

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017

ATTACHMENT D:
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REQUIRED UNDER THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

From the
mountains
to the sea

Requirements as per Act (section 428)

Wollongong City Council 2016-17 Annual Report was produced to comply with the Local Government Act 1993 (section 428) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (clauses 132, 217 and 224). The following information is a requirement under the Act to include in a council's annual report.

Special Variation of Rating Income

Local Government (General) Regulation S508(2) s508(a)

In June 2014, Wollongong City Council received approval for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) for an increase in 'General Revenue', which included minimum rate amounts of 6.13% in 2014-15, 6.23% in 2015-16 and 6.24% in 2016-17. At its meeting on 27 June 2016, Council endorsed its rates and charges for the 2016-2017 financial years, including the 6.24% rate increase (inclusive of 1.8% rate peg).

The Special Rate Variation application approved by IPART was supported by a comprehensive strategy, Securing Our Future program, which included a commitment to productivity improvements, as well as the increase in rates levy that together, would support the achievement of long term financial sustainability through an increase in expenditure for asset renewal.

Overall, Council expended the full 6.24% rate increase in revenue on renewal of Council's infrastructure and spent a further \$5.926 million in revenue above that projected across a range of renewal programs.

Actual expenditure between programs varied relative to original plans for each program due to the following contributing factors:

- Original projections were established based on a needs-based proportional distribution of additional SRV revenue.
- Substantial portions of renewal budgets were attributed to loan and funding programs. For example, the total road reconstruction program included \$2.31m of Roads to Recovery and Regional road funding.
- Actual expenditure is influenced by deliverability of projects. For example, expenditure for Community Buildings was below original projections due to undertaking detailed planning and design for future renewal projects.
- Additional roadwork, bridge renewal, playgrounds and car park projects were accelerated from future years.

Projects delivered within programs to which the SRV was applied include:

- Roads
- Bridges
- Footpaths
- Car parks
- Buildings
- Public facilities
- Crematorium/Cemeteries
- Play facilities.

The tables below outline how the total amount of the rating increase has been allocated and expended during the 2016 -17 financial year, in accordance with Council's financial sustainability program.

Capital Program Related to Special Rate Variation					
30-Jun-17					
SRV Renewal Program	Base Revenue	Allocation of SRV revenue	Base + SRV	Total renewal actuals expenditure of revenue funding	Difference of expenditure to Base + SRV
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Transport Facilities (bus shelters, etc.)	150,000	92,000	242,000	339,827	97,827
Roadworks - road resurfacing	981,000	1,848,000	2,829,000	5,014,949	2,185,949
Roadworks - road reconstruction	3,200,000	3,859,000	7,059,000	8,309,351	1,250,351
Bridges, Boardwalks and Jetties	600,000	462,000	1,062,000	1,709,811	647,811
Footpaths	1,387,618	4,157,000	5,544,618	4,328,249	-1,216,369
Cycle/Shared Paths*	500,000	831,000	1,331,000	3,179,984	1,848,984
Car Parks	800,000	231,000	1,031,000	1,936,541	905,541
Community Buildings including Cultural Centres (IPAC, Town Hall)	9,490,000	5,666,000	15,156,000	12,248,119	-2,907,881
Public Facilities (shelters, toilets, etc.)#	250,000	296,000	546,000	2,265,281	1,719,281
Crematorium/Cemetery Facilities	150,000	46,000	196,000	216,905	20,905
Play Facilities	650,000	499,000	1,149,000	1,322,248	173,248
Recreation Facilities	467,000	443,000	910,000	1,532,150	622,150
Sporting Facilities	80,000	323,000	403,000	670,797	267,797
Aquatic Facilities (pools, etc.)	1,795,000	647,000	2,442,000	2,752,555	310,555
TOTAL	20,500,618	19,400,000	39,900,618	45,826,765	5,926,147

*Cycle / shared path includes two major projects: The "Lower Tramway" upgrade and the Grand Pacific Walk
 #Public Facilities expenditure includes the Bald Hill Amenities major project

The following table provides a comparison of forecast operating result contained in the submission for the special Rate Variation that was approved by IPART in June 2014 with the actual result for the year ending 30 June 2017.

Operating Statement Comparison of Special Rate Variation Forecast and Actual 2016-17			
30 June 2017			
	SRV \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
Total Revenue	278,352	324,534	46,182
Total Expenses	266,294	255,067	11,227
Operating results including capital grants and contributions	12,057	69,467	57,410

These results reflect a substantial positive outcome against forecasts for the financial year ending 30 June 2017. Approximately \$48 million of this improvement is in relation to contributed assets and timing issues as well as a range of savings across the organisation that are consistent with the longer term direction set in the Securing Our Future program that adopted minimum targets in efficiency and other revenue opportunities and recognised that there was potential for a further upside required to create additional opportunity and improved delivery outcomes.

Major Variations	\$M
Revenue Variations	
Value of assets contributed to Council by external parties at end of financial year	29.5
Timing of specific purpose capital grants and contributions from developers	1.4
Early payment of the first two quarters of 2017-18 Financial Assistance Grant	9.0
Elimination of provision for carbon tax	4.5
Income from commercial activities	2.2
Development and approval income	0.6
Waste Facility & Domestic Waste Management income partly due to lower operating costs	(6.2)
Additional specific purpose operating grants	2.3
Additional rates from property growth	1.0
Investment income from higher cash holdings	1.5
Various other	0.2
Expense Variations	
Additional labour resources partly attributed to new and funded project	(3.4)
Revaluation of employee entitlements to reflect current discount factors and lower superannuation guarantee levy	1.4
Depreciation expense	2.3
Local Government elections deferred to 2017-18	0.8
Legal and insurance costs	1.8
Loss on disposal of assets	(4.0)
Increase in domestic waste collection contracts	(1.6)
Lower waste facility costs from removal of carbon tax and lower waste levy through increased site sourced cover materials	9.4
Street lighting and electricity costs	1.9
Increased application of internal labour charged to capital	2.9
Various Other	0.2
Total variation for year ending 30 June 2017	57.4

