



**Cook Shire**  
COUNCIL

# Annual Report 2023–24



# Acknowledgement of Country

Cook Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout the Shire and recognises their continuing connection to lands, water and community. We pay our respects to the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across our vast Shire and to Elders and leaders past, present and emerging.

Under the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council must publish an annual report, which provides an update to the community about Cook Shire Council's finances, performance and how Council has delivered against the Corporate and Operational Plans. Legislation requires particular information to be included in an annual report. This report also includes a summary of the performance against Council's Operational Plan 2023–24.

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# Message from the Mayor



The annual report provides an opportunity for Council to reflect on our endeavours and achievements throughout the year; and the challenges we have encountered. It is also an opportunity to recognise the importance of our partnerships with community, business and industry organisations, and State and Federal Governments, to advance our vision to be Queensland's best local government area to live, work and play.

Leading up to the Local Government Elections in March 2024, my vision was to contribute towards the future of Cook Shire ensuring it is progressive, sustainable and prosperous. I was driven by the aspiration to achieve the best practical outcomes, recognising this can be achieved through our professional team of Councillors as the strategic leaders and our staff who undertake the administrative and operational functions to deliver those outcomes.

This annual report details Council's achievements including service delivery; and statutory reporting, performance and financial management for the financial year.

Despite challenging economic times and a significant natural disaster, Council has maintained its focus on delivering services for residents across all 7 communities. Prioritisation of emergent works has placed pressures on delivering other projects in our Capital Works Program.

With a number of major projects happening in the Shire, our economic growth will become more apparent over the next 5 years when we see the redevelopment of the Cooktown Hospital and construction of more than 40 houses for State Government employees in Cooktown.

Council continues to advocate at both State and Federal Government levels for continued support to enhance roads, housing, health and liveability across the Shire. High on our list of priorities is advocating for funding to upgrade essential water infrastructure across the Shire.

Wherever there is opportunity we continue to advocate for funding from State and Federal Governments, however this source of revenue can be quite competitive and sometimes requires a co-contribution, which poses its own challenges. Cook Shire is better placed to advocate for non-competitive grants that do not require co-contributions. In addition to this, we continually seek ways to secure earlier payments of disaster funding for roadworks as most residents whose main access is via gravel roads don't see the potential maximum benefit of roadworks a month before the onset of the wet season.

One of our biggest challenges for Cook Shire Council is to improve our financial sustainability while continuing to deliver essential and community services. Cape York Peninsula is a very diverse area where Council endures the complexities of social, cultural, environmental and economic challenges in delivering services and infrastructure, across the 106,073 km<sup>2</sup>+ of Cook Shire, to enable a healthy and liveable region.

The 2023–24 year saw the election of a new Council and many achievements in disaster recovery, infrastructure improvements and community wellbeing. The future's exciting as we continue to work towards creating a more sustainable and prosperous position for Council and community.

**Cr Robyn Holmes**  
Mayor, Cook Shire Council

\* Source: id.com.au

# Message from the CEO



The 2023–24 financial year started with such promise and I was optimistic about continuing to build on our recovery post-COVID. Unfortunately, December 2023 was one that we will all remember for all the wrong reasons. The devastation following the coastal crossing of Tropical Cyclone Jasper (TC Jasper) will affect members of our communities for many years to come.

Many of the staff of Cook Shire have worked in the disaster recovery space rather than their usual jobs for the first half of 2024. This impacted our ability to deliver our budgeted works; however, we still managed to complete most of our projects while maintaining our service levels. Our staff will continue to assist the communities while delivering as much as possible of our usual works.

In the first half of 2024, Council held elections, which affected our operations as the statutory caretaker period virtually stopped the regular business of Council. Since the election was declared, the new Council has been very active and pushing the administration to improve our service delivery and work on their visions for the Council term.

Despite the issues that have impacted our operations, this year's financial result has been very good. I say that with an asterisk as our Financial Assistance Grant was not handed down in the 2023–24 financial year, which skewed our accounts to show a bigger than budgeted loss. These grants are Council's allocation of GST revenue, and the Federal Government dictates the timing. As the grant amounts to a bit over \$13 million, having the allocation hit our books in July rather than June is not ideal from an accounting perspective.

The future for our Shire is looking very good, with major announcements that will drive our economy for the next 5 years. During this financial year, the State commenced building approximately 50 houses, including some social housing and some for local workers. Following strong advocacy from the Mayor, the Health Minister announced budgeting of \$200 million for the Cooktown Hospital redevelopment. Coen has also welcomed the announcement of new housing and a commitment in excess of \$6 million for a new arts centre.

Private enterprise has invested in the region and, in particular, there has been many new developments in Lakeland. We are also receiving new proposals for developments that are indicative of the strong economy in the region.

This year has been tough and there is no letting up on the near horizon. I thank all of our residents who have worked with Council through this year and I acknowledge that it has been a trying time for many people. We are your Shire and we will continue to strive to be better and connect with our communities to hear what is important to you.

To the staff of Cook Shire, thank you. It has been a year I am sure many of you would like to forget. You have all contributed above and beyond what I would expect in any typical year.

**Brian Joiner**  
CEO, Cook Shire Council

# Cook Shire at a glance

**4,761+ people live in our region across 106,073 km<sup>2</sup>+**



2,934 km of road network<sup>+</sup>

- 238 km sealed<sup>+</sup>
- 2,165 km gravel<sup>+</sup>
- 215 km unpaved<sup>+</sup>
- 316 km unmaintained<sup>+</sup>



152 km of water and sewer mains<sup>\*</sup>

274 buildings<sup>\*</sup>

2,695 rateable properties

\$13,174,000 building approvals<sup>+</sup>



\$1.5 billion<sup>+</sup> GRP

4<sup>\*</sup> airports

371<sup>+</sup> local businesses

1,934<sup>+</sup> employed residents

Top three industries

- mining
- accommodation and food services
- agriculture, forestry and fishing<sup>+</sup>



<sup>+</sup>Source: id.com.au

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Cook Shire Council Long Term Asset Management Plan 2022–2032

 Cook Shire Council Area

# Cook Shire Councillors



**Councillor Robyn Holmes, Mayor**

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# Strategic and operational progress assessment

In accordance with Section 190 of the *Queensland Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Chief Executive Officer must present an annual assessment of Council's progress in delivering on its 2022–2027 Corporate Plan and 2023–24 Operational Plan.

The following overview highlights the progress made on key priorities outlined in the 2022–2027 Corporate Plan, as well as the operational initiatives undertaken during the 2023–24 financial year that contributed to the achievement of these priorities.





“ Creation of relaxed, welcoming and liveable places and spaces for all. ”

## Places for people

Cook Shire Council continues to make significant progress in enhancing the quality of life for residents through a range of projects and policies designed to improve public spaces and services across the Shire. Regular engagement with the community through forums and participation in local meetings has ensured open communication and the ability to address local needs effectively.

One notable success was implementing a dog desexing program to reduce the number of unwanted puppies, thereby contributing to improved community safety and well-being.

Council also supported local businesses through the Business Security Upgrade Grants program, providing \$25,386 to 10 local businesses for security improvements, such as CCTV installation and fencing, to help foster a safer business environment.

Another achievement this year was the development of the Master Plan for Nature's Powerhouse. The plan addresses critical plumbing issues, enhances the café kitchen and storage facilities, and provides improved

protection for the Vera Scarth-Johnson art collection. Once funded and fully-implemented, these upgrades will enrich the visitor experience and preserve this valuable cultural asset.

The capital works program remains central to improving infrastructure. Key projects completed in the 2023–24 financial year include the installation of a shade structure at the Cooktown waterfront kiosk, new flagpoles at Bloomfield Oval, and the upgrade and replacement of signage at the Cooktown Cemetery.

To ensure the ongoing provision of essential services, Council continues to invest in water and wastewater infrastructure, including roof replacement for the high-water reservoir, ongoing upgrades to Cooktown water mains, and improvements to the electrical/SCADA control system.

Through strategic policies, community planning, and targeted infrastructure upgrades, Council demonstrates its ongoing commitment to creating vibrant and welcoming spaces for all residents.



“ Development of a resilient, healthy and compassionate Shire, united in community pride. ”

## Wellbeing and empowerment

Over the past year, Cook Shire Council has focused on fostering resilience and wellbeing within the community, particularly following the devastation caused by TC Jasper and subsequent flooding in December, which severely impacted the southern parts of the Shire. Recovery efforts have been extensive and ongoing, with a sustained commitment to rebuilding homes, restoring agricultural land, repairing roads, and re-establishing essential services. Council prioritised social wellbeing, economic stability, infrastructure recovery and environmental rehabilitation throughout this process.

To support long-term recovery, Council collaborated closely with state and federal agencies to ensure resources were allocated efficiently. Additionally, local initiatives aimed at helping residents and businesses navigate the challenges posed by the disaster were introduced. Focusing on building the region's resilience to future events, these initiatives promote both the physical and emotional wellbeing of affected communities.

Despite these challenges, Council continued to prioritise critical projects, including repairs to Cooktown's

aged-care units and advocating for establishing a dedicated aged-care facility to address the significant shortage of services for the ageing population. Additionally, the Youth Council successfully hosted Cooktown's Got Talent, showcasing the talents of aspiring young performers and celebrating the vibrancy of our youth.

Another significant achievement this year was successfully securing funding to appoint two dedicated Sport and Recreation officers to service Coen, Cooktown, Lakeland, Laura, and Rossville. These officers will continue to play a vital role in promoting healthy lifestyles, facilitating local sports programs, and encouraging community participation across the Shire.

In a moment of community pride and solidarity, Cooktown celebrated its 150th anniversary as a declared township, reflecting on its shared history and resilience for the future. Through these recovery and celebratory efforts, Cook Shire Council remains committed to championing the wellbeing of its people and environment, ensuring a healthy, compassionate, and united Shire.



“ A growing Shire that supports active, connected and mobile communities. ”

## Accessibility and connectivity

In the 2023–24 financial year, Council also made significant strides in enhancing accessibility and connectivity across the region, focusing on infrastructure improvements and environmental stewardship. A key initiative involved protecting sensitive beach areas from vehicle access, preserving these pristine ecosystems for future generations while promoting public safety and environmental health.

In terms of digital connectivity, Council successfully facilitated access to low-orbiting satellite internet services in Rossville, Ayton, Coen, and Portland Roads, providing reliable, high-speed internet to these remote communities. This development has improved communication, education, and business operations, boosting social and economic wellbeing for residents.

Physical accessibility was also improved with the extension and enhancement of footpaths in Cooktown,

making the town safer and more walkable for residents and visitors. Additionally, Council maintained and upgraded over 2500 km of gravel and sealed roads throughout the Shire, ensuring efficient and safe travel for locals and tourists alike.

A significant achievement was the completion of major upgrades at Coen Airport, including a new fuel system, passenger amenities block, seating, and community-accessible storage. These improvements enhance the airport’s functionality and support greater connectivity within and beyond the Shire.

Through these targeted initiatives, Cook Shire Council continues to prioritise accessibility and connectivity, ensuring that the region remains well connected, accessible, and environmentally responsible for both residents and visitors.

### Cook Shire airports

Metrics	Cooktown	Coen	Laura
Avgas sales (in litres)	87,990 L	87,580 L	
Jet A1 sales (in litres)	112,376 L	108,407 L	
Aircraft landings	3,126	1,091	119
Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) landings	268	137	3
Heaviest aircraft	C-27J Spartan (30,000 kg) and Challenger 604 (21,500 kg)	Dash 8-100 (15,785 kg)	AW139 Rescue Helicopter (6,400 kg)



“ A sustainable, diverse and innovative economy that attracts investment and provides local employment all year round. ”

## Economic development

Cook Shire Council remains committed to fostering economic growth and attracting regional investment. This year, Regional Development Australia made significant progress advancing the Lakeland Area Irrigation Scheme, a transformative \$1.6 billion project. Once complete, the scheme will substantially boost regional food production, strengthen the agricultural sector, and create new opportunities for local and regional businesses.

In addition, Council continued to work on developing an aviation park at Cooktown Airport. This project aims to offer direct airside access to aviation businesses, creating a hub for industry growth and innovation. The park will attract specialised aviation businesses, contributing to job creation and economic diversification within the Shire.

Recognising the economic challenges facing businesses following Tropical Cyclone Jasper, Cook Shire Council invested considerable effort in supporting impacted enterprises. Council's initiatives have focused on rebuilding efforts while ensuring business recovery remains a central part of the broader disaster recovery process. Furthermore, Council has worked to ensure that its procurement and operational practices align with supporting local businesses wherever possible. This commitment to local spending helps strengthen the Shire's economic base and sustains regional employment.

Through large-scale infrastructure projects, supporting local businesses, and fostering resilience in the face of natural disasters, Cook Shire Council continues to drive sustainable economic development and enhance the region's long-term prosperity.



## Waste

**230.52 tonnes** of tyres recycled (equivalent to 28,815 passenger tyres)

**1,738 tonnes** of green waste mulched, equivalent to the volume of the Cooktown swimming pool (3,476m<sup>3</sup>)

**642.45 tonnes** of disaster waste processed after TC Jasper

**22,438 containers** destined for landfill that were recovered and recycled

## Biosecurity

**3,500 km** of roads surveyed and managed for invasive weeds

**3 million hectares** of land management for feral dogs and pigs

**20 people** from 7 agencies supporting Gamba Grass Task Force



“ To be recognised as a leader in environmental management, enhancing and sustainably managing our local natural areas and resources. ”

## Environmental responsibility

Cook Shire Council actively ensures environmental sustainability and protects the region's unique ecosystems through a range of proactive initiatives. This year, Council awarded \$26,614 across 4 innovative projects through the Environmental Innovation Grants program. These projects included solar lighting installations and a mobile, onsite concrete washout and treatment plant, contributing to reduced environmental impact and fostering sustainable practices across the Shire.

