

Outback Communities Authority

2011-12

ANNUAL REPORT



OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Annual Report

2011 - 12



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Hon Gail Gago, MLC
Minister for State/Local Government Relations
Parliament House
North Terrace
Adelaide SA 5000

Dear Minister

As Chairman of the Outback Communities Authority, appointed pursuant to section 7 of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*, I am pleased to present the Authority's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 as required by section 18 of that Act and section 6A of the *Public Sector Management Act 1995 and its Regulations*.



William R McIntosh AM
Chair

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Chairman's report

The 2011-12 year is the second year of operation of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) and it marks a significant escalation in the business activity of the OCA. In terms of new directions, I believe the most prominent of which was the establishment of the Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC) pursuant to Section 11 of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*.

The ATMC was established to oversee and coordinate the delivery of 'municipal' services into to the Andamooka community. The Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association were finding it increasingly difficult to deliver these services in, what is, a dynamic community facing rapid change as a result of the nearby expansion development of the mining operations at Olympic Dam.

In May 2012 the Minister for State/Local Government Relations approved the OCA's recommendation that, following the OCA's acceptance of the ATMC consultation report on the 2012-2015 Community Plan incorporating the 2012-2013 Financial Plan that included a Community Contribution Scheme (CCS), a CCS be applied in the 2012-13 financial year. In June the OCA appointed a Community Administrator to manage the day-to-day delivery of municipal services to the Andamooka community.

The approval by the Minister of the OCA's inaugural 2011-2015 Strategic Management Plan, incorporating the 2011-12 Business Plan and Budget, is a fundamental milestone that will largely define what the OCA is, and does, over the next few years. Other significant achievements during the year have been the transition of the Copley water reticulation system from community management to the management of the OCA and the implementation of a new Small Sports Grants Program and a Small Project Grants Program, together resulting in nearly \$150,000 investment in the outback.

Ongoing investment in Outback communities through the OCA's Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreements resulted in over \$330,000 being provided along with over \$365,000 spent on outback infrastructure including public conveniences and the UHF repeater network.

Ongoing success in securing external investment resulted in over \$360,000 being spent on improvements to Mungerannie, William Creek and Marla aerodromes along with the commencement of a \$2 million upgrade to the Oodnadatta aerodrome.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the OCA Board for their vision and commitment to improving the outback and I would also like to thank the OCA staff for their hard work and dedication to the implementation of the OCA's business plan and the very significant achievements for the people who live and work in the Outback.



William R McIntosh AM
Chair

General Manager's Report

The year ending 30 June 2012 provides an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) staff for the preceding financial year. As articulated by the Chair, the most significant achievement was the establishment of the Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC) and the subsequent community approval of the application of a Community Contribution Scheme (CCS) for the equitable cost-sharing of community based 'municipal' services. The forthcoming financial year will realise the implementation of the CCS that will, I am sure, allow the Andamooka Community to better manage the current and future challenges that a dynamic community presents.

The collaboration between the OCA and the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA) in establishing the ATMC is representative of how the OCA's enabling Legislation can work for communities looking for more support to ensure their sustainability.

Although the effort in establishing the ATMC and the ongoing support required to ensure its objectives were met was in itself a tremendous task, the Office for the OCA also managed to achieve many other other project outcomes including the transition of the Copley water reticulation system from community management to the management of the OCA and the implementation of a new Small Sports Grants Program and a Small Project Grants Program, together resulting in nearly \$150,000 investment in the outback.

This coupled to an ongoing program of improving access to the outback for emergency service providers through upgrades to strategically located aerodromes and improvements to the already impressive UHF radio network has generally enhanced the outback region.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the OCA Board for its strategic direction and support, however it would be remiss of me not to extend my sincerest appreciation and thank you to the staff of the Office for the OCA for their commitment and dedication to service for and on behalf of the people who live and work in the Outback.



Mark Sutton
General Manager

1. About the Outback Communities Authority

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) is a statutory authority established in 2010, successor to the Outback Areas Community Development Trust. The OCA sits administratively within the Department of Planning and Local Government. Through the Department of Planning and Local Government, the OCA provides advice to the Minister for State/Local Government Relations. The OCA's role, as defined in the OCA's empowering Legislation, the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*, is:

- (a) to manage the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities; and*
- (b) to promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities; and*
- (c) to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities.*

In performing its functions, the Authority is –

- (a) Primarily to foster and support the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities by community organisations, including by making grants and loans to such organisations; and*
- (b) To consider long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure for public services and facilities for outback communities; and*
- (c) To consider State and national objectives and strategies that are relevant to outback communities; and*
- (d) To seek ongoing collaboration with local, State and national governments in the planning and delivery of public services and facilities to outback communities; and*
- (e) To ensure that there are systems in place to further its understanding of the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities; and*
- (f) To facilitate decision making by others on a basis that is well informed in relation to the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities, including by participating in appropriate local, State and national forums; and*
- (g) To provide services with a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, manage resources effectively, prudently and in a fully accountable manner and maintain and enhance the value of public assets.*

To achieve the above functions, the OCA:

- supports the provision of public services and facilities within the unincorporated areas of South Australia, including a number of small townships and smaller settlements such as farming, pastoral and tourism enterprises.
- plans for the maintenance, replacement or development of infrastructure for public services and facilities in outback communities by implementing long-term planning initiatives.
- works collaboratively across Government agencies to plan and deliver public services to outback communities.
- commits to consulting with people in the unincorporated areas on matters that may be important to them, or that may affect the region in which they live.
- through community development initiatives such as training and planning activities, supports the remotely located communities.

Through local agencies, the OCA also provides dog registration opportunities throughout the remote areas. Twelve local agencies agreed to collect the registrations on behalf of the OCA in 2011-12.

The OCA is a strong advocate for communities to work collaboratively in seeking positive outcomes and improvements across the outback, ensuring the sustainability of Outback South Australia.

The OCA's stakeholders include:

- Progress Associations and or body corporates in the remote areas of South Australia.
- Residents in the unincorporated areas of South Australia.
- Other State and Federal Government agencies.
- Other non-Government agencies.

1.1 Funds available to the OCA

The OCA's principal funding sources are the Commonwealth Local Government Financial Assistance Grants provided through the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission, and an annual appropriation from the South Australian Government of \$445,000. The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission remained the principal contributor providing \$1,733,000 in 2011-12.

The OCA operates as a recognised local governing body under the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992* for the purposes of receiving financial assistance grants funding. This recognition assists the OCA when seeking project specific funding from other areas of Government.

The OCA also receives funding from State and Commonwealth agencies specific to particular projects, interest on funds held, user-pays visitor facilities, airstrip landing fees, dog registration fees and general publication sales.

2. Organisation structure

2.1 Membership

The OCA was established on 1 July 2010 under the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* (the Act) as a result of legislative changes passed by Parliament in late 2009.

The Governor appoints the seven members of the OCA, of whom at least four are to be members of different outback communities.

Members of the OCA are appointed for a three year term and at the conclusion of a term of office, are eligible for reappointment. The current appointment for the OCA Board expires on 30 June 2013.

The membership of the OCA currently consists of:

William R McIntosh AM, (Chairman)
Ms Toni Bauer
Mr George Beltchev
Mrs Jen Cleary
Mrs Frances Frahn
Mrs Margaret Heylen
Mrs Pat Katnich



The Board Members attending the first Outback Communities Authority meeting held on 3 August 2010 at Port Augusta. (Left to right: Margaret Heylen, George Beltchev, Frances Frahn, Pat Katnich, Toni Bauer, Bill McIntosh and Jen Cleary).

2.2 Support Staff

For the majority of 2011-12 the OCA maintained six full-time support staff, in addition to this, one staff member was employed through an employment agency on a part time basis. In September 2011 the Northern Communities Manager resigned and in March 2012 the Infrastructure Manager resigned from his position, reducing the full time employee (FTE) count by two. An internal review of business operations and associated support staff was undertaken which confirmed that the Northern Communities Manager position and the Infrastructure Manager position were no longer required positions. The OCA's General Manager identified that the OCA's business required a governance type role and it is envisaged that this will be explored in 2012-13.

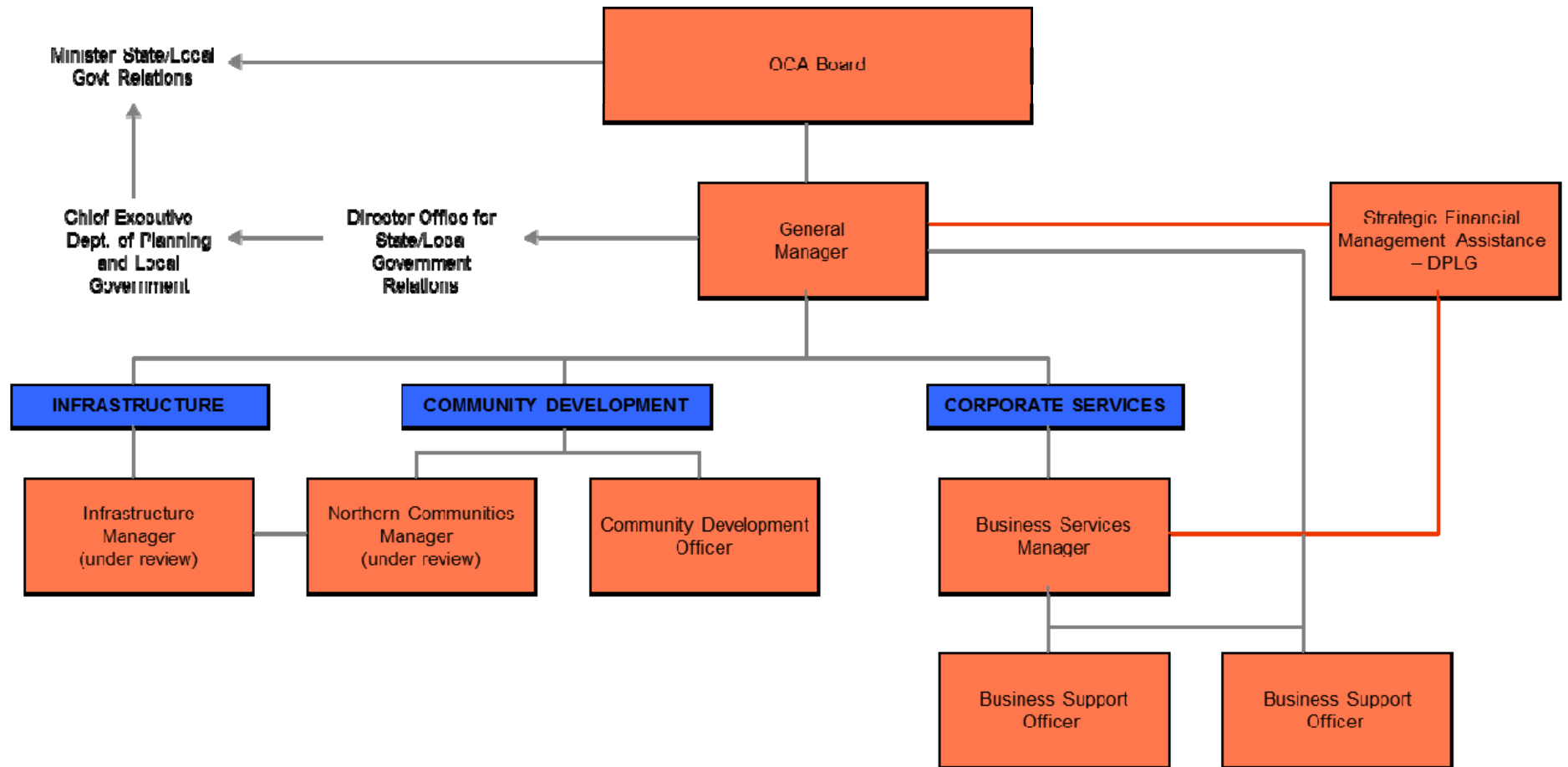
Since 15 February 2011 the OCA has shared accommodation arrangements with the Department of Primary Industries and Resources SA (PIRSA) and Rural Solutions SA (RSSA). The co-location has resulted in a managed arrangement between the three agencies sharing accommodation and office resources ensuring overall cost effectiveness.

