



South Australian Local Government Grants Commission

2023-24 Annual Report

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission

South Australian Local Government Boundaries Commission

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To: The Hon Joe Szakacs MP
Minister for Local Government

As Chair of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission, appointed under the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992*, I have pleasure in presenting you with the Commission's Annual Report for 2023-24.

This Annual Report is presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and other relevant Acts. Incorporated in this document is annual reporting by the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission, which meets 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 South Australian Local Government Grants Commission by:

Rob Donaldson
Chair
South Australian Local Government Grants Commission



16 October 2024

Signature

Date

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Section A: Reporting Required under the Public Sector Act 2009, the Public Sector Regulations 2010 and the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987

Agency Purpose or Role

The main function of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission is to make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the distribution of untied Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) to local governing authorities in South Australia. Recommendations are made in accordance with the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the Act).

In 2023-24, the Commission made recommendations on the distribution of FA Grants for 2024-25 totalling \$212.54 million. Of this, \$157.19 million was provided for general purpose grants and \$55.35 million provided for identified local road grants. This represents an increase in general purpose grants from the previous year of 3.27 percent and an increase in identified road grants of 4.96 percent, an overall increase of 3.71 percent over the previous year.

After three years of an increasing share of the National pool of general purpose grants, South Australia's share is estimated to decrease from 7.04 percent in 2023-24 to an estimated 6.92 percent of the pool of available funding for 2024-25, due to a reduction in South Australia's estimated share of the National population.

In addition to the FA Grants, \$60 million was provided for 2023-24 to 2025-26 under the Supplementary Local Road Funding program, which was extended as part of the 2023-24 Federal Budget in May 2023. As part of the 2024-25 funding, 85 percent or \$17 million will be paid to South Australia in August 2024. 15 percent or \$3 million will also be distributed in August 2024, as part of the Special Local Roads Program in accordance with the approved recommendations of the Commission.

State shares for the distribution of the general purpose grants are determined on an equal per capita basis and the Act provides for the continuation of this arrangement. South Australia and the other less populous states have continued to maintain a firm stance on these arrangements for a number of years, holding the view that distribution of general purpose grant funding on an equalisation basis would be a more equitable and economically efficient method of allocating Commonwealth funding.

The Commission annually collects a broad range of financial and other data from local governing authorities in South Australia. The data collected is used primarily for the development of grant recommendations. The Commission also provides data to assist Federal, State, Local government and the private sector in planning, reporting, and managing projects affecting the local government sector.

Information collected by the Commission is provided to the SA Local Government Association (LGA), the Office of Local Government, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, various State Government agencies and Federal Government agencies for planning and reporting services. The Commission continued to work closely with these organisations during 2023-24. In keeping with progressive updates made in previous years, the Commission's Supplementary Return was again reviewed in 2023-24 to ensure that it mirrors the Model Financial Statements used by the local government sector.

The membership of the Commission remained consistent for 2023-24. The Commission's Presiding Member is Mr Rob Donaldson, appointed as Chair in January 2022 as a joint nominee of the LGA and the Minister for Local Government. Commissioners Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM have also continued in their roles as Commissioners during 2023-24, providing support to the Chair on Commission business, visiting councils and other Commission business.

The Commission also continued its work in a separate role as the Local Government Boundaries Commission (the Boundaries Commission) during 2023-24. The Boundaries Commission received a number of proposals and enquiries regarding boundary change proposals during the year and progressed and provided feedback to a number of councils and members of the public regarding the boundary change process.

Objectives

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission makes recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the distribution of untied Commonwealth FA Grants.

Grants for local governing authorities in South Australia are distributed in accordance with National Principles set by the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

All funds allocated by the Australian Government are distributed to councils as soon as the funds are received. The Commission's administrative costs are met by the State Government.

The Commission is also the body responsible for undertaking the assessment of boundary change proposals, oversee investigations and making recommendations to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with Chapter 3 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Key Strategies and their Relationship to SA Government Objectives

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission is an independent Statutory Authority established under the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992*.

The Commission's responsibilities for making recommendations on the distribution of Commonwealth FA Grants are independent of the South Australian Government's Objectives.

In accordance with Chapter 3 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Boundaries Commission undertakes independent assessment of proposals for structural reform of councils and makes recommendations for the Minister's consideration.

Agency Programs and Initiatives and their Effectiveness and Efficiency

Special Local Roads Program

As part of the Commission's responsibilities to make recommendations on the distribution of untied Commonwealth FA Grants, the Commission also makes recommendations on the distribution of grants under the Special Local Roads Program.

The Special Local Roads Program was established under the joint approvals of the South Australian Government, Commonwealth Government and Local Government. The Special Local Roads Program commenced in 1985-86 and provides funding for roads of regional significance throughout the State.

Responsibility for preparation and monitoring of a continuing program of projects rested with the Local Roads Advisory Committee until December 2004, when, at the request of the LGA, responsibility moved to the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP).

The LGTAP is a Panel of the LGA, which provides executive support. The Panel's main role is to make recommendations to the Grants Commission on the allocation of the Identified Local Roads component of the FA Grants, the special local roads component of the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery Program and the Supplementary Local Road Funding Program.

The current Panel comprises Mayor Leon Stephens, (Port Pirie Regional Council), as Chairperson, Mr Russell Troup (Director, Transport Strategy and Network Planning, Department for Infrastructure and Transport), Mr Richard Dodson (CEO, Light Regional Council), Mr Peter Tsokas (CEO, City of Unley), Ms Bridget Mather (CEO, Coorong Council), Mr Chris Dunn (Manager, Construction, Design and Transport, City of Port Adelaide Enfield) and Mr Peter Ilee (Executive Officer, SA Local Government Grants Commission). The LGTAP is also supported by Ms Alyssa Bates, (SLRP Grants Coordinator) and Mr Andrew Wroniak (Executive Director Corporate Services, SA LGA).

During 2023-24, the LGTAP continued to refine and review its new Terms of Reference and Policy Manual, making a number of changes to the processes around the Special Local Roads Program.

For 2024-25, \$8.303 million will be allocated to specific projects under the Identified Local Roads Component of the FA Grants program, \$10.375,834 million from the Special Local Roads component of the Roads to Recovery Program and \$3 million from the Supplementary Local Road Funding program. Funding of \$67,166 in returned Supplementary Local Road Funding from 2022-23 is also available for reallocation. A total of \$21.430 million will be allocated to 34 projects across the State for 2024-25. \$316,220 from the Roads to Recovery pool remained unallocated and will be distributed in 2025-26. Of the 34 projects, 9 projects will be undertaken in metropolitan councils and 25 projects will be undertaken in rural and regional councils.

Legislation Administered by the Agency

The Commission is established under the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992* (the Act).

FA Grants for local governing authorities in South Australia are distributed in accordance with National Principles set by the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

Grants provided out of the Roads to Recovery pool of the Special Local Roads Program are made subject to the requirements of the Commonwealth *National Land Transport Act 2014*.

Recommendations on boundary change proposals are made in accordance with Chapter 3 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Organisation of the Agency

Members

The Act provides for three members of the Commission, who are appointed in a part-time capacity by the Governor. Members are appointed for terms of up to five years. At the conclusion of their term members are eligible for renomination.

Members during 2023-24 were:

- Mr Rob Donaldson, Chair from 31 January 2022 to 30 January 2025, joint nominee of the Local Government Association and the Minister for Local Government.
- Ms Wendy Campana, Commissioner from 16 September 2022 to 17 September 2025, nominee of the Minister for Local Government; and
- Ms Erika Vickery OAM, Commissioner from 3 December 2020 to 2 December 2023, and from 14 March 2024 to 13 March 2027, nominee of the Local Government Association.

Administrative Support

The Commission was provided with administrative support by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) during 2023-24 and will be moved from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport to the Department for Housing and Urban Development from July 2024 as part of recent Machinery of Government changes.

The Commission has a dedicated full time Executive Officer, Mr Peter Ilee, Senior Project Officer, Mr Alex Sgro and Ms Marina Karki, Assistant Project Officer.

Additional support for the Boundaries Commission was provided by Mr Doug Roberts from the Local Government Policy Unit, Office of Local Government, DIT.

Grants Commission Meetings

The Commission and its staff generally meet on a monthly basis and at other times, as required. A summary of Grants Commission meetings held during 2023-24 is provided below:

Meeting Date	Meeting Participants
19 July 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Amy Kitselaar (DIT - on MS Teams).</p>
25 August 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC), and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
20 September 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
14 November 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
20 December 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Fran Hurley (OLG).</p>

Meeting Date	Meeting Participants
18 January 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
21 February 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
26 March 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
22 May 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>
18 June 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGGC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Alex Sgro (LGGC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGGC).</p>

(C) Denotes Chair (or Presiding Member).

(EO) Denotes Commission's Executive Officer

Boundaries Commission Meetings

The Commission and its staff generally meet on a monthly basis and at other times, as required. A summary of Boundaries Commission meetings held during 2023-24 is provided below:

Meeting Date	Meeting Participants
19 July 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Ms Louise Jacka (OLG) and Ms Halima Akanbi (LGBC).</p>

Meeting Date	Meeting Participants
25 August 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
20 September 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
14 November 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
23 November 2023 (on MS Teams)	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
20 December 2023	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Fran Hurley (OLG).</p>
18 January 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
21 February 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C) and Ms Wendy Campana.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
26 March 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>

Meeting Date	Meeting Participants
18 April 2024 (In the Office and on MS Teams)	<p>Commissioners Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM (both online).</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC) (online), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
22 May 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG), Mr Doug Roberts (LGBC) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>
18 June 2024	<p>Commissioners Mr Rob Donaldson (C), Ms Wendy Campana and Ms Erika Vickery OAM.</p> <p>Attendees Mr Peter Ilee (EO - LGBC), Ms Alex Hart (Director, OLG) and Ms Marina Karki (LGBC).</p>

(C) Denotes Chair (or Presiding Member).

(EO) Denotes Commission's Executive Officer

Member Profiles

Mr Rob Donaldson

Chair of the Local Government Grants Commission and Local Government Boundaries Commission from January 2022; Retired local government CEO, manager and planner; Chair, Port Lincoln Community Enterprises (Bendigo Community Bank Port Lincoln); Presiding Member, Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula, Audit Committee; Presiding Member, District Council of Kimba, Audit Committee; Member, District Council of Tumby Bay, Risk and Audit Committee; Presiding Member, Eyre Peninsula Regional Assessment Panel; Member, Upper Spencer Gulf RAP; Board Member, Eyre Peninsula Community Foundation; Board Member, Southern Eyre Arts (SALT Festival); Chief Executive Officer, City of Port Lincoln, October 2013 to October 2017; Assistant General Manager, Shoalhaven City Council (NSW), June 2009 to June 2013; Chief Executive Officer, City of Holdfast Bay, January 2004 to May 2009.

Ms Wendy Campana

Commissioner of the Local Government Grants Commission and Local Government Boundaries Commission from September 2019; Consultant (Governance, Strategic Planning, Management/Organisational Development); Part Time Executive Officer, Spencer Gulf Cities (2023 – current); Board Member, Kangaroo Island Tourism Alliance (2021 – current); Commissioner for Kangaroo Island 2015-2020; Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) 2005-2015 – which included board member roles on the LGA Mutual Liability Scheme, LGA Workers Compensation Scheme and LG Finance Authority.; Director, Strategic Development, LGA 2000-2003; Human Resources Manager, LGA – 1996-2000; Assistant Secretary-General, HR/IR Officer and HACCC Training Officer, LGA, Training Officer, LG Industry Training Council; State Government Roles in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Parliamentary Counsel and Office of Employment and Training.

Erika Vickery OAM

Commissioner of the Local Government Grants Commission and Local Government Boundaries Commission from December 2020; Administrator District Council of Coober Pedy (March 2023 – current); Vice Chairperson, board member and secretary Regional Development Association Limestone Coast (RDALC) since 2010; Board member Australian Migrant Resource Centre: Board member and Finance Committee member of Longridge Aged Care Inc; Committee member of Strategic Planning Policy Committee of ac.care; Board member of Country Arts Foundation; Mayor Naracoorte Lucindale Council (2010 – 2022); Elected Member Naracoorte Lucindale Council (2000 – 2022); President of Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) (2014 - 2022); Committee member of LCLGA Audit and Risk committee (2018 – 2022); Chairperson South Australia Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) (2015 – 2022); Vice-President Local Government Association SA (2015 - 2018) and Board Member LGASA (2015 - 2022); Chairman Limestone Coast Economic Development Group (2014 -2022); LC LGA Representative on Limestone Coast Community Service Round Table (Health) (2015 – 2022); NLC Development Assessment Panel: 2004 – 2007; Board member Country Arts SA (2018 – 2022).

Other Agencies Related to this Agency (within the Minister’s Areas of Responsibility)

The Commission is an independent Statutory Authority and is not related to any other State Agency. The Commission’s Staff are employees of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

Employment Opportunity Programs

The Presiding Member of the Commission is a nominee of the Minister for Local Government and the LGA and Commission Members are nominees of either the Minister or the LGA. All Members are appointed by the Governor. The Ministers Office and the LGA have processes and procedures in place for the selection of Members.

The Commission’s administrative staff are managed within the human resources management framework provided by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Agency Performance Management and Development Systems

Agency Performance Management and Development systems are in place for the Commissions administrative staff as employees of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Work Health, Safety and Return to Work Programs of the Agency and their Effectiveness

The Commission is committed to ensuring that appropriate work health, safety and return to work programs are in place for Commission members and staff.

Programs in place are determined by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Work Health and Safety and Return to Work Performance

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport provides appropriate policies, procedures and systems to manage work health and safety and return to work performance on behalf of the Commission.

There have been no workplace injury claims, incidents or notices issued in relation to Commission Members or staff under the *Work, Health and Safety Act 2012* or return to work costs incurred during 2023-24.

Fraud Detection in the Agency

There has been no fraud detected in any of the Commission's activities during 2023-24. The Commission and its administrative staff adhere to the financial controls of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Strategies Implemented to Control and Prevent Fraud

The payment of grants and management of the Commission's finances are supported by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport financial management framework.

In respect of the payment of Commonwealth FA Grants and the Supplementary Local Road Funding, the Commission is required to submit an audited Statement of Payments to the Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories under Section 15(b) of the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

In relation to funding provided under the Special Local Roads Program out of the Roads to Recovery funding pool, the Commission is also required to retain Annual Reports submitted by councils in respect of grants allocated under the program and submit its own audited Annual Report to the Federal Government in accordance with Part 8 of the Commonwealth *National Land Transport Act 2014*.

Whistle-blowers' Disclosure

The Commission did not receive any disclosures of public interest information under the *Whistle-blowers' Protection Act 1993* during 2023-24.

Executive Employment in the Agency

There was no Executive Employment within the Commission during 2023-24.

Consultants and Contractors

The Commission engaged the services of Rex Mooney (RMBAS Local Government Finance Specialist) for consulting services during 2023-24. The value of these services was under \$10,000.

The Commission also outsourced updates to its GIS to the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) during 2023-24. The value of these services in relation to the 2022-23 GIS updates is under \$25,000.

The Commission engaged the services of Ms Michele Bennetts (.lgiQ Pty Ltd) during 2023-24 to undertake a review of the impact of Non-Resident Ratepayers on the Commission's FA Grants methodology. The value of these services under \$20,000.

Financial Performance of the Agency and Other Financial Information

The Commission's 2023-24 Audited Financial Statements are attached – See *Appendix VIII*. Other than information presented in the Commission's Audited Financial Statements, there is no further financial information to report for 2023-24.

Other Information Requested by the Minister or Other Significant Issues Affecting the Agency or Reporting Pertaining to Independent Functions

From 1 January 2019, the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission was given the responsibility for the assessment of boundary change proposals, to oversee investigations and make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government.

Section B: Reporting Required under any other Act or Regulation

CHAPTER 1 - LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995

The Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* came into effect on 1 July 1995. The Act provides for:

- a per capita distribution (to the States) for the general financial assistance component;
- the continued separate identification of local road funding and maintenance of existing state shares for that funding;
- a national report on the operation of the Act, specifically the achievement of horizontal equalisation, the methods used by the Commissions, the performance of councils including their efficiency, and the provision of services to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities; and
- a set of national principles governing the distribution of grants between councils replacing the previous state by state principles. The principles, which provide for a distribution based on horizontal fiscal equalisation (subject to the minimum grant entitlement), are discussed in detail below.

During 2022-23, the Commission made recommendations on the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) for 2024-25 in accordance with these principles.