Contracts Awarded

In accordance with Section 428(2)(h) of the Local Government Act 1993 the following is a list of contracts greater than \$150,000 awarded during the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (whether as a result of tender or otherwise):

Tender No.	Name of Contractor	Contract Description	Contract Amount (Excluding GST) \$
T15/20	Donnelley Civil Pty Ltd	Debris Control Structure – Foothills Road, Mt Ousley	841,890.14
T15/41	Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd	Bulli Surf Club Refurbishment	1,801,932.00
T16/02	Select Civil Pty Ltd	Cliff Road to Tramway Access Stairs	913,430.32
T16/09	Bald Hill Company Pty Ltd	Bald Hill Kiosk and Mobile Food Van Licence/s	1,000,000.00
T16/15	Cleary Bros (Bombo) Pty Ltd	Corrimal Beach Dune Reshaping	190,505.59
T16/19	Select Civil Pty Ltd	Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park – Design and Construction of a Leachate Drainage System in the Western Gully	939,596.00
T16/23	Abergeldie Contractors Pty Ltd	Fowlers Road to Fairwater Drive – Stage 1A	5,176,051.80
T16/27	Malsave Pty Ltd	Refurbishment of Grandstand at Figtree Oval	192,200.00
T16/29	Ertech Pty Ltd	Stage 2: Construction of a new Landfill Cell at Whytes Gully Waste and Resource and Recovery Park	6,372,224.58
T16/31	Glenn Simpson Landscapes Pty Ltd	Kanahooka Park Playground Replacement	170,381.00
T16/32	Ertech Pty Ltd	Blue Mile Tramway Seawall and Shared Path Upgrade	7,943,015.37
T16/33	Polytan Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	Beaton Park Running Track	458,350.00
T16/34	Glenn Simpson Landscapes Pty Ltd	Nicolson Park Woonona – Playground Replacement	301,698.10
T16/35	Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd	Whytes Gully Community Recycling Centre	897,840.00
T16/38	Todae Solar Pty Ltd	Solar Photovoltaic Systems	382,957.20
T16/40	Marine & Civil Maintenance Pty Ltd	Bridge Maintenance of Cabbage Tree Creek Fairy Meadow	300,195.00
T16/41	Marine & Civil Maintenance Pty Ltd	Cathodic Protection of Bridge 2 at Yallah Bay Road Yallah	344,299.00
T16/44	Essential Care, Just Better Care, South Coast Home Health Care and Australian Home Care	Brokerage Nursing Services – Community Transport and Social Support Services	Approx 450,000.00
T16/45	Uniplan Group Pty Ltd	Construction, Supply, Delivery and Installation of Relocatable Ensuities – Bulli Beach Tourist Park	247,600.00
T16/46	Sullivans Construction	Rex Jackson Oval Grandstand Refurbishment	208,606.40
T17/04	Dynamic Civil Pty Ltd	Coalcliff Rock Pool Refurbishment	707,914.00
T17/05	Batmac Constructions Pty Ltd	Coledale Beach Public and Campground Amenities Roof	221,023.89
T17/06	Donnelley Civil Pty Ltd	Stanwell Park Children's Centre Retaining Wall	179,966.00
T17/01	Kenpass Pty Ltd	Bridge Replacement Works on Berkeley Road near Unanderra Station	446,850.05
T17/16	Batmac Constructions Pty Ltd	Mt Keira Summit Works Stage 2	642,267.38
T17/17	Traymark Industrial Caravans Pty Ltd	Fabrication and Supply of Ten Work Caravans	444,450.00
T17/20	Van Mal Group Constructions Pty Ltd	Dapto Memorial Pool Roof Replacement	413,830.00

Controlled Entities

There are no controlled entities in the financial statements for 2016-17.

Council has significant influence over the following entities but do not consolidate due to their immaterial value and nature.

- Illawarra Performing Arts Centre Limited
- Wollongong City of Innovation Limited (trading as *Destination Wollongong*)

Partnerships, Cooperatives or Joint Ventures

Wollongong City Council is in a joint venture with CivicRisk West and CivicRisk Mutual, whose principal activities are insurance.

Financial Assistance to Persons for Council Functions

Contributions made by Council under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 in 2016-17 include:

Name of Contractor	\$
Community events and activities	246,751.60
Arts and cultural activities	115,444.27
Community safety	5,000.00
Educational and environmental activities	8,034.36
Sporting activities	132,149.09
Heritage Grants	33,465.00
Total	540,844.32

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' to its business activities as part of the national competition policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government.

The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 Government Policy statement on the Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government.

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

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents; Council subsidies; return on investments (rate of return); and dividends paid.

DECLARED BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

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

CATEGORY 1 (where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million):

- a. Waste Disposal - Manages the disposal of solid waste generated within the city.
- b. Tourist Parks - Operation, management and development of tourist parks at Bulli, Corrimal and Windang.
- c. Health and Fitness - Responsible for the management and upkeep of Council's leisure centres.
- d. Crematorium and Cemeteries - Provision of quality crematorium, cemetery and memorial facilities and services.

COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY COMPLAINTS

Underpinning competitive neutrality is the need to properly recognise the full costs of Council's business activities. This allows comparisons to be made with competitors in the same marketplace and provides information that will allow Council to determine pricing policies for each business.

Wollongong City Council has a process distributing indirect costs and overheads attributable to the declared business activities which are shown in the Special Purpose Financial Reports.

Rates and Charges Written Off

	\$
Section 600 Allowances	Nil
Postponed Rates	34,450
Postponed Interest	17,420
Council Voluntary Pension Rebate	587,542
Pensioner Interest write-offs	Nil
Abandonments	146,000
Total	785,412

Companion Animal Management

The Annual Pound Data Collection Forms and all data relating to dog attacks have been returned to the Office of Local Government (OLG) for the 2016-17 period.

