Wattle Range Council’s Summary Annual Business Plan for 2018/19 provides a brief overview of the Annual Business Plan highlighting the services, programs and strategic projects Council plans to deliver to the community.

Throughout the past financial year, a strong focus for Council has been on Strategic Planning, which culminated in the adoption of the 2018 – 2021 Strategic Plan and the completion of a number of Community Township Plans.

The 2018/19 Annual Business Plan reinforces this Strategic Planning focus and the plan has been developed with consideration to the communities’ priorities highlighted through the various planning forums. As with every year there are a number of challenges encountered with development of the Annual Business Plan. Council on an annual basis encounters competing demands for community priorities and projects, annual cost increases and ongoing asset renewals and replacement. The challenge for Council is to deliver a budget that meets the needs of the community whilst restricting rating increases.

On that basis, Council has limited the increase in total General Rate Revenue to 2.0% for the 2018/19 financial year. The 2.0% increase is represented in real terms as a 1.2% increase in general rates plus 0.8% increase from growth from new assessments and developments.

In summary the 2018/19 financial year results will continue to build on past successes including the delivery of the following;

- A near break-even result, with an operating deficit of $51,000 and operating surplus ratio of 0%;
- Councils measure of debt, Net Financial Liabilities Ratio is forecasted to be a conservative 13%, with no requirement for additional loan funds;
- Existing assets are being renewed in a timelier manner an indicator of this is the Asset Sustainability Ratio of 95%.

A key component of the 2018/19 Annual Business Plan is the $7.87 Million Capital Expenditure budget. Council continues to focus on increasing asset renewals. In 2018/19 $4.59 Million has been allocated for the renewal of a wide range of existing facilities and infrastructure. Council has also committed $3.28 Million for the upgrade and acquisition of new assets.

In addition to the capital works budget, Council is set to deliver several operating projects throughout the year including; the Local Government elections and training of the new Councillors. I encourage all ratepayers and residents to vote in the upcoming election likewise if you have an interest in being an elected member, please submit your nomination prior to 12pm Tuesday 18 September 2018.

I look forward to successfully delivering the comprehensive list of projects in our Annual Business Plan. I also look forward to completing the actions contained within our first full year of our new Strategic Plan and continuing to strengthen our vision for our Council as a “great place to work and live”.

BEN GOWER
Chief Executive Officer

CEO’S MESSAGE

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CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capital Expenditure for 2018/19 is budgeted to be $7.87M and key projects for 2018/19 include:

- Unsealed Roads $642,000 for re-sheeting 14.2km – Wire Paddock Road 1.6km, Bevilaqua Road 2.0km, Manga Road 4.4km, LOE Road 1.8km, St Clair Road 1.0km, Pooles Road 1.5km, Agars Road 0.7km, Brooks Road (Rendelsham) 1.2km,
- Various Sealed Road Reseals $751,000,
- Construction and Sealing – Border Road, Penola $500,000,
- Wandilo Forest Road – Reconstruct 2.0km $500,000,
- Various Footpath Renewals $143,000 & Upgrades $191,000,
- Millicent Railway Lands – Procurement $400,000,
- Rymill Hall – Construction of disabled toilets $150,000.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in the Council Chambers, Millicent Library starting at 5pm, and members of the public are welcome to attend. The agendas are available on Council’s website two days prior to the meeting or alternatively a copy can be obtained by contacting Council on 08 8733 0900.

Upcoming meeting dates are:

- 14 August 2018
- 11 September 2018
- 9 October 2018

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Council Elections are being held this November. Participating in your local council election is one of the most direct ways you can make a difference to everyday life in your community.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER ARE:

- Supplementary Voters Roll closes: 5pm Friday, August 10
- Nominations Open: Tuesday, September 4
- Nominations Close: 12noon Tuesday, September 18
- Mailout of Voting Materials: Late October
- Close of Voting: 5pm Friday, November 9

For information visit www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/elections

RATE PAYMENT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUARTER 1</th>
<th>QUARTER 2</th>
<th>QUARTER 3</th>
<th>QUARTER 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 September 2018</td>
<td>5 December 2018</td>
<td>6 March 2019</td>
<td>5 June 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Rates in Summary 2018/19**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council Capital Valuation</td>
<td>$3,355,907,900</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUATION RATE CODE</th>
<th>RATE CHANGE</th>
<th>RATE IN THE $</th>
<th>NET CHANGE RATE IN $</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.5611</td>
<td>(4.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Living</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.5050</td>
<td>(4.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>10.23%</td>
<td>0.4208</td>
<td>(4.3%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum Charge $600 (applicable to 18.8% of rateable properties)

**EVERY $100 OF YOUR RATES IS SPENT ON...**

**OPERATING INCOME**

Council has budgeted to receive Operating income of $24.58 Million in 2018/2019, this income is derived from a number of different sources including: Rates and Charges, Statutory and User Charges, Grants, Subsidies and Contributions, Investment Income and Other Income.

