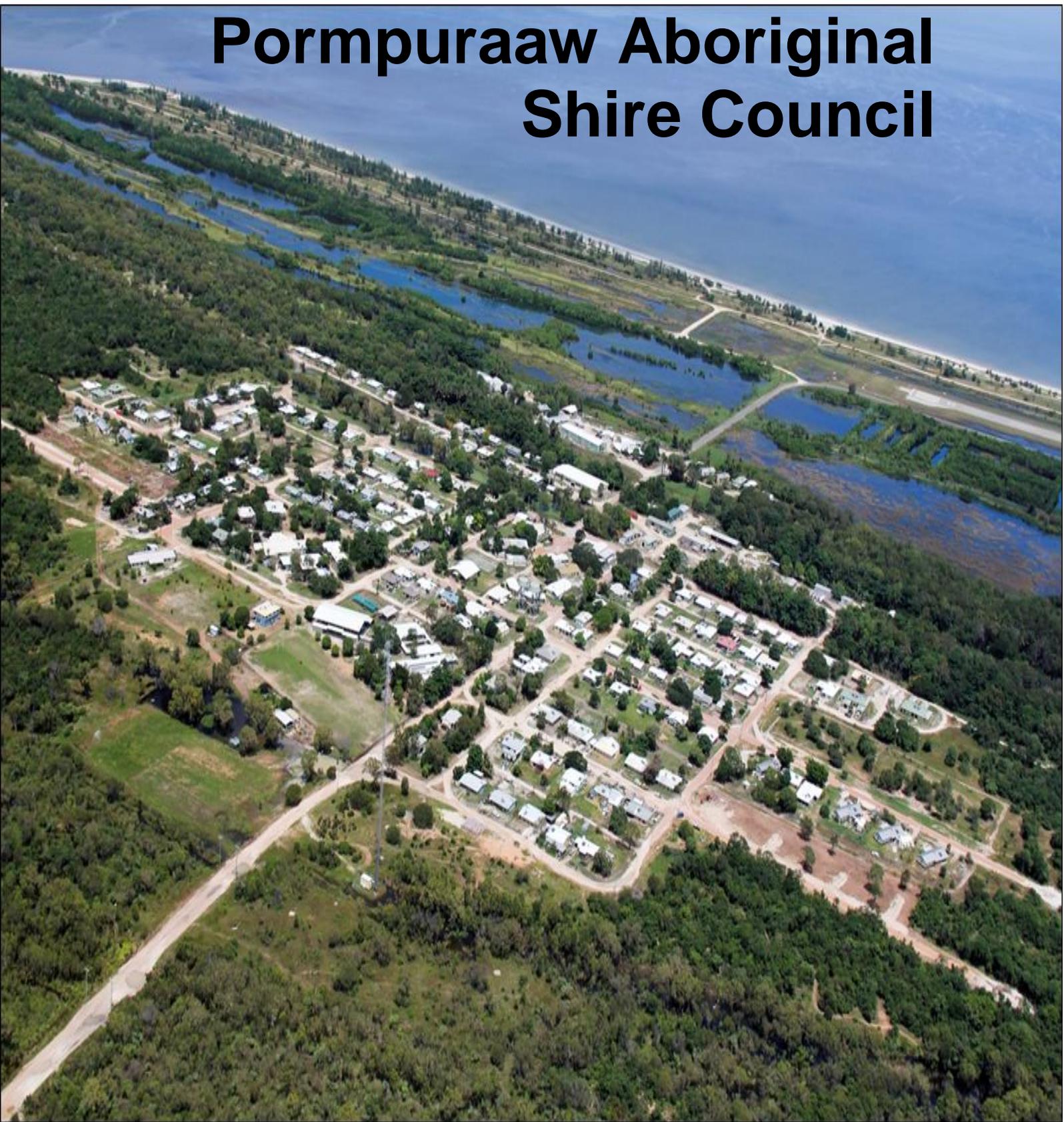


Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council



2016 / 2017 Annual Report

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



This will be my 2nd Annual Report as Mayor, after the 19th March 2016 Council Election, and covers the 15 months to 30 June 2017.

It has been a learning curve, not without challenges, and I believe that with a committed Council we will further drive our vision for a well-being, progressive and contributing Pormpuraaw.

Council is aware that Pormpuraaw is a dependent funded community and we will strive to start economic activity within our current-term.