Detailed information about FA Grants to Local Government since 1976 may be found in previous annual reports of the Commission, on the Commissions web page (<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/grants-commission>), in special reports of the Commonwealth Grants Commission and in the report of the National Inquiry into Local Government Finance, 1985.

Allocation of the general financial assistance component (General Purpose Grants) of the FA Grants to States is made on a per capita basis. South Australia's share reduced over many years as its population as a proportion of the Australian population declines. After a period of three years where South Australia's share of the General Purpose Grants increased (likely due to the impacts of the COVID pandemic), the State's population share is estimated to return to a decreasing proportion for 2024-25, see Table 1.

State shares of identified local road funding are based on those existing prior to 1991-92, and South Australia receives less than a per capita share, see Table 2.

The total level of FA Grants to Local Government for 2024-25 has increased in line with estimated inflation and population.

The renewal of the Supplementary Local Road Funding program for 2023-24 to 2025-26 as part of the 2023-24 Federal Budget will provide a funding boost to South Australia of \$20 million per year over the three years.

FA Grant Entitlements for all States for 2023-24 and for 2024-25 are set out in Tables 1 and 2 below.

TABLE 1 - Commonwealth General Purpose Financial Assistance for Local Government, State and Territory Entitlements 2023-24 and 2024-25

State	2023-24					Brought Fwd Pmt Pmt Paid in 2022-23 (\$mill)	Actual Allocation (\$mill)
	Proportion (based on estimates) (%)	Allocation (Estimate) (\$mill)	Adjustment (\$mill)				
New South Wales	31.40	675.65	3.47			674.36	679.12
Victoria	25.45	550.16	0.23			549.12	550.40
Queensland	20.47	442.09	0.71			441.25	442.80
Western Australia	10.67	231.36	(0.57)			230.92	230.79
South Australia	7.04	150.70	1.51			150.41	152.21
Tasmania	2.23	47.19	0.99			47.10	48.18
Northern Territory	0.97	20.73	0.35			20.69	21.08
Australian Capital Territory	1.76	37.90	0.20			37.83	38.10
TOTAL	100.00	2,155.78	6.88			2,151.68	2,162.66

State	2024-25				\$ Change 2023-24 to 2024-25 (\$)	% Change 2023-24 to 2024-25 (%)
	Proportion (based on estimates) (%)	Allocation (Estimate) (\$mill)	Brought Fwd Pmt Pmt Paid in 2023-24 (\$mill)	Allocation Plus Brought Fwd Pmt (\$mill)		
New South Wales	31.29	107.67	602.49	710.16	31,044,357	4.57
Victoria	25.62	88.15	493.35	581.51	31,106,347	5.65
Queensland	20.51	70.57	394.99	465.56	22,764,802	5.14
Western Australia	10.84	37.37	208.76	246.13	15,343,900	6.65
South Australia	6.92	23.82	133.37	157.19	4,984,141	3.27
Tasmania	2.13	7.34	41.05	48.38	203,046	0.42
Northern Territory	0.94	3.24	18.10	21.34	260,131	1.23
Australian Capital Territory	1.75	6.00	33.68	39.68	1,578,822	4.14
TOTAL	100.00	344.16	1,925.79	2,269.95	107,285,546	4.96

TABLE 2 - Commonwealth Identified Local Road Grants for Local Government, State and Territory Entitlements 2022-23 and 2023-24

State	2023-24					Brought Fwd Pmt Pmt Paid in 2022-23 (\$mill)	Actual Allocation (\$mill)
	Proportion (based on estimates) (%)	Allocation (Estimate) (\$mill)	Adjustment (\$mill)				
New South Wales	29.01	277.53	0.89			277.01	278.42
Victoria	20.62	197.21	0.63			196.84	197.84
Queensland	18.74	179.23	0.57			178.89	179.80
Western Australia	15.29	146.26	0.47			145.98	146.73
South Australia	5.50	52.57	0.17			52.47	52.74
Tasmania	5.30	50.69	0.16			50.60	50.85
Northern Territory	2.34	22.41	0.07			22.37	22.48
Australian Capital Territory	3.21	30.67	0.10			30.61	30.77
TOTAL	100.00	956.58	3.06			954.76	959.64

State	2024-25				\$ Change 2023-24 to 2024-25 (\$)	% Change 2023-24 to 2024-25 (%)
	Proportion (based on estimates) (%)	Allocation (Estimate) (\$mill)	Brought Fwd Pmt Pmt Paid in 2023-24 (\$mill)	Allocation Plus Brought Fwd Pmt (\$mill)		
New South Wales	29.01	44.31	247.93	292.23	13,812,091	4.96
Victoria	20.62	31.48	176.17	207.66	9,814,597	4.96
Queensland	18.74	28.61	160.11	188.72	8,919,618	4.96
Western Australia	15.29	23.35	130.66	154.01	7,279,059	4.96
South Australia	5.50	8.39	46.96	55.35	2,616,134	4.96
Tasmania	5.30	8.09	45.28	53.38	2,522,449	4.96
Northern Territory	2.34	3.58	20.02	23.59	1,114,847	4.96
Australian Capital Territory	3.21	4.90	27.40	32.30	1,521,491	4.94
TOTAL	100.00	152.72	854.52	1,007.24	47,600,286	4.96

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992

The original State Act was proclaimed in 1976 to establish the Commission, its membership, its functions, and responsibilities in accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth Act.

It was repealed and replaced with the present Act in 1992 to, amongst other things, embody new arrangements agreed with Local Government in the areas of membership and reporting.

Eligible Bodies

For the 2024-25 allocations there were 68 councils, five Aboriginal Communities and the Outback Communities Authority eligible for grants.

National Principles, General Purpose & Road Grants

The national principles contained within the *Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* underpin the methodology employed by the Commission in the distribution process.

There are six main principles for general purpose grants and an additional principle for the identified local road grants, listed below. They are:

General Purpose National Principles

(i) Horizontal Equalisation

The equalisation component of the Financial Assistance Grants will be allocated to local governing bodies, as far as practicable, on a full horizontal equalisation basis as defined by the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act, 1995*. This is a basis that ensures that each local governing body in the State/Territory is able to function by reasonable effort, at a standard not lower than the average standard of other local governing bodies in the State. It takes account of differences in the expenditure required by those local governing bodies in the performance of their functions and in the capacity of those local governing bodies to raise revenue.

(ii) Effort Neutrality

An effort or policy neutral approach will be used in assessing expenditure requirements and revenue raising capacity of each local governing body. This means as far as practicable, policies of individual local governing bodies in terms of expenditure and revenue effort will not affect the grant determination.

(iii) Minimum Grant

The minimum general purpose grant allocation for a local governing body will be not less than the amount to which the local governing body would be entitled if 30 percent of the total amount of equalisation component funds for the State/Territory were allocated on a per capita basis.

(iv) Other Grant Support

Other relevant grant support provided to local governing bodies to meet any of the expenditure needs assessed should be taken into account using an inclusion approach.

(v) Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islanders

Financial assistance shall be allocated to councils in a way that recognises the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within their boundaries.

(vi) Council Amalgamation

Where two or more local governing bodies are amalgamated into a single body, the general purpose grant provided to the new body for each of the four years following amalgamation, should be the total of the amounts that would have been provided to the former bodies in each of those years if they had remained separate entities.

Identified Road Component National Principle

(vii) Identified Road Component

The identified road component of the Financial Assistance Grants should be allocated to local governing bodies as far as practicable on the basis of the relative needs of each local governing body for roads expenditure and to preserve its road assets. In assessing roads needs relevant considerations include length, type and usage of roads in each local governing area.

Local Government (Boundary Adjustment) Amendment Act 2017

This Act appointed the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission as the body responsible for the assessment of proposals, to oversee investigations and make recommendations to the Minister. The Boundaries Commission commenced this role on 1 January 2019.

The Commission's responsibilities and procedures are set out in the *Local Government Act 1999* (Chapter 3, Part 2). The Commission also has a set of 10 Guidelines that detail the process by which it will receive, assess, and progress council boundary change proposals. The Guidelines can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/boundaries-commission>

Freedom of Information

The Commission's Executive Officer is the Principal Officer as defined in the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*. An appointment can be made by phoning (08) 7133 1313 during office hours.

There were no requests under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* received in 2023-24. In accordance with Section 9 of the Act an information statement is provided below.

Statement Section 9

Structure and functions of the Commission

Refer to Section A of this report.

Effect of Commission's decision making on members of the public

The Commission's primary function is to make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the distribution of untied Commonwealth FA Grants to local governing authorities in South Australia. Consequently, the Commission's decision making in relation to the FA Grants has no direct effect on members of the public.

The Boundaries Commission's primary function is to make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on boundary change proposals. The Commission's recommendations will have a direct effect on members of the public, with the potential effect being members of the public being moved from one Council to another.

Arrangements for members of the public to participate in Commission policy formulation

As mentioned in Chapter 3 of this report, public hearings are incorporated into council visits as part of the FA Grants process and the requirement to hold public hearings under the Commonwealth legislation. Members of the public are invited to attend meetings and to make submissions to the Commission.

Members of the Public may write to the Boundaries Commission in regard to the content of the Commission's Guidelines at any time. The Commission reviews all requests for changes to the Guidelines to determine if the requested changes are appropriate.

Members of the public may also make a publicly initiated submission to the Boundaries Commission in relation to changes to council boundaries in accordance with the Commission's Guidelines and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Members of the public affected by boundary change proposals under investigation by the Boundaries Commission will also be consulted as part of the investigation process.

Categories of Documents

Annual Reports of the Commission are available for perusal on the Commission's web page and at the Commission's offices. Other documents held by the Commission:

- Corporate files containing correspondence, memoranda, minutes etc. on the Commission's operations;
- Administrative Policies and Procedures (many of which are prepared by other agencies), and files;
- Registry files containing information and data returns; and
- Statistical and comparative reports prepared for councils and interested parties.

Information is stored electronically.

In general, where information held by the Commission is available from a primary source, e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics or individual councils, enquiries are directed to that source.

The Boundaries Commission's 10 Guidelines detail the process by which it will receive, assess, and progress council boundary change proposals. The Guidelines can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/boundaries-commission/making-boundary-change>

- Boundary reform proposals received by the Commission, and the Commission's recommendations on proposals are made available to the public on the Commission's webpage.

Facilities for Access and Initial Contact Point

Inquiries concerning access to the above-mentioned documents or other matters relating to Freedom of Information should be directed to:

	The Executive Officer Local Government Grants Commission Level 1 1 King William Street ADELAIDE SA 5000
Postal Address	GPO Box 2329 ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone	(08) 7133 1313 (Grants) and (08) 7133 1311 (Boundaries)
E-mail	grants.commission@sa.gov.au boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au

Business hours are 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. An appointment is necessary. The Executive Officer, as Principal Officer, has power under Section 20 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* to refuse access to a document.

CHAPTER 2 – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS - COMMISSION METHODOLOGY

General Purpose Grants

The methodology used to assess the general purpose component of the Local Government Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants) is intended to achieve an allocation of grants to local governing bodies in the State consistent with the National Principles.

The over-riding principle is that of Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation, however this is limited by the requirement that each local governing body must receive a minimum per capita entitlement as prescribed in the Commonwealth legislation. Final estimated grants provided to eligible bodies are allocated as a proportion of the final pool of available funding.

The Commission uses a direct assessment approach to informing its recommendations. This involves the separate estimation of a component revenue assessment and a component expenditure assessment for each council, which are aggregated to determine each council's overall equalisation need.

Available funds are distributed in accordance with the relativities established through this process and adjustments are made as necessary to ensure the per capita minimum entitlement is met for each council.

For local governing bodies outside the incorporated areas (the Outback Communities Authority and five Aboriginal Communities) allocations are made on a per capita basis.

A standard formula is used as a basis for both the revenue and expenditure component assessments.

Formulae

General Financial Assistance (General Purpose Grants)

The formula for the calculation of the raw revenue assessments can be expressed as:

$$G = P_c \times S \times \left[\left(\frac{U_s}{P_s} \times RRI_s \right) - \left(\frac{U_c}{P_c} \times RRI_c \right) \right]$$

Similarly, the formula for the calculation of the raw expenditure assessments can be expressed as:

$$G = P_c \times S \times \left[\left(\frac{U_c}{P_c} \times CRI_c \right) - \left(\frac{U_s}{P_s} \times CRI_s \right) \right]$$

Subscripts of s or c are used to describe whether it applies to the State or a particular council.

G = council's calculated relative need assessment

P = population

U = unit of measure. Some units of measure are multiplied by a weight.

S = standard, be it cost or revenue = $\frac{\text{expenditure or income}}{U}$

RRI = Revenue Relativity Index. CRI = Cost Relativity Index (previously known as the disability factor). They are centred around 1.00, i.e. RRI_s or CRI_s equals 1.00. If more than one CRI exists for any function then they are multiplied together to give an overall CRI for that function.

In the revenue assessments for both residential and rural property types, the Commission has calculated a revenue relativity index based on the SEIFA Index of Economic Resources. Where no revenue relativity index exists the $RRI_c = 1.0$. For a list of the Revenue Relativity Indices applied to this year's valuation data, see *Appendix VIII*.

Currently, CRI's (disability factors) are only applied to the roads, stormwater drainage maintenance and waste management expenditure assessments. The remaining expenditure assessments have not been assigned a CRI and consequently, $CRI_c = 1.0$.

The raw calculations for all functions using the above formulae, i.e., all revenue and expenditure assessments, are then totalled to determine each council's total raw calculation. Any council whose raw calculation per head is less than the per capita minimum allocation of \$25.46 (for 2024-25), has the per capita figure applied. The balance of the pool of funding is then allocated to the remaining councils based on their assessed proportion of the raw calculation.

The raw calculation is not a grant entitlement – it determines which councils are assessed as having a greater than average capacity to provide services (a per capita minimum council) and determines the relative share of the available pool of general purpose funds for the remaining councils.

The Commission's final step in the allocation process is to apply Commission-determined limits (constraints) to ensure consistency for councils' budgetary processes and manage the impact of significant changes in grants caused by methodology change and/or external trends. This process also fulfills the objectives of the Commonwealth legislation to ensure consistency of funding to local governing bodies.

In the calculation of the 2024-25 grants, the Commission constrained changes to grants between minus 15 percent and positive 30 percent.

Component Revenue Assessments

Component revenue assessments calculate whether councils' **capacity to raise revenue** from rates is less than or greater than the State average. Councils with below average capacity to raise revenue receive positive component revenue assessments and councils with above average capacity receive negative component revenue assessments.

The Commission calculates each council's component revenue assessment by applying the State average rate in the dollar to the difference between the council's improved capital values per capita multiplied by the RRI_c and those for the State as a whole and then multiplying this by the council's population.

The State average rate in the dollar is the ratio of total rate revenue to total improved capital values of rateable property. The result shows how much less (or more) rate revenue a council would be able to raise than the average for the State as a whole if it applied the State average rate in the dollar to the capital values of its rateable properties.

This calculation is repeated for each of five land use categories, namely;

- residential;
- commercial;
- industrial;
- rural; and
- other.

To overcome fluctuations in the base data, valuations, rate revenue and population are averaged over three years. Revenue Relativity Indices (RRI_c) are only applied to the residential and rural valuations.

Subsidies

Subsidies that are of the type that most councils receive and are not dependent upon their own special effort i.e., they are effort neutral, are treated by the "inclusion approach". That is, subsidies such as those for library services and the identified local road grants are included and assessed as a revenue function.

It is important to note that a range of other Commonwealth grants provided to local government are not included in the Subsidies assessment, including the Roads to Recovery Grants, Supplementary Local Road Funding and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grants.

Component Expenditure Assessments

Component expenditure assessments calculate whether the costs of providing a standard range of local government services can be expected to be greater than or less than the average cost for the State as a whole due to factors outside the control of councils.

The Commission assesses expenditure needs and a component expenditure assessment for each of a range of functions and these are aggregated to give a total component expenditure assessment for each council.

The methodology compares each council per capita against the State average. This enables the comparison to be consistent and to compare like with like.

Each function is identified by a main cost driver or **unit of measure**. This is divided into the total expenditure on the function for the State as a whole to determine the average or **standard cost** for the particular function. For example, in the case of the expenditure function **sealed roads built-up**, "kilometres of sealed roads built-up" is the unit of measure.

