rates of \$25,346 for a mine.
- 6 Mining rate revenue is \$304,151 which is 46% of the rates base derived from just 12 properties. Such a heavy dependence is a potential risk which in part has been addressed in a 2024 correction.

- 7 The proportion of rate revenue as related to Councils recurrent works is extremely low. This makes Murchison more reliant than many on external grants such as grants commission, roads and flood damage and represents a potential risk financially if funding in these aspects are reduced.
- 8 Most local governments will improve the levels of service and undertake new works and upgrade assets. This in itself partly justifies an increase in rates. In our instance we have already substantially increased our asset base through new works and have an expanded works program to deliver. This provides ample justification for increases in rates.

Local Rates Rationale

Whilst benchmarking with Shires provides a useful guide, modelling local rates and changes in valuations needs to be undertaken. This is done on an annual basis once details of new valuations arrive.

Under the current methodology Local Government has limited options available to with respect to raising rates but needs to ensure long term financial sustainability it being incumbent that a long-term strategic approach be undertaken.

Essentially one can only control the controllables. For instance, local government it can only control through its decision-making aspects such as what it spends its money on, what fees and charges it can levy and what rates are derived. Virtually all other aspects a local government can address by way of influence, not direct control.

For Murchison like all local governments Rates are by and far the largest component in revenue raising. Whilst rates are small compared with grant revenue nevertheless, they are essential, and yield should be maximised.

Strategic Rates Approach

It is essential that from a policy perspective option for future rate scenarios are explored with analysis tying into Council's Long Term Financial Plan. This is done annually and also ensure that in comparative terms between each year, that as far as practicable, aspects associated with natural growth or decline are ignored.

Rates Analysis Details

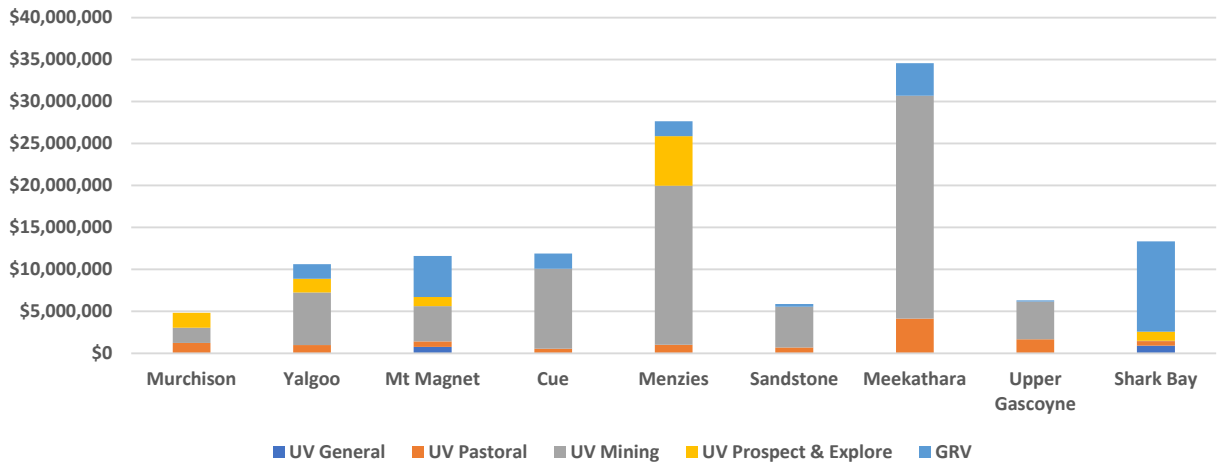
Details of Rates Analysis & Benchmarking undertaken is attached.

Rates Analysis Details

May 2024

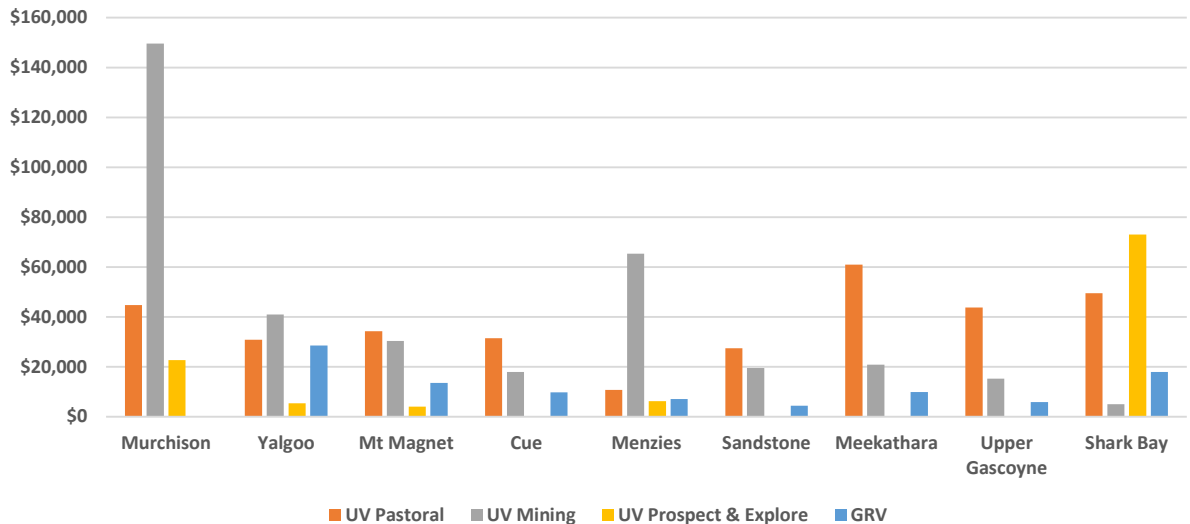
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 1 Valuation Base \$



UV General	\$0	\$0	\$780,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$932,067
UV Pastoral	\$1,254,213	\$985,985	\$651,270	\$567,432	\$1,018,918	\$686,741	\$4,149,248	\$1,662,786	\$544,677
UV Mining	\$1,795,357	\$6,268,966	\$4,189,635	\$9,524,108	\$18,960,353	\$4,874,662	\$26,551,701	\$4,511,778	\$10,119
UV Prospect & Explore	\$1,797,345	\$1,644,364	\$1,110,248	\$0	\$5,914,383	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,095,578
GRV	\$0	\$1,740,614	\$4,878,309	\$1,801,193	\$1,765,094	\$316,708	\$3,872,821	\$147,952	\$10,778,948

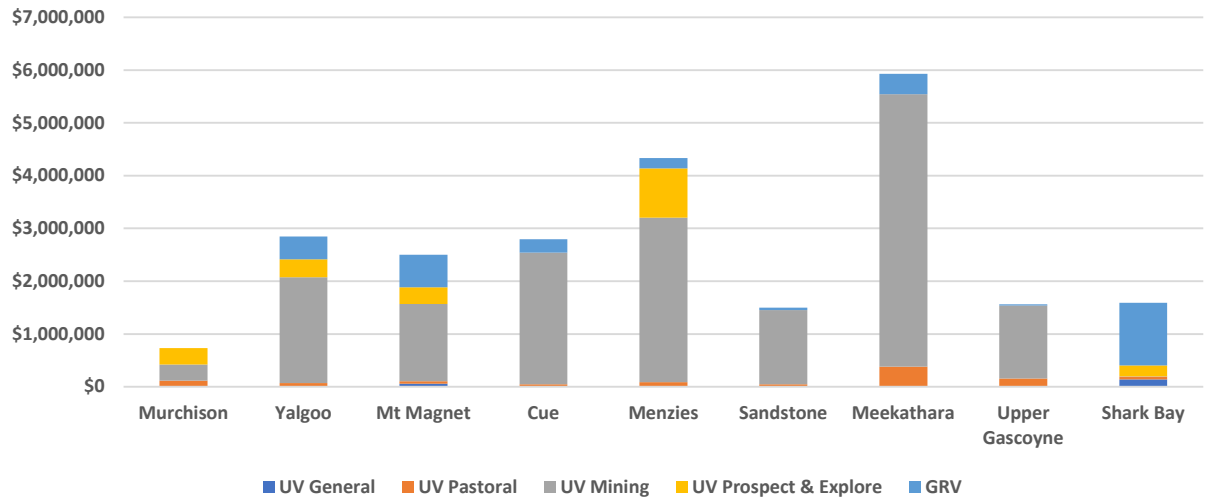
Fig 2 Average Valuations \$



UV General	\$0	\$0	\$780,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71,697
UV Pastoral	\$44,793	\$30,812	\$34,277	\$31,524	\$10,725	\$27,470	\$61,018	\$43,758	\$49,516
UV Mining	\$149,613	\$40,974	\$30,360	\$17,970	\$65,381	\$19,499	\$20,874	\$15,294	\$5,060
UV Prospect & Explore	\$22,751	\$5,339	\$4,097	\$0	\$6,219	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$73,039
GRV	\$0	\$28,535	\$13,589	\$9,736	\$7,146	\$4,399	\$9,905	\$5,918	\$17,935

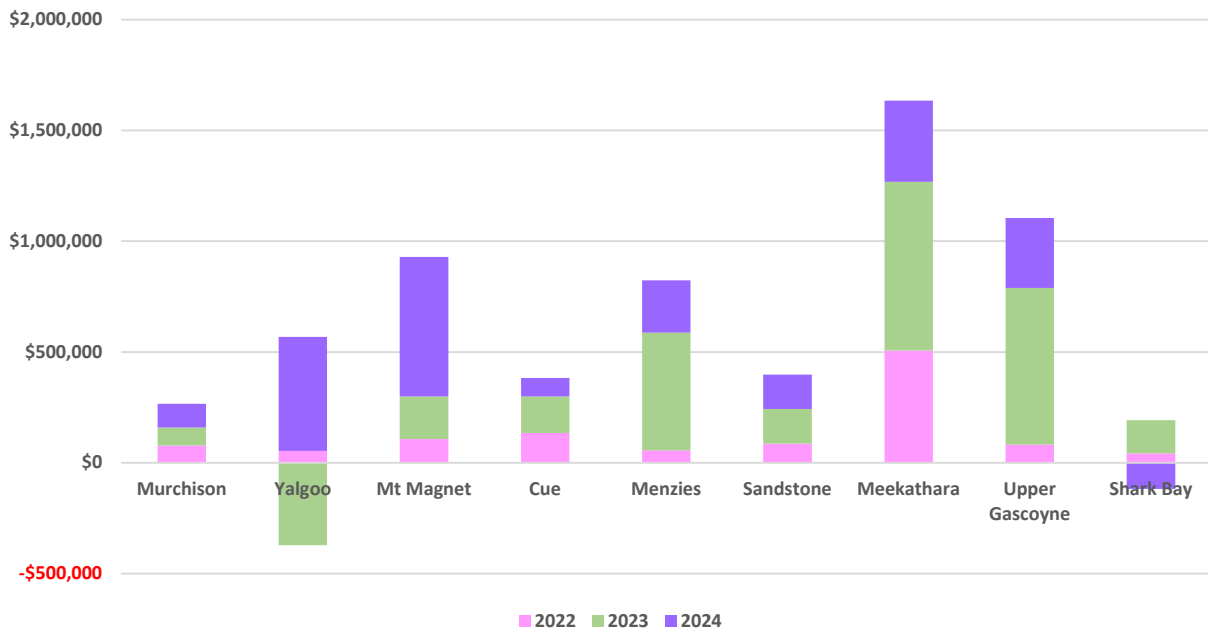
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 3 Rate Revenue \$



UV General	\$0	\$0	\$56,419	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$138,134
UV Pastoral	\$114,455	\$69,643	\$45,312	\$48,220	\$88,576	\$46,351	\$378,134	\$158,442	\$54,274
UV Mining	\$304,151	\$2,004,427	\$1,466,138	\$2,495,296	\$3,118,317	\$1,403,994	\$5,162,433	\$1,383,381	\$2,766
UV Prospect & Explore	\$311,579	\$339,541	\$319,738	\$0	\$933,278	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$209,754
GRV	\$0	\$435,167	\$611,022	\$249,949	\$195,639	\$50,008	\$391,360	\$18,674	\$1,187,200
2024	\$730,186	\$2,848,778	\$2,498,630	\$2,793,465	\$4,335,810	\$1,500,354	\$5,931,927	\$1,560,497	\$1,592,127
2023	\$623,918	\$2,333,485	\$1,868,548	\$2,710,409	\$4,100,270	\$1,345,068	\$5,566,213	\$1,245,149	\$1,709,783
2022	\$541,927	\$2,705,463	\$1,677,330	\$2,544,643	\$3,568,434	\$1,189,178	\$4,803,850	\$538,323	\$1,561,378
2021	\$464,017	\$2,651,808	\$1,569,799	\$2,410,615	\$3,512,398	\$1,102,056	\$4,297,568	\$456,119	\$1,518,019

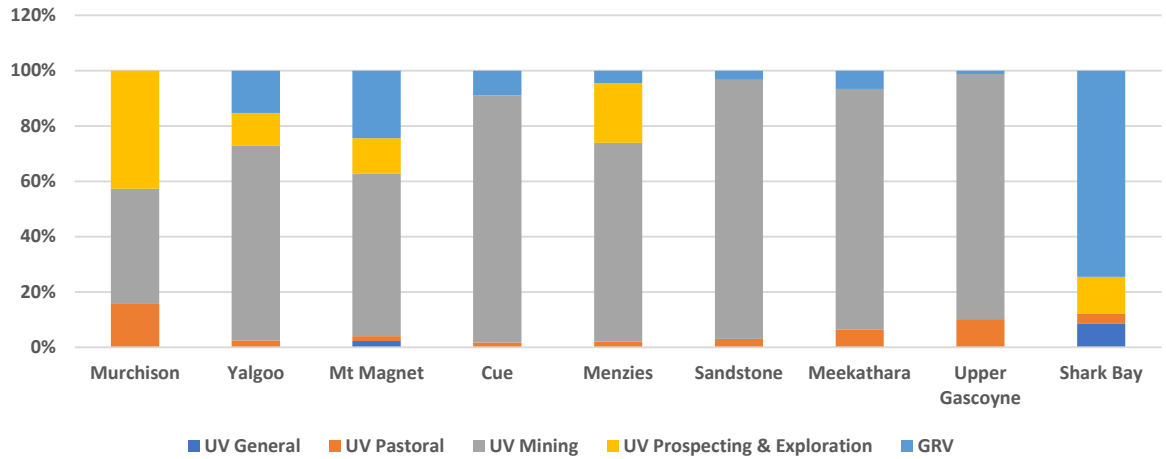
Fig 4 Rate Revenue Growth \$



2022	\$77,910	\$53,655	\$107,531	\$134,028	\$56,036	\$87,122	\$506,282	\$82,204	\$43,359
2023	\$81,991	-\$371,978	\$191,218	\$165,766	\$531,836	\$155,890	\$762,363	\$706,826	\$148,405
2024	\$106,268	\$515,293	\$630,082	\$83,056	\$235,540	\$155,286	\$365,714	\$315,348	-\$117,655

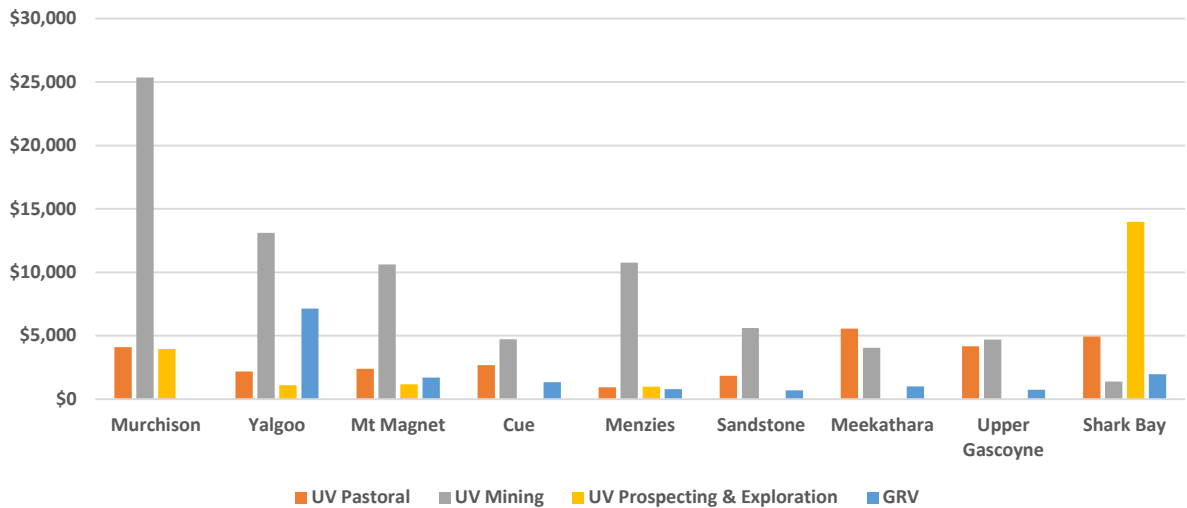
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 5 Rate Revenue by Sector %



UV General	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%
UV Pastoral	16%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	6%	10%	3%
UV Mining	42%	70%	59%	89%	72%	94%	87%	89%	0%
UV Prospecting & Exploration	43%	12%	13%	0%	22%	0%	0%	0%	13%
GRV	0%	15%	24%	9%	5%	3%	7%	1%	75%

Fig 6 Average Rates by Sector \$



UV General	\$0	\$0	\$56,419	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,626
UV Pastoral	\$4,088	\$2,176	\$2,385	\$2,679	\$932	\$1,854	\$5,561	\$4,170	\$4,934
UV Mining	\$25,346	\$13,101	\$10,624	\$4,708	\$10,753	\$5,616	\$4,059	\$4,689	\$1,383
UV Prospecting & Exploration	\$3,944	\$1,102	\$1,180	\$0	\$981	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,984
GRV	\$0	\$7,134	\$1,702	\$1,351	\$792	\$695	\$1,001	\$747	\$1,975

Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 7 Rate cents in \$ by sector

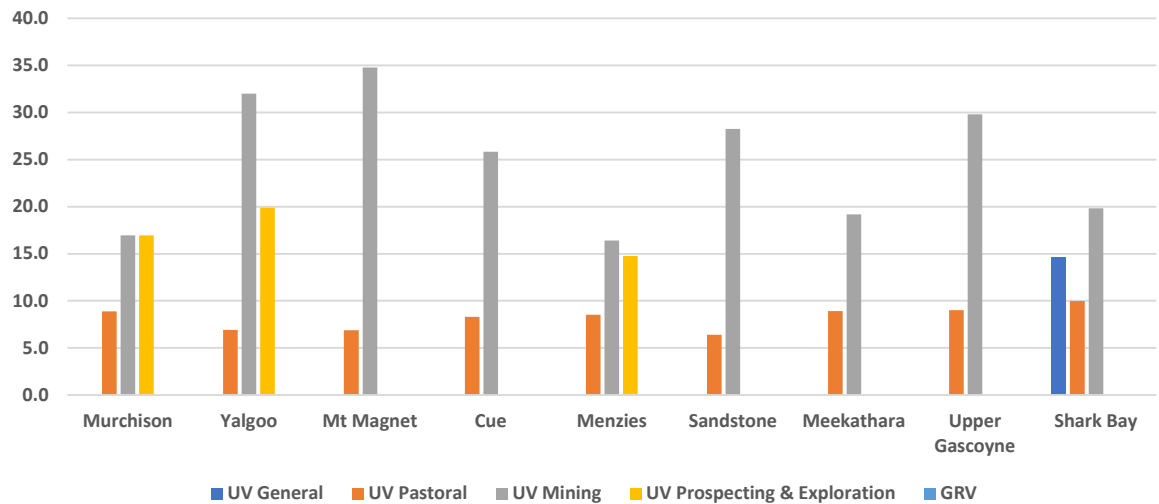
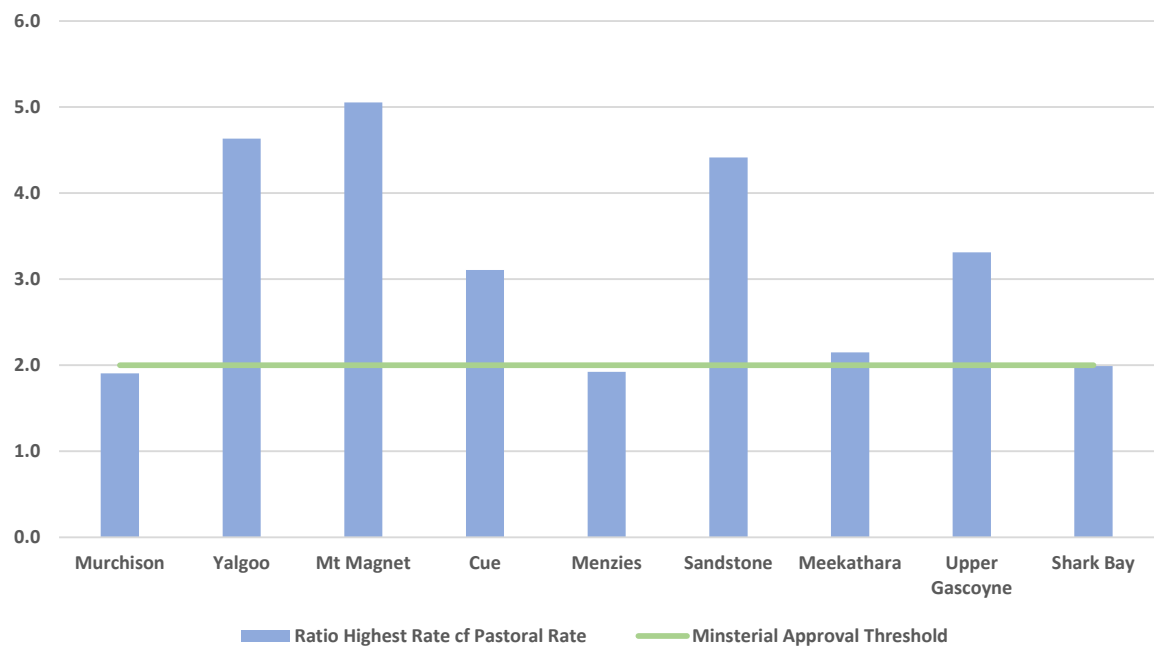
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Fig 8 Highest Differential Rate in \$ vs Pastoral Rate

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Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 9 % of Ratepayers on Minimum Payment

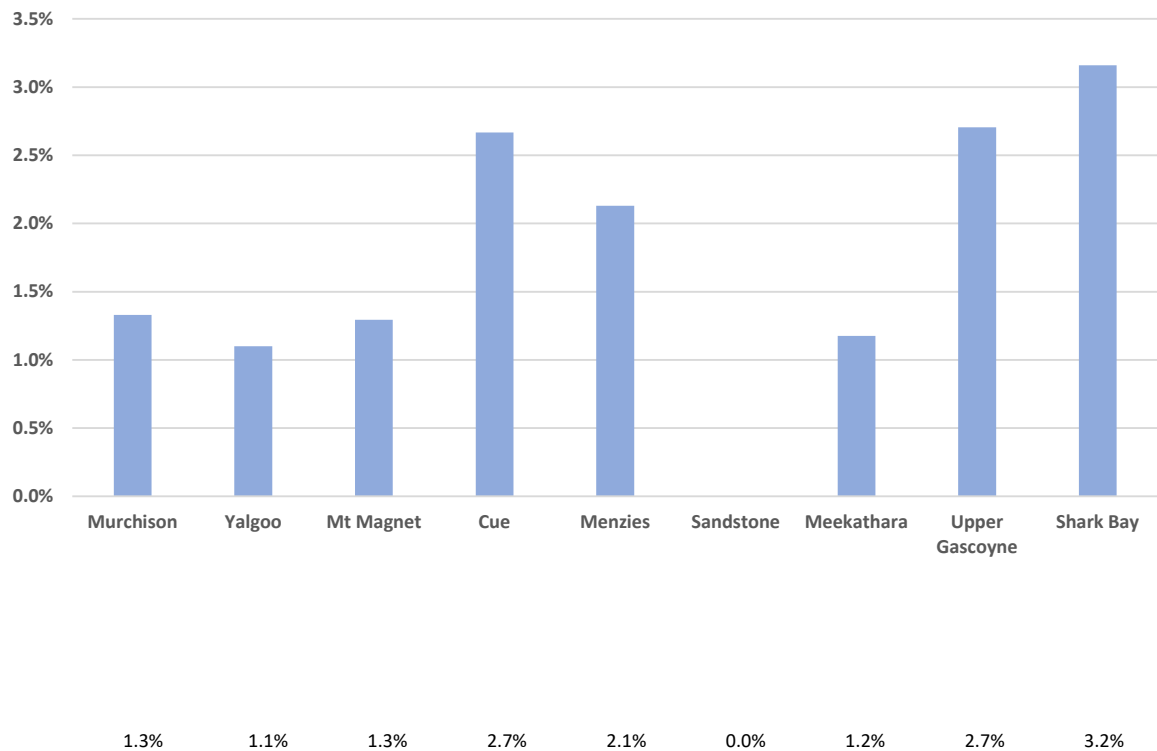
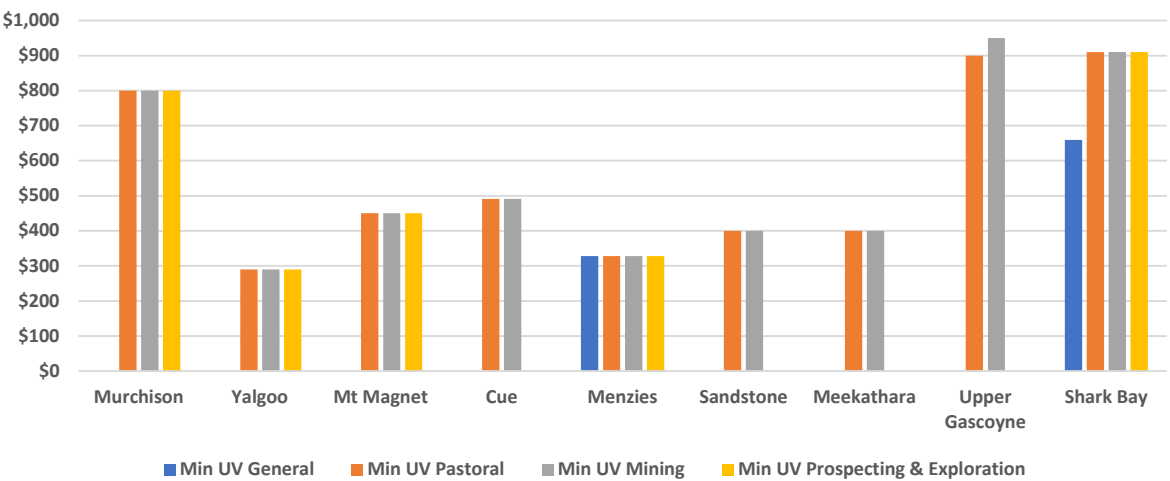