Council made significant progress in controlling the feral pig population by trialling a new baiting program to complement existing trapping methods. This successful trial has reduced the feral pig population, minimising damage to local ecosystems and agricultural land.

Council also made notable progress in its Reef Guardian Action Plan, which aims to reduce agricultural

runoff into the Great Barrier Reef. By continuing efforts to control invasive weeds and hosting the Gamba Grass Taskforce, Council is actively working to protect and preserve the local environment.

Revegetation projects were another highlight this year, contributing to enhanced biodiversity and long-term environmental sustainability within the Shire. Waste management improvements were also prioritised, including the installation of a litter net at the Cooktown Waste Transfer Station and improved sorting of waste materials.

These efforts increased recycling, with 230.52 tonnes of tyres successfully recycled. Through these initiatives, Cook Shire Council continues demonstrating its commitment to environmental responsibility, ensuring that the Shire remains a steward of its natural resources for future generations.



“ An organisation characterised by strong leadership, good governance, effective community engagement and excellence in delivery. ”

## Organisational capability

Cook Shire Council remains focused on enhancing its organisational capability through strategic initiatives to improving governance, staff development, and operational efficiency. A major milestone this year was the successful conduct of the local government election in March, followed by a comprehensive induction and training program for newly elected Councillors. This program equipped Councillors with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively represent the community and make informed decisions in their roles.

Council prioritised staff development by hosting an all-staff development day focused on employee well-being, safety, and leadership. The event was designed to foster a healthy and supportive work environment while encouraging leadership at all levels within the organisation.

In terms of operational efficiency, the Water and Wastewater team's capacity to respond effectively to community needs was strengthened through the development of an accurate mapping system. This system ensures that the team can meet Water and Wastewater Customer Service Standards promptly and effectively, contributing to improved service delivery.

Council also continued its transition toward a low-paper office environment, reducing the amount of paper used and stored across the organisation through the increased use of digital records. It is estimated Council decreased paper use by more than 500 reams of paper compared to the 2022–23 year and destroyed 231 boxes of paper files that are now available digitally. This shift not only increases efficiency and reduces waste, but also aligns with Council's broader sustainability goals.

Through these initiatives, Cook Shire Council continues to build its organisational capability, ensuring both staff and elected officials are equipped to serve the community and deliver high-quality services in a sustainable and efficient manner.

**231**  
archive boxes  
digitised

approximately 602,500  
pages

**252,000**  
A4 pages  
saved annually

equivalent to 504 reams of  
paper, saving approximately  
\$4,032 per year

# Overview of Tropical Cyclone Jasper and the impact on our region

## Weather impact

Severe Tropical Cyclone Jasper reached peak intensity as a Category 4 system in the Coral Sea before crossing the Far North Queensland coast near Wujal Wujal, approximately 120 km north-northwest of Cairns, at 8 pm on Wednesday 13 December 2023, as a Category 2 cyclone. The areas south of the cyclone's centre experienced the strongest winds, with gusts estimated at up to 130 km/h. After making landfall, Jasper weakened rapidly as it moved inland, dropping below tropical cyclone intensity by 12 am on Thursday 14 December 2023. Although initially forecast to continue towards the Gulf of Carpentaria, ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper stalled over Cape York Peninsula for several days.

A surface trough developed over the region during the weekend of 16 and 17 December, extending from ex-Jasper eastward across the north tropical coast into the Coral Sea. Moist north-easterly winds from the Coral Sea converged with easterly winds strengthened by a building ridge in the Tasman Sea resulting in heavy to intense rainfall across the north tropical coast. The saturated river catchments from Jasper's earlier rainfall exacerbated the situation, leading to widespread flooding.

The impacted areas included Lakeland, Laura, Cooktown, Poison Creek, Marton, Quarantine Bay, Endeavour Valley, Mt Amos, Helenvale, Rossville, Ayton, and the Bloomfield River Valley, including Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire and Degarra in Douglas Shire. Due to limited meteorological and hydrological monitoring networks, measuring rainfall and river heights in these areas was challenging. Residents in the most severely affected areas reported totals exceeding 3,000 mm, with gauges becoming overwhelmed.

## Flooding

Extreme weather triggered landslides and record flood levels across several rivers and creeks, including the Endeavour, Bloomfield, Gap, Wallaby, Mungumby, Trevathan, Annan, and Laura, as well as their tributaries. This led to significant human, social, economic, road, and infrastructure impacts. Lakeland and Laura were isolated for 3 days, with highways and airstrips rendered inaccessible. Mt Amos, Helenvale, Rossville, Ayton, and the Bloomfield Valley faced extended isolation during and after the event. Helenvale and Rossville were cut off for 8 days, while Ayton and the Bloomfield River Valley experienced 15 days of isolation due to severe road damage from landslides. Many individual properties were also isolated as waterways rose and fell.

## Response and recovery

The entire township of Wujal Wujal evacuated, with 293 displaced residents relocated to Cooktown's Evacuation Centre on Tuesday 19 December 2023. Residents began returning to their community on Sunday 14 April 2024. Major road closures occurred across the Shire, while the Lakeland Aerodrome and Cooktown Airport were forced to close due to flooding. Cook Shire Council responded to 255 requests for assistance between 17 December 2023 and 8 February 2024. The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) was active for 92 days, from 13 December 2023 until 14 March 2024. The Local Disaster Recovery Group (LDRG) was activated on 3 January 2024 and continues to oversee the recovery efforts.



# Tropical Cyclone Jasper in numbers

**2,500 km<sup>2</sup> estimated area impacted**  
from Cooktown to Laura to Lakeland to Bloomfield

**140+** number of homes inundated by flooding post TC Jasper

**642** tonnes of flood-damaged waste processed

**130+** water samples tested across Ayton, Bloomfield, Helenvale and Rossville

**255** number of requests for assistance responded to by Council

**72** requests for assistance directed to Disaster Relief Australia (DRA)

**104** DRA volunteers deployed clocked 5026 hours on the ground

**22** small businesses connected with to provide disaster information and support

**19** repairs made to the water network due to damages caused by flooding

**293** residents of Wujal Wujal evacuated to Cooktown

**92** total number of days the LDMG was active



# Community Financial Report

The Community Financial Report summarises Council's general purpose financial statements from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. It has been designed to give community members a clearer understanding of Council's financial performance over the past financial year.



## Statement of comprehensive income

The statement of comprehensive income (formerly the profit and loss statement) shows the details of Council's operating and capital income as well as expenses for a specified reporting period. Revenue minus expenses will result in either a net result (profit) or deficit (loss).

A summarised statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2024 is shown in the table below:

Summary of statement of comprehensive income	\$ '000
Operating revenue	79,243
Less: Operating expenses	-100,918
<b>Operating position*</b>	<b>-21,675</b>
Plus: Capital income	12,830
Less: Capital expenses	-4,128
<b>Net result</b>	<b>-12,975</b>

## Operating revenue

Total operating revenue for the year was \$79.2 million, sourced from a variety of streams. The majority of Council's revenue – 82.23% – came from grants and contributions. The following table and graph provide a detailed breakdown of the operating revenue categories, along with their respective percentage of the total revenue for the financial year.

Operating revenue sources	\$ '000	%
Rates, levies and charges	9,075	11.45
Fees and charges	1,228	1.55
Sales revenue	1,330	1.68
Grants and contributions - Operating	65,163	82.23
Rental income	662	0.84
Interest received	1,159	1.46
Other income	625	0.79
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>79,243</b>	<b>100</b>



## Operating expenditure

Total operating expenses for the year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 amounted to \$100.9 million. The most significant portion – \$67.3 million, or 66.76% of total operating expenditure—was allocated to materials and services.

Materials and services expenditure typically covers a wide range of activities, including administration, project delivery, repairs and maintenance of Council's roads, drainage, and bridge network, water and wastewater services, parks and open spaces, as well as various community services.

Of the \$67.3 million spent on materials and services, \$55.5 million was allocated to the restoration of flood-damaged road assets.

Operating expenditure	\$ '000	%
Employee benefits	17,540	17.38
Materials and services	67,372	66.76
Finance costs	912	0.90
Depreciation and amortisation	15,094	14.96
<b>Total operating expenditure</b>	<b>100,918</b>	<b>100</b>



## Statement of financial position

The Statement of Financial Position (formerly known as the Balance Sheet) shows Council's assets and liabilities at a point in time. The statement measures what Council owns (assets) and what Council owes (liabilities). The difference between these two components is the net equity of Council and our community, referred to as Community Equity.

Statement of financial position	\$ '000	%
<b>Assets - What Council owns</b>		
Cash assets	24,397	4.23
Receivables	2,452	0.43
Inventories	946	0.16
Contract assets	1,836	0.32
Other assets	105	0.02
Non-current assets held for sale	450	0.08
Property, plant and equipment	546,365	94.76
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>576,551</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Less: Liabilities - What Council owes</b>		
Payables	4,955	18.55
Contract liabilities	3,904	14.62
Borrowings	2,125	7.96
Provisions	14,932	55.90
Other liabilities	795	2.97
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>26,711</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Net community assets - What Council is worth</b>	<b>549,840</b>	

## What we own

As at 30 June 2024 Council assets were valued at \$576.5 million, of which, \$546.3 million related to Council's major assets being property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment consist of various fixed asset classes that are detailed in the following table:

Property, plant and equipment	\$ '000	%
Land	15,912	2.91
Buildings	50,509	9.24
Plant and equipment	3,995	0.73
Furniture and equipment	57	0.01
Road, drainage and bridge network	374,548	68.55
Water	37,619	6.89
Sewerage	23,780	4.35
Other structures	27,358	5.01
Works in progress	12,587	2.31
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>546,365</b>	<b>100</b>

## What we owe

As of 30 June 2024, Council's total recognised liabilities stood at \$26.70 million. The majority of this amount – \$14.9 million – represents provisions for the expected long-term costs of rehabilitating rubbish tips and gravel quarries.

Council's borrowings total \$2.1 million, with an additional overdraft facility of \$0.79 million. The overdraft facility helps Council manage cash flow for flood damage projects, where funds must be spent upfront before being reimbursed by the funding provider. This facility is typically repaid in the short term after Council has covered the cost of completed works.

## Statement of changes in equity

The equity in Council's operation, which is commonly referred to as community equity, is its net assets derived from the difference between total assets and total liabilities at the end of the financial year. The change in equity reflects the variance in Council's net assets between the start of the financial year (1 July) to the end of the financial year (30 June).

As at 30 June 2024, total community equity was \$549,840 million representing an increase of \$12.9 million from the start of the financial year.

Community Equity comprises of the following components:

Description	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Asset revaluation surplus	455,180	455,181
Retained surplus/(deficiency)	91,528	104,502
Reserves	3,132	3,132
<b>Total community equity</b>	<b>549,840</b>	<b>562,815</b>

# Statement of cash flows

The statement of cash flows measures the inflow and outflow of cash during the reporting period. The statement is categorised into three groups:

- Net cash from operating activities**  
 These are normal day-to-day functions of Council. This would include receipts such as rates, fees and charges, interest received on investments and payments of employee wages, materials and services.
- Net cash from investing activities**  
 Including capital grants for the purchase and construction of property, plant and equipment and proceeds from the sale of assets.
- Net cash from financing activities**  
 These are repayments of loans, as well as the inflows from new loans drawn down in the year (if any). The inflow represents the drawdown from the working capital facility to fund flood damage works.

Statement of cash flows	\$ '000
Cash and cash equivalent beginning balance	43,728
Net cash from operating activities	-17,875
Net cash from investing activities	-886
Net cash from financing activities	-570
<b>Cash and cash equivalents closing balance</b>	<b>24,397</b>

Cash at the end of the year was \$24.39 million. This is represented in note 9 of the Financial Statements as the cash and cash equivalents less the amount of the overdraft facility.

## Measures of financial sustainability

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council to report its results for the financial year against selected financial sustainability ratios. The financial ratios are shown below:

Ratio	What the ratio provides	How the ratio is calculated	Ratio	Target
<b>Unrestricted cash expense cover ratio</b>	This ratio shows how many months a Council can keep running using its available cash to cover monthly expenses, reflecting its financial stability and solvency.	Total cash equivalents ad current investments add available ongoing QTC WCF less external restricted cash divided by total operating expenditure less depreciation & amortisation less finance costs	3.3	> 4 months
<b>Asset sustainability ratio</b>	This ratio shows the level that Council is replacing assets as they reach the end of their useful lives.	Capital expenditure on the replacement of assets (renewals) divided by depreciation expense.	56 %	> 90 %
<b>Asset consumption ratio</b>	This ratio shows how much of a Council's assets has been used, compared to the cost of building new assets that would provide the same value to the community.	Written down replacement cost of depreciable assets divided by current replacement cost of depreciable assets	74 %	>60 %
<b>Leverage ratio</b>	This ratio assesses how well a council can repay its debt by comparing its debt level to its operating performance.	Book value of debt divided by operating result add depreciation & amortisation add finance costs	-0.32	0 – 3 times
<b>Operating cash ratio</b>	This ratio measures a council's ability to cover its main operational costs and generate extra cash, without considering depreciation, amortization, and finance costs.	Operating result add depreciation & amortisation add finance costs divided by total operating revenue	-8 %	> 0 %
<b>Operating surplus ratio</b>	The operating surplus ratio is an indicator of how well revenue raised can cover operating expenditure.	Operating result divided by total operating revenue	-27 %	Contextual
<b>Council-controlled revenue ratio*</b>	This ratio reflects how much financial control a council has, its ability to affect its income, and its capacity to handle unexpected financial issues.	Net rates, levies and fees & charges divided by total operating revenue	13 %	Contextual
<b>Population growth ratio*</b>	This allows a council to raise more revenue through rates and fees, but also increases the need to invest in new infrastructure to meet rising service demands.	Prior year estimated population divided by previous year population less -1	-2 %	Contextual

# Legislated reporting requirements

The Queensland *Local Government Act 2009* and associated *2012 Regulation* requires Council to include in its annual report specific information that promotes an informed community and a transparent council. The following sections detail information required to be included in the annual report relevant to both Council and the Shire.