Although the Office for the OCA is relatively small in number, it continues to support approximately 30 remotely located communities in matters relating to the maintenance and development of new infrastructure, community development and governance arrangements where training and advice is provided, and financial management and community insurance support is provided.

The Office for the OCA works collaboratively with both State and Federal agencies seeking funding opportunities to assist with improvements in the outback and with community development initiatives. These inter agency relationships are critical for the ongoing sustainability of remotely located communities.

The Office for the OCA also maintains a close working relationship with staff from the Office for State/Local Government Relations who provide support to the OCA staff across various administrative areas.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE JUNE 2012



3. A Strategic Look at the Outback

The Outback Communities (*Administration and Management*) Act 2009, section 15 (1) indicates that the OCA must submit to the Minister for State and Local Government Relations a Strategic Management Plan for the period of five financial years.

Over the course of the 2010-11 financial year, the OCA developed its first Draft Strategic Management Plan 2011 – 2015 incorporating the 2011-12 Annual Business Plan and 2011-12 Annual Budget and provided the document to outback residents encouraging comment. The draft document was released for a six week consultation period in April 2011. The OCA approved the document at a special teleconference meeting held on 26 May 2011.

The OCA's Strategic Management Plan 2011 – 2015 incorporating the 2011-12 Annual Business Plan and 2011-12 Annual Budget was formally approved on 2 August 2011 by the Minister for State and Local Government Relations. Copies of the OCA's Strategic Management Plan 2011 – 2015 incorporating the 2011-12 Annual Business Plan and 2011-12 Annual Budget are available from the Office for the OCA.

The goals and objectives within the OCA's Strategic Management Plan 2011 - 2015 are linked to a number of priorities set out in the Objectives of South Australia's Strategic Plan (SASP). Working with other State and Federal agencies the OCA is committed to supporting outback communities and has contributed to the following SASP Objectives:

Objective 1: **Growing prosperity**

Facilitate OCA representation on economic development and tourism planning bodies to assist in encouraging economic development and business opportunities in the outback.

Objective 2: **Improving well-being**

Identify funding and leveraging opportunities (including State and Federal grant programs) to support community and cultural development, heritage, sport and recreation initiatives.

Objective 3: **Attaining sustainability**

Complete OCA Infrastructure Asset Management Plans and report on status of infrastructure and on-going cost implications.

Objective 4: **Fostering creativity**

Seek innovative solutions to infrastructure and service needs in the outback through partnerships and or new technologies.

Objective 5: **Building communities**

Promote and support community and individual aspirations, for example in relation to economic development, employment opportunities and sports, recreation and healthy lifestyles in the outback.

Objective 6: **Expanding opportunity**

Identify funding and leveraging opportunities (including State and Federal grant programs) to support community and cultural development, heritage, sport and recreation initiatives.

4. Major achievements in 2011-12

4.1 Establishment of the Andamooka Town Management Committee

Under Section 11 of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* the OCA is able to establish committees to assist it in the performance of its functions.

In response to the overwhelming pressure that was being placed on volunteers within the Andamooka community and as a result of rapid development associated with the expansion of Olympic Dam operations, the OCA formerly established the Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC), a Section 11 Committee on 1 January 2012. The new committee comprises representatives of the OCA, the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association and an independent Chair. The ATMC operations exist from 1 January 2012 up to 30 June 2013, during which time a review will be undertaken to gauge if the committee should continue.

On 17 April 2012 the ATMC released its first Community Plan incorporating the 2012-13 financial plan and budget for a three-week consultation period.

Whilst supporting the ATMC, it became evident to the OCA that a position was required to manage and coordinate the delivery of services in Andamooka. A Community Administrator was appointed on 18 June 2012 who resides in Andamooka and works from an office located centrally in Andamooka.

In undertaking a management role of municipal and community development activities the ATMC acknowledged that the growth in Andamooka could not be managed purely by volunteers and therefore proposed that a Community Contribution Scheme (a user pays system) be implemented. The Andamooka Community Contribution Scheme was implemented on 1 July 2012.

On 15 August 2012 the OCA received Ministerial approval pursuant to Section 21 (3) (b) of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* for the application of a Community Contribution Scheme for Andamooka (including White Dam) for the 2012-13 financial year of \$400 per property unit on rateable land.

The OCA did not implement any other form of rating in its region of jurisdiction during 2011-12.

4.2 Remote Aerodromes

Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade

Concurrent to an audit of remotely located aerodromes undertaken by the Outback Areas Community Development Trust (OACDT) and the subsequent Emergency Preparedness Audit - Outback SA Aircraft Landing Areas' document, a further upgrade by the OCA of outback aerodromes continued throughout 2011-12, with the major project being the upgrade to the Oodnadatta Airstrip in the far north of South Australia.

The Oodnadatta Airstrip upgrade commenced in June 2011 with preliminary survey and design works. Once completed the upgrade project would provide, where possible, year round all weather access to a very remote community, surrounding pastoralists and the general travelling public. Further to this an increase in safety of all aircraft, crews and passengers would be ensured along with improved community access to essential services for the Oodnadatta community and would meet operational requirements of the Royal Flying Doctor Service or operators providing similar aero-medical services.

The project continued to progress throughout 2011-12, although at times stalling for weeks on end due to the lack of available contractors and ongoing negotiations with the peak community body at Oodnadatta, the Oodnadatta Progress Association. The project was jointly funded by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, Commonwealth Government and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, SA Government providing \$1.8 million in funding. The scope of the Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade project involved the reconstruction and sealing of the main runway, taxiways and aircraft parking areas. A runway perimeter fence was also included as part of the overall upgrade.

With limited resources, the OCA initiated a tender process seeking assistance to deliver the on-ground works for the project. The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) were successful in securing the tender and a close working relationship between the OCA and DPTI ensured the progress of this major project.

Due to the inability to finalise the major upgrade works on the airstrip, this project could not be finalised by 30 June 2012. The OCA looks forward to finalising this major project in the 2012-13 year.

Regional Aviation Access Program

The OCA was advised in late March 2012 that it had been successful with its application to the Regional Aviation Access Program (RAAP) seeking funding to upgrade the William Creek airstrip area, the Mungerannie airstrip and register the Marla airstrip. The project was jointly funded by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, Commonwealth Government and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, SA Government for a total amount of \$184,590.

The scope of works for each airstrip included:

Marla airstrip: undertake works necessary to register the aerodrome at Marla and provide GPS instrument approaches resulting in CASA registration.

William Creek airstrip: relocate and fence the rubbish dump at William Creek to reduce the safety risks to aircraft at the William Creek airstrip.

Mungerannie airstrip: to provide solar airstrip lighting that meets the requirements of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and undertake other works necessary to ensure the safety of night time aircraft emergency operations at the Mungerannie airstrip.

As at 30 June 2012 the RAAP project had purchased lighting for the Mungerannie airstrip. It is envisaged that this project will be finalised in the 2012-13 year.

5. Other achievements in 2011-12

2011-2015 Strategic Management Plan, incorporating 2011-12 Business Plan and Budget

The first Strategic Management Plan for the OCA was released on 12 April 2011 for a six week consultation and invited outback residents to have their say about the OCA's proposed direction and priorities.

At a special meeting held on 26 May 2011 via a telephone conference, the OCA adopted the draft Strategic Management Plan 2011-2015, incorporating the 2011-12 Business Plan and Budget for formal approval by the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, noting that the consultation period had not resulted in any substantial recommendations for change to the document.

On 2 August 2011 the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, the Hon. Russell Wortley MLC approved the OCA's 2011-2015 Strategic Management Plan, incorporating 2011-12 Business Plan and Budget. This document clearly reinforced the OCA's commitment to the unincorporated areas of South Australia by confirming its goal as:

“The OCA is working towards enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work in the outback of South Australia by ensuring equitable access to public services and facilities. We will also continue to support initiatives that strengthen local communities, while enhancing their unique identities and culture”.

In planning for the future, the OCA is committed to:

- Establishing effective communication with the outback community and understanding the issues that affect people's lives;
- Keeping people in the outback informed about what we are doing;
- Listening to the diverse views and aspirations of people living and working in the outback before making decisions that will affect every day life;
- Promoting equitable access to services and facilities, and seeking innovative solutions to the outback's unique challenges;
- Regularly reporting on our progress and asking for feedback about what we are doing; and
- Striving to be an organisation that is easy to do business with.

In achieving its goal, the OCA set six strategic objectives:

1. To build and maintain relationships with people who live and work in the outback.
2. To articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities to policy and decision makers.
3. To manage the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities.
4. To promote and facilitate improvements in the provision of public facilities and services to outback communities.
5. To support outback people in their community development aspirations.
6. To ensure accountability and transparency in the management of OCA affairs.

The OCA's first Strategic Management Plan will act as a guide for its operations for the next five years and outcomes will be measured against key performance indicators and reported in future Annual Reports.

Management of the Community Water Supply at Copley

In response to calls for assistance to manage the community water supply located at Copley, the OCA in conjunction with the Copley and Districts Progress Association worked toward a mutually acceptable agreement which resulted in the OCA managing the maintenance and long term viability of the water supply, whilst the Copley and

Districts Progress Association retained ownership of the infrastructure. This arrangement has relieved diminished volunteer capacity. As at 30 June 2012, the OCA envisaged that it would continue to manage the water supply in 2012-13.