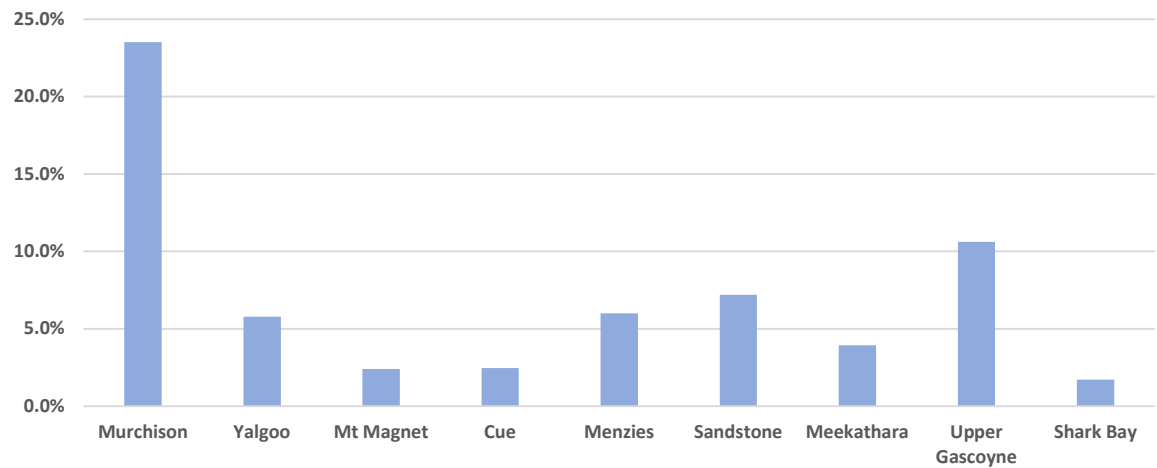
Fig 10 min UV Rates Comparison \$



Min UV General	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$328	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$659
Min UV Pastoral	\$800	\$290	\$450	\$491	\$328	\$400	\$400	\$900	\$910
Min UV Mining	\$800	\$290	\$450	\$491	\$328	\$400	\$400	\$950	\$910
Min UV Prospecting & Exploration	\$800	\$290	\$450	\$0	\$328	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$910

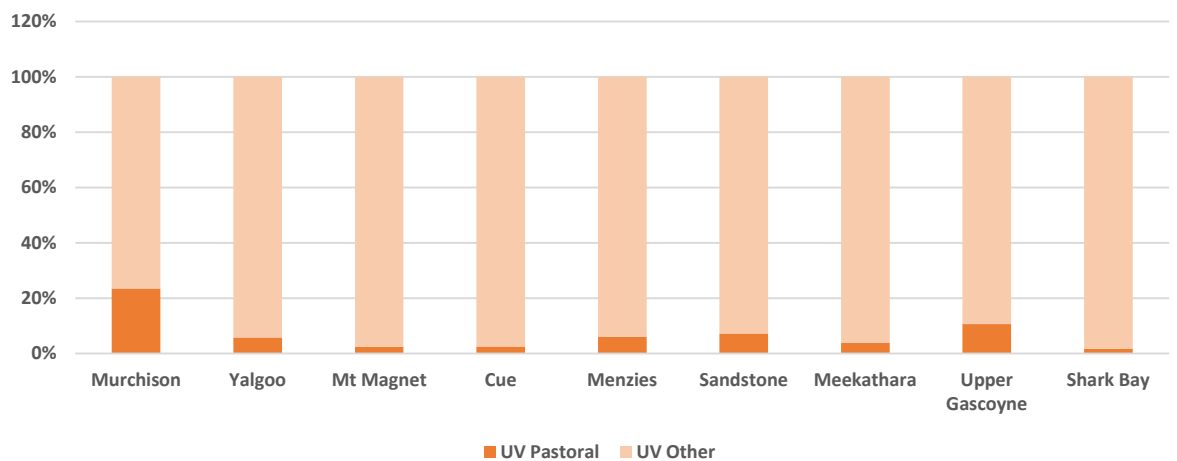
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 11 % of Pastoral Properties vs Others



%	23.5%	5.8%	2.4%	2.5%	6.0%	7.2%	3.9%	10.6%	1.7%
UV Pastoral	28	32	19	18	95	25	68	38	11
UV Other	91	522	769	715	1,488	322	1,663	320	631

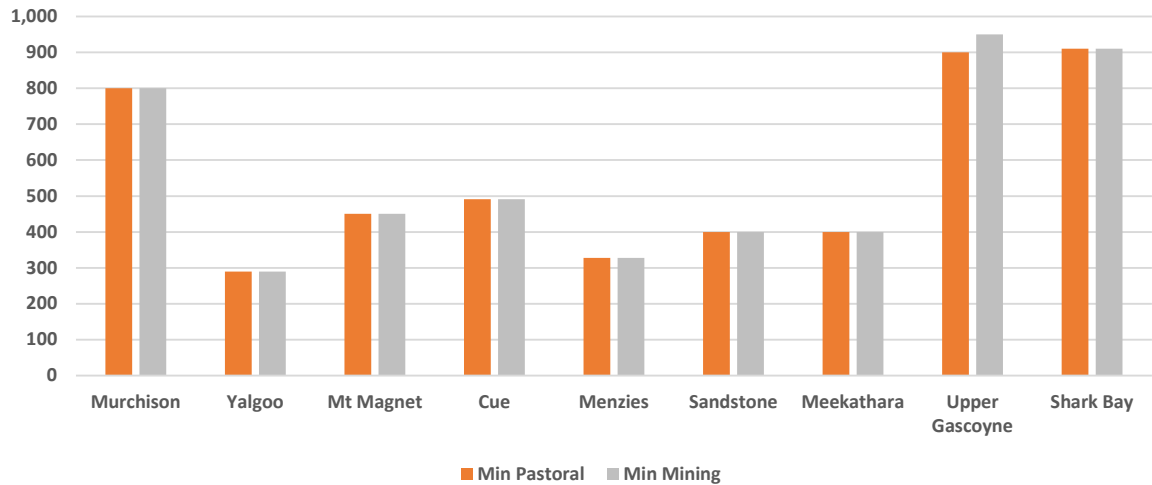
Fig 12 UV Pastoral Rates Comparison % of Rates Base



UV Pastoral	24%	6%	2%	2%	6%	7%	4%	11%	2%
UV Other	76%	94%	98%	98%	94%	93%	96%	89%	98%

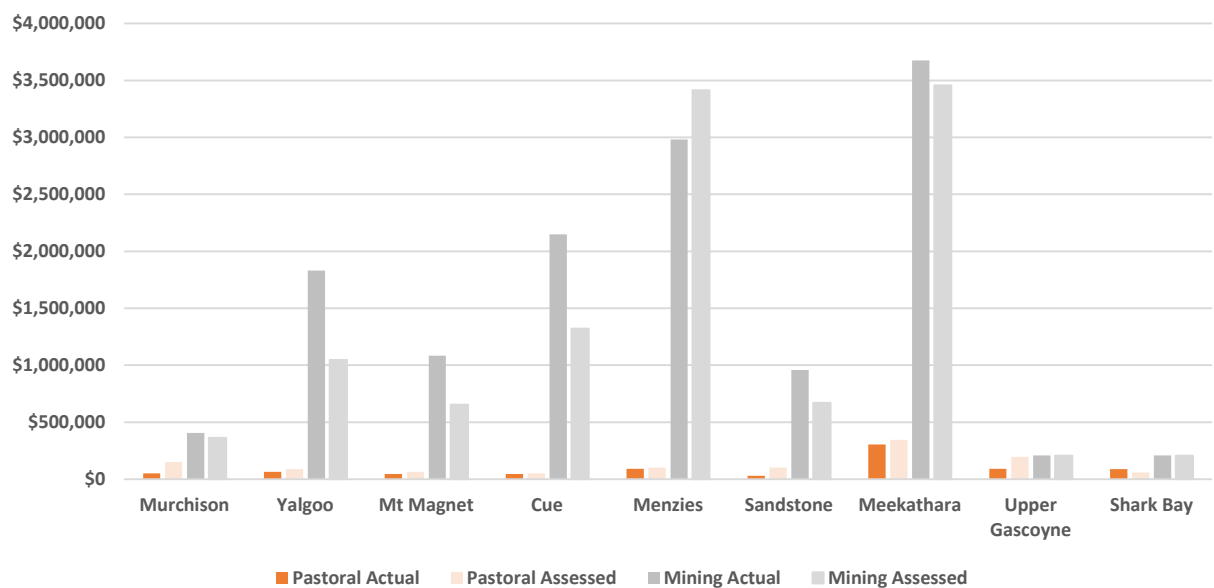
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 13 Min Rates



Min Pastoral	800	290	450	491	328	400	400	900	910
Min Mining	800	290	450	491	328	400	400	950	910

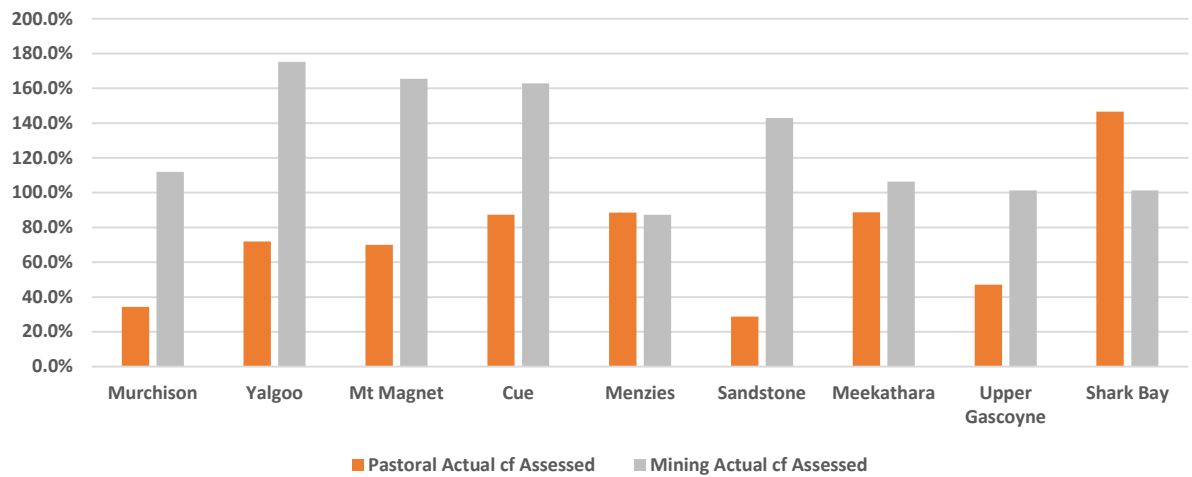
Fig 14 Grants Commission 3 Year Average Rates Assessments 2022-23 \$



Pastoral Actual	\$51,817	\$64,244	\$44,830	\$44,747	\$90,727	\$29,438	\$304,927	\$92,042	\$87,751
Pastoral Assessed	\$150,732	\$89,250	\$64,059	\$51,255	\$102,387	\$102,675	\$343,580	\$195,653	\$59,844
Mining Actual	\$405,949	\$1,832,457	\$1,082,895	\$2,149,970	\$2,980,280	\$958,132	\$3,675,883	\$208,329	\$208,329
Mining Assessed	\$362,518	\$1,045,633	\$654,206	\$1,320,856	\$3,413,381	\$670,465	\$3,455,502	\$205,790	\$205,790

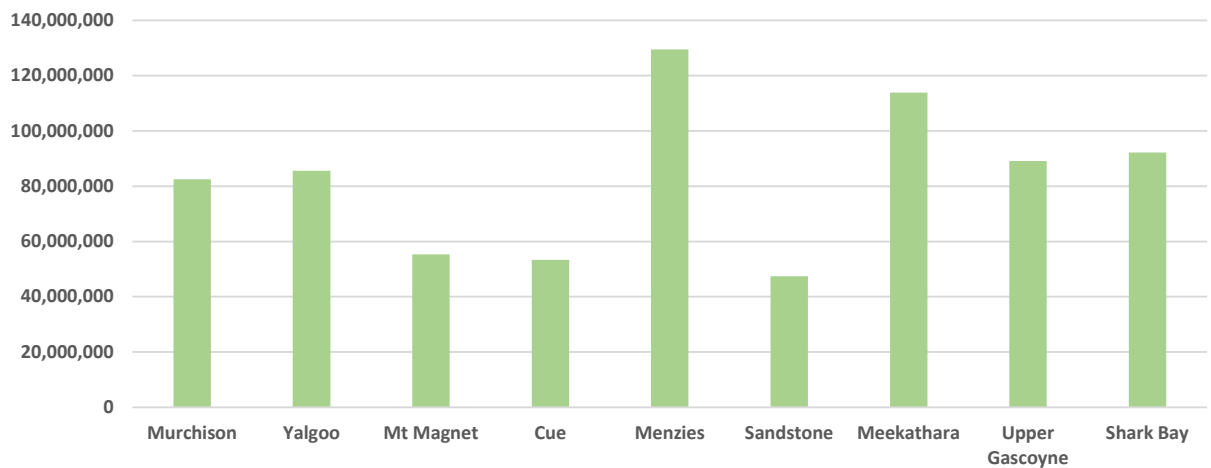
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 15 Grants Commission 3 Year Average Rates Comparison %



Pastoral Actual cf Assessed	34.4%	72.0%	70.0%	87.3%	88.6%	28.7%	88.7%	47.0%	146.6%
Mining Actual cf Assessed	112.0%	175.2%	165.5%	162.8%	87.3%	142.9%	106.4%	101.2%	101.2%

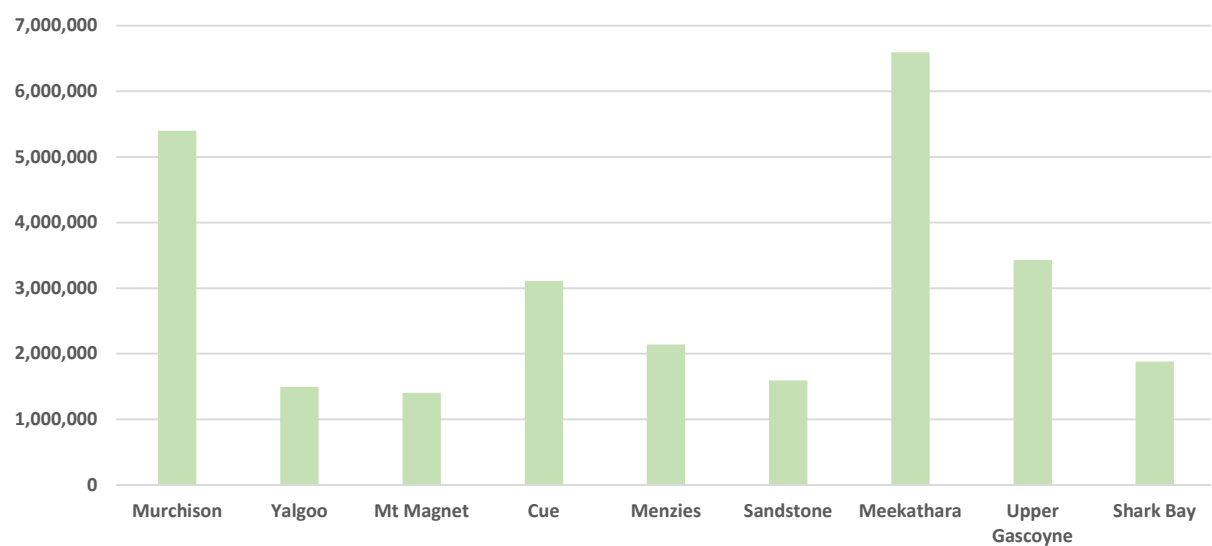
Fig 16 Non Current Assets



Non Current Assets	82,533,018	85,585,286	55,388,018	53,388,729	129,447,590	47,441,761	113,831,448	89,093,203	92,154,116
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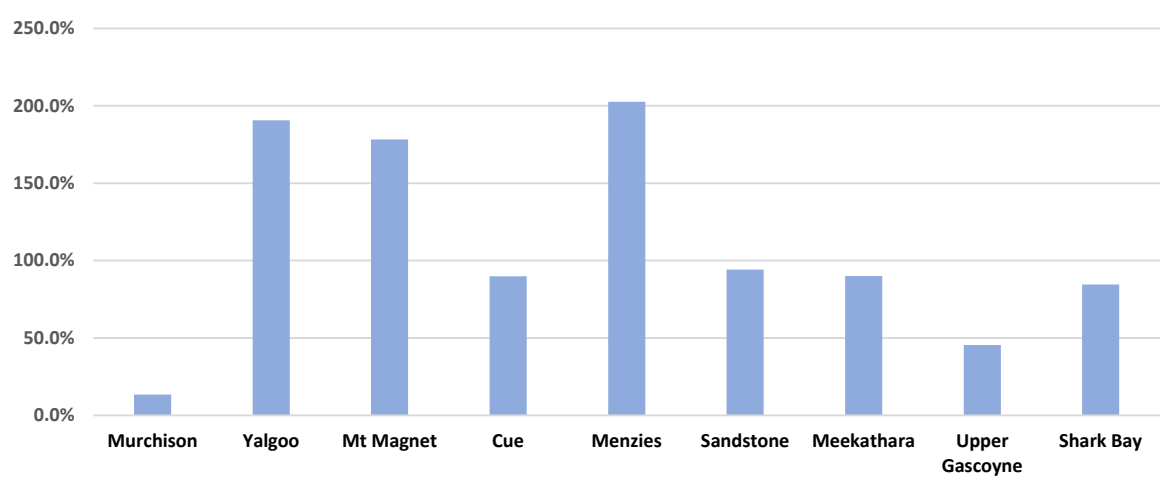
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 17 Depreciation Non Current Assets



Depreciation	5,400,127	1,494,620	1,402,230	3,108,600	2,140,427	1,594,347	6,593,116	3,430,570	1,881,680
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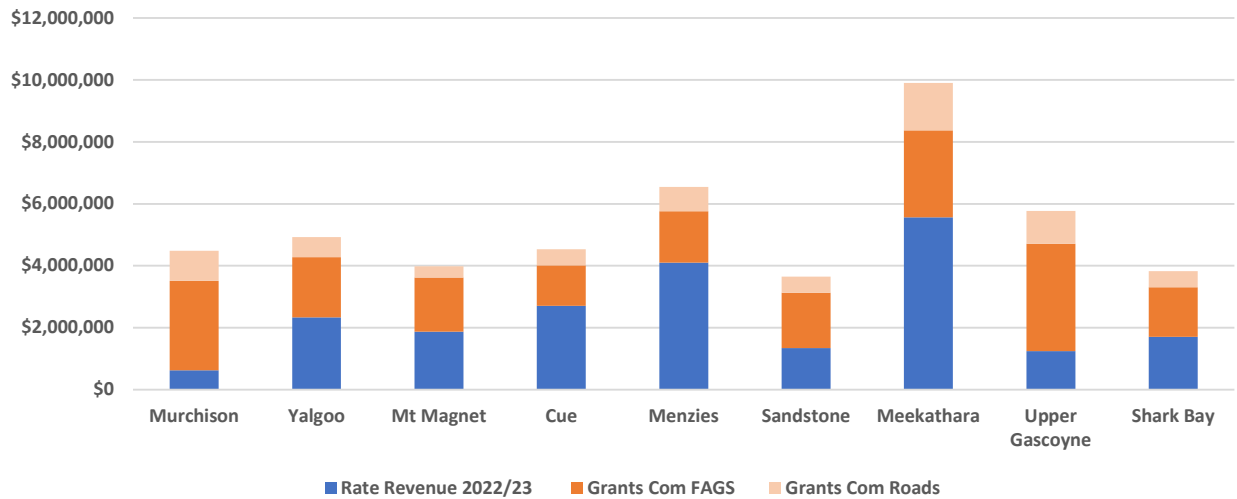
Fig 18 Rates as a % of Depreciation



	Murchison	Yalgoo	Mt Magnet	Cue	Menzies	Sandstone	Meekathara	Upper Gascoyne	Shark Bay
Rates as a % of Depreciation	13.5%	190.6%	178.2%	89.9%	202.6%	94.1%	90.0%	45.5%	84.6%

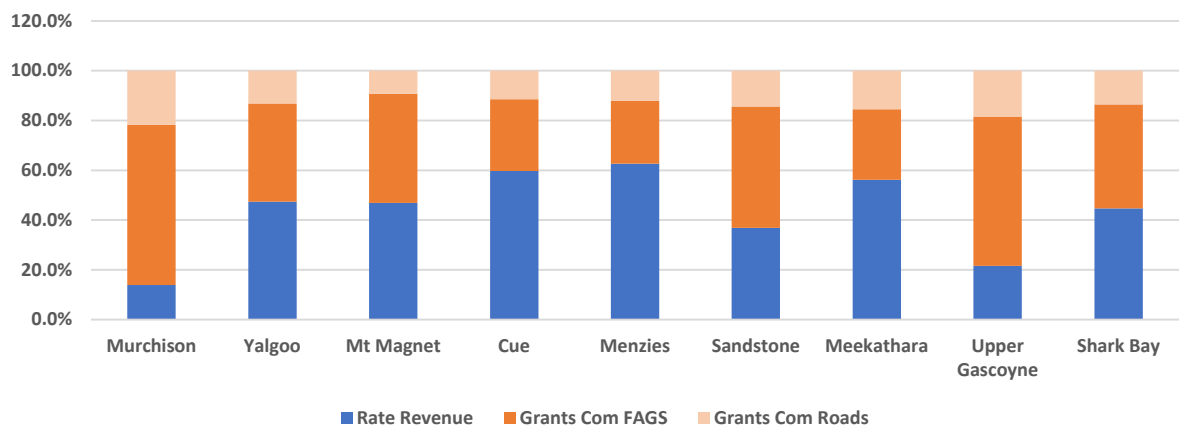
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 19 Revenue Rates & Grants Commission 2022-23 \$