# Councillor reporting requirements

Section 186 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council's annual report to include information regarding its councillors as follows:

## Councillors' remuneration

The annual report must include details for each councillor on the facilities provided, expenses incurred, and total remuneration paid during the financial year, including superannuation contributions.

Noting that a local government election was held on 16 March 2024, the remuneration and expenses of councillors are shown as pre and post-election.

### *Pre-election period – 1 July 2023 to 30 March 2024*

Mayor and Councillor	Gross Salary	Superannuation Contribution	Expenses Incurred
Mayor Peter Scott	\$88,138.20	\$10,586.63	\$12,725.79*
Deputy Mayor Robyn Holmes	\$50,850.00	\$6,107.72	\$661.64
Cr Peter Burns	\$44,069.10	\$4,852.33	\$872.00
Cr John Dessmann	\$44,069.10	\$5,293.50	\$1,021.08
Cr Larissa Hale	\$44,069.10	\$5,293.50	\$0.00
Cr Ross Logan	\$44,069.10	\$4,852.33	\$975.68
Cr Marilyn Morris	\$44,069.10	\$4,852.33	\$3,873.07

### *Post-election period – 31 March 2024 to 30 June 2024*

Mayor and Councillor	Gross Salary	Superannuation Contribution	Expenses Incurred
Mayor Robyn Holmes	\$25,122.22	\$3,014.64	\$2,712.86
Deputy Mayor Marilyn Morris	\$15,284.30	\$1,834.08	\$160.00
Cr Justin Coventry	\$13,246.20	\$1,589.58	\$160.00
Cr Gavin Dear	\$13,246.20	\$1,589.58	\$258.00
Cr Ross Logan	\$13,246.20	\$1,589.58	\$160.00
Cr Sarah Martin	\$13,246.20	\$1,589.58	\$215.00
Cr Melinda Parker	\$13,246.20	\$1,589.58	\$0.00

\*Mayoral expenses include \$1,246.97 that has been offset from external sources.

Facilities provided to Cook Shire's councillors during the 2023–24 financial year include meeting rooms and other spaces, technology as required to undertake official council business, administrative facilities, uniforms and personal protective equipment, insurance cover, appropriate professional development and use of council vehicles when required for council business.

*Section 186 (1)(a)&(b) Local Government Regulation 2012*

# Council meetings attended

Elected representatives are expected to attend the relevant Council and committee meetings as part of their commitment to the Shire and as part of their official duties. Section 186 (c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council to report on the number of meetings attended by each councillor during the 2023–24 financial year.

In the 2023–24 financial year, the following Council meetings were held:

- 12 Ordinary Council Meetings
- One post-election Statutory Meeting
- One special Council Meeting

Given the change in elected members in 2024, the reporting of Council meetings attended are shown as pre and post-election.

## Pre-election period – 1 July 2023 to 16 March 2024

Mayor and Councillors	Ordinary Council Meetings	Special Council Meetings
Mayor Peter Scott	8 of 9	1 of 1
Deputy Mayor Robyn Holmes	9 of 9	1 of 1
Cr Peter Burns	9 of 9	1 of 1
Cr John Dessmann	7 of 9	1 of 1
Cr Larissa Hale	7 of 9	0 of 1
Cr Ross Logan	9 of 9	1 of 1
Cr Marilyn Morris	9 of 9	1 of 1

## Post-election period – 16 March to 30 June 2024

Mayor and Councillors	Ordinary Council Meetings	Post-Election Statutory Meeting
Mayor Robyn Holmes	3 of 3	1 of 1
Deputy Mayor Marilyn Morris	3 of 3	1 of 1
Cr Justin Coventry	3 of 3	1 of 1
Cr Gavin Dear	3 of 3	1 of 1
Cr Ross Logan	3 of 3	1 of 1
Cr Sarah Martin	3 of 3	1 of 1
Cr Melinda Parker	3 of 3	1 of 1

Section 186 (1)(c) Local Government Regulation 2012

# Councillor conduct

Councillor conduct is regulated through the Queensland *Local Government Act 2009* and the associated *2012 Regulation*.

Section 186 of the *Regulation* requires Cook Shire Council to include in the annual report particulars of any decisions, orders, recommendations, complaints, referrals, or notifications made with reference to councillor conduct as follows:

---

The number of orders and recommendations made under section 150I(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No orders made regarding unsuitable meeting conduct*

---

The number of orders made under section 150IA(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No orders reprimanding the chairperson of a meeting were made*

---

The number of orders made under section 150AH(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No orders made regarding inappropriate conduct*

---

The number of decisions, orders and recommendations made under section 150AR(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No decisions, orders or recommendations made regarding inappropriate conduct or misconduct*

*Section 186 (1) (d) (i-iv) Local Government Regulation 2012*

*Section 186 (1) (e) (i-iii) Local Government Regulation 2012 Not Applicable*

---

The number of complaints referred to the assessor under section 150P(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2009* by the local government, a councillor of the local government, or the Chief Executive Officer of the local government:

*No complaints were referred to the Assessor*

---

The number of matters, mentioned in section 150P(3) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, notified to the Crime and Corruption Commission:

*No matters notified to the Crime and Corruption Commission*

---

The number of notices about misconduct given under section 150R(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No notices regarding indicated Councillor misconduct sent to the Assessor*

---

The number of notices given under section 150S(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No notices regarding Councillors disciplined for misconduct sent to Assessor*

---

The number of occasions information was given under section 150AF(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No information was sent to the assessor under section 150AF(3)(a) relating to suspected inappropriate conduct*

*Section 186 (1)(f)(i-v) Local Government Regulation 2012*

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The number of decisions made under section 150W(1)(a), (b) and (e) of the *Local Government Act 2009* relating to Councillor conduct:

*There were no conduct matters decided by the Assessor under section 150W(1) (b) and (e)*

*Section 186 (1)(f)(vi) Local Government Regulation 2012*

---

The number of referral notices accompanied by a recommendation mentioned in section 150AC(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

*No referral notice was issued to Cook Shire Council under section 150AC(1) of the Act relating to suspected inappropriate conduct*

The number occasions the local government asked another entity to investigate, under Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 5 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, suspected inappropriate conduct of a Councillor:

*Cook Shire Council did not ask another entity to investigate suspected inappropriate conduct of a Councillor*

The number of applications heard by the conduct tribunal under Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 6 of the *Local Government Act 2009* about whether a Councillor engaged in misconduct or inappropriate conduct:

*No matter was referred to the conduct tribunal under Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 6 of the Act*

*Section 186 (1)(g)-(h) Local Government Regulation 2012*

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# Organisational reporting requirements

Cook Shire Council's annual report must contain information relating to specific legislative activities, decisions, resolutions and policy as follows. Where information is required to be included in the annual report but that information does not pertain to Cook Shire Council, the exclusion has been noted at the end of the section.

## Beneficial enterprises

A local government's annual report must itemise all beneficial enterprises conducted by the local government. Beneficial enterprises benefit all or part of the local government area. Through the contribution of annual funding, Cook Shire Council conducted 3 beneficial enterprises during the 2023–24 financial year:

- Barrier Reef Childcare Centre
- Nature's Powerhouse Visitor Information Centre
- Cooktown Events Centre (PCYC)

*Section 41 Local Government Regulation 2012*

## Executive remuneration

The *Local Government Act 2009* requires Council to report on the total remuneration packages payable to its senior executive employees.

Council employed 4 full-time senior executives including Council's Chief Executive Officer. The total remuneration paid to executives in the 2023–24 financial year was \$1,135,460 that includes remuneration and termination benefits of a senior executive who resigned during the reporting period.

As at 30 June 2024, Council's 4 senior executives received salary packages within the following salary bands:

Salary band \$100,000 to \$200,000: one employee

Salary band \$200,000 to \$300,000: two employees

Salary band \$300,000 to \$400,000: one employee

*Section 201 Local Government Act 2009*

# Community grants and sponsorship

The annual report of a local government must contain a summary of the local government's expenditure on grants to community organisations made during the financial year. The following tables detail all grants funded by Cook Shire Council during the financial year:

## Sponsorship and in-kind support program

Recipient	Amount	Purpose
Scripture Union Australia	In-kind \$1000	Supporting the <i>Fathers and Sons Bike Ride</i>
Cooktown Amateur Swimming Club	Sponsorship \$3,000	Supporting 10 club members to travel to 2023 country championships in Darwin
Frog Dogs Australia	Sponsorship \$3,000	Supporting the 2023 <i>Cooktown Hog Hunt</i>
Cooktown Amateur Turf Club	Sponsorship \$3,900	Supporting the 149 <sup>th</sup> <i>Annual Cooktown Races</i>
Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation	Sponsorship \$3,000	Supporting the QSuper 2023 <i>Cardiac Challenge</i>
Cape York Folk Club	Sponsorship \$3,000 In-kind \$656	Support for First Aid and recycling at the 2023 <i>Wallaby Creek Festival</i>
Cooktown and District Youth Association (CDYA)	Sponsorship \$3,300	Support for CDYA birthday celebrations and family fun day
Cooktown P-12 State School Parents and Citizens Association	Sponsorship \$500	Cooktown P-12 State School presentation evening
Liesl Pensio, Josie Crow, and Beau Peberdy (Representatives of children)	Sponsorship \$3,250	Supporting 5 children to go to the track and field State championships in Brisbane
Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation	Sponsorship \$5,000	Sponsorship for 12 dancers to travel to and compete at the <i>Sydney Dance Rites</i> event in November 2023.
Cooktown Re-enactment Association Inc.	Sponsorship \$4,625	Sponsorship for flights and accommodation to attend the <i>Endeavour Replica 30th Anniversary</i> commemoration
Cooktown Returned Services Leagues (RSL)	In-kind \$216.29	In-kind support for Council staff to set up chairs for the Remembrance Day
Vera-Scarth Johnson Association	Sponsorship \$3,400	Sponsorship to support the graphic design and advertising of the second edition of the <i>National Treasures</i> book
Cooktown Horse Sports Association	Sponsorship \$5,000	Equipment to support horsemanship clinics and events
Cooktown Amateur Swimming Club	Sponsorship \$1,984.52	Sponsorship to support travel and accommodation for competitors to compete at Queensland State Championships
Corinne Stallan	Sponsorship \$1,000	Sponsorship to support nominated finalists to attend the <i>North Queensland Sports Awards</i>
South Cape York Catchments	Sponsorship \$3,595	Sponsorship to purchase a marquee to provide sun protection at community events
Cooktown School of Art	Sponsorship \$2,400	Preparation for Cooktown School of Art Society's 45th annual art exhibition
Cooktown Little Athletics Association	In-kind \$273	Supplied pool voucher for the 2024 Little Athletics Running competition
<b>Total Sponsorship</b>	<b>\$49,954.52 ex GST</b>	
<b>Total In-kind</b>	<b>\$2,145.29</b>	

## Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Program

Recipient	Amount	Purpose
Artisan Bay	\$5,000	<i>Reef to Rainforest</i> – community art and craft workshops
Hooked on Art	\$4,990	School holiday workshops
Lisa Scharf	\$5,000	Resonance – Visual art exhibition, community workshops, and floor talk
Rossville and District Citizens Association	\$3,940	Exploring nature's colours in creative expression – Eco dying and printing workshops
Regional Arts Services Network (RASN)	\$1,895	Youth mural workshop
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,825 ex GST</b>	

## Round 1 Community grants

Recipient	Amount	Purpose
Cooktown Golf Club Inc.	\$2,500	Replace ceiling fans at the Cooktown Golf Club
Bloomfield River District Residents Association Inc.	\$4,856	Purchase of essential equipment, including BBQ, marquee, fridge, EFTPOS terminal, microwave, gas bottles
Cooktown and District Cricket Association	\$3,180	Upgrade of cricket nets at Botanic Gardens Reserve
Cooktown and District Historical Society	\$3,000	Replace photocopier
Cooktown and District Junior Rugby League	\$5,000	Purchase of equipment for the 2024 season, including gazebo frame, balls and agility training equipment, new tackle training equipment and an AED defibrillator and cabinet
Taase Taase Designs (TT Designs)	\$5,000	Maytown Chronicles: The Window into Our Past
Riverbend Tours	\$4,600	Providing Riverbend tours to schools within Cook Shire for teachers to add value to existing and new educational programs
Cooktown District Community Centre	\$5,000	Purchase of silent disco equipment
Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association	\$2,990	Netball training, community coaching, and umpiring workshops
Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) Cooktown	\$3,803	Cooktown QCWA community garden and ongoing hall maintenance
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,929 ex GST</b>	

## Environmental innovation grants

Recipient	Amount	Purpose
Sporting Shooters Assoc Cape York Branch Q18	\$5,000	Solar infrastructure at sporting clay range
Black Cockatoo Gallery	\$4,114	Permanent plant identification project
Mungumby enterprise PTY LTD	\$5,000	Concrete washout unit
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,114 ex GST</b>	