5.1 Outback Projects

Supporting Youth in the Outback

In 2011-12 the OCA applied for and received \$22,000 in funding from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – Office for Sport to facilitate youth activities in Copley after school hours and weekends.

To encourage youth in the outback to participate in the restoration project at Farina (26 kms north of Lyndhurst, SA), the OCA sought and was approved for funding by the Office for Youth. This project offered the opportunity for up to 30 young people from isolated towns in the Flinders Ranges to work with volunteers from the Farina Restoration Group in stone masonry, baking, research, carpentry, history interpretation, event management and catering to restore buildings and historic interpretations at Farina.

As in previous years, the OCA applied for funding from the Office for Youth in support of the Youth Advisory Committees operating in the remote areas of SA. The OCA were approved \$3,000 in funding which provided tennis coaching opportunities during Youth Week at the Leigh Creek, Copley and Marree communities and the development of a mural at Penong by local youth.

Remote Municipal Services Project

The OCA continued its working relationship with the Indigenous Coordination Centre and again project managed the delivery of municipal services to the Oodnadatta community. This project achieves a number of objectives including the pick up and disposal of all rubbish waste receptacles from within the Oodnadatta community, a hard waste pick up to remove over-sized objects from the community environs, a continuous effort to improve landscaped areas, coordinated dog control and household animal health management and a specialised project to develop the town park and caravan park site.

Outback Heritage Works

Since 2009 the OCA has financially supported the restoration operations of the Farina Restoration Group. In 2011-12 the OCA provided \$10,300 to assist this group while it continued to focus on restoring buildings at the Farina site. Stage 4 of the overall restoration project was achieved in 2011-12 and also incorporated work to the golf and tennis facilities onsite. The annual social cricket event was again organised in 2012, being held in April which again was a resounding success. The preceding three years has seen the Farina site reinvigorated which in turn has resulted in a piece of SA's history being restored and a vibrant tourism opportunity created.

5.2 Community Support

The OCA formally met 10 times throughout 2011-12 and in addition also participated in 6 teleconference meetings. Two of the formal meetings were held in regional locations, being at Yunta in July 2011 and Iron Knob in November 2011.

The OCA meeting in Iron Knob coincided with the formal opening of the Iron Knob Community Park, which the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister Russell Wortley MLC opened. The day at Iron Knob also provided the opportunity for the OCA to meet with the Local Government Grants Commission (LGGC) as they included Iron Knob in their triennial visiting program to regional areas.

The purpose of the visits is to provide information and an opportunity to discuss the LGGC's grant allocation process.



Iron Knob residents and OCA Members and Office for the OCA staff present at the opening of the Iron Knob Community Park.

Throughout the 2011-12 financial year the OCA supported 33 community associations within its jurisdiction (refer Appendix 1) by assisting with financial assistance, administrative support and also with the provision of municipal services. Generally the communities that receive this assistance are constituted under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1985* and are able to receive, hold and dispense funds.

Co-existing Aboriginal groups located at Copley (the Aroona Council Inc.), at Marree (the Marree Arabunna People's Committee Inc.) and at Oodnadatta (the Dunjiba Community Council Inc.) are also recognised for funding purposes.

The communities that are supported by the OCA vary in size, with the largest being Andamooka, to the smaller communities such as Beltana, Parachilna and William Creek. Unfortunately for some of the smaller communities diminishing local community numbers has resulted in the Association body unable to continue to operate. Over the preceding five years the Outback Areas Community Development Trust (preceding the OCA) and the OCA has witnessed an increase in the number of inactive outback communities.

As at 30 June 2012 the Bookabie, North East CFS District, Seven Waterholes and Tarcoola communities remain dormant.

Although the OCA was directly involved in supporting the Andamooka community as it faced the Olympic Dam mining expansion at Roxby Downs, further mining growth in the unincorporated areas indicated only a slight increase. This did not suggest that other outback communities would be facing impending pressure to accommodate mining activity. (Refer to page 9 regarding the establishment of the Andamooka Town Management Committee).

The majority of the recognised communities are situated at small towns or around settlements. Some like the Gawler Ranges Progress Association Inc and the Eastern Districts Progress Association Inc, consist of members from widely scattered pastoral communities. None the less, the smaller associations provide the same support and leadership to the surrounding areas, but due to the sheer logistics regarding the distances of travel, they face more challenges in achieving this.

Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreements

CARM Agreements are specific to each community and are negotiated on a yearly basis to ensure that each Agreement is a clear reflection of the OCA's support in assisting with fixed costs and responsibilities in the provision of local services. Each CARM Agreement is negotiated with community peak body members who represent their individual community. Although a CARM Agreement is current for the full financial year it can be amended once it becomes evidently clear that estimated costs may differ over the course of that financial year. CARM is also aimed at providing increased community capacity to source other funds by helping with required local contributions.

The OCA's community support package of funds underpins the community CARM Agreements and consists of :

- The long-established administration support grant.
- An executive support grant that is specifically tied to administrative tasks and accountability compliance purposes.

Twenty-six CARM Agreements were forwarded to recognised community bodies and all were returned to the OCA confirming the commitment to CARM by those residing in the outback.

The OCA again provided funding to outback communities through the Community Support Package of funding. A total of \$67,000 was provided to communities through the Administration Support grant, \$71,000 through the Executive Support grant and a further \$192,500 through the CARM Agreement process.

CARM Agreements are specific to each community, although municipal services such as town maintenance, waste management collection and storage and community insurance which provides insurance for community assets, public liability and volunteers cover are commonly included. Other services such as airstrip maintenance and water supply management are also included in those Agreements where communities are active in these specific areas.

Financial Assistance

Project Grants

In May 2011 the OCA released the draft Outback Grants Program policy for a six week consultation period. On 14 July 2011 the OCA adopted the Outback Grants Program policy and in September 2011 the OCA launched the new program of grants for outback projects inviting applications for innovative projects that would support outback people and add to the unique quality of life that outback people enjoy.

Applications received in both rounds were assessed on merit based on criteria determined by the OCA as a priority:

- Relevance to the OCA and SA Strategic Management Plans.
- Level, type and evidence of need.
- Extent of community benefit/outcome.
- Nature and size of the project.
- Cost effectiveness.
- Consultation undertaken and the support received from relevant stakeholders.
- Equitable funding and allocations across outback regions.
- The organisation's capacity to deliver the project.
- The existing infrastructure and resources of the organisation.
- The Complementation of other programs.
- Priority given to smaller projects and applications seeking matching funding.

Round 1 of the Project Grants program was released on 2 September 2011 and received 9 applications seeking funding for community projects. Eight of the applications were approved at the OCA's November 2011 meeting for funding, with one application being requested for further information. This application was subsequently approved for funding at the OCA's meeting held on 12 December 2011. Overall, the OCA approved \$45,100 in funding for Round 1 of the Project Grants program.

On 6 February 2012 round 2 of the Project Grants program was released and the OCA received 13 applications seeking funding which were all subsequently approved for funding on 8 March 2012, totalling \$101,430. In the 2011-12 year, the OCA approved a total of \$146,531. Over the course of 2011-12 the OCA funded projects relating to tennis court upgrades, community hall repairs, assisting with the purchase of a tractor, heritage building restoration, a shade structure for a community cemetery and supporting lifeguard duties at a community swimming pool.

Small Sports Grants

The Outback Grants Program includes two opportunities per financial year to access funding through the Small Sports grants encouraging applications from incorporated bodies located and operating in the remote areas under the jurisdiction of the OCA. In 2011-12 the OCA approved 10 projects diverse in nature from the replacement of sporting equipment to supporting a children's horsemanship clinic at an overall total of \$3,000. Through the Small Sports grants the OCA encourages outback residents to participate in sporting and recreational activities which benefit individuals and also the wider community by developing community rapport. Active sporting and recreational opportunities have proven to be extremely beneficial in providing social interaction and increasing positive community spirit.

As in previous years, the OCA financially supported outback Associations with their community insurance expenses in the form of a one-third subsidy for those Associations who had a current CARM Agreement in place and participated in the community insurance scheme.

The insurance portfolio provides cover for community assets, volunteer protection and public liability. In the 2011-12 year the OCA's support toward community insurance costs was approximately \$33,100.

In September 2011 the OCA undertook a remarketing exercise to explore the provision of community insurance to outback communities. The Office for the OCA approached three insurers to seek interest in providing quotations for the provision of complex insurance portfolios that are available to outback communities. The current insurance broker, Local Government Risk Services approached four of the leading Australian based insurers also seeking interest. At its meeting held on 12 December 2011, the OCA advised that the remarketing exercise had resulted in a positive outcome, confirming that the provision of insurance, specific to outback communities would remain with Local Government Risk Services.

Financial contributions to communities are set out in Appendix 3.

Training and Development

The OCA supports training and development opportunities for Progress Association members who hold executive positions. With the change of executive positions, Progress Associations often seek Governance training which ensures that well informed decision making processes are maintained resulting in sustainable communities. The OCA's Community Development Officer manages community training opportunities and regularly organises for training to be delivered locally, alleviating the need for extensive travel.

During 2011-12 the following communities participated in training which was organised by the Community Development Officer:

<i>Community</i>	<i>Training Opportunity</i>
Andamooka	Oral History Workshop
Blinman	Governance
Fowlers Bay	Constitution
Marree	Oral History Workshop
William Creek	Constitution
School of the Air Governing Council	Communication Skills, Governance

5.3 Joint Funding Initiatives

The OCA recognises the large remote area under its jurisdiction and in doing so networks with service provision groups to implement projects in the outback. Although the OCA has limited resources, the joint funding initiatives enable services and projects to reach the remote areas which otherwise may be disadvantaged with regard to opportunities to progress business and community development projects.

The OCA strongly believes that joint initiative projects are a very effective way of purchasing outcomes that benefit the broader outback community. These joint funding initiatives are subject to the OCA's agreement regarding project management and specified anticipated outcomes.

During 2011-12 the OCA contributed a total of \$63,900 toward joint initiatives for the outback and partnered with the Northern Regional Development Board, the University of South Australia, the City of Port Augusta and Regional Development Australia, Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula.

Details of these contributions are set out in Appendix 4.

5.4 Outback Infrastructure

Airstrips

Remote airstrips are located at Andamooka, Blinman, Glendambo, Innamincka, Kingoonya, Manna Hill, Marla, Marree, Mintabie, Oodnadatta, William Creek and Yunta. These airstrips are used to accommodate scheduled visits and emergency evacuations by the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The OCA supports the maintenance of these airstrips through annual CARM agreements.

The OCA manages the airstrip located at Marla. The OCA has employed a local community member to undertake the duties of a Reporting Officer to ensure that the airstrip area remains clear for use.

