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**Government  
of South Australia**

# **OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY**

## **2020-21 Annual Report**

**OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY**

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2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

To:  
The Hon. Vickie Chapman MP  
Deputy Premier  
Attorney-General  
Minister for Planning and Local Government

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Outback Communities Authority by:

William (Bill) McIntosh AM  
Presiding Member

Date: 27 October 2021

Signature:



The 2020-21 Annual Report was due on 30 September, however there was a delay in finalising the audit of the financial statements by the Auditor General.

## **From the Presiding Member**

The 2020-21 year has been a particularly busy year for the Outback Communities Authority (OCA), with exceptional initiatives and activities being managed on both the strategic and operational fronts. At the same time, routine responsibilities have been maintained as the Outback region faces unusual and changing times with community needs changing accordingly.

At the strategic level, the OCA's Outback Futures project, which had been initiated in 2019-20, commenced a first stage community consultation process in July 2020. As a general summary, this consultation showed that there were substantial sustainability issues relating to the traditional governance model of the Outback, particularly relating to the key role played by volunteers, and an increasing need for improved essential services and infrastructure.



An interim Outback Futures Report was provided to the Deputy Premier and Attorney General, Hon Vickie Chapman MP, (also Minister for Planning and Local Government) in December 2020.

The Outback Futures project planning continued into the second half of the year when it became evident that more in depth consultation was required, with improved detailed on financial models and the required levels of services and infrastructure that might be supported. The project will be concluded with a Final Report to the Minister before the end of this calendar year.

Operationally, the ability of the OCA to improve high priority infrastructure and enhance social cohesion in the Outback Community received a major boost during this financial year through very significant appropriations from the Commonwealth Government's Drought Communities Programme Round 1 and Round 2 and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 1. This enabled a package of 75 important projects to be delivered with direct benefits at the local community level, a much needed outcome, helping to relieve effects and stresses caused by both the COVID pandemic and prolonged drought.

I would like to express my appreciation to all who make up the OCA team and who have contributed during the year to ensure that the usual business of the organisation has been well maintained alongside exceptional additional responsibilities and opportunities. At Board level, routine term of membership changes have seen three outgoing and three new member appointments during the year and my sincere thanks goes to all Board members who have served during the year for their dedication and support.

Finally, I would like to particularly recognise and express my gratitude to OCA staff who, despite many routine and new challenges during the year, have performed as a team at an exceptional level to ensure that the OCA has been able to both meet its challenges and deliver on responsibilities.



William (Bill) McIntosh AM  
**Presiding Member**  
**Outback Communities Authority**

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Overview: about the agency

**Our strategic focus**

<b>Our Purpose</b>	<p>The Outback Communities Authority (OCA), a statutory authority, is established pursuant to the <i>Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009</i>. The OCA has responsibility for the management and ‘limited’ local governance functions for the support and delivery of municipal type services into the unincorporated areas of South Australia along with a function to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of the Outback Community. The purpose of the OCA is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the lives of people in the Outback</li> <li>• To ensure the voice of the Outback Community is heard where and when it counts</li> <li>• To empower the Outback Community to help themselves</li> </ul>
<b>Our Vision</b>	An inspired and empowered community will ensure a more resilient Outback into the future
<b>Our Values</b>	<p>Be respectful</p> <p>Value relationships</p> <p>Be agile</p> <p>Be bold</p> <p>Be relevant to the Outback Community</p> <p>Base decisions on good information</p> <p>Be efficient with our resources</p>
<b>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To manage the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities; and</li> <li>• To promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities; and</li> <li>• To articulate the view, interests and aspirations of Outback communities.</li> </ul>

## **Our organisational structure**

### 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 OCA Board consists of 7 members, 4 are to be members of different Outback communities and at least 1 member must be a female and 1 a male. The Governor appoints the members. Appointments to the OCA Board are either for an 18 month term or a 3-year term, ensuring business continuity when membership changes. Members may apply for reappointment at the conclusion of serving their term.

During 2020-21 serving OCA members and their terms were:

Mr William McIntosh, Presiding Member: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Ms Jo Fort: 12 March 2015 – 30 June 2022

Ms Mary Marsland: 12 March 2015 – 31 December 2020

Mr Chris Michelmore: 12 March 2015 – 31 December 2020

Ms Tammy Roach: 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2020

Mrs Frances Frahn: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Mr Lee Warmington: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Mr Sam Johnson: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