I stood on a platform of 'No Domestic Violence, No Misuse of Alcohol, Safe Children's Future, Safe Elders & Family Environment and the importance of Family & Community Events'. It is only by addressing these matters that we can start to move forward with every community member having an input and making a difference.

Council will continue implementation and the roll out of physical development within community with strong support from the Works for Queensland project, Building Our Regions and other local government funding. Our current corporate plan will be reviewed and updated by December 2018.

Council's major projects moving forward to June 2018 & beyond will be:

- Business Hub
- Continue to upgrade Pormpuraaw access road along Strathgordon to Musgrave in partnership with the Department of Transport & Main Roads
- Continued upgrades and repairs of our Social Homes
- ILUA: Indigenous Land Use Agreements and rollout
- Indigenous Local Government Sustainability Program
- Paving of town streets (currently in the eighth stage, balance = 5074 Sq M)
- WIP: Baas Yard refurbishment (collectively with other community NGO's)
- WIP: Men's Shed (jointly with RISE Ventures & PPAC)
- WIP: Ranger Base
- WIP: Sports field (jointly with RISE Ventures)
- WIP: Women's Shelter (in partnership with PPAC)

Again, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Council's management team, the staff, other NGOs, all government departments and in particular, both our Director General champions, Mr Dave Stewart and Ms Tamara O'Shea who have assisted us in our efforts for Council and community.

Ralph Kendall
Mayor

PORMPURAAW ABORIGINAL SHIRE PROFILE

History

Pormpuraaw is on the west coast of Cape York about 500 kilometres from the tip of Australia, just south of the Edward River. It is the home of the Thaayore, Wik, Bakanh and Yir Yoront People.

Pormpuraaw (formerly Edward River) was established as an Anglican Mission in 1983. The Anglicans had established Kowanyama in 1905 but realised that there were conflicts arising as a result of bringing many tribes together from such a large area. The Anglican Missionaries then sought to establish a number of smaller missions in the area. The first mission was located at the present Pormpuraaw site and took hold.

Like all cape missions, government rationed subsidies for aboriginal people at Pormpuraaw was about one third of what was required to exist, so most of the men and boys were sent out to work on the cattle stations in the region. This enabled them to stay close to their traditional country. At the same time the Anglicans removed women and children from the cattle stations in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Dormitories were established to contain the women and children and provide schooling. Erratic rationing meant that most people were still required to hunt and collect food from the surrounding bush which helped maintain cultural connection with the land. The reliance on bush food was especially critical during the war periods when rationing of fuel prevented the mission boat from going to Normanton for supplies.

In 1986 the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Community Council gained title to the area by way of a Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT). This enabled the council to have full local government authority over the trust area of 466,198 hectares. In 2004 Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Community Council became a Shire Council incorporated under the Local Government (Community Government Areas) Act 2004.

Pormpuraaw Township

Pormpuraaw Township consists of two neighbourhoods known locally as Mungkan side and Thaayorre side. They are united by schools, shops, administrative buildings and a number of shire council staff housing.

The neighbourhoods originated at the time of mission settlement and reflect traditional linguistic and territorial affiliations. The majority of residents on the Mungkan side originate from along or north of the Edward River. The Thaayorre side accommodate speakers of Thaayorre, Yir Yoront and other dialects that lie along or south of the Edward River.

The neighbourhoods of Pormpuraaw broadly reproduce the geographic distribution of clan estates. The entirety of the Pormpuraaw DOGIT boundary encompassing 466

Councillor Profiles



Mayor – Ralph Kendall

Elected in 2016 Ralph Kendall holds the position of Mayor of Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council.

Mayor Ralph will assist, partake and have oversight on all portfolios.

Deputy Mayor

Each Councillor will serve a quarter of each year conducting the Deputy Mayor role.

This is to ensure the experience is shared amongst the elected members.



Councillor – Keith Barney

Elected in 2016 Keith Barney is responsible for the portfolios of: Training & Employment and Youth.

He will also share the portfolio of: Education with Cr Tim Koo-Aga.



Councillor – George Conrad

Elected in 2016, George Conrad is responsible for the portfolios of: Housing, Land & Sea Rangers, Land Development and Sports & Recreation.



Councillor – Bert Edwards

Elected in 2016 Bert Edwards is responsible for the portfolios of: Arts & Culture, Enterprise, Essential Services, Men’s Group, Planning & Infrastructure and Roads & Transport.



Councillor – Tim Koo-Aga

Elected in 2016 Tim Koo-Aga is responsible for the portfolios of: Elders, Health and Women’s Group.

