

Griffith City Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2018



Griffith City Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

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Background

- (i) These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
 - (ii) The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.
 - (iii) For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).
 - (iv) In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).
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Griffith City Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Statement by Councillors and Management

made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

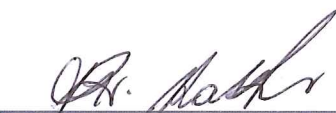
- the NSW Government Policy Statement 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government',
- the Division of Local Government Guidelines 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality',
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting,
- the NSW Office of Water Best-Practice Management of Water and Sewerage Guidelines.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these financial statements:

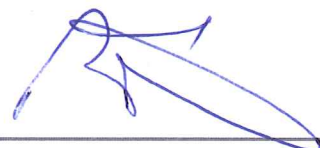
- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 23 October 2018.



Cr John Dal Broi
Mayor
23 October 2018



Brett Stonestreet
General manager
23 October 2018



Cr Doug Curran
Councillor
23 October 2018



Max Turner
Responsible accounting officer
23 October 2018

Griffith City Council

Income Statement of Council's Water Supply Business Activity

for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$ '000	2018	2017
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	1,967	1,878
User charges	8,294	6,736
Fees	290	355
Interest	548	550
Grants and contributions provided for non-capital purposes	102	175
Profit from the sale of assets	51	15
Other income	223	106
Total income from continuing operations	11,475	9,815
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	2,096	2,075
Materials and contracts	3,739	2,971
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	2,299	2,109
Calculated taxation equivalents	119	122
Other expenses	677	764
Total expenses from continuing operations	8,930	8,041
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	2,545	1,774
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	195	611
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	2,740	2,385
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	2,740	2,385
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (30%) [based on result before capital]	(764)	(532)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX	1,977	1,853
Plus opening retained profits	87,031	84,597
Plus/less: prior period adjustments	(1)	–
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Taxation equivalent payments	47	49
– Corporate taxation equivalent	764	532
Closing retained profits	89,817	87,031
Return on capital %	1.9%	1.3%
Subsidy from Council	962	1,362
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	1,977	1,853
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	–	(143)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	1,977	1,710
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	988	855

Griffith City Council

Income Statement of Council's Sewerage Business Activity

for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$ '000	2018	2017
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	7,687	7,450
User charges	896	765
Liquid trade waste charges	29	77
Fees	2	13
Interest	205	204
Grants and contributions provided for non-capital purposes	57	59
Profit from the sale of assets	3	36
Other income	20	13
Total income from continuing operations	8,899	8,617
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	1,618	1,744
Borrowing costs	1,324	1,373
Materials and contracts	2,289	2,090
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	2,292	1,915
Calculated taxation equivalents	93	94
Other expenses	423	803
Total expenses from continuing operations	8,039	8,019
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	860	598
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	1,022	567
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	1,882	1,165
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	1,882	1,165
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (30%) [based on result before capital]	(258)	(179)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX	1,624	986
Plus opening retained profits	65,307	64,109
Plus/less: prior period adjustments	1	(1)
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Taxation equivalent payments	33	34
– Corporate taxation equivalent	258	179
Closing retained profits	67,223	65,307
Return on capital %	1.8%	1.6%
Subsidy from Council	1,049	890
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	1,624	986
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(933)	(244)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	691	742
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	346	371

Griffith City Council

Statement of Financial Position – Council's Water Supply Business Activity
as at 30 June 2018

\$ '000	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	19,179	12,626
Receivables	3,869	2,840
Inventories	2,568	2,739
Total current assets	25,616	18,205
Non-current assets		
Investments	–	4,000
Receivables	543	373
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	133,337	131,783
Total non-current assets	133,880	136,156
TOTAL ASSETS	159,496	154,361
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	4	2
Total current liabilities	4	2
Non-current liabilities		
Nil		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4	2
NET ASSETS	159,492	154,359
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	89,817	87,031
Revaluation reserves	69,675	67,328
Council equity interest	159,492	154,359
TOTAL EQUITY	159,492	154,359

Griffith City Council

Statement of Financial Position – Council's Sewerage Business Activity
as at 30 June 2018

\$ '000	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	7,157	6,629
Receivables	2,390	2,158
Total current Assets	9,547	8,787
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	122,937	120,220
Total non-current assets	122,937	120,220
TOTAL ASSETS	132,484	129,007
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Borrowings	822	766
Total current liabilities	822	766
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	16,836	17,659
Total non-current liabilities	16,836	17,659
TOTAL LIABILITIES	17,658	18,425
NET ASSETS	114,826	110,582
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	67,223	65,307
Revaluation reserves	47,603	45,275
Council equity interest	114,826	110,582
TOTAL EQUITY	114,826	110,582

Griffith City Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

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Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Significant accounting policies

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), the Local Government (General) Regulation, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current values of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government.