## Business security upgrade grants

Recipient	Amount	Purpose
The Lion's Den Management Company	\$2,500	Installation of security cameras
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Inc. Cooktown Flotilla QF16	\$2,500	Installation of security cameras
Bektopia	\$2,500	Installation of security cameras
Mungumby Enterprise	\$2,500	Temporary site security fencing
Riverbend Tours	\$1,551	Installation of transponder
Rossville Retreat	\$2,500	Security upgrade
Cooktown Orchid Travellers Park	\$2,500	Replacement mesh for north boundary fence
Australian Wildlife Conservancy	\$1,500	Security camera upgrade at Piccaninny Plains
Beach Bush Beer PTY LTD T/A Coen Mechanical	\$2,335	Security upgrades
Cooktown Re-enactment Association	\$5,000	Installation of security cameras
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,386 ex GST</b>	

Section 189 Local Government Regulation 2012

# Registers

Cook Shire Council is required to include in its annual report a list of all registers kept and maintained by Cook Shire Council. Council's registers take different forms to align with various corresponding legislative requirements and to provide for operational functionality. Where required, Council's registers are published and made available for purchase. Registers kept and maintained by Council are presented below:

<b>A</b>	<b>L</b>
Abandoned vehicles register	Land liable to flooding register (mapped)
Administrative action complaints register	Local heritage identification (mapped)
Asbestos register	Local laws register
Asset register	<b>M</b>
<b>B</b>	Market stalls register/s
Backflow device register	<b>P</b>
<b>C</b>	Procurement register
Cemetery register	Property register
Community grants register	<b>R</b>
Conflict of interest register	Register of cost-recovery fees and schedule of fees and charges
Corporate strategic risk register	Register of interests
Council grants and funding agreements register	Roads map and register
Councillor conduct register	<b>S</b>
<b>D</b>	Sewerage and greywater use facilities register
Delegations registers	Swimming pool registers
Development and change applications register	<b>T</b>
Dog registry	Trade waste register
<b>E</b>	<b>W</b>
Employee register	WHS hazard register
<b>F</b>	WHS incident and accidents register
Flood damage register	
Food business licence register	

*Section 190 (1)(f) Local Government Regulation 2012*

# Rating concessions

Cook Shire Council granted a range of rebates and concessions for rates and charges to assist the community through the 2023–24 financial year:

- home dialysis concession
- rates relief for charitable organisations
- rates relief for residential ratepayers
- State and Local Government Pensioner subsidy scheme
- concession for concealed water leaks

In the first half of 2023–24, 258 pensioners received rates concessions at a cost of \$22,954.20.

In the second half of 2023–24, 265 pensioners received rates concessions at a cost of \$23,550.68.

The total cost of rates concessions for the 2023–24 financial year was \$46,504.88.

*Section 190 (1)(g) Local Government Regulation 2012*

# Internal audit reporting

Council is legislatively required to maintain an Internal Audit function, which includes conducting an annual internal audit plan. The purpose of this function is to objectively evaluate the organisation's business processes, work practices, and internal control systems, identifying opportunities for improvement and recommending enhancements to increase the effectiveness of internal controls and business practices.

To ensure independence and objectivity, Council has outsourced its internal audit function to qualified consultants. For the financial year ending 30 June 2024, Pacifica Chartered Accountants conducted these internal audit activities.

When establishing the annual internal audit plan, management considers all operational areas, prioritising audits that offer the greatest potential to improve efficiency and effectiveness. In the 2023–24 financial year, the following areas were reviewed:

**Water management practices:** Evaluated the processes in place to ensure reliable and safe water supplies for residents, while considering factors that may impact water availability. The review also assessed disaster recovery and readiness plans related to water supply and management.

**Portable and attractive items:** Reviewed the controls for tracking non-consumable items issued to employees, particularly portable and attractive items. The review assessed processes to prevent, detect, and report the loss or theft of such items.

**IT governance:** Assessed the effectiveness of Council's information security governance, focusing on whether essential security functions are in place and operating as expected. The review also examined the alignment of governance structures, policies, and procedures in managing Council's information assets.

A report on these internal audit reviews will be presented to Council's Audit and Risk Committee. The committee continues to receive updates from management on the implementation of recommendations from previous internal audits.

*Section 190(1) (h) Local Government Regulation 2012*

# Administrative action complaints

Cook Shire Council is committed to delivering the highest level of customer service. To support continuous improvement, Council recognises the public's right to provide feedback and encourages comments, including lodging complaints regarding Council decisions, actions, or inaction. Council has adopted a Customer Service Charter that outlines the standards of service the public can expect in their interactions with Council. This charter aligns with Council's complaints management procedures; ensuring complaints are handled efficiently, effectively, objectively, and fairly. The procedures are reviewed regularly to maintain compliance with relevant legislation.

During the 2023–24 financial year, Council maintained a centralised complaint management system and made improvements in resolving complaints within targeted timeframes. Early resolution was achieved for a number of issues. For administrative action complaints that could not be resolved immediately, Council ensured all complaints were acknowledged within 5 days, investigated, and a decision provided within 15 days of receipt. If more time was needed, complainants were notified and informed of the reasons for the extended timeframe.

Council received 9 administrative action complaints during the reporting period, all of which were resolved within the year. One administrative action complaint from the previous financial year was also resolved in 2023–24.

Complainants have the option to request an internal review if they wish to escalate their issue within Council. One complainant sought an internal review during the reporting period, and no complaints were escalated to the Ombudsman for review in 2023–24.

# Public sector ethics

The *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994* requires Council to include an implementation statement regarding the action taken during the reporting period to comply with those sections of the Act relating to the preparation of codes of conduct, education and training in and Council commitment to, public sector ethics and principles through its workplace procedures and practices.

## Code of conduct

Council's code of conduct represents the commitment of all Council workers to perform their duties with integrity, honesty and fairness, and comply with all relevant local laws, regulations, codes and corporate standards. The purpose of the code is to reflect:

- the commitment of all workers to act with integrity;
- our dedication to the Cook Shire community; and
- the four core principles of the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*.

Council's code of conduct was reviewed and updated during the reporting period.

## Education and training

All new employees are provided with one-on-one code of conduct training during their induction. During the reporting period, specific focus groups were provided with further training in public sector ethics and codes of conduct.

## Procedures and practices

All of Council's procedures and practices reflect Council's commitment to the ethical principles and obligations of the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*. During the 2023–24 financial year Council adopted a grievance and dispute resolution procedure to establish structured process for addressing employee grievances, and to ensure that all concerns are resolve in a fair, consistent, unbiased and timely manner.

# Excluded reporting

The following reporting requirements, as prescribed by the *Local Government Act 2009* and *2012 Regulation* are not applicable to Cook Shire Council:

## *Non-current physical assets*

During the 2023–24 financial year Council made no resolution adopting a non-current assets policy.

*Section 185 (a) Local Government Regulation*

## *Expense reimbursement policy*

During the 2023–24 financial year Council made no resolution adopting an Expense Reimbursement Policy.

*Section 185(a) Local Government Regulation*

## *List of business activities*

During the 2023–24 financial year Council undertook no significant business activities.

*Section 45 Local Government Act 2009*

## *Discretionary funds*

During the 2023–24 financial year Cook Shire councillors were not provided with a budget for discretionary funds.

*Section 189(2)(c) Local Government Regulation 2012*

## *Commercial business units*

During the 2023–24 financial year Council did not maintain any commercial business units.

*Section 190(1)(c) Local Government Regulation 2012*

## *Joint local government activity*

During the 2023–24 financial year Council undertook no joint local government activity.

*Section 190 (1)(d)(i) Local Government Regulation 2012*

## *Change to tenders*

Cook Shire Council issued no requests for tenders to be changed during the 2023–24 financial year.

*Section 190 (1)(e) Local Government Regulation 2012*

## *Competitive neutrality*

No complaints under section 49 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* in relation to competitive neutrality were received by Council during the 2023–24 financial year.

*Section 190 (1)(i) & (j) Local Government Regulation*

## *Overseas travel*

No Councillors or Cook Shire Council employees travelled overseas on Council business in the 2023–24 financial year.

*Section 188 Local Government Regulation 2012*

# Audited financial statements





GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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# Cook Shire Council

## General Purpose Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

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# Cook Shire Council

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000 Restated *
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
Recurrent revenue			
Rates, levies and charges	3a	9,075	8,773
Fees and charges	3b	1,228	1,079
Sales revenue	3c	1,330	1,304
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3d	65,163	59,281
<b>Total recurrent revenue</b>		<b>76,797</b>	<b>70,437</b>
Capital revenue			
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3d	12,830	16,382
<b>Total capital revenue</b>		<b>12,830</b>	<b>16,382</b>
Other income			
Rental income		662	691
Interest received		1,159	584
Other income		625	1,186
Other capital income	4	-	5,672
<b>Total other income</b>		<b>2,446</b>	<b>8,133</b>
<b>Total income</b>		<b>92,073</b>	<b>94,953</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Recurrent expenses			
Employee benefits	5	17,540	14,421
Materials and services	6	67,372	49,588
Finance costs	7	912	660
Depreciation - Property, plant and equipment	11	15,094	13,363
<b>Total recurrent expenses</b>		<b>100,919</b>	<b>78,032</b>
Other expenses			
Capital expenses	8	4,128	245
<b>Total capital expenses</b>		<b>4,128</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>105,047</b>	<b>78,277</b>
<b>Net result</b>		<b>(12,975)</b>	<b>16,675</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Increase / (decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	11	-	181,169
<b>Total other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>181,169</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>(12,975)</b>	<b>197,845</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes and Accounting Policies.

(\*) In preparing the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 Council identified and corrected an error relating to a previous period. Refer to Note 27 for details of the error and corrections made.

# Cook Shire Council

## Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000 Restated *
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	24,397	43,728
Receivables	10	2,452	2,447
Inventories		946	914
Contract assets	12	1,836	10,125
Other assets		105	-
Non current assets held for sale		450	505
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>30,186</b>	<b>57,718</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	11	546,365	545,118
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>546,365</b>	<b>545,118</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>576,551</b>	<b>602,836</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables	13	4,955	5,040
Contract liabilities	12	3,904	19,176
Borrowings	14	513	513
Provisions	15	3,019	2,746
Other liabilities	16	132	129
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>12,523</b>	<b>27,605</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	14	1,612	2,182
Provisions	15	11,913	9,441
Other liabilities	16	663	793
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>14,188</b>	<b>12,416</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>26,711</b>	<b>40,021</b>
<b>Net community assets</b>		<b>549,840</b>	<b>562,815</b>
<b>Community equity</b>			
Asset revaluation surplus	11	455,180	455,180
Retained surplus		91,528	104,502
Reserves		3,132	3,132
<b>Total community equity</b>		<b>549,840</b>	<b>562,815</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

(\*) In preparing the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 Council identified and corrected an error relating to a previous period. Refer to Note 27 for details of the error and corrections made.

# Cook Shire Council

## Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained surplus \$'000	Other reserves \$'000	Total equity \$'000
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2023</b>		455,180	104,503	3,132	562,815
Net result		-	(12,975)	-	(12,975)
Other comprehensive income for the year					
Increase / (decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	11	-	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		-	(12,975)	-	(12,975)
Transfers from reserves		-	-	-	-
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2024</b>		455,180	91,528	3,132	549,840
	Note	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained surplus \$'000	Other reserves \$'000	Total equity \$'000
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2022</b>		274,011	91,672	3,132	368,815
Correction of prior period error	27	-	(3,845)	-	(3,845)
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2022 (restated)</b>		274,011	87,827	3,132	364,970
Net result		-	16,675	-	16,675
Other comprehensive income for the year					
Increase / (decrease) in asset revaluation surplus	11	181,169	-	-	181,169
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		181,169	16,675	-	197,845
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2023 (restated)</b>		455,180	104,503	3,132	562,815

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

# Cook Shire Council

## Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2024

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers		11,192	12,348
Payments to suppliers and employees		(84,847)	(62,220)
		<u>(73,655)</u>	<u>(49,872)</u>
Interest received		1,159	584
Rental income		662	691
Non capital grants and contributions		54,134	72,902
Borrowing costs		(175)	(203)
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities</b>	<b>21</b>	<u>(17,875)</u>	<u>24,102</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment		116	280
Proceeds from sale of land		-	816
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations		17,805	13,577
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(18,807)	(17,390)
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from investing activities</b>		<u>(886)</u>	<u>(2,717)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Repayment of borrowings		(570)	(537)
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from financing activities</b>		<u>(570)</u>	<u>(537)</u>
<b>Net increase (decrease) for the year</b>		<u>(19,331)</u>	<u>20,848</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>43,728</u>	<u>22,881</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year</b>	<b>9</b>	<u>24,397</u>	<u>43,728</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 1. Information about these financial statements

#### (1.a) Basis of preparation

The Cook Shire Council is constituted under the Queensland *Local Government Act 2009* and is domiciled in Australia. These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. They are prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and the Local Government Regulation 2012.

These financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB). The Cook Shire Council is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes and complies with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as applicable to not-for-profit entities.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for the revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment, and inventory held at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

#### (1.b) New and revised Accounting Standards adopted during the year

The Cook Shire Council adopted all standards which became mandatorily effective for annual reporting periods beginning on 1 July 2023. There was no impact to the reported position, performance and cash flows as a result of applying these standards.

The adoption of the revisions to AASB Presentation of Financial Statements resulted in disclosure of material accounting policy information only rather than significant accounting policies. This means that accounting policy information is disclosed only if it relates to material transactions, other events or conditions and:

- a) Council has changed accounting policy during the reporting period and this change resulted in a material change to the information in the financial statements.
- b) Council chose (or was mandated to use) the accounting policy from one or more options permitted by Australian Accounting Standards.
- c) the accounting policy was developed in accordance with AASB Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors in the absence of an Australian Accounting Standard that specifically applies.
- d) the accounting policy relate to an area for which a Council is required to make significant judgements or assumptions in applying an accounting policy, and the Council discloses those judgements or assumptions in the financial statements.
- e) the accounting required for them is complex and users of the entity's financial statements would otherwise not understand those material transactions, other events or conditions.