Mr Tony Vaughan: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

Mr Trevor Wright: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

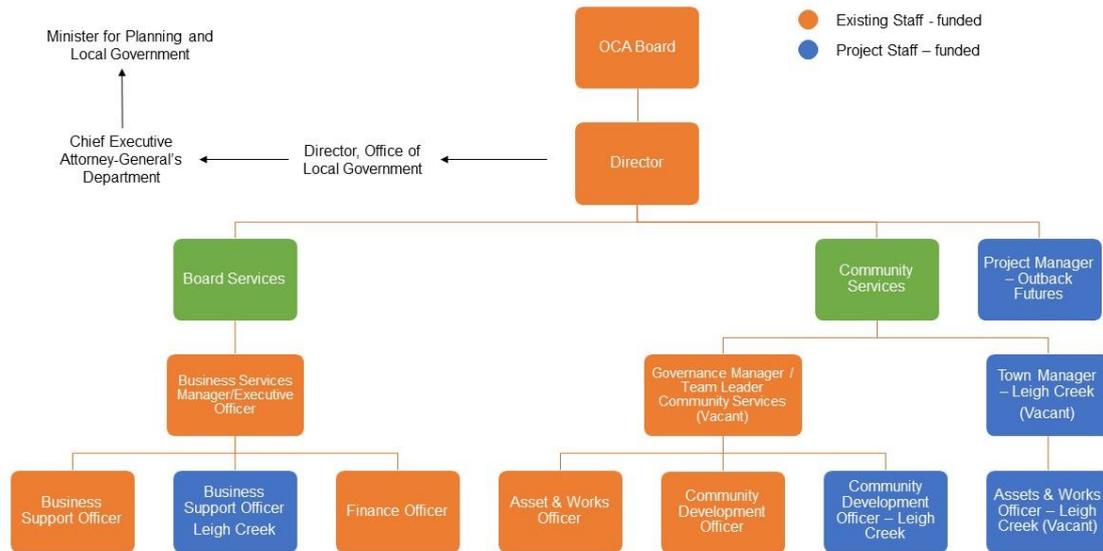
### Support Staff

During the 2020-21 year the Office for the OCA (OOCA), was supported by nine full time employees; seven employees are based in Port Augusta, while two Leigh Creek dedicated employees are based in Leigh Creek.

The seven employees based in Port Augusta support 23 remotely located communities through a combination of visitation and remote engagement. This support is well managed and coordinated to provide advice for the provision of community development and municipal services activities inclusive of, but not limited to, maintaining and developing new infrastructure, community development, providing assistance, seeking external grants and dog registrations. The two employees based in Leigh Creek support the provision of municipal services and community development activities specific to Leigh Creek.

The OOCA delivers its business through three specific yet fully integrated units. Those units together represent the broad business focus for the OOCA:

- Corporate
- Infrastructure
- Community



Outback Communities Authority - Organisational Structure as at 30 June 2021

### Changes to the agency

During 2020-21 there were the following changes to the agency’s structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes:

- 1 December 2020 – machinery of government change from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (previously the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) to the Attorney-General’s Department.
- Staffing changes occurred during 2020-21 with two senior staff members taking periods of extended leave. This resulted in the creation of the new positions of Executive Officer and Team Leader Community Services.

### Our Minister

The Outback Communities Authority is a portfolio authority accountable to the Minister for Planning and Local Government, the Hon Vickie Chapman MP, Deputy Premier and Attorney-General.

### Legislation administered by the agency

*The Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009.*

## The agency's performance

### Performance at a glance

#### Articulate the views, interests and aspirations of Outback communities

Staff based at the Port Augusta office support remotely located communities through annual Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements. CARM agreements confirm the OCA's support for each individual Outback community providing funding to ensure the delivery of municipal type services, managing waste and the ability for communities to deliver local projects of broad benefit.

In 2020-21 22 CARM agreements were entered into with Outback Associations representing their communities. A total of \$143,900 in funding was provided across the OCA's region. A further \$9,500 was expended to meet the costs of Outback community streetlights. The OCA further assisted Outback communities by providing \$63,768 to assist with local insurance costs, while \$3,000 supported Outback events providing social interaction opportunities.

In July 2020 the OCA launched an engagement process through the Outback Futures Project, inviting the Outback Community and regional stakeholders to participate in the consultation and engage in a lively and positive conversation about what is needed to take hold of the opportunities to make the Outback region an even better place to live, work and visit into the future. Consultation meetings were held in 10 Outback communities and 42 questionnaire responses were received. Webinars were held in early December 2020 to discuss the summary document 'What we heard' produced from this consultation. A report was then provided to the Minister in January 2021. The Outback Futures Project remains ongoing with the second phase of consultation in 2021-22.

#### To promote and facilitate improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities

In 2020-21 the OCA replaced the Parachilna public conveniences with new facilities that include a shower and through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, further facilities will be upgraded at Andamooka, Iron Knob, Marla, Marree, Oodnadatta, Pimba and William Creek in 2021-22.

With the assistance of Drought Communities Programme funding, Telstra small cell satellite 4G phone services were installed at Blinman and Beltana providing improved mobile access to both locals and travellers in the region.

#### To manage the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities

In 2020-21 the OCA continued to manage 20 public conveniences, 39 UHF repeater towers, 3 airstrips and 2 community waste water management systems – all located in the remote unincorporated areas of South Australia.

**Agency response to COVID-19**

Australia as a nation continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Although Outback South Australia was able to avoid confirmed cases of COVID-19 it was impacted by the associated restrictions, resulting in the cancellation of some Outback events and the lack of contractor availability.

**Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives**

<b>Key objective</b>	<b>Agency's contribution</b>
<p>More jobs</p>	<p><i>To manage the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities</i></p> <p><u>Aboriginal Lands – Municipal Services Program SA</u></p> <p>This program uses the local workforce to deliver municipal services to the Dunjiba Community at Oodnadatta, including waste collection, landscaping and town maintenance.</p> <p><u>Outback Public Conveniences</u></p> <p>To ensure that the public conveniences located in the remote areas of South Australia are maintained to a high standard, the OCA employ local residents to service the facilities and ensure consumables are available.</p>
<p>Lower costs</p>	<p><i>To articulate the views, interests and aspirations of Outback communities</i></p> <p><u>Outback Community Streetlights</u></p> <p>The OCA meets the costs of streetlights in all Outback communities in the unincorporated areas of SA, alleviating the cost burden on local Progress Associations.</p> <p><u>Community Insurance</u></p> <p>In 2020-21 the OCA continued to support Outback communities with their community insurance costs by providing a 25% subsidy on each Progress Association's annual insurance costs. The insurance portfolio includes public liability, volunteer accident and industrial special risks. Aviation liability insurance is included for those communities managing their own airstrip, although no subsidy is provided for this component.</p>