Using this example, the length of sealed roads built-up per capita for each council is compared with the State's length of sealed roads built-up per capita. The difference, be it positive, negative or zero, is then multiplied by the average cost per kilometre for construction and maintenance of sealed roads built-up for the State as a whole (standard cost). This in turn is multiplied back by the council's population to give the component expenditure assessment for the function. As already indicated this grant can be positive, negative or zero.

In addition, it is recognised that there may be other factors beyond a council's control which require it to spend more (or less) per unit of measure than the State average, in this example to reconstruct or maintain a kilometre of road. Accordingly, the methodology allows for a **cost relativity index (CRI)**, to be determined for each expenditure assessment for each council. Indices are centred around 1.0 and are used to inflate or deflate an expenditure assessment for each council. In the case of roads, CRI's measure relative costs of factors such as material haulage, soil type, rainfall, and drainage.

To overcome fluctuations in the base data, inputs into the expenditure assessments (with the exception of the annually revised road lengths) are averaged over three years.

The following table details the approach taken to expenditure functions included in the methodology.

Expenditure Function	Standard Cost	Units of Measure
Waste Management	Reported expenditures ¹	Number of Residential, Rural and Commercial (Shop) Properties
Aged Care Services	Reported expenditures ¹	Population aged 65+ from the ABS Census and estimated resident population
Services to Families and Children	Reported expenditures ¹	Population aged 0-14 years from the ABS Census and estimated resident population
Health Inspection	Reported expenditures ¹	Establishments to inspect
Libraries	Reported expenditures ¹	Estimated Resident Population
Sport, Recreation & Culture	Reported expenditures ¹	Population aged 5-64 years from the ABS Census and Estimated Resident Population
Sealed Roads – Built-Up ⁵	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of built-up sealed road as reported in GIR
Sealed Roads - Non-built-up ⁵	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of non-built-up sealed road as reported in GIR
Sealed Roads - Footpaths etc	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of built-up sealed road as reported in GIR
Unsealed Roads – Built-up ⁵	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of built-up unsealed road as reported in GIR
Unsealed Roads - Non-built-up ⁵	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of non-built-up unsealed road as reported in GIR
Unformed Roads ⁵	Reported expenditures ¹	Kilometres of unformed road as reported in GIR Roads
Stormwater Drainage Maintenance ^{2,3}	Reported expenditures ¹	Number of urban properties ⁴
Community Support	Reported expenditures ¹	3yr average population * SEIFA Advantage Disadvantage CRI
Jetties, Wharves, Marinas and Boat Ramps	Reported expenditures ¹	Number of jetties, wharves, marinas and boat ramps

Public Order and Safety	Reported expenditures ¹	Total number of properties
Planning and Building Control	Reported expenditures ¹	Number of new developments and additions
Bridges	Reported expenditures ¹	Number of bridges as reported in GIR
Environment and Coastal Protection	Reported Expenditures ¹	Estimated Resident Population
Airports and Authorised Landing Areas	Reported Expenditures ¹	Number of airports and authorised landing areas
Other Needs Assessments	Set at 1.00.	Based on Commission determined relative expenditure needs in a number of areas ⁶

1 Councils' expenditures reported in the Commission's Supplementary returns.

2 Includes both construction and maintenance activities.

3 The Commission has also decided, for these functions, to use CRI's based on the results of a previous consultancy by BC Tonkin and Associates.

4 Urban properties = sum [residential properties, commercial properties, industrial properties, exempt residential properties, exempt commercial properties, exempt industrial properties].

5 The Commission has for these functions, used CRI's based on the results of a consultancy led by Eincorp and Associates, in association with PPK Environment and Infrastructure. Tonkin Consulting and PIRSA have since refined the results. For a breakdown of each cost relativity indices by type of road, refer *Appendix V*.

6 Comprises Commission determined relative expenditure needs with respect to the following:

- Isolation – measured as distance from the GPO to the main service centre for the council (as determined by the RAA);
- Additional recognition of needs of councils with respect to Aboriginal people – identified by the proportion of the population identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
- Unemployment – identified by the proportion of the population unemployed;

This final factor *Other Needs Assessment* (also known as *Function 50*) originates from the Commission's recognition that there are many non-quantifiable factors, which may influence a council's expenditure, and that it is not always been possible to determine objectively the extent to which a council's expenditure is affected by these factors. Therefore, in determining units of measure and cost relativity indices, the Commission must exercise its judgement based on experience, the evidence submitted to the Commission, and the knowledge gained by the Commission during visits to council areas and as a result of discussions with elected members and staff.

The calculated standards by function are outlined below.-

Summary of figures by function

Total Population = 1846535

Function	Standard in Dollars	Unit of Measure per Capita	Total Units of Measure	Unit of Measure
Expenditure Functions				
Waste Management	232.51	0.47993	868,627	No of residential, rural and commercial (shop) properties
Aged Care Services	118.30	0.19906	360,274	Population aged more than 65
Services To Families And Children	69.98	0.17107	309,626	Population aged 0 to 14
Health Inspection	609.01	0.01189	21,514	Establishments to inspect
Libraries	68.11	1.02025	1,846,535	Estimated Resident Population
Sport, Recreation & Culture	364.77	0.74731	1,352,541	Population aged 5 to 49
Sealed Roads - Built Up	13,756.19	0.00619	11,208	Kilometres of sealed builtup
Sealed Roads - Non Built Up	13,756.19	0.00454	8,213	Kilometres of sealed non-builtup
Sealed Roads - Footpaths etc	21,822.59	0.00619	11,208	Kilometres of sealed builtup
Unsealed Roads - Built Up	2,406.19	0.00035	635	Kilometres of formed and surfaced, and natural surface formed builtup road
Unsealed Roads - Non Built Up	2,406.19	0.02548	46,116	Kilometres of formed and surfaced, and natural surface formed non-builtup road
Roads - Unformed	267.56	0.00488	8,828	Kilometres of natural surfaced unformed road
Stormwater Drainage - Maintenance	93.11	0.46567	842,813	No of urban, industrial and commercial properties including exempt
Community Support	63.41	1.00004	1,809,958	3yr average population * SEIFA Advantage Disadvantage CRI
Jetties, Wharves, Marinas & Boat Ramps	16,859.51	0.00015	272	No of jetties, wharves, marinas & boat ramps
Public Order and Safety	38.01	0.54753	990,966	Total no of properties
Planning & Building Control	2,127.50	0.02350	42,541	No of new developments and additions
Bridges	16,428.61	0.00039	711	No of bridges
Environment & Coastal Protection	24.32	1.02025	1,846,535	Estimated Resident Population
Airports & Authorised Landing Areas	136,675.02	0.00003	51	No of Airports & Authorised Landing Areas
Other Special Needs	1.00	13.70832	24,810,500	Total of dollars attributed
Revenue Functions				
Rates - residential	0.0029	236,570	423,943,949,202	Valuation of residential
- commercial	0.0056	28,149	50,946,849,482	Valuation of commercial
- industrial	0.0065	4,697	8,500,463,994	Valuation of industrial
- rural	0.0024	38,614	68,937,920,124	Valuation of rural
- other	0.0035	8,577	15,522,945,535	Valuation of other
Subsidies	1.00	33.83957	61,245,752	The total of the subsidies

Calculated Standards by Function

The Commission uses the table above to determine a council's raw calculation for each of the functions. This is done by calculating each individual council's unit of measure per capita, comparing it with the similar figure from the table and then multiplying the difference by the standard from the table and its own population. If CRIs are applicable, then they must be included as a multiplier against the council's unit of measure per capita.

It must be stressed that this only allows the determination of the raw calculation for the individual function, not the final estimated grant. The raw calculation determines those councils with above average capacity to provide services, i.e., per capita minimum councils and the

remaining funding is allocated to non per capita minimum councils after constraints are applied to changes in grants where appropriate.

Aggregated Revenue and Expenditure Assessments

Component assessments for all revenue and expenditure functions, calculated for each council using the method outlined above, are aggregated to give each council's total raw calculation figure.

Where the raw calculation per head of population for a council is less than the per capita minimum established as set out in the Act, (\$25.46 for 2024-25), the calculation is adjusted to bring it up to the per capita minimum entitlement.

The balance of the general purpose funding pool, less the allocation to other local governing bodies outside the incorporated areas is then allocated to the remaining councils based on their assessed proportion (or relative share) of the raw calculation.

Commission determined limits may then be applied to provide certainty of funding and minimise the impact on council's budgetary processes. In the calculation of the 2024-25 grants, the Commission constrained changes between minus 15 percent and positive 30 percent.

Identified Local Road Grant

In South Australia, the identified local road grants pool is divided into formula grants (85 percent) and special local road grants (15 percent).

The formula component is divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan councils on the basis of an equal weighting of road length and population.

In the metropolitan area, allocations to individual councils are determined again by an equal weighting of population and road length. In the non-metropolitan area, allocations are made on an equal weighting of population, road length and the area of the council.

Distribution of grants under the Special Local Roads Program is based on recommendations from the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel. This Panel is responsible for assessing submissions from councils, together with advice from regional associations, on local road projects of regional significance.

The Outback Communities Authority

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) is prescribed as a local governing body in the Commission's Regulations for the purposes of the Grants Commission's recommendations.

The Authority was established on 1 July 2010 under legislation of the South Australian Parliament, replacing the Outback Areas Community Development Trust as the management and governance authority for the outback.

The OCA provides support to outback communities for the provision of public services and facilities, addresses long term requirements and maintenance of outback infrastructure, plans, and consults with outback communities, advocates on behalf of outback communities and manages and maintains public assets.

Due to the lack of comparable data, the Commission is not able to calculate general purpose grants to the OCA in the same manner as grants to other local governing bodies. Rather, a per capita general purpose grant has been established. The 2024-25 per capita general purpose grant is \$841.37.

General purpose grants for the OCA were increased by 3.27 percent for 2024-25, in line with the increase in the pool of General Purpose Grants for South Australia for 2024-25.

Aboriginal Communities

Since 1994-95 the Grants Commission has allocated grants to 5 specific Aboriginal communities recognised as local governing authorities for the purposes of the *Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

The Aboriginal communities are specified in the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Regulations 2019*, and include Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara, Gerard Community Council Aboriginal Corporation, Maralinga Tjarutja, Nipapanha Community Aboriginal Corporation and Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation.

Again, due to the unavailability of data, general purpose grants for these communities are not calculated in the same manner as grants to other local governing bodies.

Initially, the Commission utilised the services of a consultant, Alan Morton, of Morton Consulting Services, who completed a study on the expenditure needs of the communities and their revenue raising capacities. Comparisons were made with communities in other states and remote South Australian councils and per capita grants were established.

Grants have gradually been increased since the initial study. For 2024-25, the per capita grant allocated to Aboriginal Communities varied from \$235.13 for Gerard Community to \$1,232.05 for Maralinga Tjarutja Community.

General purpose grants for the five recognised Aboriginal Communities were increased by 3.27% for 2024-25, in line with the increase in the pool of General Purpose Grants for South Australia for 2024-25.

The Commission also recognises the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as part of the assessment of each council's capacity to provide services compared to the State average for a range of aboriginal communities and homelands located within existing local government boundaries. The Commission provides an allowance to councils as part of its Other Needs Assessment (Function 50), based on the proportion of the population who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

CHAPTER 3 – GRANTS COMMISSION ACTIVITIES 2023-24

Grant Allocation

During 2023-24, the Commission considered its FA Grant Recommendations for 2024-25. The total 2023-24 allocation of \$203,270,622 was increased following the end of the financial year by \$1,673,375 after adjustments by the Federal Government to account for final population estimates and changes in the Consumer Price Index.

The increase will be passed on to councils in the four quarterly FA Grant instalments during 2024-25. The actual allocation figure, which includes the adjusted 2023-24 allocations, is shown in *Chapter 4*.

For 2024-25, the Commission made recommendations on the distribution of \$212,544,272, including both General Purpose Grants and Identified Local Road Grants. A full list of allocations by council is contained in *Chapter 4*.

The General Purpose Grants for 2024-25 are \$157,189,506, an increase of 3.27 percent over 2023-24. The Identified Local Road Grants are \$55,354,766, an increase of 4.96 percent over 2023-24.

The Supplementary Local Road Funding program was reinstated by the Federal Government as part of the 2023-24 Federal Budget for 2023-24 to 2025-26 and will provide \$20 million per year for this period.

Allocations were prepared in accordance with national distribution principles, under the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. The principles are detailed in *Chapter 1*.

Methodology Review

The Commission is committed to regularly reviewing the methodology to ensure that, in making recommendations for distribution of FA Grants each year, the Commission takes into account and reflects relevant factors which affect councils' capacity to provide an average level of service.

The Commission undertakes major reviews of its methodology from time to time and the last major reviews were conducted in 1997-98, 2002-03 and 2012-13.

In addition to major reviews, the Commission continually reviews specific areas of its methodology based on an annual work plan, where issues raised by Councils during visits or from submissions, or by the Commission itself during its deliberations, are prioritised and scheduled for review.

Reviews can be undertaken internally or by the appointment of consultants or subject matter experts. The Commission is also committed to engaging with the local government sector during its reviews and will attempt, where possible, to seek the views of local government representatives and subject matter experts to assist with its review process.

The Historical development of the Commission's methodology and major changes in methodology can be viewed by reviewing previous SA Local Government Grants Commission Annual Reports or by viewing the Commission's web page <https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/grants-commission>

Recent Methodology reviews and topics of interest to the Commission are listed below, for information.

Methodology Review – 2023-24

A review of the impact of “non-resident ratepayers” on the Commission's methodology was completed in 2023-24. The Commission engaged the services of Ms Michele Bennetts to investigate the impact of non-resident ratepayers on the assessment of relative need (including the impacts on capacity to raise revenue and need for expenditure).

This issue considers the impacts of ratepayers who own a property in a council area, but do not live in the house as their principal place of residence on Census night and are therefore not counted as part of the population of the council.

The review of non-resident ratepayers included liaison with affected councils and investigations of how Grants Commissions in other States accounted for non-resident ratepayers. Ms Bennetts provided a final review with recommendations to the Commission in June 2024.

The Commission will consider the recommendations from this review in 2024-25.

The Commission also continued to consider a range of issues relating to the continued collection and maintenance of local road length data and the methodology for distributing the Identified Local Road Grants.

Recommendations provided by Tonkin Consulting about changes to the road length data collection and storage process are under consideration by the Commission, along with the submission from the Wakefield Regional Council regarding the allocation of the Identified Local Road Grants.

The Council has requested that the Commission review its allocation formula and the Commission is undertaking work on this issue. The Submission from Wakefield Regional Council can be found on the Commission's web page <https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/grants-commission>

Information Collection and Storage

The Commission maintains a substantial database of Local Government data from the returns collected each year and this data is used by the Commission in the development of its grant recommendations and provided to a range of stakeholders.

The Commission developed its current database with the then Department of Planning, Transport, and Infrastructure (DPTI) and the Office of Local Government to continue to maintain an electronic database for storing data relating to local government at the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

The database contains information including data from annual financial statements and supplements to those statements (the Supplementary Return) dating back to 2007-08. Data prior to 2007-08 is held in an older database, at pre-amalgamated council level where appropriate.

The Commission also collects a broad range of other data as part of its General Information Return, collected from councils and other State and Federal Agencies. This information is also used by the Commission in the development of its FA Grant recommendations and provided to a range of stakeholders, including the SA Local Government Association.

Other data maintained by the Commission includes:

- Rates information;
- Estimated Resident Population;
- Council Area Data;
- Valuation Data;
- Council Employee Data;
- Road Length Data;
- Health Inspection Data;
- Development Application Data;
- Waste Management Data;
- Environmental Management Data;
- Subsidiary Data; and other data collected from Commonwealth and State Government agencies.

The Commission's Database was updated with the assistance of DPTI during 2017-18 to provide for improved reporting capability through the use of the COGNOS reporting tool. These updates enabled the Commission to better manage changes in the data required for the grant recommendations and ad-hoc data requests from stakeholders.

Data collected by the Commission in the Supplementary Return is reconciled with Audited Financial Statements for accuracy. Data provided in the General Information Return is checked against the previous year's data for variations before being loaded into the Commission's database and reconciled for accuracy. In addition to being used by the Commission to make recommendations on the distribution of grants, the Commission and the OLG provides a significant amount of data back to stakeholders, including (but not limited to):

- Councils;
- The Local Government Association;
- The Government of South Australia;
- The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications;
- The Australian Bureau of Statistics; and
- The South Australian Productivity Commission.

Subject to the review of the collection of road length data (see above), the Commission also continues to maintain a Geographical Information System, road centreline database, which was first created in around the year 2000 and is maintained on an annual basis from Returns provided by councils.

