

# Annual Report 2017



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Wimmera Development Association

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# Chairmans Report



On behalf of the Wimmera Development Association Board of Management I am pleased to present the 2016/2017 Annual Report.

The Wimmera Development Association Board of Management is pleased with the continuing efforts of the WDA staff, local governments and partnering organisations that have put a tremendous amount of time and energy into the future of the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

I am gratified that each of the Wimmera Southern Mallee Councils has confirmed their ongoing support to the WDA with a commitment to ongoing funding for the next three years. This will ensure that the work of WDA in supporting the economic development of the region will continue. The financial viability of WDA relies heavily on local government contributions and as can be seen from this year's financial reports we are able to leverage these contributions to explore and access a range of other funding to undertake the many programs and services that we deliver.

The Wimmera Southern Mallee bounced back from the previous dry seasonal conditions, emerging with a bumper crop that looks set to continue after indications of a good crop for this coming season.

We continue to rely heavily on a productive agricultural sector however we are seeing growth in the human services and support areas that reflect the needs of an aging population. It is important therefore that we look at opportunities to diversify our economic base.

A number of projects undertaken during the year provide an indication of the direction that this diversification may take.

The continued progress on the **Pulse Protein Project** is suggesting that there are other ways to add value to the crops grown within the region. The next 12 months will tell us whether or not this is a viable long term opportunity.

Tourism initiatives are also being pursued with support of the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership (WSMRP) selecting tourism as one of its top five priorities for the area. WDA has steered the **Wimmera & Grampians Indigenous Tourism Feasibility Study**, the **Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure, Business And Master Plan** and of particular significance the **WSM Socio-Economic Value of Recreational & Environmental Water project**. Each of these projects suggest that there is significant scope for us to expand our commercial and industrial base through new tourism related initiatives based on the wealth of natural assets in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

This year WDA has assisted the WSMRP to progress the **Network Grains Centre of Excellence, Regional Tourism, Information Technology, Mobile Black Spots, and Local Government Sustainability** priorities set by the Partnership during the year. In addition, the launch of the "**Western Rail**" campaign to improve public transport and bring passenger rail back to the Wimmera is fully supported by WDA both through our membership on the steering group and also with links on the WDA website.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Board of Management members for all they have contributed to our organisation during the year. The key to our success is due, in part, to the range of skills and experience of all those involved, drawing on information and resources from Councils and regional groups as required.

Our close working relationships with the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership, GWMWater, Wimmera Uniting Care, Wimmera CMA, Federation University and regionally based government agencies such as DEDJTR, DELWP and RDV share our vision for the region, acting as advocates and actively collaborating to build the social, economic and environmental assets we need for a sustainable future.

I would also like to extend many thanks to Rowly and Judy Paterson of ACE Radio and The Weekly Advertiser who continue to provide us with ongoing support for many regional activities.

A final word of thanks to the Executive Director, Ralph Kenyon, and staff of WDA and to the Finance Team at the Horsham Rural City Council who have contributed to another successful year for the Wimmera Development Association.

Cr Kevin Erwin  
Chairman

# Executive Directors Message



I am pleased to report that WDA has completed another successful period of cooperation and support to the Wimmera Southern Mallee communities. Buoyed by a successful agricultural harvest brought about by an end to the dry seasonal conditions the region has demonstrated its optimism and has made progress on a number of fronts.

The State Government initiative to form the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership (WSMRP) has provided a focus for local and state governments in contributing to the regional priorities established following the WSM Regional Assembly and input from across the community. Five priorities were identified and WDA has been an active participant in efforts to address each of these.

The five priority areas identified are;

- Early childhood development to ensure that six year olds in the WSM are as healthy, educated and life ready as their six year old metropolitan counterparts
- Securing vital community infrastructure to enhance the liveability of the region
- Establish a Networked Grains Centre of Excellence (NGCE) to capitalise on the skills and expertise within the agricultural sector
- Develop a thriving regional visitor economy that attracts growing visitor numbers and increased length of stay year on year, by providing diverse, high quality visitor experiences, and
- A digital and telecommunications network that completely connects regional & rural communities - ensuring the WSM is a productive

and competitive place to do business, and a healthy and safe place to live.

These priorities are consistent with the direction and scope of the WDA Strategic Plan and it is no surprise that WDA has been asked to take a lead in project development for the NGCE, tourism and the digital and telecommunications areas.

Further progress will be made in the coming months on each of these priorities with continued support from the Victorian Government. It is pleasing to see the willing contributions of a wide range of stakeholders in responding to these priorities.

WDA has developed and participated in a number of significant projects during the year including;

- Assisting the Bureau of Meteorology to identify potential sites for the promised **Wimmera Weather Radar**. The expectation is for the Weather Radar to be in place by mid-2018.
- Established a Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Group, in partnership with Barengi Gadjin, LGAs and the Wimmera CMA. Through a project, supported by Regional Development Victoria (RDV) this group identified the opportunities evident with our rich indigenous history and cultural stories from across the Wimmera. The resulting **Wimmera and Grampians Indigenous Tourism Feasibility Study** identified the need to develop an appropriate set of training programs to lead to the increased skills mix needed to make indigenous tourism a reality.

- WDA joined with Regional Development Australia and Federation University to sponsor a cohort of four PhD students at the Horsham campus within the **Regional Incubator for Social and Economic Research (RISER)**. These students will work for three years on their PhD Research with projects identified by the sponsors that are complementary to that research and provide the region with much needed relevant local information.
- WDA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with a company that is exploring the **Pulse Protein Project**. The company has commenced a comprehensive due diligence process to identify potential customers, markets and manufacturing requirements to prepare a business plan to take this concept to market.
- In conjunction with the eleven Grampians Region LGAs, RDV, Transport for Victoria, Sport and Rec Victoria, Parks Victoria, WDA commenced the **Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure, Business And Master Plan**. The output from this project, expected by January 2018, will provide a 10 year plan to develop cycling and trails infrastructure across the Grampians Region.
- The Wimmera Catchment Management Authority engaged WDA to project manage the **Socio-Economic Value of Recreational and Environmental Water Project**. The report produced has for the first time measured the economic and social values, in dollar terms, of water in more than 20 rivers, lakes and weirs across the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

- WDA provided support to the West Wimmera Shire Council Economic Development Team during the year with a staff member contracted for up to 20 Hours per week to cover a maternity leave position.

Submissions and representations to Commonwealth and State Government included;

- Mayors and CEOs annual visit to Canberra
- Infrastructure Victoria- 30 Year Plan and Second Container Port for Melbourne
- Mobile Telecommunications and Black Spot issues
- Inquiry into the operation, effectiveness, and consequences of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Location of Corporate Commonwealth Entities)
- Modernizing Australia's electricity grid
- Workforce planning
- Small business assistance package

Leadership Wimmera provided training to a further 27 participants in the Regional Leadership Skills and Business Leaders programs. Expressions of interest in conducting the programs during 2018 and 2019 are currently being reviewed. Funding support has been confirmed from Regional Development Victoria until the end of 2019.

WDA entered into a partnership with City of Ballarat, Ballarat Community Health Centre (BCH), Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) and Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council Inc. (BRMC) to further develop our assistance to the migrant community. This Partnership will provide additional advice, support and resources to help better link our local migrant communities.

During the year we also had a number of staff changes; with best wishes and thank you to Julie Flaherty and Tammy McDonald who resigned to take on new opportunities and we welcomed Sara Barron, Emily Telfer and Bonnie Severin.

WDA financial position remained strong with confirmation of a further three year agreement with each of the Wimmera Councils to continue to support our organisation. Income increased by \$316,000 over 2016 to \$1,201,656.

This result was mainly due to an increase in project grant funds and while this provides us with a notional cash surplus at the end of the financial year the majority of these funds will be expended on projects carried over to 2017-2018.

WDA will have management responsibility for a number of WSMRP projects during 2017-2018 that will continue to provide an income stream for regional projects.

On behalf of the WDA staff I would like to thank the Chairman, Kevin Erwin and members of our Board for their continued interest and participation and in particular would like to acknowledge the continued assistance from the accounting team at the Horsham Rural City Council who have again helped us to retain a clear audit report for 2016-2017.

**Ralph Kenyon**  
**Executive Director**

# REMPPLAN

Wimmera Development Association utilises REMPLAN Economy, an economic modelling and planning program, to analyse outcomes of potential changes in employment or investment in the region. The REMPLAN Economy system combines regional and state information to forecast impacts from investment and employment projections.

The Wimmera Southern Mallee dataset is compiled from;

- ABS 2011 Census
- JTW Employment
- ABS 2013 / 2014 National Input Output Tables
- ABS June 2016 Gross State Product

Wimmera Development Association datasets include Wimmera Southern Mallee and Grampians regions, Victoria and member municipalities. Access to this data is available to councils and businesses looking to forecast economic benefits to the region delivered by specific projects.

## Wimmera Southern Mallee Overview

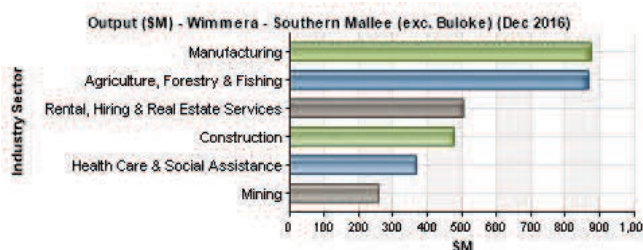


Defined Area:	Wimmera - Southern Mallee
ABS 2016 Estimated Residential Population:	47,785
ABS 2011 Census Place of Usual Residence Population:	48,261
Land Area (ha):	3,395,342.929
Census Population Density (persons / ha):	0.014
Gross Regional Product (\$M):	\$2,759.650
Per Hectare Gross Regional Product (\$):	\$813
Per Capita Gross Regional Product (\$'000):	\$57.182
Per Worker Gross Regional Product (\$'000):	\$141.884

## Output Report

Gross revenue by the six largest output business sectors, businesses and organisations in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

- The total output estimate for Wimmera Southern Mallee is \$5,408.996 million.
- The selected sectors contribute \$3,343.368 million (61.8%) of total output.