He also shares the portfolio of: Education with Cr Keith Barney.



Photo - Left to Right: Cr George CONRAD, Cr Keith BARNEY, Cr Bert EDWARDS, Mayor Ralph KENDALL & Cr Tim KOO-AGA.

The four Councillors will take on a rotating Deputy Mayor role over their four year term to provide optimal experience as an elected member.

Vision and Mission

Our Vision – What We Are Trying To Achieve

A strong, engaged community creating a dynamic future.



Mother's Day: May 2017

Our Mission – Why We Are Here

To meet the needs and aspirations of community members by delivering strong leadership together with strategic planning to construct new infrastructure that will deliver new and improved services and facilities.



Strathgordon Road works: Dec 2016



Community Values

Our Values – What We Stand For

A Strong Community

Council will strengthen the capacity and resilience of Pormpuraaw Community through partnerships with the Community, business, government and non-government sector groups in pursuing positive social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Excellence

Council and staff will strive for innovation, continuous improvement and long term success in management and leadership practice, strategic planning and the performance of Council systems.

Accountability

Council is accountable to the Community and will conduct its affairs openly with integrity in consultation with Community, at the same time reflecting the highest level of democratic governance and public administration.

Fairness and Equity

Council recognizes and values the needs of different sectors and groups within its community and works in partnership with its valued volunteers, community based agencies, State and Commonwealth departments to ensure needs are addressed in a planned and timely manner.

Welcoming Ideas

Council will actively encourage and seek the exchange of ideas and knowledge in finding creative solutions.

Investing In the Future

Council will take a long term view as a responsible steward of community assets and finances.



Pormpuraaw Arts: July 2016

Objectives & Strategies: Five Key Areas

1. Community – The Way We Want To Live Together

To promote outcomes, which encourage a healthy, supportive, contributing and proactive community, where appropriate services and facilities are available and accessible by all.

2. Built Environment – Shaping Our Surroundings

To plan for the future development of the community in ways which actively value the heritage and the character of our community with access for all.

3. Natural Environment – It Begins With Each Of Us

To ensure the natural environment is protected in a way that is not compromised for future generations and is managed so as to minimise our impact on non-renewable resources.

4. Economy – Creating Our Future

To facilitate a vibrant local economy that enjoys sustainable business investments and the benefits of a skilled and diverse workforce.

5. Organisation – Developing Our Capacity

To strengthen the capacity of the council organisation and its people to serve our community and to pursue positive outcomes in partnership with community business and government bodies.

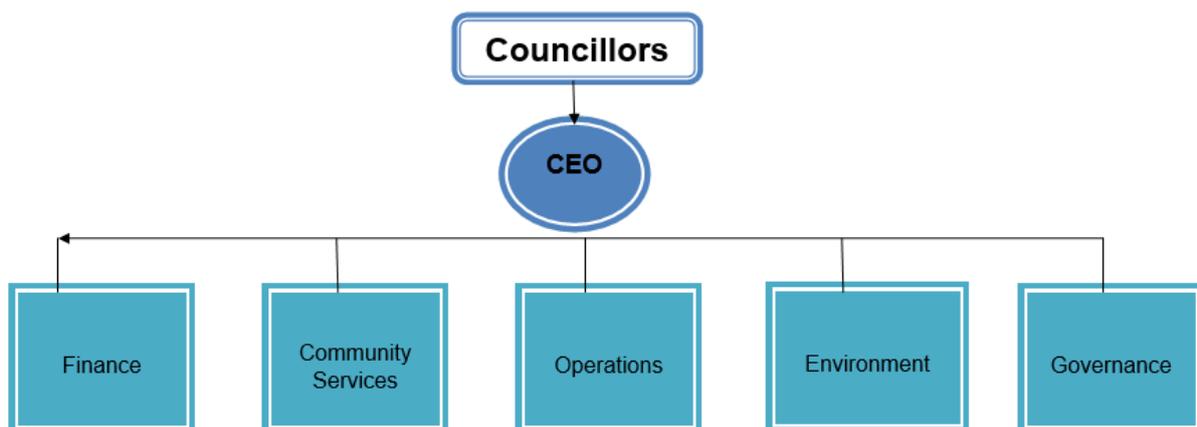
Corporate Structure

Accountability

All Council management staff take direction from and report to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council. The CEO is responsible for all operational management and co-ordination of community workplaces including the on-going delivery of services to shire council residents.

