



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

2015/2016 Annual Report



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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Throughout the 2015/2016 year our Council and General Manager have worked cohesively and productively to meet the many new challenges facing our County Council and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow councillors for their support over the last year.

Over the past year, under the operational leadership of our Acting Senior Weeds Officer, Mr John Unwin, we have met the majority of our targeted outcomes. Through the support of the Board, we have been able to focus on providing tangible outcomes throughout the local government areas of Coonamble, Gilgandra, Walgett, Warren and Warrumbungle in relation to the co-ordination of noxious weed control.

In brief, the County Council has been responsible for controlling noxious weeds across the 60,000 square kilometres of our five local government areas. By utilising economies of scale and specialist human resources, the County can provide this single service much more effectively and efficiently than the five Councils could do individually.

In addition to its control operations, the County has also undertaken an extensive number of private property inspections. County staff offers the residents of the County an opportunity to meet personally with an inspector with a focus on education rather than regulation. As a result, we have had a high degree of voluntary compliance following initial inspections.

Council has managed to remain financially sustainable over the past twelve months with the purchase of two new Isuzu utilities in December 2015. Only one vehicle was traded in because of the breakdown of the Toyota Land cruiser and in the light of the condition of the second vehicle that was to be traded-in it has now been determined that the vehicle be kept as a standby vehicle.

In light of the major organisational restructure and reduction of staff members in the 2014/2015 financial year, Council are still operating under the direction of a part time General Manager and six permanent full time employees. In March, 2014 Council adopted a twelve point plan as part of the proposed organisational restructure of the County Council. With the close of the 2015/16 financial year all but two of those measures have been completed, the outstanding issues being the finalisation of the appointment of the Senior Weeds Officer and the repayment of the last \$10,000 instalments in respect of the advances made by our constituent Councils to fund the restructure.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) have been working closely with Local Government to finalise the capability to upload local weed information to the NSW Biosecurity Information System (BIS) which relates to compliance of the new NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 which will replace wholly or in part 14 individual pieces of biosecurity legislation including the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. It is anticipated this Act will commence in the first half of 2017.

In an endeavour to meet compliance Council will be investigating the options available of purchasing a proposed hardware and software to meet the requirements of the DPI.

The County Council, in conjunction with the Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee (MVWAC), has completed the first year of the new WAP1520 five year programmes with funding for the Central Tablelands, Central West and Western WAP1520 for 2016/2017 being recently approved.

In wrapping up, Council has focused on improving not only its efficiency and productivity over the last 12 months, but also strategy and communication as we are committed to ensuring that our service levels meet community expectations and the needs of the environment. I am pleased to lead a team that is wholeheartedly committed to this outcome.

I would also like to extend a note of thanks to retiring Councillor Robert Greenaway who has done a great job as part of the County and will be a great loss and I wish him all the best for the future.

Clr Noel Kinsey
Chairman

OUR VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vision

To prevent, contain or reduce the invasion of Noxious Plants within the County.

Mission

To provide effective integrated weed management systems utilising the latest technology to all Constituent Councils fairly and equitably in accordance with the ***Noxious Weeds Act 1993***.

REASON FOR OUR ANNUAL REPORT

Our Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between Council and our community. It is not a report that is submitted to the Office of Local Government or the State Government; rather it is a report to inform and update our community.

This report focuses on Council's implementation of the CMCC Delivery Programme 2016/2017 – 2019/2020 and Operational Programme 2016/2017. The CMCC Financial Statements 2015/2016 and Audit Report are included in this report at ***Schedule B – Financial Statements***.

This report also includes some information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. This information has been included in the Regulation because we believe that it is important for the community members to obtain knowledge about it – to help them gain a better understanding of how the Council has been performing both as a business entity and a community leader.

Below is the additional legislative basis for the development of our Annual Report:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

The following is a summary of the requirements of Section 404 of the Act:

- Council must prepare an annual report within five months of the end of the financial year.
- The report will outline the Council's achievements in implementing its Delivery Programme.
- The annual report must contain Council's audited financial statements and notes and any information required by the Regulation or the Guidelines.
- A copy of the report must be posted on Council's website (www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au) and provided to the Minister.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATION 2005

Clause 217 of the Regulation requires the following information to be included in the annual report:

- Details of overseas visits by Councillors and staff
- Details of Chairman's and Councillor fees, expenses and facilities
- Contracts awarded by the Council
- Amounts incurred in relation to legal proceedings
- Private works and financial assistance
- Details of external bodies, companies and partnerships
- Details of the General Manager's total remuneration
- Details of the total expenditure on Senior Staff remuneration
- Information on storm water levies and charges
- Information on companion animal management
- A statement of the activities undertaken by the Council to implement its equal employment opportunity management plan.

WHO WE ARE

The Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is comprised of two distinct parts: the governing body and the administration.

Elected Council

As a County Council under the LGA 1993, CMCC is required to have a governing body made up of elected representatives of its Constituent Councils. Part 5 of the Local Government Act 1993 (*see note 1) outlines the formation and operation of County Councils. The application of LGA 1993 to CMCC is outlined in Section 400, LGA 1993.

Ten councillors including a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson make up the governing body of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council. Each Constituent Council is represented by two councillors who are elected as representatives for a four year term.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors have a responsibility to:

- Participate in the determination of the budget
- Play a key role in the creation and review of Council policies, objectives and criteria relating to the regulatory functions, and
- Review Council's performance and the delivery of services management plans and revenue policies.

A councillor represents residents and ratepayers, provides leadership and guidance to the community, and facilitates communication between the community and Council. Council meets bi-monthly (even months) on the third Monday of each month commencing at 10:00am.

The Administration

The administration is organised into two groups, each with a range of responsibilities and is located at CMCC's Head Office in Walgett.

The General Manager leads the administrative arm of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council and is responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the business and ensuring that the decisions of Council are implemented.

The General Manager reports to the full elected Council.

Location

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is a single purpose Council which is responsible for the fulfillment of its Constituent Councils obligations under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

The County Councils governance is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA 1993) with the County Council being first proclaimed in 1947.

The present area of operation of CMCC is the local government areas of Coonamble, Gilgandra, Warren, Walgett and Warrumbungle. These Councils are located in the Orana Region of Western New South Wales.

***Note 1:** Part 5, Local Government Act 1993 contained in Appendix A

Core Business Activities

The core role of the County Council is the enforcement of control of Noxious Plants on both private and Council lands.

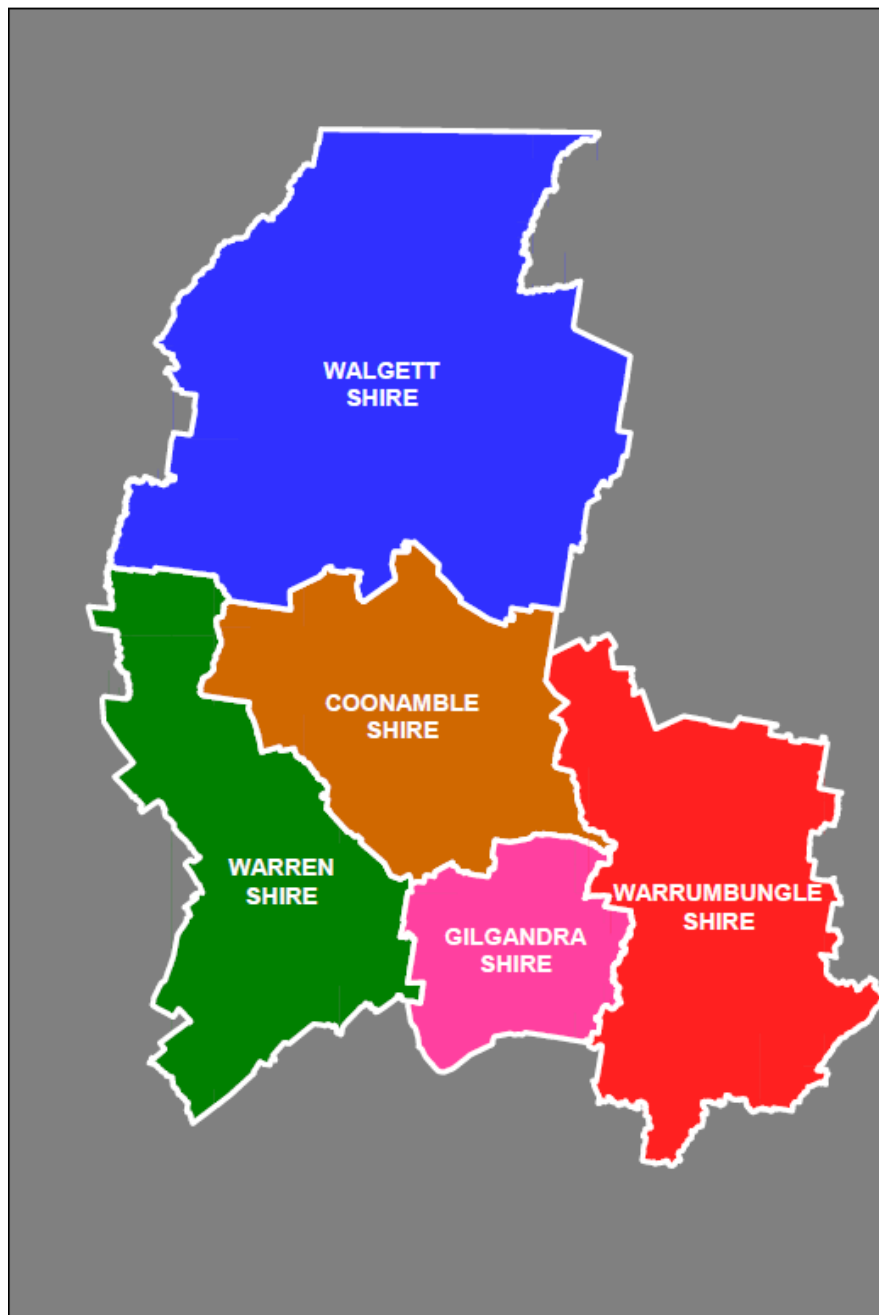
The diverse range of climatic conditions within the region exposes it to a large range of invasive plants which have the potential of establishing themselves within the region.

The plant species that have the potential to become a serious threat particularly if they reach travelling stock reserves, high risk watercourse and rail corridors include: Hudson Per, Harrisia Cactus, African Boxthorn, Serrated Tussock and Chilean Needle Grass.

Government Grants

Council receives very limited Federal Government Grant Funding. However approximately one half of Council's income is sourced from State Government Grants which are administered by the Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee with Orange City Council being the lead agency. Various other grants are accessed through NSW Department of Primary Industries and other government agencies.

OUR AREA OF OPERATION



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's area of operation comprises an area of approximately 60,000 square kilometers with a population of around 27,000 people. The region has a diverse topographical range, from the Warrumbungle Range to the semi-arid regions of Lightning Ridge and contains an extensive area of National Parks and Nature Reserves.

YOUR COUNCIL

The Central/North Western NSW Community is represented by two Councillors from each of the Constituent Councils of Coonamble, Gilgandra, Walgett, Warren and Warrumbungle, under the leadership of an annually elected Chairperson.

The Councillors have provided strong leadership and input into the development of Councils Business Activity Strategic Plan 2014-2024 as part of the commitment towards achieving various objectives as detailed in the plan.