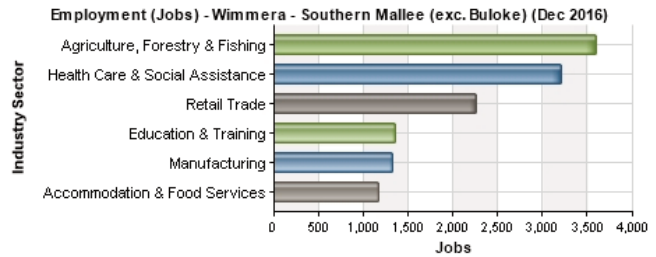
Selected industry sectors in Wimmera Southern Mallee ranked by Output

Industry Sector	\$M	%
Manufacturing	\$874.362	16.2%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	\$865.696	16.0%
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	\$503.014	9.3%
Construction	\$474.979	8.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$367.386	6.8%
Mining	\$257.931	4.8%
Sub-Total	\$3,343.368	61.8%

## Employment Report

Employment generated by the regions six largest sectors for employment with the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

- The total employment estimate for Wimmera Southern Mallee is 19,450 jobs.
- The selected sectors contribute 12,900 jobs (66.3%) to total employment.



Selected industry sectors in Wimmera Southern Mallee ranked by Employment

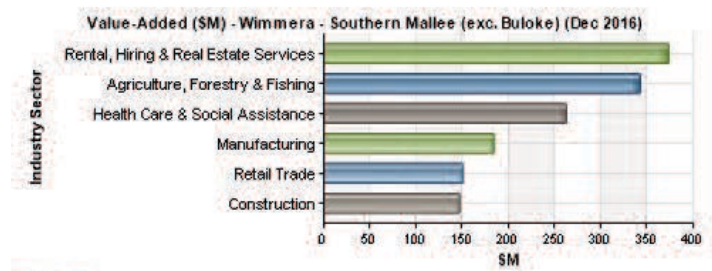
Industry Sector	\$M	%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3,590	18.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,202	16.5%
Retail Trade	2,253	11.6%
Education & Training	1,356	7.0%
Manufacturing	1,327	6.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,172	6.0%
Sub-Total	12,900	66.3%

## Value Added Report

This report shows the value that is added by industry sectors in Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) to intermediate inputs.

The total value-added estimate for Wimmera Southern Mallee is \$2,527.549 million.

The selected sectors contribute \$1,463.888 million (57.9%) of total value-added.



Selected industry sectors in Wimmera Southern Mallee ranked by Value-Added

Industry Sector	\$M	%
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	\$373.622	14.8%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	\$342.675	13.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$263.815	10.4%
Manufacturing	\$184.581	7.3%
Retail Trade	\$151.308	6.0%
Construction	\$147.888	5.9%
Sub-Total	\$1,463.888	57.9%

## Gross Regional Product

Wimmera Southern Mallee's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$2.760 billion. Wimmera - Southern Mallee represents 24.82 % of Grampians Region's GRP of \$11.122 billion, 0.83 % of Victoria's Gross State Product (GSP) of \$374.435 billion and 0.19 % of Australia's GRP of \$1.655 trillion.

Definition: GRP is the net measure of wealth generated by the region.

GRP can be measured by using the incomes approach, where all incomes earned by individuals (wages and salaries), firms (gross operating surplus) and governments (taxes on products or services) are added.

Alternatively an expenditure approach can be taken where all forms of final expenditure, including consumption by households, consumption by governments, additions or increases to

assets (minus disposals) and exports (minus imports), are added. The expenditure approach does not include intermediate expenditure, as this would lead to double counting, eg. the wheat and flour in a loaf of bread.

These methodological approaches are the same as those used to calculate Gross State Product (GSP) at a state level and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at a national level.

GRP Expenditure Method	\$M
Household Consumption	\$2,297.531
Government Consumption	\$696.545
Private Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure	\$915.774
Public Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure	\$184.450
<b>Gross Regional Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,094.301</b>
plus Regional Exports	\$1,865.713
minus Domestic Imports	-\$2,812.001
minus Overseas Imports	-\$388.363
<b>Gross Regional Product</b>	<b>\$2,759.650</b>
Population	48,261
Per Capita GRP (\$'000)	\$57.182
Per Worker GRP (\$'000)	\$141.884

## Public Economy Profile

An online public-access economic profile to assist in promoting the economy and attracting investment to the region is available at [www.economicprofile.com.au/wimmera](http://www.economicprofile.com.au/wimmera)

Wimmera Development Association has recently added the public profile

for the Wimmera Southern Mallee which offers a number of basic reports.

The profile is linked from [www.wda.org.au](http://www.wda.org.au) and [www.thewimmera.com.au](http://www.thewimmera.com.au)

The site allows potential investors access to basic regional economic

information and all pages include a comprehensive translation into Chinese.

# REMPPLAN





# Leadership Wimmera



Established in 2002, Leadership Wimmera continues to enhance and develop the leadership skills and promote leadership through two inspiring leadership programs.

In 2017 Leadership Wimmera delivered these two programs to 27 participants drawn from the Wimmera, Grampians and Mallee communities.

With support from the Victorian State Government through Regional Development Victoria's Stronger Regional Communities Plan our two programs: Business Leaders Group (BLG) and Regional Leadership Skills (RLS) guided participants to become more confident, involved, connected and engaged leaders.

This year BLG and RLS program days were facilitated by Leading Teams Australia who specialise in team building and leadership programs for elite sporting and corporate organisations across Australia. Participants in the BLG each spent

their time in the program developing an individual enterprise improvement plan through which they continue to deliver positive outcomes for future employment growth, within their business and the region. While the RLG participants were placed into groups to work on community projects.

Projects this year were Horsham Showgrounds Beautification, Random Acts of Kindness, and Increasing Employment Skills.

Like last year, Leadership Wimmera continued the much loved Lunchtime Speaker Series. In these sessions previous Leadership Wimmera graduates were invited to share stories of their own leadership journey with the 2017 participants.

The RLS heard from; Angela Stewart (RLS 2013 graduate), Emily Telfer (RLS 2015 graduate) and Brooke Reardon (BLG 2017 participant).

The BLG heard from; Adele Rohde (BLG 2015 graduate), Josh Koenig (BLG 2015 graduate) and Elle Adamson (RLS 2017 participant).

Leadership Day is held at the end of every program year and allows participants of both groups to utilize the skills that they learnt throughout the program to present to the Leadership Wimmera Committee, sponsor and employers.

This year, Leadership Day was held at Federation University on October 13. Participants in the BLG gave 10 minutes presentations on their leadership journey while the participants from the RLS gave presentations on their leadership.

Later that night, participants from both groups attended the annual graduation dinner held at Coughlin Park Community Centre.

Guest speaker for graduation was Kerry Cue, a humorist, mathematician, journalist and best-selling author of 20 humorous and thought-provoking books. While Amy Rhodes, a 2009 Leadership Skills graduate, gave the annual Leadership Wimmera network address.

## Leadership Wimmera Graduate Network

The Leadership Wimmera Graduate Network committee organised a number of interesting events and workshops for graduates and members of the public this year.





These events and workshops made it possible for people throughout the Wimmera to continue personal development without the need to travel long distances.

The first of the events was to mark the **fifth** anniversary of the LW Graduate Network. In early May, a dinner was held at Deirdre's Laharum Grove Restaurant and attended by **fifty** people, which included program sponsors, network members and partners. There were three guest speakers for this event which included our host Deirdre Baum, Jo Gardner and Jason Kannar from Australian Wildflowers and Daniel Healy of Leading Teams, who all spoke of their own leadership experiences.

Another LW Graduate Network Committee hosted event were the two 'Presenting with Confidence' workshops in July and September. 20 people attended these workshops of graduates, current participants and members of the community.

The committee was also lucky enough to host the 'Breakfast Q & A with Moana Hope' event. Moana is a talented and influential football player for the Collingwood Football Club women's team. Facilitated by Cathy Tischler, LW Chair, the interactive Q&A session captivated audiences young and old.

Another event the Graduate Network Committee hosted was a dinner 'Question Time with Andrew Broad and Emma Kealy' in August which was attended by 50 people. Andrew and Emma graciously answered questions from the audience who were a mix of LW participants, graduates, sponsors and members of the general public.

Leadership Wimmera is currently a member of The Victorian Regional Community Leadership Program. The VRCLP is a collaboration of programs currently delivering leadership development initiatives in Victoria. The annual VRCLP Summit was attended by the LW Executive Director, LW Program Coordinator and LW Graduate Network Coordinator.

'Embracing Intergenerational Leadership' was the theme of the 2017 VRCLP Summit in Waurm Ponds in August, bringing together some of the best minds in community and stakeholder engagement from across the country, and involving an exciting program of information exchange, networking and celebration.

In September, a group of 16 LW participants attended a VRCLP Combined Programs Day and visited Parliament House in Melbourne. The group toured Parliament House, met with the Clerk and President of the Legislative Council and speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and sat in on Question Time in the Legislative Assembly. They then enjoyed lunch in the Sessions Café where they were joined by Emma Kealy, Member for Lowan before meeting with representatives of Parliamentary Committees.

Leadership Wimmera would like to acknowledge the valued support from founding sponsors ACE Radio Broadcasters and the State Government of Victoria through Regional Development Victoria.

We would also like to thank ACE Radio, Wimmera Development Association, Wimmera Uniting Care, Leading Teams Australia and the Wimmera Business Centre for sponsoring participants this year.

Thank you to Murtoa Progress Association who co-sponsored a Business Leaders Group participant with past LW Chair, Robyn Lardner and her husband Des.



# Wimmera Settlement Services



As another year passes, the Wimmera Settlement Program continues to thrive, with many new Karen families moving to the region. The program continues to provide vital links to other main stream activities in the region for many migrating families.

This year Emily Telfer took on the Settlement Officer role while Sara Barron is on maternity leave. We wish Sara the best and look forward to her return in 2018.

## After School Activities - Nhill and Horsham

Both After School Activities multicultural homework clubs, in Nhill and Horsham continue to offer support to school aged children and parents by assisting with reading, homework tasks and assignments. Children then participate in a range of activities including craft, cooking, music and games.

In October 2016, we also welcomed Emily Telfer to the role of Homework Club Coordinator. With the continuing support of our dedicated volunteers each week, homework club continues to support the educational needs of young people and is inclusive of all wishing to attend.

A huge thank you to Bunnings Horsham, whos ongoing support has brought much joy to the Horsham Home Work Club especially celebrating Easter with sand art.

Tha Blay Sher, with the support of Tha Hser and volunteers, has continued her wonderful job coordinating the Nhill Homework Club this year. Now vastly made up of Karen students from

Nhill College, Tha Blay offers support to students while preparing many engaging crafts and activities for the children to complete each week.

## Butterfly Playgroup Nhill

With the increase of Karen families to the Nhill township the Nhill's Butterfly Playgroup has seen an increase in children. Coordinator of Nhill's Butterfly Playgroup Coreena Moo Dwell continues to offer an inviting and engaging playgroup with the support of volunteers and regular users of the playgroup. They look forward to moving into the new Early Years Learning Centre over the coming weeks.