<b>Key objective</b>	<b>Agency's contribution</b>
Better Services	<p><i>To promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities</i></p> <p>Upgrades to the Leigh Creek Aerodrome were undertaken with installation of animal proof fencing and new and improved obstacle and rotating beacon lighting, an electronic security gate and Precision Approach Path Indicator.</p> <p>With funding received from the Australia Government's Drought Communities Programme Round 1 and 2 and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program the OCA project managed upgrades at community spaces in Andamooka, Beltana, Blinman, Copley, Gawler Ranges, Innamincka, Iron Knob, Kingoonya, Mannahill, Marree, Olary, Oodnadatta, Parachilna, Penong, Pimba, William Creek and Yunta. These successful projects were underpinned by local volunteer support.</p>

**Agency specific objectives and performance**

<b>Agency objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Grow Our Economy Facilitate new opportunities and new investment in the Outback.	<p>Managed and coordinated funding received from the Commonwealth Government's Drought Communities Programme Round 1 and Round 2 and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 1.</p> <p>Support the development of Outback tourism strategies and opportunities that promote diversification of the economy and incorporate enhanced visitor experiences that capitalise on the natural beauty of the region.</p>	<p>This saw 75 Outback projects approved for funding resulting in improved community roads, infrastructure, programs and events to assist with social cohesion.</p> <p>In partnership with the Flinders Ranges and Outback Tourism Committee, completed and released the Aussie Travel Code project promoting awareness to come prepared, stay on track, keep it clean and respect the Outback.</p>

<b>Agency objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Performance</b>
<p>Grow Our Economy</p> <p>Facilitate new opportunities and new investment in the Outback.</p>	<p>Initiate a Regional Workforce Development Strategy that identifies current and future regional opportunities to promote regional employment growth and educational opportunities.</p> <p>Identify and actively support opportunities for diversification that create sustainable economic development in the region.</p>	<p>Partnered with Regional Development Australia Far North to prepare a strategic plan to deliver regional employment growth and educational opportunities.</p> <p>Partnering with stakeholders to develop a post COVID-19 and Drought Economic Recovery Plan that identifies and levers investment in and support for economic diversification across the region.</p>
<p>Sustain Our Community -</p> <p>promote a shared vision for improving the 'liveability' of the Outback for those that live, work and visit.</p>	<p>Initiate the Outback Futures Project to address the long term sustainability of the Outback as its own unique and autonomous region of South Australia.</p>	<p>Engage with the Outback Community and regional stakeholders to identify what is wanted and needed for the long term sustainability of the Outback as its own unique and autonomous region of SA.</p>

<p>Grow Our Influence and Presence - articulate the needs of Outback people to promote the OCA's key role in decision making for the Outback.</p>	<p>Undertake a broad and comprehensive engagement process with Outback people asking their views and aspirations and how to achieve a better and more resilient community into the future.</p> <p>Continue to implement a communications strategy that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes key messages for priority issues</li> <li>• Celebrates our successes</li> <li>• Promotes the positive aspects of Outback lifestyle and the beauty of the Outback</li> <li>• Effectively engages with Outback Communities so that they remain informed</li> </ul> <p>Bring to Government decision making an awareness of remote and very remote community issues, and promote the OCA as first point of contact for pivotal strategic decision makers on Outback matters.</p>	<p>Through the Outback Futures Committee, delivered a comprehensive assessment and recommendations paper to the Minister on how to achieve sustainable service provision and appropriate funding and resources that meets the Outback Community's expectations.</p> <p>The 'oneOutback' newspaper was published in August, September, December, March and June in 2020-21.</p> <p>Through strategic relationships, continued to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of the Outback Community to all levels of Government and Industry operating in the region.</p>
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**Employment opportunity programs**

<b>Program name</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Drought Communities Programme, Round 2	The Commonwealth funding, managed by the OCA, saw a much needed injection of funding (\$1m) for many communities to address the reduction of economic activity driven by extended drought conditions. Many of the projects resulted in local or regional employment on a broad range of projects including renovations and upgrades to community halls in Blinman, Copley, Mannahill, Olary and Oodnadatta.
Aboriginal Lands – Municipal Services Program SA	<p>The OCA has successfully managed this program for approximately 12 years and it continues to deliver results for the Oodnadatta community. The program creates local employment and the opportunity to learn new skills whilst delivering municipal services to the community including waste pick up and local landscaping. This program also includes an animal health clinic encouraging the local residents to present dogs and cats for health checks aiming to improve overall community health.</p> <p>Funding for this program is administered by the Office of Local Government on behalf of the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government (\$115k).</p>
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program	This Commonwealth funding (\$2.44m) also managed by the OCA saw stimulus of infrastructure construction in the Outback which helped manage the economic impacts of COVID-19. These projects resulted in local or regional employment on a number of projects including the construction of a community sporting complex in Andamooka, a new CFS and sports shed in Blinman and a Copley to Leigh Creek walking and bike trail.
Outback Youth	Locally employed youth officers in the communities of Andamooka, Copley and Oodnadatta operated during 2020-21 effectively encouraging youth to engage in regular activities, although COVID-19 restrictions had some impact to the program. (\$5k)

### Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
Performance and Learning Agreements	<p>In 2020-21 0 staff (0%) participated in the formal Performance and Learning Agreement process due to the Machinery of Government transition from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport to the Attorney General's Department.</p> <p>Staff continued to meet with Line Managers informally during 2020-21 to discuss work goals, performance measures and training and development opportunities.</p>
Induction of Board Members	Induction sessions are conducted as Board Members are appointed.

### Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
Remote Travel	<p>The OCA staff undertake regular remote travel during the course of their role. The remote travel process in place ensures regular contact by field operatives with the office whilst in the field and continuous monitoring by office staff.</p> <p>'SPOT' GPS Messenger devices have been used by OCA staff since 2012 and are considered to be an integral part of the OCA's work, health and safety strategies. The SPOT devices are taken in vehicles and require the traveller to report on location and personal wellbeing when travelling. Satellite telephones and defibrillators are also available for staff travelling to remote locations.</p> <p>No vehicle accidents were reported in 2020-21.</p>
Team Meetings	The OCA staff meet regularly to discuss matters relating to work health and safety, project management and general staff workloads. In 2020-21 17 team meetings were held and 4 emergency evacuations were successfully completed.
4WD and First Aid Training	During 2020-21, 7 OCA staff members held current first aid certificates. A defibrillator is onsite at the OCA office and first aiders are trained in the use of the device. 1 staff member successfully completed 4WD Training.