CHAIRPERSON	Councillor Noel Kinsey
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Councillor Robert Greenaway
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL:	Councillors Michael Webb and Don Schieb
GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL:	Councillors Douglas Batten and Gregory Peart
WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL:	Councillors Robert Greenaway and Ian Woodcock
WARREN SHIRE COUNCIL:	Councillors Noel Kinsey and Anthony Van Lubeck
WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL:	Councillors Peter Shinton and Murray Coe



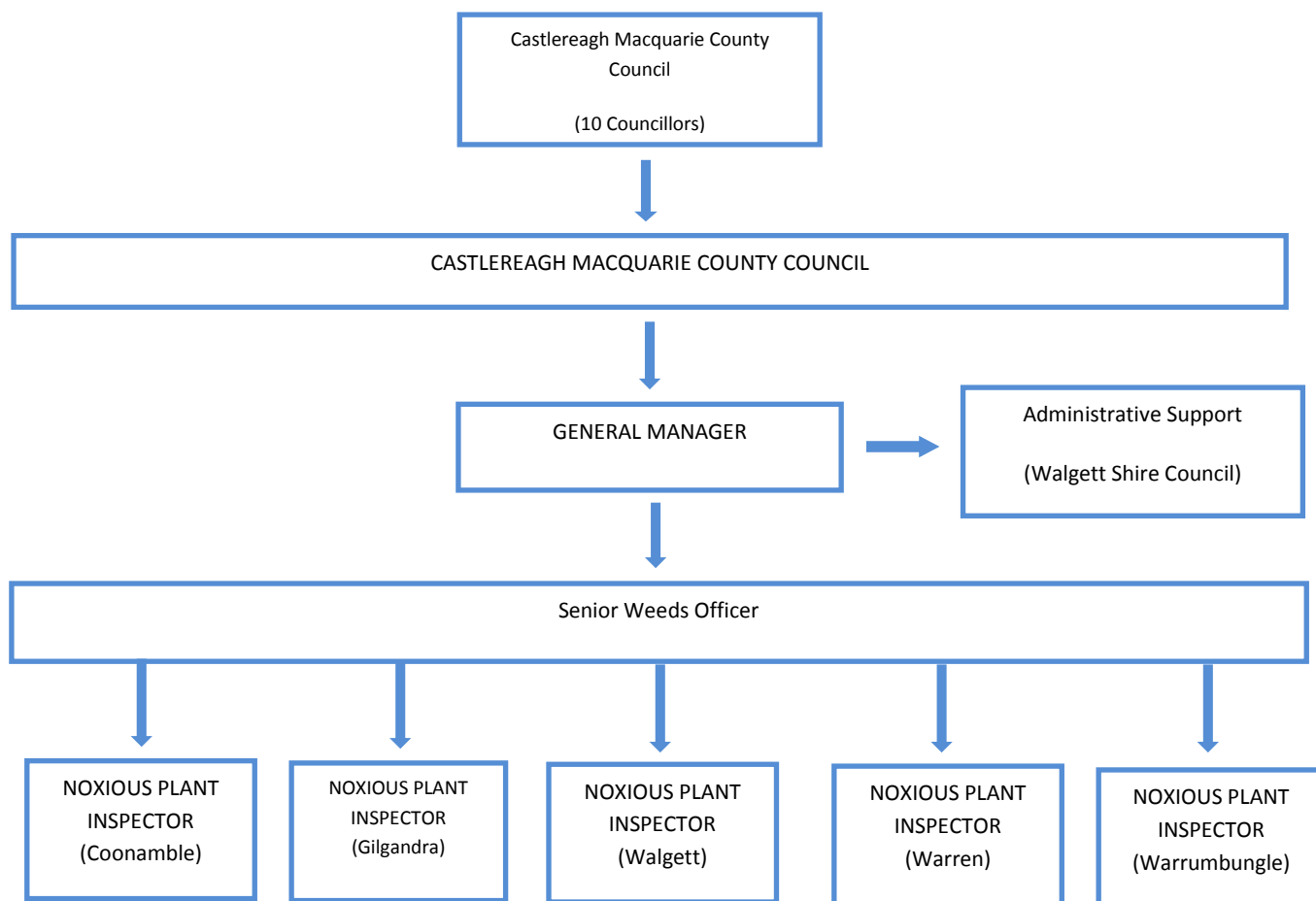
From left to Right: Front Row: Clr Robert Greenaway (CMCC Deputy Chairperson), Don Ramsland (General Manager), Clr Noel Kinsey (CMCC Chairperson), Clr Gregory Peart
Back Row: Clr Tony Van Lubeck, Clr Don Schieb, Clr Peter Shinton, Clr Ian Woodcock. Clr Michael Webb, Clr Murray Coe, Clr Douglas Batten

OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The current staff structure of the Council consists of a part time General Manager/Accountant, a Senior Weeds Officer, Five District Noxious Plants Inspectors with administrative support provided on a contract basis by Walgett Shire Council.

The Council's current structure is outlined in the following table. Council resolved that its governance and organisational structure be reduced to six permanent staff through natural attrition in 2013-2014.

Current Organisational Structure



General Manager:

This position is part time and currently held by the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council Don Ramsland. The General Manager is responsible for the management of CMCC in accordance with the **LGA 1993**.

Senior Weeds Officer:

This position is a full time position with the Senior Weeds Officer being responsible for the day to day management of CMCC and supervision of District Noxious Weeds Inspections. The Senior Weeds Officer is based at our Coonabarabran Depot.

Noxious Weeds Inspectors:

These positions are on a full time/casual/contract basis with duties including but not limited to property inspections for the presence of noxious plants on private lands and Council controlled lands, raising community awareness through public awareness programs in their designated Shires.

COUNTY COUNCIL'S ROLE IN WEED CONTROL

The County Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 and is specified as a Local Control Authority under the Noxious Weed Act. It is a special (single) purpose authority formed to administer, control and eradicate noxious weeds.

The County Councils role is summarised as follows:

1. Responsibility for administering the Noxious Weeds Act 1993;
2. Control of noxious weeds on land occupied by Constituent Councils;
3. To ensure, so far as practicable, that occupiers of land carry out obligations to control noxious weeds imposed under the Act;
4. To develop, implement, coordinate and review noxious weed control policies and noxious weed control programs;
5. Inspection of land within the local area in connection with its noxious weed control functions;
6. To report, at the request of the Minister, on carrying out of the Local Control Authority's functions under the Act;
7. To cooperate with Local Control Authorities of adjoining areas to control noxious weeds, where appropriate;
8. Such further acts as may be conferred or imposed on the Local Control Authority by or under the Acts;
9. Supply noxious weed control services to occupiers of land including public authorities and other persons and charge for the service;
10. Temporarily obstruct navigation in any waters to a reasonable extent for the purpose of the control of noxious weeds;
11. Council's inspectors have various functions including powers of entry and to issue 'on the spot' fines and power to require a person in charge of machinery to treat the machine immediately to remove any notifiable weed;
12. Private property occupiers are responsible for notifying Council of the presence of certain notifiable weeds. Council can inspect private properties for noxious weed infestations and the giving of directions to landowners and occupiers.

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUMMARY

Business Activity Strategic Plan 2014/2024

Council's Business Activity Strategic Plan (Plan) identifies Council's interpretation of its community's main priorities and aspirations for the future, addressing strategies for achieving the objectives in relation to noxious and invasive weeds management and control across our constituent council areas. This enables Council to improve agricultural sustainability, primary industry productivity and to deliver broad environmental outcomes for the County area for over the next ten years.

Council, as a small single purpose organisation has been mindful of its resource capacity and continues to act prudently to deliver the outcomes identified in its Plan.

The Plan is the foundation for the Annual Operational Plan and Budget, Four Year Delivery Programme and Resourcing Strategy comprising the Ten Year Financial Plan, Workforce Strategy and Asset Management Plan.

Four Year Delivery Programme

The Four Year Delivery Programme is a living, breathing document through which Council addresses the dynamic nature of noxious and invasive weeds species and it's constantly evolving approach to weeds management and control.

It is Council's aim to continue to improve the services it provides to the Constituent Council communities through the strategic objectives and principle activities identified in the Programme in a range of ways including effective governance, strategic planning, environmental management and economic sustainability.

Annual Operational Plan and Budget

The Annual Operational Plan and Budget provides the framework for Council's day to day operations and the ability to have funding available for them.

Key aspects include the undertaking of activities in relation to the Weeds Action Plan, private property inspections and routine administrative functions and staff supervision. Most identified targets in the Delivery Programme and Operational Plan were met.

WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM (WAP)

The NSW Weeds Action Program (WAP) is a NSW Government initiative to reduce the impact of weeds and is guided by the NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021 and the NSW Invasive Species Plan. The program has been running since 2010 and replaces the previous range of noxious weed grant programmes provided by the NSW Government to local control authorities. Following the 2014 Natural Resource Commission review into weed management, WAP2015-20 projects are aligned with Local Land Services (LLS) regions.

CMCC crosses two LLS regions – Northwest and Central West. To reduce administrative duplication, the county is presently a partner only in the Central West WAP1520 project. Orange City Council is currently the lead agency for the CW WAP 1520 project, coordinated by Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee.

The WAP targets the highest risk weeds, including:

- Through inspections and monitoring the prevention of new weeds becoming established,
- Through monitoring and control eliminating or preventing the spread of new weeds,
- Through targeted control programmes the protection of significant natural assets (endangered ecological communities, wetlands and major waterways),
- By targeting the weeds workforce and community improving capacity through awareness and education.

The county, along with all WAP partners and additional stakeholders with interests in weed management, is also working with the newly established Regional Weed Committees for both the Northwest and Central West regions. The committees are currently working on new Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans for the region.

During the 2015/2016 period Castlereagh Macquarie County Council carried out the follow in respect of the WAP:

- Inspections of high risk roadsides carried out: 16,766km
- Inspections of high risk TSRs (number of inspections): 16,766
- Inspections of high risk water courses: 460km
- Inspections of high risk rail corridors: 350km
- Inspections of nurseries, sale yards and pet shops: 18 sites
- Inspections of other identified high risk sites carried out: 12 sites
- Private Property Inspections: 2,000
- Re-inspections of Private Properties: 900

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Education and awareness continues to be an integral part of Council's core business. The tasks of engaging the public, mentoring landholders in weed management, identifying weeds, providing property weed management plans and conducting weed control demonstrations provide far great value for the community. This includes but is not limited to attending agricultural shows, field days and environmental and community events in all of our member Council areas. This year Council participated in 20 field day/local shows and in addition the County continued to facilitate further training for its staff.



From left to Right: John Unwin Senior Weeds Officer, Carl Molloy Coonamble Weeds Officer, Bruce Timmins Former Walgett Weeds Officer and Kevin Watling Gilgandra Weeds Officer

HUDSON PEAR PROGRAMMES

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council carried out an ongoing programme of identification spraying and monitoring of Hudson Pear outbreaks on reserves in Lightning Ridge and the Five Ways to be undertaken by the staff.

The programme followed on from money successfully obtained under the 2014/2015 Public Reserves Management Fund Program (PRMFP) and has proven to be successful in the control of Hudson Pear and raising community engagement and awareness around noxious weeds.

The Castlereagh Macquarie County Council resolved to re-establish the Hudson Pear Taskforce which has been in recess for a number of years under the Independent Chairmanship of Mr Geoff Wise. The first meeting was held on Thursday 29th October, 2015.



From left to Right: Front Row: Claire Bergin NWLLS, Steve Geddes -Tamworth Regional Council, Ian Schwartz - Moree Plains Shire Council, Clare Felton-Taylor - Narrabri Shire Council, John Unwin - Castlereagh Macquarie Weeds County Council, Mal Stein - Tamworth Regional Council, Peter Scott - Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Lee Amidy - Gunnedah Shire Council, Mike Whitney - Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Tony Wood - Gunnedah Shire Council

WEEDS DECLARED UNDER THE NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT (1993)

The Noxious Weeds Act 1993 provides for the Minister for Primary Industries to issue an Order declaring a plant noxious. This declaration may specify a plant to be noxious in a determined portion, or the whole of the State.

These noxious weeds have been listed into five (5) classes specified in the Act. In the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council area, the action required for each control class is:

Control Class	Weed Type	Example Control Requirements
Class 1	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment and are not present in the State or are present only to a limited extent.	The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant. The weeds are also "notifiable" and a range of restrictions on their sale and movement exist.
Class 2	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment of a region to which the order applies and are not present in the region or are present only to a limited extent.	The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant. The weeds are also "notifiable" and a range of restrictions on their sale and movement exist.
Class 3	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment of a region to which the order applies, are not widely distributed in the area and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.	The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.*
Class 4	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production, the environment or human health, are widely distributed in an area to which the order applies and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.	The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread*
Class 5	Plants that are likely, by their sale or the sale of their seeds or movement within the State or an area of the State, to spread in the State or outside the State.	There are no requirements to control existing plants of Class 5 weeds. However, the weeds are "notifiable" and a range of restrictions on their sale and movement exists.

Non-saleable weeds

All Class 1, 2 and 5 weeds are prohibited from sale in NSW. Some Class 3 and 4 weeds are also prohibited from sale in NSW.

Prohibition from sale includes any barter, offer or attempt to sell, receive for sale, have in possession for sale, expose for sale, send, forward or deliver for sale or cause or permit to be sold or offered for sale, or sell for resale.