Council undertakes its impounding activities in accordance with a Deed of Agreement with the RSPCA at the RSPCA's new facility at Industrial Road, Unanderra. The RSPCA's reputation and network enables improved opportunities to re-home animals. Council has also introduced a Pound Hardship Policy that provides an increased opportunity for owners in financial hardship to coordinate the release of their impounded animals.

Council encourages the community to de-sex their companion animals through the differential registration rates between de-sexed and non-desexed cats and dogs. The Ranger Services unit also encourages de-sexing through their discussions with owners.

All registration income returned to Council from the Office of Local Government's Companion Animal Fund was expended into animal management. Council expended a total of \$1,485,737 on companion animal management activities during 2016-17.

With additional budget, Council has now employed three Foreshore Rangers employed for three days a week (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) to regulate the activity along Council's beach and foreshore precincts. The three Foreshore Rangers undertake Dogs on Beaches patrols and enforce the public place areas in relation to illegal camping, litter and parking.

This year education included the preparation of an updated Responsible Dog Ownership Fact Sheet and modified Dogs on Beaches and Parks Policy Brochure. Council continues to engage with the community in relation to responsible dog ownership including the change of times for the on-leash zoning requirements for the Beach Patrol Season. An information brochure is also sent out with microchip and registration letters to further educate the community on their responsibility as the owner of a dog or cat.

This year Council in partnership with the Animal Welfare League and the support of the Office of Local Government Responsible Pet Ownership Grant provided a cheaper rate for the desexing of cats for the holders of a Centrelink and Pension card.

Council has also installed new poo bag dispensers at locations within the community which have been identified as high activity pedestrian/dog walking areas such as Cliff Road North Wollongong, south of Woonona SLSC, south of Thirroul ocean pool and the Blue Mile.

The current list of declared off-leash areas are:

- Perkins Beach, Windang (extending from Shellharbour Road/Wattle Street beach walkway north to access way south of Port Kembla Surf Life Saving Club southern car park;
- MM Beach, Port Kembla;
- Coniston Beach, Coniston south of Bank Street;
- Beach area directly east of Puckey's Estate, Fairy Meadow ie walkway north of Fairy Creek lagoon to walkway south of playground at Fairy Meadow Beach;
- East Corrimal Beach (from northern side of Bellambi Lagoon to Bellambi Point);
- Bellambi between Bellambi ramp and ocean pool;
- McCauley's Beach, Bulli/Thirroul;
- Little Austinmer Beach, Austinmer;
- Sharkey's Beach, Coledale (from the car park, south toward the rock outcrop);
- Stanwell Park Beach, north of northern lagoon;
- Figtree Oval, Figtree;
- Proud Park, Helensburgh;
- Riley Park, Unanderra;
- Eleebana Reserve, Koonawarra; and
- King George V Park, Port Kembla.

Swimming Pool Inspections

In accordance with Clause 18BC of the Swimming Pool Regulations 2008, Councils are required to include in their annual report the number of inspections performed and the resultant number of certificates of compliance and certificates of non-compliance issued.

Inspections of pool barriers located at Tourist and visitor accommodation	1
Inspections of pool barriers upon premises with 2 or more dwellings	0
Total number of compliance certificates issued	77
Total number of non-compliance certificates issued	79

Environmental Upgrade Agreements (Section 54p)

Particulars of any environmental upgrade agreement entered into, in accordance with any requirements imposed under s406

Nil. This is not a service offered by WCC.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

[Section 93G(5) Planning Agreements]

Particulars of compliance with and the effect of planning agreements in force during the year.

Agreement Description	Property Description	Agreement Date	Particulars of compliance with and effect of
Brooks Reach (Stockland) Monetary contributions, land dedication and onsite works.	Lot 601, DP 1054648, Lot 60, DP 1063539, Lot 1, DP 549692 & Lot 62, DP 751278 Bong Bong Road, HORSLEY	6/05/2011 (Amended 26/10/2012 & 12/5/2017)	No effect this period.
Vista Park Subdivision Monetary contributions, land dedication and onsite works.	Lots 1, 2, 5 and 6, DP 1169628, Lot 4, DP 1178706, Lot 2, DP 1175865, known as 60 Smiths Lane, WONGAWILLI	25/07/2013	Delivery of land for public open space in accordance with the delivery schedule in the agreement.
Alkira Estate, Horsley Monetary contributions, land dedication and onsite works.	Lots 3, 5, 6 and 9 in DP 33650, Lot N in DP 103642 and Lot 4 in DP 661032 otherwise known as 80, 88, 94, 104 Shone Avenue and Lot 9 Iredell Road, Horsley.	8/09/2015	No effect this period.

Stormwater Management Services

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CHARGE

Management of stormwater in Wollongong is challenging due to the large number of creeks and estuaries as well as the proximity of the escarpment to the coast which results in rapid stormwater surface flows during rainfall events. This presents particular challenges for managing the planning and development of the city's stormwater drainage network in such a way to balance the sometimes competing demands for new land for development, increased stormwater run-off that accompanies new development, protection of private and public assets from floods and protection of the natural environment.

The Stormwater Management Service Charge was introduced in 2006-07, following changes to the Local Government Act, to help fund the stormwater infrastructure and management costs borne by councils. The legislation allowed a flat fee of \$12.50/\$25.00 to be applied to each unit and townhouse/individual household and a pro rata fee for each business premises. The charge enables a significant increase in the works program for renewal of our ageing stormwater infrastructure, along with construction of new stormwater infrastructure with a focus on urban flooding and stormwater quality improvement works.