<b>Workplace injury claims</b>	2020-21	2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0%

*\*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)*

<b>Work health and safety regulations</b>	2020-21	2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0%

<b>Return to work costs**</b>	2020-21	2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0%

*\*\*before third party recovery*

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=work+health+and+safety+return+to+work+performance&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=work+health+and+safety+return+to+work+performance&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

### **Executive employment in the agency**

<b>Executive classification</b>	<b>Number of executives</b>
SAES Level 1	1

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=executive+employment+in+sa+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=executive+employment+in+sa+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

## Financial performance

### Financial performance at a glance

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2020-2021 are attached to this report.

<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>2020-21 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2019-20 Actual \$000s</b>
Total Income	5,397	7,650	2,253	5,974
Total Expenses	4,850	6,218	1,368	5,066
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>1,432</b>	<b>-885</b>	<b>908</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Result</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>1,432</b>	<b>-885</b>	<b>908</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2020-21 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2019-20 Actual \$000s</b>
Current assets	2,157	4,934	2,777	3,627
Non-current assets	14,523	14,343	-180	13,415
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>16,680</b>	<b>19,277</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>17,042</b>
Current liabilities	274	1,215	941	259
Non-current liabilities	445	299	-146	452
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>711</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>15,961</b>	<b>17,763</b>	<b>1,802</b>	<b>16,331</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>15,961</b>	<b>17,763</b>	<b>1,802</b>	<b>16,331</b>

### Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

#### Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Nil	Not applicable	\$0

#### Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Nil	Not applicable	\$0

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=use+of+consultants+in+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=use+of+consultants+in+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

### Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

#### Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$154,431

#### Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Pty Ltd	Community asset management, services quarterly agreement and reimbursement for Youth Development Officer insurance to Local Government Risk Services, Andamooka, CARM funding	\$ 140,250
J Austin	Cleaning of Pimba public conveniences	\$ 14,592
Beltana Progress Association	Water station screening landscaping, Drought Communities Programme Round 2	\$ 13,612
Bicycle SA	Leigh Creek trail designs	\$ 37,600
B Dix	Cleaning of public conveniences at Olary, Mannahill and Yunta	\$ 10,455

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Buxcat Pty Ltd	Maintenance of Leigh Creek aerodrome	\$ 35,033
Central Civil and Plumbing	Maintenance of the Marla and Oodnadatta effluent systems and public toilets	\$ 94,258
Design Jam	Planning and facilitation of Outback Futures Project consultation	\$ 15,200
Dunjiba Community Council	Dunjiba Municipal Services	\$ 64,700
W Ferguson	Town maintenance, Leigh Creek	\$ 85,610
Flinders Management Services	Waste management services, Leigh Creek, Copley and Parachilna	\$ 70,531
Flinders Ranges Council	Quarterly administrative fees, for Andamooka and Iron Knob	\$ 35,397
Gambier Electronics Pty Ltd	Maintenance of the UHF towers	\$ 41,709
Hage Contracting Services	Swimming pool, swimming pool grounds and town maintenance, Leigh Creek	\$ 35,125
Innamincka Hotel	Cleaning of the Innamincka ablution block	\$ 16,748
A Khan	Cleaning of the Copley and Leigh Creek public conveniences	\$ 10,450
Leigh Creek Tavern	Pool attendant labour costs and training, Leigh Creek swimming pool	\$ 42,604
Magiq Pty Ltd	Community Contribution management software, Flinders Ranges Council	\$ 24,600

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Mine Power Solutions Pty Ltd	Maintenance of the Pimba Public Toilets and Andamooka Standpipe	\$ 11,100
M.Y. Frahn Contracting Pty Ltd	Construct new pit at town dump, Oodnadatta	\$ 11,400
Northern Earthmoving and Engineering Pty Ltd	Road maintenance, waste area maintenance and pipeline maintenance, Andamooka	\$ 94,679
Northern Earthmoving and Engineering Pty Ltd	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – Phase 1 to re-sheet 12 roads Andamooka	\$200,000
Ridsdale Electrical	Electrical maintenance to Leigh Creek airport lighting, swimming pool pump, OCA office, stadium and town centre lighting, Leigh Creek	\$ 13,743
SA Water	Oodnadatta CWMS maintenance	\$ 62,892
Splint's Garden Maintenance	Swimming pool ground maintenance, Leigh Creek	\$ 24,256
E Strawbridge	Cleaning of Marla public conveniences and maintenance of CWMS	\$ 12,505
Telstra	Telstra	\$ 100,000
	Total	\$1,319,049

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=contractors+engaged+in+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=contractors+engaged+in+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

## Risk management

### Risk and audit at a glance

To achieve policy outcomes the OOCA continually reviews its Risk Register that was developed in association with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. This risk register applies to all of the OCA's business activities and is approved by the OCA annually. The Risk Management Framework has been compiled in accordance with and based on AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 – Risk Management – Guidelines.

### Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Not applicable.	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

The OCA's financial activities are supported by its Financial Management Compliance Program (FMCP) for identification and treatment of non-compliance with key financial management and compliance objectives. The FMCP also provides the opportunity to assess whether any serious or systematic financial management issues exist that require intervention and/or additional educational activities.