## Horsham Jellybeans Playgroup

Afroza Mollah has also continued to do a great job coordinating the Jellybeans playgroup in Horsham. This year the Jellybeans have enjoyed attending Story Time at the Horsham Library while the Early Parenting Centre undergoing minor renovations.

## English Language Classes

Numbers are strong in both Nhill and Horsham for the English learning classes. This is, in part, due to the introduction of a new class, focusing on grammar and spelling, each Monday afternoon at the Centre for Participation. During the year the group has also participated in 'bring a plate' share lunches and singing at Kurrajong Lodge.

With the help of Robbie Miller and the Laharum Primary School, there are plans in place to establish English

Language Classes at Laharum, aiming to help engage the growing Karen Community at the Australian Wildflower Farm.

50 new jobs are set to be created after the Australian Wildflower Farm received a grant of \$195,000. The grant is to provide expansion and will provide employment opportunities to the Karen community in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

A new funding grant has been secured through the Capacity Building and Participation Program to help with the training of our diverse volunteers and coordinators. It will also help to engage the Young G group and homework clubs with excursions and learning experiences over the coming year. WDA is excited to partner with the Ballarat Regional Settlement Advocacy Committee (BRSAC) to develop an integrated approach to settlement services across the wider Wimmera Southern Mallee region.

The success of the settlement programs over the past year is reliant on the supportive Settlement Committee and the undeniable experience of the strong group of volunteers. Thank you to everyone for your commitment to the program and to the migrant and refugee families who have settled in the region.



# Events over the past year



## Karen New Year 2017

Each year the Karen Community in Nhill host a Karen New Year celebration. This year the celebration was on the 7th January 2017 and celebrated with a formal ceremony followed by a soccer and a cane ball tournament. The community enjoyed the New Year celebration tasting Karen cuisine, appreciating traditional Karen costume all before participating in a large community game of soccer. The Karen New Year is just one of the many festivals that the Karen Community host throughout the year.

## Young G Camp Xtreme

The Young G group is a multi-cultural youth group supporting youths of diverse backgrounds and cultures living in the region.

Each year the youth group runs an annual camp. The Young G Camp Xtreme gives the students an opportunity to have fun and forget the stress that you can often get from your parents or school. This year students had an amazing time in South Australia where they spent two nights.

They participated in many activities including visiting the zoo, paintball and shopping at Victor Harbour.

There were approximately 40 students from all across Victoria including places from Mildura, Ballarat, Nhill and Horsham attending. It was a successful event that we hope to run again this year.



## Cultural diversity week & Scarf Stories (18th- 26th March 2017)

2017 saw the return of the popular Cultural Diversity Week celebrations with over 1000 attendees across the different events. A range of activities were offered across the week including, Dance with Diversity, kids craft workshops, craft market, Scarf

Stories and a Taste of the World Buffet. Harmony Day was celebrated by the traditional Aboriginal Earth Oven ceremony of Bruce Pascoe followed by the reading of his best-selling book the Dark Emu. Over 300 tickets were sold for the day and the event was a major success.

The HIWA & GIP Diversity Friendship Lunch had over 120 tickets sold with attendees enjoying a large banquet of different cuisines.

With a pending application to the Multicultural Commission, the Wimmera Settlement Services hopes to make the event an annual celebration of Diversity in the Wimmera. A funding application has been put forward to enable the continuation of the celebrations across the next three years.




# Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Project

WDA in conjunction with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council has formed the Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Group (WITG) comprising of representation from Barengi Gadjin Land Council, Wimmera Development Association, Parks Victoria, Wimmera CMA, Horsham Rural City Council, Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh and West Wimmera Shire Councils.

The project explored the potential to develop Indigenous tourism enterprise activities for 'Wotjobaluk Country' in the Wimmera Southern Mallee. It covered the land area for which the Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) is the Registered Aboriginal Party and takes in, all or part of, the local government areas of West Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh and Buloke. The Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Group (WITG) has been formed to stimulate Wotjobaluk Country tourism activity by:

- Facilitating regional capability for an increase in Indigenous tourism skills capacity and employment.
- Facilitating and building the capacity of Indigenous tourism businesses.
- Developing Indigenous international standard tourism products.
- Developing and preparing project funding applications in support of Indigenous tourism product development.
- Guiding regional policy direction for Indigenous tourism development

- Coordinating regional projects between relevant government and industry bodies.

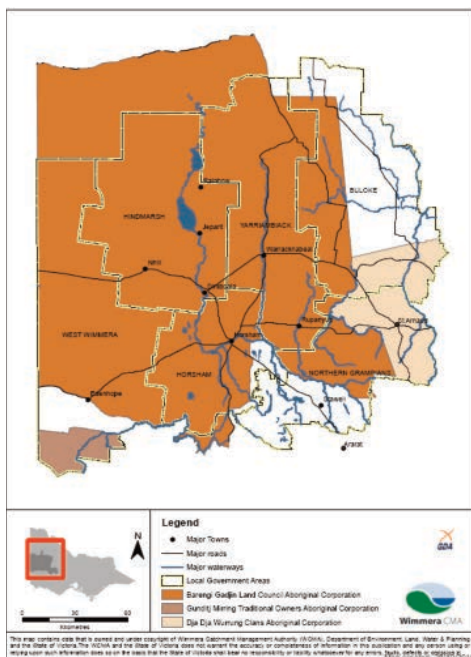
Representation on WITG includes BGLC, Wimmera Development Association, Parks Victoria, Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, Horsham Rural City Council, and Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh and West Wimmera Shire Councils (including Council members of Wimmera Mallee Tourism). During the project, WITG members resolved to include Buloke Shire as an additional local government member.

WITG's geographic sphere of influence is consistent with the region embraced by Wimmera Mallee Tourism Incorporated.

WITG recognises that there are significant Indigenous cultural and natural assets within the Wimmera that would complement the development of the Grampians Peak Trail and the cultural product within the Grampians National Park. Combining these assets and developing a new Indigenous tourism product through the use of technology, interpretations based on story and song lines also provides the opportunity to join with the local community to build a strong tourism related sector that links the Grampians with the broader Wimmera Southern Mallee region.

The Wimmera and Grampians Indigenous Tourism Feasibility Study has produced the following elements for future actions;

- Developed an Indigenous touring route through the Wimmera in Western Victoria and build a viable Indigenous tour business operation for the Barengi Gadjin Land Council. (BGLC represents Traditional Owners from the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk family groups)
- Identified significant Indigenous cultural sites,
- Prepared and researched interpretive information on sites- record and transcribe stories
- Identified suitable linkages between sites- transport routes, walking trails etc
- Identified infrastructure investment needs - initially this may be picnic spots but could lead to camping sites, B&B, other accommodation
- Identified the need for tourism and small business training to Barengi Gadjin members, young people, and
- Provided a suggested framework and structure from which to establish an Indigenous tourism business.



# Grampians Region 10 Year Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan

WDA has taken a lead role for a project that aims to provide a 10 year master plan for cycling across the Grampians Region. Combined with funding from Regional Development Victoria, Transport for Victoria and the 11 municipalities across the Grampians Region this 12 months project has the potential to provide a new opportunity for sport and recreational cycling to the western half of Victoria.

A focus will be around capitalising on the iconic Grampians Peaks Trail and Goldfields Track, currently among some of the world's best walking and cycling experiences, to develop consistent supporting tourism product Grampians wide.

Nature based visitors are on the rise and Victoria has ranked as the top Australian state for cycling and mountain biking experiences. Key international source markets for Victoria such as New Zealand, the UK, and USA have high mountain bike participation rates. Canadian studies have typically demonstrated that mountain bikers are predominantly

male in the 25 to 45 year old age bracket with relatively high income levels and staying an average of three to five days in a location (Lau 2016). The full range of potential cycling and multi-use trails experiences in the region need to be explored and gaps identified. The Grampians Region 10 Year Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan will ensure the Grampians region is ready to fully leverage and maximise the benefits from these markets.

Once completed the Grampians Region 10 Year Cycling and Trails Business and Master Plan will deliver a coherent and clearly outlined strategy for the infrastructure spend required for the range of cycling options, including adventure experiences for cycling and walking communities, visitors from across the country and the world.

## Project background and context

The 11 Grampians Region Councils have identified a need to prepare a cycling and trails strategy, to leverage

additional tourism income to the region and improve opportunities for local and tourist options for active recreation in the area. Regional Development Victoria has assisted in providing some funding for the project, with the remainder being provided by Transport for Victoria and each Council in conjunction with its regional tourism boards. Wimmera Development Association, has been nominated as the project coordinator on behalf of the 11 contributing councils.

The focus of the project is on all forms of cycling including off and on-road, mountain biking, cyclo-cross, long distance touring plus other forms of bicycle activities. The project needs to investigate opportunities for routes, trails, events and competitions. In some cases multi-use trails will be identified; in others the trails may be solely for bicycle use. Where a trail is identified for potential multi-use, such as walking, trail running and other options, these will need to be specified.



Individually the eleven Councils in the Grampians Region have identified a range of cycling and trails improvements, including new trails, upgrades to existing trails and on-road cycling events. Some of these have progressed to well-developed plans, while others are still primarily ideas or undeveloped strategies.

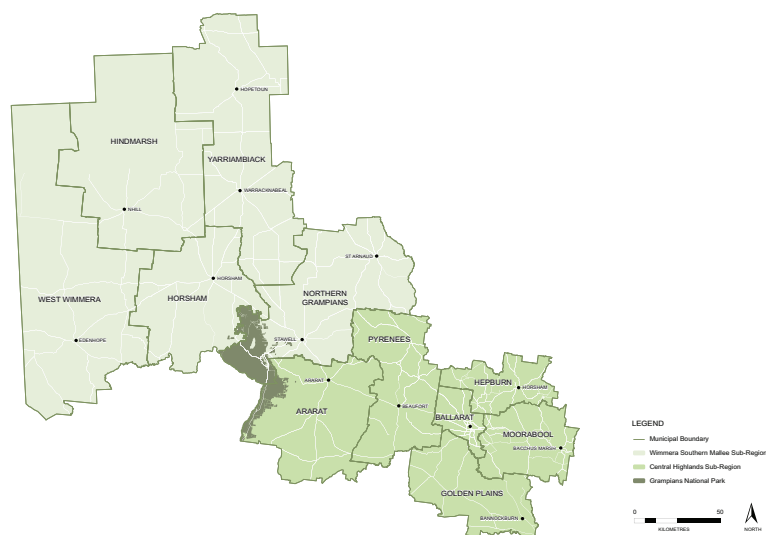
This project will provide the opportunity to bring together all these potential projects, as well as other potential opportunities for the region. This project needs to evaluate them using a detailed set of criteria based on the overall vision for the region and determine priorities for implementation. The agreed top three proposals need to be progressed to deliver a cost benefit analysis and business case for funding submissions. Marketing and branding ideas for the Masterplan recommendations need to be considered.