Staff Code of Conduct

All Council staff are required to adhere to the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council Code of Conduct, Policies and confidentiality agreements. Councillors and staff must also avoid any inappropriate involvement in community activities, business and politics.



Council Services

- Council operated Post Office and Bank Agency
- Community Bus
- Community Radio
- Indigenous Knowledge Centre / Community Library
- Community Emergency Services (SES)
- Community Aged Care - Consumer Directed Care Packages
- Community Care Services
- Home and Community Care Program (HACC)
- Environmental Health
- Ranger Services
- Sport and Recreation
- Staff Housing
- Property Leases and other Buildings

Council Services cont.

- All-weather 24/7 Airport
- Workshop & Plant hire
- Fuel Depot
- Concrete Batching
- Roads and Drainage Maintenance
- Parks Gardens and Ovals
- Water Supply
- Waste Management
- Sewerage
- Turtle Monitoring and Ghost Net Programs
- Camping Grounds
- Guesthouses
- Contractors Dongas
- Administration Store
- Finance
- Governance and Administration
- Disaster Management

Acknowledgement of Funding Bodies

Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council would like to acknowledge and thank the following funding bodies for activities funded in the 2016/17 financial year:

- Department of Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet
- Department of Health
- Queensland Health
- Department of Environment & Heritage Protection
- Department of Transport & Main Roads
- Department of Infrastructure & Regional Development
- Department of Education & Training
- Department of Social Services
- Department of State Development
- Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disability Services
- Cape York Natural Resource Management
- State Library of Queensland
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Emergency Services
- Department of Justice & Attorney General
- Queensland Remote Aboriginal Media Association

STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Council had movements in senior management with the Governance Manager's position becoming vacant in late December 2015 that is currently being carried by the Finance Manager and CEO, as well as, the Community Service Manager's position in July 2016 which was filled by an internal promotion. The Operation Manager's position was vacated in late Feb 2016 and backfilled with an internal promotion.

We continue to address the many statutory compliance and governance issues pertaining to local government that has resulted in further reducing audit issues.

Our updated website was completed in early 2017 and is up and running. We are currently reviewing and updating our Asset Management Plans, Risk Management, Fraud Management and policies as we continue to build staff experienced in Human Resources, Administration, Governance and making inroads with WH&S issues.

Financial management remains a very strong focal priority for Council with the 2016-2017 Financial Statements achieving another Unqualified Audit. Council has worked tirelessly towards this achievement with our thanks and appreciation going to our very capable and committed Finance Manager and her team.

Our efforts in team building and culture change within staff work attitudes is still a 'Work in Progress' throughout Council's various divisions that is supported by our own Work Policy and RISE Ventures, the Community Development Programme (CDP) host provider, whom we liaise very closely with to achieve job readiness.

We will continue with our endeavours to build local capacity within Council's workforce and to continue education around the importance of work attendance for Council and Community.

I thank the elected members of Council who now have eighteen months of Local Government exciting experience behind them, headed by Mayor Ralph Kendall, our management team, state and federal government departments and all the NGO's; in particular our Director General Community Champions, Mr. Dave Stewart, DG Premier and Ms. Tammy O'Shea, DG National Parks, Sports & Racing without whose support we could not have met the challenges of the 2016-2017 year and in many small ways have assisted us in our attempts to 'close the gap' and make a contribution for Council, Community and above all Country.

Edward A Natera
Chief Executive Officer

REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICE MANAGER

Aged Care & Disability Services

Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council Aged Care and Disability Services completed a rapid change to align with recent Commonwealth requirements that deliver a range of client directed and culturally appropriate services to community members by locally employed and trained staff.



Aged Care has undergone a triennial quality review and has proudly achieved all three standards and eighteen out of eighteen expected outcomes. This is an outstanding outcome rarely achieved in remote communities.



Council receives funding for the Commonwealth Home Support Program, Home Care Packages, Queensland Community Care and National Jobs Creation Packages.

Improvements to the nutritional outcomes of community members and clients are provided through the Meals on Wheels service which liaises with a dietician to ensure all of its menus are nutritionally suitable.

Aged Care provides on country activities to clients through beach and fishing trips. Centre based activities have received a boost through the generous donations of various government department employees whom provided prizes for bingo to be held on a weekly basis. This activity is well loved by the Elders utilizing the Aged Care program.