#### (1.c) Standards issued by the AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued Australian Accounting Standards which are not effective at 30 June 2024. These standards have not been adopted by Council and will be included in the financial statements at their effective dates. Once effective, these standards are not expected to have a significant impact on the reported position, performance and cash flows of Council.

#### (1.d) Estimates and Judgements

Council make a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements. These are based on the best information available to Council at the time, however due to the passage of time, these assumptions may change and therefore the recorded balances may not reflect the final outcomes. The significant judgements, estimates and assumptions relate to the following items and specific information is provided in the relevant note:

- Valuation and depreciation of property, plant & equipment - Note 11
- Impairment of property, plant and equipment - Note 11
- Provisions - Note 15
- Contingent liabilities - Note 19
- Financial instruments and financial assets - Note 24
- Revenue - Note 3

#### (1.e) Rounding and Comparatives

The financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000 or, where that amount is \$500 or less to zero, unless otherwise stated. Comparative information is stated on the same basis as the prior year.

#### (1.f) Taxation

Council is exempt from income tax, however Council is subject to Fringe Benefits Tax, Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and payroll tax on certain activities. The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 2. Analysis of results by functions

#### Note 2(a). Council functions - component descriptions

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

##### Executive Services

The objective of executive services is to be open, accountable, and transparent and deliver value for money community outcomes. This function focuses on strategic and operational planning, risk management, legal and administrative support.

This function also includes the human resources and workplace health and safety functions of Council.

##### Corporate Services

Provides the administrative services of Council including financial management, budget control, asset management, building maintenance, records management and customer service.

##### Economic Development & Community Services

The goal of economic development and community services is to ensure Cook Shire is a vibrant community and remains attractive to visitors and investors.

This function is also responsible for providing community facilities including libraries and recreation facilities.

##### Engineering Services

Engineering services are responsible for management of the engineering department and ensuring that the community is serviced by a high quality and effective road and drainage network. When applicable, the department also oversees the restoration works as approved by the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

The provision of a healthy, safe community through the provision of sustainable water services through the supply of potable water, the maintenance of sewerage infrastructure assets and management of Council's waste and recycling programs and processes.

The department also manages the operations of the Cooktown, Coen and Laura aerodromes, including refueling facilities, maintenance of parks and gardens, and various gravel pits throughout Cook Shire.

##### Planning & Environmental Services

This function facilitates the Shire's growth through well planned and quality development through management of the planning and building practices and standards and to ensure that Cook Shire preserves the natural character of the region while overseeing environmental protection programs and effective animal control by enforcing Council's local laws.

# Cook Shire Council

## Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 2(b) Council Function - Analysis of results by function

Year ended 30 June 2024

Functions	Gross program income			Total income	Gross program expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurring operations	Net result	Assets
	Recurrent				Recurrent	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants							
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000				
Executive Services	-	-	-	-	(3,563)	(3,563)	(3,563)	(3,563)	-	-
Corporate Services	889	6,929	7,609	15,427	(9,231)	(4,128)	(13,359)	(1,413)	2,068	39,875
Economic Development and Community Services	322	513	824	1,659	(5,342)	-	(5,342)	(4,507)	(3,683)	19,061
Engineering Services	63,953	6,579	4,397	74,929	(81,796)	-	(81,796)	(11,264)	(6,867)	514,673
Planning and Environmental Services	-	59	-	59	(986)	-	(986)	(927)	(927)	2,941
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,164</b>	<b>14,080</b>	<b>12,829</b>	<b>92,073</b>	<b>(100,918)</b>	<b>(4,128)</b>	<b>(105,046)</b>	<b>(21,674)</b>	<b>(12,975)</b>	<b>576,551</b>

Year ended 30 June 2023

Functions	Gross program income			Total income	Gross program expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurring operations	Net result	Assets
	Recurrent				Recurrent	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants							
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000				
Executive Services	45	18	-	63	(5,195)	-	(5,195)	(5,131)	(5,131)	-
Corporate Services	13,238	6,002	9,575	29,636	(6,004)	(245)	(6,249)	13,238	23,387	100,989
Economic Development and Community Services	247	581	764	1,592	(62,535)	-	(62,535)	(61,707)	(60,943)	19,411
Engineering Services	45,750	6,957	5,049	63,601	(3,563)	-	(3,563)	49,144	60,038	479,578
Planning and Environmental Services	-	59	-	59	(736)	-	(736)	(677)	(677)	2,858
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,280</b>	<b>13,618</b>	<b>15,389</b>	<b>94,953</b>	<b>(78,032)</b>	<b>(245)</b>	<b>(78,277)</b>	<b>(5,134)</b>	<b>(16,675)</b>	<b>602,836</b>

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 3. Revenue

##### (a) Rates, levies and charges

Rates, levies and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
General rates		4,969	4,804
Separate rates		269	287
Water		946	910
Water consumption, rental and sundries		954	930
Sewerage		1,503	1,434
Waste management		103	97
Garbage charges		562	532
<b>Total rates and utility charge revenue</b>		<b>9,304</b>	<b>8,995</b>
Less: Discounts		(183)	(175)
Less: Pensioner remissions		(47)	(47)
<b>Total rates, levies and charges</b>		<b>9,075</b>	<b>8,773</b>

##### (b) Fees and charges

Revenue arising from fees and charges are recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the services being provided.

Building and development fees	147	161
Airport landing fees	180	149
Other statutory fees and charges	154	113
Waste management and transfer fees	581	469
Swimming pool fees	51	54
Halls and community centre fees	41	46
Other fees and charges	74	86
<b>Total fees and charges</b>	<b>1,228</b>	<b>1,079</b>

##### (c) Sales revenue

Sale of goods revenue is recognised at the point in time that the customer obtains control of the goods, generally at delivery. Revenue from services is recognised when the service is rendered.

Revenue from contracts and recoverable works generally comprises a recoupment of material costs together with an hourly charge for use of equipment and employees.

This revenue and the associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity based on costs incurred at the reporting date. Where consideration is received for the service in advance it is included in contract liabilities and is recognised as revenue in the period when the service is performed. There are no contracts in progress at the year end. The contract work carried out is not subject to retentions.

##### Rendering of services

Contract and recoverable works	-	47
Airport services	942	848
<b>Total sale of services</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>894</b>

##### Sale of goods

Other sale of goods	389	410
	389	410

##### Total sales revenue

<b>1,330</b>	<b>1,304</b>
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## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 3. Revenue (continued)

##### (d) Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

###### Grant income under AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligations is satisfied.

Performance obligations vary in each agreement but include stage of completion, performance achieved, time or cost incurred. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others. Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, revenue is recognised using either costs or time incurred.

###### Grant income under AASB 1058

Where Council receives an asset for significantly below fair value, the asset is recognised at fair value, related liability (or equity items) are recorded and then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

###### Capital grants

Where Council receives funding under an enforceable contract to acquire or construct a specified item of property, plant and equipment which will be under Council's control on completion, revenue is recognised as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed. For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred.

###### Donations and contributions

Where assets are donated or purchased for significantly below fair value, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the council. Donations and contributions are generally recognised on receipt of the asset since there are no enforceable performance obligations.

Physical assets contributed to council by developers in the form of road works, stormwater, water and wastewater infrastructure and park equipment are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control of the asset and there is sufficient data in the form of drawings and plans to determine the approximate specifications and values of such assets. Non-cash contributions with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds are recognised as non-current assets. Those below the thresholds are recorded as expenses.

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
<b>(i) Operating</b>			
General purpose grants		544	16,985
State government subsidies and grants		712	762
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants		101	41
Contributions		84	124
Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)		63,722	41,369
<b>Total recurrent grant, subsidies, contributions and donations</b>		<b>65,163</b>	<b>59,281</b>

##### (ii) Capital

Capital revenue includes grants and subsidies received which are tied to specific projects for the replacement or upgrade of existing non-current assets and/or investment in new assets. It also includes non-cash contributions which are usually infrastructure assets received from developers.

State government subsidies and grants	8,947	12,255
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	3,882	4,111
Contributions	-	16
<b>Total capital grant, subsidies, contributions and donations</b>	<b>12,830</b>	<b>16,383</b>

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 3. Revenue (continued)

(iii) Timing of revenue recognition for grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

	Note	2024		2023	
		Revenue recognised at a point in time \$'000	Revenue recognised over time \$'000	Revenue recognised at a point in time \$'000	Revenue recognised over time \$'000
Grants and subsidies	3d	1,820	76,089	17,333	58,190
Contributions	3d	84	-	140	-
		<u>1,904</u>	<u>76,089</u>	<u>17,473</u>	<u>58,190</u>

#### Note 4. Capital income

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
(a) Gain/Loss on disposal of non-current assets			
Proceeds from the disposal of property, plant and equipment	11	-	280
Less: Carrying value of disposed property, plant and equipment		-	(55)
		<u>-</u>	<u>225</u>
(b) Provision for restoration of land			
Provision and discount rate adjustment to refuse restoration provision	15	-	5,447
		<u>-</u>	<u>5,447</u>
<b>Total capital income</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>5,672</u>

#### Note 5. Employee benefits

Wages and salaries		12,970	11,161
Councillors' remuneration		450	451
Annual, sick and long service leave entitlements		3,105	2,731
Superannuation	20	1,750	1,541
		<u>18,275</u>	<u>15,885</u>
Other employee related expenses		514	320
		<u>18,789</u>	<u>16,204</u>
Less: capitalised employee expenses		(1,249)	(1,783)
<b>Total employee benefits</b>		<u>17,540</u>	<u>14,421</u>

Councillor remuneration represents salary and other allowances paid in respect of carrying out their duties.

#### Additional information

Total Council employees at the reporting date:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Elected members	7	7
Administration staff	92	87
Depot and outdoors staff	72	67
<b>Total full time equivalent employees</b>	<u>171</u>	<u>161</u>

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 6. Materials and services

	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000
Advertising, marketing and promotion	59	42
Audit of annual financial statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland*	140	126
Consultants	794	646
Contractors	3,856	3,502
Cost of sales - Land	-	736
Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)	55,528	37,623
Donations paid	114	115
Fuel and oils	1,418	1,318
Insurance	743	700
IT - software and hardware	426	373
Legal costs	237	212
Management fees	190	199
Other materials and services	1,083	1,510
Repairs and maintenance	964	995
Royalties	536	230
Subscriptions and registrations	172	174
Travel	251	227
Utilities	863	860
<b>Total materials and services</b>	<b>67,372</b>	<b>49,588</b>

\*Total audit fees quoted by the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2023-24 financial statements are \$133,000 (2023:\$126,000).

#### Note 7. Finance costs

Finance costs charged by the Queensland Treasury Corporation	117	163
Bank charges	58	50
Impairment of receivables	32	74
Quarry and tip rehabilitation	705	372
<b>Total finance costs</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>660</b>

#### Note 8. Capital expenses

##### (a) Loss on disposal of non-current assets

Proceeds from the disposal of property, plant and equipment	(120)	-
Less: Carrying value of disposed property, plant and equipment	2,523	-
<b>Loss on disposal of non-current assets</b>	<b>2,403</b>	<b>-</b>

##### (b) Provision for restoration of land

Additional provision and discount rate adjustment to refuse restoration provision		
Discount Rate adjustment to rehabilitation liability	15	-
	1,725	-

##### (c) Impairment loss

Non-current assets classified as held for sale	-	245
	-	245
<b>Total capital expenses</b>	<b>4,128</b>	<b>245</b>

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 9. Cash and cash equivalents

Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank and on hand	897	20,563
Deposits at call	23,500	23,165
Balance per Statement of Financial Position	<u>24,397</u>	<u>43,728</u>
Less bank overdraft	-	-
Balance per Statement of Cash Flows	<u>24,397</u>	<u>43,728</u>
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>24,397</u>	<u>43,728</u>

Council is exposed to credit risk through its investments in the QTC cash fund and QTC working capital facility. The QTC cash fund is an asset management portfolio investing in a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with the QTC cash fund are capital guaranteed. Working capital facility deposits have a duration of one day and all investments are required to have a minimum credit rating of "A-", the likelihood of the counterparty not having capacity to meet its financial commitments is low.

Cash and cash equivalents		24,397	43,728
Less: Externally imposed restrictions on cash	(i)	<u>(6,358)</u>	<u>(21,764)</u>
<b>Unrestricted cash</b>		<u>18,040</u>	<u>21,964</u>

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

(i) Externally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date relate to the following cash assets:

Unspent government grants and subsidies		4,699	20,099
Unspent loan monies		1,284	1,284
Unspent Headworks		375	381
<b>Total externally imposed restrictions on cash assets</b>		<u>6,358</u>	<u>21,764</u>

(ii) Internal allocations of cash at the reporting date

Future asset replacement / purchases		1,967	1,897
<b>Total internally allocated cash</b>		<u>1,967</u>	<u>1,897</u>

Cash and deposits at call are held in the Westpac Bank in term deposits and business cheque accounts. At call accounts are held with QTC.

Cash at bank and on hand at 30 June 2024 includes \$412,064 received from the State Government to mitigate the direct impacts on households of the State Waste Levy. Council was provided upfront payment to cover the next four financial years to 2026-2027.