The City has an Integrated Stormwater Management Plan that incorporates the three stormwater management plans, including some overlap into the Shellharbour LGA, that provide a strategic approach to stormwater management. The plans, along with the Stormwater Asset Management Plan, catchment specific Floodplain Risk Management Plans, Illawarra Biodiversity Strategy and estuary management plans, inform future capital, maintenance and operational works programs to continue to build the capacity and reliability of the city's stormwater infrastructure to manage both the quantity and quality of stormwater run-off. Some tasks and projects identified in these programs are funded, or part funded, by the Stormwater Management Service Charge.

Projected Versus Actual Expenditure on Stormwater Infrastructure

Stormwater Management Service	Expenditure \$'000	Funding * \$'000
Planned - Annual Plan 2016-17	4,826	2,021
Actuals costs 2016-17	4,682	1,735
Difference	144	286

* Stormwater Management Service Charge revenue

ALLOCATION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGE FUNDS

Income from the Stormwater Management Service Charge is allocated across five categories as follows:

Category	Planned Expenditure 2016-17 \$	Final Expenditure 2016-17 \$	Reasons for change
Stormwater Quantity Management	499,392	488,685	Unforeseen differences between cost estimates and final costs.
Stormwater and Watercourse Quality Management	696,000	606,774	Unforeseen differences between cost estimates and final costs.
Stormwater Infrastructure Restoration and Replacement	450,000	307,867	Some works were delivered at a lower cost than estimated.
Stormwater Operational Management	341,794	314,933	Capitalisation of stormwater investigation expenses.
Stormwater Asset Management System	33,874	16,915	Capitalisation of stormwater investigation expenses.
TOTAL	2,021,060	1,735,174	

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGE FUNDED WORKS

Stormwater Quantity Management

Construction of new or enhanced stormwater drainage services to address current needs

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Chalmers Street, Balgownie	Debris control structure (design)	13,188
Cosgrove Avenue, Keiraville	Debris control structure	163,500
Gipps Road and Allen Street, Mount Keira	Debris control structure (design)	6,027
88 Popes Road, Woonona	Debris control	1,000
151 Buttenshaw Drive, Austinmer	Debris control	4,302
275B Flagstaff Road, Lake Heights	Energy control device	8,000
Nicholson Street, Woonona	Bank support	82,580
Foothills Dam, Mount Ousley	Channel lining	130,000
22 Alvan Parade, Mount Pleasant	Drainage upgrade	1,391
7 Melinda Grove, Lake Heights	Drainage upgrade	60,000
Joanne Street, Woonona	Drainage upgrade	9,697
Caroona Street, Berkeley	Drainage upgrade	9,000
	TOTAL:	488,685

Stormwater and Watercourse Quality Management

Construction or renewal of infrastructure for debris and/or pollution control; and creek bank clearing and revegetation with appropriate native species to maintain or improve stormwater flows, improve natural pollution control including siltation reduction and weed propagation as well as reducing flood risks.

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Bellambi Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	15,500
Branch Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	17,500
Budjong Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	7,000
Byarong Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	20,000
Cabbage Tree Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	55,500
Charcoal Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	30,000
Fairy Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	15,000
Hospital Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	10,000
Stanwell Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	2,500
Towradgi Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	27,500
American Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	11,500
Farahars Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	1,500
Mullet Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	12,494
Robins Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	30,000
Ena Street	Weed removal and replanting with native species	2,500
Minegang Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	25,000
Fairy Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	26,500
Camp Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	6,974
Tramway Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	1,000
Slacky Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	15,000
Brooks Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	26,000
Whartons Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	10,000
Edgewood Estate	Weed removal and replanting with native species	10,500
Edgar Street / WSLR Caters Lane	Weed removal and replanting with native species	10,000
Colvin Street detention basin	Weed removal and replanting with native species	15,000
Rickard Road	Weed removal and replanting with native species	30,000
Cherrybrush Circuit/Berkeley Road	Weed removal and replanting with native species	20,000
Collins Creek	Weed removal and replanting with native species	17,500
Foothills Estate 3 Retention Basin Inlets	Weed removal and replanting with native species	1,500

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Citywide	Weed removal and replanting with native species	40,174
Elliots Road, Fairy Meadow	Access track to water quality device	75,000
Swan Street, Wollongong	Water quality device (design)	1,578
Swan Street, Wollongong	Access track to water quality device (design)	1,554
Kully Bay, Warrawong	Access track, headwalls and trash racks (design)	15,000
TOTAL:	Stormwater Quality Management - Operational	606,774

Stormwater Infrastructure Restoration and Replacement

The replacement and/or upgrading of existing stormwater drainage assets due the condition of the asset or to address current needs.

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Second Avenue North, Warrawong	Pipe reconstruction (design)	3,894
2 Toorak Avenue, Mangerton	Pipe reconstruction	71,500
Farrell Road, Bulli	Culvert rehabilitation	40,000
56 Foothills Road, Balgownie	Gabion basket refurbishment	47,000
50 Garden Avenue, Figtree	Pipe reline	47,380
11 Claremont Avenue, Lake Heights	Pipe reline	18,909
Bulwarra Street, Keiraville	Pipe reline	13,562
2 Pendleton Close, Tarrawanna	Pipe reline	1,074
33 George Street, Thirroul	Drainage augmentation	10,000
Various	Minor drainage replacements	54,548
	TOTAL	307,867

Stormwater Operational Management

Planning and undertaking operational activities including cleaning of debris and pollution control assets

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Citywide	Cleaning and removing of debris from stormwater pollution control and stormwater drainage infrastructure	314,933
	TOTAL	314,933

Stormwater Asset Management System

Collection of asset management data on the stormwater drainage network, the urban drainage (pits and pipes), creeks/waterways, flood attenuation and management structures and pollution/debris control structures. This information is used to refine and update the asset management plan including maintenance, capital renewal and augmentation programs.

Project Location	Work Description	Funding \$
Citywide	Programmed inspections of stormwater assets, develop maintenance and capital renewal programs	16,915
	TOTAL	16,915

Condition of Public Works

Financial information on the condition of public works is reported in the General Purpose Financial Statements through Note 9a - Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment, Note 27 - Fair Value Measurement; and Special Schedule No. 7 - Report on Infrastructure Assets.