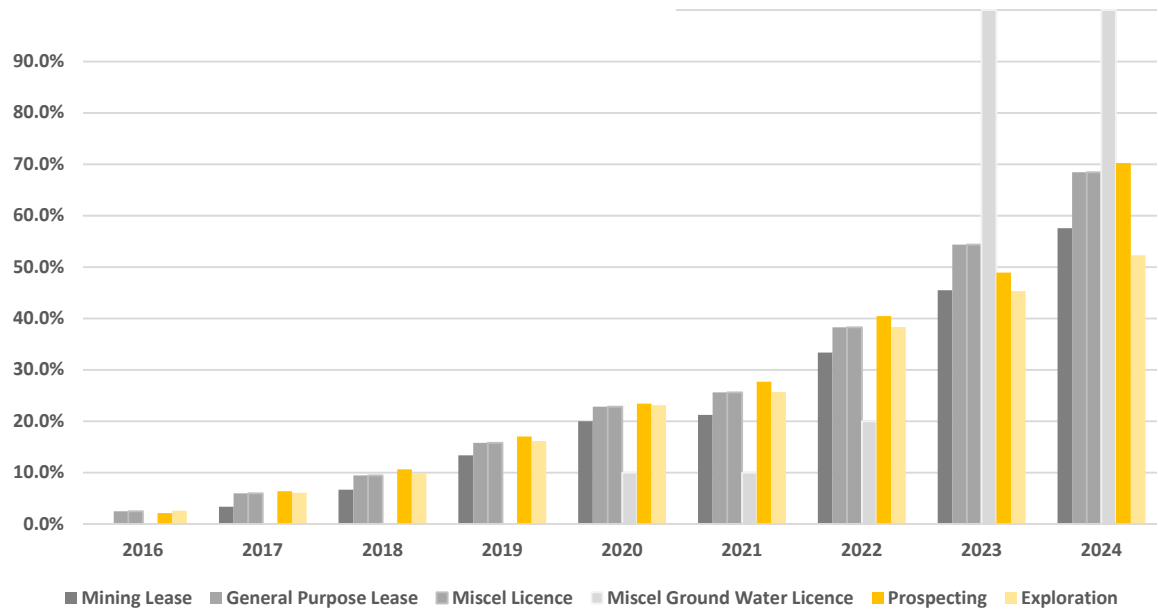
Rate Revenue 2022/23	\$623,918	\$2,333,485	\$1,868,548	\$2,710,409	\$4,100,270	\$1,345,068	\$5,566,213	\$1,245,149	\$1,709,783
Grants Com FAGS	\$2,890,861	\$1,941,643	\$1,752,412	\$1,305,504	\$1,657,840	\$1,779,975	\$2,804,913	\$3,464,963	\$1,599,299
Grants Com Roads	\$973,575	\$647,054	\$366,966	\$519,327	\$791,203	\$524,886	\$1,534,381	\$1,061,615	\$518,647
Total	\$4,488,354	\$4,922,182	\$3,987,926	\$4,535,240	\$6,549,313	\$3,649,929	\$9,905,507	\$5,771,727	\$3,827,729

Fig 20 Revenue Rates & Grants Commision %

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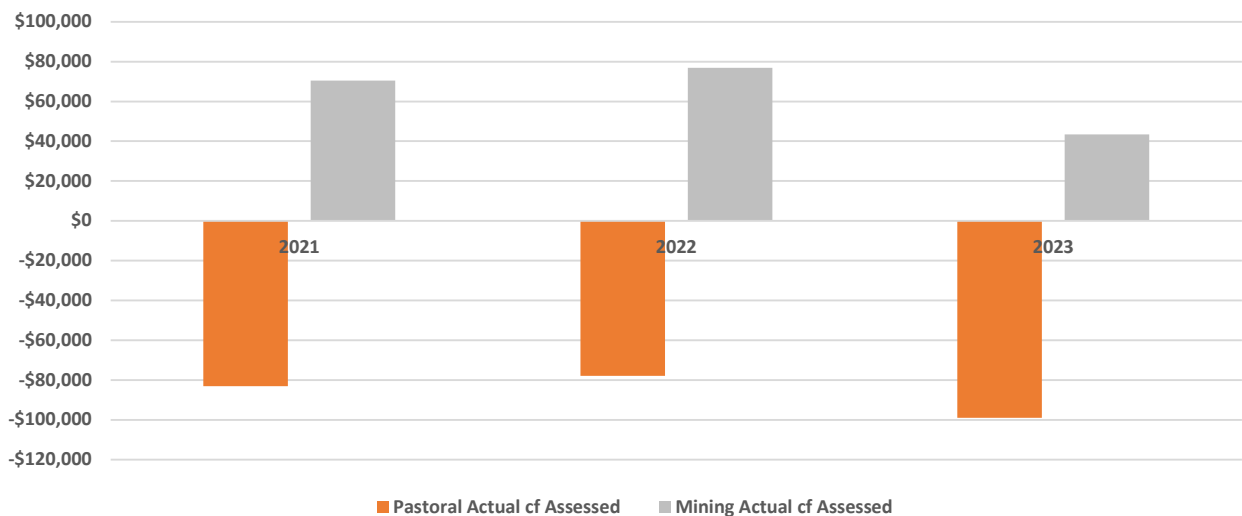
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig 21 Mining Rent Changes from 2015 base %



Mining Lease	0.0%	3.3%	6.7%	13.3%	20.0%	21.2%	33.3%	45.5%	57.6%
General Purpose Lease	2.5%	6.0%	9.5%	15.8%	22.8%	25.6%	38.2%	54.4%	68.4%
Miscel Licence	2.5%	6.0%	9.5%	15.8%	22.8%	25.6%	38.2%	54.4%	68.4%
Miscel Ground Water Licence	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	10.0%	20.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Prospecting	2.1%	6.4%	10.6%	17.0%	23.4%	27.7%	40.4%	48.9%	70.2%
Exploration	2.6%	6.1%	9.8%	16.1%	23.1%	25.6%	38.3%	45.3%	52.3%

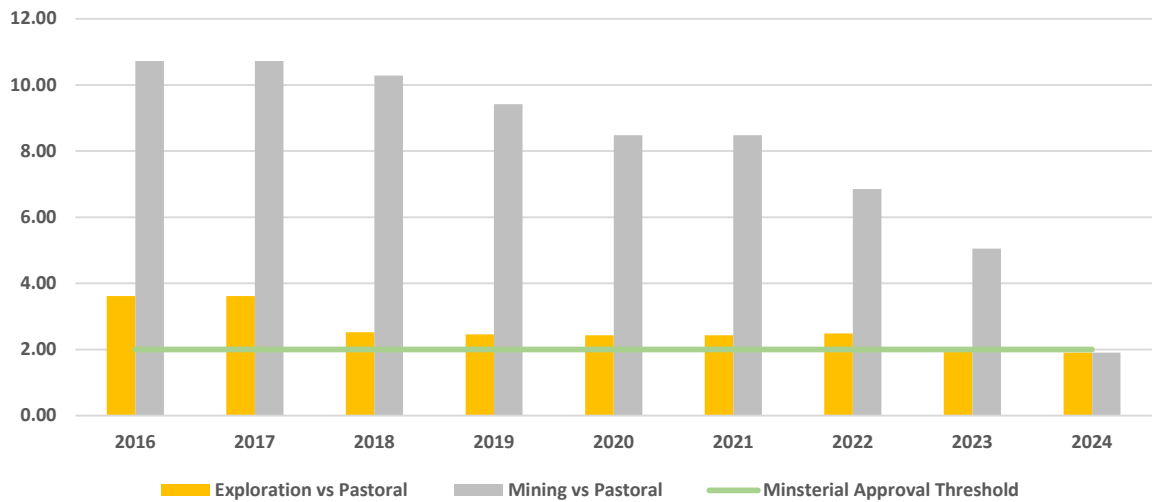
Fig A Murchison Grants Commission 3 Year Average Yearly Comparison \$



	2021	2022	2023		2021	2022	2023
Pastoral Actual	\$43,747	\$45,409	\$51,817	Pastoral Actual cf Assessed	-\$83,132	-\$77,930	-\$98,915
Pastoral Assessed	\$126,879	\$123,339	\$150,732	Mining Actual cf Assessed	\$70,507	\$76,911	\$43,431
Mining Actual	\$373,699	\$389,269	\$405,949				
Mining Assessed	\$303,192	\$312,358	\$362,518				

Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig B Murchison Differential Rates Ratio History

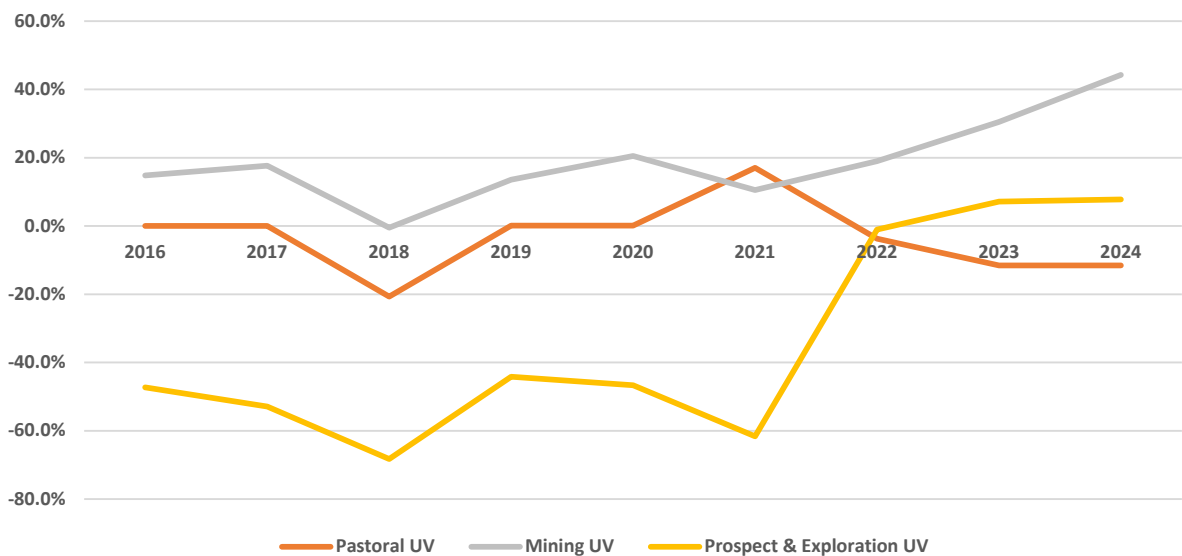


Exploration vs Pastoral	3.61	3.61	2.52	2.46	2.43	2.43	2.48	1.92	1.90
Mining vs Pastoral	10.72	10.72	10.29	9.42	8.48	8.48	6.85	5.05	1.90
Ministerial Approval Threshold	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

Rates cents in \$

UV Pastoral	2.70	2.70	2.86	3.12	3.30	3.30	3.87	4.86	8.89
UV Mining	28.95	28.95	29.40	29.40	27.94	27.94	26.54	24.55	16.94
UV Prospecting & Exploration	9.76	9.76	7.21	7.68	8.02	8.02	9.62	9.34	16.94

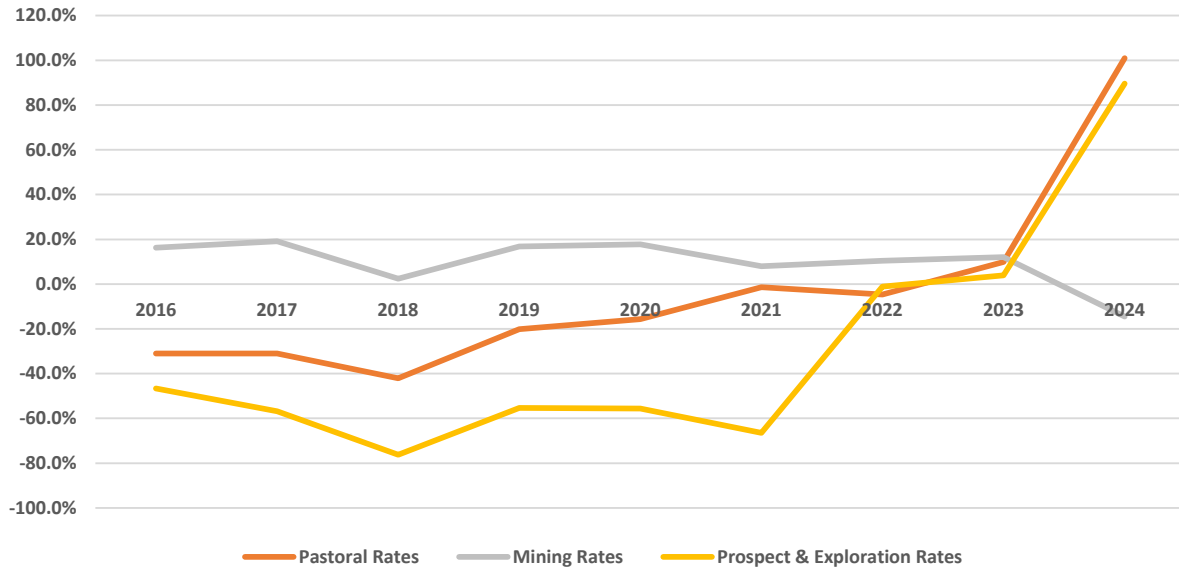
Fig C Murchison Average Valuation Change from 2015 base %



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pastoral UV	0.0%	0.0%	-20.7%	0.1%	0.1%	17.0%	-3.7%	-11.6%	-11.6%
Mining UV	14.8%	17.6%	-0.5%	13.6%	20.5%	10.5%	19.0%	30.5%	44.2%
Prospect & Exploration UV	-47.3%	-52.9%	-68.3%	-44.1%	-46.7%	-61.7%	-1.0%	7.1%	7.8%

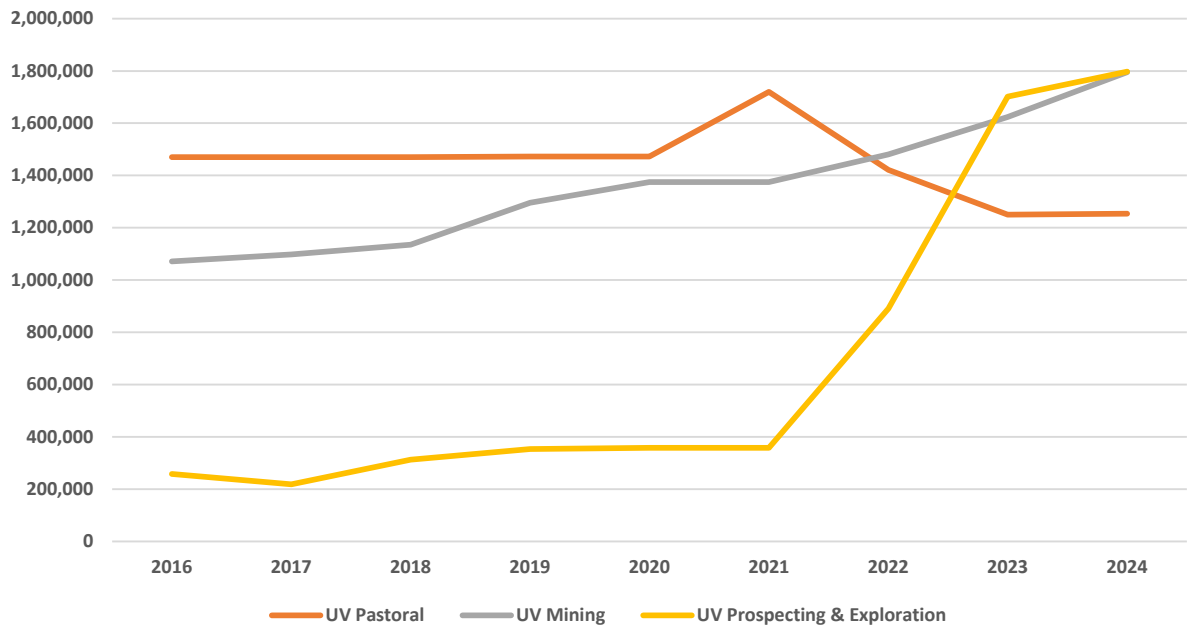
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig D Murchison Average Rates Change from 2015 Base %



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pastoral Rates	-31.0%	-31.0%	-42.1%	-20.2%	-15.7%	-1.4%	-4.6%	9.9%	100.9%
Mining Rates	16.3%	19.1%	2.4%	16.8%	17.8%	8.0%	10.5%	12.1%	-14.5%
Prospect & Exploration Rates	-46.6%	-56.8%	-76.2%	-55.3%	-55.6%	-66.4%	-1.2%	3.9%	89.6%

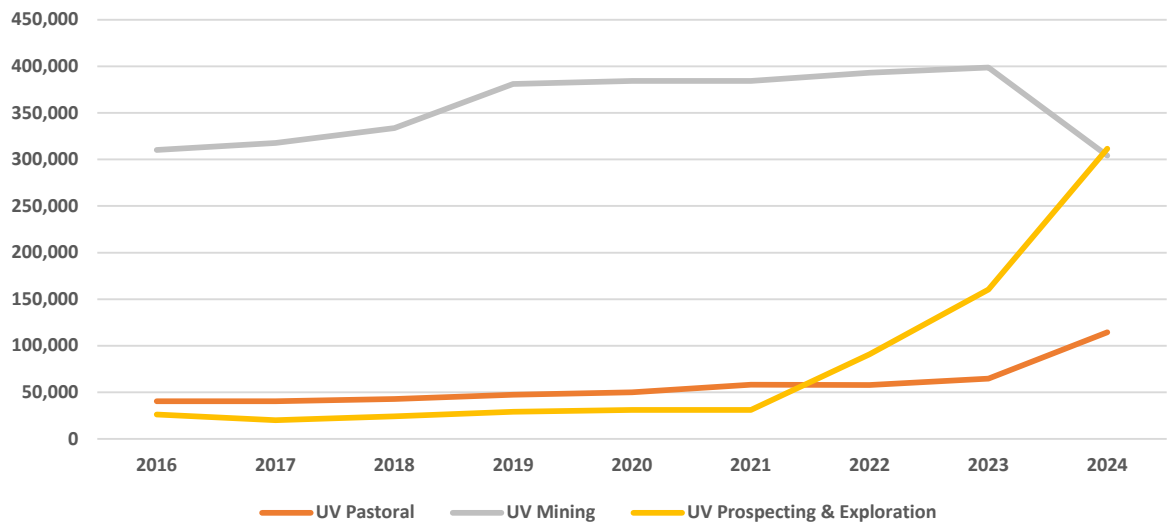
Fig E UV Valuations \$



UV Pastoral	1,469,868	1,469,868	1,469,868	1,472,920	1,472,920	1,719,974	1,421,515	1,250,213	1,254,213
UV Mining	1,071,373	1,097,899	1,135,141	1,295,782	1,375,054	1,375,054	1,480,809	1,624,080	1,795,257
UV Prospecting & Exploration	257,934	218,543	313,069	353,280	358,625	358,625	890,831	1,701,943	1,797,345

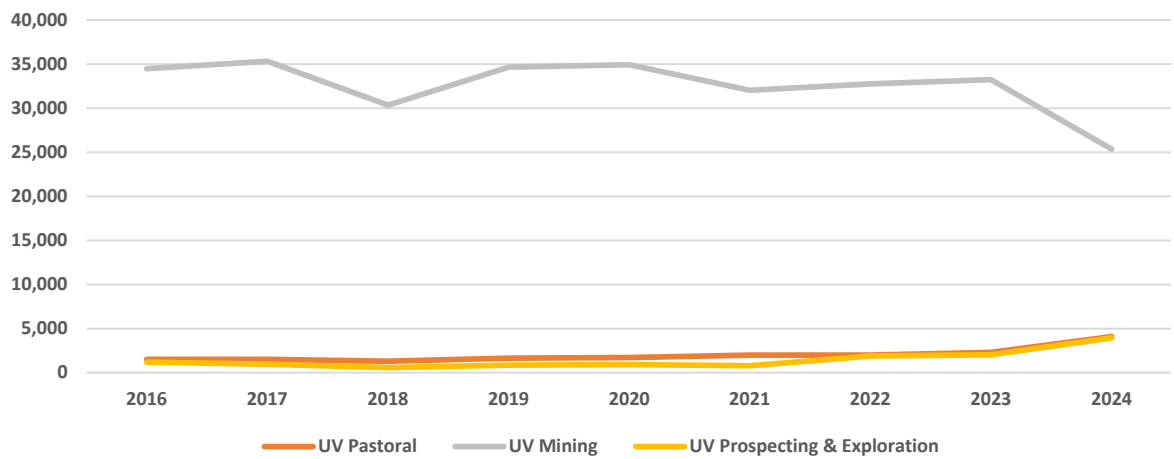
Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

Fig F Sector UV Rates \$



UV Pastoral	40,425	40,425	42,776	47,287	50,016	58,149	57,999	64,756	114,456
UV Mining	310,162	317,842	333,734	380,960	384,190	384,190	393,051	398,744	304,153
UV Prospecting & Exploration	26,316	20,074	24,115	29,152	31,191	31,191	90,877	160,418	311,580

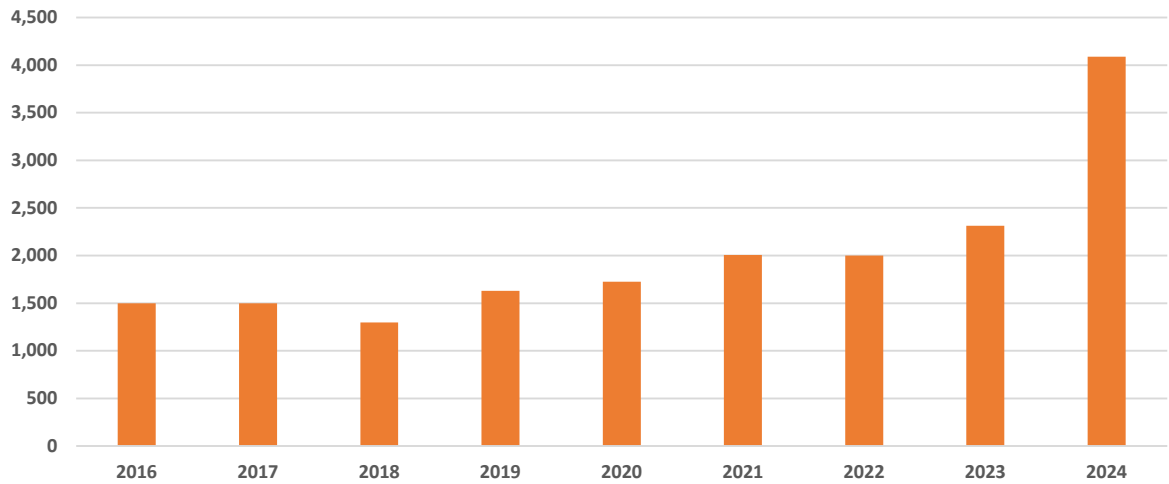
Fig G Sector Average Rates



UV Pastoral	1,497	1,497	1,296	1,631	1,725	2,005	2,000	2,313	4,088
UV Mining	34,462	35,316	30,339	34,633	34,926	32,016	32,754	33,229	25,346
UV Prospecting & Exploration	1,196	956	574	857	917	780	1,893	2,031	3,944

Murchison Shire - Rates Analysis Details - May 2024

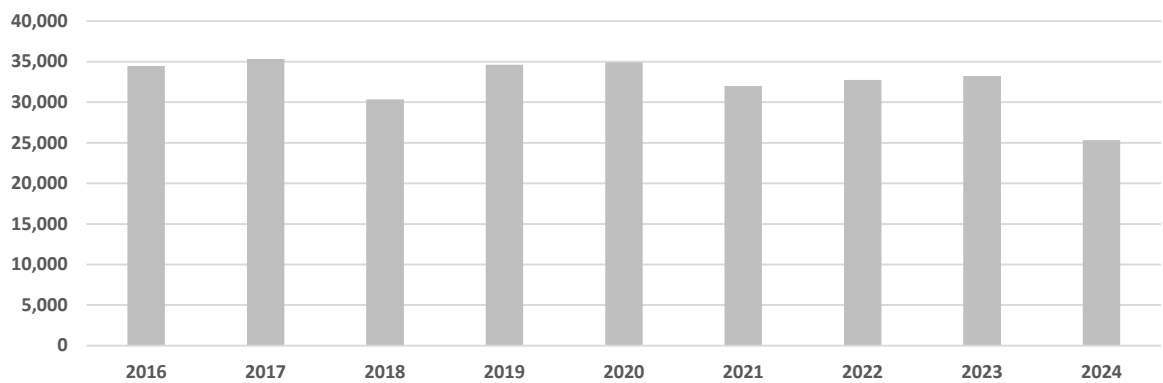
Fig H UV Pastoral Average Rates \$



UV Pastoral

1,497 1,497 1,296 1,631 1,725 2,005 2,000 2,313 4,088

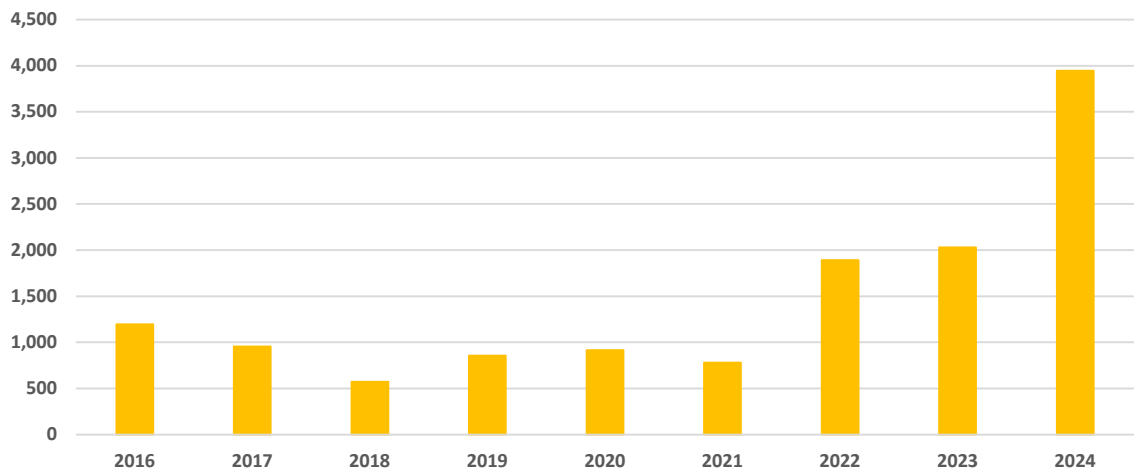
Fig I UV Mining Average Rates \$



UV Mining

34,462 35,316 30,339 34,633 34,926 32,016 32,754 33,229 25,346

Fig J UV Prospecting & Exploration Rates \$



UV Prospecting & Exploration

1,196 956 574 857 917 780 1,893 2,031 3,944



2024/25 Financial Year

Objects of and Reasons for Proposed Differential Rates and Minimum Payments

Council Meeting 23 May 2024

Introduction

Through the Local Government Act 1995, Part 6, the Western Australian Parliament has conferred upon local government the power to levy and collect property tax in the form of rates. Property taxes are, with rare exemptions, not fees for service or relate to directly or indirectly any specific services provided by a local government. Just like income tax they are a just that, a tax; with variations in levels based in an assessment of principles of taxation.