**Project objectives**

- Establish the Grampians Region as a premier tourism destination for cycling and trail related experiences.

- Research and identify the range of cycling and trails related projects existing, proposed, recommended or nominated by local Councils, tourism organisations and other stakeholders.
- Assess the geography, topography and tourism assets of the region to identify the full opportunity spectrum.
- Identify the cycling market segments and the best opportunities to attract the relevant cohorts.
- Develop a 10 year Masterplan for cycling and trails in the Grampians Region, that:
  - Identifies opportunities including trail towns and other trails tourism products that will attract more visitors to the region, and build upon the region's strengths in nature based, heritage and wine based tourism.
  - Identifies opportunities to attract both national and world class cycling and trail events to the region.
  - Capitalises on the transport and infrastructure in the region.
  - Identifies the projects that could be undertaken or commenced

- within the 10 year period.
  - Identifies and prioritises a range of cycling related projects, including improvements to existing trails, new trails and events in the Region.
- Identify, prioritise and cost the key trail projects across the region.
- Prepare costed business cases for three identified projects suitable for funding submissions (as per Appendix D of 'Investment Lifecycle Guidelines' for Strategic Business Case).
- Engage with user groups, stakeholders and the broader community through a variety of means to identify opportunities, constraints and priorities for the region.
- Involve key stakeholders in development of the Master Plan.
- Develop recommendations for a consistent approach to marketing and promotions of the Grampians region cycling and trails product.
- Identify management structures to deliver the recommendations of the project and for ongoing management and maintenance.



# Wimmera Southern Mallee: Socio-Economic Value of Recreational & Environmental Water

This project has been a joint initiative of Wimmera Development Association, GWMWater, the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, and local councils. It has been designed to make an initial assessment of the economic and social contribution made by the local weirs, lakes and rivers to the regional economy. The 2017 assessment is year one of a longer term annual study. The project encompassed assessments of 24 lakes, weir pools and rivers around the region.

## Recreational Water Facility Visitation and Usage

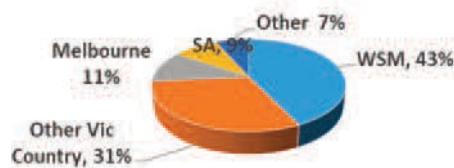
The report estimated recreational water users in 2016-17 at the selected facilities are:

- Overnight visitors: 56,887
- Visit nights: 196,088
- Local active participation: 78,156 (people using the water facility as a day trip destination for fishing, swimming, boating, picnicking on the banks)
- Local passive participation: 163,189 (people engaged in an activity using the foreshore or trails around the water facility due to its amenity, such as walking, cycling, jogging)

- Total recreational water participation: 437,433
- Estimated number of people involved: 85,135

Activities and amenity provided at the WSM water facilities are clearly suited to residents and visitors 'for a lifetime', with good levels of participation across all age ranges. Family groups and retirees dominate the overnight visitor users.

A large majority of overnight visitors to the recreational water facilities are from regional Victoria.



Most towns servicing the WSM recreational water facilities have high levels of socio-economic disadvantage.

In fact, most are within the most disadvantaged 20% of all 'suburbs' in Victoria, and all (except Watchem ranking 648th of 1,516 suburbs in

Victoria, Goroke ranking 530th and Minimay ranking 1,173rd) are within the most disadvantaged 350 Victorian suburbs (of 1,516 suburbs in total). This suggests the local towns and their residents are likely to achieve greater than average benefits from the economic and social benefits accruing from the regional recreational water facilities.

## Economic Contribution

The total estimated regional economic contribution from the 24 selected recreational water facilities in the Wimmera Southern Mallee is \$27.536 million in 2016-17.

### Estimated economic contributions of the water facilities to their respective local areas is:

Buloke Shire:	\$1.045 million
Hindmarsh Shire:	\$1.302 million
Horsham Rural City:	\$8.442 million
Northern Grampians Shire:	\$7.038 million
West Wimmera Shire:	\$2.619 million
Yarriambiack Shire:	\$2.873 million
Other WSM municipalities	\$4.218 million
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$27.536 million</b>

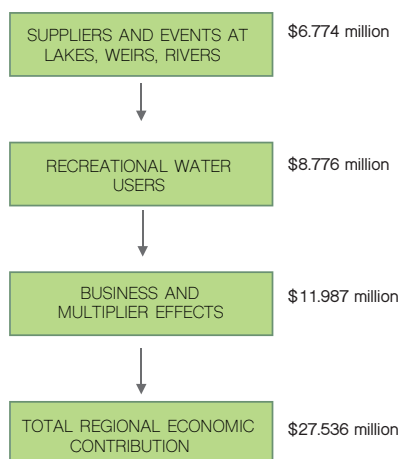


Figure E2 2016-17 Estimated Recreational Water Economic Contribution: WSM Region

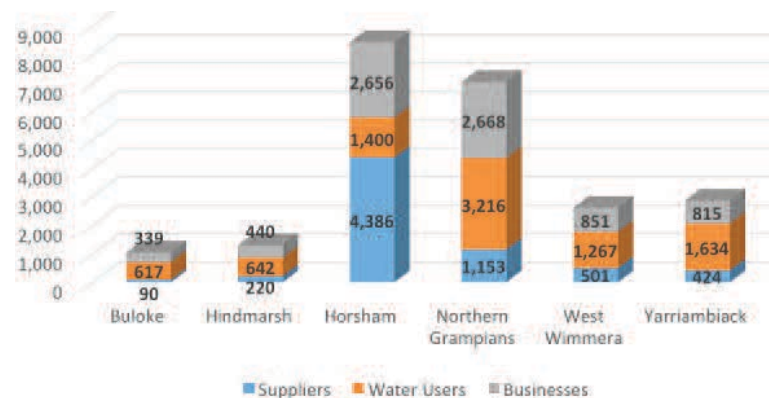


Figure E1 Estimated Recreational Water Economic Contribution to Local Areas, 2016-17: (\$'000)



## Community and Social Contribution

The value of WSM recreational water users' health contribution has been estimated based on the prevention of chronic diseases such as breast cancer, coronary heart disease, diabetes, bowel cancer and stroke. The mental health benefits are derived from the prevention of anxiety and depression.

The calculated total health benefits from participation at WSM recreational water facilities in 2016-17 include:

- Physical: Annual benefit: \$7,955,132
- Mental benefit: \$618,421
- Total annual health benefit \$8,573,553

On average, WSM recreational water users exceed the Australian Government guidelines for moderate intensity physical activity each week.

The upper end of the scale recommended scale, suggests an average of 5 hours per week of moderate intensity activity such as brisk walking, swimming, cycling or rowing. This recommended level of activity is well exceeded, on average, by users at every WSM recreational water facility (except Lake Watchem).

WSM communities which have recreational water facilities are rated highly for lifestyle, community spirit and inclusiveness by residents.

WSM recreational water users who are also local residents, are generally satisfied with their health and wellbeing.

WSM Facility	Physical Health Benefits	Mental Health Benefits	Total Health Benefits
Horsham	\$2,092,979	\$162,713	\$2,255,692
Hindmarsh	\$1,175,415	\$91,379	\$1,266,795
Northern Grampians	\$1,939,844	\$150,808	\$2,090,652
Buloke	\$462,297	\$35,940	\$498,237
West Wimmera	\$730,301	\$56,775	\$787,076
Yarriambiack	\$1,554,316	\$120,836	\$1,675,152





# 2016 3WM MIXXFM Wimmera Business Awards



Held every two years, the Wimmera Development Association and regional partners hold the Wimmera Business Awards.

The 2016 3WM / MIXXFM Wimmera Business Awards

- Showcased the range and diversity of businesses servicing our communities and
- Provides an Opportunity for businesses to promote themselves

As agriculture is one of the major economic drivers for the region and 2016 being the year of the pulse the awards night menu and table centres featured many variations of pulses.

WDA supports local businesses whenever possible for all aspects of the award.

We acknowledge the fantastic effort during the awards by Ronnie Thomas for the audio visual, Lynton Brown for the promotional videos and Kirsty's Cakes and Catering team for the amazing food.

Themes/trends from the 2016 nominations include information technology being utilised more in websites, social media, marketing, cloud based systems and new programs.

WDA is very proud of the Leadership Wimmera Program and it is worth noting that 75% of the nominations for the 'Young Leader' category were from current or former participants of the program.

The volunteer judging panel also provided comments on the quality of the small family businesses nominated. Many of these businesses are closely aligned to the agricultural sector, servicing the needs of farming communities. Judges also believed that the last couple of years have been difficult due to the seasonal conditions, but businesses are getting smarter about planning and managing the variations in production and global markets.

Congratulations to all businesses that nominated for the 2016 3WM / MIXXFM Wimmera Business Awards.



Category	Sponsor	Winner
Tourism & Attractions	Federation University	Gariwerd Motel
Retail	Small Business Victoria	Pick a Posie
Franchise	Shelley Baker Design	Dimboola Guardian Pharmacy
Food & Beverage	Wimmera Development Association	Border Inn Hotel
Manufacturing and or Export	GWMWater	Australian Wildflowers
Services	Community Axis	Laser Electrical
Not for Profit	RES	Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative
Best New Business	Leadership Wimmera	Grampians Helicopters
Innovation in Primary Industry	Wimmera Catchment Management Authority	Wheatons' Store
Young Leader in Business	RDA - Grampians	Cobie McQueen - Priceline
Outstanding Apprentice/Trainee	Skillinvest	Chris Gulvin - Laser Electrical
Operating in the Online Economy	Leadership Wimmera	Solace Beauty Lounge and Wellness Spa
2016 3WM / MIXXFM Wimmera Business of the Year	3WM / MIXXFM	Australian Wildflowers



# Submission for the Western Victoria Renewable Integration

In June 2016, the Victorian Government committed to the Victorian renewable energy generation targets of 25 per cent by 2020 and 40 per cent by 2025. These targets will be supported by a competitive reverse auction scheme. The scheme is designed to deliver up to 1500 megawatts (MW) of new large-scale renewable energy capacity by 2020 and up to 5400MW by 2025, support capital expenditure of around \$9 billion in renewable energy projects, which would result in about \$2.5 billion of direct investment in Victoria and create up to 11,000 two-year construction jobs over the life of the scheme, particularly in regional Victoria. In the peak year of project construction, the scheme is expected to deliver over 4,000 renewable energy jobs.