#### Trust funds

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and Local Government Regulation 2012, a separate trust bank account and separate accounting records are maintained for funds held on behalf of outside parties. Funds held in the trust account include those funds from the sale of land for arrears in rates, deposits for the contracted sale of land, security deposits lodged to guarantee performance and unclaimed monies (e.g. wages). The Council performs only a custodian role in respect of these monies and because the monies cannot be used for Council purposes, they are not considered revenue nor brought to account in the financial statements since Council has no control over the assets.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 9. Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000
Trust funds held for outside parties	197	194
Monies collected or held on behalf of other entities yet to be paid out	3	1
Security deposits	200	195
	<u>200</u>	<u>195</u>

#### Note 10. Receivables

Settlement of receivables is required within 30 days after the invoice is issued.

Terms for loans and advances are usually a maximum of five years with interest charged at non-commercial rates. Security is not normally obtained.

Receivables are measured at amortised cost which approximates fair value at reporting date.

Debts are regularly assessed for collectability and allowance is made, where appropriate, for impairment.

	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Rates and charges	1,804	1,598
Water charges not yet levied	346	352
Other debtors	735	899
<b>Total</b>	<u>2,885</u>	<u>2,849</u>
<b>Less: Loss Allowance</b>		
Rates and charges	(433)	(403)
Other debtors	-	-
<b>Total provision for impairment - receivables</b>	<u>(433)</u>	<u>(403)</u>
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<u>2,452</u>	<u>2,447</u>

#### Accounting policies - Grouping

When Council has no reasonable expectation of recovering an amount owed by a debtor, and has ceased enforcement activity, the debt is written-off by directly reducing the receivable against the loss allowance. If the amount of debt written off exceeds the loss allowance, the excess is recognised as an impairment loss.

Council has identified 5 distinctive groupings of its receivables: Rates & Charges, Statutory Charges, Grants, Lease Receivables, Other Debtors and relevant judgements in relation to expected credit loss has been made for each group.

*Rates and Charges*: Council is empowered under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* to sell an owner's property to recover outstanding rate debts and therefore the expected credit loss is immaterial. Impairment of rates and charges will occur only if arrears are deemed to be greater than the proceeds Council would receive from the sale of the respective property.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 10. Receivables (continued)

**Statutory charges:** In some limited circumstances Council may write off impaired statutory charges, on this basis Council calculates an ECL for statutory charges (non-rates & utility charges). Although not material, disclosure is being made for the purposes of public interest and transparency.

**Grants:** Payable by State and Commonwealth governments and their agencies. A credit enhancement exists as these payments are effectively government guaranteed and both the State and Commonwealth governments have high credit ratings, accordingly Council determines the level of credit risk exposure to be immaterial and therefore does not record an Expected Credit Loss for these counterparties.

**Lease receivables:** Council has elected to use the simplified approach for lease receivables. Internal historical data shows no defaults have occurred, Council has determined expected credit losses for this receivables grouping to be immaterial, accordingly an expected credit loss of lease receivables is not calculated.

**Other debtors:** Council identifies other debtors as receivables which are not rates and charges; statutory charges; lease receivables; or grants.

The exposure to credit risk for receivables by type of counterparty was as follows:

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Rates and Utility Charges	1,799	1,548
State & Commonwealth Government	-	458
Other	652	441
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,451</b>	<b>2,447</b>

The impairment loss is immaterial.

**Cook Shire Council**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

**Note 11. Property, plant and equipment**

	Note	Land		Buildings		Plant and equipment		Furniture and equipment		Road, drainage and bridge network		Water		Sewerage		Other structures		Work in progress		Total	
		\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Cost	\$'000	Cost	\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Fair Value	\$'000	Cost		\$'000
<b>30 June 2024</b>																					
Basis of measurement																					
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2023		15,912		70,064		11,232		1,128		479,927		63,896		32,606		33,106		13,901			721,772
Additions:																					
- Renewals		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		8,078			8,078
- Other additions		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		10,731			10,731
Disposals		-		-		(165)		-		(3,365)		(1,618)		(64)		(115)		-			(5,327)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
Work in progress transfers		-		554		1,605		-		14,523		1,358		291		1,792		(20,123)			-
Transfer land to inventory		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
Transfer land to held for sale		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
Other adjustments and transfers		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
<b>Total gross value of property plant and equipment</b>		<b>15,912</b>		<b>70,618</b>		<b>12,672</b>		<b>1,128</b>		<b>491,085</b>		<b>63,636</b>		<b>32,833</b>		<b>34,783</b>		<b>12,587</b>			<b>735,254</b>
Opening accumulated depreciation		-		18,578		8,100		1,021		108,046		25,790		8,429		6,690		-			176,654
Depreciation expense		-		1,531		741		50		10,101		1,239		662		770		-			15,094
Disposals		-		-		(165)		-		(1,610)		(1,012)		(38)		(35)		-			(2,859)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
Other adjustments and transfers		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-			-
<b>Total accumulated depreciation of property, plant and equipment</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>20,109</b>		<b>8,677</b>		<b>1,071</b>		<b>116,537</b>		<b>26,017</b>		<b>9,053</b>		<b>7,425</b>		<b>-</b>			<b>188,889</b>
<b>Total net book value of property, plant and equipment</b>		<b>15,912</b>		<b>50,509</b>		<b>3,995</b>		<b>57</b>		<b>374,548</b>		<b>37,619</b>		<b>23,780</b>		<b>27,358</b>		<b>12,587</b>			<b>546,365</b>
Range of estimated useful life in years		Not depreciated.		30-100		3-20		3-10		15-180		20-80		12-100		50-100		Not depreciated.			

# Cook Shire Council

## Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 11. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

	Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Furniture and equipment	Road, drainage and bridge network	Water	Sewerage	Other structures	Work in progress	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>30 June 2023</b>										
Basis of measurement	Note	Fair Value	Cost	Cost	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Cost	
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2022	17,512	63,643	11,227	1,114	324,761	59,140	30,473	29,687	8,341	545,898
Correction of prior period error									(1,770)	(1,770)
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2022	<b>17,512</b>	<b>63,643</b>	<b>11,227</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>324,761</b>	<b>59,140</b>	<b>30,473</b>	<b>29,687</b>	<b>6,571</b>	<b>544,128</b>
Additions:										
- Renewals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,755	2,755
- Other additions	221	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,380	14,601
Disposals	(221)	-	(369)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(590)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus	-	4,488	-	-	149,601	4,179	2,133	2,078	-	162,479
Work in progress transfers	-	1,934	374	13	5,566	577	-	1,341	(9,805)	(0)
Transfer land to inventory	(850)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(850)	(850)
Transfer land to held for sale	(750)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(750)	(750)
<b>Total gross value of property plant and equipment</b>	<b>15,912</b>	<b>70,064</b>	<b>11,232</b>	<b>1,128</b>	<b>479,927</b>	<b>63,896</b>	<b>32,606</b>	<b>33,106</b>	<b>13,901</b>	<b>721,772</b>
Opening accumulated depreciation	-	15,698	7,798	965	122,031	22,820	7,223	5,537	-	182,071
Depreciation expense	-	1,454	616	57	8,582	1,282	655	716	-	13,363
Disposals	-	-	(314)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(314)
Revaluation adjustment to asset revaluation surplus	-	1,200	-	-	(22,567)	1,687	551	437	-	(18,692)
Other adjustments and transfers	-	226	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	226
<b>Total accumulated depreciation of property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,578</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>108,046</b>	<b>25,790</b>	<b>8,429</b>	<b>6,690</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>176,654</b>
<b>Total net book value of property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>15,912</b>	<b>51,486</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>371,881</b>	<b>38,106</b>	<b>24,176</b>	<b>26,416</b>	<b>13,901</b>	<b>545,118</b>
Range of estimated useful life in years	Not depreciated.	30-100	3-20	3-10	15-180	20-80	12-100	50-100	Not depreciated.	

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 11. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

##### (a) Recognition

The asset capitalisation threshold for Council is:

- Land \$10,000
- Furniture and equipment \$10,000
- Infrastructure asset \$10,000

Land under roads and reserve land under the *Land Act 1994* or *Land Title Act 1994* is controlled by Queensland State Government and not recognised in the Council financial statements.

##### (b) Measurement

Property, plant and equipment assets are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

##### (c) Depreciation

Land, work in progress, certain cultural and heritage assets with heritage listing, road formations and formation work associated with the construction of dams, levee banks and reservoirs are not depreciated.

Depreciation, where applicable, is calculated on a straight-line basis such that the cost of the asset less its residual value is recognised progressively over its estimated useful life to Council. Management believe that the straight-line basis appropriately reflects the pattern of consumption of all Council assets.

##### Key judgements and estimates:

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technical or physical obsolescence that may change the utility of infrastructure assets, certain software and IT equipment.

##### (d) Impairment

Council are expected to input details of impairment loss recognised during the year (or lack there of).

##### (e) Valuation

##### Key judgements and estimate

Some of the Council's assets and liabilities are measured at fair value for financial reporting purposes.

In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Council uses market-observable data to the extent it is available and other inputs as necessary. For the period ending 30 June 2024 Council considered key indices for road and civil construction industry to assess whether there has been a significant change in the fair value of its road, drainage and bridge assets. Council has performed a full comprehensive revaluation for all other major asset classes.

##### (i) Valuation processes

Council considers the carrying amount of its property, plant and equipment on an annual basis compared to fair value and makes adjustment where these are materially different. Every 3-5 years, Council performs a full comprehensive revaluation by engaging an external professionally qualified valuer.

In the intervening years, Council undertakes:

- A management valuation using internal engineers and asset managers to assess the condition and cost assumptions associated with all infrastructure assets and an appropriate cost index for the region.
- A "desktop" valuation for land and improvements, buildings and major plant asset classes which involves management providing updated information to the valuer regarding additions, deletions and changes in assumptions such as useful life, residual value and condition rating. The valuer then determines suitable indices which are applied to each of these asset classes.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life.

Fair values are classified into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 - Fair value based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 - Fair value based on inputs that are directly or indirectly observable, such as prices for similar assets, for the asset or liability
- Level 3 - Fair value based on unobservable inputs for the asset and liability

There were no transfers between levels during the year.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 11. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

##### (e) Valuation (continued)

(ii) Valuation technique used to derive fair values

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Land (level 2)	Market value	30th June 2022	Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd	The most significant inputs into this valuation approach are price per square meter. Sales prices of comparable land sites in close proximity are adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. In assessing the fair value of land at 30 June 2024, Council has considered sales and other market data and concluded there has not been a material change in fair value since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation and no indexation has been applied to this class.	Nil	Nil
Buildings (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30th June 2022	Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd	Gross replacement cost has been derived with reference to market data for recent projects and costing guides issued by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Rawlinson's (Australian Construction Handbook). Each asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Useful lives are based on typical asset lifecycles based on past experience. In determining accumulated depreciation physical characteristics as well as holistic factors such as functionality, capability, utilization and obsolescence have been considered. In assessing the fair value of buildings at 30 June 2024, Council has reviewed the movement in relevant cost index data sources since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation. Key sources assessed were the Asset Revaluation Index - Non-residential construction and Producer Price Index - Building Construction, House Construction and Non-residential Construction. Based on this Council concluded there has not been a material change in fair value since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation and no indexation has been applied to this class.	Nil	Nil
Roads, drainage and bridge networks (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30th June 2023	Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd	Gross replacement cost has been derived with reference to market data for recent projects and costing guides issued by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Rawlinson's (Australian Construction Handbook). Each asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Useful lives are based on typical asset lifecycles based on past experience. In determining accumulated depreciation physical characteristics as well as holistic factors such as functionality, capability, utilization and obsolescence have been considered. In assessing the fair value of roads at 30 June 2024, Council has reviewed the movement in relevant cost index data sources since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation. Key sources assessed were the Asset Revaluation Index - Engineering Construction and Producer Price Index - Road and Bridge Construction. Based on this Council concluded there has not been a material change in fair value since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation and no indexation has been applied to this class.	Nil	Nil

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 11. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

##### (e) Valuation (continued)

(ii) Valuation technique used to derive fair values (continued)

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Water and sewerage assets (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30th June 2022	Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd	Gross replacement cost has been derived with reference to market data for recent projects and costing guides issued by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Rawlinson's (Australian Construction Handbook). Each asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Useful lives are based on typical asset lifecycles based on past experience. In determining accumulated depreciation physical characteristics as well as holistic factors such as functionality, capability, utilization and obsolescence have been considered. Where site inspections are not possible the remaining useful life was calculated on an age basis after taking into consideration current and planned maintenance records.  In assessing the fair value of water and sewerage assets at 30 June 2024, Council has reviewed the movement in relevant cost index data sources since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation. The key source of information assessed was the Asset Revaluation Index - Engineering Construction. Based on this Council concluded there has not been a material change in fair value since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation and no indexation has been applied to this class.	Nil	Nil
Other infrastructure assets (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30th June 2022	Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd	Gross replacement cost has been derived with reference to market data for recent projects and costing guides issued by the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Rawlinson's (Australian Construction Handbook). Each asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Useful lives are based on typical asset lifecycles based on past experience. In determining accumulated depreciation physical characteristics as well as holistic factors such as functionality, capability, utilization and obsolescence have been considered.  In assessing the fair value of other structures at 30 June 2024, Council has reviewed the movement in relevant cost index data sources since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation. Key sources assessed were the Asset Revaluation Index - Non-residential construction and Producer Price Index - Building Construction, House Construction and Non-residential Construction. Based on this Council concluded there has not been a material change in fair value since the date of the last comprehensive revaluation and no indexation has been applied to this class.	Nil	Nil

(iii) Changes in Fair Value Measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)

There are no transfers into or out of level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 12. Contract balances

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
(a) Contract assets		
Contract assets	1,836	10,125
<b>Total contract assets</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>10,125</b>

#### (b) Contract liabilities

Funds received upfront to construct or remediate Council controlled assets	2,847	3,008
Non capital performance obligations not yet satisfied	1,057	16,168
<b>Total contract liabilities</b>	<b>3,904</b>	<b>19,176</b>

Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year

Funds received upfront to construct or remediate Council controlled assets	1,387	1,697
Non capital performance obligations not yet satisfied (including deposits received in advance)	16,168	583
<b>Total revenue included in the contract liability</b>	<b>17,555</b>	<b>2,280</b>

The contract liabilities in relation to capital grants relate to funding received prior to the work being performed since revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset. Council expects to recognise the contract liability as income in the next 1 to 2 years.