The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW government policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'.

The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses, A Guide to Competitive Neutrality issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements.

These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, return on investments (rate of return), and dividends paid.

Declared business activities

In accordance with *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

a. Water Supply Service

Comprising the whole of the water supply operations and net assets servicing the City of Griffith and the surrounding towns and villages of the local government area.

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

b. Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the sewerage reticulation and treatment operations and net assets servicing the City of Griffith.

Category 2

(where gross operating turnover is less than \$2 million)

Council has no Category 2 Business Activities.

Monetary amounts

Amounts shown in the financial statements are in Australian currency and rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, except for Note 2 (Water Supply Best-Practice Management Disclosures) and Note 3 (Sewerage Best-Practice Management Disclosures).

As required by Crown Lands and Water (CLAW), the amounts shown in Note 2 and Note 3 are disclosed in whole dollars.

(i) Taxation-equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs.

However, where Council does not pay some taxes which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in Special Purpose Financial Statements.

For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – 30%

Land tax – the first \$629,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of \$629,001 up to \$3,846,000 the rate is **1.6% + \$100**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$3,846,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

Payroll tax – 5.45% on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$750,000.

In accordance with Crown Lands and Water (CLAW), a payment for the amount calculated as the annual tax equivalent charges (excluding income tax) must be paid from water supply and sewerage business activities.

The payment of taxation equivalent charges, referred to in the NSW Office of Water Guidelines to as a 'dividend for taxation equivalent', may be applied for any purpose allowed under the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Achievement of substantial compliance to the NSW Office of Water Guidelines is not a prerequisite for the payment of the tax equivalent charges, however the payment must not exceed \$3 per assessment.

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities.

Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested.

Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level - gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 30%.

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to Council as the 'owner' of business operations - it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council. Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

The rate applied of 30% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges payable on all category 1 businesses has been applied to all land assets owned or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors.

In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(ii) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed.

Subsidies occur when Council provides services on a less-than-cost-recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations.

Accordingly, 'subsidies disclosed' (in relation to National Competition Policy) represents the difference between revenue generated from 'rate of return' pricing and revenue generated from prices set by Council in any given financial year.

The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statement of each reported business activity.

(iii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Such funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies.

The actual rate of return achieved by each business activity is disclosed at the foot of each respective Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 2.63% at 30/6/18.

(iv) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

Local government water supply and sewerage businesses are permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply or sewerage business surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DPIW guidelines and must not exceed:

- (i) 50% of this surplus in any one year, or
- (ii) the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2018 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

In accordance with the DPIW guidelines a Dividend Payment form, Statement of Compliance, Unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are required to be submitted to the DPIW.

END OF AUDITED SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018Note 2. Water supply business
best-practice management disclosure requirements

Dollars amounts shown below are in whole dollars (unless otherwise indicated)

2018

1. Calculation and payment of tax-equivalents

[all local government local water utilities must pay this dividend for tax equivalents]

(i)	Calculated tax equivalents	119,000
(ii)	Number of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment	30,018
(iii)	Amounts payable for tax equivalents [lesser of (i) and (ii)]	30,018
(iv)	Amounts actually paid for tax equivalents	–

2. Dividend from surplus

(i)	50% of surplus before dividends [calculated in accordance with Best-Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines]	988,250
(ii)	Number of assessments multiplied by \$30/assessment, less tax equivalent charges/assessment	270,162
(iii)	Cumulative surplus before dividends for the 3 years to 30 June 2018, less the cumulative dividends paid for the 2 years to 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2016	5,320,600

2018 Surplus	1,976,500	2017 Surplus	1,709,800	2016 Surplus	1,634,300
		2017 Dividend	–	2016 Dividend	–

(iv)	Maximum dividend from surplus [least of (i), (ii) and (iii) above]	270,162
(v)	Dividend actually paid from surplus [refer below for required pre-dividend payment criteria]	–
(vi)	Are the overhead reallocation charges to the water business fair and reasonable? ^a	YES

3. Required outcomes for 6 criteria

[to be eligible for the payment of a 'dividend from surplus', all the criteria below need a 'YES']

(i)	Completion of strategic business plan (including financial plan)	YES
(ii)	Full cost recovery, without significant cross subsidies [refer item 2 (a) in table 1 on page 22 of the Best-Practice Guidelines]	YES
	– Complying charges [item 2 (b) in table 1]	YES
	– DSP with commercial developer charges [item 2 (e) in table 1]	YES
	– If dual water supplies, complying charges [item 2 (g) in table 1]	YES
(iii)	Sound water conservation and demand management implemented	YES
(iv)	Sound drought management implemented	YES
(v)	Complete performance reporting form (by 15 September each year)	YES
(vi)	a. Integrated water cycle management evaluation	YES
	b. Complete and implement integrated water cycle management strategy	NO