As a result of the implementation of the SAILIS system, the Commission also reviewed and re-developed the way it receives and stores land valuation information. The Commission maintains its own database and receives an annual data update, from which its valuation records are determined, based on a set of business rules for extraction and compilation of data.

During 2020-21, the Commission worked closely with the Office of Local Government (OLG) as part of its project to develop the SA Government's *Councils in Focus* Website and this work continued in 2023-24. Commission data provided to the OLG for this project underpins the information provided to the general public and Council staff and has placed a renewed focus on the quality of the Commission's data Collection.

The Commission will continue to work with the OLG and the Local Government sector to continue to maximise the quality of its data collection in coming years.

Council Visits

As part of its function, the Commission undertakes regular visits to councils to provide information and the opportunity for discussion about the grant allocation process. The

Commission greatly values these occasions because of the contribution they make to improve the efficacy of the grant process.

During 2023-24, the Commission increased its focus on the council visiting program, visiting a wide range of councils to catch up on outstanding visits from the restrictions of the COVID pandemic.

The Commission attended 21 meetings at the councils listed below in 2023-24. In addition to these meetings, the Commission's Executive Officer continued ongoing dialog with Council CEO's, Finance Managers and council staff on a regular basis to discuss methodological issues and grant allocations.

Visited in September 2023

Mount Barker District Council
District Council of Yankalilla
Kangaroo Island Council
Alexandrina Council
City of Victor Harbor

Visited in October 2023

Berri Barmera Council
District Council of Loxton Waikerie
Light Regional Council
Renmark Paringa Council
The Barossa Council

Visited in November 2023

Rural City of Murray Bridge
District Council of Karoonda East Murray
Mid Murray Council
Southern Mallee District Council

Visited in June 2024

The Flinders Ranges Council
Port Augusta City Council
Outback Communities Authority (OCA)
District Council of Mount Remarkable
District Council of Orroroo/Carrieton
District Council of Peterborough

Visited in May 2024

City of Mitcham

Submissions Made to the Grants Commission by Councils

The Commission received a number of enquiries and submissions from Councils during the year about its Methodology. Methodology issues are also raised by elected bodies and council staff when the Commission visits councils as part of its visiting program.

The Commission addressed several queries about the calculation of the General Purpose Grants and allocations made under the Special Local Roads Program during 2023-24.

Matters Referred By the Minister

Under Section 20 of the State Act, the Minister for Local Government may refer matters to the Commission for report. The Minister made no references to the Commission under this section during 2023-24.

The Year Ahead

The Commission endeavours to continually improve its methodology in developing recommendations for distribution of funds to local governing authorities and is in the process of finalising a 3 year methodology review work program.

For 2024-25, specific areas of focus for the Commission include continued work on the Commission's local road data and its GIS, the distribution methodology for the Identified Local Road Grants and the recommendations from the review on non-resident ratepayers.

The governance review of the Special Local Roads Program by the LGA and the LGTAP in recent years has seen a focus on continual improvement of the Policy Manual for the Special Local Roads Program and the Terms of Reference. The Commission will continue to work with the LGTAP and the LGA on these matters in 2024-25.

South Australia's Local Government finance statistics will also continue to be a major focus, particularly as the use of the *Councils in Focus* Website continues to develop.

The Commission will continue to work with the LGA, Office of Local Government and the SA Local Government Financial Management Group on data collection issues.

Understanding the needs and funding requirements of Aboriginal Communities is an ongoing responsibility of the Commission. The Commission will continue to monitor developments in the administration of the Aboriginal Communities in 2024-25 and respond to changes in grant funding in line with the National Principles as necessary.

The Commission expects to continue its council visiting program in 2024-25, with a view to maintaining its regional visits and increasing visits to metropolitan councils. These sessions provide a unique opportunity to discuss the grant allocation process. The Commission values the chance to brief councils on methodology details, and to hear about specific issues facing Council and their communities.

CHAPTER 4 – BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ACTIVITIES 2023-24

The Boundaries Commission commenced as of 1 January 2019. The Commission has ten Guidelines to provide information about matters to be considered by the Commission in receiving a boundary change submission and outline the processes in place for the Commission to assess a boundary change proposal and make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government. The full content of the Guidelines can be viewed at:

<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/local-government/boundaries-commission/making-boundary-change>

Guidelines

The current guidelines are set out as follows:

- Guideline 1 – General Information
- Guideline 2 – Administrative Proposals
- Guideline 3 – General Proposals – Submitting a Proposal to the Commission
- Guideline 4 – General Proposals – Investigations
- Guideline 5 – General Proposals – Appointing Investigators
- Guideline 6 – Public Initiated Submissions
- Guideline 7 – Public Initiated Submissions – Alteration or Composition or Representative Structure of a Council
- Guideline 8 – Costs
- Guideline 9 – Engagement and Consultation
- Guideline 10 – Minister Initiated Proposals

Boundary Change Proposals

The following Boundary Change Proposals (General or Administrative) have been submitted and considered by the Boundaries Commission. The details below include significant decisions of the Commission or actions by proposal initiators in relation to submissions to the Commission:

2023-24

- June 2024 - a joint proposal from the Town of Gawler and the City of Playford. The Dalkeith Road Stage 1 Potential Proposal will be considered by the Commission in 2024-25.
- February 2024 – the City of Burnside and the Adelaide Hills Council submitted a Stage 2 Administrative Boundary Change Proposal.
- January 2024 - the Commission appointed BDO Australia as the investigator for the inquiry into the Town of Gawler Boundary Change Proposal in January 2024.
- September 2023 – the Commission resolved not to inquire into the City of Marion Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal in relation to the Seacliff Development.

2022-23

- February 2023 – The Barossa Council Advised the Commission that it had resolved not to submit a Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal.
- February 2023 - Seacliff Developments Pty Ltd submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal (Publicly Initiated).
- December 2022 – the Commission finalised its Inquiry Report into the Tickera Township Proposal.
- August 2022 – the City of Port Lincoln advised the Commission that it had resolved to withdraw its Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- July 2022 – the Commission determined that an inquiry into the Campbelltown City Council General Boundary Change Proposal could proceed.

2021-22

- April 2022 - Campbelltown City Council submitted a Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal.
- March 2022 – the Commission commenced an Inquiry into the Tickera Township Boundary Change Proposal (Publicly Initiated) as an Administrative Proposal.
- September 2021 – the Commission resolved to inquire into the Town of Gawler Boundary Change General Proposal.
- September 2021 – the City of Marion submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- July 2021 – the City of Port Lincoln submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal
- July 2021 – the Commission completed its Inquiry into the Hallett Cove Joint Venture Boundary Change Proposal.

2020-21

- March 2021 – the Commission commenced an Inquiry into the Hallett Cove Joint Venture Boundary Change Proposal.
- December 2020 – the Town of Gawler submitted a Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal.
- February 2021 - Hallett Cove Joint Venture submitted a Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal.
- January 2021 – Mr Dale Morphett submitted a Stage 2 General Boundary Change Proposal (Publicly Initiated) in relation to the Tickera Township.
- July 2020 – the Commission refused to accept a Stage 2 Boundary Change General Proposal from the Light Regional Council.

2019-20

- May 2020 - Light Regional Council submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- January 2020 – the Hallett Cove Joint Venture submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal (Publicly Initiated).
- January 2020 the Commission provided advice to the 5049 Coastal Community Association regarding a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- December 2019 – the Town of Gawler submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- October 2019 – The Barossa Council submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- September 2019 Mr Dale Morphett submitted a Stage 1 Publicly Initiated Potential Proposal in relation to the Tickera Township.

2018-19

- March 2019 – the Port Augusta City Council submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal
- February 2019 - Campbelltown City Council submitted a Stage 1 Potential Proposal.
- June 2019 – the City of Burnside and the Adelaide Hills Council submitted a Stage 1 Administrative Potential Proposal.

CHAPTER 5 – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS - ALLOCATIONS

Estimated Grant Allocations for 2024-25

Local Government Authority	Population as at 30 June 2023	2024-25 Estimated General Purpose Grant (\$)	2024-25 Estimated Identified Local Road Grant (\$)	2024-25 Special Local Road Grant (\$)	2024-25 Total Estimated Grant (\$)
Adelaide	27,901	710,359	357,193		1,067,552
Adelaide Hills	41,842	1,065,297	950,400		2,015,697
Adelaide Plains	10,932	1,717,083	386,672		2,103,755
Alexandrina	30,323	1,844,007	856,645	797,834	3,498,486
Barossa	26,268	1,779,006	662,607		2,441,613
Barunga West	2,680	197,800	274,615		472,415
Berri Barmera	10,730	2,884,426	281,568		3,165,994
Burnside	47,444	1,207,924	648,439		1,856,363
Campbelltown	57,160	1,455,294	743,770		2,199,064
Ceduna	3,717	2,247,407	608,530		2,855,937
Charles Sturt	127,440	3,244,622	1,680,657		4,925,279
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	9,405	1,480,609	529,688		2,010,297
Cleve	1,757	1,302,898	542,091	800,000	2,644,989
Cooper Pedy	1,550	1,022,486	59,848		1,082,334
Coorong	5,612	2,242,735	904,735	265,000	3,412,470
Copper Coast	15,951	2,514,994	458,203		2,973,197
Elliston	1,041	922,471	564,544		1,487,015
Flinders Ranges	1,673	1,323,930	411,457		1,735,387
Franklin Harbour	1,332	1,181,675	300,858	856,000	2,338,533
Gawler	26,789	2,339,929	466,333		2,806,262
Goyder	4,132	2,524,183	840,932		3,365,115
Grant	9,044	1,733,614	466,750		2,200,364
Holdfast Bay	38,766	986,982	502,749		1,489,731
Kangaroo Island	5,125	2,275,348	553,597		2,828,945
Karoonda East Murray	1,016	1,381,193	465,988		1,847,181
Kimba	1,059	1,222,187	415,464		1,637,651
Kingston	2,393	222,306	342,842		565,148
Light	16,616	1,584,830	586,281		2,171,111
Lower Eyre Peninsula	6,154	735,726	580,532		1,316,258
Loxton Waikerie	11,897	4,370,595	999,665		5,370,260
Marion	98,493	2,507,632	1,335,121		3,842,753
Mid Murray	9,496	4,207,314	902,493	958,000	6,067,807
Mitcham	69,542	1,770,539	1,027,660	80,166	2,878,365
Mount Barker	42,297	1,172,025	913,209		2,085,234
Mount Gambier	27,846	3,775,196	536,695	67,000	4,378,891
Mount Remarkable	2,897	1,968,056	505,552		2,473,608

Local Government Authority	Population as at 30 June 2022	General Purpose Grant (\$)	Identified Local Road Grant (\$)	Special Local Road Grant (\$)	Total Estimated Grant (\$)
Murray Bridge	22,901	4,440,800	663,176	276,000	5,379,976
Naracoorte Lucindale	8,928	2,774,887	664,205	680,000	4,119,092
Northern Areas	4,667	1,723,257	551,558	500,000	2,774,815
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	39,312	1,000,884	492,362		1,493,246
Onkaparinga	180,865	6,722,896	3,277,047		9,999,943
Ororoo Carrieton	889	1,093,391	351,118		1,444,509
Peterborough	1,683	1,428,517	334,764		1,763,281
Playford	107,069	14,793,453	1,946,536		16,739,989
Port Adelaide Enfield	138,585	3,528,374	1,910,206		5,438,580
Port Augusta	14,420	3,747,068	381,789		4,128,857
Port Lincoln	15,018	2,010,123	295,320		2,305,443
Port Pirie	17,602	5,478,632	632,285		6,110,917
Prospect	23,137	589,068	280,524	418,000	1,287,592
Renmark Paringa	10,107	2,823,533	300,508		3,124,041
Robe	1,603	40,812	150,234		191,046
Roxby Downs	4,113	485,977	86,364		572,341
Salisbury	149,214	8,397,183	2,160,304		10,557,487
Southern Mallee	2,012	1,288,265	549,417		1,837,682
Streaky Bay	2,278	1,784,370	640,028		2,424,398
Tatiara	7,066	3,213,383	761,024	270,000	4,244,407
Tea Tree Gully	103,685	2,639,820	1,509,423		4,149,243
Tumby Bay	2,906	481,306	357,824		839,130
Unley	39,929	1,016,592	500,384		1,516,976
Victor Harbor	16,869	429,485	385,116	385,000	1,199,601
Wakefield	6,958	2,276,198	725,987		3,002,185
Walkerville	8,420	214,373	106,838		321,211
Wattle Range	12,257	3,199,650	737,366		3,937,016
West Torrens	64,519	1,642,654	842,295		2,484,949
Whyalla	21,902	5,728,616	500,383		6,228,999
Wudinna	1,161	1,548,736	542,908		2,091,644
Yankalilla	6,100	227,235	228,818		456,053
Yorke Peninsula	12,040	1,260,624	1,123,536	1,950,000	4,334,160
Outback Communities Authority	2,380	2,002,451	-		2,002,451
Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara	2,632	1,584,467	208,054		1,792,521
Gerard Community Council Aboriginal Corporati	263	61,838	27,718		89,556
Maralinga Tjarutja	102	125,669	74,436		200,105
Nipapanha Community Aboriginal Corporation	49	39,666	27,598		67,264
Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation	323	222,575	59,930		282,505
STATE TOTAL	1,852,284	157,189,506	47,051,766	8,303,000	212,544,272

Final Grant Allocations for 2023-24

Local Government Authority	2023-24 Actual General Purpose Grant (\$)	2023-24 Actual Identified Local Road Grant (\$)	2023-24 Special Road Grant* (\$)	2023-24 Total Actual Grant (\$)
Adelaide	654,511	332,473		986,984
Adelaide Hills	1,038,598	910,273	550,000	2,498,871
Adelaide Plains	1,560,985	363,520		1,924,505
Alexandrina	1,819,177	815,375		2,634,552
Barossa	1,546,962	631,904		2,178,866
Barunga West	197,800	263,568		461,368
Berri Barmera	2,784,617	271,216		3,055,833
Burnside	1,170,001	620,892		1,790,893
Campbelltown	1,403,566	710,473		2,114,039
Ceduna	2,167,559	582,613		2,750,172
Charles Sturt	3,129,875	1,604,904		4,734,779
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	1,346,008	508,999		1,855,007
Cleve	1,302,898	519,927		1,822,825
Cooper Pedy	1,022,486	58,061		1,080,547
Coorong	2,312,098	867,130	1,000,000	4,179,228
Copper Coast	2,286,358	436,448	391,000	3,113,806
Elliston	893,285	541,060		1,434,345
Flinders Ranges	1,360,179	394,663		1,754,842
Franklin Harbour	1,163,763	288,387	770,000	2,222,150
Gawler	2,127,208	441,770	65,000	2,633,978
Goyder	2,524,184	769,599		3,293,783
Grant	1,787,231	446,587	440,000	2,673,818
Holdfast Bay	953,726	480,540		1,434,266
Kangaroo Island	2,287,672	530,644	700,000	3,518,316
Karoonda East Murray	1,383,475	446,970		1,830,445
Kimba	1,222,187	398,305		1,620,492
Kingston	261,537	328,850	495,000	1,085,387
Light	1,219,100	559,230		1,778,330
Lower Eyre Peninsula	688,526	556,512	940,000	2,185,038
Loxton Waikerie	4,370,595	958,010	5,000	5,333,605
Marion	2,422,041	1,275,319	348,000	4,045,360
Mid Murray	4,072,607	864,767		4,937,374
Mitcham	1,714,031	983,562		2,697,593
Mount Barker	1,168,369	858,239		2,026,608
Mount Gambier	3,747,077	516,882		4,263,959
Mount Remarkable	1,905,936	485,346		2,391,282

Local Government Authority	2023-24 Actual General Purpose Grant (\$)	2023-24 Actual Identified Local Road Grant (\$)	2023-24 Special Road Grant* (\$)	2023-24 Total Actual Grant (\$)
Murray Bridge	4,262,245	632,799		4,895,044
Naracoorte Lucindale	2,860,708	637,965		3,498,673
Northern Areas	1,723,257	529,202		2,252,459
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	952,223	466,517		1,418,740
Onkaparinga	6,930,820	3,128,713	805,000	10,864,533
Orroroo Carrieton	1,111,043	336,666		1,447,709
Peterborough	1,447,261	320,869		1,768,130
Playford	13,862,651	1,819,373	930,000	16,612,024
Port Adelaide Enfield	3,403,958	1,819,337	275,000	5,498,295
Port Augusta	3,406,426	368,716	612,000	4,387,142
Port Lincoln	1,827,385	282,275		2,109,660
Port Pirie	5,018,300	609,478		5,627,778
Prospect	569,840	268,366		838,206
Renmark Paringa	2,804,134	288,470		3,092,604
Robe	39,666	143,859		183,525
Roxby Downs	420,901	16,767		437,668
Salisbury	8,358,625	2,071,965		10,430,590
Southern Mallee	1,311,559	526,843		1,838,402
Streaky Bay	1,784,370	612,169		2,396,539
Tatiara	3,245,841	729,368	363,000	4,338,209
Tea Tree Gully	2,572,588	1,450,006		4,022,594
Tumby Bay	486,168	343,017		829,185
Unley	979,386	477,597		1,456,983
Victor Harbor	418,967	368,841		787,808
Wakefield	2,235,918	697,083		2,933,001
Walkerville	204,948	101,530		306,478
Wattle Range	3,298,608	706,885		4,005,493
West Torrens	1,581,275	803,748		2,385,023
Whyalla	5,254,023	476,263	180,000	5,910,286
Wudinna	1,522,154	520,539		2,042,693
Yankalilla	239,195	218,523		457,718
Yorke Peninsula	1,146,020	1,076,719		2,222,739
Outback Communities Authority	1,938,958	-		1,938,958
Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara	1,534,227	198,329		1,732,556
Gerard Community Council Aboriginal Corporation	59,877	26,423		86,300
Maralinga Tjarutja	121,685	70,957		192,642
Nipapanha Community Aboriginal Corporation	38,409	26,308		64,717
Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation	215,518	57,129		272,647
STATE TOTAL	152,205,365	44,852,632	8,869,000	205,926,997

* Funding of \$983,000 for 2022-23 Special Local Roads Program was returned to the Commission and re-allocated in 2023-24.