The OCA's FMCP is reviewed throughout the year and a full assessment is undertaken annually and provided to AGD. When assessed by AGD in late June 2021 a Minute to the Director OCA confirmed that the management controls and assessments indicated a high level of compliance with the financial management compliance objectives, giving reasonable assurance that the operations of the OCA are being managed. Furthermore, no major findings were identified that would result in a significant impact to the OCA's financial operations.

After assessment by AGD, the FMCP and accompanying report are provided to the OCA at a formal meeting.

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=Fraud+detected+in+agencies&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=Fraud+detected+in+agencies&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

### Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

0

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=whistleblowers+disclosure&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=whistleblowers+disclosure&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

## Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><b><i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i></b></p>	<p>In Part 1, Section 4 of the <i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>, the OCA is described as a council and where the Act refers to a council’s area of responsibility, the OCA is acknowledged. The OCA reports to the Dog and Cat Management Board at the end of each financial year, pursuant to the requirements of the <i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>. Online reporting through the Dogs and Cats Online platform summarises statistics relevant to the financial year and includes the number of dog registrations and expiations that have occurred in the unincorporated areas of South Australia. Although the Office for the OCA encourages dog owners to access the Dogs and Cats Online platform, it continues to support Outback agencies that provide the opportunity for owners to register their dogs at a local level.</p>

## Public complaints

### Number of public complaints reported

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2020-21</b>
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2020-21</b>
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	1
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	4
		<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Additional Metrics</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of positive feedback comments	6
Number of negative feedback comments	1
Total number of feedback comments	7
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	5

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=public+complaints+received+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=public+complaints+received+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

**Service Improvements**

Nil Required
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**Compliance Statement**

The Outback Communities Authority is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
The Outback Communities Authority has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency’s related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

## Appendix: Audited financial statements 2020-21

### Outback Communities Authority Certification of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

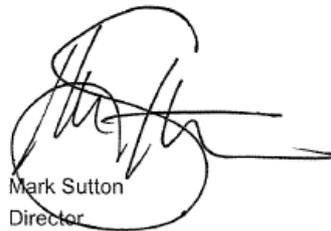
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We certify that the:

- financial statements of the Outback Communities Authority:
  - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Outback Communities Authority;
  - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
  - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
  - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority at the end of financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Outback Communities Authority for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



William McIntosh  
Presiding Member  
Outback Communities Authority  
19 September 2021  
October



Mark Sutton  
Director  
Outback Communities Authority  
21 September 2021  
October

# **Outback Communities Authority**

## **Financial Statements**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
<b>Income</b>			
Revenue from SA Government	2.1	2 402	1 397
Commonwealth Sourced Funding	2.2	3 945	3 320
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	2.3	797	619
Interest revenue		-	14
Net Gain from Disposal of Non-Current Assets	2.4	-	21
Other income	2.5	506	603
<b>Total income</b>		<b>7 650</b>	<b>5 974</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Supplies and services	4.1	2 634	2 558
Grants and subsidies	4.3	1 679	733
Employee benefits expenses	3.3	1 098	993
Depreciation and amortisation	4.2	764	697
Other expenses	4.4	43	85
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>6 218</b>	<b>5 066</b>
<b>Net result</b>		<b>1 432</b>	<b>908</b>
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>1 432</b>	<b>908</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	2 823	2 965
Receivables	6.2	891	662
Contract assets	6.3	1 220	-
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>4 934</b>	<b>3 627</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property plant and equipment	5.1	14 343	13 415
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>14 343</b>	<b>13 415</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>19 277</b>	<b>17 042</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables	7.1	882	74
Employee benefits	3.4	310	185
Financial liabilities	7.2	23	-
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>1 215</b>	<b>259</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Payables	7.1	25	38
Employee benefits	3.4	262	414
Financial liabilities	7.2	12	-
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>299</b>	<b>452</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>1 514</b>	<b>711</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>17 763</b>	<b>16 331</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		15 349	13 917
Asset revaluation surplus		2 414	2 414
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>17 763</b>	<b>16 331</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Changes of Equity**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2019</b>	<b>2 416</b>	<b>13 007</b>	<b>15 423</b>
Net result for 2019-20	-	908	908
<b>Total comprehensive result for 2019-20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>908</b>
<b>Transfer between equity components</b>			
Equity transfer on asset disposals	(2)	2	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>13 917</b>	<b>16 331</b>
Net result for 2020-21	-	1 432	1 432
<b>Total comprehensive result for 2020-21</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 432</b>	<b>1 432</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>15 349</b>	<b>17 763</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<b>Cash inflows</b>			
Revenue from SA Government		3 024	1 397
Commonwealth sourced funding		2 725	3 320
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers		797	619
Interest received		-	16
Other receipts		305	538
<b>Cash generated from operating activities</b>		<b>6 851</b>	<b>5 890</b>
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Payments for supplies and services		(2 491)	(2 560)
Employee benefit payments		(1 126)	(929)
Payments for grants and subsidies		(1 679)	(733)
Other payments		(43)	(85)
<b>Cash used in operating activities</b>		<b>(5 339)</b>	<b>(4 307)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>1 512</b>	<b>1 583</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
<b>Cash inflows</b>			
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		-	21
<b>Cash generated from investing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(1 638)	(1 611)
<b>Cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(1 638)</b>	<b>(1 611)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(1 638)</b>	<b>(1 590)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Repayment of leases		(16)	-
<b>Cash used by financing activities</b>		<b>(16)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>(16)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(142)</b>	<b>(7)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		2 965	2 972
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	6.1	<b>2 823</b>	<b>2 965</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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## Outback Communities Authority

### Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

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#### 1. About the Outback Communities Authority

Defined in the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* (the Act), 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; and
- to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities.

In performing its functions the Authority is 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;
- consider long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure for public services and facilities for outback communities;
- consider State and national objectives and strategies that are relevant to outback communities;
- seek ongoing collaboration with local, State and national governments in the planning and delivery of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- ensure that there are systems in place to further its understanding of the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities;
- 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
- 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.