Work Carried Out On Private Land

Throughout the year, Council did not complete any works on private lands (Section 67):

Public Interest Disclosures (PID)

Public authorities are required to report annually to Parliament on their obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (Section 31). The Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (PID Act) sets in place a system to encourage public officials to report serious wrongdoing. The conditions around this reporting are set out in Council's Internal Reporting Policy.

Public Interest Disclosures received and investigated by Council during 2016-17 include:	
Number of public officials who made PIDs	3
Number of PIDs received	4
Corrupt Conduct	2
Number of PIDs finalised	4

Note: The number of PIDs finalised only refers to PIDs that have been received since 1 July 2016.

During the reporting period, Council undertook the following actions to meet its staff awareness obligations:

- Established internal reporting policy, regularly reviewed and updated;
- Policy briefing to senior managers;
- Training provided internally by the organisation;
- Training provided to staff during induction;
- Links on intranet site;
- Messages in staff briefings;
- Statement of commitment from head of the organisation; and
- Posters.

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

The Government Information (Public Access) Act was introduced 1 July 2010 and facilitates access to information that Council holds in the following ways: Mandatory release of information via Council's website (Open access), authorised proactive release via Council's website, informal release subject to an informal access application and release subject to a formal access application. Any person who wishes to obtain access to information held by Council is encouraged to contact our public officer for assistance. There are a number of *open access* documents available including Wollongong 2022 Community Strategic Plan, management plans, annual reports, annual budgets, plans and policies, meeting agendas and minutes and graffiti and land registers. These, and other documents, are easily accessed via our website.

The following table specifies the number of Formal Access Applications lodged under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 received during the 2016-17 period. Statutory processing times were complied with in all cases.

Month	Number of Applications Received	Were applications processed within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days
July	5	Yes
August	6	Yes
September	2	Yes
October	3	Yes
November	1	Yes
December	5	Yes
January	3	Yes
February	3	Yes
March	2	Yes
April	2	Yes
May	3	Yes
June	2	Yes

Where a formal access application is received, and it is likely to be of interest to members of the public, Council may make the details available by publishing the content to its *disclosure log*. The disclosure log contains non-personal information only and can be viewed on Council's website via the following link – <http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/council/gipa/Pages/DisclosureLog.aspx>

Summary of Legal Proceedings

Particulars	Finalised	Expenses Including GST \$	Receipts Excluding GST \$
Liability Litigation Against Council			
Breach of Contract	No	\$8,863.25	\$168.00
Personal Injury	Yes	61,378	0
Personal Injury	No	40,099	0
Professional Indemnity	Yes	24,404	0
Council Initiated Litigation			
Unauthorised Structures and Use	Yes	\$8,847.35	
Unauthorised Structures and Use	No	\$13,242.12	
Prosecution (Class 5)	No	\$78,784.84	\$1,716.00
Challenges to Consents	No	\$3,600.00	
General Prosecutions	Yes	\$15,730.00	\$4,591.00
Planning Appeals Against Council			
Refusal of Development Applications	Yes	\$67,815.46	\$15,740.00
Challenges to Consents	Yes	\$17,750.00	

External Bodies That Exercise Functions Delegated By Council

During 2016-17 the following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, 1993

Body	Function
PLANNING + ENVIRONMENT	
Alanson Avenue Fiready	APZ maintenance
Allen Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Alvan Parade Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Armagh Parade Bushcare	Bushland Restoration
Artis Street Bulli Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Balmer Crescent Fiready	APZ maintenance
Bellambi Dune Bushcare	Dune/lagoon restoration
Blue Divers Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Blue Lagoon Bushcare	Coastal/riparian restoration
Brickyard Point Bushcare	Coastal headland restoration
Brooks Creek North	Riparian restoration
Brooks Creek Upper	Riparian restoration
Budjong Creek Landcare	Riparian restoration
Buttenshaw Place Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Byarong Creek (Figtree) Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Byarong Creek (Mt Keira) Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Carrington Road Bushcare	Woodland restoration
Charcoal Creek (Mid) Bushcare	Riparian restoration
City Beach Dunecare	Dune restoration
Clifton Bushcare	Sea cliff restoration
Coachwood Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Coledale Bushcare	Sea cliff restoration
Emperor Court Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Farmborough Waterfall Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Figtree Oval Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Friends of the Botanical Gardens	Through active volunteering, the Friends foster community interest in the garden, promote the role of education in the garden, and support the development of the garden by raising funds for specific projects.
Garden Avenue Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Garden Avenue Fiready	APZ maintenance
Gellatly Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Greenhouse Park Bushcare	Revegetation
Helensburgh Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Hewitts Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Hooka Point Bushcare	Saltmarsh/riparian restoration
Ironbark Avenue Bushcare	Riparian restoration
John Parker Reserve	Riparian restoration
Keira Oval Bushcare	Riparian restoration
King George V Oval Bushcare	Revegetation
Kooloobong Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Kulgoa Road Bushcare	Riparian Restoration
Kurrimul Creek Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Lower Hill Street Fiready	APZ maintenance
Mangerton Park Bushcare	Dry rainforest
Mangerton Park Project	Dry rainforest