### Note 13. Payables

Creditors are recognised when goods or services are received, at the amount owed. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Current		
Creditors and accruals	3,851	4,037
Prepaid rates	290	279
Accrued wages and salaries	192	185
Employee related accruals	503	374
Other creditors	119	165
<b>Total current payables</b>	<b>4,955</b>	<b>5,040</b>

### Note 14. Borrowings

No interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. Expected final repayment dates vary from 15 December 2025 to 15 March 2038. There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the period.

Council adopts an annual debt policy that sets out Council's planned borrowings for the next nine years. Council's current policy is to only borrow for capital projects and for a term no longer than the expected life of the asset. Council also aims to comply with the Queensland Treasury Corporation's (QTC) borrowing guidelines and ensure that sustainability indicators remain within acceptable levels at all times.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 14. Borrowings (continued)

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2024 \$'000</b>	<b>2023 \$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>			
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation		513	513
Working Capital Facility - Queensland Treasury		-	-
<b>Total Current Borrowings</b>		<b>513</b>	<b>513</b>
<b>Non-current</b>			
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation		1,612	2,182
		<b>1,612</b>	<b>2,182</b>

The QTC loan market value at the reporting date was \$2,039,724.47 (2023: \$2,636,247.78). This represents the value of the debt if Council repaid it at that date. As it is the intention of Council to hold the debt for its term, no provision is required to be made in these accounts.

No assets have been pledged as security by the council for any liabilities, however all loans are guaranteed by the Queensland Government. There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the 2024 or 2023 financial years.

### Note 15. Provisions

#### **Long Service Leave**

The provision for long service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The liability is calculated using current pay rates and projected future increases in those rates and includes related employee on-costs. The estimates are adjusted for the probability of the employee remaining in the Council's employment or other associated employment which would result in the Council being required to meet the liability. Adjustments are then made to allow for the proportion of the benefit earned to date, and the result is discounted to present value. The provision is discounted using the Commonwealth Bond yield rates published on the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works website.

#### **Landfill restoration and quarry rehabilitation**

A provision is made for the cost of restoring refuse dumps and quarries where it is probable the Council will have an obligation to rehabilitate the site when the use of the facilities is complete.

The calculation of the provisions use assumptions including application of environmental legislation, site closure dates, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from amounts currently provided. The provisions are reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time.

Refuse restoration provision represents the present value of anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the dump sites, decontamination and monitoring of historical residues and leaching on these sites. The expected closure dates range from 2034 to 2069 with a 30-year post closure monitoring period.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 15. Provisions (continued)

Quarry rehabilitation provision represents the present value of the anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the quarries, refilling the basin, and reclamation and rehabilitation of these sites.

Quarries are situated on Council controlled land and are classified as land and improvement assets. The provision for restoration is, therefore, included in the cost of the land and amortised over the expected useful life of the quarry.

	Current		Non-current	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Annual leave	1,387	1,203	-	-
Long service leave	1,557	1,461	283	241
Sick leave	30	38	-	-
Refuse restoration	-	-	10,455	8,076
Gravel pit sites	-	-	1,175	1,123
Other	45	45	-	-
	<u>3,019</u>	<u>2,746</u>	<u>11,913</u>	<u>9,441</u>

#### Movements in non-employee benefit provisions:

##### Gravel pit sites

	Note	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of financial year		1,123	1,213
Revision of future cost and timing of remediation		204	-
Increase/(decrease) in provision due to unwinding of discount		(152)	(26)
Increase/(decrease) in provision due to change in discount rate		-	(64)
<b>Balance at end of financial year</b>		<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,123</u>

##### Landfill sites

Balance at beginning of financial year		8,076	13,061
Revision of future cost and timing of remediation		1,522	-
Increase/(decrease) in provision due to unwinding of discount		857	436
Increase/(decrease) in provision due to change in discount rate		-	(5,421)
<b>Balance at end of financial year</b>		<u>10,455</u>	<u>8,076</u>

##### Other

Balance at beginning of financial year		45	45
Additional provisions / (Reversal of provision)		-	-
<b>Balance at end of financial year</b>		<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>

### Note 16. Other liabilities

	Current		Non-current	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Waste Levy refund received in advance	132	129	280	412
Headworks	-	-	379	381
	<u>132</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>659</u>	<u>793</u>

The State Government made advance payments to Council during the 2023 & 2024 financial years to mitigate the impact on households for the financial years 2024 to 2027 of the State Waste Levy. The Council will be liable to the State for payment of the Levy on most forms of commercial and household waste delivered to its disposed sites. The state is required to made an annual subsidy payment to the Council for the portion of the Levy that relates to domestic waste. Council has recognised as a liability the portion of the advance payments that relates to future financial years.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 17. Asset revaluation surplus

Movements in the asset revaluation surplus:

The asset revaluation surplus comprises revaluation movements on property, plant and equipment.

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
The closing balance of the asset revaluation surplus comprises the following asset categories:		
Land	11,999	11,999
Buildings	27,837	27,837
Roads, drainage and bridge network	361,148	368,363
Water	3,915	29,839
Sewerage	3,299	9,956
Other structures	7,187	7,187
	<u>415,385</u>	<u>455,181</u>

### Note 18. Commitments for expenditure

Capital commitments relating to infrastructure works projects

<u>3,085</u>	<u>8,555</u>
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Contractual commitments at end of financial year but not recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

Kerbside garbage collection	2,880	3,631
Transportation and disposal of bulk waste	354	706
Parks and open space maintenance	603	764
	<u>3,837</u>	<u>5,101</u>

### Note 19. Contingent liabilities

Details and estimates of maximum amounts of contingent liabilities are as follows:

#### Local Government Mutual

Council is a member of the local government mutual liability self-insurance pool, LGM Queensland. In the event of the pool being wound up or it is unable to meet its debts as they fall due, the trust deed and rules provide that any accumulated deficit will be met by the individual pool members in the same proportion as their contribution is to the total pool contributions in respect to any year that a deficit arises.

As at 30 June 2024 the financial statements reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

#### Local Government Workcare

The Council is a member of the Queensland local government worker's compensation self-insurance scheme, Local Government Workcare. Under this scheme the Council has provided an indemnity towards a bank guarantee to cover bad debts which may remain should the self insurance licence be cancelled and there was insufficient funds available to cover outstanding liabilities. Only the Queensland Government's workers compensation authority may call on any part of the guarantee should the above circumstances arise. The Council's maximum exposure to the bank guarantee is \$459,650.87.

#### Other matters

Council is party to a legal matter relating to unpaid gravel royalties. The estimated liability on Council at the conclusion of this matter is \$314,335.94 comprising of principal and interest payments. However, possible offsets are available for outstanding rates. This matter remains ongoing and the settlement date is unknown at the time of this report.

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 20. Superannuation - Regional Defined Benefit Fund

Council contributes to the LGIAsuper Regional Defined Benefits Fund (the scheme), at the rate of 12% for each permanent employee who is a defined benefit member. This rate is set in accordance with the LGIAsuper trust deed and may be varied on the advice of an actuary. The Regional Defined Benefits Fund is a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation and is also governed by the *Local Government Act 2009*. The scheme is managed by the LGIAsuper trustee as trustee for LGIAsuper trading as Brighter Super.

This scheme is a pooled defined benefits plan and it is not in accordance with the deed to allocate obligations, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Any amount by which the scheme is over or under funded may affect future benefits and result in a change to the contribution rate obligations, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Council may be liable to the scheme for a portion of another local governments' obligations should that local government be unable to meet them. However the risk of this occurring is extremely low and in accordance with the LGIAsuper trust deed changes to Council's obligations will only be made on the advice of an actuary.

The last completed actuarial assessment of the scheme as required under Superannuation Prudential Standard 160 was undertaken as at 1 July 2021. The actuary indicated that "At the valuation date of 1 July 2021, the net assets of the scheme exceeded the vested benefits and the scheme was in a satisfactory financial position as at the valuation date." The measure of vested benefits represents the value of benefit entitlements should all participating employees voluntarily exit the scheme. The Council is not aware of anything that has happened since that time that indicates the assets of the scheme are not sufficient to meet the vested benefits, as at the reporting date.

No changes have been made to prescribed employer contributions which remain at 12% of employee salary or wages and there are no known requirements to change the rate of contributions.

The next triennial actuarial review is due on 1 July 2024.

The most significant risks that may result in LGIAsuper increasing the contribution rate, on the advice of the actuary, are:

Investment risk - The risk that the scheme's investment returns will be lower than assumed and additional contributions are needed to fund the shortfall.

Salary growth risk - The risk that wages or salaries will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing vested benefits to be funded.

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Superannuation contributions made to the Regional Defined Benefits Fund		30	29
Other superannuation contributions for employees		1,720	1,513
<b>Total superannuation contributions paid by Council for employees</b>	5	<b>1,750</b>	<b>1,541</b>

## Cook Shire Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 21. Reconciliation of net result for the year to net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Net result	(12,975)	16,675
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	15,094	13,363
	<u>15,094</u>	<u>13,363</u>
Losses/(gains) recognised on fair value re-measurements through the income statement		
Revaluation adjustments (restoration provision)	2,430	(5,075)
	<u>2,430</u>	<u>(5,075)</u>
Investing and development activities:		
Net (profit)/loss on disposal of assets	2,403	535
Capital grants and contributions	(17,805)	(13,577)
	<u>(15,402)</u>	<u>(13,042)</u>
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/ decrease in receivables	(35)	2,527
(Increase)/ decrease in provision for doubtful debts	30	74
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(32)	(509)
(Increase)/ decrease in contract assets	8,289	(7,386)
(Increase)/ decrease in other assets	(103)	16
Increase/(decrease) in payables and accruals	(84)	2,222
Increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities	(15,272)	15,176
Increase/(decrease) in employee provisions	316	2
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	(131)	59
	<u>(7,022)</u>	<u>12,181</u>
<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities</b>	<u>(17,875)</u>	<u>24,102</u>

### Note 22. Reconciliation of liabilities arising from finance activities

	As at 30 June 2023 \$'000	Cash flows \$'000	Non-cash changes (new leases) \$'000	As at 30 June 2024 \$'000
Borrowings	2,695	(570)	-	2,125
	<u>2,695</u>	<u>(570)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,125</u>
	As at 30 June 2022 \$'000	Cash flows \$'000	Non-cash changes (new leases) \$'000	As at 30 June 2023 \$'000
Borrowings	4,224	(1,529)	-	2,695
	<u>4,224</u>	<u>(1,529)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,695</u>

### Note 23. Events after the reporting period

There were no material adjusting events after the balance date.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 24. Financial instruments and financial risk management

##### (a) Financial assets and financial liabilities

Council has exposure to the following risks arising from financial instruments:

- Credit Risk
- Liquidity Risk
- Market Risk

##### Risk management framework

Council is responsible for the establishment and oversight of the risk management framework, together with developing and monitoring risk management policies.

Management and Council approves policies for overall risk management, as well as specifically for managing credit, liquidity and market risk.

Council's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced, to set limits and controls and to monitor these risks and adherence against limits. Council aims to manage volatility to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council oversees how management monitors compliance with the Council's risk management policies and procedures, and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Council. Council is assisted in this role by internal audit.

Council's Audit Committee is charged with the oversight and monitoring of Council's audit and risk management framework. Internal audit undertakes ad hoc reviews of risk management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to management and Council. Council does not enter into derivatives.

##### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. These obligations arise principally from the Council's investments and receivables from customers.

Exposure to credit risk is managed through regular analysis of credit counterparty ability to meet payment obligations. The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure.

Investments in financial instruments are required to be made with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) or similar State/Commonwealth bodies or financial institutions in Australia, in line with the requirements of the Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982.

No collateral is held as security relating to the financial assets held by the Council.

The carrying amounts of financial assets at the end of the reporting period represent the maximum exposure to credit risk for the Council.

##### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

The Council's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring losses or risking damage to the Council's reputation.

##### Exposure to liquidity risk

Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its normal course of business and through its borrowings with QTC and other financial institutions.

The Council manages its exposure to liquidity risk by maintaining sufficient cash deposits and undrawn facilities, both short and long term, to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows. These facilities are disclosed in Note 14. The followings lines of credit were available at the end of the reporting period.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 24. Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Overdraft - QTC working capital facility - limit	5,000	5,000
Available at 30 June	5,000	5,000

The following table sets out the liquidity risk in relation to financial liabilities held by the Council. It represents the remaining contractual cashflows (principal and interest) of financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period, excluding the impact of netting agreements:

	0 to 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	Total contractual cash flows \$'000	Carrying amount \$'000
<b>2024</b>					
Payables	4,955	-	-	4,955	4,955
Loans - QTC	690	835	970	2,496	2,125
Other - Working capital	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>5,645</u>	<u>835</u>	<u>970</u>	<u>7,450</u>	<u>7,080</u>
<b>2023</b>					
Payables	4,761	-	-	4,761	4,761
Loans - QTC	690	1,385	1,110	3,186	2,696
Other - Working capital	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>5,451</u>	<u>1,385</u>	<u>1,110</u>	<u>7,947</u>	<u>7,457</u>

The outflows in the above table are not expected to occur significantly earlier or for significantly different amounts than indicated in the table.