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018Note 2. Water supply business
best-practice management disclosure requirements (continued)

Dollars amounts shown below are in whole dollars (unless otherwise indicated)

2018

National Water Initiative (NWI) financial performance indicators

NWI F1	Total revenue (water) Total income (w13) – grants for the acquisition of assets (w11a) – interest income (w9) – Aboriginal Communities W&S Program income (w10a)	\$'000	11,072
NWI F4	Revenue from residential usage charges (water) Income from residential usage charges (w6b) x 100 divided by the sum of [income from residential usage charges (w6a) + income from residential access charges (w6b)]	%	80.95%
NWI F9	Written down replacement cost of fixed assets (water) Written down current cost of system assets (w47)	\$'000	128,302
NWI F11	Operating cost (OMA) (water) Management expenses (w1) + operational and maintenance expenses (w2)	\$'000	6,573
NWI F14	Capital expenditure (water) Acquisition of fixed assets (w16)	\$'000	1,920
NWI F17	Economic real rate of return (water) [total income (w13) – interest income (w9) – grants for acquisition of assets (w11a) – operating costs (NWI F11) – current cost depreciation (w3)] x 100 divided by [written down current cost of system assets (w47) + plant and equipment (w33b)]	%	1.65%
NWI F26	Capital works grants (water) Grants for the acquisition of assets (w11a)	\$'000	–

- Notes:
- References to w (e.g. w12) refer to item numbers within Special Schedules 3 and 4 of Council's Annual Financial Statements.
 - The NWI performance indicators are based upon the National Performance Framework Handbook for Urban Performance Reporting Indicators and Definitions.
- a refer to 3.2 (2) on page 15 of the Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines, 2007

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018Note 3. Sewerage business
best-practice management disclosure requirements

Dollars amounts shown below are in whole dollars (unless otherwise indicated)

2018

1. Calculation and payment of tax-equivalents

[all local government local water utilities must pay this dividend for tax equivalents]

(i)	Calculated tax equivalents	93,000
(ii)	Number of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment	24,759
(iii)	Amounts payable for tax equivalents [lesser of (i) and (ii)]	24,759
(iv)	Amounts actually paid for tax equivalents	–

2. Dividend from surplus

(i)	50% of surplus before dividends [calculated in accordance with Best-Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines]	345,500
(ii)	Number of assessments x (\$30 less tax equivalent charges per assessment)	222,831
(iii)	Cumulative surplus before dividends for the 3 years to 30 June 2018, less the cumulative dividends paid for the 2 years to 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2016	2,201,400

2018 Surplus	691,000	2017 Surplus	741,600	2016 Surplus	768,800
		2017 Dividend	–	2016 Dividend	–

(iv)	Maximum dividend from surplus [least of (i), (ii) and (iii) above]	222,831
(v)	Dividend actually paid from surplus [refer below for required pre-dividend payment criteria]	–
(vi)	Are the overhead reallocation charges to the sewer business fair and reasonable? ^a	YES

3. Required outcomes for 4 criteria

[to be eligible for the payment of a 'dividend from surplus', all the criteria below need a 'YES']

(i)	Completion of strategic business plan (including financial plan)	YES
(ii)	Pricing with full cost-recovery, without significant cross subsidies [refer item 2 (a) in table 1 on page 22 of the Best-Practice Guidelines]	YES
	Complying charges	
	(a) Residential [item 2 (c) in table 1]	YES
	(b) Non-residential [item 2 (c) in table 1]	YES
	(c) Trade waste [item 2 (d) in table 1]	YES
	DSP with commercial developer charges [item 2 (e) in table 1]	YES
	Liquid trade waste approvals and policy [item 2 (f) in table 1]	YES
(iii)	Complete performance reporting form (by 15 September each year)	YES
(iv)	a. Integrated water cycle management evaluation	YES
	b. Complete and implement integrated water cycle management strategy	NO

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018Note 3. Sewerage business
best-practice management disclosure requirements (continued)

Dollars amounts shown below are in whole dollars (unless otherwise indicated)