Aged Care adopted a 'Say No to Violence' campaign to raise awareness around issues of elder abuse. Senior staff have developed strong relationships with our Elders to create a safe and trusting environment where concerns can be safely discussed. Advocacy of these clients is a priority and this has seen a reduction in abuse and an increase in wellbeing of clients at the Aged Care Centre.



Centrelink

Services are provided to the public five days a week. There is one person in the primary role as Centrelink Agent with others available as back up agents to provide consistent services to community members. Clientele are provided with continued support and training to be able to utilize self service facilities.

Library

The Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) provides an educational space for all ages of the community to enjoy. This year has seen the addition of a Toy Library for children under five to help develop fine motor skill and enhance learning in the home this compliments the First Five Forever Program, that the library runs for under-fives to develop a love of reading and a thirst for knowledge.



The library operates five days per week and provides complimentary access to computers and iPads for community members through Tech Savvy Senior Program.

Staff were trained in robotics so that they may deliver the Lego First Robotics Program to children who are required to build their robot with Lego and use a program on the computer to 'code' the robot.

Community Hall

Council continues to support sport and recreational activities throughout Pormpuraaw, working with community organisations to provide a safe environment for everybody to engage in activities. Music and laughter can be heard each afternoon ringing out from the Community Hall where the PCYC provides a daily program for members of the community.

Justice Group



The Community Justice Group program provides essential support and services within Pormpuraaw to victims and offenders within the criminal justice system.

The Department of Justice & Attorney-General funds the program that develops strategies

for dealing with justice related issues and to decrease Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples contact with the criminal justice system.

The Community Justice Group program provides community members with the opportunity to work collaboratively with the courts, police and staff from other government agencies to address criminal behaviour and provide support and assistance to victims of crime.

Disaster Management

Council has a rigorous disaster management plan in place and has developed a close working relationship with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Queensland Health, Queensland Police Service, Aged Care and other community stakeholders to ensure increased function and capability.



Local disaster Management meetings are held periodically and at key times leading up to seasonal events.

Rural Fire Service and the SES unit has seen a small growth in volunteer participation from local residents. Council has significantly invested to increase its communication abilities.

Alcohol Management Plan

Council and community remain committed to the Alcohol Management Plan currently in place within community. Alcohol may only be purchased at the Pormpuraaw United Brothers Club.

The successful operation of the Club provides a quality area for community members to socialise and develop a responsible approach to the consumption of alcohol. It also provides a significant distraction from the need to access 'Sly Grog' which in turn causes serious community disruption. Serious penalties exist for breaches of the AMP and Council endorses rigorous prosecution of those offences.

Community & Culture

Council is committed to keeping culture rich and strong for future generations. This year Council financially supported community members to travel to the Laura Dance Festival to participate in traditional dance with the Arts Centre.



REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

Council's natural environment is the responsibility of the Environment Manager. Council endeavours to protect both in a way that does not compromise future generations and minimise our impact on non-renewable resources.

Activities in our environment areas during the 2016-2017 year covered:

- Pormpuraaw Land and Sea Management (PLASM) program
- Western Cape Turtle Threat Abatement Alliance (WCTTAA)
- New Ranger Operational Base
- Carbon Project
- 2016/17 Project Partnerships
- Junior Ranger Program
- Ranger Capacity & Skills Building
- Feral Animal Control
- Weed Control & Monitoring

PLASM / WCTTAA Sea Turtle Conservation

The 2016 Olive Ridley Sea Turtle monitoring / threat abatement project commenced in May 2016 and was completed November 2016. The initial monitoring beach area was increased to include a second beach (Xmas Ck to Hersey Ck), giving a total monitoring area of 41 kilometres. Subsequent effort increased, all nests were monitored to hatching, and then excavated to record data such as empty egg cases, unhatched infertile eggs, incomplete foetus development, ect. All data was saved to the purpose built cyber tracker sequence and data set.

In 2014, hatchling success was 3,105 empty egg cases (prior to aluminium cages).

In 2015, the hatchling success rate from the 24 kms monitoring beach (Balurga Ck to Xmas Ck) was 118 nests, equalling 10,982 empty egg cases (the first year of aluminium cages installed).

In 2016, the hatchling success from the 41 kms of monitoring beaches was 184 nests, equalling 16,312 empty egg cases, a reported 48.5% increase.