Section C: Reporting of Public Complaints as Requested by the Ombudsman

In 2023-24, the Grants Commission was not required to report any public complaints requested by the Ombudsman.

APPENDIX I - Road Lengths by Council by Surface Type as at 30 June 2023

(Road length data includes laneways)

Council name	Sealed	Formed	Unformed	TOTAL
Adelaide	124	0	0	124
Adelaide Hills	619	395	7	1,022
Adelaide Plains	193	658	129	980
Alexandrina	572	785	39	1,397
Barossa	375	541	71	987
Barunga West	75	755	98	927
Berri Barmera	303	102	75	481
Burnside	242	3	0	245
Campbelltown	255	0	0	255
Ceduna	81	1378	257	1,715
Charles Sturt	593	0	0	593
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	251	1396	188	1,835
Cleve	118	1315	115	1,549
Coober Pedy	34	146	259	440
Coorong	376	1514	1	1,891
Copper Coast	300	526	84	910
Elliston	67	951	136	1,155
Flinders Ranges	50	877	336	1,262
Franklin Harbour	100	650	37	788
Gawler	197	19	2	218
Goyder	167	2300	543	3,010
Grant	539	733	297	1,569
Holdfast Bay	179	0	0	179
Kangaroo Island	268	1072	62	1,402
Karoonda East Murray	130	1121	48	1,299
Kimba	100	979	636	1,716
Kingston	128	563	20	712
Light	284	1123	55	1,461
Lower Eyre Peninsula	149	1113	83	1,345
Loxton Waikerie	433	1675	198	2,306
Marion	483	0	0	483
Mid Murray	376	2035	976	3,388
Mitcham	409	5	1	415
Mount Barker	419	370	30	819
Mount Gambier	232	1	0	233
Mount Remarkable	114	1522	433	2,069

Council name	Sealed	Formed	Unformed	TOTAL
Murray Bridge	491	469	22	982
Naracoorte Lucindale	475	1107	36	1,618
Northern Areas	144	1785	274	2,204
Norwood, Payneham & St. Peter:	173	0	0	173
Onkaparinga	1333	209	3	1,544
Orroroo Carrieton	60	871	697	1,627
Peterborough	40	805	386	1,231
Playford	834	83	6	923
Port Adelaide Enfield	702	4	0	706
Port Augusta	197	123	92	412
Port Lincoln	153	6	2	161
Port Pirie	334	995	39	1,368
Prospect	91	0	0	91
Renmark Paringa	308	131	40	480
Robe	42	337	56	436
Roxby Downs	36	4	0	41
Salisbury	835	5	0	840
Southern Mallee	132	1057	144	1,332
Streaky Bay	110	1408	219	1,737
Tatiara	536	1136	245	1,916
Tea Tree Gully	581	10	6	597
Tumby Bay	61	922	98	1,081
Unley	171	0	0	171
Victor Harbor	262	134	3	399
Wakefield	212	2388	86	2,687
Walkerville	36	0	0	36
Wattle Range	540	1359	546	2,445
West Torrens	293	0	0	293
Whyalla	229	122	3	353
Wudinna	118	1248	321	1,686
Yankalilla	133	363	48	544
Yorke Peninsula	524	3137	239	3,900
TOTAL	19,520	46,846	8,828	75,194

APPENDIX II – Cost Relativity Indices - 2024-25 FA Grants

	Sealed Built-up Roads	Sealed Non-Built- up Roads	Unsealed Built-up Roads	Unsealed Non-Built- up Roads	Unformed Roads	Waste Management	Stormwater Maintenance
Adelaide	1.02	0.96	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.99
Adelaide Hills	1.04	1.08	1.17	1.08	1.14	1.00	0.92
Adelaide Plains	0.85	0.91	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.07	0.94
Alexandrina	0.91	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.04	1.01	0.91
Barossa	1.00	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.05	1.07	0.92
Barunga West	0.87	0.93	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.02	0.90
Berri Barmera	1.05	0.99	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.03	0.92
Burnside	1.14	0.96	0.99	0.93	0.90	0.98	0.95
Campbelltown	1.25	0.96	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.94
Ceduna	0.89	0.95	1.01	1.01	1.00	1.02	0.90
Charles Sturt	0.93	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.08
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	1.02	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.04	1.04	0.92
Cleve	0.87	0.93	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.03	0.94
Coober Pedy	0.90	0.95	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.12	0.84
Coorong	0.90	0.95	1.00	1.00	1.02	1.05	0.94
Copper Coast	0.87	0.93	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.04	0.92
Elliston	0.84	0.84	0.96	0.95	0.92	1.15	0.94
Flinders Ranges	0.87	1.05	0.97	0.94	0.92	1.02	0.87
Franklin Harbour	0.87	0.93	0.99	0.98	1.00	1.02	0.93
Gawler	0.90	1.00	1.01	1.04	1.11	0.99	0.97
Goyder	0.89	0.91	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.06	0.89
Grant	0.88	0.87	0.98	0.94	0.93	1.04	0.95
Holdfast Bay	1.09	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.07
Kangaroo Island	0.94	0.99	1.00	1.03	0.99	1.07	0.91
Karoonda East Murray	0.88	0.91	0.98	0.98	0.99	1.07	0.87
Kimba	0.88	0.93	0.98	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.92
Kingston	1.03	1.03	1.00	0.96	1.06	1.00	0.94
Light	0.85	0.95	0.98	0.99	1.02	1.07	0.97
Lower Eyre Peninsula	0.91	0.95	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.07	0.94
Loxton Waikerie	0.88	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	1.08	0.90
Marion	1.09	0.96	0.98	0.98	1.00	0.98	0.97
Mid Murray	1.05	1.09	1.09	1.03	1.02	1.10	0.88
Mitcham	1.12	0.99	0.94	0.98	1.01	0.99	0.95
Mount Barker	0.97	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.03	1.01	0.99
Mount Gambier	0.81	0.80	0.99	0.89	0.90	0.99	1.00
Mount Remarkable	0.89	0.94	0.99	0.99	0.99	1.04	0.87
Murray Bridge	0.86	1.01	1.00	1.01	1.03	1.01	0.97
Naracoorte Lucindale	0.97	1.12	1.03	1.07	1.18	1.02	0.94
Northern Areas	0.89	0.92	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.04	0.91
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	1.19	0.96	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.94
Onkaparinga	1.00	1.05	0.98	1.02	1.06	0.99	0.98
Orroroo Carrieton	0.87	0.91	0.98	0.97	0.96	1.05	0.85
Peterborough	0.88	0.92	1.00	1.00	0.96	1.00	0.89
Playford	1.10	1.03	1.06	1.01	1.05	0.99	1.08
Port Adelaide Enfield	1.06	0.98	1.18	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.15
Port Augusta	0.87	0.91	0.98	0.98	1.00	1.01	0.92
Port Lincoln	0.78	0.90	0.95	0.99	0.96	1.00	0.97
Port Pirie	0.88	0.92	1.00	1.01	1.00	0.99	1.07
Prospect	0.97	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.98
Renmark Paringa	1.22	1.21	1.20	1.08	1.09	1.06	0.98
Robe	0.98	0.95	0.98	1.04	1.08	0.98	0.94
Roxby Downs	0.89	0.90	0.99	0.98	1.00	0.99	0.91
Salisbury	1.05	0.96	1.12	1.05	1.00	1.00	1.01
Southern Mallee	0.89	0.95	1.01	1.00	0.97	1.03	0.90
Streaky Bay	0.77	0.82	0.95	0.95	0.97	1.10	0.90
Tatiara	1.06	1.08	1.15	1.04	1.06	1.02	0.92
Tea Tree Gully	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.01	1.08	0.99	0.95
Tumby Bay	0.89	0.93	1.01	1.01	1.00	1.00	0.94
Unley	1.27	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.97
Victor Harbor	0.88	0.95	0.94	0.98	0.92	1.00	0.99
Wakefield	0.88	0.91	1.00	1.01	1.00	1.02	0.92
Walkerville	1.06	0.96	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.96
Wattle Range	0.98	1.16	1.00	1.04	1.11	1.00	0.98
West Torrens	0.94	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.07
Whyalla	0.85	0.89	1.00	1.01	1.00	1.00	0.98
Wudinna	0.88	0.93	1.00	0.98	0.99	1.00	0.88
Yankalilla	1.00	1.09	0.99	1.02	1.05	1.02	0.98
Yorke Peninsula	0.87	0.89	0.99	0.99	0.97	1.06	0.94

APPENDIX III – Revenue relativity index – 2024-25 FA Grants

	SEIFA Index of Economic- Resources	SEIFA Index Score Centred Around 1
Adelaide	856	0.8786346
Adelaide Hills	1083	1.1119897
Adelaide Plains	1040	1.0682075
Alexandrina	1007	1.0335931
Barossa	1025	1.0523893
Barunga West	966	0.9917291
Berri Barmera	929	0.9533822
Burnside	1050	1.0779431
Campbelltown	990	1.0160136
Ceduna	928	0.9527880
Charles Sturt	969	0.9947321
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	994	1.0208470
Cleve	988	1.0147155
Cooper Pedy	832	0.8542614
Coorong	956	0.9813291
Copper Coast	950	0.9757032
Elliston	962	0.9876693
Flinders Ranges	944	0.9697293
Franklin Harbour	970	0.9958838
Gawler	968	0.9939063
Goyder	957	0.9830184
Grant	1055	1.0833730
Holdfast Bay	999	1.0260622
Kangaroo Island	982	1.0083098
Karoonda East Murray	975	1.0010085
Kimba	1007	1.0338627
Kingston	987	1.0131158
Light	1055	1.0835148
Lower Eyre Peninsula	1037	1.0651884
Loxton Waikerie	967	0.9929930
Marion	974	0.9995656
Mid Murray	952	0.9775354
Mitcham	1050	1.0777149
Mount Barker	1038	1.0656298
Mount Gambier	928	0.9533145
Mount Remarkable	990	1.0165944
Murray Bridge	923	0.9480429
Naracoorte Lucindale	986	1.0128320
Northern Areas	975	1.0015441
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	974	0.9999263
Onkaparinga	991	1.0171129
Orroroo Carrieton	1000	1.0266824
Peterborough	853	0.8760266
Playford	911	0.9356456
Port Adelaide Enfield	937	0.9616761
Port Augusta	892	0.9155728
Port Lincoln	936	0.9607382
Port Pirie	902	0.9257621
Prospect	1000	1.0270284
Renmark Paringa	949	0.9744016
Robe	1006	1.0328889
Roxby Downs	1010	1.0368989
Salisbury	945	0.9701269
Southern Mallee	985	1.0115432
Streaky Bay	977	1.0029216
Tatiara	1004	1.0309357
Tea Tree Gully	1016	1.0434541
Tumby Bay	979	1.0048575
Unley	1014	1.0406057
Victor Harbor	970	0.9961773
Wakefield	957	0.9827611
Walkerville	1035	1.0627310
Wattle Range	963	0.9888023
West Torrens	960	0.9853690
Whyalla	879	0.9028891
Wudinna	987	1.0133166
Yankalilla	991	1.0178030
Yorke Peninsula	961	0.9866777
State Average	973.96	

APPENDIX IV –Units of Measure by function – Revenue – 2024-25

Unit of Measure:	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Rural	Other
Adelaide	312,606	468,963	3,111	0	27,030
Adelaide Hills	284,805	9,900	1,472	70,443	10,344
Adelaide Plains	163,416	3,771	1,742	109,709	15,866
Alexandrina	266,709	8,909	2,133	79,717	14,581
Barossa	167,583	16,099	10,935	66,162	6,968
Barunga West	152,443	5,442	2,040	572,079	8,007
Berri Barmera	103,682	14,987	5,299	23,747	5,188
Burnside	515,475	26,181	281	507	11,543
Campbelltown	287,837	10,949	1,236	94	8,960
Ceduna	96,148	21,061	1,430	57,540	8,233
Charles Sturt	293,092	28,056	5,104	12	7,138
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	129,643	14,679	3,608	274,853	8,374
Cleve	76,709	15,652	1,281	500,117	4,456
Coober Pedy	55,264	18,098	1,348	0	3,875
Coorong	106,677	17,151	1,041	439,224	12,911
Copper Coast	203,607	15,482	1,794	50,117	13,659
Elliston	127,800	15,035	1,264	497,488	19,557
Flinders Ranges	76,685	9,454	655	98,584	7,050
Franklin Harbour	122,880	13,840	14,524	89,576	12,027
Gawler	164,237	15,675	917	5,800	8,131
Goyder	74,536	5,480	1,007	417,177	7,137
Grant	130,195	3,894	4,631	358,357	8,909
Holdfast Bay	433,541	34,940	1,904	0	9,096
Kangaroo Island	202,117	17,165	2,267	249,291	32,977
Karoonda East Murray	49,789	10,152	2,561	370,466	9,662
Kimba	43,928	17,288	1,582	402,050	3,221
Kingston	212,281	14,556	1,741	732,540	30,038
Light	141,349	8,989	8,179	126,670	7,062
Lower Eyre Peninsula	165,725	8,361	2,078	333,272	19,700
Loxton Waikerie	113,059	8,133	3,272	105,528	5,295
Marion	254,944	23,654	2,121	90	6,359
Mid Murray	196,481	8,178	2,506	109,426	25,186
Mitcham	356,209	16,063	2,486	893	10,493
Mount Barker	215,884	18,383	2,778	41,611	12,710
Mount Gambier	134,254	24,183	6,530	829	5,716
Mount Remarkable	86,715	7,666	660	306,287	10,750
Murray Bridge	112,475	17,998	8,211	37,330	8,896
Naracoorte Lucindale	98,550	14,065	3,987	424,561	5,921
Northern Areas	73,415	9,215	1,303	474,790	9,946
Norwood, Payneham & St Peter	400,813	72,548	4,061	22	15,564
Onkaparinga	216,435	12,387	3,140	10,467	5,597
Orroroo Carrieton	63,289	6,105	755	341,379	3,045
Peterborough	53,647	6,795	887	79,318	3,837
Playford	122,359	14,227	1,482	12,123	6,425
Port Adelaide Enfield	213,341	35,460	20,035	10	8,367
Port Augusta	84,496	14,215	2,412	3,940	5,703
Port Lincoln	150,255	27,446	5,948	1,144	8,666
Port Pirie	79,587	12,395	2,979	46,650	4,375
Prospect	350,009	25,895	1,395	0	7,261
Renmark Paringa	121,473	11,922	5,246	57,054	5,542
Robe	661,005	47,619	15,687	596,656	67,461
Roxby Downs	103,599	11,064	2,398	0	3,534
Salisbury	165,353	22,142	6,898	1,099	5,112
Southern Mallee	55,619	12,150	1,689	479,403	3,956
Streaky Bay	149,178	16,456	2,748	197,922	26,122
Tatiara	75,207	12,094	5,107	471,779	4,259
Tea Tree Gully	231,872	14,515	1,642	1,168	4,490
Tumby Bay	141,837	15,297	2,135	512,682	13,111
Unley	474,672	42,961	1,140	0	12,158
Victor Harbor	292,892	20,910	1,509	30,152	14,841
Wakefield	78,413	10,709	1,881	357,681	6,361
Walkerville	569,355	23,925	65	0	15,567
Wattle Range	108,801	8,344	7,269	389,119	8,198
West Torrens	274,211	44,410	8,200	9	8,249
Whyalla	84,706	10,910	1,770	642	2,660
Wudinna	50,783	17,421	853	387,517	2,178
Yankalilla	352,104	12,584	1,255	131,924	30,257
Yorke Peninsula	231,396	10,634	1,435	528,098	20,074
State	236,570	28,149	4,697	38,614	8,577

Valuation per capita (incorporating the SEIFA index of Economic Resources) - Data sourced from Valuer General as at January each year (data from 2022, 2023 and 2024 averaged).