A collection system has been installed at the Marla airstrip to collect landing fees. In the 2011-12 year approximately \$2,500 was collected which is used for the ongoing maintenance of the airstrip.

Public Facilities

The OCA own and manage 19 public conveniences located in the remote areas of South Australia. As part of the management of this infrastructure, the OCA contracts cleaners to maintain the facilities to a high standard, providing a service to the travelling public and to local residents. Due to the remote locations of each public convenience, the OCA seeks the assistance from local community members to undertake the cleaning contracts.

The OCA has installed donation pillars at the site of each public convenience owned by the OCA. Funds received are used toward the ongoing maintenance and general upkeep of each facility. In 2011-12 approximately \$4,400 was received as a result of donations which are greatly appreciated. The OCA note that there are very few public complaints received regarding the public conveniences and this in itself is a true compliment to the committed cleaning contractors.

Shower and facilities are provided at Innamincka which are owned by the OCA and managed by the Innamincka Progress Association. The shower facilities located at Pimba are owned and managed by the Pimba Progress Association. Both facilities have a donation system in place. In the 2011-12 year a total of \$20,400.00 was received from the facility at Innamincka being an indication of the high numbers of travelling public that visit this remote community.

The OCA manages community waste water systems located at Blinman, Marla, Oodnadatta, Parachilna and William Creek ensuring that residents have access to reliable essential infrastructure.

UHF Repeater Towers

The OCA owns and manages 31 strategically placed UHF repeater towers providing access to communication for outback residents and the travelling general public. The OCA is very aware of the valuable communications the UHF towers provide and in acknowledging the extreme weather conditions, have for many years, included scheduled maintenance to be undertaken. The maintenance is undertaken by a contractor and must be planned well in advance due to the remote locations of the UHF towers. In the 2011-12 year two scheduled maintenance visits were undertaken at a cost to the OCA of approximately \$51,500. The OCA is very aware that there are areas in the outback where the existing UHF towers do not cover. To address this situation the OCA financed the installation of a new repeater tower on Bollards Lagoon in May 2012.

6. Other community services

The OCA provides the following further services to remotely located communities within the normal day to day operations:

6.1 Registration of dogs

In section 4 of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* the OACDT is described as a council and where the Act refers to a council's area, the former OACDT's, area (and now the OCA's area) of responsibility is acknowledged. The OCA having replaced the OACDT has continued to provide services and opportunities to residents in the outback to register their dogs. The OCA negotiates with local businesses and community associations to collect dog registrations on behalf of the OCA. Each collection agency has a formal agreement with the OCA that remains current for a two year period. The OCA General Manager is the Registrar of Dogs within the area, pursuant to section 26 of that Act.

In 2011-12 dog registration fees collected totalled \$7,800 and the mandatory contribution was made to the Dog and Cat Management Board, pursuant to the requirements of the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*.

6.2 Register of Outback Burials

The OCA has continued to maintain the register of burials consisting of known burial sites and interments in the outback, out-of-council areas, which the Outback Areas Community Development Trust established in 2006. To our knowledge this is the first central, publicly available register of these areas and includes records from community-run cemeteries, historic sites, station and property graves, known burials in conservation areas and sites along historic transport corridors. The burials register is conducted on a person's name and not on location with the majority of enquiries received by the OCA regarding outback burials being from the general public.

At June 2012 there were almost 800 records on the register. It is thought that there are in all about 1500 interments in the outback, out-of-councils area.

Although the information is not in high demand, the register is a valuable source of information taking some time to develop back in 2006. Information on the register may be updated by contacting the OCA office.

6.3 Community Communication

The OCA encourages the peak body of each outback community to communicate with residents and local pastoralists through a community newsletter network. The OCA makes special provision in individual community CARM Agreements and allocates up to \$2,500 per community for the development and distribution of a newsletter in a financial year. Communities that access this funding, provide a copy of their newsletters to the OCA, ensuring that the OCA is aware of upcoming events and new initiatives in the outback.

6.4 Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA)

The Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) is a voluntary, non-profit parent body dedicated to ensuring that all rural and remote students have access to an appropriate education. The ICPA encompasses the education of children from early childhood through to tertiary. Children may be educated in small rural schools, by distance education, attend boarding schools or school term hostels and sometimes have access to early childhood services. The OCA in acknowledging the valuable service provided to outback families, supported the ICPA by providing \$5,000 through the Outback Grants Program to assist with the 2012 South Australian State Conference which was held at Wilpena Pound, Flinders Ranges National Park in March 2012.

7. Human Resources Data

Table 1: Employee numbers, gender and status

Total number of employees at 30 June 2012:

Persons:	5
FTE's	4
Part-time employees	1

As at 30 June 2012 the OCA's full-time staff comprised:

Mark Sutton, General Manager
Mark Shirley, Community Development Officer
Brenda Honan, Business Services Manager
Julie Warde, Business Support Officer

As at 30 June 2012 the OCA's part-time staff comprised:

Lorena McKenzie, Business Support Officer

Number of persons during 2011-12

Separated from the OCA: 2

Recruited to the OCA: 0

Number of persons as at June 2012

On leave without pay: 0

Table 2: Number of employees by salary bracket (FTE's)

Salary Bracket	Male	Female	Total
\$0 - \$47,999	0	0	0
\$48,000 - \$60,999	0	1	1
\$61,000 - \$78,199	2	1	3
\$78,200 - \$98,499	1	0	1
Total	3	2	5

The salary brackets have been constructed as an approximation for the level of responsibility, and are based on the current remuneration structures of the Public Sector Management Act Administrative Services Stream with consideration of the Operational, Professional, Technical and Executive Streams.

Table 3: Leave management across division per FTE

Leave Type	2010-11 (days)	2011-12 (days)
Annual Leave	Data unavailable	89
Sick leave	20	20
Family carer's leave	20	4
Miscellaneous special leave	4	47

Table 4: Training/conference participation

Training Package	Number of staff members attending
Asset Management for Small, Rural or Remote Communities	3
Senior First Aid	4
Contract Management Workshop	1
Certificate IV in Project Management	1
Regional Development Australia, Far North	2
Human Resources	1

Table 5: Occupational health, safety and welfare (OHS&W) notices and corrective action taken

Occupational Health, safety and welfare is a core value for the OCA. The OCA believes that all injuries can be prevented, safety comes first and all employees are responsible for safety. An Occupational Health and Safety Representative has been established to promote safety and health in the workplace.

The OCA fosters open and effective communication and recognises its vital role for the effective management of OH&S. The cooperation and involvement of all employees at every level is required to achieve and maintain a high standard of OH&S within the Office for the OCA.

The Office for the OCA held 20 Team Meetings throughout 2011-12. Every agenda includes an OH&S component where topics such as hazards, incidents and staff training are discussed. Employees are encouraged to participate in discussion at all times. Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA and Rural Solutions staff who share the office premises with the OCA are invited to attend the Team Meetings to discuss OH&S matters.

OCA staff that travel to remote areas are strongly encouraged to take a SPOT GPS Messenger device which assists staff when reporting on their location. When travelling remotely, OCA staff are required to report to the office, their location at least once in a 24-hour period.

The Office for the OCA employees are committed to the responsibility of their own safety and also for that of staff working within the same office or with whom they are travelling. It is expected that all employees will work towards realising the OCA's OH&S commitments which are aimed at creating a healthy and safe working environment for all.

The OCA works with the Department of Planning and Local Government in the development and implementation of agency OH&S policies encouraging employees to provide comment at all times.

Number of notifiable occurrences pursuant to OHS&W Act Regulations, division 6.6	0
Number of notifiable injuries pursuant to OHS&W Regulations, division 6.6	0
Number of notices served pursuant to OHS&W Act, section 35, 39 and 40 (default, improvement and prohibition notices)	0
Number of OHS&W staff meetings held in 2011-12	10

Note: There were no workplace fatalities, injury claims or lost time injuries during 2011-12.

8. Other financial and corporate matters

The OCA operations are well supported by the small number of staff at the office located in Port Augusta. However, to ensure outcomes are met and projects are delivered, the OCA does from time to time rely on contractors to deliver programs or provide services.

8.1 Consultants

The OCA did not engage any consultants in the 2011-12 year.

8.2 Contractual arrangements

The OCA does not have any contractual arrangements in which the total value of the contract exceeds \$4 million (gst inclusive) and extends beyond a single year.

During 2011-12, 24 contractors were used by the OCA.

Table 1: Contractors below \$10,000

Consultant	Description	Total Cost to the OCA \$
A.S. James-Bear Pty Ltd	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade.	5,760
Aerodrome Design	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade.	5,000
Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association	Demolition of derelict building.	6,100
C & N Woolford	Training provider.	2,000
Career Employment Group	Youth worker, Andamooka and Sport Officer, Copley.	5,600
Executive Advisory Services	Organisational review.	8,500
Fowlers Bay Eco Park Pty Ltd	Public convenience cleaning.	2,250
Gibber Plain Solutions	Community meeting.	1,900
Home and Yard Maintenance	Project management.	9,450
JAC Comrie	Policy advice.	9,900
John Bested and Associates	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade.	6,300
John Mannion	Outback history projects.	2,600
Kingsley Kammerman	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade.	3,300
Lyle Warren	Community Waste Water System.	1,400
Magedata	Outback Broadband Concept Plan.	4,950
Rex Mooney Bookkeeping and Accountancy Services	Site surveys – Andamooka and Iron Knob.	2,700
S Wood Financial Solutions	Invoicing system support.	300
Winton Consulting Services	Human resource support.	1,800

Table 2: Contractors between \$10,000 and \$50,000

Consultant	Description	Total Cost to the OCA \$
Consolidated Group Australia Pty Ltd	Outback hard waste removal.	16,780
Carles, Dr. J.	Veterinary services, Oodnadatta.	26,900
CVC Clear Vision Consulting	Communications strategy.	31,000
Flinders Ranges Council	Community Contribution Scheme levy notice delivery.	20,000
Pecan Lighting	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade and RAAP Round1 Airstrip project.	33,300

Table 3: Contractors where total value exceeds \$50,000

Consultant	Description	Total Cost to the OCA \$
Alvanos Earthmoving	Oodnadatta Airstrip Upgrade	63,700

Table 4: Account Payment Performance

	Percentage of Accounts Paid (by number)	Percentage of Accounts Paid (by value)
Paid by due date	96.1%	98.7%
Paid late, within 30 days of due date	3.10%	1.2%
Paid more than 30 days from due date	0.8%	0.1%

Please note that the above statistics refer to the entire Department of Planning and Local Government of which the Outback Communities Authority is a Division of.

8.3 Fraud

It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected within the Outback Communities Authority in 2011-12. Financial services are provided to the Board by Shared Services and the Department of Planning and Local Government (DPLG).