2018

National Water Initiative (NWI) financial performance indicators

NWI F2	Total revenue (sewerage) Total income (s14) – grants for acquisition of assets (s12a) – interest income (s10) – Aboriginal Communities W&S Program income (w10a)	\$'000	8,808
NWI F10	Written down replacement cost of fixed assets (sewerage) Written down current cost of system assets (s48)	\$'000	114,688
NWI F12	Operating cost (sewerage) Management expenses (s1) + operational and maintenance expenses (s2)	\$'000	4,390
NWI F15	Capital expenditure (sewerage) Acquisition of fixed assets (s17)	\$'000	521
NWI F18	Economic real rate of return (sewerage) [total income (s14) – interest income (s10) – grants for acquisition of assets (s12a) – operating cost (NWI F12) – current cost depreciation (s3)] x 100 divided by [written down current cost (i.e. WDCC) of system assets (s48) + plant and equipment (s34b)]	%	1.73%
NWI F27	Capital works grants (sewerage) Grants for the acquisition of assets (12a)	\$'000	904

National Water Initiative (NWI) financial performance indicators
Water and sewer (combined)

NWI F3	Total income (water and sewerage) Total income (w13 + s14) + gain/loss on disposal of assets (w14 + s15) minus grants for acquisition of assets (w11a + s12a) – interest income (w9 + s10)	\$'000	19,934
NWI F8	Revenue from community service obligations (water and sewerage) Community service obligations (NWI F25) x 100 divided by total income (NWI F3)	%	0.61%
NWI F16	Capital expenditure (water and sewerage) Acquisition of fixed assets (w16 + s17)	\$'000	2,441
NWI F19	Economic real rate of return (water and sewerage) [total income (w13 + s14) – interest income (w9 + s10) – grants for acquisition of assets (w11a + s12a) – operating cost (NWI F11 + NWI F12) – current cost depreciation (w3 + s3)] x 100 divided by [written down replacement cost of fixed assets (NWI F9 + NWI F10) + plant and equipment (w33b + s34b)]	%	1.69%
NWI F20	Dividend (water and sewerage) Dividend paid from surplus (2 (v) of Note 2 + 2 (v) of Note 3)	\$'000	–
NWI F21	Dividend payout ratio (water and sewerage) Dividend (NWI F20) x 100 divided by net profit after tax (NWI F24)	%	0.00%

Griffith City Council

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018Note 3. Sewerage business
best-practice management disclosure requirements (continued)

Dollars amounts shown below are in whole dollars (unless otherwise indicated)

2018

National Water Initiative (NWI) financial performance indicators
Water and sewer (combined)

NWI F22	Net debt to equity (water and sewerage)	%	-3.16%
	Overdraft (w36 + s37) + borrowings (w38 + s39) – cash and investments (w30 + s31) x 100 divided by [total assets (w35 + s36) – total liabilities (w40 + s41)]		
NWI F23	Interest cover (water and sewerage)		8
	Earnings before interest and tax (EBIT) divided by net interest		
	Earnings before interest and tax (EBIT):		4,328
	Operating result (w15a + s16a) + interest expense (w4a + s4a) – interest income (w9 + s10) – gain/loss on disposal of assets (w14 + s15) + miscellaneous expenses (w4b + w4c + s4b + s4c)		
	Net interest:		570
	Interest expense (w4a + s4a) – interest income (w9 + s10)		
NWI F24	Net profit after tax (water and sewerage)	\$'000	3,798
	Surplus before dividends (w15a + s16a) – tax equivalents paid (Note 2-1 (iv) + Note 3-1 (iv))		
NWI F25	Community service obligations (water and sewerage)	\$'000	122
	Grants for pensioner rebates (w11b + s12b)		

- Notes:
- References to w (eg. s12) refer to item numbers within Special Schedules 5 and 6 of Council's Annual Financial Statements.
 - The NWI performance indicators are based upon the National Performance Framework Handbook for Urban Performance Reporting Indicators and Definitions.
- a refer to 3.2 (2) on page 15 of the Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines, 2007



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the special purpose financial report

Griffith City Council

To the Councillors of the Griffith City Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report (the financial report) of Griffith City Council's (the Council) Declared Business Activities, which comprise the Income Statement of each Declared Business Activity for the year ended 30 June 2018, the Statement of Financial Position of each Declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2018, notes comprising a summary of Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information for the Business Activities declared by Council, and the Statement by Councillors and Management.

The Declared Business Activities of the Council are:

- Water Supply
- Sewerage.

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's declared Business Activities as at 30 June 2018, and its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards described in Note 1 and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (LG Code).

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report' section of my report.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting responsibilities under the LG Code. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

Other information comprises the information included in the Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018, other than the financial report and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedule 2 - Permissible income for general rates.

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

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

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Report

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and for determining that the accounting policies, described in Note 1 to the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements in the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless it is not appropriate to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial report.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

My opinion does not provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial report on any website where it may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report.



Lawrissa Chan
Director, Financial Audit Services

26 October 2018
SYDNEY