On an annual basis Council’s main income is derived from rates and charges. For 2018/19 Council will raise a total of $18.5M or 76% of its total operating income from rates and charges.

To raise the $18.5M in rates, Council has increased general rates by 2.0%. In relation to service charges, the Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) Charge will also increase by 2%. However, the Waste Collection Service Charge is set to decrease by 9% or the equivalent of $30 reduction for a 3 Bin or $25 reduction for a 2 Bin pick up to eligible ratepayers.

This reduction has been derived by Councils successful negotiation of a new waste collection contract which has delivered a significant saving to ratepayers.

This result is particularly impressive given the cost pressures within the waste management sector where a 15% increase in the solid waste levy (state government tax) is expected in 2018/19 and plastic recyclables disposal costs are set to increase significantly.

**OPERATING EXPENDITURE**

Council Operating Expenditure for 2018/19 is $24.63M. Included within the Operational Budget is no change to service delivery.

**KEY OPERATIONAL PROJECTS FOR 2018/19 INCLUDE:**

- Millicent Shopping Precinct Rejuvenation - $100,000
  In consultation with local shop retailers develop and implement a plan to rejuvenate the CBD shopping district into a vibrant public place.
- Dune Rehabilitation - $15,000 Works to be undertaken for Dune Rehabilitation at Southend.
- Glencoe Public Hall - $5,000 Retiling of the floor.
- Rendelsham Hall - $15,000 Painting the exterior of the hall.
- McCorquindale Park - $50,000 Support with site works for the new female change facility.
- Millicent Soccer Club - $20,000 Financial assistance towards the installation of new irrigation.
- Millicent Library - $12,000 Repairing of the roof.
- Coonawarra Town Signage - $15,000 In collaboration with the Coonawarra community install new signage to direct travellers to the township.
- Beachport Heritage Development Plan Amendment - $15,000 Finalise the development of the Heritage Development Plan Amendment.
The Capital Expenditure Works Program for 2018/19 is $7.87M. This year’s expenditure is $1.3M more than what was budgeted for in 2017/18.

In 2018/19 Council is continuing to provide significant investment into our local road network. In addition, Council has increased expenditure on Council owned buildings that are aging and focussed expenditure on the improvement of footpaths and community facilities across the district.

### 2017/2018 CAPITAL WORKS Highlights

- **WOAKWINE CUTTING VIEWING PLATFORM**
  Council were forced to close the viewing platform in 2015 due to concerns for public safety. Recently the platform has been re-designed, constructed, installed and re-opened to visitors.

- **PENOLA TOWN SQUARE**
  Stage 2 of the Penola Town Square project has been completed with the installation of lighting, commemorative paving and landscaping.

- **COMMUNITY TOWN PLANS**
  Council have continued to develop Ten Year Community Town Plans for each of its townships. Public meetings were held to develop the initial draft plans and establish individual groups to complete the plan. The community outcomes and projects developed during the development of the plans will assist Council with future strategic directions relative to infrastructure needs and budget considerations.

- **SOUTHEND ADAPTATION STRATEGY**
  Recognising increased erosion and inundation risk along with the value of the coastline to the community, Council worked with the residents to develop the Southend Adaptation Strategy which was adopted in April 2018. The project was supported by the Coastal Protection Board and the Local Government Association of SA.

- **NANGWARRY POOL RE-DEVELOPMENT**
  Works to redevelop the Nangwarry Swimming Pool have been completed and the Pool will re-open for the 2018/19 swim season.

- **BEACHPORT & SURROUNDS HERITAGE SURVEY**
  Council commissioned a heritage survey for the township of Beachport and surrounds to identify properties with significant heritage and cultural values within the area. The survey was adopted in April 2018.

- **MCLAUGHLIN PARK INTERNAL ROADS AND DRAINAGE**
  Stage 2 of the McLaughlin Park Internal Roads project is now complete and included construction of underground drainage, a carpark between the football clubrooms and basketball stadium, and the continuation of roadways including a roundabout.

- **CONSTRUCT AND SEAL ROADS**
  Works have been undertaken on Whites Road, Tantanoola, Nilson Street, Rendelsham and Millard Way, Kalangadoo.

- **FOOTPATH RENEWALS + UPGRADES**
  Council have undertaken an extensive program of footpath renewals and upgrades across the Council region. Of note were the Railway Terrace, Beachport and Main Street, Millicent projects which have significantly improved pedestrian access these areas.