APPENDIX V – Units of Measure by function – Expenditure - 2024-25

Data sourced from Councils and the Australian Bureau of Statistics each year (data from 2022, 2023 and 2024 averaged).

Unit of Measure:	Number of Residential, Rural and Commercial (shop) Properties (3 Yr Average)	Population Aged > 65 years	Population Aged 0-14 years	Establishments to Inspect (3 Yr Average)	Estimated Resident Population	Population Aged 5-64 years
Adelaide	16,657	4,028	1,481	1,594	27,901	22,062
Adelaide Hills	17,015	8,310	7,449	963	41,842	30,814
Adelaide Plains	4,913	1,428	1,982	64	10,932	8,303
Alexandrina	17,913	9,700	4,179	415	30,323	18,692
Barossa	12,083	5,880	4,571	516	26,268	18,742
Barunga West	2,524	878	405	53	2,680	1,641
Berri Barmera	5,673	2,600	1,669	215	10,730	7,680
Burnside	20,367	10,894	7,852	368	47,444	33,945
Campbelltown	24,306	11,063	9,053	396	57,160	41,568
Ceduna	1,971	665	742	35	3,717	2,673
Charles Sturt	58,083	24,245	18,916	1,334	127,440	93,714
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	6,201	2,383	1,568	257	9,405	6,565
Cleve	1,342	425	353	30	1,757	1,230
Coober Pedy	1,296	486	175	63	1,550	1,081
Coorong	3,784	1,442	920	103	5,612	3,820
Copper Coast	10,554	5,145	2,239	210	15,951	9,823
Elliston	997	210	209	20	1,041	756
Flinders Ranges	1,479	538	228	51	1,673	1,066
Franklin Harbour	1,005	401	209	16	1,332	869
Gawler	11,507	5,499	4,709	349	26,789	19,072
Goyder	4,094	1,151	657	99	4,132	2,804
Grant	5,106	1,733	1,461	81	9,044	6,734
Holdfast Bay	19,826	10,303	5,087	618	38,766	26,462
Kangaroo Island	4,091	1,412	833	138	5,125	3,417
Karoonda East Murray	933	295	165	42	1,016	698
Kimba	801	235	220	28	1,059	772
Kingston	2,121	779	318	36	2,393	1,522
Light	7,407	2,564	3,209	317	16,616	12,755
Lower Eyre Peninsula	3,244	1,202	1,205	48	6,154	4,479
Loxton Waikerie	7,141	3,120	2,069	289	11,897	8,103
Marion	43,432	18,092	15,805	662	98,493	73,206
Mid Murray	8,506	2,854	1,238	174	9,496	6,151
Mitcham	27,966	14,319	11,813	610	69,542	50,884
Mount Barker	17,519	7,116	8,069	793	42,297	31,023
Mount Gambier	13,417	5,813	5,065	587	27,846	20,268
Mount Remarkable	2,644	900	415	51	2,897	1,878
Murray Bridge	11,046	5,037	3,879	217	22,901	16,502
Naracoorte Lucindale	5,631	1,776	1,662	98	8,928	6,480
Northern Areas	3,784	1,235	877	50	4,667	3,152
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	19,394	7,966	5,340	620	39,312	28,457
Onkaparinga	77,791	35,424	31,946	1,647	180,865	133,038
Ororoo Carrieton	1,181	258	146	37	889	572
Peterborough	1,531	522	221	23	1,683	1,088
Playford	42,773	12,792	23,641	607	107,069	82,274
Port Adelaide Enfield	60,311	20,963	22,594	1,304	138,585	105,602
Port Augusta	6,830	2,444	2,640	105	14,420	10,895
Port Lincoln	7,169	3,098	2,709	207	15,018	10,983
Port Pirie	9,400	4,027	3,087	232	17,602	12,591
Prospect	9,983	3,323	3,936	222	23,137	18,077
Renmark Paringa	5,125	2,267	1,666	204	10,107	7,193
Robe	2,046	456	197	41	1,603	1,040
Roxby Downs	1,885	59	1,048	26	4,113	3,600
Salisbury	58,303	22,715	28,526	1,015	149,214	115,223
Southern Mallee	1,512	486	327	29	2,012	1,443
Streaky Bay	1,766	564	447	25	2,278	1,552
Tatiara	4,054	1,341	1,245	81	7,066	5,253
Tea Tree Gully	42,484	20,793	17,884	779	103,685	76,129
Tumby Bay	2,052	869	501	36	2,906	1,823
Unley	18,287	8,686	6,065	613	39,929	28,958
Victor Harbor	10,403	6,923	2,083	195	16,869	9,066
Wakefield	4,907	1,547	1,345	87	6,958	4,989
Walkerville	3,869	1,933	1,271	65	8,420	5,922
Wattle Range	8,284	3,004	1,988	77	12,257	8,610
West Torrens	29,533	11,102	9,210	723	64,519	48,637
Whyalla	11,374	4,032	3,916	210	21,902	16,469
Wudinna	944	270	226	16	1,161	894
Yankalilla	4,817	2,050	825	114	6,100	3,696
Yorke Peninsula	12,242	4,204	1,640	180	12,040	7,063
Total	868,627	360,274	309,626	21,514	1,846,535	1,352,541

Unit of Measure:	Sealed Built Up Kms	Sealed Non Built Up Kms	Sealed Built Up Kms	Unsealed Built Up Kms	Unsealed Non Built Up Kms	Unformed Kms
Adelaide	120	0	120	0	0	0
Adelaide Hills	219	397	219	3	391	7
Adelaide Plains	108	85	108	32	626	129
Alexandrina	266	304	266	19	766	39
Barossa	164	210	164	8	534	71
Barunga West	33	41	33	6	748	98
Berri Barmera	71	230	71	1	89	75
Burnside	233	0	233	0	3	0
Campbelltown	255	0	255	0	0	0
Ceduna	46	35	46	4	1,374	257
Charles Sturt	586	0	586	0	0	0
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	78	173	78	12	1,384	188
Cleve	24	94	24	7	1,309	115
Cooper Pedy	31	3	31	48	99	259
Coorong	56	320	56	14	1,500	1
Copper Coast	202	98	202	44	483	84
Elliston	22	45	22	8	943	136
Flinders Ranges	28	22	28	6	871	336
Franklin Harbour	20	80	20	0	650	37
Gawler	160	35	160	2	15	2
Goyder	60	108	60	23	2,277	543
Grant	32	507	32	2	731	297
Holdfast Bay	172	0	172	0	0	0
Kangaroo Island	47	221	47	44	1,028	62
Karoonda East Murray	10	120	10	5	1,116	48
Kimba	12	88	12	10	970	636
Kingston	39	89	39	4	559	20
Light	102	182	102	6	1,115	55
Lower Eyre Peninsula	49	100	49	13	1,100	83
Loxton Waikerie	86	347	86	16	1,659	198
Marion	482	0	482	0	0	0
Mid Murray	80	295	80	27	2,008	976
Mitcham	389	17	389	0	0	1
Mount Barker	243	176	243	5	365	30
Mount Gambier	217	14	217	0	1	0
Mount Remarkable	29	85	29	13	1,509	433
Murray Bridge	152	338	152	5	464	22
Naracoorte Lucindale	76	398	76	5	1,102	36
Northern Areas	68	76	68	25	1,760	274
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	160	0	160	0	0	0
Onkaparinga	1,076	249	1,076	7	201	3
Orroroo Carrieton	19	41	19	7	864	697
Peterborough	31	8	31	7	799	386
Playford	572	258	572	0	83	6
Port Adelaide Enfield	698	0	698	4	0	0
Port Augusta	143	54	143	25	98	92
Port Lincoln	146	7	146	3	3	2
Port Pirie	192	142	192	16	978	39
Prospect	87	0	87	0	0	0
Renmark Paringa	49	257	49	8	123	40
Robe	30	13	30	2	336	56
Roxby Downs	31	6	31	0	4	0
Salisbury	810	23	810	2	3	0
Southern Mallee	25	107	25	7	1,049	144
Streaky Bay	52	58	52	10	1,398	219
Tatiara	87	448	87	7	1,129	245
Tea Tree Gully	562	17	562	2	8	6
Tumby Bay	33	28	33	7	915	98
Unley	163	0	163	0	0	0
Victor Harbor	159	103	159	6	128	3
Wakefield	73	139	73	9	2,379	86
Walkerville	35	0	35	0	0	0
Wattle Range	149	391	149	25	1,331	546
West Torrens	290	0	290	0	0	0
Whyalla	202	24	202	5	49	3
Wudinna	18	100	18	15	1,233	321
Yankalilla	56	77	56	2	360	48
Yorke Peninsula	196	329	196	41	3,095	239
Total	11,208	8,213	11,208	635	46,116	8,828

Function:	Stormwater Drainage - Maintenance	Community Support	Jetties, Wharves, Marinas & Boat Ramps	Public Order and Safety	Planning & Building Control	Bridges
Unit of Measure:	No. of Urban, Industrial & Commercial Properties (excluding exempt)	Population x CRI (SEIFA Index of Advantage/ Disadvantage) (3 Yr Average)	Number of Jetties, Wharves, Marinas & Boat Ramps	Total Number of Properties (3 Yr Average)	Number of New Developments & Additions (3 Yr Average)	Number of Bridges
Adelaide	23,962	24,132	0	24,881	864	16
Adelaide Hills	14,465	37,029	0	19,123	1,279	32
Adelaide Plains	3,601	10,622	3	5,947	542	4
Alexandrina	15,405	30,132	22	20,976	1,363	41
Barossa	10,448	25,665	0	13,816	808	52
Barunga West	1,671	2,742	3	3,065	121	0
Berri Barmera	5,040	11,633	7	6,787	206	0
Burnside	21,016	40,235	0	21,700	911	1
Campbelltown	24,718	52,930	0	25,850	1,098	35
Ceduna	1,667	3,743	6	2,731	70	0
Charles Sturt	60,579	121,321	0	62,861	2,904	6
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	4,123	9,474	0	7,628	279	29
Cleve	818	1,799	3	1,833	41	2
Cooper Pedy	1,386	1,803	0	1,990	10	0
Coorong	2,448	5,855	7	5,253	203	0
Copper Coast	10,230	16,888	3	13,122	712	0
Elliston	625	1,045	3	1,617	45	0
Flinders Ranges	875	1,792	0	2,191	54	0
Franklin Harbour	788	1,383	5	1,368	34	1
Gawler	11,545	27,032	0	12,790	886	11
Goyder	1,763	4,380	0	5,141	78	6
Grant	2,771	8,821	4	6,119	323	1
Holdfast Bay	20,627	35,232	19	21,314	875	4
Kangaroo Island	2,975	5,193	7	6,167	322	23
Karoonda East Murray	345	1,088	0	1,504	24	0
Kimba	436	1,034	0	1,096	20	0
Kingston	1,539	2,458	3	2,959	98	0
Light	5,533	15,982	0	8,698	591	19
Lower Eyre Peninsula	2,443	5,951	7	4,578	214	2
Loxton Waikerie	5,346	12,401	13	9,198	262	0
Marion	44,530	94,146	0	46,230	1,979	3
Mid Murray	6,105	10,193	36	11,697	462	18
Mitcham	28,751	61,150	0	29,984	1,524	21
Mount Barker	16,171	39,282	0	20,322	1,653	52
Mount Gambier	14,267	29,837	1	15,301	217	0
Mount Remarkable	1,367	2,962	2	3,733	311	4
Murray Bridge	9,765	25,198	19	12,890	507	7
Naracoorte Lucindale	3,386	8,963	1	6,806	184	40
Northern Areas	2,019	4,761	0	4,812	114	19
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	21,003	34,798	0	21,613	928	3
Onkaparinga	78,351	181,596	2	84,842	3,405	57
Orroroo Carrieton	407	862	0	1,683	16	0
Peterborough	1,060	1,987	0	1,943	25	9
Playford	41,674	115,456	0	47,612	2,863	28
Port Adelaide Enfield	64,176	136,810	0	67,838	2,848	0
Port Augusta	7,135	15,473	2	8,321	183	7
Port Lincoln	7,872	15,755	5	8,815	206	1
Port Pirie	8,793	19,398	9	11,348	299	6
Prospect	10,319	20,512	0	10,552	484	0
Renmark Paringa	4,300	10,739	14	6,207	230	3
Robe	1,693	1,536	4	2,873	150	2
Roxby Downs	2,001	3,876	0	2,147	29	0
Salisbury	60,503	157,835	5	63,524	2,136	23
Southern Mallee	809	2,043	0	2,015	67	0
Streaky Bay	1,199	2,272	5	2,772	78	0
Tatiara	2,546	7,103	1	5,107	148	14
Tea Tree Gully	43,194	99,502	0	45,339	1,862	7
Tumby Bay	1,368	2,893	5	2,651	99	5
Unley	19,288	34,621	0	19,658	680	3
Victor Harbor	10,145	17,236	2	11,948	587	32
Wakefield	2,771	7,418	1	6,068	145	10
Walkerville	4,057	7,109	0	4,208	212	0
Wattle Range	5,290	12,961	2	10,074	329	0
West Torrens	31,374	60,205	0	32,272	1,109	17
Whyalla	11,766	23,935	4	12,538	300	0
Wudinna	513	1,204	0	1,364	20	0
Yankalilla	4,025	6,143	3	6,038	340	35
Yorke Peninsula	9,632	12,393	34	15,519	578	0
Total	842,813	1,809,958	272	990,966	42,541	711

Function:	Environment and Coastal Protection	Airports & Authorised Landing Areas	Other Needs Assessment (Function 50)
Unit of Measure:	Estimated Resident Population	Number of Airports & Authorised Landing Areas	Total Derived Expenditure
Adelaide	27,901	0	27,400
Adelaide Hills	41,842	0	11,600
Adelaide Plains	10,932	0	171,000
Alexandrina	30,323	0	506,800
Barossa	26,268	0	437,100
Barunga West	2,680	0	94,400
Berri Barmera	10,730	0	589,400
Burnside	47,444	0	8,000
Campbelltown	57,160	0	18,200
Ceduna	3,717	1	747,000
Charles Sturt	127,440	0	84,800
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	9,405	0	275,700
Cleve	1,757	1	189,700
Coober Pedy	1,550	1	450,700
Coorong	5,612	2	155,600
Copper Coast	15,951	1	545,000
Elliston	1,041	2	168,800
Flinders Ranges	1,673	2	192,500
Franklin Harbour	1,332	1	165,400
Gawler	26,789	0	351,200
Goyder	4,132	0	174,600
Grant	9,044	1	820,700
Holdfast Bay	38,766	0	13,500
Kangaroo Island	5,125	1	869,500
Karoonda East Murray	1,016	0	31,900
Kimba	1,059	1	98,500
Kingston	2,393	3	178,500
Light	16,616	0	254,600
Lower Eyre Peninsula	6,154	3	816,800
Loxton Waikerie	11,897	2	656,500
Marion	98,493	0	53,100
Mid Murray	9,496	0	229,900
Mitcham	69,542	0	17,500
Mount Barker	42,297	0	21,100
Mount Gambier	27,846	0	2,476,400
Mount Remarkable	2,897	1	192,400
Murray Bridge	22,901	0	436,600
Naracoorte Lucindale	8,928	3	608,900
Northern Areas	4,667	1	243,500
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	39,312	0	9,200
Onkaparinga	180,865	0	145,300
Orroroo Carrieton	889	1	48,400
Peterborough	1,683	1	123,300
Playford	107,069	0	282,000
Port Adelaide Enfield	138,585	0	177,200
Port Augusta	14,420	1	1,150,500
Port Lincoln	15,018	0	2,020,400
Port Pirie	17,602	1	879,800
Prospect	23,137	0	8,900
Renmark Paringa	10,107	1	567,400
Robe	1,603	2	105,600
Roxby Downs	4,113	0	499,300
Salisbury	149,214	0	194,900
Southern Mallee	2,012	2	98,600
Streaky Bay	2,278	1	363,500
Tatiara	7,066	4	382,800
Tea Tree Gully	103,685	0	52,200
Tumby Bay	2,906	2	346,500
Unley	39,929	0	7,900
Victor Harbor	16,869	0	294,400
Wakefield	6,958	0	174,400
Walkerville	8,420	0	1,400
Wattle Range	12,257	2	983,400
West Torrens	64,519	0	31,900
Whyalla	21,902	1	1,773,600
Wudinna	1,161	2	173,200
Yankalilla	6,100	0	91,100
Yorke Peninsula	12,040	3	438,600
Total	1,846,535	51	24,810,500