WEEDS DECLARED IN THE LOCAL CONTROL AUTHORITY AREA OF CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Weed	Class	
African boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
African feather grass <i>Cenchrus macrourus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
African turnip weed - eastern <i>Sisymbrium thellungii</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
African turnip weed - western <i>Sisymbrium runcinatum</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Alligator weed <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Anchored water hyacinth <i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Annual ragweed <i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Arrowhead <i>Sagittaria calycina</i> var. <i>calycina</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Artichoke thistle <i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Asparagus - climbing asparagus fern <i>Asparagus plumosus</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Asparagus - ground asparagus <i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Asparagus weeds <i>Asparagus</i> species	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Athel pine <i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Bear-skin fescue <i>Festuca gautieri</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Bellyache bush <i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Black knapweed <i>Centaurea X moncktonii</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Black willow <i>Salix nigra</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>

Blackberry <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> species aggregate	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Boneseed <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> subsp. <i>monilifera</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Bridal creeper <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Bridal veil creeper <i>Asparagus declinatus</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Broomrapes <i>Orobanche</i> species	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Burr - Bathurst burr <i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Burr - Californian burr <i>Xanthium orientale</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Burr - Italian cocklebur <i>Xanthium italicum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Burr - South American burr <i>Xanthium cavanillesii</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Burr ragweed <i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Cabomba <i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Cat's claw creeper <i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Cayenne snakeweed <i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Chilean needle grass <i>Nassella neesiana</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Chinese violet <i>Asystasia gangetica</i> subsp. <i>micrantha</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Clockweed <i>Oenothera curtiflora</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Columbus grass <i>Sorghum x aluum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Corn sowthistle <i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>

Dodder <i>Cuscuta</i> species	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Espartillo - broad kernel <i>Amelichloa caudata</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Espartillo - narrow kernel <i>Amelichloa brachychaeta</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Eurasian water milfoil <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Fine-bristled burr grass <i>Cenchrus brownii</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Fireweed <i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Flax-leaf broom <i>Genista linifolia</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Fountain grass <i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Frogbit <i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Gallon's curse <i>Cenchrus biflorus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Gamba grass <i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Giant reed <i>Arundo donax</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Glaucous starthistle <i>Carthamus leucocaulus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Golden thistle <i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Green cestrum <i>Cestrum parqui</i>	3	Regionally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed</i>
Grey willow <i>Salix cinerea</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Harrisia cactus <i>Harrisia</i> species	3	Regionally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Hawkweeds <i>Hieracium</i> species	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Honey locust <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	3	Regionally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and</i>

		<i>destroyed and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Horsetails <i>Equisetum</i> species	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Hydrocotyl <i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Hymenachne <i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> and hybrids	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Johnson grass <i>Sorghum halepense</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Karoo thorn <i>Vachellia karroo</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Kidney-leaf mud plantain <i>Heteranthera reniformis</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Kochia <i>Bassia scoparia</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Koster's curse <i>Clidemia hirta</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Lagarosiphon <i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Leafy elodea <i>Egeria densa</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Lippia <i>Phyla canescens</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed except incidentally in hay or lucerne</i>
Long-leaf willow primrose <i>Ludwigia longifolia</i>	3	Regionally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Mesquite <i>Prosopis</i> species	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Mexican feather grass <i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Mexican poppy <i>Argemone mexicana</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Miconia <i>Miconia</i> species	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Mikania vine <i>Mikania micrantha</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Mimosa	1	State Prohibited Weed

<i>Mimosa pigra</i>		<i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Mossman River grass <i>Cenchrus echinatus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Mother-of-millions <i>Bryophyllum</i> species	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Noogoora burr <i>Xanthium occidentale</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread</i>
Pampas grass <i>Cortaderia</i> species	3	Regionally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Parkinsonia <i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Parthenium weed <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Pond apple <i>Annona glabra</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Prickly acacia <i>Vachellia nilotica</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Prickly pear - common pear <i>Opuntia stricta</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Prickly pear - Hudson pear <i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Prickly pear - smooth tree pear <i>Opuntia monacantha</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Prickly pear - tiger pear <i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Prickly pear - velvety tree pear <i>Opuntia tomentosa</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Red rice <i>Oryza rufipogon</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>
Rhus tree <i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner</i>

		that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Rubber vine <i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
Sagittaria <i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Salvinia <i>Salvinia molesta</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
Scotch broom <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> subsp. <i>scoparius</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Senegal tea plant <i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
Serrated tussock <i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Siam weed <i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
Silk forage sorghum <i>Sorghum</i> species hybrid cultivar "Silk"	4	Locally Controlled Weed The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
Silverleaf nightshade <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Smooth-stemmed turnip <i>Brassica barrelieri</i> subsp. <i>oxyrrhina</i>	5	Restricted Plant The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with
Soldier thistle <i>Picnomon acarna</i>	5	Restricted Plant The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with
Spongeplant <i>Limnobia spongia</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
Spotted knapweed <i>Centaurea stoebe</i> subsp. <i>micranthos</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant
St. John's wort <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread and the plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed
Sweet briar <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
Texas blueweed <i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>	5	Restricted Plant The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with
Tropical soda apple	1	State Prohibited Weed

<i>Solanum viarum</i>		<i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Water caltrop <i>Trapa species</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Water hyacinth <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	2	Regionally Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Water lettuce <i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Water soldier <i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Willows <i>Salix species</i>	4	Locally Controlled Weed <i>The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed</i>
Witchweeds <i>Striga species</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Yellow burrhead <i>Limnocharis flava</i>	1	State Prohibited Weed <i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and that land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Yellow nutgrass <i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	5	Restricted Plant <i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>

COUNCIL'S SUMMARY OF ANNUAL OPERATIONS RESULTS AND AUDIT REPORT

Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June, 2016 and Audit Report for the corresponding period are attached.

Council's operations for the year provided:

- A surplus of \$193,000 after allowing for the purchase of plant
- A decrease of \$92,000 in relation to grants and contributions provided for operating activities
- Net gains of \$16,000 from the sale of property, plant and equipment
- A reduction in salaries and wages of \$134,000 due to the reduction of staff under Council's Organisational Restructure Process.
- A decrease in other expenses of \$48,000.

In summary, Council's net assets stood at \$430,000 as at 30 June, 2016 as a result of a surplus from continuing operations after capital amounts.

The Unrestricted Current Ratio at year's end was 1:2.63 and the Cash Expense Cover Ratio 4.15 months.

Further financial detail can be gleaned from the financial statements for the period, which coupled with the Auditor's Report, reflect the ongoing continued improvement in Council's financial sustainability following the implementation of the 12 point Organisational Restructure resolved by Council on 5 March, 2014.

SCHEDULE A – INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Luka Group

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2016. The financial statements comprise the Statement by Council, Income Statement, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the original budget figures included in the Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows, the original budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16, and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.



Liability limited by the Accountants Scheme, approved under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW)

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the year ended 30 June 2016 included on Council's web site. Council is responsible for the integrity of Council's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the web site. The auditor's report refers only to the statements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the information included in the audited financial statements presented on this web site.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion:

- (a) the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2;
- (b) the Council's financial statements:
 - (i) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of this Division;
 - (ii) is consistent with the Council's accounting records;
 - (iii) presents fairly the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and cashflows; and
 - (iv) is in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
- (c) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained; and
- (d) there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements that have come to light in the course of the audit.



LUKA GROUP

2 River Street
Dubbo
Dated: 28 October 2016



JM SHANKS
PARTNER

Luka Group

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

28 October 2016

The Chairman
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
PO Box 227
COONAMBLE NSW 2829

Dear Sir

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE CONDUCT OF THE AUDIT OF CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

We have audited the financial statements of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2016. The financial statements include the general purpose consolidated accounts of the economic entity comprising the Council at reporting date. The contents of these statements include the Council's Certificate as required by section 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993. The Council is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. Our audit resulted in the issuing of an unmodified audit report for the general purpose financial statements of Council.

In accordance with Section 417 of the Local Government Act 1993 we submit our report on the conduct of the audit of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the year ended 30 June 2016. Our audit reports on the general purpose financial statements of Council which outlines the legislative framework of our audit and should be referred to in order to establish the context in which our comments are made.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Liability limited by the Accountants Scheme, approved under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW)

Review of the Financial Statements

(a) Result from Continuing Operations

As disclosed in Council's Income Statement the year's operations resulted in a surplus from continuing operations after capital amounts of \$193,000 (2015 - \$248,000 surplus). Some items of note in the income statement include:

- The operating result from continuing operations *before* capital amounts was a surplus of \$193,000 (2015 - \$248,000 deficit).
- User charges and fees increased by \$20,000 to \$32,000 (2015 - \$12,000). Private works increased by \$15,000 to \$22,000 due to additional section 67 works compared to the prior year.
- Grant and contributions provided for operating activities decreased by \$92,000 to \$851,000 (2015 - \$943,000). Noxious weeds grants decreased by \$87,000 to \$313,000 due to decreased funding to combat noxious weeds. Other Councils - joint works/services contributions increased by \$12,000 to \$498,000 due to slightly higher contributions by the member Councils.
- Net gains from the disposal of assets decreased by \$246,000 to \$16,000 (2015 - \$262,000) due to the sale of the Coonamble depot and plant during the prior year.
- Employee benefits and on-costs decreased by \$134,000 to \$647,000 (2015 - \$781,000). Salaries and wages were consistent with the prior year at \$514,000. Employee termination costs decreased by \$14,000 due to redundancy payouts of employees in the prior year.
- Other expenses decreased by \$48,000 to \$194,000 (2015 - \$242,000). Bad and doubtful debts decreased by \$39,000 due to the write off in the prior year of government grant that was never received.

(b) Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position disclosed that for the year ended 30 June 2016 Council's net assets stood at \$430,000 (2015 - \$237,000) which represents an increase of \$193,000 being the surplus from continuing operations after capital amounts.

To assess the appropriateness or otherwise of Council's net current asset position (available working capital) it is necessary to review the level of restrictions placed against the use of Council's assets. The notes to the financial statements indicate clearly where restrictions exist and the effect of the restrictions is summarised as follows:-

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Net current assets	239	108
Less: Amounts externally restricted for special purposes (refer Notes 6; 7; & 8 of financial statements)	-	-
Less: Council internally imposed restrictions (refer Note 6 of financial statements)	(112)	(112)
Add: Employee leave entitlements classified as current, but not expected to be settled within 12 months	50	50
Unrestricted net current asset surplus	<u>177</u>	<u>46</u>

Unrestricted net current assets comprise:

<i>Unrestricted Current Assets</i>		
Cash and Investments	226	279
Receivables	116	54
Inventories	12	8
	<u>354</u>	<u>341</u>
 Less: Unrestricted Current Liabilities		
Payables	(19)	(58)
Borrowings	(50)	(150)
Provisions	(158)	(137)
	<u>(227)</u>	<u>(345)</u>
 Add: Employee leave entitlements classified as current, but not expected to be settled within 12 months		
	50	50
 Unrestricted net current asset surplus		
	<u>177</u>	<u>46</u>

The unrestricted net current asset position of Council has improved by \$131,000 over the past year to a surplus of \$177,000. This is a considerable improvement on previous years and allows the Council to cover any unforeseen expenditure.

Liquidity

Note 6 to the accounts discloses total cash and investments of \$338,000 (2015 - \$391,000). Of this amount \$Nil (2015 - \$Nil) is subject to external restrictions requiring Council to commit those funds to the purposes for which they were provided and \$112,000 (2015 - \$112,000) is subject to internal restrictions agreed upon by Council for designated purposes which may be altered at the discretion of Council, consistent with their management plan.

The unrestricted balance of \$226,000 (2015 - \$279,000) represents funds available to cover non-budgeted discretionary expenditure and short-term cash flow requirements.

Council has improved its cash position significantly and is in a stronger position to meet its long term financial plans.

(c) Performance Indicators

Note 13 to the Financial Statements provide a measure of Council's performance using a number of selected ratios as follows:

Operating Performance Ratio

This ratio measures a Council's ability to contain operating expenditure within operating revenue.

Council's ratio of positive 16.97% (2015 - negative 1.28%) is above the benchmark of 0% and is a considerable improvement on the previous years. The improvement in this ratio is driven from the strong surplus result.

Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio

This ratio measures the fiscal flexibility of Council and its degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. A Council's financial flexibility improves the higher the level of its own source revenue.

The ratio of 18.41% (2015 - 13.72%) is well below the benchmark of 60% and indicates Council is reliant on contributions from its member Council's to meet its operational needs.

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The unrestricted current ratio is a measure of Council's liquidity and demonstrates Council's ability to satisfy obligations out of short-term and immediate asset balances.

Council's ratio of 2.63:1 (2015 – 1.54:1) is considered sound. It is a considerable improvement on the prior year and is due to the strong operating result.

Debt Service Cover Ratio

The cost of repaying debt is reflected in the debt service ratio, which expresses that cost as a percentage of revenue from ordinary activities.

Council's ratio of 1.84:1 (2015 – 0.07:1 negative) is below the benchmark, a minimum of 2:1. The Council has loans of \$50,000 owing to its member Councils and if required in the future may be able to obtain further loans from its members.

Cash Expense Cover Ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow.

Council's ratio of 4.15 months (2015 – 3.68 months) is above the minimum benchmark of 3 months and indicates a strengthening of the Councils financial position. The Council is reliant on member Council contributions each year, but should continue to aim to be above the 3 months benchmark.