Body	Function
Melaleuca Park Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Mount Kembla Pathway Project	Maintenance of Memorial Track
Murray Garden Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Nyrang Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Odenpa Road Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Puckeys Estate Bushcare	Dune/lagoon restoration
Rae Crescent Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Reed Park Bushcare	Bushland Restoration
Richardson Park Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Riveroak Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Sandon Point Bushcare	Dune restoration
Stanwell Park Dunecare	Dune restoration
Stephen Drive Fiready	APZ maintenance
Stockyard Slope	Riparian restoration
Sunninghill Circuit Fiready	APZ maintenance
Taminga Crescent Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Tathra Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Throsby Drive Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Towradgi Dune Bushcare	Dune restoration
Underwood Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Upper Brooks Creek	Riparian restoration
Upper Hill Street Fiready	APZ maintenance
Wharton's Creek Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Whipbird Reserve Bushcare	Bushland restoration
William Beach Park Bushcare	Riparian restoration
Wilson Street Bushcare	Sea cliff restoration
Windang Dunes North Dunecare	Dune restoration
Windang Dunes South Dunecare	Dune restoration
Wisemans Park Bushcare	Woodland restoration
Wollomai Pt Bushcare	Bushland restoration
Wollongong Surf Leisure Resort Dunecare	Dune restoration
Wombarra Creek Bushcare	Riparian Restoration
Wombarra LHD Dunecare	Dune restoration
Wombarra Pool	Bushland restoration
CORPORATE SERVICES	
Mt Kembla Mining Heritage Inc.	The hosting of the 96 Candles Ceremony at Mt Kembla
COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Berkeley Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Group	Undertake minor maintenance and works to the grounds and improvements of Berkeley Pioneer Cemetery also utilising private equipment and labour from the Periodical Detention Centre.
Bulli Senior Citizens' Centre	To occupy, manage, secure, care take and maintain the premises on behalf of Council. Make the premises available for use by senior groups, community groups and others compatible with guidelines at mutually agreed times.
Comic Gong Volunteers	To assist to meet and greet visitors, conduct craft activities and surveys.
Community Transport Volunteers	To transport frail older people, people with a disability and their carers in their own cars or Council's vehicles.
Friends of Scarborough Cemetery	Undertake minor maintenance and works to the grounds and improvements of Scarborough cemetery.
Home Library Service Volunteers	Selection of books on behalf of and delivery to customers' homes
Living Books	To be a "living book" as part of Councils Living Book program which includes sharing their story with young people and members of the Community at Living Book events

Body	Function
Social Support Services Volunteers	Support for frail aged, people with disabilities and their carers.
Surf Life Saving Illawarra	To provide lifesaving and rescue services to Council in accordance with the executed service agreement.
Viva La Gong Volunteers	To assist with set up and running of Viva la Gong Festival
Volunteering Illawarra Volunteers	Interviewing members of the public interested in volunteering their time in the community.
Wollongong Art Gallery Volunteers	To fulfil the role of Gallery guides, provide informed talks and facilitate discussion about the exhibitions for both school groups and adult members of the community.
Wollongong City Library Volunteers	Broadly working in libraries to gain skills undertaking administrative and customer service tasks such as IT training and events.

Details of Overseas Visits by Councillors and Council Staff

Councillor Gordon Bradbery OAM, Lord Mayor

Official visit to Sister City Ohrid,
Macedonia
23-27 May 2017

COSTS

Registration	nil
Accommodation	376.06
Flights	nil
Expenses	41.94
TOTAL COST	418.00

Councillor Gordon Bradbery OAM, Lord Mayor

UK Mayoral Forum, London,
United Kingdom
14-15 June 2017

COSTS

Registration	nil
Accommodation	nil
Flights	1,188.46
Expenses	159.30
TOTAL COST	1,347.76

Mark Grimson Economic Development Manager

Meeting with Prysmian Group
Board
Milan, Italy
11-15 June 2017

COSTS

Registration	Nil
Accommodation	Nil
Flights	2,223.00
Expenses	177.00
TOTAL COST	2,400.00

Suri Mora

Senior Environmental Project Officer

ICBEN 2017 (Congress on Noise as Public Health Problem)
Zurich, Switzerland
18-22 June 2017

COSTS

Registration	676.69
Accommodation	1,157.30
Flights	Nil
Expenses	Nil
TOTAL COST	1,833.99

Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

The Employment, Equity and Diversity (EED) Management Plan includes a number of programs addressing targeted groups. Our EED programs have continued to expand, and staff continued to be involved in employment strategy initiatives in the community. During 2016-17, Council undertook the following activities which provided and maintained opportunities for a diverse range of groups:

- Staff and Councillors were invited to complete a survey demonstrating attitudes and commitment to achieving gender equity. After considering survey results and tangible measureable projects, Council was awarded the '50:50 Vision Councils for Gender Equity – Silver Award' by the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA)
- Improvements to recruitment practices were implemented across Council's youth development program and other relevant areas. Resulted in an increase of staff engaged from identified disadvantaged groups.

Council is also committed to:

- Continuing to support the promotion and advocacy of diversity within the workforce.
- Implementing an EEO management plan for groups of people who are under-represented in our workforce and provide specific strategies to encourage better representation and participation within work areas, job families and managerial roles where they are underrepresented. These groups include women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, young people, people with disability and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Councillors Attendance at Meetings

Council on 14 September 2015 resolved that Councillor attendance at Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings, Section 355 Committees, as well as Councillor Briefing Sessions, be recorded and reported in the Annual Report. During the period under review, there were 15 Council meetings and 25 Councillor briefings/workshops held.

Attendance at Council Meetings and Councillor Briefing Sessions

Councillor	Council Meetings Attended	Councillor Briefings Attended
Cr Gordon Bradbery OAM, Lord Mayor	14	21
Cr Michelle Blicavs	14	21
Cr David Brown	15	23
Cr Chris Connor	14	20
Cr Leigh Colacino	15	20
Cr Bede Crasnich	13	4
Cr Vicki Curran	13	6
Cr John Dorahy	11	11
Cr Janice Kershaw	15	25
Cr Ann Martin	14	24
Cr Jill Merrin	13	21
Cr Greg Petty	12	3
Cr George Takacs	15	24

Attendance at Section 355 Committees

Australia Day Committee	Meetings Held	Attended
Councillor Bradbery	9	7
Councillor Connor	9	7

City Centre Major Projects Steering Committee Councillor Members	Meetings Held	Attended
Councillor Bradbery	2	2
Councillor Blicavs	2	2
Councillor Brown	2	2
Councillor Dorahy	2	1
Councillor Takacs	2	1

Report of the Audit Committee

Report to Council covering the period July 2016 to June 2017

MEMBERSHIP

The Audit Committee of Council (The Committee) comprises five (5) members: three (3) independent members and two (2) Councillor members.