The Wimmera Southern Mallee region of Victoria is suitable for the generation of three major types of renewable energy being wind, solar and biomass. Currently WDA is aware of five wind farms and three major solar projects under development in the Wimmera Southern Mallee region. The region is hampered in its ability to attract renewable energy investment due to the limits of the electricity transmission network in the region.

The transmission network was not designed for decentralised power generation but is at the extremities of a grid designed to send power "out".

The Grampians region in Western Victoria (consisting of the Wimmera Southern Mallee to the West and Central Highlands to the East) has been highlighted as an integral part of this Victorian Renewable Energy Target mainly due to relatively low impact of wind and solar farms on residential and rural aesthetics. Many landholders on the peripherals of the region have supported these projects by leasing sites for wind turbines for the life of the windfarm. Many producers across the remainder of the region would see this as an advantageous business opportunity to minimise risk from the mainly cropping enterprises. Through a number of previous site tests, the

Wimmera plains have been shown to be ideal for windfarm development as wind farms on plains tend to have less stress on turbines from up and down drafts than the valley and ridge design. Having large expanses of land available with small populations makes the region perfect for these renewable power projects to be located. Unfortunately a large portion of the Wimmera Southern Mallee does not have the power infrastructure to take advantage of these significant projects.

## Current Renewable Energy Developments

Current projects in Western Victoria are forecast to use the majority of capacity of the network from Ararat to Horsham and onto Mildura. Without significant investment further opportunities for Western Victoria and the Wimmera Southern Mallee Region will be extremely limited.

The Victorian Government Renewable Energy Target has highlighted Western Victoria as a key location to meet their 2025 renewable energy targets. Western Victoria has an abundance of conducive weather for both wind and solar renewable energy production with intensive site testing for this generation already being undertaken.

The infrastructure limitations in Western Victoria has a significant flow on effect to the economic development of our region. Much of the farming community have looked for diversification models for their businesses over the past decade to assist during times of drought and adverse seasonal conditions. Wind farms and solar installations which have been constructed in the Wimmera Southern Mallee region have not only provided this diversification by way of rental income and/or lowering base operational costs as well as utilising local trades and suppliers.

Local clubs and community groups have been beneficiaries of income from these sites by way of community funds that have been set up.

A number of companies looking at Western Victoria for sites for new wind farms have been forced to reduce the size of their developments or look for an alternative location due to the lack of infrastructure and network capacity, in turn affecting stimulation of the local economy.

## Future Renewable Energy Developments

As technologies improve, infrastructure is upgraded and government policy is further developed, the appetite for renewable energy supply and demand will increase.

Any future upgrades to the Western Victorian power network will require flexibility for future use which includes the ability for large scale solar and wind developments to have the ability to connect to the networks and upgrades to surrounding infrastructure which will allow small scale and community energy projects to connect to the network.

Improvements in technology and reliance on renewable energy is expected to grow. The Wimmera Southern Mallee sees this as an exciting time for the region, one where the region can assist and deliver further inputs into the power network whilst also taking some of the pressure off the network and building capacity. These upgrades to the power infrastructure would be seen as a step towards an efficient power network able to move the resource to where it is most needed and creating stability to the network.

Whilst batteries will assist with power storage and efficient movement in several locations, these will also only be possible where the network has existing capacity. Once again, there will be limitations for the Wimmera Southern Mallee region without additional infrastructure upgrades. Small community energy projects, while trying to assist with the overall issue, will again be constrained by the lack of infrastructure and network capacity.

Wimmera Southern Mallee municipalities are supportive of the 500kV network augmentation which would see an additional 500kV delivered to Horsham from Ballarat and a new SA/Vic interconnector constructed. While this option is the most expensive of those listed in the AEMO PSCR, this option would deliver massive opportunities for the region in power network stability, economic development and employment opportunities.

**Current Power Infrastructure - Deficiencies**

Currently, the main transmission line in the Wimmera Southern Mallee region feeds from Ballarat to Horsham and then travels north to Mildura where it meets the Murraylink Interconnector. A southern interconnector is located along the coastline, to Portland and then to South Australia.

It is envisaged that a third interconnector to increase the supply and stability of the Vic and SA power supply will be constructed between Melbourne, Ballarat, Horsham and through Western Victoria into South Australia.

New technologies, eg solar, wind and bioenergy are all very much on the radar across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region. Currently, development of larger projects is minimal because of insufficient access to the grid in the region.

A third interconnector passing through Western Victoria, Ballarat, Horsham and on to SA via Nhill and Kaniva would deliver many possible new locations for renewable energy projects.

Many smaller communities are looking at ways to both reduce their energy consumption as well as small scale energy projects to offset the community energy use. For example, Natimuk Community Energy is aiming for 100% renewables by 2030 including energy trading. This is seen by smaller communities as a way of securing smaller towns' power supply as well as assisting the current networks to cope with peak load periods.

Many of these community energy projects may be hampered by the lack of network capacity, for example, if Natimuk were to construct a solar farm, it is highly likely that Edenhope further along the 66kV line would be unable to connect a small system to the network.

In addition to renewable energy, currently the West Wimmera and Hindmarsh Shires are serviced by a 66kV line supplying customers to the South Australian border, north to Yaapeet and south to Edenhope. Currently these shires are being hampered in their efforts to actively seek larger industries and renewable projects to locate in their shires due to lack of power infrastructure. An example of this is the Kiata Windfarm south east of Nhill. This project was limited to 30MW in size due to the capacity of the sub transmission line. Other companies that have expressed interest in the region have proposed small scale winds farms of 2 – 7MW due to the severe lack of capacity.

These companies have expressed the desire to invest further in the region should the capacity become available.

**Conclusion**

The WDA supports the long term creation of a third South Australian interconnector or other network upgrades between Horsham and Keith (South Australia) and through to Adelaide via Nhill and Kaniva which allow the region to access wind, solar and bioenergy opportunities.

The creation of the third interconnector will:

- help open up the areas either side of the South Australian/Victorian border to greater large scale renewable energy investment; and
- Create extra redundancy and energy security for SA through the creation of an extra 220 to 400MW.



Figure 1 - Transmission lines in Western Victoria (greater than 66kV)

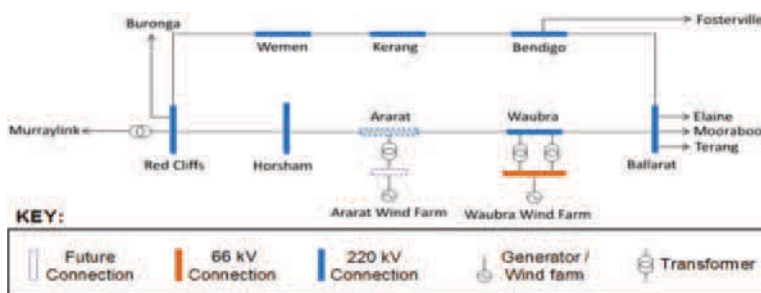


Figure 2 - The transmission system in North West Victoria, currently restricting investment into the region



Figure 3 - Sub-transmission network servicing Hindmarsh and West Wimmera Shires

# Submission in to Regional Development and Decentralisation

## Benefits of Decentralisation

Like many rural locations, Wimmera Southern Mallee has the unique ability to support decentralisation.

While most capital cities throughout Australia are experiencing negative population projections (unsustainable population growth, local government, education, housing and health care), rural areas like those of the Wimmera Southern Mallee have shown the capacity to absorb a large portion of this unsustainable growth.

The relocation of governing bodies to rural towns would also give a huge boost to local employment opportunities. In general, jobs with in governing bodies tend to pay significantly higher than the average wage in rural area. As a result high paying positions are more likely to attract those to come (or remain) in the smaller communities. This especially true for young people who often will leave country towns in order to pursue a higher paying career.

## Decentralisation Opportunities

In the heart of Victoria's grain production region, the Wimmera Southern Mallee has become a major source for research, innovation and efficiency with in the agricultural industry, making it one of the areas perfect for decentralisation.

There are many opportunities for decentralisation throughout the agricultural sector including; value-add production, advancements and development of farming technology (research), mineral sands mining and processing, and capitalising on water security via the Wimmera-Mallee pipeline.

In fact, in recent years the Wimmera Southern Mallee has acquired international investments into grains research.

These include the establishment of the Australian Grains Genebank in Horsham, the construction of a phenomics glasshouse by DEPI, a \$14 million dollar breeding station established by Bayer CropScience as well as the \$3 million investment in glasshouse upgrades by Nuseed.

With investments into the agricultural industry (in particular the research side) not only does that bring a significant number of highly qualified, national and international researchers to live in the area but it also increases the opportunities for young people entering the agricultural sector to stay in or relocate to the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

While the agricultural industry is one of the most thriving economic areas for many regional centres, rural communities are also looking at emerging and innovative industries including those in renewable energy as an alternative source of economic development. The construction of the Ararat and Kiata Wind Farms brought a significant number of job opportunities to the region with talk of expanding even further into this area.

## Potential issues of Decentralisation

It is important to note that discussion and planning for decentralisation should include continued investments in connectivity (high speed internet and mobile coverage) and transportation (particularly the return of passenger rail to the western part of Victoria and the duplication of the Western Highway) will be required to maximise the success of decentralisation into western Victoria over the next decade.

**WIMMERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

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**STATEMENT BY CHAIRPERSON AND PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Principal Accounting Officer  
Ms Angela Murphy  
Wimmera Development Association

26 September, 2017

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Wimmera Development Association for the year ended 30 June 2017 and the financial position of the Association as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Wimmera Development Association Board on 12 September 2017 to certify the financial statements in their final form.