(d) Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows reports a net decrease in cash assets held of \$53,000 (2015 – \$240,000 increase) as follows:

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	Movement \$'000
Cash flow provided by / (used in)			
Operating activities	100	(83)	183
Investing activities	(53)	423	(476)
Financing activities	(100)	(100)	-
Net increase in cash held during the year	(53)	240	(293)

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

The net cash provided by operating activities totalled \$100,000 (2015 – \$83,000 used in). Receipts from grants and contributions decreased by 117,000 while payments for employee costs decreased by \$274,000.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

The net cash used in investing activities totalled \$53,000 (2015 – \$423,000 provided by). Receipts from the sale of infrastructure decreased by \$398,000 due to the sale of the Coonamble depot and plant in the prior year. Payments for the purchase of plant and equipment were \$69,000 for the year.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

There cash flows used in financing activities during the year totalled \$100,000 (2015 – \$100,000). Council did not undertaken any new borrowings during the year (2015 – \$Nil). Repayments of \$100,000 were in accordance with the agreement with the member Councils.

(e) Comparison of Actual and Budgeted Performance

Council's change in net assets from operations for the year was a surplus of \$193,000 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$141,000.

The nature of this report does not lend itself to detailed analysis of individual budget variations. Council's financial statements include Note 16, which addresses the contributing factors to these variations in more detail.

Other Matters

(a) Management Letters

A management letter in relation to the audit will be issued within the few weeks.

(b) Legislative Compliance

As a result of our audit we advise that there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements that have come to our attention during the conduct of the audit and that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993 and regulations.

(c) Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial statements

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council for the year ended 30 June 2016 included on Council's web site. Council is responsible for the integrity of Council's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the web site. The auditor's report refers only to the statements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the information included in the audited financial statements presented on this web site.

Conclusion

- (a) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's accounting records have been kept in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation of the general purpose financial statements and allowed proper and effective audit of this report; and
- (b) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained.



LUKA GROUP

2 River Street
Dubbo
Dated: 28 October 2016



JM SHANKS
PARTNER

SCHEDULE B – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2016

To provide effective integrated weed management
systems utilizing the latest technology to all
Constituent councils fairly and equitably



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

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Overview

- (i) These financial statements are General Purpose Financial Statements and cover the operations for Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.
- (ii) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is a body politic of NSW, Australia – being constituted as a local government area by proclamation and is duly empowered by the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA).

Council's Statutory Charter is detailed in Paragraph 8 of the LGA and includes giving Council;

- the ability to provide goods, services and facilities, and to carry out activities appropriate to the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public,
- the responsibility for administering regulatory requirements under the LGA and
- a role in the management, improvement and development of the resources in the area.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note 2(b).

- (iii) All figures presented in these financial statements are presented in Australian currency.
- (iv) These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Council on 28 October 2016. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.
-

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Understanding Council's financial statements

Introduction

Each year, individual local governments across New South Wales are required to present a set of audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year, and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the primary financial statements

The financial statements incorporate five 'primary' financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

This statement summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses.

This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

This statement primarily records changes in the fair values of Council's infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

An end of year snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and equity ('net wealth').

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's 'net wealth'.

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

This statement indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by external accountants (that generally specialise in local government). In NSW, the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. An opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. Their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the financial statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the Audit Report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Statement by Councillors and Management

made pursuant to Section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended)

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

- the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended) and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements, and
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

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


- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position 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 22 August 2016.



Clr N Kinsey
CHAIRPERSON



Clr R Greenaway
COUNCILLOR



Mr Don Ramsland
General Manager



Mr Don Ramsland
Responsible accounting officer

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Income Statement
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Budget 2016	¹ \$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
Income from continuing operations				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
18	User charges and fees	3b	32	12
3	Interest and investment revenue	3c	6	6
100	Other revenues	3d	154	132
907	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	3e,f	851	943
<i>Other income:</i>				
15	Net gains from the disposal of assets	5	16	262
–	Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method	19	–	–
1,043	Total income from continuing operations		1,059	1,355
Expenses from continuing operations				
675	Employee benefits and on-costs	4a	647	781
–	Borrowing costs	4b	–	–
20	Materials and contracts	4c	18	77
7	Depreciation and amortisation	4d	7	7
–	Impairment	4d	–	–
200	Other expenses	4e	194	242
902	Total expenses from continuing operations		866	1,107
141	Operating result from continuing operations		193	248
Discontinued operations				
–	Net profit/(loss) from discontinued operations	24	–	–
141	Net operating result for the year		193	248
141	Net operating result attributable to Council		193	248
–	Net operating result attributable to non-controlling interests		–	–
141	Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes		193	248

¹ Original budget as approved by Council – refer Note 16

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2016

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
Net operating result for the year (as per Income Statement)		193	248
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Nil			
Amounts which will be reclassified subsequently to the operating result when specific conditions are met			
Nil			
Total comprehensive income for the year		193	248
Total comprehensive income attributable to Council		193	248
Total comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests		—	—

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2016

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6a	338	391
Receivables	7	116	54
Inventories	8	12	8
Other	8	—	—
Non-current assets classified as 'held for sale'	22	—	—
Total current assets		466	453
Non-current assets			
Investments	6b	—	—
Receivables	7	—	—
Inventories	8	—	—
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	9	191	129
Investments accounted for using the equity method	19	—	—
Investment property	14	—	—
Intangible assets	25	—	—
Total non-current assets		191	129
TOTAL ASSETS		657	582
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	10	19	58
Borrowings	10	50	150
Provisions	10	158	137
Total current liabilities		227	345
Non-current liabilities			
Payables	10	—	—
Borrowings	10	—	—
Provisions	10	—	—
Total non-current liabilities		—	—
TOTAL LIABILITIES		227	345
Net assets		430	237
EQUITY			
Retained earnings	20	246	53
Revaluation reserves	20	184	184
Council equity interest		430	237
Non-controlling equity interests		—	—
Total equity		430	237

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2016

\$ '000	Notes	Retained earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Council interest	Non-controlling Interest	Total equity
2016						
Opening balance (as per last year's audited accounts)		53	184	237	–	237
a. Correction of prior period errors	20 (c)	–	–	–	–	–
b. Changes in accounting policies (prior year effects)	20 (d)	–	–	–	–	–
Revised opening balance (as at 1/7/15)		53	184	237	–	237
c. Net operating result for the year		193	–	193	–	193
d. Other comprehensive income						
– Revaluations: IPP&E asset revaluation rsve	20b (ii)	–	–	–	–	–
Other comprehensive income		–	–	–	–	–
Total comprehensive income (c&d)		193	–	193	–	193
e. Distributions to/(contributions from) non-controlling Interests		–	–	–	–	–
f. Transfers between equity		–	–	–	–	–
Equity – balance at end of the reporting period		246	184	430	–	430

\$ '000	Notes	Retained Earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Council Interest	Non-controlling Interest	Total Equity
2015						
Opening balance (as per last year's audited accounts)		(333)	322	(11)	–	(11)
a. Correction of prior period errors	20 (c)	–	–	–	–	–
b. Changes in accounting policies (prior year effects)	20 (d)	–	–	–	–	–
Revised opening balance (as at 1/7/14)		(333)	322	(11)	–	(11)
c. Net operating result for the year		248	–	248	–	248
d. Other comprehensive income						
– Revaluations: IPP&E asset revaluation rsve	20b (ii)	–	–	–	–	–
Other comprehensive income		–	–	–	–	–
Total comprehensive income (c&d)		248	–	248	–	248
e. Distributions to/(contributions from) non-controlling Interests		–	–	–	–	–
f. Transfers between equity		138	(138)	–	–	–
Equity – balance at end of the reporting period		53	184	237	–	237

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Budget 2016	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
Cash flows from operating activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
18	User charges and fees		29	15
3	Investment and interest revenue received		6	6
907	Grants and contributions		823	940
100	Other		120	132
<u>Payments:</u>				
(671)	Employee benefits and on-costs		(626)	(900)
(24)	Materials and contracts		(26)	(78)
(120)	Other		(226)	(198)
213	Net cash provided (or used in) operating activities	11b	100	(83)
Cash flows from investing activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
-	Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		16	414
<u>Payments:</u>				
(112)	Purchase of investment securities		-	-
(70)	Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		(69)	9
(182)	Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities		(53)	423
Cash flows from financing activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
Nil				
<u>Payments:</u>				
(100)	Repayment of borrowings and advances		(100)	(100)
(100)	Net cash flow provided (used in) financing activities		(100)	(100)
(69)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(53)	240
200	Plus: cash and cash equivalents – beginning of year	11a	391	151
131	Cash and cash equivalents – end of the year	11a	338	391
Additional Information:				
	plus: Investments on hand – end of year	6b	-	-
	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		338	391

Please refer to Note 11 for information on the following:

- Non-cash financing and investing activities
- Financing arrangements
- Net cash flow disclosures relating to any discontinued operations

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

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21	Financial result and financial position by fund	49 n/a
22	'Held for sale' non-current assets and disposal groups	50 n/a
23	Events occurring after the reporting date	50 n/a
24	Discontinued operations	50 n/a
25	Intangible assets	50 n/a
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n/a – not applicable

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by Council in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below in order to assist in its general understanding.

Under Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs), accounting policies are defined as those specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by a reporting entity (in this case Council) in preparing and presenting its financial statements.

(a) Basis of preparation

(i) Background

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with:

- Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board,
- the *Local Government Act (1993)* and Regulation, and
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

For the purpose of preparing these financial statements, Council has been deemed to be a not-for-profit entity.

(ii) Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

Because AASBs are sector neutral, some standards either:

- (a) have local Australian content and prescription that is specific to the not-for-profit sector (including local government) which are not in compliance with IFRSs, or
- (b) specifically exclude application by not-for-profit entities.

Accordingly, in preparing these financial statements and accompanying notes, Council has been unable to comply fully with International Accounting Standards, but has complied fully with Australian Accounting Standards.

Under the *Local Government Act (LGA)*, Regulation and Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, it should be noted that Councils in NSW only have a requirement to comply with AASBs.

(iii) New and amended standards adopted by Council

There have been no new accounting standards adopted in this year's financial statements which have had any material impact on reported financial position, performance or cash flows.

(iv) Early adoption of accounting standards

For summary information relating to the effects of standards with future operative dates refer further to paragraph (ab).

(v) Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for:

- (i) certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and available-for-sale financial assets, which are all valued at fair value,
- (ii) the write down of any asset on the basis of impairment (if warranted), and
- (iii) certain classes of non-current assets (eg. infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property) that are accounted for at fair valuation.

The accrual basis of accounting has also been applied in their preparation.

(vi) Changes in accounting policies

Council's accounting policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

There have also been no changes in accounting policies when compared with previous financial statements unless otherwise stated [refer Note 20 (d)].

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(vii) Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates (in conformity with AASBs).

Accordingly this requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are set out below:

- (i) Estimated fair values of investment properties
- (ii) Estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment,
- (iii) Estimated remediation provisions.

Significant judgements in applying Council's accounting policies include the impairment of receivables – Council has made significant judgements about the impairment of a number of its receivables in Note 7.

(b) Revenue recognition

Council recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to it, and specific criteria have been met for each of the Council's activities as described below.

Council bases any estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the

type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue is measured on major income categories as follows:

Rates, Annual Charges, Grants and Contributions

Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions (including developer contributions) are recognised as revenues when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising these receipts.

Control over assets acquired from rates and annual charges is obtained at the commencement of the rating year as it is an enforceable debt linked to the rateable property or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates.

A provision for the impairment on rates receivables has not been established as unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Control over granted assets/contributed assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured, and is valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Revenue from contributions is recognised when the Council either obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive it, (i) it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Council and (ii) the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed in Note 3 (g).

Note 3 (g) also discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on Council's operations during the current year.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

The Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of s94 of the *EPA Act 1979*.

Whilst Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon their physical receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and accordingly would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required but the Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules.

A detailed note relating to developer contributions can be found at Note 17.

User charges, fees and other Income

User charges, fees and other income (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

A provision for the impairment of these receivables is recognised when collection in full is no longer probable.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided as at balance date.

Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

Interest and rents

Rental income is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Interest income from cash and investments is accounted for using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

Dividend income

Revenue is recognised when the Council's right to receive the payment is established, which is generally when shareholders approve the dividend.

Other Income

Other income is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

(c) Principles of consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the financial position and performance of controlled entities from the date on which control is obtained until the date that control is lost.

(i) The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of section 409(1) of the LGA 1993, all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's consolidated fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's trust fund.

The consolidated fund and other entities through which the Council controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this report.

The following entities have been included as part of the consolidated fund:

- General purpose operations

(ii) The trust fund

Council has no trust fund.

(iii) Interests in other entities

Subsidiaries

Council has no interest in any subsidiaries.