Pursuant to Section 18 of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*, audited statements of income and expenditure of the OCA, together with details of the items of income and expenditure must be included in the OCA's Annual Report.

OCA staff in key financial roles are responsible for ensuring that fraud and corruption measures are in place and reviewed regularly. OCA staff work within the Financial Management Framework as implemented by the DPLG. The Financial Management Framework includes but is not confined to guidelines regarding financial delegations and authorisations, audits and information security controls.

8.4 Overseas Travel

It is declared that no member of the Board has travelled overseas on Board business during the reporting period.

9. Looking to 2012-13

Looking back over the 2011-12 year and the achievements that a dedicated small team has accomplished is extremely satisfying. A team of 7 staff supporting 33 remotely located communities can only be successful when working in collaboration with other government and non-government agencies. The perfect example of this is the outback airstrip upgrades where since 2006 the OCA has project managed 11 airstrip upgrades resulting in airstrip facilities able to be accessed in emergency situations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The OCA is extremely pleased to have been the instigator of these projects and to make available such high standard airstrip facilities for outback communities, pastoralists and the general travelling public.

The OCA is confident that the major upgrade to the Oodnadatta airstrip will be finalised in the 2012-13 year and it is also envisaged that the RAAP airstrip project will also be finalised.

In its second year of operation, the OCA has implemented its 5-year Strategic Management Plan which it will continue to use as a basis to guide operations and “articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities”.

The OCA is extremely pleased with the implementation of the Community Contribution Scheme (CCS) at Andamooka and looks forward to further consultation with the Andamooka community to confirm if the CCS will continue through 2012-13. The standard of services now available to the Andamooka community are of a very high standard and the General Manager, Community Administrator and supporting staff are to be commended for their tireless efforts in ensuring this new concept for an outback community has been a great success.

As in previous years, the Community Affairs Resourcing and Management agreements will again form the basis of the Community Support Package and will be accompanied by the Administration Grant and Executive Officer funding.

The Outback Grants Program proved to be extremely popular for outback communities to implement projects benefitting the wider community, this will also be continued in the 2012-13 year.

The OCA will continue to undertake the management of essential outback infrastructure such as UHF towers and public conveniences, acknowledging the importance of these to outback residents and also the travelling general public.

It is with great enthusiasm that the OCA looks toward its third year in operation and the new challenges that this year will bring in sustaining outback communities and to investigating innovative projects that will value add to living in South Australia’s unique outback.

10. Financial Reports

Financial Year Ended 30 June 2012

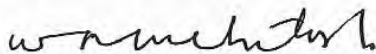
OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Certification of the Financial Statements

We certify that the attached general purpose financial statements for the Outback Communities Authority:


- comply with relevant Treasurer's instructions issued under section 41 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, and any relevant Australian accounting standards;
- are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Authority; and
- present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority as at 30 June 2012 and the results of its operation and cash flows for the financial year.

We certify that the internal controls employed by the Outback Communities Authority for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of the general purpose financial statements have been effective throughout the reporting period.



William McIntosh
CHAIRPERSON

3/4/2013



Mark Sutton
MANAGER

3/4/ 2013

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2012

	Note	2012 \$' 000	2011 \$' 000
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	5	557	681
Supplies and services	6	1,964	3,060
Depreciation	7	266	261
Grants and subsidies	8	780	567
Net loss (gain) from disposal of non-current assets	9	(2)	24
Other expenses	10	207	84
Total expenses		3,772	4,677
Income			
Advances and grants	12	2,524	3,834
Interest revenue	13	68	63
Other income	14	256	160
Total income		2,848	4,057
Net (cost of) /revenue from providing services		(924)	(620)
Revenues from SA Government			
Revenues from SA Government	15	445	592
Net result		(479)	(28)
Total comprehensive result		(479)	(28)

The net result and comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

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

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2012

	Note	2012 \$' 000	2011 \$' 000
Current Assets			
Cash	16	2,281	803
Receivables	17	24	1,131
Total current assets		2,305	1,934
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	18	4,105	4,223
Total non-current assets		4,105	4,223
Total assets		6,410	6,157
Current liabilities			
Payables	19	888	293
Employee benefits	20	41	51
Provisions	21	1	1
Other current liabilities	22	151	18
Total current liabilities		1,081	363
Non-current liabilities			
Payables	19	14	12
Employee benefits	20	148	136
Provisions	21	3	3
Total non-current liabilities		165	151
Total liabilities		1,246	514
Net assets		5,164	5,643
Equity			
Retained earnings		3,727	4,206
Asset revaluation surplus		1,437	1,437
Total equity		5,164	5,643

The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Unrecognised contractual commitments 24
Contingent assets and liabilities 25

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

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 June 2012

	Note	2012 \$' 000	2011 \$' 000
		Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash outflows			
Employee benefit payments		(554)	(683)
Payments for supplies and services		(1,364)	(2,895)
Payments of grants and subsidies		(780)	(560)
Other payments		(65)	(84)
Cash used in operations		(2,763)	(4,222)
Cash inflows			
Advances and grants		2,657	3,275
Interest received		66	63
Other receipts		1,219	168
Cash generated from operations		3,942	3,506
Cash flows from SA Government			
Receipts from SA Government		445	592
Cash generated from SA Government		445	592
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	27	1,624	(124)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash outflows			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(472)	(55)
Cash used in investing activities		(472)	(55)
Cash inflows			
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		326	-
Cash generated from investing activities		326	-
Net cash used in investing activities		(146)	(55)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash		1,478	(179)
Cash at 1 July		803	982
Cash at 30 June	16	2,281	803

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

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30 June 2012

	Asset Revaluation Surplus \$' 000	Retained Earnings \$' 000	Total Equity \$' 000
Balance at 30 June 2010	1,437	4,234	5,671
Net result for 2010-11	-	(28)	(28)
Total comprehensive result for 2010-11	-	(28)	(28)
Balance as at 30 June 2011	1,437	4,206	5,643
Net result for 2011-12	-	(479)	(479)
Total comprehensive result for 2011-12	-	(479)	(479)
Balance at 30 June 2012	1,437	3,727	5,164

All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

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

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

1 Objectives of the Outback Communities Authority

As defined in the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*, the functions of the Outback Communities Authority (the Authority) are:

- to manage the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- to promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities.

In performing its functions the Authority is:

- primarily to foster and support the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities by community organisations, including by making grants and loans to such organisations;
- to consider long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure for public services and facilities for outback communities;
- to consider State and national objectives and strategies that are relevant to outback communities;
- to seek ongoing collaboration with local, State and national governments in the planning and delivery of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- to ensure that there are systems in place to further its understanding of the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities;
- to facilitate decision making by others on a basis that is well informed in relation to the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities, including by participating in appropriate local, state and national forums;
- to provide services with a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, manage resources effectively, prudently and in a fully accountable manner, and maintain and enhance the value of public assets.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

a) Statement of compliance

The Authority has prepared these financial statements in compliance with section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with relevant Australian Accounting Standards, and comply with Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements promulgated under the provision of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the Authority for the reporting period ending 30 June 2012. (Refer to Note 4).

b) Basis of preparation

The preparation of the financial statements requires:

- The use of certain accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Authority's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are outlined in the applicable notes.
- Accounting policies to be selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events are reported.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

- Compliance with accounting policy statements issued pursuant to section 41 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. In the interest of public accountability and transparency the accounting policy statements require the following note disclosures, which have been included in these financial statements:
 - a) Revenues, expenses, financial assets and liabilities where the counterparty/ transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at reporting date, classified according to their nature. A threshold of \$100 000 for separate identification of these items applies;
 - b) Expenses incurred as a result of engaging consultants (as reported in the Statement of Comprehensive Income);
 - c) Employee targeted voluntary separation package information;
 - d) Employees whose normal remuneration is equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level (within \$10 000 bandwidths) and the aggregate of the remuneration paid or payable or otherwise made available, directly or indirectly by the entity to those employees; and
 - e) Board/committee member and remuneration information, where a board/committee member is entitled to receive income from membership other than a direct out-of-pocket reimbursement.

The Authority's Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Changes in Equity have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets that were valued in accordance with the applicable valuation policy.

The Statement of Cash Flows has been prepared on a cash basis.

The financial statements have been prepared on a twelve month operating cycle and presented in Australian currency.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 and the comparative information presented.

c) Reporting Entity

The Authority is established and empowered by the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009 (the Act)* which is within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for State/Local Government Relations. The Act also defines the areas of the State to which its provisions apply, sets out the Authority's powers and functions and makes provision for support staff. It also enables specified provisions of the *Local Government Act 1999* to be applied by regulation to part, or all, of the Authority's area. The Act further requires the yearly statement of accounts of the Authority to be audited by the Auditor-General and that the Authority provides an annual report to State Parliament.

The *Outback Areas Community Development Trust Act 1978* was repealed by the Act.

The Act also provides that the Authority is the same body corporate as the Outback Areas Community Development Trust established under the *Outback Areas Community Development Trust Act 1978*.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

d) Transferred Functions

Public Sector (Reorganisation of Public Sector Operations) Notice 2011 proclaimed that effective from 1 January 2012 the Office for State and Local Government Relations would transfer to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. All existing functions of the Office for State and Local Government Relations, including its administered item the Outback Communities Authority, were transferred to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

e) Comparative Information

The presentation and classification of items in the financial statements are consistent with prior periods except where specific accounting standards and/or accounting policy statements have required a change.

The restated comparative amounts do not replace the original financial statements for the preceding period.

f) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

g) Taxation

The Authority is not subject to income tax. The Authority is liable for payroll tax, fringe benefits tax, goods and services tax (GST) and the emergency services levy.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable
- receivables and payables which are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of the GST receivable/payable to the ATO is not recognised as a receivable/payable in the Statement of Financial Position as the Authority is a member of an approved GST group of which the Department of Planning and Local Government is responsible for the remittance and collection of GST.

There are no cash flows relating to GST transactions with the ATO in the Statement of Cash Flows.

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the ATO. If GST is not payable to, or recoverable from the ATO, the commitments and contingencies are disclosed on a gross basis.

h) Events after the reporting period

No events have occurred after the reporting date that would affect the financial statements of the Authority as at 30 June 2012.

i) Income

Income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits to the Authority will occur and can be reliably measured.

Income has been aggregated according to its nature and has not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose income where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Advances and grants

Advances and grants are recognised as an asset and income when the Authority obtains control of the advances and grants or obtains the right to receive the advances and grants and the income recognition criteria are met (i.e. the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).