Turtle Protection Cage

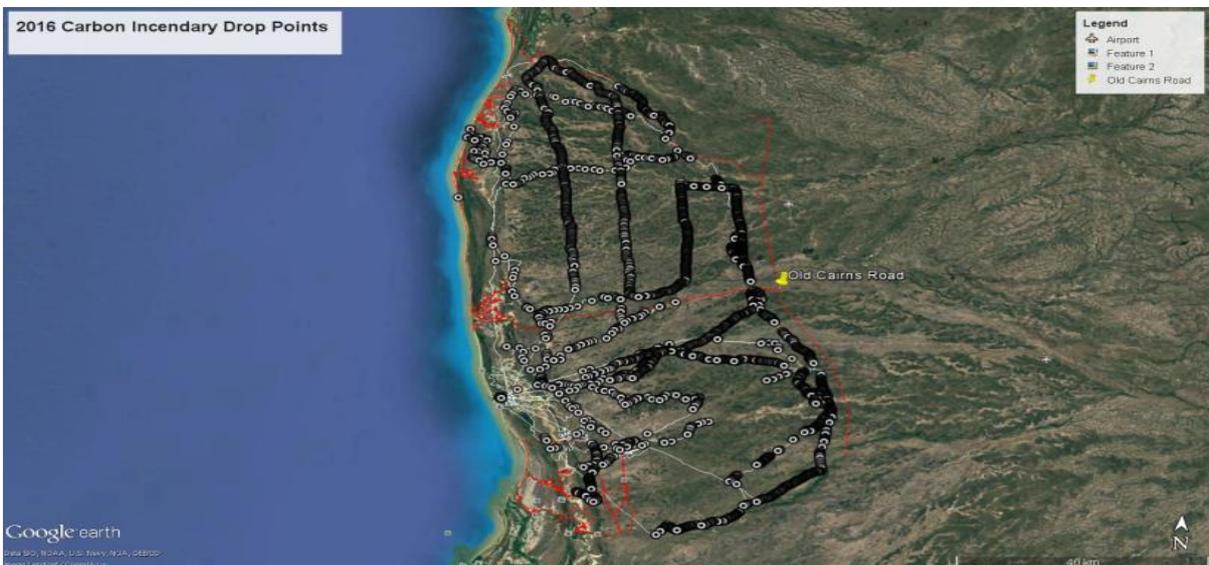
New Ranger Operational Base

Environmental services were able to secure funding for New Ranger Operational Base for the Pormpuraaw Land and Sea Management program. Council was successful in a Building Our Regions funding round application and has been awarded \$450,000 to construct a new operational base including office, workshop and staff room.

Carbon Project

The 2016/2017 financial year saw PLASM achieve an outstanding result with the early burning program, two aerial incendiary operations and six weeks of ground burning with vehicles and ATVs, resulting in 4,106 ignition points recorded and 53% of Pormpuraaw's 467,000 hectares burnt, hard line fire breaks and internal segmenting with fire.

The burning program resulted in 39,000 carbon credits generated for sale, with PLASM on track to have all eleven outstations operational by July 2018 through income generated by the carbon program.



2016 / 2017 Project Partnerships

Partnership 1 – NAQS Biosecurity Training

Two PLASM Ranger staff have been nominated for training with NAQS, these units have been selected to provide a well-rounded package in Emergency Management so that rangers can respond to biosecurity emergencies and also apply the same emergency response principles to natural disasters and other non-biosecurity related events.



Carbon Burn: June 2017

Partnership 2 – NAQS Capacity Building in Aerial Platform Training

Pormpuraaw Land and Sea Rangers have been successful in obtaining \$18,000 in funding through the NAQS program to train two more ranger staff to obtain CASA accreditation and instrument of appointment for carry and discharge from an aircraft.

Regular culling greatly reduces feral pig numbers and associated exotic disease risks. In 2015, Pormpuraaw provided indigenous traditional owner ranger aerial marksmen for the biannual NAQS feral animal survey and assisted the NAQS Vet with autopsy and samples collection. Other known benefits of culling are a vast decrease in predation of native flora/fauna, particularly the endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles that breed on the coastline north of the community as predation by feral pigs prior to intensive culling efforts was in excess of 90%. In 2016, nest predation has been reduced to 5%.

Partnership 3 – TSRA GEBAR Island Pig Eradication Program

PLASM rangers travelled to Yam Island in the Torres Strait in May to deliver a presentation to the Traditional Owners of the Islands regarding the vertebrate pest management style in Pormpuraaw. The central island cluster PBC traditional owners reacted positively to the presentation and were very interested in the recovery of the wetlands within the Pormpuraaw DOGIT after extensive culling of feral pigs by PLASM ranger staff. A decision was made by the collective PBC to eradicate the pigs on Gebar Island and wild horses on another larger island, with PLASM expecting a formal invitation to undertake contracting of this work.