Joint arrangements

Council has no interest in any joint arrangements.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Associates

Council has no interest in any associates.

Unconsolidated structured entities

Council has no interest in any unconsolidated structured entities.

(d) Leases

All leases entered into by Council are reviewed and classified on inception date as either a finance lease or an operating lease.

Finance leases

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Council has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in borrowings.

Each lease payment is allocated between the liability outstanding and the recognition of a finance charge.

The interest element of the finance charge is costed to the income statement over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases is depreciated over the shorter of each leased asset's useful life and the lease term.

Operating Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases.

Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Lease income from operating leases is recognised in income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For Statement of Cash Flows (and Statement of Financial Position) presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes;

- cash on hand,
- deposits held at call with financial institutions,
- other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and
- bank overdrafts.

Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position but are incorporated into cash and cash equivalents for presentation of the Statement of Cash Flows.

(f) Investments and other financial assets

Council (in accordance with AASB 139) classifies each of its investments into one of the following categories for measurement purposes:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss,
- loans and receivables,
- held-to-maturity investments, and
- available-for-sale financial assets.

Each classification depends on the purpose or intention for which the investment was acquired and at the time it was acquired.

Management determines each investment classification at the time of initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss include financial assets that are 'held for trading'.

Castlerea Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

A financial asset is classified in the 'held for trading' category if it is acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term.

Assets in this category are primarily classified as current assets as they are primarily held for trading and/or are expected to be realised within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market.

They arise when the Council provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention (or in some cases ability) of selling the resulting receivable.

They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the balance sheet date, which are classified as non-current assets.

(iii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Council's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity.

In contrast to the 'loans and receivables' classification, these investments are generally quoted in an active market.

Held-to-maturity financial assets are included in non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the reporting date, which are classified as current assets.

(iv) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories.

Investments must be designated as available-for-sale if they do not have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments and management intends to hold them for the medium to long term.

Accordingly, this classification principally comprises marketable equity securities, but can include all

types of financial assets that could otherwise be classified in one of the other investment categories.

They are generally included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance sheet date or the term to maturity from the reporting date is less than 12 months.

Financial assets – reclassification

Council may choose to reclassify a non-derivative trading financial asset out of the held-for-trading category if the financial asset is no longer held for the purpose of selling it in the near term.

Financial assets other than loans and receivables are permitted to be reclassified out of the held-for-trading category only in rare circumstances arising from a single event that is unusual and highly unlikely to recur in the near term.

Council may also choose to reclassify financial assets that would meet the definition of loans and receivables out of the held-for-trading or available-for-sale categories if it has the intention and ability to hold these financial assets for the foreseeable future or until maturity at the date of reclassification.

Reclassifications are made at fair value as of the reclassification date. Fair value becomes the new cost or amortised cost as applicable, and no reversals of fair value gains or losses recorded before reclassification date are subsequently made.

Effective interest rates for financial assets reclassified to loans and receivables and held-to-maturity categories are determined at the reclassification date. Further increases in estimates of cash flows adjust effective interest rates prospectively.

General accounting and measurement of financial instruments:

(i) Initial recognition

Investments are initially recognised (and measured) at fair value, plus in the case of investments not at 'fair value through profit or loss', directly attributable transactions costs.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Purchases and sales of investments are recognised on trade-date – the date on which the Council commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

(ii) Subsequent measurement

Available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit and loss are subsequently carried at fair value.

Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets classified as 'fair value through profit or loss' category are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise.

Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of non-monetary securities classified as 'available-for-sale' are recognised in equity in the available-for-sale investments revaluation reserve.

When securities classified as 'available-for-sale' are sold or impaired, the accumulated fair value adjustments are included in the income statement as gains and losses from investment securities.

Impairment

Council assesses at each balance date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired.

A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

As a practical expedient, the group may measure impairment on the basis of an instrument's fair value using an observable market price.

(iii) Types of investments

Council has an approved Investment Policy in order to invest in accordance with (and to comply with) section 625 of the *Local Government Act* and s212 of the LG (General) Regulation 2005.

Investments are placed and managed in accordance with the policy and having particular regard to authorised investments prescribed under the Ministerial Local Government Investment Order.

Council maintains its Investment Policy in compliance with the Act and ensures that it or its representatives exercise care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in investing Council funds.

Council amended its policy following revisions to the Ministerial Local Government Investment Order arising from the Cole Inquiry recommendations. Certain investments that Council holds are no longer prescribed (eg. managed funds, CDOs, and equity linked notes), however they have been retained under grandfathering provisions of the Order. These will be disposed of when most financially advantageous to Council.

(g) Fair value estimation – financial instruments

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques.

Council uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date.

Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long-term debt instruments held.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

If the market for a financial asset is not active (and for unlisted securities), the Council establishes fair value by using valuation techniques.

These include reference to the fair values of recent arm's length transactions, involving the same instruments or other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models refined to reflect the issuer's specific circumstances.

The nominal value less estimated credit adjustments of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values.

The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Council for similar financial instruments.

(h) Receivables

Receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less any provision for impairment.

Receivables (excluding rates and annual charges) are generally due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

The collectibility of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts that are known to be uncollectible are written off in accordance with Council's policy.

A provision for impairment (i.e. an allowance account) relating to receivables is established when objective evidence shows that Council will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of each receivable.

The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Income Statement within other expenses.

When a receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes

uncollectible in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account.

Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the Income Statement.

(i) Inventories

(i) Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods in respect of business undertakings are all stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost comprises direct materials, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead expenditure, the latter being allocated on the basis of normal operating capacity.

Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Inventories held in respect of non-business undertakings have been valued at cost subject to adjustment for loss of service potential.

(ii) Land held for resale/capitalisation of borrowing costs

Land held for resale is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost is assigned by specific identification and includes the cost of acquisition, and development and borrowing costs during development.

When development is completed borrowing costs and other holding charges are expensed as incurred.

Borrowing costs included in the cost of land held for resale are those costs that would have been avoided if the expenditure on the acquisition and development of the land had not been made.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Borrowing costs incurred while active development is interrupted for extended periods are recognised as expenses.

(j) Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (I,PP&E)

Acquisition of assets

Council's non-current assets are continually revalued (over a 5-year period) in accordance with the fair valuation policy as mandated by the Office of Local Government.

At balance date, the following classes of I,PP&E were stated at their fair value:

- Operational Land (External Valuation)
- Buildings – Non Specialised (External Valuation)
- Plant and Equipment (as approximated by depreciated historical cost)

Initial recognition

On initial recognition, an asset's cost is measured at its fair value, plus all expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition.

Where settlement of any part of an asset's cash consideration is deferred, the amounts payable in the future are discounted to their present value as at the date of recognition (i.e. date of exchange) of the asset to arrive at fair value.

The discount rate used is the Council's incremental borrowing rate, being the rate at which a similar borrowing could be obtained from an independent financier under comparable terms and conditions.

Where infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets are acquired for no cost or for an amount other than cost, the assets are recognised in the financial statements at their fair value at acquisition date – being the amount that the asset could have been exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Subsequent costs

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Asset revaluations (including indexation)

In accounting for asset revaluations relating to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment:

- increases in the combined carrying amounts of asset classes arising on revaluation are credited to the asset revaluation reserve,
- to the extent that a net asset class increase reverses a decrease previously recognised via the profit or loss, then increase is first recognised in profit or loss,
- net decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset class are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset, with all other decreases charged to the Income Statement.

Water and sewerage network assets are indexed annually between full revaluations in accordance with the latest indices provided in the NSW Office of Water – Rates Reference Manual.

For all other assets, Council assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that a revalued asset's carrying amount may differ materially from that which would be determined if the asset were revalued at the reporting date.

If any such indication exists, Council determines the asset's fair value and revalues the asset to that amount.

Full revaluations are undertaken for all assets on a 5-year cycle.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Capitalisation thresholds

Items of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are not capitalised unless their cost of acquisition exceeds the following;

Land	
- council land	100% Capitalised

Plant & Equipment	
Office Furniture	> \$1,000
Office Equipment	> \$1,000
Other Plant & Equipment	> \$1,000

Buildings	
Building	
- construction/extensions	100% Capitalised
- renovations	> \$10,000
Other Structures	> \$2,000

Depreciation

Depreciation on Council's infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets is calculated using the straight-line method in order to allocate an asset's cost (net of residual values) over its estimated useful life.

Land is not depreciated.

Estimated useful lives for Council's I,PP&E include:

Plant & Equipment	
- Office Equipment	5 to 10 years
- Office furniture	10 to 20 years
- Computer Equipment	3 to 5 years
- Vehicles	5 to 8 years
- Heavy Plant/Road Making equip.	5 to 8 years
- Other plant and equipment	5 to 15 years
Buildings	
- Buildings : Depots	50 to 100 years

All asset residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted (if appropriate) at each reporting date.

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 – refer Note 1 (s) on asset impairment.

Disposal and derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in Council's Income Statement in the year the asset is derecognised.

(k) Land

Land (other than land under roads) is in accordance with Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the *Local Government Act (1993)* classified as either operational or community.

This classification of land is disclosed in Note 9 (a).

(l) Intangible assets

Council has not classified any assets as intangible.

(m) Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council.

While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

Representations are currently being sought across state and local government to develop a consistent accounting treatment for Crown Reserves across both tiers of government.

(n) Investment property

Council has no investment properties.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(o) Provisions for close down, restoration and for environmental clean-up costs – including tips and quarries

Council has no restoration provisions.

(p) Non-current assets (or disposal groups) 'held for sale' and discontinued operations

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) are classified as held for sale and stated at the lower of either (i) their carrying amount and (ii) fair value less costs to sell, if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

The exception to this is plant and motor vehicles, which are turned over on a regular basis. Plant and motor vehicles are retained in non-current assets under the classification of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – unless the assets are to be traded in after 30 June and the replacement assets were already purchased and accounted for as at 30 June.

For any assets or disposal groups classified as non-current assets 'held for sale', an impairment loss is recognised at any time when the assets carrying value is greater than its fair value less costs to sell.

Non-current assets 'held for sale' are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as 'held for sale'.

Non-current assets classified as 'held for sale' are presented separately from the other assets in the balance sheet.

A discontinued operation is a component of Council that has been disposed of or is classified as 'held for sale' and that represents a separate major line of business or geographical area of operations, is part of a single co-ordinated plan to dispose of such a line of business or area of operations, or is a subsidiary acquired exclusively with a view to resale.

The results of discontinued operations are presented separately on the face of the Income Statement.

(q) Impairment of assets

All Council's I,PP&E is subject to an annual assessment of impairment.

Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Where an asset is not held principally for cash-generating purposes (for example infrastructure assets) and would be replaced if the Council was deprived of it, then depreciated replacement cost is used as value in use, otherwise value in use is estimated by using a discounted cash flow model.

Non-financial assets (other than goodwill) that suffered a prior period impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Goodwill and other intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life and are not subject to amortisation are tested annually for impairment.

(r) Payables

These amounts represent liabilities and include goods and services provided to the Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid.

The amounts for goods and services are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(s) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred.

Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Amortisation results in any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount being recognised in the Income Statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are removed from the balance sheet when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired.

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.

(t) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed / except to the extent that they are incurred during the construction of qualifying assets.

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale.

(u) Provisions

Provisions for legal claims, service warranties and other like liabilities are recognised when:

- Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events,
- it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and
- the amount has been reliably estimated.

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole.

A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure

required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability.

The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

(v) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term obligations

Short-term employee benefit obligations include liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits), annual leave and vesting sick leave expected to be wholly settled within the 12 months after the reporting period.

Leave liabilities are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date with other short term employee benefit obligations disclosed under payables.

These provisions are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Liabilities for non-vesting sick leave are recognised at the time when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable, and accordingly no Liability has been recognised in these reports.

Wages and salaries, annual leave and vesting sick leave are all classified as current liabilities.

(ii) Other long-term obligations

The liability for all long service and annual leave in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date (which is not expected to be wholly settled within the 12 months after the reporting period) are recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

These liabilities are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made using the projected unit credit method.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Expected future payments are then discounted using market yields at the reporting date based on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match as closely as possible the estimated future cash outflows.

Due to the nature of when and how long service leave can be taken, all long service leave for employees with 4 or more years of service has been classified as current, as it has been deemed that Council does not have the unconditional right to defer settlement beyond 12 months – even though it is not anticipated that all employees with more than 4 years service (as at reporting date) will apply for and take their leave entitlements in the next 12 months.

(iii) Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death.

Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Defined benefit plans

A liability or asset in respect of defined benefit superannuation plans would ordinarily be recognised in the balance sheet, and measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date plus unrecognised actuarial gains (less unrecognised actuarial losses) less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date and any unrecognised past service cost.