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market indices, such as interest rates, will affect the Council's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

#### Interest rate risk

Council is exposed to interest rate risk through investments and borrowings with Queensland Treasury Corporation.

The Council has access to a mix of variable and fixed rate funding options through QTC so that interest rate risk exposure can be minimised.

#### Sensitivity

There is no reasonable possible movement that would cause a material impact to profit or equity.

The Council does not account for any fixed-rate financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, therefore a change in interest rates at the reporting date would not affect profit or loss.

In relation to the QTC loans held by the Council, the following has been applied:

QTC fixed rate loan - financial instruments with fixed interest rates which are carried at amortised cost are not subject to interest rate sensitivity.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 25. National competition policy

Business activities to which the code of competitive conduct is applied

Council applies the competitive code of conduct to the following activities:

- Aerodromes
- Water and sewerage
- Waste management

This requires the application of full cost pricing, identifying the cost of community service obligations (CSO) and eliminating the advantages and disadvantages of public ownership within that activity.

The CSO value is determined by Council, and represents an activities cost(s) which would not be incurred if the primary objective of the activities was to make a profit. The Council provides funding from general revenue to the business activity to cover the cost of providing non-commercial community services or costs deemed to be CSO's by the Council.

The following activity statements are for activities subject to the competitive code of conduct:

	Aerodrome \$'000	Water and sewerage \$'000	Waste management \$'000
<b>2024</b>			
Revenue for services provided to the Council	1,237	3,555	1,721
Less : Expenditure	(1,742)	(5,595)	(2,515)
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(505)</b>	<b>(2,040)</b>	<b>(795)</b>
<b>2023</b>			
Revenue for services provided to the Council	1,097	3,378	1,569
Less : Expenditure	(1,628)	(5,611)	(2,430)
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(531)</b>	<b>(2,233)</b>	<b>(861)</b>

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 26. Transactions with related parties

##### (a) Transactions with key management personnel (KMP)

KMP includes the Mayor, Councillors, Council's Chief Executive Officer, Director Growth & Liveability, Director Infrastructure and Director Corporate Services.

The compensation paid to KMP comprises:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Short-term employee benefits	1,401	1,364
Post-employment benefits		
	151	167
Long-term benefits	17	25
Termination benefits	87	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>1,654</b>

Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the annual report.

##### (b) Transactions with other related parties

Other related parties include the close family members of KMP and any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members. Close family members include a spouse, child and dependent of a KMP or their spouse.

Details of transactions between Council and other related parties are disclosed below:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Employee expenses for close family members of key management personnel	1,061	690
Purchases of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel	1,080	127

Council employs 171 staff of which eleven are a close family member of a KMP. These staff occupy non-executive position, and are employed under the same terms and conditions as other employees of Council.

(2023: 161 employees, 4 close family members of KMP).

##### (c) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within Cook Shire Council local government area. Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Some examples include:

- payment of rates
- use of Cooktown swimming pool
- animal registration
- use of Library facilities

Council has not included these types of transaction in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

## Cook Shire Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 27. Correction of Prior Period Errors

In preparing a schedule of contract balances for the year ended 30 June 2024, Council identified a number of contract assets and liabilities recorded as at 30 June 2023 for projects which had been completed and closed prior to this date, for which no future cash inflows or outflows were expected. This has resulted in an over statement of contract assets, contract liabilities and revenue. In 2 instances, a contract asset and liability should not have been recorded at the opening balance date (1 July 2022) which has resulted in an overstatement of opening retained surplus in the comparative period.

In preparing the work in progress reconciliation (WIP) for the year ended 30 June 2024, Council identified a number of works orders relating to operational projects which were incorrectly recorded as WIP. These projects had been completed and closed prior to 30 June 2022. This has resulted in an overstatement of WIP and an understatement of opening retained surplus in the comparative period.

To correct these errors, Council has adjusted the 2022/23 comparative figures in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity and applicable notes to the financial statements.

Adjustments impacting the financial statement line items for the 2022/23 comparative year are presented below:

	Actual 30 June 2022 \$'000	Adjustment 1 July 2022 \$'000	Restated 1 July 2022 \$'000	Actual 30 June 2023 \$'000	Adjustment 30 June 2023 \$'000	Restated 30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Statement of Financial Position (Extract)</b>						
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Contract assets	14,350	(2,232)	12,118	14,350	(1,994)	10,125
Total current assets	34,312	(2,232)	32,080	61,943	(1,994)	57,718
<b>Non Current Assets</b>						
Work in progress	8,341	(1,770)	6,571	15,671	-	13,901
Total non current assets	363,827	(1,770)	362,057	546,888	-	545,118
<b>Current liabilities</b>						
Contract liabilities	4,158	(157)	4,001	19,868	(535)	19,176
Total liabilities	29,323	(157)	29,166	40,712	(535)	40,020
<b>Net community assets</b>	368,815	(3,845)	364,970	568,119	(1,459)	562,815
<b>Community equity</b>						
Retained surplus	91,672	(3,845)	87,827	109,806	(1,459)	104,502
<b>Statement of Changes in Equity (Extract)</b>						
Prior period adjustment relating to correction of contract balances and work in progress	-	(3,845)	(3,845)	-	(1,459)	(5,304)
Balance of retained surplus	76,869	(3,845)	73,024	109,806	(1,459)	104,502
Total equity	368,815	(3,845)	364,970	568,119	(1,459)	562,815
<b>Note 3 Revenue</b>						
<b>Operating grants</b>						
State Government grants and subsidies	-	-	-	1,053	(291)	762
Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements	-	-	-	43,531	(2,162)	41,369
Total recurrent grants, subsidies contributions and donations	-	-	-	61,734	(2,453)	59,281
<b>Capital grants</b>						
Commonwealth government grants and subsidies	-	-	-	3,117	994	4,111
Total capital grants, subsidies contributions and donations	-	-	-	15,388	994	16,382

# Cook Shire Council

## General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Management Certificate for the year ended 30 June 2024

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to sections 176 and 177 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the Regulation) and other prescribed requirements.

In accordance with section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that:

- (i) the prescribed requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Local Government Regulation 2012 for the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- (ii) the general purpose financial statements, as set out on pages 1 to 30, present a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, of the council's transactions for the financial year and financial position at the end of the year.



Mayor  
Robyn Holmes

Date: 29/10/2024



Chief Executive Officer  
Brian Joiner

Date: 29/10/2024

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Cook Shire Council

### Report on the audit of the financial report

#### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Cook Shire Council.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information and the certificate given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the council's financial position as at 30 June 2024, and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards.

#### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

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

#### Other information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Cook Shire Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 was the current year financial sustainability statement, unaudited current year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios, and the unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement.

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of the councillors for the financial report**

The councillors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The councillors are also responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the council or to otherwise cease operations of the council.

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

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, 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.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

[https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

In accordance with s. 40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2024: received all the information and explanations I required

- a) I consider that, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.

### **Prescribed requirements scope**

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Local Government Act 2009*, and the Local Government Regulation 2012. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the council's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.



Sri Narasimhan  
as delegate of the Auditor-General

31 October 2024

Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane

**Cook Shire Council**  
**Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement**  
for the year ended 30 June 2024  
**Measures of Financial Sustainability**

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 6)	Council		Council Narrative
			Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	
<b>Audited ratios</b>					
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	3.3	3.1	Council is predominantly grant-funded and cash availability is highly dependent on timing of grant funding being received.
	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 90%	56%	32%	The result is indicative of the limited resources that Council has available to renew assets due to lack of available unutilised revenue.
Asset Management	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	74%	68%	Indicator shows that Council's assets are broadly being consumed in line with their estimated useful lives.
	Leverage Ratio	0 - 3 times	-0.32	5.7	The Council is nearing full repayment of its outstanding loans. Past performance is impacted by cash levels and timing of revenue and grant receipts.
Debt Servicing Capacity	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	-8%	6%	Council is predominantly grant-funded and its own-source operating revenue does not fully offset the cost of operational requirements or depreciation cost.
	Operating Surplus Ratio	Contextual	-27%	-9%	A negative ratio reflects Councils challenge in generating sufficient own-source revenue to cover costs. In addition, this years result is particularly impacted by the delay in receiving major grant revenue before 30 June, inconsistent with prior periods.

**Note 1 - Basis of Preparation**

The current year financial sustainability statement is a special purpose statement prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

# Cook Shire Council

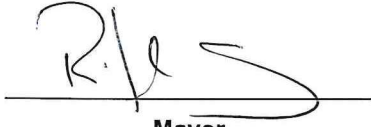
## Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Certificate of Accuracy for the year ended 30 June 2024

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current-year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



Mayor

**Robyn Holmes**

Date: 29/10/2024



Chief Executive Officer

**Brian Joiner**

Date: 29/10/2024

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Cook Shire Council

### Report on the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement

#### Opinion

I have audited the accompanying current year financial sustainability statement of Cook Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2024, comprising the statement, explanatory notes, and the certificate of accuracy given by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with s.212 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, in my opinion, in all material respects, the current year financial sustainability statement of Cook Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been accurately calculated.

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the statement in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

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

#### Emphasis of matter – basis of accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 which describes the basis of accounting. The current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 for the purpose of fulfilling the council's reporting responsibilities under the Local Government Regulation 2012. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Other Information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial sustainability statement and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Cook Shire Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 was the general-purpose financial statements, unaudited current-year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios, and the unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement.

My opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the general-purpose financial report.

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

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

### **Responsibilities of the councillors for the current year financial sustainability statement**

The councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012. The councillors responsibility also includes such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is accurately calculated and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the current year financial sustainability statement 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 statement.

My responsibility does not extend to forming an opinion on the appropriateness or relevance of the reported ratios, nor on the council's future sustainability.

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 statement, 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 council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of material accounting policy information used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.



I communicate with the council 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sri Narasimhan", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sri Narasimhan  
as delegate of the Auditor-General

31 October 2024

Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane

## Cook Shire Council

### Unaudited Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement - Contextual Ratios

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 6)	Actual		5-Year Average	Council Narrative
			Current Year	Council		
<b>Contextual ratios (unaudited)</b>						
Financial Capacity	Council-Controlled Revenue	Contextual	13%		14%	Councils main source of revenue is grant-funding from the Queensland and Australian Governments.
	Population Growth*	Contextual	-2%		-1%	There is limited population growth in the Cook Shire local government area.

#### Note 1 - Basis of Preparation

The current year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

\* Council used the Regional Population Growth data provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the calculation of Council's Population Growth ratio.

# Cook Shire Council

## Unaudited Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement - Contextual Ratios for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Certificate of Accuracy for the year ended 30 June 2024

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current-year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.

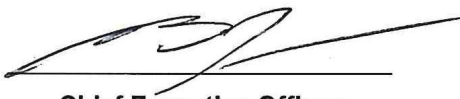


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Mayor

**Robyn Holmes**

Date: 29 / 10 / 2024



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Chief Executive Officer

**Brian Joiner**

Date: 29 / 10 / 2024

**Cook Shire Council**  
**Unaudited Long-Term Financial Sustainability Statement**  
for the year ended 30 June 2024  
**Measures of Financial Sustainability**

Projected for the years ended

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 6)	Actuals as at 30 June 2024	30 June 2025	30 June 2026	30 June 2027	30 June 2028	30 June 2029	30 June 2030	30 June 2031	30 June 2032	30 June 2033
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 4 months	3.3	4.5	4	6	5.5	5	4.5	4	3.4	2.8
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 90%	56%	0%	10%	11%	10%	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	74%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 - 3 times	-0.32	1.04	-0.65	-0.44	-0.24	-0.24	-0.18	-0.14	-0.13	-0.12
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	-8%	3%	-2%	-3%	-5%	-5%	-5%	-6%	-7%	-7%
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	Contextual	-27%	-13%	-17%	-26%	-29%	-28%	-29%	-30%	-31%	-33%
	Council-Controlled Revenue	Contextual	13%	10%	11%	17%	17%	17%	17%	18%	18%	18%
Financial Capacity	Population Growth	Contextual	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%	-2%

**Cook Shire Council Financial Management Strategy**

Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long-term financial forecast shows a sound financial position whilst also being able to meet the community's current and future needs.

Council aims to operate within a set of conservative guide-posts to ensure we are financially sustainable in the short, medium and long term. As part of our financial strategy, we have adopted seven key financial performance indicators to guide our financial health. In addition to the financial indicators, we have the above sustainability indicators that have been set by the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works to help monitor the long-term sustainability of all councils across Queensland. Throughout the financial year, these indicators are calculated and reported on monthly at Council meetings, as part of a full suite of financial reports. Should there be any deviation outside these parameters, the executive management and Council will be fully informed and may take corrective action as required.

The table above summarises how we performed against set targets for the seven key financial performance indicators established in our financial strategy. In summary, we achieved or bettered six of the financial targets, performing strongly in our ability to generate cash from day-to-day operations, meeting all financial commitments in the financial year, and keeping debt to conservative and manageable levels. This was achieved while maintaining community services and making ongoing investment in community infrastructure. Our operating result in this period was adversely affected by the impacts of water reform and this issue is outlined in more detail in the coming pages.

# Cook Shire Council

## Unaudited Long-Term Financial Sustainability Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Certificate of Accuracy

for the long-term financial sustainability statement prepared as at 30 June 2024

This long-term financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this long-term financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



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**Mayor**  
**Robyn Holmes**

Date: 29 / 10 / 2024



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**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Brian Joiner**

Date: 29 / 10 / 2024



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