Junior Ranger Program

2016

Pormpuraaw Rangers have hosted the most successful Junior Ranger activity since the program began six years ago. Seventeen students spent three days camped at the Xmas Turtle Camp in an extended Olive Ridley biology study. Life cycles, egg incubation, hatchling mortality, nest protection, digital data collection and predator management techniques were discussed throughout the three day hands on turtle management session, all students displayed exceptional behaviour for the duration of the camp and ranger staff want to thank all students and teaching staff involved.

February 2017

Rangers have completed a meet and greet with the new EQ year six teacher and formalized the 2017 Junior Ranger program, joining instruction and permission forms have been completed and returned. A fortnightly field trip schedule was discussed and accepted.



The first field trip was completed with the subject being the migratory

shorebirds congregating on the Pormpuraaw foreshore, these birds are busy feeding to gain fat reserves for the 13,000km nonstop flight to the Russian/Siberian Tundra where they breed/nest and rear the fledgling chicks over the short 3 month summer in the northern hemisphere. The adults and juvenile birds then return to Australia in a return 13,000km flight.



March 2017

Rangers have completed two further field trips with the PJR students, a Ghost Net clean up patrol was undertaken on the community beach and a fish data collection event was hosted at the Mungkan River. Both events were well received by the students and detailed talks were delivered on the what, where and why these activities are beneficial to the environment and fish stocks

The students were recently presented with new Junior Ranger uniforms and as the attached images demonstrate, the students are mighty proud of the new uniforms.

April 2017

Rangers have completed two further field trips with the PJR students; a new push bike was presented to one lucky student as first prize for an activity earlier in the year (Junior Ranger Fishing Comp).

Junior Rangers: Turtle Release



May 2017

Rangers have completed another two activities with the PJR students; a marine biosecurity foreshore patrol was completed collecting data for the NAQS program and a crocodile biology lesson hatching live juvenile crocodiles from eggs incubated at the ERCF.



June 2017

Rangers have reduced activities with the Junior Ranger students as dry season work plan commitments gather momentum. The annual JR camp out at Xmas Creek has been confirmed for the first week in August for three nights, coinciding with the start of the peak hatching stage of the turtle nests being protected along the 41 kilometres of monitoring coastline.

Ranger Capacity and Skills

The coordinator has worked with senior staff to increase capacity in the following Carbon Project:

- Google Earth Pro for understanding vegetation and grass combinations for referral to plan incendiary flight paths and GPS points required to effectively install boundary fire breaks and internally segment remaining internal areas thereby reducing wild fire/burn out risks; and
- Google Earth Pro to Garmin GPS upload of planned incendiary flight GPS stop/start points and associated routes; and
- Monitoring NAFI hot spot/fire scaring during and post incendiary burning operations to gauge areas burnt/boundary fire break integrity/ further actions required.



Blackburn: April 2017



Feral Animal Control

Two more staff have received regular intensive weapons safety instruction on correct procedures for aerial feral control, weapons maintenance, weapons blockages, humane destruction, line of fire arcs and angles and data recording were demonstrated and discussed in detail, simulations and live fire exercises were completed in a mock helicopter cabin built by ranger staff. The candidate will receive formal training and accreditation in early October 2017, by Instructor Mr John Logan (funded by NAQS).

PLASM ranger aerial control marksmen removed a total of 2,449 feral pigs during scheduled aerial feral culling operations in the 2016/17 year. Wetland health and biodiversity improvements are the first obvious outcomes of the intensive culling program conducted over the last four years.

Weed Control and Monitoring

Weed Control

Ongoing survey and control operations were completed of all known weed infestations throughout the DOGIT.

Hymenachne, the new emerging threat to the Cape York wetlands, received the most effort with extensive aerial surveys and control operations. These actions have seen the infestations within Pormpuraaw reduced by 95% over the last two years.



Ranger staff will be extra vigilant in the 2017/18 year with eradication efforts of the highly invasive water weed.

Monitoring



Weed and feral infestation detection data is collected during the course of routine patrols, such as tourist camps visits, gravel borrows, contractor camp and heavy machinery loading sites, cultural site maintenance, outsourced stock feed/cattle yard loading sites, carbon abatement/ fuel load reduction burning, patrols/aerial culling flights and survey/monitoring patrols.