APPENDIX VI - Background of Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government

- i) Annual reports of the interim State Grants Commission and the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission presented since 1976 have contained detailed information on the history of the provision of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government in Australia.
- ii) Further information particularly with regard to the general methodology is also available in the 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977 reports of the Commonwealth Grants Commission dealing with financial assistance for Local Government, the Report of the National Inquiry into Local Government Finance (Self Report) published in 1985¹ and the 1991 report of the Commonwealth Grants Commission on the Distribution of General Purpose Grants for Local Government.²
- iii) The following is a summary of important events since the commencement of the Commonwealth's involvement in the provision of financial assistance to Local Government:
 - *Commonwealth Grants Commission Act, 1973* – the Commonwealth Grants Commission was given the power to assess Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government with a view to promoting fiscal equalisation between regions. Applications for assistance under Section 96 of the Constitution could be made by 'approved regional organisations' of Local Government.
 - *1974-75* - first Commonwealth general-purpose grant of \$56.345 million distributed to local government authorities on the basis of recommendations by the Commonwealth Grants Commission. South Australia received \$4.774 million or 8.4728 per cent of the total allocation.
 - *1975-76* - \$79.908 million distributed by the Commonwealth Grants Commission. South Australia received \$6.785 million or 8.4910 per cent of the total allocation.
 - *May 1976* - special report of the Commonwealth Grants Commission included recommendations on tax-sharing grants to Local Government.
 - *Commonwealth Grants Commission Act, 1976* - Replaced the 1973 Act. Deleted reference to 'approved regional organisations'. Introduced new definition of a grant of assistance to a State or Local Government purposes.
 - *Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act, 1976* - Provided for continuation of general-purpose grants to Local Government with the level of funding being linked to Commonwealth personal income tax collections. Relevant percentages were:

1976 to 1978-79	1.52%
1979-80	1.75%
1980-81 to 1984-85	2.00%

South Australia's share of funds set at 8.5178 per cent from 1 July 1976.

Each State was required to establish a Local Government Grants Commission to make recommendations on the distribution of funds. Allowed for a per capita minimum grant to councils based on at least 30 per cent of funds, with the remaining funds to be allocated on a fiscal equalisation basis.

- *July 1976* - interim SA Grants Commission established to recommend allocation of \$11.925 million in South Australia for 1976-77.
- *October 1976* - *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act, 1976* - Enacted 21 October 1976 and proclaimed 19 May 1977. The Commission's main function was to recommend on the distribution of grants.

¹ National Inquiry into Local Government Finance Report, AGPS, Canberra, 1985; Peter Self, Chairman

² Report on the Interstate Distribution of General Purpose Grants for Local Government, Commonwealth Grants Commission, AGPS, Canberra 1991

- *May 1977* - special report by Commonwealth Grants Commission concerned with the interstate distribution of funds, which established an apportionment of funds between the States and increased the share of funds to South Australia to 8.6010 per cent from 1 July 1977.
- *May 1984* – the Federal Government set up National Inquiry into Local Government Finance, chaired by Professor Peter Self.
- *May 1985* - Commonwealth Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act amended to provide for an increase in funding for 1985-86 based on the 1984-85 allocation adjusted for any changes in the Consumer Price Index in the year ended March 1986, plus a 2 per cent real increase.
- *October 1985* - Self Inquiry report presented to the Federal Government.
- *July 1986* - *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act, 1986* came into operation on 1 July 1986 and replaced the Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act, 1976.

It embodied a number of the recommendations of the Self Inquiry and changed the basis of funding by the Commonwealth and included a requirement that each State develop and submit to the Federal Government by 1 July 1987 principles for the distribution of funds amongst local governing authorities.

South Australia's share of funds set at 8.5212 per cent for 1986-87 rising to 8.7890 per cent in 1988-89. Thereafter funds to be distributed between the States on an equal per capita basis using estimated resident populations at 31 December in the previous year.

Amended in June 1988 and June 1989 to provide new base funding levels for 1988-89 and 1989-90 respectively.

Amended in June 1991 to give effect to the Special Premiers' Conference decision to untie local roads funds and pay these through general purpose grants, and to provide the Treasurer with a discretion to set base funding at a level consistent with the underlying growth in general revenue assistance to the States.

- *February 1991* – report by the Commonwealth Grants Commission on the Interstate Distribution of General Purpose Grants for Local Government.
- *May 1992* – *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992* was assented to on 21 May 1992, and replaced the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1976*.
- *July 1995* - *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* - Came into operation on 1 July 1995, replaced the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986 and embodied recommended arrangements contained in the Discussion Paper conducted as part of the review of the previous Act.

It retained horizontal fiscal equalisation (subject to a minimum grant entitlement) as the primary mechanism for grant distribution and an equal per capita interstate distribution and replaced state by state principles with a set of national principles prepared by the Commonwealth Minister. It provided for the making of an annual report to the Federal Parliament on the operation of the Act and the performance of councils including their efficiency and services provided for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Communities.

- *April 1998* – the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission's comprehensive methodology review of the general-purpose grant calculation was completed. The revised methodology was used, albeit constrained to minus 10% and plus 20% change, for the first time for the 1998-99 allocations.
- *April 1999* – refinement of the South Australian methodology, as it relates to the differences between councils in the cost associated with the reconstruction and maintenance of roads, was completed. The newly calculated cost relativity indices (previously known as disability factors) were used in the calculation of the South Australian grant allocations for 1999-2000.
- *May 2000* – refinement of the South Australian methodology, in relation to road lengths. The Commission with the assistance of a consultant mapped all councils' roads into a Geographical Information System format. The newly calculated road lengths were used in the calculation of the South Australian grant allocations for 2001-2002.

- *June 2000* – the Federal Minister announced the review into the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. The Commonwealth Grants Commission was commissioned to undertake the review. The final report was completed in June 2001.
- *June 2001* – the Commonwealth Minister received the report from the Commonwealth Grants Commission into the operations of the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.
- *June 2002* – the Federal Minister announced the ‘*Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting*’. The inquiry was conducted by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration and was requested to inquire into, and report upon, cost shifting onto Local Government by State Governments and the financial position of Local Government.

This included an examination of: Local Government’s current roles and responsibilities and current funding arrangements. It also included an assessment of the findings of the Commonwealth Grants Commission’s review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* of June 2001.

- *February 2003* – the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration, as part of its “*Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting*” issued a discussion paper entitled ‘At the Crossroads.’
- *October 2003* – the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration, “Rates and Taxes: A Fair Share for Responsible Local Government, Final Report.
- *March 2004* – the Prime Minister announced \$26.25 million (over three years) in financial assistance to Local Government in South Australia to supplement the Identified Local Road Grants. This was made up of \$4.25 million in 2004-05, \$9 million in 2005-06 and \$13 million in 2006-07.
- *June 2005* – the Federal Government released its response to the Report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration, *Rates and Taxes*.
- *August 2005* - *Rising to the Challenge, Towards: Financially Sustainable Local Government in South Australia – final report. Overview and supporting analysis*. Commissioned by the SA Local Government Association with the support of Local Government.
- *September 2005* – Commonwealth Grants Commission asked by the Federal Government to review the interstate distribution of the Identified Local Road Grants
- *June 2006* – Commonwealth Grants Commission presented its report to the Federal Government into the interstate distribution of the Identified Local Road Grants.
- *November 2006* – issues Paper “*Review of the Interstate Distribution of Local Road Grants*” circulated by the Commonwealth Grants Commission.
- *January 2006* – submission by South Australia to the Commonwealth Grants Commission regarding the review of the interstate distribution of Local Road Grants.
- *June 2006* – the Commonwealth Grants Commission’s report to the Federal Government completed.
- *June 2007* – the Federal Government released its response to the Commonwealth Grants Commission Report.
- *June 2007* – announcement of the continuation of the Roads to Recovery 2 program for the next four years (2005-06 to 2008-09). South Australia’s share is worth over \$57 million indexed in line, to reflect the change in the Financial Assistance Grants.
- *July 2007* – the Commission’s methodology review of the general-purpose grant calculation (inclusion of depreciation and additional expenditure functions) was completed. The revised methodology was used, albeit constrained to 0% no change and plus 10% change, for the first time for the 2007-08 allocations.

- *September 2007* – the Executive Officer and Staff of the Commission visited the Victorian Grants Commission to assess Victoria’s “Balanced Budget” methodology against the “Direct Assessment” methodology used in South Australia. Outcomes of the assessment demonstrated clear similarities between the two methodologies.
- *March 2008* – the Commission undertook a project in conjunction with the Local Government to provide grant support (approximately \$8,000) to councils identified as needing assistance with the development of their Asset Management Plans.
- *June 2008* – the Commission’s methodological review of the stormwater maintenance expenditure function was completed. The review re-assessed the cost driver for stormwater maintenance and the factors, which influence the costs associated with the maintenance of stormwater. The revised methodology was used for the 2008-09 allocations. Changes in grants were constrained to minus 1% and positive 10% as a result of the changes.
- *March 2009* – the Federal Government announced of the continuation of the third Roads to Recovery program for the next 5 years (2009-10 to 2013-14). South Australia’s share over life of the program will exceed \$145 million and \$21 million was distributed by the Grants Commission under the Special Local Roads Program.
- *June 2009* – approximately one quarter of the 2009-10 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2008-09. Allocation of the early payment of the 2009-10 grants was based on the 2008-09 distribution.
- *May 2010* – the Commission completed an investigation into the effects of decreasing property valuations on councils affected by drought and reductions in the availability of water for irrigation. The Commission found that while councils in the Riverland region were affected by drought, no specific services had been provided by councils to address the issue. The Commission concluded that its current methodology accounted for decreased capacity to raise revenue a result of decreases in property values.
- *June 2010* – approximately one quarter of the 2010-11 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2009-10. Allocation of the early payment of the 2010-11 grants was based on the 2009-10 distribution.
- *May 2011* – the Commission’s investigation into the effects of growth within local government was completed. Commencing in 2009-10, the investigation looked at the effects of the State Government’s *30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide* and its associated regional plans on population growth within local governing authorities. The investigations included consulting with councils to establish the costs associated with population increases, residential development, the need for increased infrastructure and services and the opportunities to raise additional revenue from expanding communities. The investigation also assessed the Commissions current methodology to recognise growth within local government.
- *May 2011* – the Commission completed a review of the effects of including depreciation into its methodology for 2007-08 and associated withdrawal of capital expenditure from its methodology.
- *May 2011* – the Commission updated the unit of measure for the Sport and Recreation expenditure function calculation by increasing the population range from 5-49 years of age to 5-64 years of age.
- *May 2011* – the Commission completed a review on work undertaken in 2002-03 to assess the costs associated with the provision of airports and airstrips by local government. Investigations confirmed earlier work that the local government sector, on average, makes a profit from the provision of airstrips and airports.
- *May 2011* – the Commission reviewed the incorporation of Cost Relativity Indices into the expenditure function calculations for roads by revisiting its work from 2002-03. The Commission was able to confirm that there continues to be a lack of clear data available across the sector to measure traffic volumes. Investigations also found that the classification of roads can vary significantly across councils based on information obtained from a survey of council’s Asset Management Plans.

- *May 2011* – the Commission withdrew all calculations (on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the methodology) relating to libraries for a period of one year, based on inconsistencies found with libraries data.
- *May 2011* – the Commonwealth announced the extension of the Supplementary Local Road Funding for a further three years from 2011-12 to 2013-14, providing an additional \$50.9 million to South Australian councils.
- *June 2011* - approximately one quarter of the 2011-12 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Commonwealth and paid in 2010-11. Allocation of the early payment of the 2011-12 grants was based on the 2010-11 approved allocations.
- *May 2012* – for the second year, the Commission withdrew all calculations (on both the revenue and expenditure sides of the methodology) relating to libraries due to ongoing concerns over inconsistencies found with libraries data.
- *May 2012* – as part of the 2012-13 Federal Budget, the Australian Government announced the continuation of the Roads to Recovery Program, providing \$1.75 billion over five years from 2014-15 to 2018-19 (\$350.0 million per annum).
- *June 2012* - approximately two quarters of the 2012-13 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Commonwealth and paid in 2011-12. Allocation of the early payment of the 2012-13 grants was based on the 2011-12 distribution.
- *August 2012* – the Commission commenced work on its first full review of its methodology since 1996-97. Terms of reference were established, and the Commission went out to open tender to appoint a suitable consultant. KPMG were appointed to undertake the review, and the review commenced in November 2012.
- *November 2012* – issues Paper “*Review into Improving the impact of Financial Assistance Grants on Local Government Financial Sustainability*” circulated by the Commonwealth Grants Commission.
- *February 2013* – the Commission presented its submission to the Commonwealth Grants Commission on the review of Financial Assistance Grants.
- *June 2013* - approximately two quarters of the 2013-14 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Commonwealth and paid in 2012-13. Allocation of the early payment of the 2013-14 grants was based on the 2012-13 distribution.
- *June 2013* – KPMG presented the final report of the Methodology Review and recommendations to the Commission.
- *May 2014* – as part of the 2014-15 Federal Budget, the Australian Government “paused” indexation (the annual increase in the National pool of funding based on changes in CPI and population) of the Financial Assistance Grants for a period of three years, commencing 1 July 2014.
- *May 2014* – the Australian Government elected not to renew the Supplementary Local Road Funding program to South Australia. The Supplementary Local Road Funding program was provided from 2004-05 to 2013-14, providing \$135.4 million to Local Governing Authorities in South Australia.
- *April 2015* – the Commission revised its business rules applied to valuation data provided by the SA Land Services Group following the launch of the new South Australian Integrated Land Information System (SAILIS).
- *May 2015* – the Commission completed its assessment of the Recommendations of the Methodology Review conducted by KPMG.
- *June 2015* – the Australian Government announced that in addition to the standard Roads to Recovery funding program running from 2014-15 to 2018-19, an additional \$1.105 billion would be provided to Local Governing Authorities during 2015-16 and 2016-17 as a result of the re-introduction of indexation of the Federal Fuel Excise.
- *June 2015* - approximately two quarters of the 2015-16 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Commonwealth and paid in 2014-15. Allocation of the early payment of the 2015-16 grants was based on the 2014-15 approved allocations.