Overall Objectives

The purpose of levying rates is to meet a local governments' budget deficiency in each financial year in order to deliver services and facilities as detailed in the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan, Asset Management Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan, but also address issues that arise from time to time that have impacts on the Council budget.

Historically, Council has imposed differential rates on the basis of whether land is used for pastoral purposes, mining or mineral prospecting and exploration as it considers that under the general principles of taxation differential rating this is more equitable than a flat rate. It is essential for equity reasons to ensure that differential rating proposals are highly equitable amongst ratepayer groupings, which in themselves are diverse and optimise total rate yields in a legally compliant manner.

Council's overall objective is to balance these complex issues and levy property rates in a fair and equitable manner within Council's overarching philosophy to consider the key values of objectivity, fairness and equity, consistency, transparency, and administrative efficiency.

Reasons

Context

Murchison located within the broader Mid-West region of Western Australia and is known for being both the least populated local government area, and the only one without a town. Murchison Settlement acts as the heart of the Shire and is home to both the 'Oasis' Roadhouse and Shire Office and all Shire employees. It therefore it has no residential, commercial or industrial rate base in which to draw upon. It does, however, have an important responsibility for the maintenance of a vast network of inland roads, as well as providing support for travellers and locals through the provision of fuel services, a caravan park, recreational services, power, water and an aerodrome. Unlike other local governments many of these costs are for the most part additional to a normal local government operation.

For the Financial years 2020/21 to 2022/23, Council also acknowledges the strategic importance of the Budget, given the COVID-19 pandemic situation, and desires that all level of governments look to stimulate to assist in the recovery of the economy and council's positive response to this scenario. Like those budgets, the 2024/25 budget will still be affected by these considerations in part as the Council has received significant COVID19 related grants which inevitably require additional top up expenditure and needs to service a road loan associated with this stimulus approach.

More importantly significant changes have occurred since 2017 Council's Asset Management Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan were adopted with updated plans adopted in 2024. A recent review has confirmed a lift in rate revenue is required to fund immediate and long-term works and to address intergenerational issues. In accordance with sound practice as far as practicable rates in the \$ adopted from year to year are set excluding any *Natural Decline or Growth*.

Council is satisfied that the services and facilities it provides are managed efficiently and effectively and that it is adapting in an appropriate manner to the COVID19 environment and with it meeting significant the significant challenges of the times. Council remains of the opinion, one that is shared universally in the Region that it is appropriate to rate differentially in order to meet the budget deficiency.

As part of its drive to ensure efficiency and transparency within the organisation, Council continuously reviews its budget to ensure income and expenditure targets will be met. It also reviews the appropriateness and effectiveness of its risk management, internal control and legislative compliance as required under *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* and reviews the appropriateness and effectiveness of the financial management systems and procedures of the Shire as per regulation 5(2)(c) of *the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

For consistency, Council has ensured that properties that are used for the same purpose are rated in the same way and has considered and analysed in detailed the rates charged by neighbouring councils in its deliberations. For a very small local government achieving equity across the Pastoral and Mining Sectors is not without its challenges but the variable nature of the Minerals Exploration Sector and small size of the rate base also provides an additional complexity. This issue is compounded by the valuation system which is derived from on rents set by the State Government in an environment that has seen mining tenements rise by over 50% compared to pastoral properties since 2015.

In line with the latest Rating Analysis Review including a regional rates benchmarking analysis, it is proposed to consolidate the trend that started in 2021/22 and that has seen in 2023/24 the mining and prospecting and exploration rate differential reduce as a ratio compared to the Pastoral Rate to under 2.0.

UV – Pastoral

proposed	9.325	cents in the dollar	\$900	min payment
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Pastoral UV applies to any land that currently has a pastoral lease granted and is rated as the benchmark level. Council recognises the reduced viability of the sector caused by many years of droughts and floods, the devastation caused by the wild dog problem and noting that many in this category are required supplement their income through non pastoral activities. It also recognises the perpetual nature of the land, use, the long-term commitment of pastoralists to the region, their stewardship of Crown Land and that a non-Shire biosecurity rate is additionally linked to the valuations provided by the Valuer General. Several Pastoral Stations have in recent years also been taken over by the Crown or CSIRO and become non-rateable, thereby further impacting on this rating sector.

UV – Mining

proposed	18.550	cents in the dollar	\$900	min payment
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Mining UV applies to land for which a mining lease has been granted. The mining sector tends to be transitory in nature and benefits from established Shire services and infrastructure which is maintained in the long term with funding assistance by those rate payers who are established long term in the region. A consideration in setting the UV - Mining rate at a higher level than the benchmark UV – Pastoral rate is to ensure that the mining sector's contribution is proportionate to the advantage it gains in using established facilities, and the relatively short time that the operation exists also noting that if a mine is developed into production, it will often place significant additional impacts on roads. Unlike pastoral sector the mining sector does not pay a biosecurity rate linked to the valuations provided by the Valuer General, even though the mining/exploration sectors may pose a biosecurity risk.

UV – Prospecting & Exploration

proposed	18.550	cents in the dollar	\$900	min payment
----------	--------	---------------------	-------	-------------

Exploration/Prospecting UV applies to land for which an exploration/prospecting lease has been granted. As with the UV – Mining sector, the UV - Exploration/Prospecting sector tends to be transitory. Mining licences also have a limited intrinsic value unless minerals are found and mined but the opportunity is still afforded to gain advantage from established facilities. Mining licences also have a high turnover of ownership. If a licence is terminated or the lessee does not pay rates for the period of the licence, the rates are generally not able to be recovered by the local government. Administration of licences for rating purposes is technically complex and disproportionate to that of base level rating. Unlike pastoral sector the mining sector does not pay a biosecurity rate linked to the valuations provided by the Valuer General, even though the mining/exploration sectors may pose a biosecurity risk.



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

House of Representatives

Standing Committee on
Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport

Local Government Inquiry

Brief Submission

23 May 2024

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1 Introduction

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport (*Standing Committee*) will inquire into and report on local government matters, with a particular focus on the following:

- The financial sustainability and funding of local government.
- The changing infrastructure and service delivery obligations of local government.
- Any structural impediments to security for local government workers and infrastructure and service delivery.
- Trends in the attraction and retention of a skilled workforce in the local government sector, including impacts of labour hire practices.
- The role of the Australian Government in addressing issues raised in relation to the above.
- Other relevant issues.

In response the Murchison Shire, in accordance with those matter as outlined in the Committees Terms of Reference has provided the following brief submission. To ensure that the issues raised in the section *Other relevant issues* are given due consideration as may link with other sections under review this section has been addressed first.

As an overall preliminary comment this submission strongly advocates Local Government being part of a tripartite arrangement along with Commonwealth and State Governments where all sectors pull together in a more unified manner.

2 Other relevant issues.

As outlined in *Section 1 – Introduction* of this submission important that this Inquiry also dovetails its specific tasks identified into the overall contest of Local Government being part of a tripartite arrangement along with Commonwealth and State Governments where all sectors pull together in a more unified manner.

It is recognised that commonwealth and state governments are, virtually on a daily basis, subject to intense political and media scrutiny with one eye on the next election as well attempting to satisfy internal party pressures. This makes it difficult to make major policy shifts for the good of the nation or state unless the government of the day is willing to take a risk and spend its political capital or the change represents good politics as well as good policy.

These constraints however largely do not apply to local government which also means that barriers to long term sustainable planning are far less compromised and investment by all in the sector can achieve much more in a value basis given the lack of constraints that apply at a commonwealth and state level.

Access to Local Governments from an everyday resident with no particular connections in State or Federal Government is absolutely crucial. In so many cases, to be able to simply walk into a Shire office and have more or less one to one personal interactions with a real person who may then direct you to Works, Parks and Gardens, Library, Rubbish Collection, Rates Inquiries, Licensing, Planning etc etc is a very important aspect of our society.

The wealth of knowledge of their particular patch a Local Government has is something that could never be replicated by a State or federal body. This could be more advertised via messaging in mainstream and social media, but will have greater impact if a strategic approach is taken.

An acceptance by the Federal / State Governments that so many people who want to live in an urban setting and enjoy all the services that brings, will have to contribute a bit towards keeping the rest of the country up and running. The romance and fantasy of having wonderful regional and outback communities/experiences on tap for when one chooses to “head out bush to recharge/explore/experience” is fine but also comes with a responsibility help maintain this as a reality.

Additionally, when the aforementioned trip doesn't quite go as planned there is often an expectation that some form of emergency services safety net is always surrounding us and that help is not too far away. If regional Councils are not supported adequately, this presumption of being assisted when in need will be false.

An acknowledgement that so much of what regional and remote Shires do and provide is not for the locals that live there, but rather for the rest of the country – mining, transport, tourism, national security, other industry etc.

A slightly less adversarial relationship between Federal, State and Local Government would be a constructive (but maybe unrealistic) improvement. I think having four-year Federal terms would help this a bit, as the higher levels of Government quite short-term thinking doesn't always mesh that well with Local Governments longer term approach.

A significant barrier that exists that affects a local governments operation is the legislative framework in which it operates. In the case of Western Australia, over time a more reactive compliance regime has been put in place. This has added to the operating cost base but also created an us and them approach as from time to time a council or the local government sector as a whole regularly question many directions and actions of the State, which may not necessarily be appreciated notwithstanding that is usually undertaken with good heart and intent. Whilst this situation is not the domain of the commonwealth, nevertheless it has the ability to strongly influence improved outcomes.

3 The financial sustainability and funding of local government

It goes without saying that it is essential that local government be adequately funded if the nation is to grow and develop the needs of the community.

It is a fantasy to expect regional Councils to survive/thrive when the often-mentioned FAG's which they rely upon so heavily have gone from 1% of Tax revenue to 0.5%. Regional population decline is a reality in a lot of cases so keeping FAG's at a realistic level is required, no ifs or buts, because there are no other alternate significant revenue options for many Councils.

However, whilst an uplift in general purpose FAG's funding is essential there are a few other points that the *Standing Committee* should consider as there are a number of interrelated issues that need to be considered.

It needs to be recognised that from a "political" perspective, motives at a commonwealth level may get in the way of a lift in FAG's as once undertaken there is no new "political" announcements to be made compared to specific project announcements. Whilst this shouldn't be an issue from a policy perspective it nevertheless needs to be recognised and if possible incorporated into an overall strategy.

From an equity perspective as the grant commission horizontal fiscal equalisation approach advantages smaller local governments who have much smaller revenue bases. They also have limited capacity to scout out and prepare an application and also attract grant funding for specific projects which will be assessed on a competitive basis and then later meet the ongoing costs for maintenance and replacement of new assets. In some cases, this may also dissuade a local government from chasing down an application. Accordingly, a lift in FAG's addresses these issues

Whilst larger local governments have greater revenue raising capacity, they also have a much greater ability to attract grant funding on a value for money basis. More often than not they are also located in marginal or politically sensitive areas which provides incentives for governments to direct funds accordingly.

A local government's ability to raise rate revenue in an equitable manner very much depends on the attitude provided by each state government. This can and does vary. In some instances, rate capping is mandated along with a rhetoric to "*keep councils under control*" that the public invariably picks up on making life difficult but invariably this adversely affects the long term financial viability of a local

government or its ability to be agile and flexible to meet community needs. What may appear to be a short-term political win for the State comes with it long term financial issues for the local government, community and in essence the State Government itself.

The legislative provisions of the rating methodology also has a significant impact. Where it is based on sound taxation principles, well understood, well managed, addresses growth equitably and applies to all properties and has flexibility built in, financial sustainability is aided. However as shown in WA such sophisticated system is not in place, despite recent changes to legislation. On some occasions Ministerial approval is also required with rates supposed to be set on a balanced or near balanced cash budget. A number of exemptions are also in place. This hardly aids sound long-term financial sustainability, yet the state itself has arrange of its own property taxes in place such as land tax and stamp duty which are just as inequitable and not liked. Payroll tax also falls on a narrow part of society becoming effectively a tax on employment.

The financial sustainability of local government is also affected by the legislative environment in which it operates and also what tasks and constraints are imposed. Where a hands-off approach is taken with mutual positive recognition of the importance and partnership of state and local government is in place, the industry operates proactively. Where central controls are in place the reverse applies with greater effort and costs required to meet an obligation that often has limited value. Impacts on smaller local governments are invariably greater. Focus on long-term rather than short term also has significant impacts.

Solutions for improvements that address all of these aspects are possible if each is addressed in a considered way that recognises the interdependence on all aspects.

4 The changing infrastructure and service delivery obligations of local government

Society's change, community needs change and so do does the services and infrastructure that is required. The roads, rates and rubbish tag traditionally applied is now well outgrown as in reality a local government is all about quality-of-life aspects with community, cultural and economic development at front of mind with the infrastructure and services to follow, not the other way round.

This can be illustrated by a definition of what is a World-Class Community. Essentially, it's not about streets paved with gold but an integrated community that has strong values and works together for a common goal. As defined through international studies* a world class community is one where diversity and inclusion are the foundation, where no one is left behind and portrays the following characteristics:

An environment where all people are valued and respected.	Rich variety of arts, culture, and leisure opportunities
Safety	Affordable, quality housing
Prepared and hopeful youth	Healthy and credible local government
Strong school systems that work for everyone	Full range of high-quality health care
New and growing businesses with a broad spectrum of job	Strong citizen leadership
	Effective public transportation

**"World-Class Communities. By Marcus Robinson and Joan Buccigrossi, (2003). wetWare, Inc. Rochester, NY"*

So, the changing infrastructure and service delivery obligations of local government are in reality largely open ended and also cannot be addressed in isolation as to what the commonwealth and state also provides.

It however it is also fair to say that there does not appear to be an integrated plan where all three sectors of government become better aligned. Here the commonwealths' efforts such as the introduction of regional development and funding programs such as Roads to Recovery, Local Community Infrastructure and Growing Regions to name a few have been important.

Significantly what is not always recognised is that local government has by and far the lower cost base and is far more flexible than either the commonwealth or state government. So long as adequate

funding is provided devolving responsibilities down to local government provides a logical win for all sectors.

As per *Attachment 2 Whitlam Years “when social policy developed super powers”* focus on empowering rather than constraining local government will be critical.

This the best way to address this issue alongside the axiom *“Structure Always follows Strategy, but Culture always eats Strategy for Breakfast.”*

5 Any structural impediments to security for local government workers and infrastructure and service delivery

As outlined in *Section 4* the biggest structural impediment for the security for local government workers and infrastructure and service delivery is the lack of an integrated plan where all three sectors of government become better aligned and an approach where local government is empowered rather than constrained.

By way of illustration amongst other things the nation and some states such as Western Australia relies heavily on the mining industry which in many remote and regional areas relies heavily workers who operate on a fly in fly out or drive in drive out basis. The salaries and wages paid far exceed when any local government or regional business could pay and will adversely affect recruitment and retention for local government and impact infrastructure delivery.

In February 2013 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia released its report *“Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities? Fly-in, fly-out and drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in Regional Australia.”* It is not known how many, if any recommendations as outlined in *Attachment 1* were actioned and became public policy but it is fair to say that a number if implemented would at least assist a local government to house mining workforce and families within its community as opposed to at a workers camp and also allow the mining company to provide or assist in providing community services locally which are then jointly used.

Industrial relations framework. In WA there is a blend of two state-based awards and a State based Industrial Relation Tribunal overlaid by Fair Work Australia. Previously the Federal Award also applied. Recent jurisdictional changes have not been a forward step, more a relic of the past. A review and simplification would be beneficial.

6 Trends in the attraction and retention of a skilled workforce in the local government sector, including impacts of labour hire practices.

Local Government recruitment is significantly influenced by wider workforce practices. In the more remote areas competition with labour costs associated in other sectors invariably influences what salaries can be paid and who can be attracted.

7 The role of the Australian Government in addressing issues raised in relation to the above

The modern era of federal funding for local government began in the 1970s with the Whitlam Government recognising that rapid changes in responsibilities faced by councils required direct support from the Commonwealth.

As indicated in *Attachment 2 Whitlam Years “when social policy developed super powers”* at the time the commonwealths leadership was at the time pivotal to expanding the nation in a more equitable fashion. It is submitted that Standing Committee are well placed to assist in this aspect and in doing so address the issue raised by this inquiry but with potential wider impact.

To this end as part of this review a broad framework could be developed which identifies, amongst other things matters such as the following.

- i Services that could potentially be best undertaken at a local government level
- ii Streamlined best practices legislative controls.
- iii Equitable rating and property tax systems
- iv Strategic funding programs.
- v Strategic linking of commonwealth funding programs that could operate direct to local government.
- vi Review of current funding programs to ascertain where money has been sent and how these impacts or could impact on FAGS and roads grants
- vii Others

Each area or strategic policy development could then be addressed separately and where justified the commonwealth could act through legislation and funding to influence change.

As an example, under point iii above as shown in *Attachment 3? an example Case Study for Equitable Rating and Property Tax Systems* is outlined to illustrate how the commonwealth could potentially influence change. What is envisaged is that each area chosen would be analyzed in detail to see the potential impact, both positive and negative from a policy perspective to see if it is worth proceeding with. Then the political consideration would be considered and what, if any support could be brought into consideration that could potentially overcome the “politics” involved

This submission strongly advocates Local Government being part of a tripartite arrangement along with Commonwealth and State Governments where all sectors pull together in a more unified manner. To this end all players need to be around the table to work through not just individual elements but the overall strategy that guides the process.

8 Further Information

Further information or any queries in relation to this submission may be obtained by contacting the Murchison Shire WA as per the following contacts.

Shire of Murchison PO Box 61 Mullewa WA 6630	T 08 9963 7999	E ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au
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Mr Bill Boehm Chief Executive Officer	T 08 9963 7999	E ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au

9 Submissions

Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport
PO Box 6021, Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6277 2232 rdit.reps@aph.gov.au

10 ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 Recommendations from February 2013 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia report “Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities? Fly-in, fly-out and drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in Regional Australia.”.*
- Attachment 2 Whitlam Years “when social policy developed super powers”*
- Attachment 3 Property Rates Case Study Example*

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities?

**Fly-in, fly-out and drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in
Regional Australia**

**House of Representatives
Standing Committee on Regional Australia**

February 2013
Canberra



List of recommendations

2 The FIFO workforce practice for resource development

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government fund the Australian Bureau of Statistics to establish a cross-jurisdictional working group to develop and implement a method for the accurate measurement of:

- the extent of fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in the resource sector; and
- service populations of resource communities.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government, in consultation with state and territory governments, review allocation of funding for communities that receive fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out workforces so that funding is based on both resident and service populations.

3 'Fly-in' communities

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government commission a comprehensive research study to determine the actual economic impact on the demand for and consumption of local government services and infrastructure from fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out workforces.

Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government commission a study of the impact of non-resident workers in regional resource towns on the provision of medical services and as a result of this study develop a health policy response that supports the sustainability of regional medical services.

Recommendation 5

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government charge the Australian Small Business Commissioner to enhance the capacity of small businesses in resource communities to participate in servicing the demands of the resource sector.

Recommendation 6

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government identify areas where local governments affected by fly-in, fly-out/drive-in, drive-out work practices would benefit from enhanced skills sets and develop training programs to meet the needs of councillors and senior staff in local government.

Recommendation 7

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government task the National Housing Supply Council to urgently develop and implement a strategy to address the supply of affordable housing in resource communities and report to the House of Representatives by 27 June 2013 on the progress of this strategy.

4 'Fly-out' communities**Recommendation 8**

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government commission a comprehensive study into the health effects of fly-in, fly-out/drive-in, drive-out work and lifestyle factors and as a result of this research develop a comprehensive health policy response addressing the needs of fly-in, fly-out/drive-in, drive-out workers.

Recommendation 9

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government develop a best practice guide for employers with significant non-resident workforces aimed at assisting them to develop their own family support programs.

Recommendation 10

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government commission research on the effect on children and family relationships of having a long-term fly-in, fly-out/drive-in, drive-out parent.

Recommendation 11

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government commission research into the economic and social impacts of establishing regional centres as fly-in fly-out source communities.

5 Governance

Recommendation 12

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government review the *Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986* to examine the:

- removal of impediments to the provision of residential housing in regional communities;
- removal of the exempt status of fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out work camps that are co-located with regional towns; and
- removal of the exempt status of travel to and from the workplace for operational phases of regional mining projects.

Recommendation 13

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government review the *Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986* to:

- remove the general exemption for fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out workers from the 12-month limit of payment of the living away from home allowance;
- enable specific exemptions for construction projects that have a demonstrated limited lifespan; and
- enable specific exemptions for projects in remote areas where the fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out work practice is unavoidable.

Recommendation 14

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government review the Zone Tax Offset arrangements to ensure that they are only claimable by permanent residents of a zone or special area.

Recommendation 15

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government review the Zone Tax Offset to ensure:

- that it provides reasonable acknowledgement of the cost of living in remote Australia;
- that the zones are based on a contemporary measure of remoteness;
- that the zones are based on up-to-date census figures; and
- that it includes a mechanism for regular review to ensure that the offset reflects accurate population figures.

Recommendation 16

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government charge the Australian Electoral Commission to develop an electronic voting system for voters living or working in remote areas to facilitate easier access and ensure more accurate population figures are recorded.

Recommendation 17

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government charge the Productivity Commission with investigating a more appropriate form of governance for remote Australia that is flexible and responsive.

Recommendation 18

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government establish a dedicated secretariat, within an existing government department and based on the Province of Alberta Oil Sands Sustainable Development Secretariat, with responsibility for consulting with state governments and the resources industry in order to:

- compile nationally consistent data regarding the impact of fly-in, fly-out workforces on housing, infrastructure, healthcare, education, social services and future planned resource development;
- develop a regional social and infrastructure impact methodology that will assist resource companies and local governments in assessing the impact of current and planned resource projects including cumulative impacts;
- develop regional infrastructure plans; and
- develop, promote and coordinate community benefits agreements.

6 Delivery of health services and local training**Recommendation 19**

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government develop strategies and targets for achieving fair access to health services for people living in regional and remote areas recognising the use of fly-in, fly-out/drive-in, drive-out health services, providing for appropriate funding and infrastructure support.

Recommendation 20

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government require each Regional Development Australia committee, in consultation with regional health groups such as Medicare Locals, to have a health focus in its strategic plan, specifically focussing on long-term workforce and infrastructure planning and the role that fly-in, fly-out/ drive-in, drive-out medical practitioners will play in future service delivery, with a primary aim to increase residential service delivery.

Recommendation 21

The Committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government develop initiatives to encourage the provision of tertiary education providers to resource communities.

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Whitlam years: when social policy developed superpowers

A grassroots social welfare program from the progressive years of the Whitlam Government is a model way to create more coherent and vibrant communities – and should be revived to steer future policy, a new research project has found.

Apr 04, 2018, updated Apr 04, 2018



The lasting importance and influence of the Australian

Assistance Plan (AAP), a largely unheralded funding scheme of the 1970s which aimed to support and enable urban and rural community social welfare initiatives, has been highlighted in a Flinders University collaborative research project called “Bold Experiment”.