#### 1.1. Basis of Preparation

The Authority has prepared these general purpose financial statements in compliance with:

- section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards with reduced disclosure requirements.

The Authority has applied Australian Accounting Standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities, as the Authority is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12 month period and presented in Australian currency. The historical cost convention is used unless another measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (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 Attorney-General's Department is responsible for the remittance and collection of GST.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**1.2. Objectives and programs**

The Authority is established and empowered by the Act which is within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Planning and Local Government. 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 the support staff. It also enables specific 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 the State Parliament.

**1.3. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on the operations of the Authority in 2020-21. At this stage, there is insufficient information to determine whether the COVID-19 pandemic will have a material impact on the operations of the Authority in 2021-22.

The Authority will continue to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their operations in 2021-22.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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## 2. Income

### 2.1. Revenue from SA Government

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue from SA Government	2 402	1 397
<b>Total Revenue from SA Government</b>	<b>2 402</b>	<b>1 397</b>

The Authority receives revenue from SA Government for program funding and it is recognised on receipt.

### 2.2. Commonwealth Sourced Funding

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Commonwealth-Sourced Grant Funding	1 564	1 565
Commonwealth Grant Funding with sufficient performance obligations	2 381	1 755
<b>Total commonwealth sourced funding</b>	<b>3 945</b>	<b>3 320</b>

The above commonwealth sourced funding were allocated to the following programs / projects:

Financial Assistance Grants	1 564	1 565
Local Roads & Community Infrastructure	1 220	-
Drought Communities Programme Extension	913	900
Outback Water Stations	148	493
Northern Flinders Ranges Pastoral Business Review	100	-
Oodnadatta Airstrip	-	307
Marla Airstrip	-	55
<b>Total commonwealth sourced funding</b>	<b>3 945</b>	<b>3 320</b>

Financial Assistance Grants are recognised in accordance with AASB1058 as income on receipt. Obligations under Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding are required to be met by the State of South Australia.

All revenue from Commonwealth Grant Funding with sufficient performance obligations is revenue recognised from contracts with customers.

The Authority recognises revenue (contracts with customers) from the following major sources:

#### *Local Roads and Communities Programme Extension*

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programme supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia. In the Outback areas within South Australia funding has been received to complete projects enhancing local community facilities. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

#### *Drought Communities Programme Extension*

Funding received from the Commonwealth's Drought Communities Programme Extension is for drought relief projects in areas impacted by drought. The agreement states that an initial payment is received in advance and then the remaining funding is received based on agreed outcomes. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**2.3. SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers**

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
SA Government Funding with sufficient performance obligations	675	533
SA Government Grants	122	86
<b>Total SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>619</b>

The above SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers were allocated to the following programs / projects:

Municipal Services Infrastructure Program	500	-
General Purpose SA Government Grants	122	86
Dunjiba Municipal Services	115	112
Andamooka Town Services	60	60
Oodnadatta Airstrip	-	306
Marla Airstrip	-	55
<b>Total SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>619</b>

General Purpose SA Government Grants are recognised in accordance with AASB1058 as income on receipt.

All revenue from SA Government Grant Funding with sufficient performance obligations is revenue recognised from contracts with customers.

The Authority recognises revenue (contracts with customers) from the following major source:

*Municipal Services Infrastructure Program*

The Municipal Services Infrastructure Program is administered by the Office of Local Government and incorporates an initiative to upgrade the Oodnadatta Community Wastewater Management System. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

**2.4. Net Gain from the Disposal of Non-Current Assets**

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Net gain from the disposal of non-current assets received / receivable:</b>		
<b>Plant and Equipment:</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	-	21
<b>Total net gain from disposal of non-current assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21</b>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**2.5. Other Income**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Community Contribution Scheme	294	314
Recoveries/reimbursements	172	150
Airstrip landing fees	31	69
Regional Growth Fund	-	46
Other	9	24
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>603</b>

Other income consists of recoveries, reimbursements and community contributions which is derived in accordance with section 21 of the Act.

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

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**3. Board, committees and employees**

**3.1. Key Management Personnel**

Key management personnel of the Authority include the Minister for Planning and Local Government, the seven board members and the Director who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Authority.

The total compensation for the Authority's key management personnel was \$248 800 (\$240 000). This compensation excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

Other than transactions described in the notes, there were no transactions with key management personnel and other related parties during the year.

**3.2. Board and Committee Members**

Members during the financial year 2021 were:

**Outback Communities Authority**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Fort J (reappointed 3 December 2020)          | Johnson S C (appointed 3 December 2020) |
| Marsland M P (expired on 31 December 2020)    | Vaughan A R (appointed 3 December 2020) |
| Michelmores C P (expired on 31 December 2020) | Wright T W (appointed 3 December 2020)  |
| Roach T S (expired on 31 December 2020)       |   |
| Frahn F L W                                   |   |
| McIntosh W R                                  |   |
| Warmington L                                  |   |

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
\$0 - \$19 999	10	7
<b>Total number of members</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>

Remuneration of members includes sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits tax and related fringe benefit tax. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$63 400 (\$59 100). Mileage allowance paid to board members has not been included in the remuneration.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**3.3. Employee benefits expenses**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Salaries and wages	775	699
Board fees	61	55
Employment on-costs	157	129
Annual leave	71	71
Skills and experience retention leave	10	-
Long service leave	24	34
Other employee related expenses	-	5
<b>Total employee benefits expenses</b>	<b>1 098</b>	<b>993</b>

**Remuneration of employees**

The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
\$154 001 – \$174 000	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**3.4. Employee benefits liability**

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Annual leave	118	113
Skills and experience retention leave	9	7
Long service leave	161	40
Accrued salaries and wages	22	25
<b>Total current employee benefits</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Long service leave	262	414
<b>Total non-current employee benefits</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>414</b>
<b>Total employee benefits</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>599</b>

Employee benefits accrue 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.