The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments which arise from membership of the fund to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

However, when this information is not reliably available, Council can account for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its

obligations to defined contribution plans – i.e. as an expense when they become payable.

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named the 'Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B'.

This scheme has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for the purposes of AASB 119.

Sufficient information is not available to account for the Scheme as a defined benefit plan (in accordance with AASB 119) because the assets to the scheme are pooled together for all Councils.

The last valuation of the scheme was performed by Mr. Richard Boyfield FIAA on 24/02/2016 and covers the period ended 30/06/2015.

However the position is monitored annually and the actuary has estimated that as at 30 June 2016 the prior period deficit still exists.

Effective from 1 July 2009, employers are required to contribute additional contributions to assist in extinguishing this deficit.

The amount of employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense and disclosed as part of superannuation expenses at Note 4 (a) for the year ending 30 June 2016 was \$ 18,765.

The amount of additional contributions included in the total employer contribution advised above is \$ 15,010.

The share of this deficit that can be broadly attributed to Council is estimated to be in the order of \$32,000 as at 30 June 2016.

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils.

For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in these financial statements.

Council has, however, disclosed a contingent liability in Note 18 to reflect the possible obligation that may

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

arise should the scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

(iv) Employee benefit on-costs

Council has recognised at year end the aggregate on-cost liabilities arising from employee benefits, and in particular those on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities accrued as at 30/06/16.

(w) Self-insurance

Council does not self-insure.

(x) Allocation between current and non-current assets and liabilities

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is classified as current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled.

The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next 12 months, being the Council's operational cycle.

Exceptions

In the case of liabilities where Council 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 it is not expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

In the case of inventories that are 'held for trading', these are also classified as current even if not expected to be realised in the next 12 months.

(y) Taxes

The Council is exempt from both Commonwealth Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

Council does, however, have to comply with both Fringe Benefits Tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are all recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the revenue / expense.

Receivables and payables within the Statement of Financial Position are stated inclusive of any applicable GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from or payable to the ATO is included as a current asset or current liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

Operating cash flows within the Statement of Cash Flows are on a gross basis, i.e. they are inclusive of GST where applicable.

Investing and financing cash flows are treated on a net basis (where recoverable from the ATO), i.e. they are exclusive of GST. Instead, the GST component of investing and financing activity cash flows that are recoverable from or payable to the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from (or payable to) the ATO.

(z) New accounting standards and Interpretations issued (not yet effective)

Certain new (or amended) accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for reporting periods ending 30 June 2016.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Council has not adopted any of these standards early.

Apart from the AASB disclosures below, there are no other standards that are 'not yet effective' that are expected to have a material impact on Council in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

Council's assessment of the impact of upcoming new standards and interpretations that are likely to have an effect are set out below.

AASB 9 – Financial Instruments

AASB 9 replaces AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement and has an effective date for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 (and must be applied retrospectively).

The overriding impact of AASB 9 is to change the requirements for the classification, measurement and disclosures associated with financial assets and financial liabilities.

These requirements are designed to improve and simplify the approach for classification and measurement of financial assets compared with the requirements of AASB 139.

Under the new requirements the four current categories of financial assets stipulated in AASB 139 will be replaced with two measurement categories:

- fair value, and
- amortised cost (where financial assets will only be able to be measured at amortised cost when very specific conditions are met).

Council is yet to undertake a detailed assessment of the impact of AASB 9.

AASB 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers and associated amending standards

AASB 15 will replace AASB 118 which covers contracts for goods and services and AASB 111 which covers construction contracts.

AASB 15 will introduce a 5-step process for revenue recognition with the core principle of the new standard being that entities recognise revenue so as to depict the transfer of goods or services to

customers in amounts that reflect the consideration (that is, payment) to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.

The changes in revenue recognition requirements in AASB 15 may cause changes to accounting policies relating to the timing and amount of revenue recorded in the financial statements, as well as additional disclosures.

The effective date of this standard is for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018.

Council is yet to undertake a detailed assessment of the impact of AASB 15.

AASB ED 260 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The AASB previously issued exposure draft AASB ED 260 on Income of Not-for-Profit Entities in April 2015.

The exposure draft proposed specific not-for-profit entity requirements and guidance when applying the principles of AASB 15 to income from certain transactions.

Much of the material in AASB 1004 is expected to be replaced by material included in AASB ED 260. Specific revenue items that may considerably change are Grants and Contributions.

The most likely financial statement impact is the deferred recognition of Grants and Contributions (i.e. recognition as unearned revenue [liability]) until Council has met the associated performance obligation/s relating to the Grants or Contribution.

At this stage there is no specific date of release for a standard nor a date of applicability.

AASB16 – Leases

AASB 116 Leases replaces AASB 117 Leases and some associated lease-related Interpretations.

AASB 16 introduces a single lease accounting model (for lessees) that will require all leases to be accounted for on the balance sheet (ie. recognition of both a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease) for all leases with a term of more than 12 months unless the underlying assets are determined to be of 'low value'. There will also be detailed disclosure requirements for all lessees.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

The effective date of this standard is for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

Council is yet to undertake a detailed assessment of the accounting impacts from AASB 16. However, based on preliminary assessments, impacts from the first time adoption of the standard are likely to include:

- a significant increase in lease assets and financial liabilities recognised on the balance sheet,
- a reduction in reported equity as the carrying amount of lease assets will reduce more quickly than the carrying amount of lease liabilities,
- lower operating cash outflows and higher financing cash flows in the statement of cash flows as principal repayments on all lease liabilities will now be included in financing activities rather than operating activities.

AASB2015-6 – Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities

From 1 July 2016, AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures will apply to Council.

This means that Council will be required to disclose information about related parties and Council transactions with those related parties.

Related parties will more than likely include the Mayor, Councillors and certain Council staff. In addition, the close family members of those people and any organisations that they control or are associated with will be classified as related parties (and fall under the related party reporting requirements).

AASB 2014 – 10 Sale or Contribution of Assets Between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture

The amendments address an acknowledged inconsistency between the requirements in AASB 10 and those in AASB 128 (2011), in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture.

The main consequence of the amendments is that a full gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves a business (whether it is housed in a subsidiary or not).

A partial gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves assets that do not constitute a business, even if these assets are housed in a subsidiary.

The effective date of this standard is for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018.

This standard will only impact Council where there has been a sale or contribution of assets between the entity and the associate/joint venture.

(aa) Rounding of amounts

Unless otherwise indicated, amounts in the financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars.

(ab) Comparative figures

To ensure comparability with the current reporting period's figures, some comparative period line items and amounts may have been reclassified or individually reported for the first time within these financial statements and/or the notes.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 2(a). Council functions/activities – financial information

Functions/activities	Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions/activities. Details of these functions/activities are provided in Note 2(b).												
	Income from continuing operations			Expenses from continuing operations			Operating result from continuing operations			Grants included in income from continuing operations		Total assets held (current & non-current)	
	Original budget 2016	Actual 2016	Actual 2015	Original budget 2016	Actual 2016	Actual 2015	Original budget 2016	Actual 2016	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
Governance	–	–	–	18	20	29	(18)	(20)	(29)	–	–	–	–
Administration	18	32	12	229	200	224	(211)	(168)	(212)	–	–	–	–
Environment	1,022	1,021	1,075	655	646	854	367	375	221	313	420	657	582
Total functions and activities	1,040	1,053	1,087	902	866	1,107	138	187	(20)	313	420	657	582
Share of gains/(losses) in associates and joint ventures (using the equity method)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
General purpose income ¹	3	6	268	–	–	–	3	6	268	–	–	–	–
Operating result from continuing operations	1,043	1,059	1,355	902	866	1,107	141	193	248	313	420	657	582

1. Includes: rates and annual charges (incl. ex-gratia), untied general purpose grants and unrestricted interest and investment income.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 2(b). Council functions/activities – component descriptions

Details relating to the Council's functions/activities as reported in Note 2(a) are as follows:

GOVERNANCE

Includes costs relating to Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, members' fees and expenses, subscriptions to local authority associations, meetings of Council and policy-making committees, public disclosure (e.g. GIPA), and legislative compliance.

ADMINISTRATION

Includes corporate support and other support services, engineering works, and any Council policy compliance.

ENVIRONMENT

Includes noxious plants and insect/vermin control; other environmental protection; solid waste management, including domestic waste; other waste management; other sanitation; and garbage, street cleaning, drainage and stormwater management.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 3. Income from continuing operations

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(a) Rates and annual charges			
Nil			
(b) User charges and fees			
Specific user charges (per s.502 – specific 'actual use' charges)			
Nil			
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s.608)			
Private works – section 67		22	7
Weeds certificates		6	5
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		28	12
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s.608))			
Sundry sales		4	–
Total fees and charges – other		4	–
TOTAL USER CHARGES AND FEES		32	12
(c) Interest and investment revenue (including losses)			
Interest			
– Interest earned on investments (interest and coupon payment income)		6	6
TOTAL INTEREST AND INVESTMENT REVENUE		6	6
Interest revenue is attributable to:			
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:			
General Council cash and investments		6	6
Total interest and investment revenue recognised		6	6
(d) Other revenues			
Insurance claim recoveries		12	7
Plant income		142	125
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE		154	132

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 3. Income from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2016 Operating	2015 Operating	2016 Capital	2015 Capital
(e) Grants				
General purpose (untied)				
Nil				
Specific purpose				
Noxious weeds	313	400	–	–
Other	–	20	–	–
Total specific purpose	313	420	–	–
Total grants	313	420	–	–
Grant revenue is attributable to:				
– State funding	313	420	–	–
	313	420	–	–
(f) Contributions				
Developer contributions:				
(s93 & s94 – EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA):				
Nil				
Other contributions:				
Hudson Pear contributions	40	37	–	–
Other councils – joint works/services	498	486	–	–
Total other contributions	538	523	–	–
Total contributions	538	523	–	–
TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	851	943	–	–

\$ '000	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
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(g) Restrictions relating to grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on condition that they be spent in a specified manner:

Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	–	30
Add: grants and contributions recognised in the current period but not yet spent:	–	–
Less: grants and contributions recognised in a previous reporting period now spent:	–	(30)
Net increase (decrease) in restricted assets during the period	–	(30)
Unexpended and held as restricted assets	–	–

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(a) Employee benefits and on-costs			
Salaries and wages		514	519
Employee termination costs (where material – other than vested leave paid)		–	14
Travel expenses		–	1
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)		65	173
Superannuation		42	53
Superannuation – defined contribution plans		–	1
Workers' compensation insurance		15	8
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)		9	12
Protective clothing		2	–
<u>TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS EXPENSED</u>		<u>647</u>	<u>781</u>
Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end		6	6

(b) Borrowing costs

Nil

(c) Materials and contracts

Auditors remuneration ⁽¹⁾	7	6
Depot expense	11	15
Purchases – general	–	35
Other	–	21
<u>TOTAL MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>77</u>

Auditor remuneration

During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the Council's Auditor:

Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements: Council's Auditor

Remuneration for audit and other assurance services

Total Auditor remuneration

7	6
<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	Notes	Impairment costs		Depreciation/amortisation	
		Actual 2016	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(d) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment					
Infrastructure:					
– Buildings – non-specialised		–	–	7	7
TOTAL DEPRECIATION AND IMPAIRMENT COSTS EXPENSED		–	–	7	7

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(e) Other expenses			
Advertising		1	3
Bad and doubtful debts		–	39
Bank charges		–	1
Computer software charges		2	1
Member expenses – chairperson's fee		5	5
Member expenses – member's fees		30	30
Member's expenses (incl. chairperson) – other (excluding fees above)		4	3
Insurance		49	57
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		4	4
Postage		–	1
Printing and stationery		2	1
Telephone and communications		7	8
Plant expenses		79	74
Other		2	2
Other		9	13
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES		194	242

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 5. Gains or losses from the disposal of assets

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
Property (excl. investment property)			
Proceeds from disposal – property		–	182
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off		–	(89)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		–	93
Plant and equipment			
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		16	169
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		16	169
Operational land			
Proceeds from disposal – Operational land		–	63
Less: carrying amount of Operational land assets sold/written off		–	(63)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		–	–
NET GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		16	262

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 6a. – Cash assets and Note 6b. – investments

\$ '000	Notes	2016 Actual Current	2016 Actual Non-current	2015 Actual Current	2015 Actual Non-current
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 6a)					
Cash on hand and at bank		226	–	391	–
Cash-equivalent assets ¹					
– Short-term deposits		112	–	–	–
Total cash and cash equivalents		338	–	391	–
Investments (Note 6b)					
Nil					
TOTAL CASH ASSETS, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS		338	–	391	–

¹ Those investments where time to maturity (from date of purchase) is < 3 mths.