Generally the Authority has obtained control or the right to receive for:

- Advances and grants with unconditional stipulations. This will be when the agreement becomes enforceable, i.e. the earlier of when the receiving entity has formally been advised that the contribution (eg grant application) has been approved, an agreement/contract is executed, and/or the contribution is received.
- Advances and grants with conditional stipulations. This will be when the enforceable stipulations specified in the agreement occur or are satisfied, that is, income would be recognised for contributions received or receivable under the agreement.

Revenues from SA Government

Appropriations for program funding are recognised as revenues when the Authority obtains control over the funding. Control over appropriations is normally obtained upon receipt.

Other Income

Other income consists of insurance recoveries, registration fees and other miscellaneous revenue.

j) Expenses

Expenses are recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits from the Authority will occur and can be reliably measured.

Expenses have been aggregated according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose expenses where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Employee benefits expenses

Employee benefit expenses includes all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and leave entitlements. These are recognised when incurred.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Superannuation

The amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income represents the contributions made by the Authority to the superannuation plan in respect of services of current staff. The Department of Treasury and Finance centrally recognises the superannuation liability in the whole of government financial statements.

Depreciation

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential. Depreciation is applied to tangible assets such as property, plant and equipment.

Assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate on an annual basis.

Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate, which is a change in accounting estimate.

Land and non-current assets held for sale are not depreciated.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the following classes of assets as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Buildings and infrastructure	20-70
Water, sewerage and drainage equipment	20-80
Plant and equipment	3-20

Grants and subsidies

For grants and subsidies payable, the grants and subsidies will be recognised as a liability and expense when the entity has a present obligation to pay the grants and subsidies and the expense recognition criteria are met.

All contributions paid by the Authority have been contributions with unconditional stipulations attached.

Net loss from the disposal of non-current assets

Losses on disposal are recognised at the date the control of the asset is passed to the buyer and are determined after deducting the cost of the asset from the proceeds at that time.

k) Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are characterised as either current or non-current in nature. Assets and liabilities that are sold, consumed or realised as part of the 12 month operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

l) Assets

Assets have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose financial assets where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

Cash

Cash in the Statement of Financial Position includes cash at bank and on hand. For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash consists of cash as defined above.

Cash is measured at nominal value.

Receivables

Receivables include amounts receivable from goods and services, prepayments and other accruals.

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are generally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. An allowance for doubtful debts is raised when there is objective evidence that the Authority will not be able to collect the debt. Bad debts are written off when identified.

Non-current assets

Acquisition and recognition

Non-current assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Non-current assets are subsequently measured at fair value.

Revaluation of non-current assets

All non-current tangible assets are valued at written down current cost (a proxy for fair value), and revaluation of non-current assets or group of assets is only performed when its fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Every five years the Authority revalues its non-current assets. However, if at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place. Non-current tangible assets that are acquired between revaluations are held at cost until the next valuation where they are revalued to fair value.

Any revaluation increment is credited to the asset revaluation surplus except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset class previously recognised as an expense, in which case the increase is recognised as income. Any revaluation decrease is recognised as an expense, except to the extent that it offsets a previous revaluation increase for the same asset class, in which case the decrease is debited directly to the asset revaluation surplus to the extent of the credit balance existing in the revaluations surplus for that asset class.

Upon disposal or derecognition, any revaluation surplus relating to that asset is transferred to retained earnings.

Impairment

All non-current tangible and intangible assets are tested for indication of impairment at each reporting date. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. An amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

For revalued assets, an impairment loss is offset against the respective asset revaluation surplus.

m) Liabilities

Liabilities have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

The notes accompanying the financial statements disclose financial liabilities where the counterparty/transaction is with an entity within the SA Government as at the reporting date, classified according to their nature.

Transactions with SA Government entities below the threshold of \$100,000 have been included with the non-government transactions, classified according to their nature.

Payables

Payables include creditors, accrued expenses and employment on-costs.

Creditors represent the amounts owing for goods and services received prior to the end of the reporting period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Creditors include all unpaid invoices received relating to the normal operations of the Authority.

Accrued expenses represent goods and services provided by other parties during the period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period and where an invoice has not been received.

All payables are measured at their nominal amount, are unsecured and are normally settled within 30 days from the date of the invoice or date the invoice is first received.

Employee benefit on-costs include payroll tax, workcover levies and superannuation contributions in respect to outstanding liabilities for salaries and wages, long service leave and annual leave.

The Authority makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to contributions due but not yet paid to the superannuation scheme managers.

Employee benefits

These benefits accrue for employees as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Long-term employee benefits are measured at present value and short-term employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Wages, salaries, annual leave and sick leave

The liability for salaries and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current remuneration rates.

The annual leave liability is expected to be payable within twelve months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid. In the unusual event where salaries and wages and annual leave are payable later than 12 months, the liability will be measured at present value.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

Long service leave

An actuarial assessment of long service leave liability undertaken by the Department of Treasury and Finance based on a significant sample of employees throughout the South Australian public sector determined that the liability measured using a short hand method was not materially different from the liability measured using the present value of expected future payments.

Based on this actuarial assessment, the short hand method was used to measure the long service leave liability for 2012. Refer to Note 20.

This calculation is consistent with the Authorities experience of employee retention and leave taken.

The long service leave liability has been classified as current and non-current liabilities based on the leave pattern history of previous years.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Authority has a present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

When the Authority expects some or all of a provision to be reimbursed, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. The expense relating to any provision is presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income net of any reimbursement.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted for the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability.

n) Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingent assets and liabilities

Commitments include operating, capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the ATO.

3 Financial risk management

Market risk

The Authority has non-interest bearing and interest bearing assets (deposits with the Treasurer) and liabilities. The Authority's exposure to market risk and cash flow interest risk is minimal.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Authority's debtors defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Authority. The Authority measures credit risk on a fair value basis and monitors risk on a regular basis.

The Authority has minimal concentration of credit risk. The Authority has policies and procedures in place to ensure transactions occur with customers with appropriate credit history.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises where the Authority is unable to meet its financial obligations as they are due to be settled. The continued existence of the Authority is dependent on State Government policy and on continuing appropriations by Parliament for the Authority's administration and programs. The Authority settles undisputed accounts within 30 days from the date of the invoice or date the invoice is first received. In the event of a dispute, payment is made within 30 days from resolution.

The Authority's exposure to liquidity risk is insignificant based on past experience and current assessment of risk.

4 New and revised accounting standards and policies

Issued or amended but not yet effective

The Authority did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2011-12.

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective, have not been adopted by the Authority for the period ending 30 June 2012.

The Authority has assessed the impact of the new and amended standards and interpretations and considers there will be no impact on the accounting policies or the financial statements of the Authority.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

5 Employee benefits expenses

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Salaries and wages	370	475
Annual leave	37	38
Long service leave	33	21
Employment on-costs - superannuation	41	50
Employment on-costs - payroll tax	25	33
Board fees	51	64
Total employee benefits expenses	557	681

Targeted Voluntary Separation Package (TVSPs) Scheme

No employees were paid TVSPs during the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Remuneration of employees

No employees received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during either the 2012 or 2011 financial years.

6 Supplies and services

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Supplies and services provided by entities within SA Government		
Professional and technical services	912	1,962
Utility and property costs	68	66
Computing and communications costs	9	14
Vehicle and equipment operating costs	4	2
Total supplies and services - SA Government entities	993	2,044
Supplies and services provided by entities external to the SA Government		
Professional and technical services	350	251
Administrative and operating costs	210	262
Utilities and property costs	335	404
Computing and communications costs	9	21
Travel and accommodation	31	36
Vehicle and equipment operating costs	18	30
Staff development and safety	18	12
Total supplies and services - non SA Government entities	971	1,016
Total supplies and services	1,964	3,060

Consultancies paid/payable

No consultancies were engaged during either the 2012 or 2011 financial years.

7 Depreciation

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Depreciation		
Buildings and infrastructure	136	138
Water, sewerage and drainage equipment	65	64
Plant and equipment	65	59
Total depreciation	266	261

8 Grants and subsidies

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Grants and subsidies paid/payable to entities external to the SA Government		
Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Grants	334	261
Community projects	40	168
Community subsidies	210	83
Jointly funded projects	196	55
Total grants and subsidies - non SA Government entities	780	567
Total grants and subsidies	780	567

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

9 Net loss / (gain) from disposal of non-current assets		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Buildings and infrastructure at fair value		
Proceeds from disposal	-	-
Less net book value of assets disposed	64	24
Net loss / (gain) from disposal of buildings and infrastructure assets	64	24
Plant and equipment		
Proceeds from disposal	326	-
Less net book value of assets disposed	260	-
Net loss / (gain) from disposal of plant and equipment	(66)	-
Net loss / (gain) from disposal of non current assets	(2)	24

10 Other expenses		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Other expenses paid/payable to entities within the SA Government		
Bad debts provision	11	-
Total other expenses - SA Government entities	11	-
Other expenses paid/payable to entities external to the SA Government		
Recoverable expenses	61	84
Refunds	135	-
Total other expenses - non SA Government entities	196	84
Total other expenses	207	84

11 Auditor's remuneration		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Audit fees paid/payable to the Auditor-General's Department relating to the audit of the financial	29	28
Audit fees under/(over) accrued in previous year	2	(5)
Total audit fees	31	23

Other services
No other services were provided by the Auditor-General's Department.

12 Advances and grants		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Advances and grants received/receivable from entities within the SA Government		
Commonwealth grants ⁽¹⁾	1,733	1,337
State grants	318	1,674
Total advances and grants - SA Government entities	2,051	3,011
Advances and grants received/receivable from entities external to the SA Government		
Commonwealth grants	472	817
Industry	1	6
Total advances and grants - non SA Government entities	473	823
Total advances and grants	2,524	3,834

The above advances and grants were allocated to the following projects:

Advances and grants received/receivable from entities within the SA Government		
Financial assistance grants ⁽¹⁾	1,733	1,337
Airstrips upgrade and safety	185	1,629
Other	133	60
Total advances and grants - SA Government entities	2,051	3,026

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Advances and grants received/receivable from entities external to the SA Government		
Airstrips upgrade and safety	350	453
Dunjiba municipal services	108	156
Other	15	199
Total advances and grants - non SA Government entities	473	808
Total advances and grants	2,524	3,834

(1) Commonwealth grants allocated by SA Local Grants Commission.

13 Interest revenue

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Interest from Department of Treasury and Finance	68	63
Total interest revenue	68	63

14 Other income

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Other income received/receivable		
Recoveries	84	89
Other	172	71
Total other income	256	160

15 Revenues from SA Government

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Revenues from SA Government		
Appropriations from Consolidated Account pursuant to the Appropriation Act	445	592
Total revenues from SA Government	445	592

The Department of Planning and Local Government received an appropriation on behalf of the Outback Communities Authority as a part of appropriation for administered items. The funds were received into a special deposit account and paid across as an intra-government transfer to the Outback Communities Authority.