**Salaries and wages, annual leave, skills and experience retention leave and sick leave**

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

The annual leave liability and the skills and experience retention leave liability is expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid.

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**

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Details about the measurement of long service leave is provided as note 9.1.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**4. Expenses**

**4.1. Supplies and services**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Service contracts	1 446	1 158
Property expenses	493	381
Administrative costs	210	16
Insurance	193	174
Utilities	103	274
Plant, equipment and vehicle expenses	64	268
Accommodation expenses*	44	64
Auditor's remuneration	35	34
Legal services	18	12
Materials and other purchases	1	20
Information technology and communications	-	27
Other	27	130
<b>Total supplies and services</b>	<b>2 634</b>	<b>2 558</b>

\*The Authority's accommodation is provided by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) under Memoranda of Administrative Arrangement (MoAA) issued in accordance with Government-wide accommodation policies. MoAA do not meet the definition of a lease set out in AASB 16.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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#### 4.2. Depreciation and amortisation

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Buildings and infrastructure	639	615
Water, sewerage and drainage	85	53
Plant and equipment	23	29
Right-of-use vehicles	17	-
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>697</b>

All non-current assets, not held for sale with a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

#### Useful Life

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis. Property, plant and equipment assets depreciation are calculated over the estimated useful life as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Buildings and infrastructure	4 - 100
Water, sewerage and drainage	25 - 87
Plant and equipment	2 - 48
Right-of-use vehicles	1 - 2

#### Review of accounting estimates

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation 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.

#### 4.3. Grant and subsidies

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Drought Communities Programme Extension	763	453
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	529	-
Regional Development Initiatives	212	70
Community Affairs Resourcing Management Grants	144	194
Sports and Youth Grants	7	16
Other	24	-
<b>Total grants and subsidies</b>	<b>1 679</b>	<b>733</b>

#### 4.4. Other expenses

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Community Levy	43	39
Bad and doubtful debts expense	-	2
Other	-	44
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>85</b>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**5. Non-financial assets**

**5.1. Property, plant and equipment by asset class**

Property, plant and equipment comprises of tangible assets owned and right-of-use (leased) assets that do not meet the definition of investment property.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
<b>Land</b>		
Land at fair value	72	72
<b>Total land</b>	<u>72</u>	<u>72</u>
<b>Buildings and Infrastructure</b>		
Buildings and infrastructure at fair value	26 744	26 462
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(16 225)</u>	<u>(15 586)</u>
<b>Total buildings and infrastructure</b>	<u>10 519</u>	<u>10 876</u>
<b>Water, sewerage and drainage</b>		
Water, sewerage and drainage assets at fair value	3 619	2 761
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1 417)</u>	<u>(1 332)</u>
<b>Total water, sewerage and drainage</b>	<u>2 202</u>	<u>1 429</u>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Plant and equipment at fair value	1 450	1 162
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(875)</u>	<u>(852)</u>
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<u>575</u>	<u>310</u>
<b>Right of use vehicles</b>		
Right of use vehicles at cost	51	-
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(17)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total right of use vehicles</b>	<u>34</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Work in progress</b>		
Work in progress	941	728
<b>Total work in progress</b>	<u>941</u>	<u>728</u>
<b>Total property plant and equipment</b>	<u>14 343</u>	<u>13 415</u>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**5.2. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Authority**

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Authority with a value equal to or in excess of \$10 000 is capitalised, otherwise it is expensed.

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Authority is recorded at fair value. Detail about the department's approach to fair value is set out in note 9.2

**Impairment**

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Authority have not been assessed for impairment as they are non-cash generating assets, that are specialised in nature and held for continual use of their service capacity.

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure assets at 30 June 2021.

**Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment**

The following table shows the movement of property, plant and equipment during 2020-21:

Reconciliation 2020-21	Water,					Total
	Land	Buildings and infrastructure	sewerage and drainage	Plant and Equipment	Work in Progress	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Carrying amount at 1 July 2020</b>	72	10 876	1 429	310	728	13 415
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	1 638	1 638
Transfer from works in progress	-	281	857	287	(1 425)	-
Depreciation and amortisation	-	(639)	(85)	(23)	-	(747)
Other movements	-	1	1	1	-	3
<b>Carrying amount at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10 519</b>	<b>2 202</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>14 309</b>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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### 5.3. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Authority

Right-of-use assets for property, plant and equipment leased by the Authority is measured at cost. Additions to leased property, plant and equipment during 2020-21 were \$51 000.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low value leases where the underlying asset value is less than \$15,000 are not recognised as right-of-use assets. The associated lease payments are recognised as an expense and are disclosed in note 4.1.

The Authority has a limited number of leases:

- 4 motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60,000km) up to 5 years (100,000km). No variable lease payments are provided for in the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.

The lease liabilities related to the right-of-use assets are disclosed in note 7.2. Expenses related to leases, including depreciation and interest expenses, are disclosed in note 4.

#### Impairment

Property, plant and equipment leased by the Authority has been assessed for impairment. There was no indication of impairment. No impairment loss or reversal of impairment loss was recognised.

## 6. Financial assets

### 6.1. Cash

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Department of Treasury and Finance	2 823	2 965
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>2 823</b>	<b>2 965</b>

Cash is measured at nominal amounts.