- *July 2015* – the Commission made changes to its methodology for the 2015-16 grant recommendations, including the re-introduction of revenue and expenditure assessments for Libraries using estimated resident population as the unit of measure and updating the unit of measure for the Waste Management expenditure function to include the number of commercial (shop) properties in the calculations.
- *May 2016* – the Commission completed the first stage of a review of its Other Needs Assessment (Function 50), making a number of changes for the 2016-17 grant recommendations. Changes included the removal of the capital city status allowance for the City of Adelaide, removal of the allowance for duplicated facilities, the creation of a new expenditure function to account for the removal of the Environment and Coastal Protection allowances in Function 50 and the removal of the Cultural and Tourism allowance from Function 50 and the inclusion of its net expenditure in the updated Sport, Recreation and Culture expenditure function.
- *May 2017* – as part of the 2017-18 Federal Budget, the Federal Government lifted the “pause” on indexation (the annual increase in the National pool of funding based on changes in CPI and population) of the Financial Assistance Grants for a period of three years.
- *May 2017* – as part of the 2017-18 Federal Budget, the Federal Government reinstated the Supplementary Local Road Funding program to South Australia. The Supplementary Local Road Funding program will provide \$20 million per year during 2017-18 and 2018-19.
- *June 2017* - approximately half of the 2017-18 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2016-17. Allocation of the early payment of the 2017-18 grants was based on the approved 2016-17 distribution.
- *January 2018* – full payment of the 2017-18 Supplementary Local Road Funding was paid to councils.
- *June 2018* - approximately half of the 2018-19 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2017-18. Allocation of the early payment of the 2018-19 grants was based on the approved 2017-18 distribution.
- *December 2018* – the Australian Government announced that the next Roads to Recovery funding program running from 2019-20 to 2023-24 would provide \$2 billion in funding to local government across Australia.
- *January 2019* – the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission, operating as the South Australian Local Government Boundaries Commission, commenced as the body responsible for the assessment of boundary change proposals under the *Local Government (Boundary Adjustment) Amendment Act 2017*.
- *June 2019* – approximately half of the 2019-20 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2018-19. Allocation of the early payment of the 2019-20 grants was based on the approved 2018-19 distribution.
- *June 2019* – the Federal Government extended the Supplementary Local Road Funding Program to South Australia for a further two years – 2019-20 and 2020-21. \$40 million (\$20 million each year) was paid as a brought forward payment by the Federal Government in June 2019.
85 percent of the pool (\$34 million) was distributed to councils based on the approved distribution of the 2018-19 Identified Local Road Grants and 15 percent (\$6 million) was held by the Commission at the Local Government Finance Authority to be allocated as part of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 allocations of the Special Local Roads Program.
- *May 2020* – approximately half of the 2020-21 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2019-20. Allocation of the early payment of the 2020-21 grants was based on the approved 2019-20 distribution.
- *June 2020* – the Commission updated the methodology for the 2020-21 grant recommendations, updating the unit measure for the jetties and wharves expenditure assessment to include marinas and boat ramps and adding a new expenditure assessment to measure relative need in relation to airports and airstrips.

- *May 2021* – approximately half of the 2021-22 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2020-21. Allocation of the early payment of the 2021-22 grants was based on the approved 2020-21 approved allocations.
- *June 2021* – the Commission updated the methodology for the 2021-22 grant recommendations, removing the Other Special Needs allowance provided to councils recognising non-resident use of council services.
- *September 2021* – the Federal Government extended the Supplementary Local Road Funding Program to South Australia for a further two years – 2021-22 and 2022-23, providing \$20 million each year.
- *April 2022* - approximately three quarters of the 2022-23 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2021-22. Allocation of the early payment of the 2022-23 grants was based on the approved 2021-22 approved allocations.
- *May 2023* – the Federal Government extended the Supplementary Local Road Funding program for South Australia for a further three years from 2023-24 to 2025-26.
- *June 2023* – approximately 100% of the 2023-24 Financial Assistance Grants were brought forward by the Federal Government and paid in 2022-23. Allocation of the early payment of the 2023-24 grants were based on the preliminary recommendations of the Commission.

APPENDIX VII – 2022-23 General Information, Supplementary Return & Financial Statements

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission would like to extend its sincere thanks to the following councils who submitted their 2022-23 General Information, Supplementary Returns and their Audited Financial Statements by the due date of 30 November 2023 and thereby facilitated the timely determination of grants for 2024-25.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Adelaide | 22. Norwood, Payneham & St Peters |
| 2. Adelaide Hills | 23. Onkaparinga |
| 3. Barunga West | 24. Playford |
| 4. Campbelltown | 25. Port Adelaide Enfield |
| 5. Charles Sturt | 26. Port Lincoln |
| 6. Clare and Gilbert Valleys | 27. Port Pirie |
| 7. Copper Coast | 28. Robe |
| 8. Elliston | 29. Salisbury |
| 9. Franklin Harbour | 30. Southern Mallee |
| 10. Gawler | 31. Tatiara |
| 11. Goyder | 32. Tea Tree Gully |
| 12. Grant | 33. Unley |
| 13. Holdfast Bay | 34. Victor Harbor |
| 14. Kangaroo Island | 35. Wakefield |
| 15. Lower Eyre Peninsula | 36. Walkerville |
| 16. Loxton Waikerie | 37. Wattle Range |
| 17. Marion | 38. West Torrens |
| 18. Mount Barker | 39. Whyalla |
| 19. Mount Gambier | 40. Wudinna |
| 20. Murray Bridge | 41. Yorke Peninsula |
| 21. Northern Areas | |

APPENDIX VIII - Financial Statements 2023-24

**South Australian Local Government Grants
Commission**

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Certification of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

We certify that the:

- Financial statements of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission (The Commission):
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Commission;
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
 - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Commission at the end of the financial year and the result of its operation and cash flows for the financial year.
- Internal controls employed by the Commission for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



Peter Ilee
Executive Officer
South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
27 September 2024



Robert Donaldson
Presiding Member
South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
27 September 2024

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Income			
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	2.1	491	481
Interest revenue	2.2	72	47
Resources received free of charge	2.3	22	37
Other Income	2.4	108	-
Total income		693	565
Expenses			
Staff benefits expenses	3.3	417	307
Supplies and services	4.1	263	129
Total expenses		680	436
Net result		13	129
Total comprehensive result		13	129

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

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	1 530	1 558
Receivables	5.2	100	7
Total current assets		1 630	1 565
Total assets			
		1 630	1 565
Current liabilities			
Staff Benefits	3.5	50	46
Payables	6.1	42	16
Total current liabilities		92	62
Non-current liabilities			
Staff Benefits	3.5	126	104
Total non-current liabilities		126	104
Total liabilities			
		218	166
Net assets			
		1 412	1 399
Equity			
Retained earnings		1 412	1 399
Total equity		1 412	1 399

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

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	<u>1 270</u>	<u>1 270</u>
Net result for 2022-23	129	129
Total comprehensive result for 2022-23	<u>129</u>	<u>129</u>
Balance at 30 June 2023	<u>1 399</u>	<u>1 399</u>
Net result for 2023-24	13	13
Total comprehensive result for 2023-24	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
Balance at 30 June 2024	<u><u>1 412</u></u>	<u><u>1 412</u></u>

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

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash inflows			
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers		491	481
Interest received		67	40
Other receipts		20	-
Cash generated from operating activities		578	521
Cash outflows			
Staff benefits payments		(391)	(319)
Payments for supplies and services		(215)	(87)
Cash used in operating activities		(606)	(406)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		(28)	115
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(28)	115
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1 558	1 443
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	5.1	1 530	1 558

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION

**Notes to and
Forming Part of the
Financial Statements**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

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South Australian Local Government Grants Commission

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

1. About the Local Government Grants Commission

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission (the Commission) is a not-for-profit government entity established pursuant to the *South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992*, which prescribes its responsibilities in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

The Commission does not control any other entity and has no interests in unconsolidated structured entities. The Commission has not entered into any contractual arrangements which involve the sharing of control or significant influence over another entity.

The Commission has administered activities and resources. Transactions and balances relating to administered items are presented separately and are disclosed at note 8. Administered items are accounted for on the same basis as the Commission transactions.

1.1. Basis of Preparation

These financial statements are general purpose statements and have been prepared in accordance 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 applying simplified disclosures.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a twelve month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

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

All financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Accounting policies are set out throughout these notes.

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

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

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

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 Commission is a member of an approved GST group of which the Department for Infrastructure and Transport is responsible for the remittance and collection of GST.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.2. Objectives and programs

The Commission is responsible for making recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the distribution of untied Commonwealth financial assistance grants to local governing authorities in South Australia in accordance with State and Federal legislative requirements. The Commission is also responsible for making recommendations on the distribution of the Supplementary Local Road Funding in accordance with the Project Agreement established between the Federal and State Government. The Commission also makes recommendations on the distribution of funding under the Special Local Roads Program, which includes a proportion of funding from the Identified Local Road Grants component of the Financial Assistance Grants, the Supplementary Local Road Funding and the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery Program.

The Commission's grant recommendations under the three above mentioned programs form the basis of the administered items (revenue and expenditure) outlined in note 8. All Financial Assistance Grants and Supplementary Local Road Funding received by the State, and paid to eligible bodies by the Commission, is passed on in full. Funding provided under the Roads to Recovery Program is drawn down by the Commission when requested by councils with approved grants.

The Commission is also the body responsible for undertaking the assessment of boundary change proposals, overseeing investigations and making recommendations to the Minister in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the Commission's Guidelines.

2. Income

2.1. SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
SA Government transfers	491	481
Total SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	491	481

SA Government transfers are recognised on receipt.

2.2. Resources received free of charge

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest from the Department of Treasury and Finance	72	47
Total interest revenue	72	47

2.3. Resources received free of charge

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Resources received free of charge	22	37
Total resources received free of charge	22	37

Resources received free of charge relates to accommodation provided by (DIT).

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2.4. Other Income

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Sundry recoveries	108	-
Total other income	108	-

3. Board, Committees, and Staff**3.1. Key Management Personnel**

Key management personnel of the Commission include the Minister for Local Government, three Commission members and the Executive Officer who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Commission.

Total compensation for the Commission's key management personnel in 2024 was \$185 667 (\$186 180). Salaries and other benefits the Minister for Local Government receives are excluded from this total. 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 via the Department of Treasury and Finance under section 6 the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

Transactions with Key Management Personnel and other related parties

There were no transactions with key management personnel and other related parties during the year.

3.2. Remuneration of Commission Members

Members during the 2023-24 financial year were:

Campana W A
Donaldson R T
Vickery E J

Board and committee members Remuneration.

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

	2024	2023
	No	No
\$0 - \$19 999	2	2
\$20 000 - \$39 999	1	1
Total number of members	3	3

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$46 365 (\$50 000). Remuneration of members includes sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

3.3. Employee Benefit Expenses

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Salaries and wages	264	192
Employment on-costs	57	40
Commission fees	48	45
Annual Leave	28	19
Skills and experience retention leave	4	3
Long service leave	15	6
Other staff related expenses	1	2
Total staff benefits expenses	417	307

Employment on-costs – superannuation

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents the Commission's contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current staff.

3.4. Remuneration of employees

Remuneration of staff reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

No staff received remuneration greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year.

3.5. Employment related Benefits Liability

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Annual leave	25	22
Long service leave	17	16
Skills and experience retention leave	2	3
Employment on-costs	6	5
Total current staff related liability	50	46
Non-current		
Long service leave	114	94
Employment on-costs	12	10
Total non-current staff related liability	126	104
Total staff benefits	176	150

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

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

3.5. Employment related Benefits Liability (Continued)

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 staff up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

The actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance 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 4% (2023) to 4.25% (2024). This increase in the bond yield results in a decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The long service leave liability has been allocated between current and non-current liabilities using the leave pattern history of previous years.

Employment On-Costs

Employment on-costs include payroll tax and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective staff benefits that they relate to are discharged.

The Commission contributes to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board and other superannuation funds.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance the proportion of long service leave taken as leave has changed from the 2023 rate of 43% to 44%, and the average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation on-costs has increased to 11.5% (11.1%). These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year on employment on-costs and staff benefits expense are immaterial. The impact on future periods is impractical to estimate but is not expected to be material.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

4. Expenses

4.1. Supplies and Services

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Accommodation*	22	37
Service Level Agreement	31	30
Service contracts	150	35
Auditor's remuneration**	15	12
Travel	33	10
Administrative costs	-	1
Other	12	4
Total supplies and services	263	129

*Accommodation is provided free of charge by the DIT

**Auditors remuneration includes audit fees paid/payable to the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

5. Financial Assets

5.1. Cash

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits at call with the Treasurer	1 530	1 558
Total cash	1 530	1 558

Cash is measured at nominal amounts. Deposits at call with the Treasurer earn a floating interest rate, based on daily banking deposit rates.

5.2. Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Accrued Interest on deposits	12	7
Receivables	88	-
Total current receivables	100	7
Total receivables	100	7

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 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.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

6. Liabilities

6.1. Payables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Accrued expenses	42	16
Total current payables	42	16
Total payables	42	16

Payables and accrued expenses are recognised for amounts owing but unpaid. Contractual payables 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. Payables are measured at nominal amounts.

7. Outlook

7.1. Unrecognised Contractual Commitments

Commitments arise from contractual sources and are disclosed at their nominal value and inclusive of non-recoverable GST.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	-	20
Total expenditure commitments	-	20

2022-23 Expenditure commitments relate to a Grants Methodology review for non-resident ratepayers.

7.2. Contingent Assets and Liabilities

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

The Commission is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2024.

7.3. Events After the Reporting Period

As a result of the restructuring of administrative arrangements, the Commission will be assigned to the Department for Housing and Urban Development as of 1 July 2024.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

8. Disclosures of Administered Items

South Australia receives grant funding from the Commonwealth based on recommendations by the Commission on the distribution of the funding which have been endorsed by the state minister for Local Government and approved by the Federal Minister. The Commission manages the distribution of the grant funding in full to eligible and approved bodies that have been approved by the Federal Minister for Local Government. Further details have been provided in note 1.2.

Statement of Administered Comprehensive Income

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Administered Income			
Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants	a)	189 860	257 299
Supplementary Local Road Funding Grants	a)	20 000	20 000
Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Grants	a)	6 475	5 675
Interest on cash deposits		52	3
Other Revenue	b)	20	1 030
Total administered income		216 407	284 007
Administered Expenses			
Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants		190 687	249 428
Supplementary Local Road Funding Grants		20 000	20 000
Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Grants		6 475	5 675
Other Expenses	c)	983	-
Total administered expenses		218 145	275 103
Net Result		(1 738)	8 904
Total comprehensive result		(1 738)	8 904

- a) Commonwealth funding is recognised on receipt.
- b) Other revenue relates to the return of unspent Special Local Roads Program funding upon the completion of a project. The commission recognises this on receipt or when a right to receive the unspent funds has been established.
- c) Other expenses relate to the payment of the unspent funds returned in b) to the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

8. Disclosures of Administered Items (continued)

Statement of Administered Financial Position

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Administered Current Assets		
Cash	9 242	8 870
Receivables	-	47
Total Administered Current Assets	9 242	8 917
Administered Current Liabilities		
Payables	2 063	-
Total Administered Current Liabilities	2 063	-
Net Assets	7 179	8 917
Administered Equity		
Retained Earnings	7 179	8 917
Total Administered Equity	7 179	8 917

Statement of Administered Cash flows

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash Inflows		
Commonwealth Grants	216 335	282 974
Interest Received	52	3
Other revenue	67	983
Cash generated from Operations	216 454	283 960
Cash Outflows		
Commonwealth Grants	215 099	275 103
Other expenses	983	
Cash used in Operations	216 082	275 103
Net cash (used in) operating activities	372	8 857
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	372	8 857
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	8 870	13
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	9 242	8 870

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

8. Disclosures of Administered Items (continued)

Equity adjustments for prior period error

The prior period errors are corrected in the current year by an adjustment to retained earnings. The impact on the Administered financial statements for the prior year is summarised below:

	2023
	\$'000
Interest on deposits	3
Other Revenue	983
<u>Commonwealth Financial Assistance grants</u>	<u>7 871</u>
Total adjustment to comprehensive result	<u>8 857</u>
Cash	8 857
Total adjustment to net assets	<u>8 857</u>

A review of cash balances for the year ending 30 June 2023 identified \$8.857 million of prior period errors. These mainly relate to :

1. Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants

Commonwealth funding that was transferred to the Commission's deposits held with the Local Government Financing Authority (LGFA) as 30 June 2023 but not yet disbursed by the LGFA and not recognised in the Commission's financial statements as at 30 June 2023.

2. Other Revenue

Returned unspent funding from a council that was transferred to the Commission's deposits held with the Local Government Financing Authority (LGFA) as 30 June 2023 but not recognised in the Commission's financial statements as at 30 June 2023.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**Government of South Australia**

Audit Office of South Australia

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**To the Presiding Member
South Australian Local Government Grants Commission****Opinion**

I have audited the financial report of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission as at 30 June 2024, 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 – Simplified Disclosures.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2024
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2024
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2024
- notes, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member and the Executive Officer.

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 South Australian Local Government Grants Commission. 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 Executive Officer and the members of the Commission for the financial report

The Executive Officer 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 Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, 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 that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Executive Officer 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 Executive Officer 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 Commission 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 South Australian Local Government Grants Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

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 South Australian Local Government Grants Commission's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Executive Officer
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Executive Officer'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 Executive Officer and Presiding Member 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.



Daniel O'Donohue
Assistant Auditor-General (Financial Audit)

27 September 2024