They are:

Independent Members	Mr Jim Mitchell FCPA, Chairperson Dr Philip Ross BBus, MCom, PhD, CA Mr Stephen Horne PFIIA, CIA, CGAP, CRMA, MAICD, FGIA
Councillor Members	Councillor Michelle Blicavs MMgt, FAIST, GAICD, FSAE Councillor Greg Petty FCPA, GAICD, AGIA, BBS (NSWIT), JP

All independent members have recent and relevant financial experience in addition to extensive experience in corporate governance. Councillor members have appropriate qualifications and experience to allow them to undertake their roles.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee has the following responsibilities:

Financial Reporting

Advise Council whether the financial information reported by management reasonably portrays the Council's financial position, results of operations and significant commitments. In fulfilling this responsibility throughout the year the Committee have:

- Reviewed monthly and quarterly management financial, investment and performance reports.
- Reviewed the annual financial statements to ensure completeness, consistency with the Committee's knowledge of operations and application of accounting policies and principles.
- Received briefings on significant accounting and legislative matters with the potential to affect the financial position of Council.

Internal and External Audit

Oversight the work of both internal audit and external audit. External Audit included that provided by Council's contracted external auditors and more recently the Audit work undertaken by the Audit Office of NSW.

In fulfilling this responsibility throughout the year the Committee have:

- Reviewed Council's risk profile developed by the Internal Auditor and subsequently considered, approved and monitored the annual audit plan for internal audit activities.
- Ensured that all systems, processes, operations, functions, and activities of the Council were subject to internal audit evaluation at regular intervals based on risk assessment. To assist in this regard the Committee received regular briefings and updates on legislative and operational changes with the potential to affect Council's risk profile.
- Monitored, through the results of internal and external audits, the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's internal control structure.
- Reviewed internal and external audit reports, the practicality of any recommendations and the adequacy of management responses. The Committee also monitored the implementation by management of recommendations arising from audit reports.
- Provided input and feedback on external audit coverage and performance.
- Reviewed the Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters.

Appendix A details those internal audits undertaken during the period July 2016 to June 2017, which were overseen by and reported to the Committee.

Other Responsibilities

The Committee is required, through the Chair, to provide assistance and advice to the Corporate Governance Committee should any matters related to ethics, conflict of interests, misconduct, or fraud come to its attention. No matters of this nature came to the attention of the Committee throughout the year.

The Chair of the Committee may provide advice to the General Manager in relation to any matter if requested.

Prepared by J Mitchell
Chairperson
Audit Committee
August 2017

2016-17 Internal Audit Plan	
CCTV Camera Operations Policy Compliance	This internal audit is required to be completed every 2 years in accordance with policy. The objective of this internal audit was to consider and assess compliance with the policies and procedures in place for CCTV camera operations.
Contract Management Process	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to Contractor Engagement and Management, and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Corporate Emergency Planning Processes	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to corporate emergency planning policies and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Council's Decisions	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to recording, implementing and reporting Council resolutions and associated actions, and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Councillors' Expenses	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to the payment of expenses to the Lord Mayor and Councillors, and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Developer Application and Assessment Processes	The overall objective of the internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with WCC Management, compliance with current policies and procedures to manage development application and assessment processes, and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Development and Environmental Compliance Inspections Processes	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to development and environmental compliance requirements and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Health Compliance Inspections Processes and Controls	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to health compliance inspection requirements and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Property Expenditure Management Process	The objective of this internal audit was to consider the effectiveness of key controls as identified with Management and compliance with current policies and procedures relating to property expenditure requirements and to identify any improvement opportunities.
Follow-up Audits x 2	A follow-up of internal audit recommendations is performed on twice yearly. The purpose of each review is to establish and report on the status of actions taken by management to implement agreed internal and external audit and PCC recommendations. This review has covered all recommendations noted by management as completed during the audit period.

Report of the Corporate Governance Committee

Report to Council covering the period July 2016 to June 2017

This report to Council covers the period July 2016 to June 2017.

MEMBERSHIP

The Corporate Governance Committee (The Committee) has five (5) members: three independent members and two Councillors. All independent members have recent and relevant corporate governance experience in addition to relevant industry experience. Councillor members have appropriate qualifications and experience to allow them to undertake their roles.

They are:

Independent members: Terry Clout BA (UoW), FAICD, FGCRI, FRMIA, FACHSM, CPRM, JP
Chairperson
Ross Clifton PhD, MBA, MA, Bed
Member
Catherine Hudson BEc, GAICD
Member

Councillor members: John Dorahy, Deputy Mayor, GAICD
Chris Connor, MEdAdmin, GradDipEdSt (School Admin), DipT, MAICD

RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Corporate Governance Committee is to serve as an independent and objective party to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to corporate governance, management of its financial affairs, compliance with laws, ethical behaviour, and for risk management.

As per the terms of reference, during the reporting period the Committee completed the following activities:

1 Financial Monitoring

- Reviewed Council's financial performance against the Budget as approved by Council, both operating and capital budgets;
- Reviewed strategies of management to achieve budget balance;
- Reviewed long term financial strategies developed by management.

Note: The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for examining the appropriate management of the budget. The Audit Committee is responsible for signing off on the financial statements for accuracy.

2 Planning and Performance Monitoring

- Monitored the development of the Council's annual management plan
- Reviewed and monitored progress of Council's strategic plans
- Reviewed the Council's progress against key performance indicators:
 - Executive key performance indicators
 - Council trends and statistics including:
 - o Legal matters, including claims
 - o Status of Council resolutions
 - o Active Council tasks register
 - o Customer relations feedback
 - o TRIM statistics
 - o Work health and safety
 - o Corporate governance health checklist.