Cash, cash equivalents and investments were
classified at year end in accordance with
AASB 139 as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents a. 'At fair value through the profit and loss'	338	–	391	–
---	-----	---	-----	---

Note 6c. Restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments – details

Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	338	–	391	–
attributable to:				
Internal restrictions (refer below)	112	–	112	–
Unrestricted	226	–	279	–
	338	–	391	–

2016 \$ '000	Opening balance	Transfers to restrictions	Transfers from restrictions	Closing balance
-----------------	--------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------

Details of restrictions

Internal restrictions				
Plant and vehicle replacement	9	–	–	9
Employees leave entitlement	103	–	–	103
Total internal restrictions	112	–	–	112
TOTAL RESTRICTIONS	112	–	–	112

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 7. Receivables

\$ '000	Notes	2016		2015	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Purpose					
Government grants and subsidies		82	–	54	–
Net GST receivable		34	–	–	–
Total		116	–	54	–
Less: provision for impairment					
Nil					
<u>TOTAL NET RECEIVABLES</u>		<u>116</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>–</u>
Externally restricted receivables					
Nil					
Internally restricted receivables					
Nil					
Unrestricted receivables		116	–	54	–
TOTAL NET RECEIVABLES		116	–	54	–

Notes on debtors above:

Please refer to Note 15 for issues concerning credit risk and fair value disclosures.

Note 8. Inventories and other assets

(a) Inventories

(i) Inventories at cost					
Stores and materials		12	–	8	–
Total inventories at cost		12	–	8	–
(ii) Inventories at net realisable value (NRV)					
Nil					
<u>TOTAL INVENTORIES</u>		<u>12</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>–</u>

(b) Other assets

Nil

Externally restricted assets

There are no restrictions applicable to the above assets.

Castlerea Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 9a. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	as at 30/6/2015					Asset movements during the reporting period		as at 30/6/2016				
	At cost	At fair value	Accumulated depreciation	impairment	Carrying value	Additions new assets	Depreciation expense	At cost	At fair value	Accumulated depreciation	impairment	Carrying value
\$ '000												
Plant and equipment	–	331	331	–	–	70	–	357	–	287	–	70
Office equipment	–	7	6	–	1	–	–	7	–	7	–	–
Land:												
– Operational land	–	4	–	–	4	–	–	4	–	–	–	4
– Buildings – non-specialised	–	287	163	–	124	–	(7)	287	–	170	–	117
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIP.	–	629	500	–	129	70	(7)	655	–	464	–	191

Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

Refer to Note 27. Fair value measurement for information regarding the fair value of other infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 9b. Externally restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

\$ '000

Council has no externally restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Note 9c. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – current year impairments

Council has recognised no impairment losses during the reporting period nor reversed any prior period losses.

Note 10a. Payables, borrowings and provisions

\$ '000	Notes	2016		2015	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Payables					
Goods and services – operating expenditure		–	–	4	–
Payments received in advance		–	–	3	–
Accrued expenses:					
– Other expenditure accruals		19	–	51	–
Total payables		19	–	58	–
Borrowings					
Loans – unsecured		50	–	150	–
Total borrowings		50	–	150	–
Provisions					
Employee benefits:					
Annual leave		39	–	34	–
Long service leave		119	–	103	–
Total provisions		158	–	137	–
<u>TOTAL PAYABLES, BORROWINGS</u>					
<u>AND PROVISIONS</u>		227	–	345	–

(i) Liabilities relating to restricted assets

There are no restricted assets (external or internal) applicable to the above liabilities.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 10a. Payables, borrowings and provisions (continued)

	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
\$ '000		

(ii) Current liabilities not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

The following liabilities, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.

Provisions – employees benefits	50	50
	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>

Note 10b. Description of and movements in provisions

Class of provision	2015	2016				
	Opening balance as at 1/7/15	Additional provisions	Decrease due to payments	Remeasurement effects due to discounting	Unused amounts reversed	Closing balance as at 30/6/16
Annual leave	34	29	(24)	–	–	39
Long service leave	103	16	–	–	–	119
TOTAL	137	45	(24)	–	–	158

- a. Employees leave entitlements and on-costs represents those benefits accrued and payable and an estimate of those that will become payable in the future as a result of past service.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 11. Statement of cash flows – additional information

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(a) Reconciliation of cash assets			
Total cash and cash equivalent assets	6a	338	391
Less bank overdraft	10	–	–
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows		338	391

**(b) Reconciliation of net operating result
to cash provided from operating activities**

Net operating result from Income Statement		193	248
Adjust for non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation		7	7
Net losses/(gains) on disposal of assets		(16)	(262)
+/- Movement in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:			
Decrease/(increase) in receivables		(62)	(3)
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		(4)	(5)
Increase/(decrease) in payables		(4)	4
Increase/(decrease) in other accrued expenses payable		(32)	44
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		(3)	3
Increase/(decrease) in employee leave entitlements		21	(119)
Net cash provided from/(used in) operating activities from the Statement of Cash Flows		100	(83)

(c) Non-cash investing and financing activities
Nil**(d) Financing arrangements**
Nil

Note 12. Commitments for expenditure

(a) Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

Nil

(b) Finance lease commitments

Nil

(c) Operating lease commitments (non-cancellable)

Nil

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 13a(i). Statement of performance measurement – indicators (consolidated)

\$ '000	Amounts 2016	Indicator 2016	Prior periods 2015 2014	
Local government industry indicators – consolidated				
1. Operating performance ratio				
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses	177	16.97%	-1.28%	-11.44%
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding capital grants and contributions	1,043			
2. Own source operating revenue ratio				
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding all grants and contributions	192	18.41%	13.72%	17.78%
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾	1,043			
3. Unrestricted current ratio				
Current assets less all external restrictions ⁽²⁾	466	2.63x	1.54x	1.32x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities ^(3, 4)	177			
4. Debt service cover ratio				
Operating result ⁽¹⁾ before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation	184	1.84x	-0.07x	0.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	100			
5. Cash expense cover ratio				
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	338	4.15 mths	3.7 mths	1.3 mths
Payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	82			

Notes

⁽¹⁾ Excludes fair value adjustments and reversal of revaluation decrements, net gain/(loss) on sale of assets and the net share of interests in joint ventures and associates.

⁽²⁾ Refer Notes 6-8 inclusive.

Also excludes any real estate and land for resale not expected to be sold in the next 12 months.

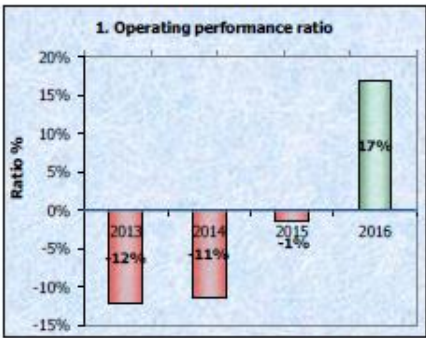

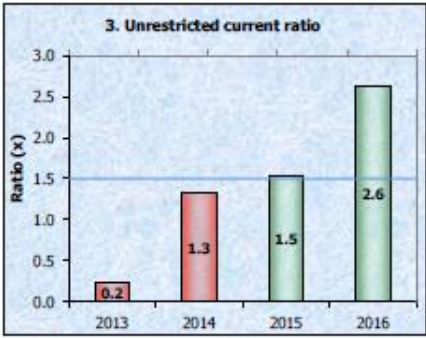
⁽³⁾ Refer to Note 10(a).

⁽⁴⁾ Refer to Note 10(a)(ii) – excludes all payables and provisions not expected to be paid in the next 12 months (incl. ELE).

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

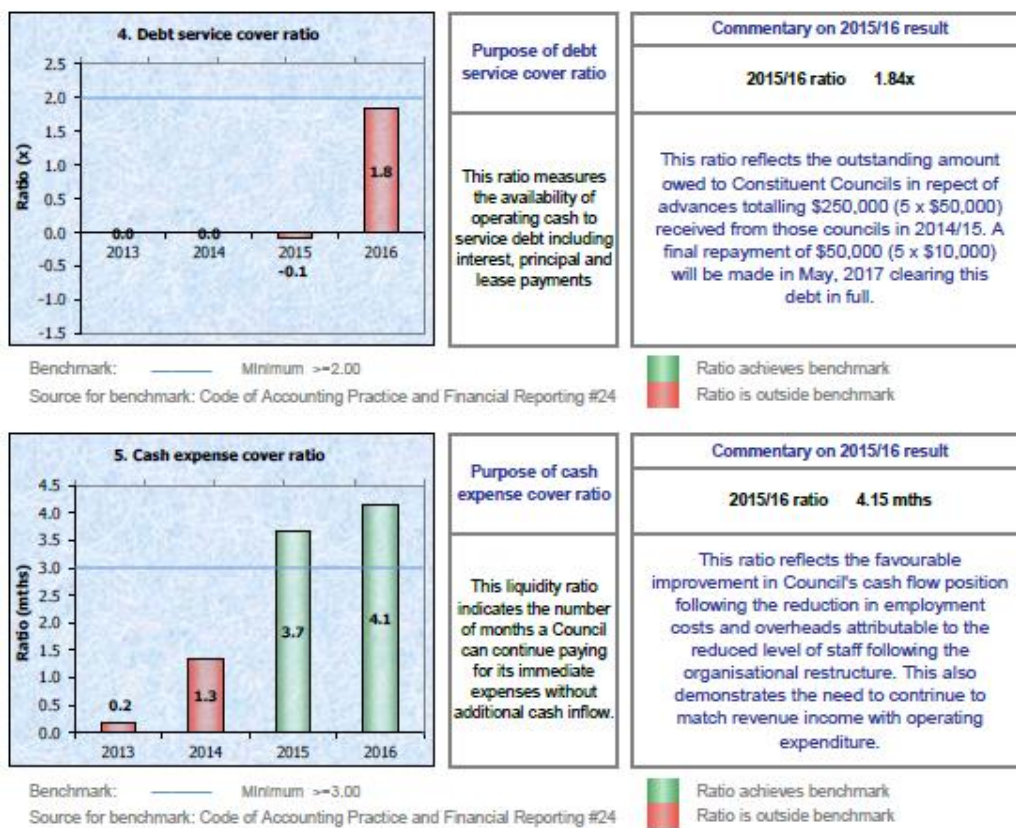
Note 13a(ii). Local government industry indicators – graphs (consolidated)

<p>1. Operating performance ratio</p>  <p>Benchmark: — Minimum $\geq 0.00\%$ Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #24</p>	<p>Purpose of operating performance ratio</p> <p>This ratio measures Council's achievement of containing operating expenditure within operating revenue.</p>	<p>Commentary on 2015/16 result</p> <p>2015/16 ratio 16.97%</p> <p>Council's operating performance ratio improvement is a direct reflection of the flow on effect of the reduction in employee overheads following the introduction of a new organisational structure in 2013/14.</p>
<p>2. Own source operating revenue ratio</p>  <p>Benchmark: — Minimum $\geq 60.00\%$ Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #24</p>	<p>Purpose of own source operating revenue ratio</p> <p>This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions.</p>	<p>Commentary on 2015/16 result</p> <p>2015/16 ratio 18.41%</p> <p>Council's Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio will always be adversely impacted by the fact that Constitutional Council contributions are not taken into account in calculating this ratio. Were they to be included then this ratio would be in the vicinity of 80% and therefore satisfy T-Corp benchmarks.</p>
<p>3. Unrestricted current ratio</p>  <p>Benchmark: — Minimum ≥ 1.50 Source for benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #24</p>	<p>Purpose of unrestricted current ratio</p> <p>To assess the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council.</p>	<p>Commentary on 2015/16 result</p> <p>2015/16 ratio 2.63x</p> <p>Council's Unrestricted Current Ratio has been favourably impacted by Council's recent organisational restructure and realisation of surplus property and plant which was surplus to requirements resulting in an increase in available working capital to provide funds for Council's short term obligations.</p>

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 13a(ii). Local government industry indicators – graphs (consolidated)



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 14. Investment properties

\$ '000

Council has not classified any land or buildings as 'investment properties'.

Note 15. Financial risk management

Risk management

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

A comparison by category of the carrying amounts and fair values of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities recognised in the financial statements is presented below.

	Carrying value		Fair value	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	338	391	338	391
Receivables	116	54	116	54
Total financial assets	454	445	454	445
Financial liabilities				
Payables	19	55	19	55
Loans/advances	50	150	50	150
Total financial liabilities	69	205	69	205

Fair value is determined as follows:

- **Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables** – are estimated to be the carrying value that approximates market value.
- **Borrowings and held-to-maturity investments** – are based upon estimated future cash flows discounted by the current mkt interest rates applicable to assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles, unless quoted market prices are available.
- Financial assets classified (i) 'at fair value through profit and loss' or (ii) 'available-for-sale' – are based upon quoted market prices (in active markets for identical investments) at the reporting date or independent valuation.