“The current crop of politicians can learn greatly from what we found during our research; that the influence of such community-focused schemes resonates greatly through society for a long, long time,” says Professor Melanie Oppenheimer, who led the project with Professor Erik Eklund (Federation University) and Professor Joanne Scott (University of the Sunshine Coast).

“I’d go so far as saying we need another scheme like the AAP, to answer the call in our communities for a lot of important social services,” Professor Oppenheimer says.

The program helped to establish a range of relevant and robust neighbourhood services, childcare and community centres run by a new wave of local supporters and volunteers, according to oral testimonies given to Bold Experiment project researchers.

Forexample, valuable organisations that were initially funded by AAP – such as the Marrickville Women’s Shelter in Sydney, and many of Australia’s first childcare centres – continue to exist and are proof of the enduring value of the program.

“Politicians ignore the power of such grassroots projects at their peril.”

“It set a tone for community involvement among that generation which continues today,” with the Mackay and Inner Sydney Regional Councils for Social Development still going and the AAP helping to fund organisations now operating as the Tenants’ Union of NSW and Federation of Ethnic Communities’ Councils

Professor Oppenheimer believes the AAP directly plugged into the Flinders University spirit of adventurous experimentation and social action. Young academics in the 1970s, such as Flinders University Professor of Public Policy Adam Graycar, were evaluators of the AAP and the experience for them was life changing.

Inspired by Gough Whitlam's 'Power and the Passion' catchcry, the radical Australian Assistance Plan introduced in 1973 gave federal funding to grassroots community organisations throughout the nation for the first time.

The dynamic oral histories paint a very positive picture of the short-lived program which was scrapped in 1977 by the Fraser Government.

"It provided the launching pad for a whole generation of social workers and social policy practitioners who are now prominent leaders in a variety of fields, and therefore it set the groundwork for modern social policy," says Professor Oppenheimer, who points to the example of high-profile public servant Sue Vardon AO (who will launch a new book *The State of Welfare* in Adelaide this week).

Sue Vardon, who gave evidence to the Bold Experiment project, starting her career as a social worker with Wagga Wagga Council and helped set up the Riverina Regional Council for Social Development as part of the AAP's rollout.

Federation University researcher Professor Eklund says the project looking at social policy in the 1970s in Australia learnt from international comparisons.

"The edited collection, *The State of Welfare*, arose out of our attempts to bring together colleagues from Canada, New Zealand, Germany, Ireland and Sweden in order to understand

this period and some of the global changes that were occurring," says Professor Eklund.

"I was based at University College Dublin in Ireland at the time so we used that opportunity to bring together international scholars and widen the scope of our research.

"The Australian Assistance Plan was an ambitious program that changed the national social policy debate in the 1970s. But it also had very important implications for regional Australia because it looked at new ways to support and involve regional communities."

The Plan established Regional Councils for Social Development in 35 pilot regions throughout Australia. These organisations attempted to involve people in social policy planning.

"A lot of our current consultation and engagement strategies in regional development, for example, come from those first experiments in the early 1970s," he says.

The 'Bold Experiment: An historical evaluation of the Australian Assistance Plan' was funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery grant.

The oral histories and other materials will be housed in the Flinders University Library Special Collections and available for consultation by others interested in this vital period of Australia's history.

Professor Oppenheimer says the power of the AAP was that it "plugged directly into what the community wanted, empowering local groups to decide what they needed most rather than have it imposed on them".

"It set a path that continues today for robust community activity and involvement. The stimulation of these projects also triggered a rise in volunteering in Australia," she says.

“My research into the history of volunteering in Australia sees big spikes in activity during World War One and World War Two, which seem obvious enough, but also during the mid-1970s when the AAP scheme played an integral role,” says Professor Oppenheimer.





*House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport
Local Government Inquiry*

Case Study Example Equitable Rating & Property Tax Systems

This case study example on Equitable Rating and Property Tax Systems is provided to “illustrate” how the commonwealth could influence change.

Background

The legislative provisions of the rating methodology also has a significant impact. Where it is based on sound taxation principles, well understood, well managed, addresses growth equitably and applies to all properties and has flexibility built in, financial sustainability is aided.

However as shown in WA such sophisticated system is not in place, despite recent changes to legislation. On some occasions Ministerial approval is also required with rates supposed to be set on a balanced or near balanced cash budget. A number of exemptions are also in place. This hardly aids sound long-term financial sustainability, yet the state itself has arranged its own property taxes in place such as land tax and stamp duty which are just as inequitable and not liked. Payroll tax also falls on a narrow part of society becoming effectively a tax on employment.

Illustration Example

So, if a State was to move away from payroll tax, land tax and stamp duty then the rating system would need to be used to replace the revenue lost. Implementation of best practice rating principles would need to be utilised. There are a range of options available but if an “all in” system were adopted much occurs in Tasmania, state governments would pay Council rates on their properties and likewise, local governments would pay State rates on their properties. All other land would attract both Council and State Rates. Ideally the commonwealth should be in as well.

The following features could potentially apply.

- i Initially, in theory, the total revenue derived may not change.
- ii The burden would be spread equitably within the community rather than in a disproportionate manner as is currently the case.
- iii Property owners would soon come to see what services (State and Local) that were paying for. This provides for greater transparency.
- iv There is no incentive for the state to complain about local government rates nor local government to complain about a state not providing an equitable contribution as its an all-in system. Both benefit
- v Business would not pay a regressive tax (payroll tax)
- vi Significant savings would apply for home purchases with no stamp duty applicable. This could have positive flow on effects for house ownership.
- vii Land tax would be incorporated as part of state taxes but with an more equitable rating methodology applied rather than arbitrary steps and thresholds for exemptions applying
- viii Rate exemptions would need to be eliminated and if introduced paid for by the state.

- ix So long as rates are modelled to ensure that from year-to-year rates derived from new or expanded properties then an in-built growth would result along with any cpi / budget considerations that the state or local government may choose to apply.
- x Ideally the commonwealth should also be included.

Regardless of the final result however there would be winners and losers, which from a political viewpoint would invariably mean that such a proposal would never be agreed to by all states. Much easier to hide behind the status quo. Less political risk.

However, if the commonwealth were to introduce some form of financial incentive and policy tweaks then barriers may be overcome. This is where the Australian Government Role comes to the fore with initiatives like the following being potentially applied.

- ~ Tweaking the taxation system to not allow state base taxes such as land tax, stamp duty and payroll tax from being eligible deductions for business but permitting state and local government rates as a deduction.
- ~ Providing financial incentive payments to each state who signs up so that the state can phase in any changes to support those disadvantaged.
- ~ Maintain a subsidy to those states that sign up for at least two electoral cycles. This is to minimise any party politics as both major parties would benefit.

This is an example of the approach that is envisaged. Clearly this area would be analyzed in detail to see the potential impact, both positive and negative from a policy perspective to see if it is worth proceeding with. Then the political consideration would be considered and what, if any support as outlined could be brought into consideration that could potentially overcome the "politics" involved.

Murchison Shire
23 May 2024



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Local Emergency Management Arrangements

2024

Approved by LEMC meeting:

Date of LEMC Review Approval:

Date of LEMC Endorsement:

Date of LG Endorsement:

Review Date:

☐ Public Copy

☐ Restricted Copy

These Arrangements have been produced and issued under the authority of S41 (1) of the Emergency Management Act 2005, endorsed by the Murchison Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) and have been tabled with the Midwest Gascoyne District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC).

Chairperson LEMC

Date

Endorsed by Council

Date

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Distribution Matrix

This document will be distributed in full including appendices to all members of the Murchison LEMC.

A public version not containing appendices will be made available on the Shire of Murchison's website.

Distribution

Organisation	Location/Officer	No of Copies
SHIRE OF MURCHISON		
Shire of Murchison	CEO	1
Shire of Murchison	CM	1
Shire of Murchison	Works Manager	1
Shire of Murchison	Shire President	1
LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
LEMC Chair	CEO of Murchison	1
Executive Officer	CESM	1
WA Police	Mullewa Police Station	1
WA Police	Yalgoo Police Station	1
Dept. of Communities	Geraldton	1
St John Ambulance	Geraldton	1
Bush Fire Services	Murchison Volunteers fire Brigades	4
DFES Regional Office	Carnarvon & Geraldton	2
Oasis Roadhouse	Murchison	1
Pia Wadjarri Community	Chairperson	1
Pia Wadjarri Remote Area School	Principal	1
CSIRO	Site Manager	1
Parks & Wildlife Service	Geraldton	1
ADJOINING SHIRES/LEMCs:		
Shire of Cue	LEMC	1
City of Greater Geraldton	LEMC	1
Shire of Northampton	LEMC	1
Shire of Shark Bay	LEMC	1
Shire of Meekatharra	LEMC	1
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	LEMC	1
Shire of Yalgoo	LEMC	1
Shire of Mount Magnet	LEMC	1

Amendment Record

Suggestions and comments from the community and stakeholders can help improve these arrangements and subsequent amendments.

Feedback can include:

- What you do and / or don't like about the arrangements;
- Unclear or incorrect expression;
- Out of date information or practices;
- Inadequacies; and
- Errors, omissions or suggested improvements.

To forward feedback, copy the relevant section, mark the proposed changes and forward to:

Chairperson
Local Emergency Management Committee
Shire of Murchison
PO Box 61
MULLEWA WA 6630

The Chairperson will refer any correspondence to the LEMC for consideration and/or approval. Amendments promulgated are to be certified in the following table, when updated.

Amendment Record

• <u>Amendment</u>		• <u>Details of Amendment</u>	• <u>Amended by</u>
• <u>No.</u>	• <u>Date</u>	•	• <u>*Initial/Date</u>
01	5 November 2015	Complete Review Due for submission to LG for noting, DEMC for tabling, SEMC for endorsement	DMD 4/11/2015
02	04/10/2016	Amendments to update terminology and State Emergency Management Plan references	John lane WALGA
03	04/10/2016	Removal of Appendices 1, 7 and 9 relating to LEMC contacts and Shire resources (Separate Contacts and Resources Register created)	John Lane WALGA
04	05/01/2017	Acronym SRC State Recovery Controller added to Annex A	John Lane WALGA
05	05/01/2017	Acronym OEM Office of Emergency Management Added to Annex A. Other references to SEMC Website removed	John lane WALGA

06	05/01/2017	Amendment to State EM Policy relating to Directed Evacuation P25	John Lane WALGA
07	17/10/2017	Amendments to reflect changes to Government agency names	John Lane WALGA
08	21/11/2017	Complete review of 2015 LEMA with new version due for submission to LEMC, DEMC, and SEMC.	CESM District Advisor CEO
09	28/11/2017	LEMC review of new document	LEMC
10	Nov 2017	Council review of new document	Council
11	May 2018	Amendments to reflect legislation changes	R Ryan CESM
12	Oct 2018	Approved by DEMC & SEMC	R Ryan CESM
13	Dec 2020	Amendments and contact updates	R Ryan CESM
14	March 2024	Full review of document	R Ryan CESM

Glossary of Terms

Terminology used throughout this document shall have the meaning as prescribed in either Section 3 of the Emergency Management Act 2005 or as defined in the State EM Glossary.

District: means an area of the State that is declared to be a district under Section 2.1 Local Government Act 1995.

Local Emergency Coordinator (LEC): That person designated by the Commissioner of Police to be the Local Emergency Coordinator with responsibility for ensuring that the roles and functions of the respective Local Emergency Management Committee are performed and assisting the Hazard Management Agency in the provision of a coordinated multi-agency response during incidents and operations.

Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC): Means a committee established under Section 38 of the Emergency Management Act 2005

Municipality: Means the district of the local government.

Preparedness: Arrangements to ensure that, should an emergency occur, all those resources and services which are needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed. Measures to ensure that, should an emergency occur, communities, resources and services are capable of coping with the effects. See also **comprehensive approach** in the State EM Glossary.

Risk register: A register of the risks within the local government that is identified through the Community Emergency Risk Management process.

Risk statement: A statement identifying the hazard, element at risk and source of risk.

Treatment options: A range of options identified through the emergency risk management process, to select appropriate strategies which minimize the potential harm to the community.

Vulnerability: The characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard. There are many aspects of vulnerability, arising from various physical, social, economic, and environmental factors that vary within a community and over time.

For further Acronyms refer to the State EM Glossary.

General Acronyms used in these Arrangements

BFB	Bush Fire Brigade
BFS	Bush Fire Service
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
SoM	Shire of Murchison
DC	Department of Communities
P&W/DBCA	Parks and Wildlife – Dept. Biodiversity Conservation and Attraction
DEMC	District Emergency Management Committee
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
EM	Emergency Management
FRS	Fire & Rescue Services
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
ISG	Incident Support Group
LEC	Local Emergency Coordinator
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Arrangements
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LGA	Local Government Authority
LRC	Local Recovery Coordinator
LRCG	Local Recovery Coordinating Group
OEM	Office of Emergency Management
SEC	State Emergency Coordinator
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SES	State Emergency Service
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
TWS	Telephone warning System
WAPOL	Western Australia Police

Part 1 Introduction

1.1 Authority

These arrangements have been prepared in accordance with s41(1) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, endorsed by the Murchison Local Emergency Management Committee and approved by the Murchison Local Emergency Management Committee on the 28 November 2018.

1.2 Community Consultation

The community has been consulted through other forums and through the LEMC committee members.

The Community has been consulted and made aware of these arrangements and their purpose via a number of means including local newsletters & Shire Webpage.

1.3 Document Availability

In accordance with S43 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* a copy of these arrangements is available for inspection free of charge by members of the public during office hours at the Shire of Murchison Council office. These arrangements will also be available via the Councils' website.

Copies of these Arrangements shall be distributed to the following and shall be free of charge during office hours:

- Shire's Administration Office
Murchison Settlement
Mullewa-Carnarvon Road
Murchison WA 6630
- Shire's Website in PDF format
- Stakeholder and LEMC agencies and organisations
- Related committees
- DFES Regional Office
- Midwest Gascoyne District Emergency Management Committee
- Office of Emergency Management
- State Emergency Management Committee (Secretary) – electronic format

1.4 Area Covered

The Shire of Murchison consists of 26 pastoral leases, an Aboriginal and a Local Government reserve, areas of vacant crown land and various other reserves. The Shire of Murchison is also known as the Shire without a town, there being no gazetted town site within the Shire and only the Murchison Settlement being the major source of population and services.

The major industry of the Shire is the operation of the pastoral stations which produce wool and meat (from sheep, cattle, goats and kangaroos). High technology radio astronomy facilities are being developed on Boolardy Station, stimulating development at the Murchison Settlement and within the Shire.

The land is largely uncleared; however, years of grazing have damaged some areas. The most common species of plants are varieties of acacia with eucalyptus trees inhabiting areas close to the various rivers and their channels.

The Shire is traversed by the Murchison River system including its two tributaries the Sanford and Roderick Rivers. These rivers only flow following significant rainfall events, however there are many permanent pools within the river system.

Rainfall averages around 250mm per year, however this amount varies significantly from year to year. Most rain is experienced in the winter months. The area is subject to rainfall at the tail end of summer cyclones and summer thunderstorms. Large amounts of wildflowers bloom following good winter rainfall.

Summers in the Shire of Murchison are mostly hot, with summer temperatures generally being over 30 degrees Celsius, and there are frequently long periods where the temperature exceeds 37.5 degrees Celsius. Winters are generally cool and sunny. Travellers to the area should be aware of these extremes and equip themselves sufficiently well to ensure their own wellbeing.

2012 Murchison Figures:

- 49 500 sq. km
- Population 153
- No. Dwellings 72
- LG Employees 24

1.5 Aim

The aim of this document is to define the management of identified risks and provide detail on proposed planning, response and recovery activities for the Shire of Murchison.

1.6 Purpose

The purpose of these arrangements is to set out:

- The Shire of Murchison's policies for emergency management;
- The roles and responsibilities of public authorities and other agencies involved in emergency management in the Shire of Murchison;
- Provisions about the coordination of emergency operations and activities relating to emergency management;
- A description of emergencies that are likely to occur in the LGA;
- Strategies and priorities for emergency management;
- Other matters about emergency management in the Shire of Murchison prescribed by the regulations; and
- Other matters about emergency management in the Shire of Murchison that the Council considers appropriate. [\[s. 41\(2\) of the EM Act 2005\]](#)

1.7 Scope

These arrangements are to ensure there are suitable plans in place to deal with the identified emergencies should they arise. It is not the intent of this document to detail the procedures for HMA's in dealing with an emergency. These should be detailed in the HMA's individual plan.

Furthermore:

- This document applies to the Local Government Authority of the Shire of Murchison;
- This document covers areas where the Shire of Murchison provides support to HMA's in the event of an incident;
- This document details the Shire of Murchison's capacity to provide resources in support of an emergency, while still maintaining business continuity; and
- The Shire of Murchison's responsibility for recovery management.
- These arrangements are to serve as a guide to be used at the local level. Incidents may arise that require action or assistance from district, state or federal level.

1.8 Related Documents

This document covers the key arrangements to enable the delivery of integrated and coordinated emergency management to the Shire of Murchison. The Shire of Murchison currently does not have any policies that specifically relates to emergency management, unique to this local government area.

1.9 Local Emergency Management Policies

Document	Owner	Date
Bushfire Policies	Shire	June 2022

1.10 Existing Plans and Arrangements

Document	Owner	Date
Site Emergency Management Plan – MRO	CSIRO	6/2023
Site Emergency Management Plan – Pia Wajarri	Pia Wajarri	08/2023
Site Emergency Management Plan – Murchison Roadhouse	Shire of Murchison	01/2023
Local Recovery Plan Shire of Murchison	Shire of Murchison	

1.11 Agreements, Understandings and Commitments

This is a list formal agreements or MOUs that are in between the Shire of Murchison and other local governments, organisations or industries in relation to the provision of assistance during times of need are in place. Currently this is under review.

Parties to the Agreement	Summary of the Agreement	Special Considerations
Nil currently working with other LGs		

1.12 Special Considerations

Special considerations include;

- Wildflower season: April – September
- Annual migration of the “Grey Nomads”: April – September
- Polo Cross Carnival: Mid July
- Biannual Astro Fest
- Various car rallies
- School Sports Events
- Seasonal conditions e.g. bushfires, cyclones, storms, flood
- No local police or St John Ambulance services on-site

1.13 Special Needs Groups

Special needs groups are available at Appendix 5 and are reviewed periodically to ensure accuracy. These groups include schools, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and retirement villages.

- Special needs group may have been identified through the medical service and documented through medical records and cultural processes.

1.14 Resources

The Hazard Management Agency (HMA) is responsible for the determination of resources required to combat the hazards for which they have responsibility. The Shire of Murchison has conducted a broad analysis of resources available within the Shire of Murchison including the pastoral properties and collated these in the Shire of Murchison Emergency Resources and these are recorded in the Shire of Murchison Contacts and Resources Register (Restricted document) refer to Appendix 7.

1.15 Roles & Responsibilities

As stated in Emergency Management Regulations, the following table outlines descriptions and responsibilities of key positions in relation to local community emergency management.

Local Role	Description of responsibilities
Local government	The responsibilities of the Shire of Morawa are defined in Section 36 of the EM Act.
Local emergency coordinator	The responsibilities of the LEC are defined in Section 37 of the EM Act.
Local recovery coordinator	To ensure the development and maintenance of effective recovery management arrangements for the local government. In conjunction with the local recovery committee to implement a post incident recovery action plan and manage the recovery phase of the incident.

Local Role	Description of responsibilities
Evacuation Centre Coordinator	<p>The Evacuation Centre Coordinator is appointed by the DC Regional Executive Director to:</p> <p>Establish, chair, and manage the activities of the Local Relief Emergency Committee, where determined appropriate by the Regional Executive Director.</p> <p>Prepare, promulgate, test, and maintain the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (LERP).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent the department and the emergency relief function on the Local Emergency Management Committee and Local Recovery Committee. • Establish and maintain the Local Emergency Relief and Support Coordination Centre. • Ensure personnel and organisations are trained and exercised in their emergency relief and support responsibilities. • Coordinate the provision of emergency relief services during response and recovery phases of an emergency; and • Represent the department on the Incident Management Group when required.
Local Government liaison officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During an evacuation where a local government facility is utilised by DC provide advice, information, and resources regarding the operation of the facility.
LG liaison officer (to the ISG/IMT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a major emergency the liaison officer attends ISG meetings to represent the local government, provides local knowledge input and provides details contained in the LEMA.
Local government – Incident management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure planning and preparation for emergencies is undertaken • Implement procedures that assist the community and emergency services deal with incidents • Ensure that all personnel with emergency planning and preparation, response and recovery responsibilities are properly trained in their role • Keep appropriate records of incidents that have occurred to ensure continual improvement of the Shires emergency response capability. • Liaise with the incident controller (provide liaison officer) • Participate in the ISG and provide local support • Where an identified evacuation centre is a building owned and operated by the local government, provide a liaison officer to support the DC.
LEMC Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide leadership and support to the LEMC to ensure effective meetings and high levels of emergency management planning and preparedness for the local government district is undertaken.
LEMC Deputy Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides leadership and support to the LEMC in the absence of the Chair
LEMC Executive Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide executive support to the LEMC by: • Provide secretariat support including: – Meeting agenda; – Minutes and action lists; – Correspondence; – Committee membership contact register.

Local Role	Description of responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the development and submission of committee documents in accordance with legislative and policy requirements including – Annual Report; – Annual Business Plan; – Local Emergency Management Arrangements. • Facilitate the provision of relevant emergency management advice to the Chair and committee as required; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate as a member of sub-committees and working groups as required;
Local Emergency Management Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LEMC includes representatives from agencies, organisations and community groups that are relevant to the identified risks and emergency management arrangements for the community. • The LEMC is not an operational committee but rather the organisation established by the local government to ensure that local emergency management arrangements are written and placed into effect for its district. • The LEMC membership must include at least one local government representative and the identified Local Emergency Coordinator (LEC). Relevant government agencies and other statutory authorities will nominate their representatives to be members of the LEMC. • The term of appointment of LEMC members shall be determined by the local government in consultation with the parent organisation of the members. • The functions of LEMC are [s. 39 of the Act]: • To advise and assist the local government in establishing local emergency managements for the district. • to liaise with public authorities and other persons in the development, review and testing of the local emergency management arrangements; and • To carry out other emergency management activities as directed by SEMC or prescribed by regulations. • Other Functions of the LEMC.
Controlling Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Controlling Agency is an agency nominated to control the response activities to a specified type of emergency. The function of a Controlling Agency is to. • undertake all responsibilities as prescribed in Agency specific legislation for Prevention and Preparedness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • control all aspects of the response to an incident. During Recovery the Controlling Agency will ensure effective transition to recovery.
Hazard Management Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A hazard management agency is ‘to be a public authority or other person who or which, because of that agency’s functions under any written law or specialised knowledge, expertise and resources, is responsible for emergency management, or the prescribed emergency management aspect, in the area prescribed of the hazard for which it is prescribed.’ [EM Act 2005 s4] The HMAs is prescribed in the Emergency Management Regulations 2006. Their function is to: • Undertake responsibilities were prescribed for these aspects [EM Regulations] • Appoint Hazard Management Officers [s55 Act]

Local Role	Description of responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declare / revoke emergency situation [s 50 & 53 Act] • Coordinate the development of the West plan for that hazard [State EM Policy Section 1.5] • Ensure effective transition to recovery by local government
Combat Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Combat Agency as prescribed under subsection (1) of the Emergency Management Act 2005 is to be a public authority or other person who or which, because of the agency's functions under any written law or specialised knowledge, expertise, and resources, is responsible for performing an emergency management activity prescribed by the regulations in relation to that agency.
Support Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public authority or other person who or which, because of the agency's functions under any written law or specialised knowledge, expertise and resources is responsible for providing support functions in relation to that agency. (State EM Glossary)
Emergency Management Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Hazard Management Agency (HMA), Combat agency or Support organisation as prescribed under the provisions of the Emergency Management Act 2005

1.16 LEMC Executive

Chair	CEO Shire of Murchison
Deputy Chair	OIC Yalgoo Police Station
Executive Officer	CESM

Part 2 Planning

This section outlines the minimum administration and planning requirements of the LEMC under the Emergency Management Act 2005 & policies.

2.1 LEMC Membership

The Shire of Murchison has established a LEMC to plan, administer and test the local emergency management arrangements.

Membership of the LEMC is representative of the agencies, community groups, non-government organisations and expertise relevant to the identified community hazards and risks and emergency management arrangements.