3 Risk Management

The Committee closely monitored the risk management program to ensure a comprehensive risk management plan is in place and management has a program to manage all significant risks by identification, prioritisation, and implementation of strategies.

In particular, the Committee reviewed:

- Reports on risk assessments and controls
- Risk management policies and procedures
- Risk management systems and compliance processes for adequacy.

In addition, the Committee provided advice on investigative processes throughout the year and undertook the role of monitoring the implementation of recommendations arising from some major external reviews.

4 Ethical Conduct

The Committee reviewed Council's approach to:

- Managing conflicts of interest
- Managing gifts and benefits
- Fraud prevention strategies
- Corruption risk management
- Probity issues relating to procurement practices and procedures
- Developing and maintaining staff awareness of ethical conduct, risk management and corruption prevention.

Closed Session Meetings with the Professional Conduct Coordinator (PCC) were held prior to each Committee Meeting to consider the PCC's Progress Report for the preceding period.

5 Council Policy Reviews

The Committee conducts ongoing reviews of the Council Policy Register and Corporate Governance Health Check to ensure that all key policies are current and meet legislative requirements.

6 Other Responsibilities

The Committee Chairperson provided advice to the General Manager in relation to the assessment and investigation of Code of Conduct complaints.

The Committee, during the year, received reports and provided advice to Management and Council on the:

- Proposed Council merger
- Council's project management framework.

Prepared by T Clout

Chairperson

Corporate Governance Committee

July 2017

Sponsorship of Wollongong City Council Events

The following table provides a list all sponsorship, as per Council's Sponsorship Policy. (Figures reported excluding GST).

Sponsors / Event	Australia Day \$	NYE \$	Moonlight Movies \$	Viva la Gong \$	Giving Tree \$	Comic Gong \$
Acorn Lawyers		8,000				
South Coast BMW		6,500				
Foreshore Shipping Containers			500			
CareSouth			4,000			
Bendigo Bank	3,500					
Telstra Country Wide	10,000					
Transport for NSW (in-kind)	3,021	4,906				
Brandworx (in-kind)	1,854					
Bluescope Community Partners	2,500					
McDonalds	15,000					
I98FM	In-kind	In-kind		In-kind		
Illawarra Mercury	In-kind	In-kind		In-kind		
WIN TV	In-kind	In-kind		In-kind		
Wave FM	In-kind					
Friends of the Library						3,000
Defence Force						2,500
Exhibitors and artists (in kind)						6,750
Media outlets (in kind)						32,000
Other organisations (in kind)						5,425
Total	35,875	19,406	4,500			49,675

Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2016 - 2020

The Wollongong City Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2016 – 2020 (Plan) is guiding Council to meet its requirements under the NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014.

The plan has four focus areas:

- Creating Liveable Communities;
- Improving Access to Services through better Systems and Processes ;
- Promoting Positive Community Attitudes and Behaviours;
- Supporting Access to Meaningful Employment.

The development of the plan involved extensive community consultation and Council continues to engage the community to ensure the priorities are current. A detailed implementation plan and evaluation framework supports the plan and measures our progress. An internal steering group with representatives across Council divisions is overseeing the implementation of the plan.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2016 - 2017

Annual Progress

Completed	Ongoing	In Progress (Projects)	Pending	Not Started
4	66	28	1	18

Creating Liveable Communities

Council has undertaken the following infrastructure projects to increase access to the built environment for people with disability:

- Upgrades to accessible public toilets at Bald Hill, Nicholson Park, Stuart Park and Thirroul Bathers Pavilion including the installation of the City's first 'Adult Change Table' in Stuart Park
- Upgrades to Stuart Park including the installation of accessible BBQ's, picnic shelters and improved accessible parking, all linked by a continuous accessible path of travel
- Increased accessibility at Bald Hill including an accessible observation deck, equal access from the top of the new amenities to Lawrence Hargrave Memorial at the southern end and improved parking
- A number of footpath upgrades including Western Crown Street footpath and Tannery Street, Unanderra.

Council is working towards a greater understanding of access across the city and has allocated funding in the 2017 - 18 budget to:

- Develop a Public Toilet Strategy
- Collect data about access as part of the footpath condition audit
- Undertake an access audit of bus stops and shelters
- Undertake an audit of Council's accessible parking both on road and in car parks in key locations.

Improve Access to services through better systems and processes

Council has worked to increase access to information including:

- The development of an 'Easy Read Plan' and Screen Reader version of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- The installation of a Communication Board for Luke's Place plays space. Communication boards are now being planned for a number of play spaces across the city
- Upgrades to Council's Disability web page
- Updates to the National Public Toilet Map.

Council officers have participated in training to build their skills and knowledge to support access including:

- Building inclusive events
- 'Universal Access Outdoor Areas' training for Council's design and technical staff.

Council continues to be committed to consulting with people with disability. This includes

- Consultation with the deaf community to learn about how Council can best provide service to meet their needs
- Facilitating the Access Reference Group to provide advice to Council on access matters.

Promote Positive Community Attitudes and Behaviours

Council has worked towards promoting positive community attitudes and behaviours towards people with disability through:

- The implementation of a media campaign to target illegal use of Mobility Parking Scheme Permits
- A presentation to local business about the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Council has worked to increase opportunities for people with disability to participate in community activities. This includes:

- Improved access to New Year's Eve celebrations for people with disability
- Provision of a golf cart and mobility scooters at the botanic garden
- Hosting the 'Outsiders Exhibition' and providing a fabric design workshop for people with disability
- Provision of Auslan interpreters for a Bee Workshop and a Decluttering Workshop.

Supporting Access to Meaningful Employment

Council has worked to increase employment opportunities for people with disability including the adoption of a Workforce Diversity Policy and Workforce Diversity Management Plan. Initiatives include:

- Targeted trainee positions in Information Management
- Promotion of Council job vacancies at Council through disability networks.