Refer to Note 27. Fair value measurement for information regarding the fair value of financial assets and liabilities.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Minister's investment order. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance.

The risks associated with the investments held are:

- Price risk – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether there changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- Interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- Credit risk – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

Council also seeks advice from independent advisers before placing any funds in cash equivalents and investments.

(a) Market risk – price risk and interest rate risk

The following represents a summary of the sensitivity of Council's Income Statement and accumulated surplus (for the reporting period) due to a change in either the price of a financial asset or the interest rates applicable.

It is assumed that the change in interest rates would have been constant throughout the reporting period.

	Increase of values/rates		Decrease of values/rates	
	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
2016				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	3	3	(3)	(3)
2015				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	3	3	(3)	(3)

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

The major risk associated with these receivables is credit risk – the risk that debts due and payable to Council may not be repaid in full.

Council manages this risk by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. It also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through incentives.

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to secure a charge over the land relating to the debts – that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages the payment of debt.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required and carries out credit checks on most non-rate debtors.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

A profile of Council's receivables credit risk at balance date follows:

		2016	2015
		Other receivables	Other receivables
(i) Ageing of receivables – %			
Current (not yet overdue)		49%	100%
Overdue		51%	0%
		<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>
(ii) Ageing of receivables – value			
Rates and annual charges	Other receivables	Other receivables	Other receivables
Current	Current	76	54
1 – 2 years overdue	30 – 60 days overdue	40	–
		<u>116</u>	<u>54</u>

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk – the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels and maintaining an adequate cash buffer.

Payment terms can (in extenuating circumstances) also be extended and overdraft facilities utilised as required.

The contractual undiscounted cash outflows (ie. principal and interest) of Council's payables and borrowings are set out in the maturity table below:

\$ '000	Subject to no maturity	≤ 1 Year	1-2 Yrs	payable in:				Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
				2-3 Yrs	3-4 Yrs	4-5 Yrs	> 5 Yrs		
2016									
Trade/other payables	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	19	19
Loans and advances	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	50	50
Total financial liabilities	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	69	69
2015									
Trade/other payables	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	55	55
Loans and advances	-	100	50	-	-	-	-	150	150
Total financial liabilities	-	155	50	-	-	-	-	205	205

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs and debt servicing requirements. Council manages this risk through the diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The following interest rates were applicable to Council's borrowings at balance date:

	2016		2015	
	Carrying value	Average interest rate	Carrying value	Average interest rate
Trade/other payables	19	0.00%	55	0.00%
Loans and advances – fixed interest rate	50	0.00%	150	0.00%
	69		205	

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 16. Material budget variations

\$ '000

Council's original financial budget for 15/16 was adopted by the Council on 29 June 2015.

While the Income Statement included in this General Purpose Financial Report must disclose the original budget adopted by Council, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so that it is able to manage the various variations between actuals versus budget that invariably occur throughout the year.

This note sets out the details of material variations between Council's original budget and its actual results for the year as per the Income Statement – even though such variations may have been adjusted for during each quarterly budget review.

Note that for variations* of budget to actual :

Material variations represent those variances that amount to 10% or more of the original budgeted figure.

F = Favourable budget variation, U = Unfavourable budget variation

\$ '000	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2016 Variance*	
REVENUES				
Rates and annual charges Council is not a rating authority.	–	–	–	0% F
User charges and fees Reflects additional income from user fees and charges.	18	32	14	78% F
Interest and investment revenue Reflects additional income from interest on cash and investment reserves as a result of improved cash flow.	3	6	3	100% F
Other revenues Reflects increased income from plant operations.	100	154	54	54% F
Operating grants and contributions reflects the ongoing reduction over the next three years for the Weeds Action Plan Grants.	907	851	(56)	(6%) U
Capital grants and contributions Not applicable to current County Council activities.	–	–	–	0% F
Net gains from disposal of assets Reflects the profit on the sale of plant as part of Council's Plant Replacement Programme.	15	16	1	7% F
Joint ventures and associates - net profits Council is not involved in any joint ventures.	–	–	–	0% F

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 16. Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2016 Variance*		
EXPENSES					
Employee benefits and on-costs	675	647	28	4%	F
This ratio reflects savings in employment overheads.					
Borrowing costs	—	—	—	0%	F
Councils advances from its Constituent Councils is on an 'interest free' basis.					
Materials and contracts	20	18	2	10%	F
Reflects a small saving in materials including chemicals purchased on a bulk basis from local suppliers.					
Depreciation and amortisation	7	7	—	0%	F
The level of depreciation is low because of the age of existing plant. As plant replacement is made in the coming years.					
Impairment expenses	—	—	—	0%	F
Council buildings require little or no ongoing maintenance.					
Other expenses	200	194	6	3%	F
This item includes plant operating expenses, including major repairs, which are decreasing as new plant items are acquired.					
Net losses from disposal of assets	—	—	—	0%	F
Council has achieved a profit from the progressive sale of older plant items.					
Joint ventures and associates – net losses	—	—	—	0%	F
Council is not involved with any joint ventures at present.					
Operating result from discontinued operations	—	—	—	0%	F
No operations have been discontinued.					

Budget variations relating to Council's Cash Flow Statement include:

Cash flows from operating activities	213	100	(113)	(53.1%)	U
Cash flows from investing activities	(182)	(53)	129	(70.9%)	F
Cash flows from financing activities	(100)	(100)	—	0.0%	F

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 17. Statement of Developer Contributions

\$ '000

Council currently has no S94 Developer Contribution Plans or S94 Funds on hand from prior years.

Note 18. Contingencies and other assets/liabilities not recognised

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED:

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council participates in an employer-sponsored defined benefit superannuation scheme, and makes contributions as determined by the superannuation scheme's trustees.

Member councils bear responsibility of ensuring there are sufficient funds available to pay out the required benefits as they fall due.

The schemes most recent full actuarial review indicated that the net assets of the scheme were not sufficient to meet the accrued benefits of the schemes defined benefit member category with member councils required to make significantly higher contributions in future years.

The Local Government Superannuation Scheme however is unable to provide Council with an accurate estimate of its share of the net deficit and accordingly Council has not recorded any net liability from its defined benefit scheme obligations in accordance with AASB 119.

Future contributions made to the defined benefit scheme to rectify the net deficit position will be recognised as an expense when they become payable – similar to the accounting for defined contributions plans.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30/6 this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 18. Contingencies and other assets/liabilities not recognised (continued)

\$ '000

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED (continued):

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

Note 19. Interests in other entities

Council has no interest in any controlled entities, joint arrangements or associates.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 20. Retained earnings, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
(a) Retained earnings			
Movements in retained earnings were as follows:			
Balance at beginning of year (from previous years audited accounts)		53	(333)
a. Net operating result for the year		193	248
b. Transfers between equity		–	138
Balance at end of the reporting period		246	53

(b) Revaluation reserves

(i) Reserves are represented by:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve	184	184
Total	184	184

(ii) Reconciliation of movements in reserves:

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve		
– Opening balance	184	322
– Transfer to retained earnings for asset disposals	–	(138)
– Balance at end of year	184	184
TOTAL VALUE OF RESERVES	184	184

(iii) Nature and purpose of reserves

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve
– The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments/decrements of non-current asset values due to their revaluation.

(c) Correction of error/s relating to a previous reporting period

Council made no correction of errors during the current reporting period.

(d) Voluntary changes in accounting policies

Council made no voluntary changes in any accounting policies during the year.

Note 21. Financial result and financial position by fund

Council utilises only a general fund for its operations.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 22. 'Held for sale' non-current assets and disposal groups

\$ '000

Council did not classify any non-current assets or disposal groups as 'held for sale'.

Note 23. Events occurring after the reporting date

Events that occur between the end of the reporting period (30 June 2016) and the date when the financial statements are 'authorised for issue' have been taken into account in preparing these statements.

Council has adopted the date of receipt of the Auditors' Report as the applicable 'authorised for issue' date relating to these General Purpose Financial Statements.

Accordingly, the 'authorised for issue' date is 28/10/16.

Events that occur after the reporting period represent one of two types:

(i) Events that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the reporting period

These financial statements (and the figures therein) incorporate all 'adjusting events' that provided evidence of conditions that existed at 30 June 2016.

(ii) Events that provide evidence of conditions that arose after the reporting period

These financial statements (and figures therein) do not incorporate any 'non-adjusting events' that have occurred after 30 June 2016 and which are only indicative of conditions that arose after 30 June 2016.

Council is unaware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

Note 24. Discontinued operations

Council has not classified any of its operations as 'discontinued'.

Note 25. Intangible assets

Intangible assets represent identifiable non-monetary assets without physical substance.

Council is unaware of any control over intangible assets that warrant recognition in the financial statements, including either internally generated and developed assets or purchased assets.

Note 26. Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration liabilities

Council has no outstanding obligations to make, restore, rehabilitate or reinstate any of its assets/operations.

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Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 27. Fair value measurement

\$ '000

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

(1) The following table presents all assets and liabilities that have been measured and recognised at fair values:

Fair values:		Fair value measurement hierarchy			Total
2016	Date of latest valuation	Level 1 Quoted prices in active mks	Level 2 Significant observable inputs	Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs	
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Office Equipment	30/6/15	—	—	—	—
Operational Land	30/08/15	—	4	—	4
Buildings Non-specialised	30/08/15	—	117	—	117
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		—	121	—	121
2015					
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Office Equipment	30/08/15	—	1	—	1
Operational Land	30/08/15	—	4	—	4
Buildings Non-specialised	30/08/15	—	124	—	124
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		—	129	—	129

(2) Transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies

During the year, there were no transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies for recurring fair value measurements.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 28. Council information and contact details

Principal place of business:

77 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Contact details

Mailing address:

PO Box 664
WALGETT NSW 2832

Opening hours:

8.15 am to 4.30 pm
Monday to Friday

Telephone: 02 6828 1399

Facsimile: 20 6828 1608

Internet: <http://www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au>

Email: mail@cmcc.nsw.gov.au

Officers

GENERAL MANAGER

Mr Don Ramsland

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Mr Don Ramsland

PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Don Ramsland

AUDITORS

Mr Jeff Shanks
Luka Group
2 River Street
DUBBO. NSW. 2830

Elected members

CHAIRPERSON

Clr Noel Kinsey

MEMBERS

Clr Robert Greenaway
Clr Ian Woodcock
Clr Doug Batten
Clr Greg Peart
Clr Peter Shinton
Clr Murray Coe
Clr Michael Webb
Clr Don Schieb
Clr Tony Van Lubeck

Other information

ABN: 89 539 779 958

Annual Report Additional Information

As per section 217 *Additional information for inclusion in Annual Report* under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and for the purpose of section 428(4) of the Local Government Act 1993, Castlereagh Macquarie County Council makes the following declarations:

(a) Overseas Visits

No councillor, staff member or other persons undertook overseas visits representing the County Council during 2015/2016.

(a1) Councillor Disclosures

The County Council made no reimbursement or provision of services to Councillors during 2015/2016 for the following:

- (i) Office Equipment;
- (ii) Telephone Calls;
- (iii) Attendance at conferences and seminars;
- (iv) Training and skill development;
- (v) Interstate visits;
- (vi) Overseas visits;
- (vii) Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor in the performance of their civic duties;
- (viii) Expenses involved in the care of a child of, or immediate family of a Councillor to allow the Councillor to undertake their civic functions.

(a2) Contracts

No employment contracts were awarded during the 2015/2016 period.

(a3) Legal Proceedings

The County Council was not involved in any legal proceeding during 2015/2016.

(a4) Subsidised Private Works

The County Council did not resolve to carry out work on private lands that was either fully or partly subsidised by the County Council as per section 67 of the Local Government Act 1993 in 2015/2016.

(a5) Contributions Granted

Council made no grants in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act in 2015/2016.

(a6) External Bodies Delegations

No external bodies were delegated to exercise any functions of the County Council during 2015/2016.

(a7) Business Controlling Interest

The County Council held no controlling interest in any other body during 2015/2016.

(a8) Partnership Participation

The County Council did not participate with any other bodies during 2015/2016.

(a9) Equal Employment Opportunity

In accordance with Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Plan, all staff received training in the principals of Equal Employment Opportunity. Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy was reviewed on 27 June 2016.

(b) General Manager Remuneration for the 2015/2016 period:

- (i) The total value of the General Manager's salary component was \$22,032.
- (ii) No bonus payments, performance payments or other payments were made to the General Manager
- (iii) There were no non-cash benefits received by the General Manager
- (iv) The County Council payed no fringe benefits tax

(c) Senior Staff Remuneration

The County Council employs no other senior members of staff other than the General Manager.