Executive	
Chair:	Shire of Murchison President / CEO
Deputy Chair:	Officer in Charge / LEC Yalgoo Police/Mullewa Police
Executive Officer:	Shire of Murchison CESM
Local Recovery Coordinator:	Shire of Murchison CEO
Administrative Support:	Shire of Murchison Administrative Support Officer
HMA's	
Shire of Murchison	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
DBCA Parks & Wildlife	Murchison Fire Coordinator
Department of Fire & Emergency Services	District Officer/Area Officer
Dept. of Transport	Regional Manager
Health	Regional Director
Agriculture & Food	Site Manager
Police Yalgoo	Officer in Charge
Relief Support	
Centrelink	Team Leader
Community Services	District Emergency Services Officer
Red Cross	Team Leader
Salvation Army	Lieutenant
Utilities	
Main Roads WA	Network Manager
Telstra	Area Manager

Additional Membership as directed by Local Government	
St John Ambulance	Regional Manager
Shire of Murchison	Works Manager
DFES	Regional Superintendent
WALGA	
Pia Wajarri	

2.2 Meeting Schedule

Preparedness Procedure states that 'LEMC's shall meet every three months and as required.' The Murchison LEMC schedules meetings in May and August of each year. The LEMC may convene a special meeting if required for example after any major emergency incident.

2.3 Constitution & Procedures

Each meeting of the LEMC should consider, but not be restricted to, the following matters, as appropriate:

- a) Every meeting:
 - i. Confirmation of local emergency management arrangements contact details;
 - ii. Review of any post-incident reports and post exercise reports generated since last meeting;
 - iii. Progress of emergency risk management process;
 - iv. Progress of treatment strategies arising from emergency risk management process;
 - v. Progress the development or review of local emergency management arrangements; and
 - vi. Other matters determined by the local government.

2.4 Annual Reporting

The annual report of the LEMC is to be completed and submitted to the DEMC within two (2) weeks of the end of the financial year for which the annual report is prepared. The LEMC is required to submit a signed hard copy of the annual report to the Executive Officer of the DEMC.

The LEMC annual report is to contain, for the reporting period:

- a) a description of the area covered by the LEMC,
- b) a description of activities undertaken by it, including:
 - i. the number of LEMC meetings and the number of meetings each member, or their deputy, attended,
 - ii. a description of emergencies within the area covered by the LEMC involving the activation of an Incident Support Group (ISG),
 - iii. a description of exercises that exercised the local emergency management arrangements for the area covered by the LEMC,
 - iv. the level of development of the local emergency management arrangements for the area covered by the LEMC

- v. the level of development of the local recovery plan for the area covered by the LEMC,
 - vi. the progress of establishing a risk register for the area covered by the LEMC, and
 - vii. a description of major achievements against the Annual Business Plan.
- c) the text of any direction given to it by the local government that established it.
 - d) the major objectives of the annual business plan of the LEMC for the next financial year.

[Emergency Management Preparedness Procedure](#) – Annual Reporting refers.

The annual report of the LEMC is to be completed and submitted to the DEMC within 2 weeks of the end of the financial year for which the annual report is prepared. The information provided by the LEMC annual report is collated into the SEMC and the Office of Emergency Management Annual Report which is tabled in Parliament. The SEMC issue the annual report template.

2.5 Annual Business Plan

Preparedness Procedure notes each LEMC will complete and submit to the DEMC an annual report at the end of each financial year. One of the requirements of the Annual Report is to have a Business Plan.

The Shire of Murchison will develop an Annual Business Plan incorporated as an attachment to the LEMC annual report in accordance with the SEMC Guidelines.

2.6 Emergency Risk Management

The LEMC has undertaken the emergency risk management process in accordance with Standards Australia AS/NZS 31000:2009 Risk Management within a community emergency risk management context.

A risk register has been developed and is included in will be continuously reviewed in collaboration with relevant public authorities and/or any other relevant agencies or community groups as appropriate, in accordance with State Emergency Management Procedure – Emergency Risk Management Planning. This register contains descriptions of emergencies likely to occur, and priorities.

Emergency Management Strategies & Priorities will be developed in 2017 in association with the State Emergency Management Committee's 'State Risk Project'.

Part 3 Support to Response

3.1 Risks – Emergencies Likely to Occur & Responsible HMA

The LEMC identified the following hazards within the CGG from the emergency risk management process.

Hazard	HMA	State Hazard Plan (Date)
Animal & Plant Biosecurity	Dept. Primary Industries and Regional Development	Animal & Plant Biosecurity 2023
Collapse	Commissioner of DFES	Collapse 2023
Earthquake	Commissioner of DFE	Earthquake 2023
Fire (Includes Bush & Urban Fire)	Commissioner of DFES LG/DBCA	Fire 2023
Hazardous Materials Emergency	Commissioner of DFES	Hazmat plan 2023
Hazmat Radiation from a Warship	Commissioner of Police	Hazmat Annex A NPW 2023
Hazmat Space re-entry Debris	Commissioner of Police	Hazmat Annex B SPRED 2023
Heatwave	Chief Executive Officer Department of Health	Heatwave 2023
Human Biosecurity Emergency	Chief Executive Officer Department of Health	Human Biosecurity 2023
Search & Rescue Emergency	Commissioner of Police	Search and Rescue response 2023
Hostile Act	Commissioner of Police	Hostile Act 2023
Energy Supply Disruption	Energy Policy Western Australia	Energy Supply Disruption 2023
Marine Environment Emergencies	Dept. of Transport	Maritime Environment Emergencies (MEE) 2020
Crash Emergency	SEMC Air Crash Commissioner of WAPOL Rail Arc or PTA Road Commissioner of Police	Crash Emergency 2023
Severe Weather	Commissioner of DFES	Severe Weather 2023
Tsunami Emergency	Commissioner of DFES	Tsunami 2023

These arrangements are based upon the premise that the Hazard Management Agency will be responsible for the above risks and will develop, test and review appropriate emergency management plans for their hazard.

The Shire of Murchison is the Site of Australia largest known earthquake and has had a number of approximately Magnitude 4 and above earthquakes since the 940s.

It is recognised that the HMA's may require the Shire of Murchison resources and assistance during an emergency. The Shire of Murchison may provide assistance/support if the required resources are available, through the ISG when formed.

The following Priorities have been identified

1. Protection & Preservation of Life
2. Community Warnings & Information
3. Protection of critical infrastructure & community assets
4. Protection of residential property
5. Protection of assets supporting individual livelihood and community financial sustainability
6. Protection of environment and heritage values

3.2 Incident Support Group

The ISG is convened by the HMA or the Local Emergency Coordinator in consultation with the HMA to assist in the overall coordination of services and information during a major incident. Coordination is achieved through clear identification of priorities by agencies sharing information and resources.

3.2.1 Role

The role of the ISG is to provide support to the incident management team. The ISG is a group of people represented by the different agencies who may have involvement in the incident.

3.2.2 Membership of an ISG

The ISG is made up of agencies/representatives that provide support to the HMA. As a general rule, the Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) should be a member of the ISG from the onset, to ensure consistency of information flow and transition into recovery.

The representation on this group may change regularly depending upon the nature of the incident, agencies involved and the consequences caused by the emergency.

Agencies supplying staff for the ISG must ensure that the representative(s) have the authority to commit resources and/or direct tasks.

3.2.3 Triggers for an ISG

The triggers for an incident support group are outlined under the State Emergency Plan – Response. Broadly the requirement is identified when there is a need to coordinate multiple agencies. Specifically, these can be if one of the following triggers is met;

- requires multi agency response;
- has a protracted duration;
- requires coordination of multi-agency resources;
- requires resources from outside the local area;
- Some impact on critical infrastructure;

- has a medium level of complexity;
- has a medium impact on the routine functioning of the community;
- has potential to be declared an 'Emergency Situation'; and/or
- consists of multiple hazards.

State EM Plan S5 – 'Response' should be consulted for further detail.

3.2.4 Frequency of Meetings

Frequency of meetings will be determined by the Incident Controller and will generally depend on the nature and complexity of the incident. As a minimum, there should be at least one meeting per incident. Coordination is achieved through clear identification of priorities and goals by agencies sharing information and resources.

3.2.5 Location of ISG Meetings

Proposed locations for ISG meetings are determined by the HMA.

The option of Teleconference may be used subject to communications systems being available and working.

3.3 Media Management and Public Information

Communities threatened or impacted by emergencies have an urgent and vital need for information and direction. Such communities require adequate, timely information and instructions in order to be aware of the emergency and to take appropriate actions to safeguard life and property. The provision of this information is the responsibility of the Controlling Agency.

This is achieved through the Incident Management Team position of 'Public Information Officer' as per the AIIMS Structure. However, at the time of handover, the responsibility of sign-off of communication material is handed over to the Local Recovery Coordinator.

The Shire will use all means possible to keep the community informed, this may be the use of Telephone trees.

3.4 Critical Infrastructure

The Shire of Murchison has identified critical infrastructure within its district. Due to the sensitive nature of this information the details of Critical infrastructure is included in appendix 4 and is not for public distribution.

3.5 Financial Arrangements

State EM Policy Section 5.12, State EM Plan Section 5.4 and 6.10 and State EM Recovery Procedures outlines the responsibilities for funding during multi-agency emergencies. While recognising the above, the *Shire of Murchison* is committed to expending such necessary funds within its current budgetary constraints as required to ensure the safety of its residents and visitors. The Chief Executive Officer should be approached immediately an emergency event requiring resourcing by the *Shire of Murchison* occurs to ensure the desired level of support is achieved.

3.6 Evacuation

Refer to State Emergency Management Policy

A range of hazards regularly pose a risk to communities throughout Western Australia. Evacuation of people from an area affected by a hazard is one of the strategies that may be employed by emergency managers to mitigate the potential loss of, or harm to, life. Experience has also shown that the evacuation of residents is not always the optimum solution to managing the risk. Alternatives to evacuation such as to stay and protect and control or restrict movement should also be considered where appropriate.'

Evacuation is a risk management strategy which may need to be implemented, particularly in regards to cyclones, flooding and bush fires. The decision to evacuate will be based on an assessment of the nature and extent of the hazard, the anticipated speed of onset, the number and category of people to be evacuated, evacuation priorities and the availability of resources. These considerations should focus on providing all the needs of those being evacuated to ensure their safety and on-going relief .

The Controlling Agency will make decisions on evacuation and ensure that community members have appropriate information to make an informed decision as to whether to stay or go during an emergency.

3.6.1 Evacuation Planning Principles

The decision to evacuate will only be made by a Controlling Agency or an authorised officer when the members of the community at risk do not have the capability to make an informed decision or when it is evident that loss of life or injury is imminent.

The WA Police Community Evacuation Plan for the Shire of Murchison will be provided as an Annex to these arrangements, when available.

Evacuation can be either:

Controlled –The decision to undertake a controlled evacuation must be made by the controlling agency or an Authorised Officer who will also determine if the evacuation is to be recommended (voluntary) or directed (compulsory).

Directed - A HMA/Controlling Agency may issue a direction for people and/or animals to evacuate/be evacuated with which they are obliged to comply in circumstances where it is believed there is an imminent and real threat to life should they remain.

Recommended - A controlled evacuation whereby a HMA/Controlling Agency provides advice to members of a community that they evacuate, when the Incident Controller believes this represents the best option to mitigate the effects of an emergency on a community, based on the agency's risk assessment at that time, but where the risk is not perceived as extreme/imminent.

All evacuations shall be managed in accordance with current Covid protocols :

- [Emergency Management Response Procedure](#) – Direction concerning the movement and evacuation in an emergency situation;
- [Emergency Management Response Procedure](#) – Direction concerning movement and evacuation during a State of Emergency
- [Western Australia Community Evacuation in Emergencies Guide](#).
- Department of Communities Covid-19 guidelines to be followed.

3.6.2 Evacuation Management

The responsibility for managing evacuation rests with the Controlling Agency. The Controlling Agency is responsible for planning, communicating and effecting the evacuation and ensuring the relief of the evacuees is maintained. The Controlling Agency is also responsible for ensuring the safe return of evacuees. These aspects also incorporate the financial costs associated with the evacuation unless prior arrangements have been made. In most cases WA Police may be the 'combat agency' for carrying out the evacuation.

Whenever evacuation is being considered the Department of Communities must be consulted during the planning stages. This is because DC has responsibility under State Arrangements to maintain the relief of evacuees under State Emergency Relief Plan.

3.7 Vulnerable Groups

For information on relief arrangements for vulnerable groups please refer to the DC Emergency Relief Plan.

3.8 Routes and Maps

The main routes through the Shire of Murchison are as follows:

North-South

- Carnarvon Mullewa Road (Bitumen/Formed Gravel Road): Main access road from Mullewa, through Murchison Settlement to Gascoyne Junction (and then on to Carnarvon) and Mt Augustus.
- Beringarra-Pindar Road (Formed Gravel Road): Auxiliary Access from the Geraldton-Mt Magnet Road through to CSIRO / SKA operations at Boolardy Station and also a route to Mt Augustus.
- Twin Peaks-Wooleen, Meeberrie-Mt Wittenoom, Boolardy-Wooleen, section of Beringarra-Pindar (Gravel Roads). Main access to CSIRO / SKA operations at Boolardy Station.

East-West

- New Forrest-Yallalong Road (Gravel Road): East/West access along the Murchison River from North-West Coastal Highway to Carnarvon Mullewa Road.
- Butchers Track (Formed Gravel Road): East/West access from North-West Coastal Highway to Carnarvon Mullewa Road. (Supplementary access to Geraldton when Murchison River is in flood and Carnarvon-Mullewa Road is closed as a result. Shortest route from Murchison to Carnarvon).
- Byro-Woodleigh Road (Formed Gravel Road): East/West access from North-West Coastal Highway to Carnarvon Mullewa Road.
- Beringarra-Byro and Beringarra-Cue Road (Formed Gravel Road): East/West access from the Carnarvon Mullewa Road through to Cue.
- Meeberrie-Woollen, Meeberrie-Mt Wittenoom, Boolardy-Wooleen, Boolardy-Kalli and Kalli Road (Gravel Roads Access to Cue).
- Meeberrie-Woollen, Meeberrie-Mt Wittenoom, and Mt Wittenoom Road, Boolardy-Kalli and Kalli Road (Gravel Roads) for access to Yalgoo and Mt Magnet.

Refer to Appendix 7. This section provides a map of the locality and identifies any issues and local land marks.

3.9 Emergency Relief and Support

In emergency management terminology, Relief is defined as providing immediate and ongoing supportive services to alleviate as far as practicable the effects on persons affected by an emergency.

The role of managing relief function during an emergency has been delegated to the Department of Communities (DC). The DC will develop a Local Emergency Relief and Support Management Plan that will be used to coordinate the management of the relief centre(s) for the Murchison LEMC.

3.10 Local Relief Coordinator

Regional Coordinators	<p>A Communities coordinator responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Develop local emergency management resources, including local arrangements, procedures and resources e.g., EM Kits. (b) Develop, test and maintain the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans for the district in which the LG areas fall. (c) Ensure staff and volunteers of Communities and partnering agencies are trained and exercised in them. welfare responsibilities by conducting training sessions. and exercises annually. (d) Liaise and establish networks and partnerships with agencies. (e) Assist with activations if available. (f) Assist and support the district representatives and Evacuation Centre Coordinators to carry out their roles. (g) Establish and manage the activities of the local Emergency Relief and Support Coordination Groups (ERSCG), where determined appropriate by the district Director. (h) Represent Communities and the emergency relief and support function on LEMCs and Local Recovery Committees. (i) During activation, manage and coordinate emergency relief and support services, including establishing and managing evacuation centers, and if further relief and support assistance is required request for additional support services via the Communities Emergency Services. (j) Represent Communities on the Incident Support Group (ISG) when required.
Communities Evacuation Centre Coordinator (ECC)	<p>In some circumstances Evacuation Centre Coordinators (ECCs) are appointed. They shall be nominated officers of Communities and the ECC responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Represent Communities on the Incident Support Group (ISG) when required. Establish and manage the operations of the evacuation Centre/s, including coordinating staff and partnering agencies staff and volunteers, to provide appropriate relief and support services to the evacuees in the evacuation center. (a) Communicate regularly with the ECC, and if further relief and support assistance is required request for additional support services via the ECC. (a) Remaining at the Centre to manage the Centre operations. (a)

Refer to Contacts & Resources Register (Restricted document)

3.11 Local Relief Liaison Officer

Local Government shall appoint a Local Relief Liaison Officer who has the responsibility to provide support and assistance to the Local Evacuation/Relief Centre, including the management of emergency evacuation/relief centres, such as building opening, closing, security and maintenance.

It is important to identify what initial arrangements for relief will be required, particularly in remote areas, where it may take some time for the DC to arrive. With the delay in the DC arriving, it may be necessary for the Local Relief Liaison Officer to activate the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan or components thereof, with authority of the Local Evacuation Centre Coordinator.

Refer to Contacts & Resources Register (Restricted document).

3.12 State and National Registration and Inquiry

The DC is to be contacted whenever an evacuation is considered as the Department has responsibility for the provision of relief services to evacuees and management of registration and inquiry services using the Red Cross 'Register. Find. Reunite' system and associated forms which can be located at <https://register.redcross.org.au>

3.13 Animals

The Shire will provide support only to assistance animals that come into Evacuation Centres therefore the general community will have to make arrangements for their own animals.

3.14 Evacuation Centres

The Shire of Murchison holds an Emergency Relief Centre Register which allows for DC to utilise the buildings contained within the document for Relief purposes. For a detail list of evacuation centres refer to appendix 3.

Part 4 Recovery

Refer to the Shire of Murchison Local Recovery Plan 2024 which is a sub-plan to these arrangements.

Part 5 Exercising, REVIEWING AND REPORTING

5.1 The Aim of Exercising

The [State Emergency Management Preparedness Procedure](#) directs that the local government will ensure the local arrangements are exercised at least annually in either of the following formats:

- Discussion (Seminars, Workshops, Desktops)
- Functional (Drills or game style)
- Field or Full Deployment (large scale)

The benefits of testing these arrangements include:

- Determining the effectiveness of the arrangements;
- Bringing together all relevant people to promote knowledge of and confidence in the arrangements and individuals;

- Providing the opportunity to promote the arrangements and educate the community;
 - Providing the opportunity for testing participating agencies operational procedures and skills in simulated emergency conditions while testing the ability of agencies to work together on common tasks;
 - Improving the arrangements in accordance with the results of exercise debriefings.
- It should be remembered that as the primary role of local government in emergency management is 'recovery', programs that exercise recovery activities and preparedness are to be foremost.

5.2 Frequency of Exercises

Preparedness Procedure 19 – Exercise Management requires the LEMC to exercise their arrangements on an annual basis.

5.3 Types of Exercises

Some examples of exercises types include:

- Desktop/Discussion
- A phone tree recall exercise
- Opening and closing procedures for evacuation centres or any facilities that might be operating in an emergency
- Operating procedures of an Emergency Coordination Centre
- Locating and activating resources on the Emergency Resources Register
- Complex

Where possible the community should be encouraged to participate in or observe the exercise.

5.4 Reporting of Exercises

The LEMC reports exercises scheduled to the relevant DEMC by the 1st May each year. The DEMC compiles the reports and send the dates to the Emergency Services Sub-committee to be included in the SEMC Annual Report (ref Preparedness Procedure 19).

Once the exercises have been completed, they should be reported to the DEMC.

5.5 Review of Local Emergency Management Arrangements

These Local Emergency Management Arrangements shall be reviewed and amended in accordance with SEMC Preparedness Procedure 7 – *Emergency Management in Local Government Districts* and replaced whenever the local government considers it appropriate (S42 of the EM Act).

According to the State Emergency Management Plan, the LEMA (including recovery plans) are to be reviewed and amended as follows:

- contact lists are reviewed and updated quarterly;
- a review is conducted after training that exercises the arrangements;
- an entire review is undertaken every five (5) years, as risks might vary due to climate, environment and population changes; and
- Circumstances may require more frequent reviews.

5.6 Review of Local Emergency Management Committee Positions

The Shire of Murchison shall determine the term and composition of LEMC positions. (Preparedness Procedure). When determining the composition of the LEMC the Shire of Murchison will take into consideration Preparedness Procedure that provides a list of recommended members. Additional members may be invited where their membership will benefit the function of emergency management for the Shire.

The Shire of Murchison will conduct a formal review of the LEMC membership in conjunction with each review of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements.

5.7 Review of the Resources Register

The Executive Officer shall have the resources register checked and updated on an annual basis, but ongoing amendments may occur at any LEMC meeting. Generally, this will occur at the beginning of October each year.

Part 6 Appendixes

Appendix 1 Risk Register

Risk Register Schedule

Refer Appendix 8

Risk Statement	Risk Treatment Strategies
<p>There is the potential that fire will destroy pastoral land and threaten homesteads and other property</p>	<p>Retain the risk by informed decision ie community are aware and prepared; Remove flammable waste from near built up areas to reduce risk to homes and property; Put fire breaks around homesteads.</p>
<p>There is the potential that a weather event will cause a flood that decimates the new Ballinyoo Bridge</p>	<p>Retain the risk by informed decision ie community are aware and prepared; Share the risk with insurance company; Ensure that the low level crossing is maintained as a back-up access route.</p>
<p>There is the potential that a cyclone will decimate the Murchison Settlement and surrounding station homesteads</p>	<p>Retain the risk by informed decision ie community are aware and prepared; Share the risk with insurance company; Ensure building regulations are hazard specific.</p>

Appendix 2 ISG Meeting Locations

Details	Name	Phone
Location 1	Yalgoo Police Station Address	
1 st Contact	OIC Address	9962 8561
2 nd Contact	Station	9962 8032
Location 2	Mullewa Police Station, Address Address	
1 st Contact	OIC	9961 6600
2 nd Contact	Station	9961 6000
Location 3	Murchison Shire Offices Lot 3007 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Murchison 6630	
1 st Contact	CEO	9963 7999 0428 637 998 Mobile 0418 482 386 SAT
2 nd Contact	Works Manager	9963 7999 0428 637 998 Mobile 0424 219 721 SAT
Location 4	Murchison Shire Evacuation Centre Lot 3007 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Murchison 6630	
1 st Contact	CEO	9963 7999 0428 637 998 Mobile 0418 482 386 SAT
2 nd Contact	Works Manager	9963 7999 0428 645 362 Mobile 0424 219 721 SAT

Appendix 3 Evacuation Centre Information

Details	
Establishment/Facility:	Murchison Community Centre
Physical Address	Murchison Settlement, Mullewa-Carnarvon Road
General Description of the Complex	A purpose built community centre with a semi-commercial kitchen to the North, a carpeted meeting room, toilet/shower and a well-equipped first aid room to the South and an un-lined Hall in the centre.
Telephone No	08 9963 7999
Fax No	08 9963 7966
Email Address	ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au



Contacts

Name	Position	Work Contact	Sat Phone
Bill Boehm	CEO	08 9963 7999	0418 482 386
William Herold	Works Manager	08 9963 7999	0424 219 721

Access Details

Details	
Keys	Available from the Shire
Alarm	No
Security	No
Universal Access	Limited

Accommodation Numbers – as per Health Regulations

Details	
Sitting / Standing	75 Covid 37
Sleeping	30 Covid 15
Duration	24 – 48 hours

Amenities

There are three ablution facilities that can support this facility:

- Disabled/unisex internal facility
- Ablution block 20 metres North
- Caravan Park ablution block – “The Turtle” 100 metres South

Item	Yes/No	Notes
Toilet Facilities: Male		
Toilets	1	
Showers	1	
Urinal	1	
Hand Basins	1	
Toilet Facilities: Female		
Toilets	2	
Showers	1	
Hand Basins	1	

Item	Yes/No	Notes
Disability Facilities - Unisex		
Showers	1	
Toilet	1	
Hand Basins	1	
Toilet Block Store:		
Chest freezer		
Electrical sub-board		
Kitchen Facilities:		
Stoves (types) Gas	Yes	
BBQ/Griddle plate wood & Gas	Yes	
Range Hood	Yes	
Refrigeration	Yes	
Microwave	1	
Urn	1	
Chip Fryer		
Bain Marie		
Bug Zapper	1	
Electrical sub-board		
Dining Facilities:		
Tables	8	
Chairs	60	
Cutlery and Crockery	50	
Main Area:		
Vinyl Sheet flooring		
Electrical switchboard		
Bar:		
Fridge	Yes	
Kitchen Sink	Yes	
General Facilities:		
Rooms		

Item	Yes/No	Notes
RCD Protected	Yes	
Power Points	Yes	
Generator Port	No	
Fire Equipment	Yes	
Air Conditioning (Type)	Yes	Evaporative
Heating	Yes	
Ceiling Fans	No	
Lighting (internal)	Yes	
Lighting (external)	Yes	
Telephone Lines	Yes	
Internet Access	No	
Hot Water System (type)	Yes	
Bins	Yes	
Septic	Yes	
External Amenities Areas:		
Enclosed Covered Areas	Yes	
Outside Children's Play Area	Yes	
Recreation Rooms	No	
BBQs	Yes	
Conference Rooms	No	
Meeting Rooms	Yes	
Swimming Pool	No	
Oval	No	
External Facilities:		
Power Outlets	Yes	
Water	Yes	Not-potable
Parking	Yes	
Area for Tents	Yes	
Toilets	Yes	
Caravan/Articulated Vehicles	Yes	
Other:		
Mobile Phone Coverage	No	
Storage	No	