Chairperson  
Cr Kevin Erwin  
Wimmera Development Association



Deputy Chair  
Cr Debra Nelson  
Wimmera Development Association

26 September, 2017



**COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
	-----	-----	-----
<b>INCOME</b>			
Council contributions	3	409,194	402,354
Grants - Operating	4	451,500	271,289
Other income	5	340,962	212,058
		-----	-----
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,201,656</b>	<b>885,701</b>
		=====	=====
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee costs	7	456,961	412,854
Materials and services	8	496,425	336,873
Depreciation	9	10,786	10,891
Other expenditure	10	81,025	113,621
Net loss/(gain) on disposal of plant and equipment	6	-	2,760
		-----	-----
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>1,045,197</b>	<b>876,999</b>
		=====	=====
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>156,459</b>	<b>8,702</b>
		=====	=====
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>156,459</b>	<b>8,702</b>
		=====	=====

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
	-----	-----	-----
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	11	679,732	545,929
Trade and other receivables	12	3,487	-
Other assets	13	1,867	542
		-----	-----
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>685,086</b>	<b>546,471</b>
		=====	=====
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings	14	31,968	39,329
		-----	-----
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>31,968</b>	<b>39,329</b>
		=====	=====
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>717,054</b>	<b>585,800</b>
		=====	=====
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	15	55,117	86,874
Provisions	16	34,368	35,113
		-----	-----
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>89,485</b>	<b>121,987</b>
		=====	=====
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	16	13,479	6,182
		-----	-----
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>13,479</b>	<b>6,182</b>
		=====	=====
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>102,964</b>	<b>128,169</b>
		=====	=====
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>614,090</b>	<b>457,631</b>
		=====	=====
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		397,223	313,162
Reserves	17	216,867	144,469
		-----	-----
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>614,090</b>	<b>457,631</b>
		=====	=====

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

2017	Notes	TOTAL	Accumulated	Asset
		\$	Surplus (Deficit) \$	Replacement Reserves \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		457,631	313,162	144,469
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		156,459	156,459	-
Transfers to reserves	17 (a)	-	(101,564)	101,564
Transfers from reserves	17 (a)	-	29,166	(29,166)
<b>Balance at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>614,090</b>	<b>397,223</b>	<b>216,867</b>

2016	Notes	TOTAL	Accumulated	Asset
		\$	Surplus (Deficit) \$	Replacement Reserves \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year		448,929	316,045	132,884
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		8,702	8,702	-
Transfers to reserves	17 (a)	-	(80,176)	80,176
Transfers from reserves	17 (a)	-	68,591	(68,591)
<b>Balance at the end of the financial year</b>		<b>457,631</b>	<b>313,162</b>	<b>144,469</b>

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$	2016 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$
		-----	-----
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Council contributions		450,113	442,589
Grants - operating		496,650	309,418
Interest received		11,766	12,234
Other receipts		353,487	226,704
Employee costs		(448,651)	(440,046)
Materials & services & other		(667,724)	(448,979)
Net GST refund/(payment)		(58,413)	(42,865)
		-----	-----
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	18	137,228	59,055
		=====	=====
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for plant and equipment, furniture and fittings		(3,425)	(43,111)
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings		-	11,254
		-----	-----
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		(3,425)	(31,857)
		=====	=====
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		133,803	27,198
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year</b>		545,929	518,731
		-----	-----
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	11	679,732	545,929
		=====	=====

The above statement of cash flows should be read with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
	-----	-----
<b>Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings</b>		
Plant and equipment	-	37,632
Furniture and fittings and information technology	3,425	5,479
	-----	-----
<b>Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings</b>	3,425	43,111
	=====	=====
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	3,425	43,111
	=====	=====
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Renewal	3,425	43,111
	-----	-----
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>	3,425	43,111
	=====	=====

The above statement of capital works should be read with the accompanying notes

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**Introduction**

**Nature of Entity**

The Wimmera Development Association is an incorporated body under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

The Association is administered and auspiced by the Horsham Rural City Council on behalf of the member councils. The association is funded by conditional grants from the state government, for developing Industry and Commerce, and contributions from each of the member councils based on population.

The association was established in 1990 with the aim of promoting the development of industry and commerce within the Wimmera Southern-Mallee Region.

**Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements of the Wimmera Development Association are general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

**1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Basis of accounting**

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of plant and equipment (refer to note 1(h) )
- the determination of depreciation for plant and equipment (refer to note 1 (i) )
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to note 1 (l) )

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

**(b) Change in Accounting Policy**

There have been no changes in accounting policies from the previous period.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)**

**(c) Revenue recognition**

Income is recognised when the Association obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Association and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

*Grants*

Grant income is recognised when the Association obtains control of the contribution. This is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured, and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

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 4. The note discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on the Association's operations during the current year.

*Sale of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings*

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

*Interest*

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

*Other Income*

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when the Association gains control over the rights to receive the income.

**(d) Fair Value Measurement**

The Association measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 Fair value measurement, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)**

**(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

**(f) Trade and other receivables**

Receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred.

**(g) Goods and Service Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

**(h) Recognition and measurement of assets**

*Acquisition*

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by the Association, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with the Association's policy, the threshold limits detailed in Note 1 (i) have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year:

**(i) Depreciation of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings**

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Association in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual life as determined each year.

Depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated:

<i>Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods</i>	Depreciation Period	Threshold Limit \$
Plant and equipment	3 years	5,000
Furniture and fittings	3 - 6 years	1,000

**(j) Repairs and maintenance**

Routine maintenance, repair costs and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. When the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017****1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)****(k) Impairment of Assets**

At each reporting date, the Association reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

**(l) Employee costs**

The calculation of employee benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

*Wages and salaries, and annual leave*

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits and annual leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of the employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for the employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

*Long Service Leave*

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. Current Liability - unconditional LSL representing 7 years is disclosed as a current liability even when the Association does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it will not have the unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current liability are measured at:

- present value - component that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months.
- nominal value - component that is expected to be wholly settled within 12 months.

*Classification of employee costs*

Non-current liability - conditional LSL representing less than 7 years that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment is disclosed as a non-current liability.

There is an unconditional right to defer settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

This non-current LSL liability is measured at present value.

**(m) Leases***Finance leases*

The Association does not have any finance leases at balance date.

*Operating leases*

Lease payments for operating leases are required by the accounting standard to be recognised on a straight line basis, rather than expensed in the years in which they are incurred.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)**

**(n) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities and commitments**

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and inclusive of the GST payable.

**(o) Pending Accounting Standards**

Certain new AAS's have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2017 reporting period. The Association has assessed these pending standards and has identified that no material impact will flow from the application of these standards in future reporting periods.

*Revenue from contracts with customers (AASB15) (applies 2019/20)*

The standard shifts the focus from the transaction-level to a contract-based approach. Recognition is determined based on what the customer expects to be entitled to (rights and obligations), while measurement encompasses estimation by the entity of the amount expected to be entitled for performing under the contract. The full impact of the standard is not known however it is most likely to impact where contracts extend over time, where there are rights and obligations that may vary the timing or amount of the consideration, or where there are multiple performance elements. This has the potential on impact on the recognition of certain grant income.

*Leases (AASB 16) (applies 2019/20)*

The classification of leases as either finance leases or operating leases is eliminated for lessees. Leases will be recognised in the Balance Sheet by capitalising the present value of the minimum lease payments and showing a 'right-of-use' asset while future lease payment will be recognised as a financial liability. The nature of the expense recognised in the profit and loss will change. Rather than being shown as rent, or as leasing costs, it will be recognised as depreciation on the 'right-of-use' asset, and an interest charge on the lease liability. The interest charge will be calculated using the effective interest method, which will result in a gradual reduction of interest expense over the lease term.

The Association does not currently have any operating leases.

**2 BUDGET COMPARISON**

The budget comparison notes compare the Association's annual budget, with actual performance. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 requires explanation of any material variances. The Association has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or \$10,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by the Association on 14 June 2016. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. The Association sets guidelines and parameters for income and expense targets in this budget in order to meet the Association's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014*.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**2 BUDGET COMPARISON (Cont.)**

	Ref	Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2017 \$	Variances 2017	
				\$	%
<b>(a) Income and expenditure</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Council contributions		409,194	409,194	-	-
Grants - Operating	1	229,864	451,500	221,636	96.4
Other income	2	309,000	340,962	31,962	10.3
<b>Total income</b>		<b>948,058</b>	<b>1,201,656</b>	<b>253,598</b>	<b>106.7</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Employee costs		471,879	456,961	(14,918)	(3.2)
Materials and services	3	427,997	496,425	68,428	16.0
Depreciation		12,050	10,786	(1,264)	(10.5)
Other expenditure	4	108,221	81,025	(27,196)	(25.1)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>1,020,147</b>	<b>1,045,197</b>	<b>25,050</b>	<b>(22.8)</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(72,089)</b>	<b>156,459</b>	<b>228,548</b>	<b>129.5</b>

## (i) Explanation of material variations

## 1. Grants - operating

Actual Income reflects additional funding for new projects during 2016-17

## 2. Other income

Additional contributions towards new projects were received during 2016-17.

## 3. Materials and services

Refer to variance in notes 1 and 2. Additional materials and services costs related to new projects.

## 4. Other expenditure

Various minor savings over a number of accounts were achieved reducing operating costs.

	Ref	Budget 2017 \$	Actual 2017 \$	Variances 2017	
				\$	%
<b>(b) Capital works</b>					
<b>Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings</b>					
Furniture and fittings and information technology		-	3,425	3,425	100.0
<b>Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Renewal		-	3,425	3,425	100.0
<b>Total capital works expenditure</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## (i) Explanation of material variations

## 1. Furniture and equipment

Changeover of the telephone system was required during 2016-17.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>3 COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Contributions were received in respect of the following:		
Horsham Rural City Council	196,994	193,701
Hindmarsh Shire Council	42,320	41,613
Yarriambiack Shire Council	55,581	54,652
West Wimmera Shire Council	31,755	31,224
Northern Grampians Shire Council	82,544	81,164
	-----	-----
Total contributions	409,194	402,354
	=====	=====
 <b>4 GOVERNMENT GRANT REVENUES</b>		
Grants were received in respect of the following:		
<b>Summary of Grants</b>		
Commonwealth Funded Grants	50,000	52,664
State Funded Grants	401,500	218,625
	-----	-----
Total grants received	451,500	271,289
	=====	=====
 <b>Operating Grants</b>		
<i>Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government</i>		
Wimmera Settlement Program	50,000	52,664
 <i>Non-recurrent - State Government</i>		
Leadership Wimmera	178,500	188,625
Victorian Multicultural Commission	10,000	-
Vocational Education and Training in Schools	-	15,000
Wimmera Weather	-	15,000
Wimmera Development Association Strategic Plan	23,000	-
Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Feasibility Project	65,000	-
Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure Master Plan	80,000	-
Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project	45,000	-
	-----	-----
Total non-recurrent operating grants	451,500	271,289
	=====	=====
 Total grants	451,500	271,289
	=====	=====
 <b>Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner</b>		
Balance at start of year	114,551	37,675
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	128,209	99,676
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(108,209)	(22,800)
	-----	-----
Balance at year end	134,551	114,551
	=====	=====