- **WANDILO FOREST ROAD RECONSTRUCTION**
  Stage 2 of the reconstruction of Wandilo Forest Road saw a further 2.0 kms of this road reconstructed in a five stage project which is supported by the Special Local Roads Program.
**REBATES FOR PENSIONERS**
Council will continue to provide a pensioner rebate for the waste collection service charge. The rebate will be provided to eligible pensioners who have either an Aged or Disability Pension or a Department for Veteran Affairs Card. Ratepayers who had previously received this rebate in 2017/18 will continue to receive this rebate during 2018/19.

However, if you are eligible and did not receive this rebate during the 2017/18 year you will be required to fill out an application form and show proof of the appropriate pension card to Council staff.

**Applications will be received up to September 30, 2018.**

**METHODS OF PAYMENT TO COUNCIL**
Ratepayers can make arrangements to pay their rates via Direct Debit on a weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Direct Debit Request Forms are available from Council’s Offices or on the website.

BPAY is another easy and efficient method of payment when paying your rates. Those choosing this method are reminded that each property has its own unique BPAY number. These numbers need to be used in separate transactions in order to ensure your accounts can be identified and settled correctly.

From 2018/19 ratepayers are able to access their rates notices electronically through ENotices. From 2018/19 ratepayers are able to access their rates notices electronically through ENotices. For further information on rates notices electronically through ENotices.

**COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATIONS INVITED**
Round one applications for Council’s annual Financial Assistance Grants programs are now open. Funding is available to Community and Sport & Recreation groups for projects and events in the Wattle Range Council area.

Application forms and guidelines can be obtained by visiting Council’s website at www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au or any of Council’s offices.

Applications close on Friday 17 August 2018. Round 2 applications will be invited in December and will close in January 2019.

**CHANGES TO DOG REGISTRATION LEGISLATION**
New laws for dog and cat owners came into effect on 1 July 2018.

**THE LAWS AND RULES INCLUDE:**
- Mandatory microchipping of ALL dogs and cats.
- Desexing of dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018.
- New rules for breeders who sell dogs and cats.
- Introduction of a statewide database, called Dogs and Cats Online.

These new laws will simplify the dog registration process, make it easier to reunite lost dogs and cats with their owners, help identify and put a stop to puppy farms and reduce euthanasia rates.

From July 1, 2018 all dog registrations will be kept on the statewide database, Dogs and Cats Online.

Owners will be able to login online any time and update their contact details in one place, pay annual dog registration renewals and notify councils if their dog has gone missing.

All registered dogs will be issued with a lifetime registration number on a disc.

Anyone experiencing issues renewing their registration online is encouraged to call in to their nearest Council office for assistance.


**IT’S TIME TO START YOUR CLEAN UP**
Now is the time to start thinking about cleaning up your property ahead of the Fire Danger Season. Council staff will begin inspecting all properties within our townships for bushfire safety compliance in accordance with Section 105F of the Fire and Emergency Services Act in October.

Owners of land found to be overgrown will be issued with a notice requiring them to undertake hazard reduction works on the property. Expiations will be issued for non-compliance with these notices.

In an effort to assist with the clean-up in preparation for the Fire Danger Season, Council will also be accepting green waste at Penola, Millicent and Beachport without a voucher from 1 October to 30 November 2018. This applies only to loads of green waste, if any other material is included in the load, a voucher will be required. Further information about waste disposal can be found on Council’s website at www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/wasteandrecycling.

For further information on protecting your property this bushfire season visit www.cfs.org.au or alternatively telephone 1300 362 361.

**KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION HOTLINE**
Council’s kerbside collection service is now provided by Cleanaway. For all missed bins, contamination, lost, stolen or damaged bins, please call Cleanaway on 1300 410 896 or email wrc@cleanaway.com.au.

For information on bin collection days/times visit www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/kerbsidecollectionservice

PLEASE HAVE YOUR BINS AT THE KERB BY 6AM.

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR WASTE DISPOSAL VOUCHERS?**
A waste disposal voucher is required at all our Council Waste Transfer Stations and Resource Recovery Centres. Your 2018/19 vouchers have been included with your rates notice. Ratepayers who have lost their vouchers may apply for replacement vouchers by completing the Lost Voucher & New Purchase Request Form and a Statutory Declaration Form available from any of Council’s offices or on the website.

Council has a number of waste initiatives such as our Community Mulch Days. For more information visit www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/wasteinitiatives

For all the latest information visit www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au or download the ‘My Local Services’ app.

Find us on

**AFTER HOURS CONTACT**
Did you know that you can contact Council 24/7? Contact Council on 08 8733 0900.

Council provides urgent after hours assistance in the following areas:
- Animals
- Trees
- Council buildings and facilities