Item	Yes/No	Notes
Pet friendly	Yes	
Main Electrical Board Location		
Water Stop Cock Location		

Appendix 4 Critical Infrastructure

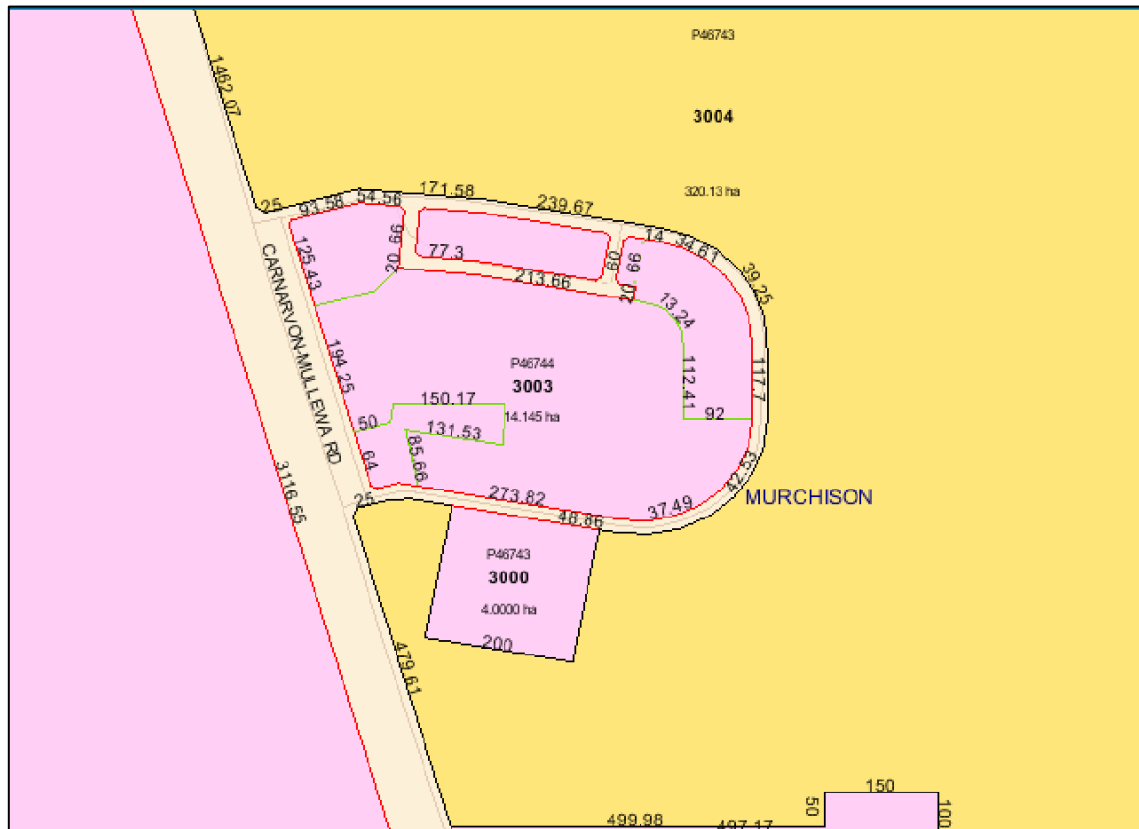
The infrastructure scheduled below is those that the community considers to be critical within the Shire of Murchison and therefore should be treated as such in an emergency:

Infrastructure	Agency Responsible
Murchison Sports Club – First Aid Room	Shire
Power Generation	Shire
Power Reticulation	Shire
All roads within the Shire	Shire
Water Supply	Shire
Waste Water Treatment	Shire
Murchison Aerodrome	Shire
Emergency Airstrip – 40kms south of Settlement on Mullewa-Carnarvon Road	Shire
Communication Towers	Various providers
Evacuation Centre's	Shire
Shire Administration Centre	Shire

Appendix 5 Special Need Groups

Name	Address	Contact 1	Contact 2	No People	Have they got an evacuation plan?
Pia Wadjarri Community					Currently being written
Pia Wadjarri Remote Area School		Principal 9961 3842			Yes

Appendix 6 Local District Paps Murchison Settlement



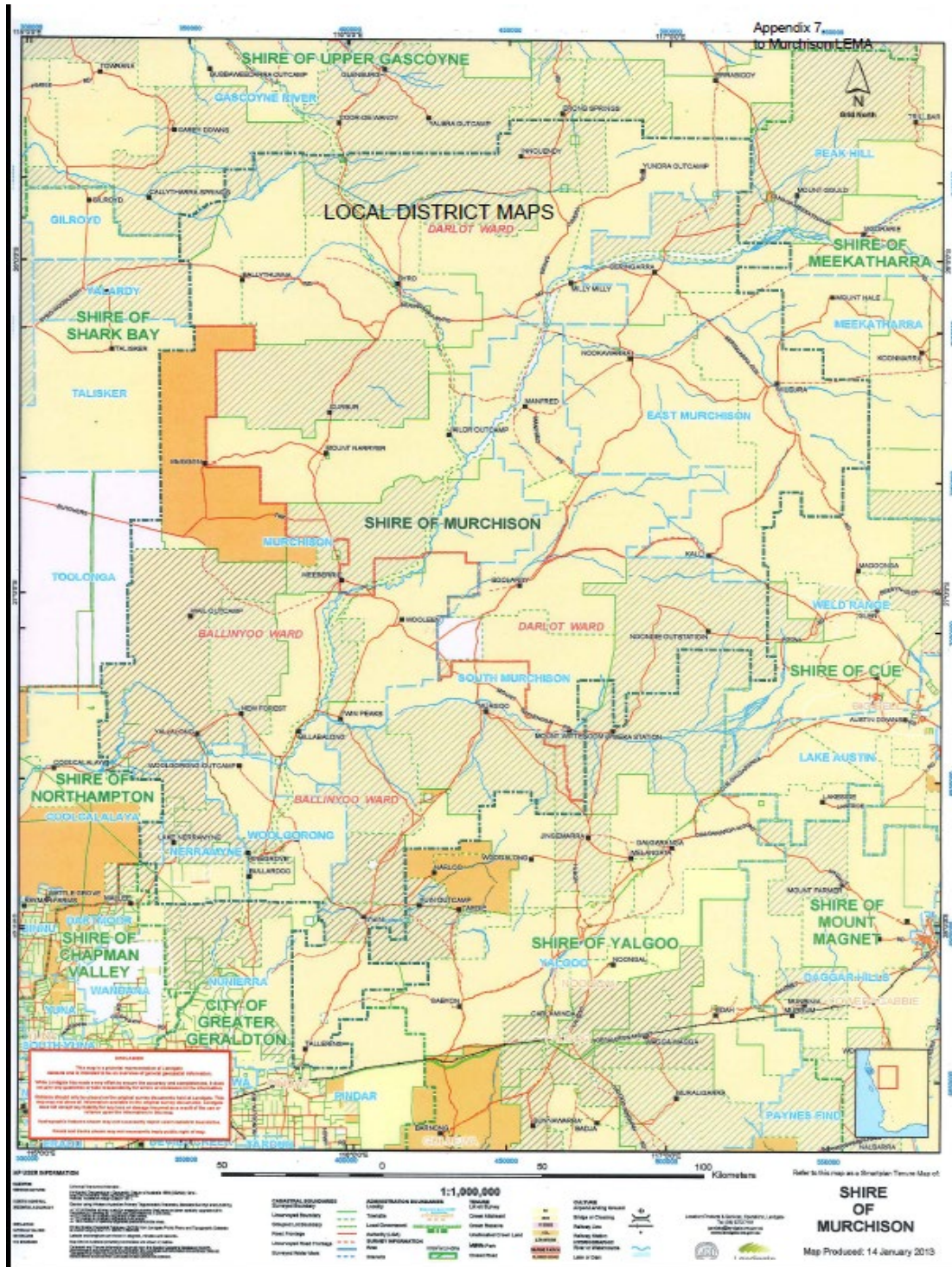
Pia Wajarri

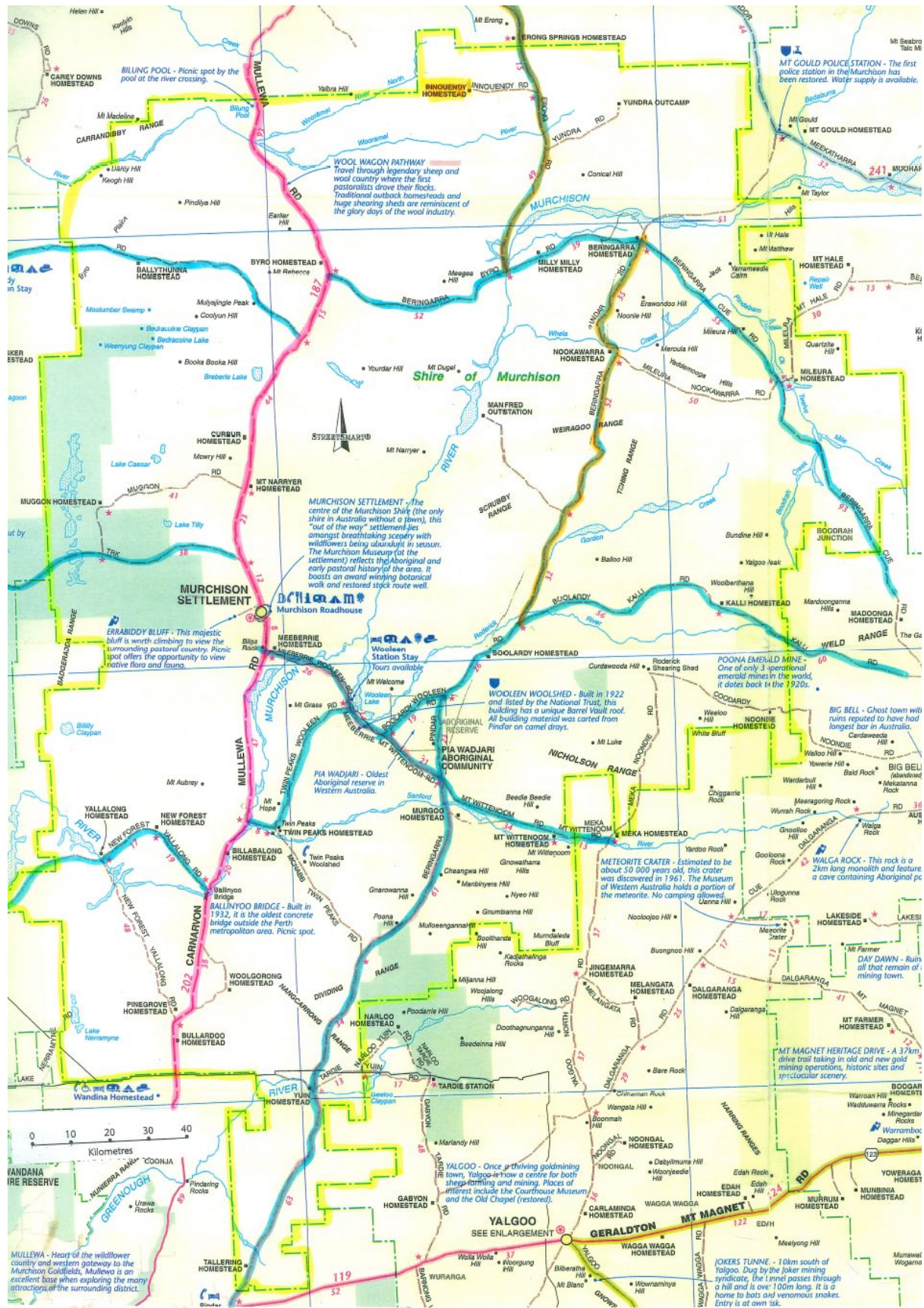


Pia Wajarri Layout Plan 1 - Living Area

Amendment 2

Murchison Shire





Appendix 7 Resource Register

Interpreters

Translating & Interpreting Service (TIS National)
Telephone Interpreting Service
On-site Interpreting bookings 1300 655 082 Fax:
1300 654 151
24 Hrs contact: 13 14 50

Aust-Asia Migration & Interpreting Services
Office 59 King St, Perth WA 6000
Mobile Service 0414 497 199

Hellenic Interpreting & Translating Services
10 Everest Way
Alexander Heights WA 6064
Mobile Service 0404 887 007

Italian T/I Services
Translating/Interpreting
2 Townshend Ave Balcatta WA 6021 Ph.: (08)
9344 7663

Deaf Society of Western Australia
Suite 46, 5 Aberdeen Street
East Perth WA 6004
Ph.: (08) 9441 2677
Fax: (08) 9441 2616

National Relay Service 13 3677
A/H: Emergency Deaf Interpreting Service 0410
017 540
Air Charter

Shine Aviation
Geraldton Airport
Ph.: 9923 3600
admin@shineaviation.com.au

Traffic

Quality Traffic Communications
Chapman Rd
99239278
Mobile- 0419700160
Buses

Thrifty Car Rental
Ph.: (08) 99233841

Hertz Car Rental
275 Place road
Webborton & Geraldton Airport
Ph.: 9965 2844
Geraldton@hertzrentals.com.au

Crane Hire

Geraldton Cranes & Haulage
26 Boyd Street
Geraldton
Ph.: 9921 6477 Fax 9921 6677
gtncrane@inet.net.au

OKG Cranes
Mobile 0400 383 355 Fax 9938 3300
kavak@bigpond.com

Freo Cranes
114 Flores Road
Ph.: (08) 9965 2007 Fax (08 9964 2006)
geraldton@freogroup.com.au

Earthmoving

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Kennard's
Industrial & Domestic Equipment Hire
76 Flores Rd Geraldton
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Geraldton hire & Scaffolding
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Midwest Mini Excavator & bobcat Hire
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Geraldton Blue Sea Plumbing and Gas
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Herrings Coast Plumbing and Gas Fitting Services
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Waste Removal

Veolia Environmental Services
11- 13 Connolly Street
Geraldton
9964 2844

Appendix 8 Risk Matrix

RISK No.	RISK STATEMENT	LIKELIHOOD RATING	CONSEQUENCE RATING	LEVEL OF RISK	ELEMENT AT RISK	PRIORITY	TREAT Y/N
01/17	There is a risk that a road transport emergency will cause serious injury or death to people. Road transport emergencies involving interaction between heavy vehicles and other traffic such as tourist coaches and trains may occur. Heavy vehicles are prevalent on highways within the Shire of Murchison Local Government Area. The Shire of Murchison has a number of major heavy vehicle routes within its boundaries.	ALMOST CERTAIN	MAJOR	EXTREME	PEOPLE		
02/17	There is a risk that a severe storm will cause damage to or destroy infrastructure. Severe storm events affect the Midwest-Gascoyne area including the Shire of Murchison on an annual basis. There may also be significant damage caused to lifelines such as power lines. Damage to roads from flash flooding is also likely in low lying areas.	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	INFRASTRUCTURE		
03/17	There is a risk that bush fires will cause death or serious injury to people. Farming areas adjacent to natural heath scrub are particularly at risk from bush fires.	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	PEOPLE		
04/17	There is a risk that bush fires will cause damage to or destroy the environment. Bush fires in the pasture lands can remove vegetation exposing the top soil subject to erosion from wind or rain.	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	ENVIRONMENT		
05/17	There is a risk that bush fires will affect the economy of the community. The farming community around Murchison may be exposed to financial losses from crop damage during harvest.	POSSIBLE	MODERATE	HIGH	ECONOMY		
06/17	There is a risk that bush fires will cause damage to or destroy infrastructure. Bush fires can cause damage to infrastructure such as bridges, fencing, and power lines.	ALMOST CERTAIN	MODERATE	HIGH	INFRASTRUCTURE		
07/17	There is a risk that a hazardous materials spill will cause serious injury to people. Hazardous materials may release toxic fumes which could cause injuries especially in the more densely populated urban areas.	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	PEOPLE		

RISK No.	RISK STATEMENT	LIKELIHOOD RATING	CONSEQUENCE RATING	LEVEL OF RISK	ELEMENT AT RISK	PRIORITY	TREAT Y/N
08/17	There is a risk that a hazardous materials spill will cause harm to human health. Hazardous materials may release toxic fumes which could cause injuries especially in densely populated areas.	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	PEOPLE		
09/17	There is a risk that a riverine flood will cause damage to or destroy infrastructure. The river has a history of flooding and should a flooding event occur it is likely that infrastructure such as buildings, roads, fencing and bridges may be damaged .	LIKELY	MODERATE	HIGH	INFRASTRUCTURE		
10/17	There is a risk that a severe storm will cause loss or damage to the environment. There is a possibility that heavy rainfall may cause serious erosion damage in sensitive environmental areas such as rivers and creeks .	POSSIBLE	MODERATE	MEDIUM	ENVIRONMENT		
11/17	There is a risk that a severe storm will affect the economy of the community.	POSSIBLE	MODERATE	MEDIUM	ECONOMY		
12/17	There is a risk that a road transport emergency will cause damage to or destroy the environment.	POSSIBLE	MODERATE	MEDIUM	ENVIRONMENT		
13/17	There is a risk that a hazardous materials spill will cause death. Hazardous materials emit toxic fumes and may cause death through inhalation.	UNLIKELY	MAJOR	MEDIUM	PEOPLE		
14/17	There is a risk that a hazardous materials spill will affect the economy of the community.	UNLIKELY	MODERATE	MEDIUM	ECONOMY		

Contacts NOT for Public distribution

Position	Name	Organisation	Email Address	Phone (w)	Phone (mobile)
Local Recovery Coordinator	C E O	Shire of Murchison	ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au	9963 7999	0428 637 998
Local Emergency relief and support Coordinator		Department for Communities		9965 9533	0438 943 827
Local Emergency relief and support Liaison Officer	TBA by DC at time of Emergency	Shire of Perenjori	admin@murchison.wa.gov.au	9963 7999	
Chief Executive Officer	Bill Boehm	Shire of Murchison	ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au	9963 7999	0428 637 998
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)	William Herald	Shire of Murchison	works@murchison.wa.gov.au	9963 7999	0428 645 362
St Johns		Mullewa			
District Emergency Services Officer	Ashleigh Thurn	Department for Communities	ashleigh.thurn@communities.wa.gov.au	9965 9533	0438 934 827
Works Supervisor	William Herald	Shire of Murchison	works@murchison.wa.gov.au	9963 7999	0428 645 362
Other Contacts:					
DAFWA					

Parks & Wildlife DBCA	Duty Officer Julia French			9964 0901	0429 640 916
DFES		Area Officer		9956 6007	0427 024 125
SEMC	Ranelle Clarke	DEMA	Ranelle.clarke@dfes.wa.gov.au	9956 6014	0408 843 907
Telstra			Alan.shepherdson@team.telstra.com		0407 963 432
WA Police/Duty Inspector				9923 4555	0407 149 051
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Mullewa Police			Mullewa.policestation@police.wa.gov.au		
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Shire President	Rosco Foulkes-Taylor		yuinmob@westnet.com.au	9963 7982	0429 637 982
Community Member	Tom Foulkes-Taylor		tomft@bigpond.com.au	9963 7982	



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Local Recovery Plan

2024

Approved by LEMC meeting:

Date of LEMC Review Approval:

Date of LEMC Endorsement:

Date of LG Endorsement:

Review Date:

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Ownership, Approval and Control

These arrangements have been produced and issued under the authority of section 41(4) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, endorsed by Murchison Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), and have been tabled with the Midwest Gascoyne District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC).

Item	Name	Title	Signature	Date
Owner	Shire of Murchison	Shire President		
Approved by	Bill Boehm	CEO		
Document controller and review authority	Rick Ryan	CESM		

Record of Amendment

Suggestions and comments from the community and stakeholders can help improve this plan and subsequent amendments.

Feedback can include:

- What you do and / or don't like about the arrangements;
- Unclear or incorrect expression;
- Out of date information or practices;
- Inadequacies; and
- Errors, omissions or suggested improvements.

To forward feedback, copy the relevant section, mark the proposed changes and forward to:

Chairperson
Local Emergency Management Committee
Shire of Murchison
PO Box 61
MULLEWA WA 6630

The Chairperson will refer any correspondence to the LEMC for consideration and/or approval.

Amendments promulgated are to be certified in the following table, when updated.

1. Amendment		2. Details of Amendment	3. Amended by
4. No.	5. Date	6.	7. *Initial/Date
01	06/10/2016	Add cover page	J.Lane WALGA
02	06/10/2016	Add record of amendments	J.Lane WALGA
03	06/10/2016	Align policy and legislation references to the State EM Plan	J.Lane WALGA
04	06/10/2016	Add Controlling Agency responsibilities and impact assessment information P12	J.Lane WALGA
05	06/10/2016	Add revised LRCG structure	J.Lane WALGA
06	05/01/2017	Local Recovery Coordinating Group changes to Local Recovery Coordination Group	J.Lane WALGA
07	17/10/2017	Changes to Government agency names	J.Lane WALGA
08	21/11/2017	Complete review of 2015 LEMA with new version due for submission to LEMC, DEMC, and SEMC.	CESM District Advisor CEO
09	28/11/2017	LEMC review of new document	LEMC
10	Nov 2017	Council review of new document	Council
11	May 2018	Review and update of document	R Ryan CESM
12	Oct 2018	Approved by DEMC & SEMC	
13	March 2024	Complete review	R Ryan CESM

Distribution List

Organisation	Location/Officer	No of Copies
Shire of Murchison		
Shire of Murchison	CEO	1
Shire of Murchison	Works Manager	1
Shire of Murchison	Execive Manqger DCEO	1
Shire of Murchison	Shire President	1
Local Emergency Management Committee		
LEMC	Chairperson	1
Executive Officer	CEO of Murchison	0
WA Police	Mullewa Police Station	1
WA Police	Yalgoo Police Station	1
Dept. of Communities	Geraldton	1
St John Ambulance	Geraldton	1
Bush Fire Services	Murchison Volunteers Bushfire Brigades	2
DFES Regional Office	Carnarvon	1
Oasis Roadhouse	Murchison	1
Pia Wadjarri Community	Chairperson	1
Pia Wadjarri Remote Area School	Principal	1
CSIRO	Site Manager	1
P&WS	Geraldton	1
Adjoining Shires /LEMC's		
Shire of Cue	LEMC	1
City of Greater Geraldton	LEMC	1
Shire of Northampton	LEMC	1
Shire of Shark Bay	LEMC	1
Shire of Meekatharra	LEMC	1
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	LEMC	1
Shire of Yalgoo	LEMC	1
Shire of Mount Magnet	LEMC	1

The distribution list is included to enable amendments to be distributed at later dates.

General acronyms used in this document

CA	Controlling Agency
DC	Department of Communities
DEMC	District Emergency Management Committee
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
ISG	Incident Support Group
LEC	Local Emergency Coordinator
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Arrangements
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LGA	Local Government Authority
LMDRF	Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund
LRC	Local Recovery Coordinator
LRCG	Local Recovery Coordinating Group
NDRRA	Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Assistance
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
OIC	Officer In Charge
SEC	State Emergency Coordinator
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee

Part 1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

Disaster recovery is the coordinated process of returning an affected community to a normal level of functioning after a disaster. Recovery is part of emergency management, which also includes the components of Prevention, Preparedness and Response. Planning for recovery is integral to emergency preparation.

Recovery management is the coordinated process of supporting “emergency affected communities in the reconstruction and restoration of physical infrastructure, the environment and community, psychosocial, and economic wellbeing” (*Emergency Management Act 2005*)

This Local Recovery Plan is to be read in conjunction with:

[Emergency Management Act 2005](#)

[Local Recovery Guidelines](#)

Murchison Local Emergency Management Arrangements

1.2 Authority

This Local Recovery Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 41(4) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* as a sub plan to the Shire of Murchison Local Emergency Management Arrangements and endorsed by the LEMC. The plan has been consulted with Council members and stakeholders, and has been tabled for information and comment at the Midwest Gascoyne DEMC.

1.3 Purpose

The purpose of the Local Recovery Plan is to describe the arrangements for effectively managing recovery operations at a local level and to facilitate the affected community undertaking its own recovery.

1.4 Objectives

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Describe the roles, responsibilities, available resources and procedures for the management of recovery from emergencies for the Shire of Murchison,
- Establish a basis for the coordination of recovery activities at the local level,
- Promote effective liaison between all Hazard Management Agencies (HMA), emergency services and supporting agencies, which may become involved in recovery management,
- Provide a framework for recovery operations,
- Ensure effective and coordinated management of recovery operations within the Shire of Murchison,
- Ensure the plan complies with State emergency management arrangements,
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of HMAs, emergency services, support organisations and Shire of Murchison staff whilst promoting effective liaison between all organisations, and
- Ensure community engagement throughout recovery management.