### 6.2. Receivables

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Receivables	229	53
Expected credit loss	(4)	(4)
Accrued revenues	577	552
Prepayments	89	61
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>662</b>
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>662</b>

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice, or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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**6.2. Receivables (continued)**

**Allowance for impairment loss on receivables**

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	4	2
Increase/(Decrease) in expected credit loss recognised in profit and loss	-	2
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

**6.3. Contract assets**

	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Contract assets - current	1 220	-
<b>Total current contract assets</b>	<b>1 220</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total contract assets</b>	<b>1 220</b>	<b>-</b>

Contract assets relate to the Authority's rights to consideration for work completed but not yet billed at the reporting date on the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. Amounts are billed in accordance with agreed upon contractual terms (i.e. periodic intervals). Contract assets are transferred to receivables when the rights become unconditional. Based on assessment of historical invoice billing and collection data, the Authority did not recognise a loss allowance for contract assets in accordance with AASB 9.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
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**7. Liabilities**

**7.1. Payables**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Creditors	624	2
Accrued expenses	219	45
Employment on-costs	39	27
<b>Total current payables</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Employment on-costs	25	38
<b>Total non-current payables</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>112</b>

Accruals are raised for all amounts owing but unpaid and are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short term nature.

**Employment on-costs**

Employment on-costs include payroll tax and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to are discharged. 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 payable outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid.

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 for 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.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF), the portion of long service leave taken as leave has remained the same at 42%, and the average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation contribution on-costs has increased to 10.1% (9.8%). These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is a decrease in the employment on-cost and employee benefits expense. This decrease was immaterial and the estimated impact on 2021 is not expected to be material.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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## 7.2. Financial liabilities

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Lease liabilities	23	-
<b>Total current financial liabilities</b>	<u>23</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Non current</b>		
Lease liabilities	12	-
<b>Total non-current financial liabilities</b>	<u>12</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<u><u>35</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

Lease liabilities have been measured via discounting lease payments using either the interest rate implicit in the lease (where it is readily determined) or Treasury's incremental borrowing rate. There were no defaults or breaches on any of the above liabilities throughout the year. All material cash outflows are reflected in the lease liabilities disclosed above.

## 8. Outlook

### 8.1. Unrecognised contractual commitments

Commitments include capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value (net of GST).

<b>Capital commitments</b>	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Capital expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities in the financial report, are payable as follows:		
Within one year	-	23
<b>Total capital commitments</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>23</u>

<b>Expenditure commitments</b>	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
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:		
Within one year	500	251
Later than one year but not longer than five years	237	74
Later than five years	256	-
<b>Total expenditure commitments</b>	<u>993</u>	<u>325</u>

Expenditure commitments relate to commitments arising from other service contracts, accommodation and grant funding.

### 8.2. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

The Authority is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2021.

### 8.3. Events after balance date

The Authority is not aware of any other events occurring after balance date.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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## **9. Measurement and Risk**

### **9.1. Long service leave liability – measurement**

*AASB 119 Employee Benefits* contains the calculation methodology for long service leave.

The actuarial assessment performed by DTF has provided a basis for the measurement of long service leave and is based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over SA Government entities.

*AASB 119 Employee Benefits* 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 increased from 0.75% (2020) to 1.25% (2021).

This increase in the bond yield, which is used as the rate to discount future long service leave cash flows, results in an decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The net financial effect of the changes to actuarial assumptions in the current financial year is a decrease in the long service leave liability of \$25 000 and employee benefits expense of \$25 000. The impact on future periods is impracticable to estimate as the long service leave liability is calculated using a number of demographical and financial assumptions – including the long-term discount rate.

The actuarial assessment performed by DTF left the salary inflation rate the same at 2.5% for long service leave liability. As a result, there is no net financial effect resulting from changes in the salary inflation rate.

The long service leave liability has been allocated between current and non-current liabilities using the leave pattern history of previous years, except where it is known that leave will be taken in the next 12 months.

### **9.2. Fair value**

*AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

#### **Initial recognition**

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructure of administrative arrangements then the assets are recognised at book value i.e. the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2021*

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## 9.2 Fair value (continued)

### Revaluation

Property, plant and equipment, other than right of use asset is subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

An independent valuation of assets including land, buildings and infrastructure and water and sewerage assets were valued by the Valuer-General as at 1 July 2017. Land is valued using market approach, and buildings and facilities is valued using replacement cost approach due to not being an active market. The valuation was based on a combination of internal records, specialised knowledge and acquisition/transfer costs. No asset classes were revalued in 2020-21.

Non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or a group of assets is only performed when the fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Every six years, the authority revalues its land, buildings and infrastructure and water and sewerage assets. 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 accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the net amounts are restated to the revalued amounts of the asset.

## 9.3. Financial instruments

### *Financial risk management*

Risk management is managed by the Authority's corporate services section and Authority risk management policies are in accordance with the *SA Government Risk Management Guide* and the principles established in the *Australian Standard Risk Management Principles and Guidelines*.

The Authority's exposure to financial risk (liquidity, credit and market) is low due to the nature of the financial instruments held.

### *Liquidity risk*

The Authority is funded mainly from a Federal Government Financial Assistance Grant and Revenues from SA Government. The Authority works with DTF to determine the cash flows associated with its Ministerial approved program of work and to ensure funding is provided through SA Government budgetary processes to meet the expected cash flows.

There have been no changes in risk exposure since the last reporting period.

All financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost and are current for 2021.



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## To the Presiding Member Outback Communities Authority

### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Outback Communities Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority as at 30 June 2021, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021
- notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member and the Director.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of the Outback Communities Authority. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

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

### **Responsibilities of the Director and the members of the Outback Communities Authority for the financial report**

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

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, , taking into account any policy or funding decisions the government has made which affect the continued existence of the entity. The Director is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The members of the Outback Communities Authority are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

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

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, I have audited the financial report of the Outback Communities Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

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

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

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Outback Communities Authority's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Director and members of the Outback Communities Authority about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.



Andrew Richardson

**Auditor-General**

28 October 2021