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>5 OTHER INCOME</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
	-----	-----
Interest	11,775	12,240
Miscellaneous	640	-
Wimmera Business Achievement Awards	31,227	22,600
GWMWater Affiliation	20,000	20,000
Patron Handbury family	25,000	25,000
Project management fees	13,597	20,676
Leadership Wimmera Contributions	45,241	47,616
Leadership Wimmera sponsorships	30,698	35,300
Wimmera Settlement Program contributions	29	-
Victorian Multicultural Commission	2,000	-
FRRR Homework Club	397	-
Agricultural Educational Roundtable	-	5,626
Victorian Adaptation and Sustainability Partnership	20,000	20,000
Careers Expo	-	3,000
Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure Master Plan	97,500	-
West Wimmera Shire Council Economic Development Officer	19,858	-
Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project	23,000	-
	-----	-----
Total other income	340,962	212,058
	=====	=====
<b>Unspent other income received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner</b>		
Balance at start of year	70,354	165,105
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	127,782	41,746
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(59,473)	(136,497)
	-----	-----
Balance at year end	138,663	70,354
	=====	=====
 <b>6 NET GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSALS OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Furniture and fittings		
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	-
Written down value of assets sold	-	(1,014)
	-----	-----
Total (loss) on sale of furniture and fittings	-	(1,014)
	=====	=====
Plant and equipment		
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	11,254
Written down value of assets sold	-	(13,000)
	-----	-----
Total profit/(loss) on sale of plant and equipment	-	(1,746)
	=====	=====
Summary		
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	11,254
Written down value of assets sold	-	(14,014)
	-----	-----
Total net (loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	-	(2,760)
	=====	=====

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>7 (a) EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Wages and salaries	370,662	358,508
Workcover	929	1,127
Annual leave and long service leave	47,050	8,830
Superannuation	30,207	36,666
Fringe benefits tax	8,113	7,723
	-----	-----
Total employee costs	456,961	412,854
	=====	=====

**7 (b) SUPERANNUATION**

The Association made contributions to the following funds

**Accumulation funds**

Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	24,377	25,297
Employer contributions - other funds	15,299	11,369
	-----	-----
	39,676	36,666
	=====	=====
Employer contributions payable to reporting date	3,176	2,883

Refer to note 19 for further information relating to the Association's superannuation obligations.

**8 MATERIALS AND SERVICES**

Wimmera Business Achievement Awards	58,710	1,485
Wimmera Grains Industry Cluster	-	4,634
Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Strategic Plan	-	452
Leadership Wimmera	179,349	183,321
Settlement Program	30,254	7,491
Wimmera Grains Cluster Protein Extraction Project	240	10,312
Wimmera Internship Pilot Project	3,809	8,191
Victorian Multicultural Commission	6,792	-
WSM Workforce Projects	-	11,176
Wimmera Streetlife	1,136	42,352
Oasis Wimmera	-	250
FRRR Homework Club	3,753	4,941
Agricultural Educational Roundtable	-	2,496
Victorian Adaptation and Sustainability Partnership	161	18,301
Vocational Education and Training in Schools	-	15,000
Wimmera Weather	-	20,000
Careers Expo	223	6,471
Wimmera Development Association Strategic Plan	21,900	-
Wimmera Indigenous Tourism Feasibility Project	71,494	-
Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure Master Plan	87,980	-
West Wimmera Shire Council Economic Development Officer	3,847	-
Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project	26,575	-
Evolve Partnership	202	-
	-----	-----
Total materials and services	496,425	336,873
	=====	=====

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>9 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Plant and equipment	8,544	8,196
Furniture and fittings	2,242	2,695
<b>Total depreciation expense</b>	<b>10,786</b>	<b>10,891</b>

Refer to note 14 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges.

**10 OTHER EXPENSES**

Training	18	500
Office rent	13,697	13,604
Finance administration HRCC	8,400	8,000
Trainee	8,304	9,605
Office furniture & equipment maintenance	175	2,089
Postage	158	224
Computer operation & maintenance	1,245	915
Telephone	6,849	6,948
Insurance	1,211	1,142
Travel	30	883
Car expenses	5,444	5,365
Accommodation	773	1,437
Cleaning	1,980	1,880
Electricity	862	293
Bank charges	847	138
Audit fee to conduct external audit	5,800	5,600
Board operation	2,623	3,354
Advertising	5,137	7,177
Printing & stationery	4,168	4,589
Subscriptions	370	309
WDA Strategic Plan	-	1,800
Committee meetings & functions	743	756
Promotions	2,109	4,716
Recruitment Costs	-	22,612
Web Licence Fees	1,217	1,605
Remplan	7,900	7,900
Miscellaneous	965	180
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>81,025</b>	<b>113,621</b>



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>11 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	5,832	2,029
Cash on hand	400	400
Overnight cash at 11am call	88,500	23,500
Short term deposits	585,000	520,000
	<u>679,732</u>	<u>545,929</u>
	=====	=====

The Association's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

- Unexpended grants (Note 4)	134,551	114,551
- Unexpended other income (Note 5)	138,663	70,354
	<u>273,214</u>	<u>184,905</u>
	=====	=====

**12 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Other debtors	3,487	-
	<u>3,487</u>	<u>-</u>
	=====	=====

(a) Ageing of trade and other receivables

At balance date debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. These amounts relate to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. The ageing of the Association's trade & other receivables was:

Current (not yet overdue)	287	-
Past due between 31 and 180 days	3,200	-
	<u>3,487</u>	<u>-</u>
	=====	=====

**13 OTHER ASSETS**

Accrued Income	551	542
Prepayments	1,316	-
	<u>1,867</u>	<u>542</u>
	=====	=====

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**14 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, FURNITURE AND FITTINGS**

**Summary of Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings**

	At Fair Value 30 June 2016 \$	Acquisitions \$	Depreciation \$	Disposal \$	At Fair Value 30 June 2017 \$
Plant and equipment	33,150	-	(8,544)	-	24,606
Furniture and fittings	6,179	3,425	(2,242)	-	7,362
	<u>39,329</u>	<u>3,425</u>	<u>(10,786)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,968</u>
			Plant and Equipment	Furniture and Fittings	Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings \$
<b>2017</b>			\$	\$	\$
At fair value 1 July 2016			37,632	21,711	59,343
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2016			<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(15,532)</u>	<u>(20,014)</u>
			<u>33,150</u>	<u>6,179</u>	<u>39,329</u>
<b>Movements in fair value</b>					
Acquisition of assets at fair value			-	3,425	3,425
Fair value of assets disposed			-	<u>(4,809)</u>	<u>(4,809)</u>
			<u>-</u>	<u>(1,384)</u>	<u>(1,384)</u>
<b>Movements in accumulated depreciation</b>					
Depreciation			<u>(8,544)</u>	<u>(2,242)</u>	<u>(10,786)</u>
Accumulated depreciation on disposals			-	4,809	4,809
			<u>(8,544)</u>	<u>2,567</u>	<u>(5,977)</u>
At fair value 30 June 2017			37,632	20,327	57,959
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2017			<u>(13,026)</u>	<u>(12,965)</u>	<u>(25,991)</u>
			<u>24,606</u>	<u>7,362</u>	<u>31,968</u>

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**14 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, FURNITURE AND FITTINGS (Cont.)**

	Plant and Equipment	Furniture and Fittings	Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings
<b>2016</b>	\$	\$	\$
At fair value 1 July 2015	34,019	21,767	55,786
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2015	(17,305)	(17,358)	(34,663)
	<u>16,714</u>	<u>4,409</u>	<u>21,123</u>
<b>Movements in fair value</b>			
Acquisition of assets at fair value	37,632	5,479	43,111
Fair value of assets disposed	(34,019)	(5,535)	(39,554)
	<u>3,613</u>	<u>(56)</u>	<u>3,557</u>
<b>Movements in accumulated depreciation</b>			
Depreciation	(8,196)	(2,695)	(10,891)
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	21,019	4,521	25,540
	<u>12,823</u>	<u>1,826</u>	<u>14,649</u>
At fair value 30 June 2016	37,632	21,711	59,343
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2016	(4,482)	(15,532)	(20,014)
	<u>33,150</u>	<u>6,179</u>	<u>39,329</u>

**15 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Trade Payables	42,489	80,739
PAYG creditor	9,026	7,108
Net GST payable/(receivable)	3,602	(973)
Total trade and other payables	<u>55,117</u>	<u>86,874</u>

**16 PROVISIONS****(a) Employee provisions****Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months**

Annual leave	26,000	5,417
	<u>26,000</u>	<u>5,417</u>

**Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months**

Annual leave	8,368	29,696
	<u>8,368</u>	<u>29,696</u>

Total current employee provisions	<u>34,368</u>	<u>35,113</u>
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**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>16 PROVISIONS (Cont.)</b>	2017	2016
	\$	\$
<b>(a) Employee provisions (Cont.)</b>	-----	-----
<b>Non-current</b>		
Long service leave	13,479	6,182
	-----	-----
Total non-current provisions	13,479	6,182
	=====	=====
<b>Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions:</b>		
Current	34,368	35,113
Non-current	13,479	6,182
	-----	-----
Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions	47,847	41,295
	=====	=====

**17 RESERVES**

<b>(a) Asset Replacement Reserves</b>	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Transfer from accumulated surplus	Transfer to accumulated surplus	Balance at end of reporting period
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2017</b>	-----	-----	-----	-----
Special projects reserve	144,469	29,166	98,564	213,867
Vehicle replacement reserve	-	-	3,000	3,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total asset replacement reserves	144,469	29,166	101,564	216,867
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>2016</b>	-----	-----	-----	-----
Special projects reserve	129,830	65,537	80,176	144,469
Vehicle replacement reserve	3,054	3,054	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total asset replacement reserves	132,884	68,591	80,176	144,469
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The asset replacement reserve comprises amounts that are allocations of equity that represent planned asset replacement.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

<b>18 RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	2017 \$	2016 \$
	-----	-----
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	156,459	8,702
Depreciation expense	10,786	10,891
(Profit)/loss on disposal of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings	-	2,760
<b>Change in assets and liabilities</b>		
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	(3,487)	16,800
Decrease/(Increase) in accrued income	(9)	2,276
(Decrease)/Increase in prepayments	(1,316)	-
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables	(31,757)	50,554
Increase/(Decrease) in employee provisions	6,552	(32,928)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	137,228	59,055
	=====	=====

## 19 SUPERANNUATION

Wimmera Development Association makes all of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. The Association make contributions to the Fund's accumulation category only. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

### Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation category, Vision My Super/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings, for the year ended 30 June 2017, this was 9.5% required under Superannuation Guarantee Legislation.

## 20 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The Association is not aware of any contingencies at the reporting date.

## 21 COMMITMENTS

The Association did not have any commitments at 30 June 2017.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

**(i) Related Parties**

Parent Entity

Wimmera Development Association is the parent entity.