As administration of the Outback Communities Authority was transferred to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet as at 1 January 2012, future appropriations will be received as part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet appropriation for administered items.

16 Cash

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Deposits with the Treasurer	2,281	803
Total cash	2,281	803

Interest rate risk

Cash on hand is non-interest bearing. Deposits at call and with the Treasurer are bearing a floating interest rate between 4.60% and 3.93%. The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value.

17 Receivables

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Current		
Receivables	30	1,126
Less: provision for doubtful debts	(11)	-
Accrued interest	5	3
Prepayments	-	2
Total current receivables	24	1,131
Receivables from SA Government entities		
Receivables	-	1,119
Accrued interest	5	3
Total receivables from SA Government entities	5	1,122
Receivables from non SA Government entities		
Receivables	19	7
Prepayments	-	2
Total receivables from non SA Government entities	19	9
Total current receivables	24	1,131

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Interest rate and credit risk

Receivables are raised for all goods and services provided for which payment has not been received. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days. Trade receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Other than as recognised in the allowance for doubtful debts, it is not anticipated that counterparties will fail to discharge their obligations. The carrying amount of receivables approximates net fair value due to being receivable on demand. There is no concentration of credit risk.

Bad and doubtful debts

The allowance for doubtful debts (allowance for impairment loss) is recognised when there is objective evidence that a receivable is impaired. An allowance for impairment loss has been recognised in 'other expenses' in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for specific debtors and debtors assessed on a collective basis for which such evidence exists.

- (a) Aging and Maturity analysis of receivables - please refer to Table 26.2 and Table 26.3 in Note 26.
 (b) Categorisation of financial instruments and risk exposure information - please refer to Note 26.

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Movement in the allowance for doubtful debts (impairment loss)		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	-	-
Increase/(Decrease) in the allowance	11	-
Amounts written off	-	-
Carrying amount at the end of the period	<u>11</u>	<u>-</u>

18 Property, plant and equipment

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Land, buildings and infrastructure at fair value		
Land at fair value	15	15
Buildings and infrastructure at fair value	3,822	3,977
Accumulated depreciation	(1,397)	(1,391)
Total land, buildings and infrastructure	<u>2,440</u>	<u>2,601</u>
Water, sewerage and drainage equipment		
Water, sewerage and drainage equipment at fair value	2,296	2,284
Accumulated depreciation	(935)	(868)
Total water, sewerage and drainage equipment	<u>1,361</u>	<u>1,416</u>
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment at fair value	396	383
Accumulated depreciation - plant and equipment	(139)	(207)
Total plant and equipment	<u>257</u>	<u>176</u>
Work in progress		
Plant and equipment	47	30
Total work in progress	<u>47</u>	<u>30</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>4,105</u>	<u>4,223</u>

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment

The following table shows the movement of property, plant and equipment during 2011-12

	Land \$'000	Buildings and infrastructure \$'000	Water, sewerage and drainage \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Constructions and WIP \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	15	2,586	1,416	176	30	4,223
Acquisitions	-	39	-	386	47	472
Transfer between asset class	-	-	(20)	20	-	-
Transfer from work in progress	-	-	30	-	(30)	-
Disposals	-	(64)	-	(260)	-	(324)
Depreciation	-	(136)	(65)	(65)	-	(266)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	15	2,425	1,361	257	47	4,105

Valuation of land, water, sewerage and drainage assets

A valuation of land, water, sewerage and drainage assets was last performed by Maloney Field Services, an independent valuer as at 30 June 2008. The valuer arrived at fair value based on recent market transactions for similar land, buildings and infrastructure in the area taking into account zoning and restricted use.

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure assets at 30 June 2012.

19 Payables

	2012 \$' 000	2011 \$' 000
Current		
Accrued expenses	882	286
Employment on-costs	6	7
Total current payables	888	293
Non-current		
Employment on-costs	14	12
Total non-current payables	14	12
Total payables	902	305
Government / Non Government Payables		
Payables to SA Government entities		
Accrued expenses	818	33
Employment on-costs	-	10
Total payables to other SA Government entities	818	43
Payables to non SA Government entities		
Accrued expenses	64	253
Employment on-costs	20	9
Total payables to Non-SA Government entities	84	262
Total payables	902	305

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance, the percentage of the proportion of long service leave taken as leave is 40% and the average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation cost on-cost is 10.3%, as determined by actual employee super rates. These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation.

Interest rate risk

Creditors and accruals are raised for all amounts billed but unpaid. Sundry creditors are normally settled within 30 days. Employment on-costs are settled when the respective employee benefit that they relate to is discharged. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to the amounts being payable on demand.

- (a) Maturity analysis of payables - please refer to Table 26.3 in Note 26.
 (b) Categorisation of financial instruments and risk exposure information - please refer to Note 26.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

20 Employee benefits		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Current		
Annual leave	35	43
Long service leave	6	5
Accrued salaries and wages	-	3
Total current employee benefits	41	51
Non-current		
Long service leave	148	136
Total non-current employee benefits	148	136
Total employee benefits	189	187

AASB 119 Employee Benefits contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability. It is accepted practice to estimate the present values of future cash outflows associated with the long service leave liability by using a shorthand measurement technique. The shorthand measurement technique takes into account such factors as changes in discount rates and salary inflation.

AASB 119 requires the use of the yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds as the discount rate in the measurement of the long service leave liability. The yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds has decreased from 2011 (5.25%) to 2012 (3.0%).

This significant decrease in the bond yield, which is used as the rate to discount future long service leave cashflows, and determine the benchmark for the measurement of the long service leave liability, results in a significant increase in the reported long service leave liability. The benchmark was revised down from 5 years (2011) to 0 years plus 10% premium (2012).

The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is an increase in the long service leave liability of \$13,999 and increase to employee benefit on-cost expenses of \$2,055.

The total current and non-current employee benefits expense (ie aggregate employee benefits in Note 20 plus employment on-costs in Note 19 for 2012 is \$209,000 (\$206,000).

21 Provisions		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Current		
Provision for workers compensation	1	1
Total current provisions	1	1
Non-current		
Provision for workers compensation	3	3
Total non-current provisions	3	3
Total provisions	4	4
Movement in provisions		
Carrying amount at 1 July	4	4
Increase in the provision	-	-
Carrying amount at 30 June	4	4

A liability has been recognised to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment performed by the Public Sector Workforce Division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

22 Other current liabilities		
	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Current		
Unearned revenue	151	18
Total other current liabilities	151	18

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

23 Equity

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Contributed capital		
Retained earnings	3,727	4,206
Asset revaluation reserve	1,437	1,437
Total equity	5,164	5,643

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the fair value of land, buildings and plant and equipment to the extent that they offset one another. Relevant amounts are transferred to retained earnings when an asset is disposed of or assets are transferred to another SA Government entity upon an administrative restructure.

24 Unrecognised contractual commitments

Operating lease commitments

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases at the reporting date not recognised as payables in the financial statements are payable as follows:

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Within one year	11	41
Later than one year and not later than five years	1	12
Total operating lease commitments	12	53

Representing:

Non-cancellable operating leases	12	53
Total operating lease commitments	12	53

Operating leases primarily relate to property and accommodation occupied by the Authority. This lease is non-cancellable, with rental payable monthly in advance. The lease relates to office accommodation at 12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta which has been leased to 30 September 2012.

Rent reviews are bi-annual with the next being due 1 July 2012. This lease has a 5 year right of renewal.

Other commitments

Commitments for the payment of maintenance and other service contracts at the reporting date but not recognised as payables in the financial statements are payable as follows:

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Within one year	34	122
Later than one year and not later than five years	80	-
Total other commitments	114	122

25 Contingent assets and liabilities

The Authority is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2012.

26 Financial instruments/financial risk management

Table 26.1 Categorisation of financial instruments

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in Note 2 Summary of significant accounting policies.

Category of financial assets and liabilities	Statement of Financial Position line item	Note	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
			2012 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2011 \$'000
Financial assets						
Cash	Cash	16	2,281	2,281	803	803
Receivables	Receivables	17	24	24	1,131	1,131
Total financial assets			2,305	2,305	1,934	1,934
Financial liabilities						
Financial liabilities at cost	Payables ⁽¹⁾	19	882	882	286	286
Total financial liabilities at cost			882	882	286	286

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(1) Receivable and payable amounts disclosed here exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables. In government, certain rights to receive or pay cash may not be contractual and therefore in these situations, the requirements will not apply. Where rights or obligations have their source in legislation such as levy receivables/payables, tax equivalents, commonwealth tax etc they are excluded from the disclosure. The standard defines contract as enforceable by law. All amounts are recorded at cost (not materially different from amortised cost).

Currently the Authority does not hold any collateral as security to any of its financial assets. At reporting date, there is no evidence to indicate that any of the financial assets are impaired.

The following table discloses the ageing of financial assets, past due, including impaired assets past due.

Table 26.2 Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Overdue for < 30 days \$'000	Overdue for 30 - 60 days \$'000	Overdue for > 60 days \$'000	Total \$'000
2012				
Not impaired				
Receivables	5	-	7	12
2011				
Not Impaired				
Receivables	2	3	-	5

The following table discloses the maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities.

Table 26.3 Maturity analysis of financial assets and liabilities

	Carrying amount \$'000	Contractual Maturities		
		< 1 year \$'000	1 - 5 years \$'000	> 5 years \$'000
2012				
Financial assets				
Cash	2,281	2,281	-	-
Receivables	24	24	-	-
Total financial assets	2,305	2,305	-	-
Financial liabilities				
Payables	882	882	-	-
Total financial liabilities	882	882	-	-
2011				
Financial assets				
Cash	803	803	-	-
Receivables	1,131	1,131	-	-
Total financial assets	1,934	1,934	-	-
Financial liabilities				
Payables	286	286	-	-
Total financial liabilities	286	286	-	-

Sensitivity disclosure analysis

A sensitivity analysis has not been undertaken for the interest rate risk of the Authority as it has been determined that the possible impact on statement of comprehensive income or total equity from fluctuations in interest rates is immaterial.

OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

27 Cash flow reconciliation:

	2012	2011
	\$' 000	\$' 000
Reconciliation of cash at 30 June		
Cash disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position	2,281	803
Balance as per Statement of Cash Flows	2,281	803
Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to net cost of providing services:		
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,624	(124)
Less: revenue from SA Government	(445)	(592)
Add/(less) non cash items		
Depreciation and amortisation	(266)	(261)
(Loss) / gain on disposal of assets	2	(24)
Movement in assets and liabilities		
(Decrease)/increase in receivables	(1,107)	484
Increase/(decrease) in inventories	-	(20)
(Increase)/decrease in payables and provisions	(597)	(145)
Decrease/(increase) in employee benefits	(2)	(8)
(Increase)/decrease in other liabilities	(133)	70
Net (cost of) /revenue from providing services	(924)	(620)

28 Remuneration of board members

Members that were entitled to receive remuneration for membership during the 2011-12 financial year were:

McIntosh W	Heylen M
Katnich P	Beltchev G
Bauer T	
Frahn F	
Cleary J	

Members who were entitled to receive remuneration during the year are listed in the following summary table:

	2012	2011
\$0 - \$9 999	6	7
\$10 000 - \$19 999	-	1
\$20 000 - \$29 999	1	1
Total number of members	7	9

Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing board member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, fringe benefits tax and any other salary sacrifice arrangements. The travel allowance paid to members has not been included as remuneration as it is considered to be a reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the relevant members. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$67,367 (2011:\$69,857).

Amounts paid or payable to a superannuation plan for board members was \$5,433 (2011:\$6,114).

Unless otherwise disclosed, transactions between related parties are on conditions no more favourable than those which it is reasonable to expect the entity would have adopted if dealing with the related party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

29 Transferred functions

Under the *Public Sector (Reorganisation of Public Sector Operations) Notice 2011*, from 1 January 2012 the Office for State and Local Government Relations transferred to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. All existing functions of the Office for State and Local Government Relations, including its administered item the Outback Communities Authority were transferred to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

30 Events after the reporting period:

No events have occurred after balance date that would affect the financial statements of the Authority as at 30 June 2012.



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**To the Chairperson
Outback Communities Authority**

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Outback Communities Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2012. The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2012
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2012
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2012
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2012
- notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Chairperson and the General Manager.

Responsibility for the Financial Report

The members of the Outback Communities Authority are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the members of the Outback Communities Authority determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. The auditing standards require that the auditor comply with relevant ethical requirements and that the auditor plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members of the Outback Communities Authority, as well as the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority as at 30 June 2012, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards.



S O'Neill
AUDITOR-GENERAL
19 June 2013

11. Appendices

APPENDIX 1:

Client communities

The community groups with which the OCA deals are situated at, or within, the following townships, centres or districts:

Andamooka	Fowlers Bay	Marree (2)
Ash	Gawler Ranges	Mintabie
Beltana	Glendambo	Olary
Blinman	Innamincka	Oodnadatta
Bookabie *	Iron Knob	Parachilna
Border Village	Kingoonya	Penong
Cockburn	Leigh Creek	Pimba
Coorabie	Lyndhurst	William Creek
Copley (2)	Manna Hill	Woomera
Eastern Districts	Marla	Yunta

*The Bookabie Progress Association advised the OCA that as of 30 June 2012 it would be disbanding due to diminished volunteer capacity in the region and would no longer be seeking support from the OCA. The Bookabie Progress Association which is in close proximity to the Penong and Districts Progress Association negotiated for some of the existing community infrastructure to be managed by the Penong and District Progress Association.

APPENDIX 2:

Community visits by OCA Members and Staff

Andamooka	9
Aroona Council	3
Balcanoona	1
Beltana	2
Blinman	4
Coorabie	1
Copley	7
Dunjiba Community Council	3
Fowlers Bay	4
Gawler Ranges	1
Glendambo	4
Innamincka	2
Iron Knob	8
Kingoonya	4
Leigh Creek	2
Lyndhurst	4
Manna Hill	6
Marla	2
Marree	3
Mintabie	1
Olary	2
Oodnadatta	6
Parachilna	4
Penong	4
Pimba	3
William Creek	3
Woomera Board	2
Yunta	5

During 2011-12 the OCA held two regional meetings. On 14 July 2011 the OCA held a meeting at the Yunta Telecentre. The communities of Olary, Manna Hill and Cockburn were invited to join the Yunta community and meet with the OCA Board.

The second regional meeting was held on 2 November 2011 at the Rural Transaction Centre at Iron Knob. The OCA's meeting coincided with the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, the Hon Russell Wortley MLC and the Local Government Grants Commission also visiting Iron Knob.

Both regional meetings were very successful, providing the opportunity for outback residents to meet with the OCA Board and discuss local community matters. In particular the meeting at Iron Knob was very beneficial as Iron Knob residents were provided with an opportunity to meet with three arms of the State Government in a local location.

APPENDIX 3:**OCA financial contributions to outback communities****FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUTBACK COMMUNITIES 2011 - 12**

Community	Community Support Package	Community Assistance	Youth Programs	Total Amount of Community Assistance
Andamooka	17,953	186,740	2,021	\$206,715
Aroona	-	398	-	\$398
Ash	-	142	-	\$142
Beltana	5,172	20,014	-	\$25,185
Blinman	10,878	16,619	-	\$27,497
Bookabie	-	342	-	\$342
Border Village	-	407	-	\$407
Coorabie	5,250	748	-	\$5,998
Copley	3,500	5,299	-	\$8,799
Eastern Districts	2,060	170	-	\$2,230
Fowlers Bay	2,500	18,910	-	\$21,410
Gawler Ranges	779	756	-	\$1,535
Glendambo	4,060	7,089	-	\$11,149
Innamincka	5,094	935	-	\$6,029
Iron Knob	11,673	12,896	-	\$24,569
Kingoonya	1,500	389	-	\$1,889
Leigh Creek	2,500	900	-	\$3,400
Lyndhurst	-	1,032	-	\$1,032
Manna Hill	4,937	835	-	\$5,772
Marla	6,316	14,934	-	\$21,250
Marree Arabunna	-	1,495	-	\$1,495
Marree	14,968	14,094	-	\$29,062
Mintabie	9,740	23,694	-	\$33,434
Olary	5,684	817	-	\$6,501
Oodnadatta	7,700	9,027	-	\$16,727
Parachilna	4,060	1,379	-	\$5,439
Penong	12,657	34,576	600	\$47,833
Pimba	4,683	430	-	\$5,113
Woomera	3,114	-	400	\$3,514
William Creek	3,622	1,963	-	\$5,585
Yunta	9,828	9,502	-	\$19,330
	\$160,228	\$386,533	\$3,419	\$549,782

APPENDIX 4:

Joint initiative contributions

Northern Regional Development Board

Resource agreement funding	\$ 32,860
Tourism services funding	\$ 21,054
Publication sales	\$ 115

University of SA

Sponsorship of International Rural Network Conference	\$ 5,000
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City of Port Augusta

Contribution toward 2012 State VIC Conference	\$ 909
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Regional Development Australia, Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula

Nullabor Guide publication	\$ 4,000
	\$ 63,938

APPENDIX 5:

Aboriginal reconciliation statement

In facilitating the administration and management of outback communities the OCA acknowledges Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of this land, their resilience and diversified cultures. The OCA works in partnership with three Aboriginal communities and strives to achieve positive outcomes for all Aboriginal people.

The OCA recognises the requirement to comply with Commonwealth and State legislation, policies and directions in respect to native title in South Australia. The OCA acknowledges the National Native Title Tribunal as the appropriate body to assist communities to facilitate timely and effective native title outcomes through its delivery of a wide range of services.

The OCA is a strong supporter of attaining land settlement through negotiation rather than litigation. To assist in the resolution of native title claims the OCA commits to providing sound and timely commentary on the impact of claim settlement on the communities within OCA's area of responsibility to relevant Government and other agencies.

APPENDIX 6:

Equal opportunity employment

The OCA recognise that everyone has a contribution to make to our society and a right to equal opportunity.

No job applicant or employee, member, volunteer or organisation or individual to which we provide services will be discriminated against by us on the grounds of gender (including sex, marriage, gender re-assignment), race (including ethnic origin, colour, nationality and national origin), disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief or age.

We aim to promote equal opportunities, eliminate discrimination and eliminate harassment through the following:

- Opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination.
- All employees (whether part-time, full-time or temporary), volunteers and members will be treated fairly and with respect.
- All vacancies will be advertised internally and externally simultaneously and will include a statement on equal opportunities.
- Selection for employment/volunteering, promotion, training or any other benefit will be on the basis of aptitude and ability. All selection/rejection decisions will be recorded.

At 30 June 2012 the OCA support staff comprised two males and three females while the OCA Board has five female members and two male members amongst a head count of seven members.

The OCA's support of equal opportunity employment is consistent with the equal opportunity policies and programs of the Department of Planning and Local Government.

APPENDIX 7:

Disability action plan

The OCA relocated to new office premises on 14 February 2011 and was keen to provide disability access at the new office. Unfortunately due to a lack of available South Australian Government owned office accommodation, the OCA was not in a position to relocate to a suitable building offering disabled public access. However, the OCA did note that the new premises that were offered did have right of entry via a side entrance which can accommodate wheel-chair access.

The OCA premises provide a Counter Hearing Unit (CHU) at the reception area which can assist hearing impaired customers. The CHU was provided through the 'hi' Deafness Friendly Program made available to provide better access to communication services for hearing impaired clients when visiting the OCA office.

Wheel chair access has been included in a number of new public conveniences installed in the remote areas of South Australia. Where possible, this approach will continue with future constructions.

Advice has been provided to remotely located communities who are engaged in construction projects regarding wheelchair and disabled access.

APPENDIX 8:

Energy Efficient Action Plan

The development and implementation of green energy solutions remain a priority for the Outback Communities Authority in 2012-13. Through the Andamooka Town Management Committee, a Section 11 committee of the Outback Communities Authority, solar street lighting is being installed in the town of Andamooka. The solar lighting will provide a safer environment for residents and visitor to the town with the smallest of environmental impact.

The Outback Communities Authority will continue to collaborate with others on alternative power solutions to provide affordable, efficient and reliable electricity supply for outback communities and for the improvement in quality of water supplies. Two issues which are of major concern to outback residents and impediment to development opportunities for outback communities.

The OCA has maintained its commitment to sustainable waste management in the outback, with its role in the working party formed to investigate solutions for efficient, environmentally sustainable waste management practices for outback communities. The working party is working toward establishing a strategic plan for waste management for the outback. The plan will deliver a practical strategy which will meet the regulatory requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and the needs of outback residents, businesses, government agencies and transient populations. Funding for the development of the strategy has been contributed by the EPA, OCA, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Zero Waste SA and the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) with technical and in-kind support provided by the Department of Health and KESAB.

APPENDIX 9:

Freedom of information

Application forms to request information under the Act can be obtained from the State Records website: www.archives.sa.gov.au/foi.forms.html.

An application lodged under the Act costs \$29.50.

All freedom of information enquiries and requests should be addressed to:

Outback Communities Authority
PO Box 2353
Port Augusta SA 5700

No applications or enquiries for access to OCA files or records pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* were received during 2011-12, although the Office for the OCA did assist the Office for State/Local Government Relations with some general enquiries.

Outback Communities Authority

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