1.5 Scope

The scope of the Plan is limited to and includes:

- The geographical boundaries of the Shire of Murchison,
- Local Emergency Management Arrangements,
- Existing legislation, plans and Local Laws,

- Statutory or agreed responsibilities,
- Relevant Shire of Murchison supporting documents and plans, and
- Involvement of the affected community in recovery management.

Part 2 Related Documents and Arrangements

The following documents and arrangements are related to this Plan:

2.1 Local Government Policy

A draft policy for Local Recovery Management has been prepared by Shire of Murchison in accordance with section 36(4) of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, and has been tabled for noting of LEMC and Council.

Annex A: Local Government Policy – Local Recovery Management

2.2 Existing Plans and Arrangements

Document	Owner	Date	Location
Murchison Local Emergency Management Arrangements	Shire of Murchison	2024	Website and Office
State Support Plan	Department of Communities	2023	www.dc.wa.gov.au
Bush Fire Response Plan	Shire of Murchison	2022	

2.3 Agreements, Understandings and Commitments

The Murchison Shire Council does not currently have any agreements in place.

Parties to these agreements	Name of Agreement	Summary of Agreement

Part 3 Resources

3.1 Key Considerations

The Shire of Murchison is small and has very limited resources.

The Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) is responsible for the determination of resources required for recovery activities, based on the Comprehensive Impact Assessment. This determination is made in consultation with the Local Recovery Coordinating Group (LRCG) and support organisations, during the initial stages of the recovery process. Shire of Murchison resources and community resources are noted in the 'Resource and Contact Register' which is a support document to the Local Emergency Management Arrangements. If the LRCG is convened, the LRC will continue to assess requirements for the restoration of services and facilities including determination of the resources required for the recovery process. This is to also include the wellbeing and communication/information needs of the community. The LRCG will source and coordinate external and internal resources, including the provision of the Shire staff.

It is also noteworthy that the communities' needs will change throughout the recovery cycle, and as such, the distribution of resources to address community impacts will need to be flexible as information continues to be received.

The Resource and Contact Register contains the following information and is available at Attachment 1.

The following table identifies suitable Local Recovery Coordination Centres in the local government area:

Centre Name	Address	Capacity and Available Resources	Contacts
Murchison Community Centre	Carnarvon Mullewa Road Murchison Settlement	Refer Appendix 3 Murchison LEMA	Bill Boehm CEO Shire of Murchison 08 9963 7999 ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au

3.2 Local Government Staff

The Shire of Murchison is a very small local council with limited staff to fulfil the Recovery function for a L3 incident and for any long duration.

3.3 Local Volunteer Coordination

Due to the small size of the Shire of Murchison it is envisaged the number of spontaneous volunteers would be less than 10 people.

Where possible, all offers of, or requests for, volunteer assistance with recovery activities should be coordinated through the LRCG. Spontaneous volunteers are a valuable, flexible resource that could be used to support existing volunteers and personnel to take up more active responsibilities in aiding with recovery operations. Local volunteers usually have more familiarity with the local community, local area, and understanding of available resources.

Visit the Volunteering WA website <https://volunteeringwa.org.au/> for more information.

3.4 Local Recovery Coordination Centre

It may be necessary to establish a Recovery Coordination Centre if extensive recovery activities are likely to be carried out. The purpose of the Centre is to coordinate the recovery process undertaken by various agencies in terms of resources, information and tasks. Identification of a designated location for a Recovery Coordination Centre is a pre-requisite of

recovery management. Each Local Government will provide administrative support for their Recovery Coordination Centre.

The Local Recovery Coordination Centre will be located at the Shire Office, if this location is unavailable or deemed unsuitable, the LRC will designate an alternative location as soon as possible and publicise the location and contact numbers after it has been relocated.

Centre Name	Address	Capacity and Available Resources	Contacts
Recovery Coordination Centre	Shire Office	Shire Chambers	Shire Admin

3.5 Recovery Information Centre / One-Stop- Shop

A Recovery Information Centre/ One-Stop-Shop will be established when required by the LRCG. The purpose of the Centre is to provide information and advice to the community on the progress of recovery, special arrangements and services. The location and contact details of the Centre will be disseminated to the community when it has been established.

A recovery centre is also designed to centralise the delivery of Local, State and Commonwealth government and non-government services to people affected by a disaster. The Recovery Information Centre may or may not be collocated with the Local Recovery Coordination Centre, depending on the size and complexity of the disaster.

Centre Name	Address	Capacity and Available Resources	Contacts
Recovery Information Centre	Sports Club	Limited 20 to 30	Shire Admin Office

3.6 Financial Arrangements

The Shire of Murchison will utilise the following with regard to financial arrangements for recovery where required:

- Establishing a cash reserve for Community Recovery, where it is considered appropriate for the level of risk to the community,
- Use of s6.8(1) and s6.11(2) of the Local Government Act 1995 with respect to expenditure of funds not included in the annual budget,
- Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 – regulation 18(a) provides exemption for council to make budget related decisions in emergencies without giving local public notice of changes to financial reserves, and
- Use of s6.20(2) of Local Government Act 1995 enabling borrowing of funds, subject to one month's local public notice of the proposal and exercising of the power to borrow by absolute majority decision of council.

The following arrangements have been made to fund recovery activities if necessary:

Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA),

Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund (LMDRF),

Centrelink, and

Department of Communities.

(Refer to State Emergency Management Preparedness Procedure for more information)

3.7 Financial Management

Financial management is a key aspect in providing support to a recovery plan and there should be a strategy to ensure successful implementation of recovery programs ensuring adequate and timely expenditure of funds.

Financial Management Arrangements needs to include the following:

- Identification of funding streams (local, state and federal level),
- Prioritisation of requirements for funding,
- Management of funds over time in a transparent manner (receipts of grants, funds, donations, payouts),
- Liaison and cooperation with other agencies in both the private and public sector, and

All funds regardless of their source remain subject to the Local Government Act 1995, Part 6 – Financial Management. Subsequently, consideration should be given to utilising appropriately trained/experienced finance staff during recovery, to ensure adherence to the aforementioned Act, and appropriate record keeping throughout.

3.8 Donations of Cash

State Emergency Management Recovery Procedure 1 outlines the policy for initiating and managing appeals and donation. The LRCG may encourage the use of Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Fund for people wanting to make cash donations, although if deemed necessary, may open a separate account specifically for cash donations.

Visit www.appealswa.org.au for further information and application forms

The commencement of an appeal fund does not override the statutory obligations, on the part of government agencies, to provide welfare, relief and reconstruction assistance to those affected by emergencies.

3.9 Donations of Service and Labour

Any donations of service or labour to assist with the recovery from a disaster, should be administered by the affected Local Government or if established, the LRCG. Where the State Government level recovery coordination arrangements are activated under State Emergency Management Plan 6. Recovery - the Recovery Services Subcommittee may arrange the administration of donations of services and labour.

3.10 Donations of Goods

The donations of goods to assist victims to recover from a disaster may be arranged by non-government organisations. The distribution of the donated goods shall be undertaken by the organisations concerned. Appeals for donations of physical items such as food and furniture should be discouraged unless specifically requested through the LRCG.

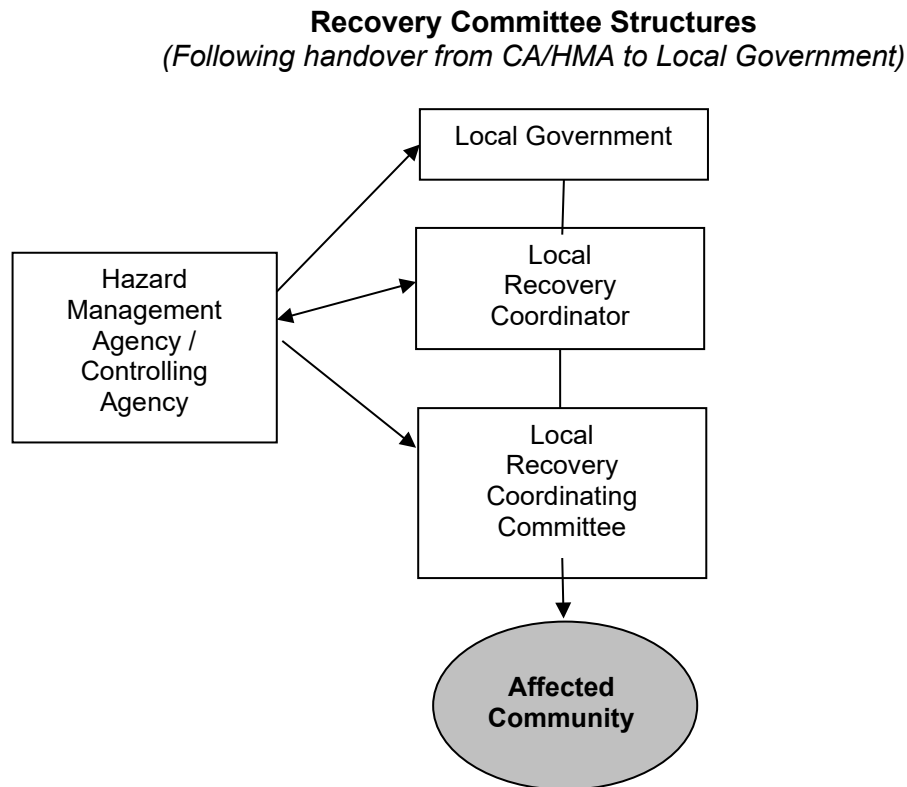
3.11 Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)

In some circumstances, NGOs can provide assistance by way of emergency relief funds, shelter, accommodation or household supplies. Where possible, all offers of, or requests for, assistance should be coordinated through the LRCG to avoid duplication of effort and confusion.

Part 4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Recovery Structure

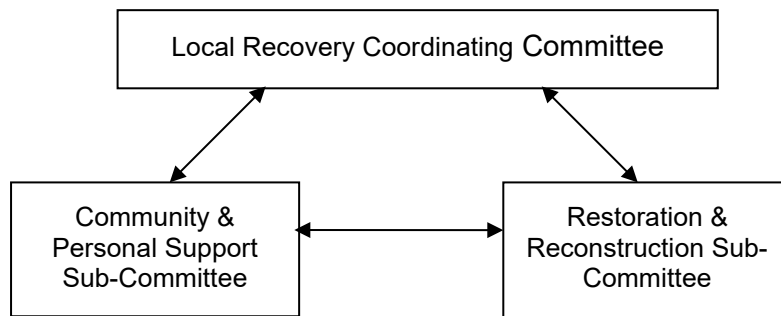
The structure of Local Recovery Coordinating Group should be considered dynamic, as the composition and roles within the group will change depending upon the disaster being recovered from. During the response phase of the incident, the following structure is typically adopted, until the incident transitions from Response to Recovery.



This structure sees the coordination and communication between the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) / Controlling Agency (CA), and the local government authority, including the Local Recovery Coordinator being included in the HMA / CA Incident Support Group briefings and meetings.

During the Recovery phase, this structure will change dependent upon the disaster, which will largely dictate required recovery actions i.e. a significant infrastructure sub-committee and associated functions may not be required for a bushfire that only affects pastoral land owners or nature reserve land.

Recovery Committee Structures (Following handover from CA/HMA to Local Government)



The above diagram illustrates a basic Recovery Committee structure, which can be utilised dependent upon complexity and impact of the disaster. Within this toolkit, the below structure is applied, for which position descriptions for roles, and guidance for individual subcommittee functions is also available within the toolkit. These structures can be scaled up or back as the situation dictates.

The Shire of Murchison LEMC has identified the following local recovery structure as suitable to address the needs of the Shire and the community should an emergency incident occur.

- Shire of Murchison CEO - Local Recovery Coordinator
- Shire President – Chair of the LRCG

Shire staff members responsible for the following roles in recovery

Shire Administration Officer	Administrative support to the LRCG Public information
Shire Finance Officer	Member LRCG Financial advice Administration of public assistance funding
Shire Works Manager	Infrastructure
Contract Environmental Health Officer	Environmental health

The Local Recovery Coordination Group will be formed during the response phase to any emergency incident at the direction of the Local Recovery Coordinator in consultation with the Controlling Agency.

Due to the isolation of the Murchison Settlement and the possibility that ingress and egress routes may be closed, meetings of the LRCG will be either in person or via teleconference.

The LEMC has discussed the options of forming subcommittees of the LRCG during the recovery process and it is agreed that the formation of the LRCG alone would be sufficient to ensure the recovery process is managed efficiently.

4.2 Local Recovery Coordinator

The Chief Executive Officer has been appointed as the Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) in accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, S 41. (4). The Shire Works Manager will act in the role when the primary appointee is unavailable when an emergency occurs.

The LRC is responsible for coordinating the recovery in conjunction with the LRCG and adhering to the plans, strategies and policies determined by the LRCG.

The LRC is also responsible for preparation, maintenance, testing and implementation of recovery management arrangements in accordance with *Emergency Management Act 2005* and in consultation with local government.

A position description of the Local Recovery Coordinator role, Deputy Local Recovery Coordinator and Local Recovery Coordinating Group are available at Annex C.

4.3 Local Recovery Coordinating Group (LRCG)

The role of the Local Recovery Coordinating Group (LRCG) is to coordinate and support local management of the recovery processes within the community.

The LRCG comprises a core membership plus additional personnel depending on the type and magnitude of the event and the community affected.

The role of the LRCG is to coordinate and support local management of the recovery process within the community. Checklists for both the Local Recovery Coordinator and the Local Recovery Coordinating Group are available at Annex D. These checklists detail tasking for each entity.

4.4 Local Recovery Coordinating Group Subcommittees (where required)

Dependent upon the extent of the recovery process required, the following sub-committees may be established to assist the LRCG in the management of the recovery process.

- Community (Social)
- Infrastructure (Built)
- Environment (Natural)
- Finance (Economic)

Part 5 Commencement of Recovery

5.1 Transition from Response to Recovery

The responsibility for coordinating recovery arrangements rests with the affected local government. State level assistance may be required where the delivery of recovery services, or the coordination required to deliver recovery services, exceeds the capacity of the local government.

To ensure that appropriate recovery activities are initiated as soon as possible after impact of the event, the Controlling Agency / Hazard Management Agency (HMA) is to ensure the LRC is notified of the event. The LRC is to liaise with the Controlling Agency, including attending the Incident Support Group and Operations Area Support Group meetings where appropriate. (Refer to State Emergency Management Policy 6.1 for more information)

The Incident Controller is to complete and sign the Comprehensive Impact Assessment to confirm the accuracy of the information and handover the responsibility to local government. The LRC will take over the responsibility for recovery and advise the LRCG to activate the recovery plan and related arrangements.

Annex G: Comprehensive Impact Assessment from

5.2 Activation

The decision to activate the Local Recovery Plan will be made by the Chair of LRCG on the advice of the LRC. Once the plan has been agreed to be activated, the LRC & LRCG become responsible for implementation of the plan.

5.3 Operational Recovery Planning

The operational recovery plan provides the strategic direction and details actions required to facilitate a successful recovery. When the LRCG is activated, the group will develop an operational recovery plan to guide its functions during the first meeting. The operational recovery plan should include assessment and recovery requirements, organisational management, operational aspects and administrative arrangements.

The following sources and agencies are involved in undertaking impact assessment encompassing the functional areas of recovery (i.e. social, infrastructural, economic and environmental disruption /or damage)

- Hazard Management Agencies
- Welfare agencies – to identify persons in need of immediate assistance;
- Local government surveyors, engineers, environmental health officers, waste/sanitation, and finance staff.
- Insurance assessors.

5.4 Welfare & Health Services

Welfare is the responsibility of the Department of Communities (DC). The Shire of Murchison local welfare, health and wellbeing plan details the arrangements that apply in local circumstances, consistent with the arrangements detailed in the State Emergency Support Plan.

The LRCG will work closely with the local office for DC in accordance with following plans:

State Health Emergency Response Plan

State Emergency Support Plan

5.5 Communication

It is the responsibility of LRCG to develop an effective communication plan for recovery. Throughout the recovery process, local government is to maintain an on-going dialogue and share information with all other stakeholders and partners in the recovery process. The Shire of Murchison has a well-defined communication strategy which recognises the different means of communication with the stakeholders. Refer to *Australian Red Cross – Communicating in Recovery*, and *Design Tips for Communicating in Recovery*.

5.6 Communication Plan

Key groups who need to receive recovery information, the methods available and potential locations where information can be provided are detailed below:

Who needs information?	How – what communication methods will be used?	Where will the information be provided?
Affected Community – depending on incident Recovery workers Vulnerable Groups – eg Pia; Isolated stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way Radio Satellite phone Website – though internet access may be interrupted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential public meeting venues – Murchison Community Centre Potential one-stop-shop locations – Murchison Shire Council Offices

Community Engagement

Planning and Implementing a Community Engagement Strategy

Step	Information
1 Establish target audience	<p>Consider the demographics of the area and investigate what groups or networks exist. Consider targeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency networks • The general public • Community groups e.g. environmental/landcare groups, pastoral/farming groups, community groups, sporting clubs, Aboriginal groups, schools, and industry. • LEMC • Local government networks • Brigades and volunteer groups • Neighbouring LEMCs
2 Determine matters to be communicated	<p>Determine what information you need from the community. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical emergency events - how has recovery been managed in the past? What could be improved? • General feedback on the draft Local Recovery Plan • Determine what information you are going to provide the community. • This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency management awareness • Recovery management awareness • Recovery coordination centre locations
3 Determine methods of communication	<p>Considering the target audience, determine the most appropriate methods of communication. Different communication methods using different medium may be required to address various audiences. Consider the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulars (distributes information within agency networks) • Community meetings • Community Kiosks (an informal workshop with displays encouraging small group discussion) • Community displays (exhibiting the draft Plan in public areas) • Pre-planned meetings (presenting information at existing community group meetings e.g. Rotary) • Panels and focus group (establish a group to represent a cross section of the community) • Media (utilising local newspapers, radio stations, posters or pamphlets to distribute information and request feedback) • Internet/Intranet (utilising local websites to distribute information and request feedback) • Email (establish an email address for public enquiries and comments)
4 Develop an implementation plan	<p>Record the target audience, matters to be communicated and methods of communication to be used in an implementation plan.</p>

- Refer to Australian Red Cross Booklet – Communicating in Recovery.

5.7 Review of the Plan

Testing and exercising are essential to ensure that the arrangements are workable and effective. The Local Recovery Plan is to be reviewed in accordance with State Emergency Management Policy 2.5, and amended and replaced whenever the local government considers it appropriate (*Emergency Management Act, 2005 section 42*).

According to State Emergency Management Policy No. 2.5, local emergency management arrangements (including a Local Recovery Plan) are to be reviewed and amended as follows: contact lists are reviewed and updated quarterly;

a review is conducted after an event or incident in which the local recovery plan was implemented;

a review is conducted after training that exercises the arrangements;

an entire review is undertaken every five years, as risks might vary due to climate, environment and population changes; and

Circumstances may require more frequent reviews.

5.8 Exercise

Local Emergency Management Committees are to develop appropriate exercise plans and schedules to test local arrangements including Local Recovery Plan. At least one local level exercise should be conducted, on an annual basis. Refer to *Emergency Management Act, 2005 section 39* and State Emergency Management Policy – State Emergency Management Exercises for further information on conduct of exercise.

Exercising the arrangements during the planning process will allow the LRC & LRCG to:

test the functionality and effectiveness of the local arrangements;

bring together members of emergency management agencies and give them knowledge of, and confidence in, each other;

help educate the community about local arrangements and programs thus providing them with confidence in their local government and emergency management agencies;

allow participating agencies an opportunity of testing their operational procedures and skills in simulated emergency conditions; and

Test the ability of separate agencies to work together on common tasks, and to assess effectiveness of co-ordination between them.

The management of an exercise is a systematic process involving planning, documenting, conducting, evaluating and validating.

5.9 Evaluation of Recovery

It is the responsibility of the LRC to Monitor the progress of recovery and provide periodic reports to the LRCG and State Recovery Coordinating Group, if established. The evaluation of recovery activities is essential to maximise lessons learned and identify where improvements can be made. An evaluation of the effectiveness of the recovery activities in relation to the recovery plan should be conducted within 12 months of the disaster.

The evaluation can involve:

- Community and stakeholder surveys
- Interviews
- Workshops
- Assessment of key project outcomes

Glossary of Terms

CONTROL AGENCY (also referred to as COMBAT AGENCY) - an organisation which, because of its expertise and resources, is responsible for performing an activity such as firefighting, rescue, temporary building restoration, evacuation, containment of oil spills, monitoring of radioactive materials. An emergency operation may involve a number of Combat Agencies.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT- a systematic process that produces a range of measures which contribute to the well-being of communities and the environment.

DISASTER- See EMERGENCY.

DISTRICT EMERGENCY COORDINATOR- is appointed by the State Emergency Coordinator for each emergency management district. The District Emergency Coordinator has responsibility to provide advice and support to the District Emergency Management Committee for the district for the development and maintenance of emergency management arrangements for its district and to carry out other emergency management functions in accordance with the directions of the State Emergency Coordinator.

DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE- is responsible for assisting in the establishment and maintenance of effective emergency management arrangements for the district for which it is constituted and has such other functions as are prescribed by Regulations.

EMERGENCY- an event, actual or imminent, which endangers or threatens to endanger life, property or the environment, and which is beyond the resources of a single organisation or which requires the coordination of a number of significant emergency management activities.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT- The emergency management concepts for Western Australia are consistent with those of the commonwealth and in accordance with the Emergency Management Regulations 2006: **Prevention** activities eliminate or reduce the probability of occurrence of a specific hazard. They also reduce the degree of damage likely to be incurred. **Preparedness** activities focus on essential emergency response capabilities through the development of plans, procedures, organization and management of resources, training and public education. **Response** activities combat the effects of the event, provide emergency assistance for casualties, and help reduce further damage and help speed recovery operations. **Recovery** activities support emergency affected communities in their construction of the physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing. During recovery operations, actions are taken to minimize the recurrence of the hazard and/or lessen the effects on the community.

EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT – A systematic process that produces a range of measures that on being implemented contributes to the safety and wellbeing of communities and the environment.

HAZARD – a situation or condition with potential of for loss or harm the community or the environment.

HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGENCY – that organisation which, because of its legislative responsibility or specialized knowledge, expertise and resources, is responsible for ensuring that all emergency management activities pertaining to the prevention of, preparedness for, response to, and recovery from, a specific hazard are undertaken. Such organisations are either designated by legislation or detailed in State level emergency management plans.

INCIDENT – an emergency, which impacts upon a localized community or geographical area but not requiring the coordination and significant multi-agency emergency management activities at a district or State level.

INCIDENT AREA – the area, defined by the Incident Controller, incorporating the localized community or geographical area impacted by the incident.

INCIDENT CONTROLLER – the person responsible for the overall management of the response phase, to a major emergency or disaster. In all instances the senior officer of the Hazard Management Agency will perform this function.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT GROUP – the group that may be convened by an Incident Manager in consultation with the relevant Local Emergency Coordinator to assist in the overall management of an incident. The IMG includes representation from key agencies involved in the response.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM – the group of incident management personnel comprised of the Incident Controller and the personnel appointed to be responsible for the functions of Planning, Operations and Logistics.

LIFELINES – systems or networks that provide for the circulation of people, goods, services and information upon which, health safety, comfort and economic activity depend.

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR – is appointed for the local government district by the State Emergency Coordinator. The Emergency Coordinator is responsible for providing advice and support to the Local Emergency Management Committee for the district in the development and maintenance of emergency management arrangements and are also responsible for assisting Hazard Management Agencies in the provision of a coordinated response during an emergency in the district and carrying out other emergency management activities in accordance with the State Emergency Coordinator.

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – is established by the local government and consists of a chairperson and other members appointed by the relevant local government with the Shire President/Mayor or other person appointed by the Local Government as the chairperson of the committee. Functions of the Local Emergency Management Committee are to advise and assist the local government in ensuring that local emergency management arrangements are established for its area, to liaise with public authorities and other persons in the development, review and testing of local emergency management arrangements, and to carry out other emergency management activities as directed by the SEMC or prescribed by the regulations.

RISK – a concept used to describe the likelihood of harmful consequences, arising from the interaction of hazards, communities and the environment.

RISK MANAGEMENT – the systematic application of management policies, procedures and practices to the task of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, treating and monitoring risk.

STATE EMERGENCY COORDINATION GROUP – a group that may be established at State level, by the State Emergency Coordinator, at the request of, or in consultation with, the Hazard Management Agency, to assist in the provision of a coordinated multi-agency response to and recovery from the emergency. The SECG includes representation, at State level, from key agencies involved in the response and recovery for the emergency.

SUPPORT ORGANISATION – an organisation whose response in an emergency is either restore essential services (e.g. Western Power, Water Corporation of WA, Main Roads W.A. etc) or to provide such support functions as welfare, medical and health, transport, communications, engineering etc.