Subsidiaries and associates

Nil.

**(ii) Key management personnel**

Names of persons holding the position of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

Executive Director	R.Kenyon	Executive Director 23/11/15 to current
<b>Board Members</b>		
Chief Executive Officer	P. Brown	Member 1/11/10 to current
Treasurer	A. Murphy	Member 9/2/16 to current
<b>Council Positions</b>		
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Cr R. Gersch	Member 1/7/05 to current
	Cr D. Nelson	Member 10/11/15 to current
Horsham Rural City Council	Cr R. Barber	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
	Cr J. Koenig	Member 15/16/16 to current
West Wimmera Shire Council	Cr R. Hawkins	Member 10/11/15 to 15/11/16
	H. Mulraney-Roll	Member 9/08/16 to current
	Cr T. Domaschenz	Member 15/11/16 to current
	Cr J. Pretlove	Member 15/11/16 to current
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Cr L. Woods	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
	Cr T. Grange	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
	Cr G. Massey	Member 15/11/16 to current
	Cr H. Ballentine	Member 15/11/16 to current
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Cr K. Erwin	Member 13/11/12 to current
	Cr W. Rice	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
	Cr M. Emmerson	Member 15/11/16 to current
Co Opt Positions	R. Campling	Member 10/12/05 to current
	M. Williams	Member 14/2/12 to current
	G. Lord	Member 17/4/12 to current
	R. Bales	Member 13/11/13 to current
	A.Champness	Member 14/6/15 to current
	M. Bailey	Member 14/6/15 to current
	R. Gulline	Member 10/11/15 to current
	D. Leahy	Member 9/02/16 to current
G. Wood	Member 13/9/16 to current	
Sectional Interest Group Positions	S. Price	Member 21/3/07 to current
	A. Saunders	Member 10/11/09 to current
	D. Webster	Member 13/11/12 to current
	M. Stewart	Member 13/11/13 to current
	E. Sudholz	Member 13/11/13 to 15/11/16
	K. Grigg	Member 10/11/15 to current
	B. Ryan	Member 10/11/15 to current
	H. Phillips	Member 9/08/16 to current

No remuneration was paid for the reporting period to the board members listed above.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

**22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Cont.)**

**(iii) Remuneration of key management personnel**

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:		
Short-term benefits	127,838	151,685
Post-employment benefits	35,168	25,059
	=====	=====

The number of key management personnel, whose total remuneration from the Association and any related entities, falls within the following bands:

	No.	No.
\$80,000 - \$89,999	-	1
\$90,000 - \$99,999	-	1
\$160,000 - \$169,999	1	-

**(iv) Transactions with related parties**

The Association received the following amounts during the year from other related parties to fund its operations.

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Hindmarsh Shire Council	42,320	41,613
Horsham Rural City Council	196,994	193,701
West Wimmera Shire Council	31,755	31,224
Yarriambiack Shire Council	55,581	54,652
Northern Grampians Shire Council	82,544	81,164

The Association paid \$8,400 to Horsham Rural City Council during the year for administrative services provided to the Association by Horsham Rural City Council. The amount paid by the Association is based on the cost to Horsham Rural City Council of the services provided to the Association. (2015/16, \$8,000)

There were no other transactions with other related parties during the year.

**(v) Outstanding balances with related parties**

No balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties (2015/16, nil).

**(vi) Loans to/from related parties**

No loans were in existence at balance date that had been made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to a related party (2015/16, nil).

**(vii) Commitments to/from related parties**

No Commitments were in existence at balance date that had been made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to a related party (2015/16, nil).

**23 SENIOR OFFICER REMUNERATION**

A Senior Officer is an officer of the Association, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- Has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Executive Director;
- whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$142,000 is nil, (2015/16 nil).

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017****24 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS****(a) Objectives and policies**

The Association's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables, and payables. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement of the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Association. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to the Association and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

**(b) Market risk**

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Association's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Association's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk. Components of market risk to which we are exposed are discussed below.

***Interest rate risk***

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Association does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Association has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the Local Government Act 1989. The Association manage interest rate risk by ensuring:

- diversification of investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Association's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Association's year end result.

**(c) Credit risk**

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause the Association to make a financial loss. The Association have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. To help manage this risk:

- we may required collateral where appropriate; and
- the Association only invest surplus funds with financial institutions that conform with State and Federal regulations and standards.

Trade and other receivables consist of a small number of customers, spread across consumer and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Association's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is Local Government. Apart from Local Government the Association does not have any significant credit risk exposure to a single customer or groups of customers. Ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of our customers.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. The Association does not hold any collateral.



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017****24 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Cont.)****(d) Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of the Association's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks the Association:

- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments; and
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis.

The Association's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in the Association's exposure, to its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

All financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

**(e) Fair value***Fair value hierarchy*

The Association's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, the Association's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

**(f) Sensitivity disclosure analysis**

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Association believes the following movements are reasonably possible' over the next 12 months (Base rates are sourced from Reserve Bank of Australia):

- A parallel shift of +1% and -2% in market interest rates (AUD) from year end rates of 1.67%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of the Association's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Association's operations.

**25 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER BALANCE DATE**

No matters have occurred after balance date that require disclosure in the financial report.



# Independent Auditor's Report

## *To the Members of Wimmera Development Association*

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<b>Opinion</b>	<p>I have audited the financial report of Wimmera Development Association (the association) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• balance sheet as at 30 June 2017</li><li>• comprehensive income statement for the year then ended</li><li>• statement of changes in equity for the year then ended</li><li>• statement of cash flows for the year then ended</li><li>• notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies</li><li>• statement by Chairperson and principal officer.</li></ul> <p>In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2017 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the <i>Associations Incorporation Act 2012</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.</p>
<b>Basis for Opinion</b>	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the Act are further described in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
<b>Members' responsibilities for the financial report</b>	<p>The Members of the association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the <i>Associations Incorporation Act 2012</i>, and for such internal control as the Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial report, the Members are responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.</p>

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

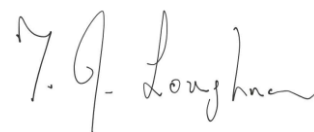
As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Members
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

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Tim Loughnan

*as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria*

MELBOURNE  
27 September 2017

## Auditor-General's Independence Declaration

### To the Members, Wimmera Development Association

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General, an independent officer of parliament, is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised.

Under the *Audit Act 1994*, the Auditor-General is the auditor of each public body and for the purposes of conducting an audit has access to all documents and property, and may report to parliament matters which the Auditor-General considers appropriate.

### *Independence Declaration*

As auditor for Wimmera Development Association for the year ended 30 June 2017, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- no contraventions of auditor independence requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2012* in relation to the audit.
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



MELBOURNE  
27 September 2017

Tim Loughnan  
*as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria*

# Board Members 2016/2017

Board Members 2016-17	Name	Possible Meetings	Meetings Attended	Membership
Chief Executive Officer	Mr Peter Brown	11	5	Member 1/11/10 to current
Wimmera Development Association Executive Director	Mr Ralph Kenyon	11	11	
Treasurer	Ms Angela Murphy	11	8	Member 9/2/2016 to current
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Cr Rob Gersch	11	11	Member 1/7/05 to current
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Cr Deb Nelson	11	11	Member 10/11/15 to current
Horsham Rural City Council	Cr Robin. Barber	4	1	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
Horsham Rural City Council	Cr Heather Phillips	4	4	
Horsham Rural City Council	Cr Josh. Koenig	7	2	Member 15/11/16 to current
West Wimmera Shire Council	Cr Trevor Domaschenz	7	7	Member 15/11/16 to current
West Wimmera Shire Council	Ms Helen Mulraney-Roll	10	9	Member 9/08/16 to current
West Wimmera Shire Council	Cr Ron Hawkins	5	4	Member 10/11/15 to 15/11/16
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Cr L. Woods	5	0	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Cr Terry Grange	4	3	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Cr Graeme Massey	7	7	Member 15/11/16 to current
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Cr Helen Ballentine	7	6	Member 15/11/16 to current
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Cr Kevin Erwin	11	7	Member 13/11/12 to current
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Cr Wayne Rice	4	4	Member 13/11/12 to 15/11/16
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Cr M Emmerson	7	4	Member 15/11/16 to current
Co Opt Positions – Horsham Rural City Council	Ms Robyn Gulline	11	9	Member 10/11/15 to current
Co Opt Positions – Yarriambiack Shire Council	Mr Ray Campling	11	9	Member 10/12/09 to current
Co Opt Positions – West Wimmera Shire Council	Mr David Leahy	11	10	Member 6/2/16 to current
Co Opt Positions – GWMWater	Mr Mark Williams	11	5	Member 14/2/12 to current
Proxy	Mr Steve Briggs		2	
Co Opt Positions – Federation University	Mr Geoff Lord	11	8	Member 17/4/12 to current
Co Opt Positions – Regional Development Victoria	Mr Richard Bales	11	3	Member 13/11/13 to current
Proxy	Mr Colin Kemp		4	
Co Opt Positions – Hindmarsh Shire Council	Ms Anne Champness	11	1	Member 14/6/16 to 13/9/16
	Mr Greg Wood	9	9	Member 13/9/16 to current
Co Opt Positions – Northern Grampians Shire Council	Mr Vaughan Williams		1	
	Mr Michael Bailey	9	7	Member 9/8/16 to current
Sectional Interest – Sustainable Agriculture	Ms Kerry Grigg	5	1	Member 11/7/16 to 8/11/16
	Mr David Drage	6	3	Member 20/11/16 to current
Sectional Interest – Tourism & Recreation	Mr Steve Price	11	6	Member 21/3/07 to current
Sectional Interest – Manufacturing	Mr Andrew Saunders	11	9	Member 10/11/09 to current
Sectional Interest – Commerce & Industry Development	Mr Darren Webster	11	6	Member 13/11/12 to current
Sectional Interest – Health & Wellbeing	Ms Mandi Stewart	11	4	Member 13/11/13 to current
Sectional Interest – Conservation & Environment	Ms Emelia Sudholz	11	6	Member 13/11/13 to current
Sectional Interest – Education & Training	Mr Brendan Ryan	11	3	Member 10/11/15 to current
Sectional Interest – Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance	Ms Heather Phillips	7	4	Member 9/8/16 to current

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES



PATRON: ACE RADIO BROADCASTERS PTY LTD



SPONSORS



SUPPORTERS

MURTOA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

LEADING TEAMS

WIMMERA BUSINESS CENTRE



Wimmera Development Association

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**THE wimmera**  
Everything you need.