Cultural site maintenance: June 2016

Water Supply

Council sources its domestic water from two bores that are located outside the township. Water is chlorinated at the bore site and pumped to two high level tanks located in the town which is then reticulated throughout the town. It is expected that one of bore submersible pumps will need to be replaced this year.

Sewerage

Council operates an evaporative sewerage disposal system. Drains are pumped from the southern side of town to the northern side. A second pump station pumps the effluent to the evaporation ponds north of the town. Treatment of the sewage is limited to enzyme treatment administered by hand dosing through manholes and pump stations to reduce the fats in the sewage.

Council is licensed by the Environment Protection Authority to operate the evaporative sewerage disposal system and must comply with all licensing conditions. Maintenance and further investigative work was carried out on the evaporative ponds bund wall system and along with some rectification to the pond liner.



Waste Disposal Facility, May 2017

Waste Management

Council collects garbage from 160 residential properties twice per week. Street bins and bins in public places are collected two times per week. Council also maintains all 240 litre garbage bins within the community in an operational condition.

The waste disposal facility is located on the edge of the urban area. Council sourced some funding to complete surveillance works, fencing of facility and bunting stalls were installed for waste segregation. Council operates this facility in accordance with the requirements of the Health Act 1937 (Qld) and the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (Qld).



Environment Team Recycling, July 2016

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

Council's Operations Manager has an important part to play in our management team and all aspects of our Built Environment operations. The Operation Manager's position was vacated in late February 2016 and backfilled with an internal promotion.

Airport

Council has a strong partnership with the two air services providers in Hinterland Aviation who fly Monday to Friday and Skytrans who fly Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

The air services are important in the wet season when the roads become inaccessible.

Airport- New Line Markings: June 2017



Building Repairs & Maintenance

Council's Building Repairs & Maintenance division is currently endeavouring to increase its capacity in various trades with the assistance of outside contractors.

The community and the Council have recognised the need to develop its capacity within the building and construction services and are currently developing programs that will see an increase in its capacity to deliver building and infrastructure projects in its own right to ensure economic growth for the community now and into the future.



Contractor Camp Project, May 2017: Courtesy of W4Q Funding

Concrete Batching Plant

Council operates a concrete batching plant with capacity at 2.4 cubic metres per hour as well as, a mobile batching plant with capacity at 12.5 cubic metres per hour to provide concrete for its own use and to sell to external parties.

Council continues to supply all our roads and housing needs during the 2016-2017 year, with the start of our Water Reservoir Project and in partnership/training with Boral, our concrete will be certified.



Mobile Batching Plant, June 2017

Parks & Gardens

Council maintains two hectares of parklands and gardens throughout the township area of Pormpuraaw.

Council maintains all parks in a safe condition for the enjoyment of the community.



Building Projects

Works for Queensland

The Works for Queensland (W4Q) program supports Council to undertake job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects. Council has eleven projects approved to conduct in the first round of funding which commenced in February 2017.

Some of these projects are:

- Refurbishment of two contractors camps
- Fencing of Council compounds which will assist to secure property
- External works for Land & Sea Guesthouse
- Road safety around the Childcare Centre
- Replacement of the amenities building at the Mungkan Campground
- Contribution for two new buildings (Community HUB & the Ranger Base)

Roads

Council maintains and upgrades roads and road-related projects through funded programs such as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS), the Cape Indigenous Mayors Alliance (CIMA) infrastructure works, Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), Roads to Recovery funded by the Department of Infrastructure & Regional Development and roads and drainage maintenance.

ATSI TIDS

The ATSI TIDS Program is funded by Department of Transport & Main Roads and is provided to upgrade transport infrastructure to improve primary access for the community.

Council utilised this funding to install seven concrete floodways along Strathgordon Road, including rock protection, to provide a safer and more accessible road for the community during the wet season.



CIMA

The Cape Indigenous Mayors Alliance Program is a Cape York Regional Program that provides funding to cape communities to improve travelling conditions into the community. Council utilised this funding to re-sheet and build up roads along with installing concrete floodways and medium culverts along Strathgordon Road.



Station Creek Crossing, Access during wet season: July 2016

NDRRA

Council utilises Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding for roads damaged in recent cyclone and weather events including damage to the airport runway and sewage pond walls.

Strathgordon Rd, 151 km towards Musgrave: March 2016





Manth Street paving, July 2016

Roads to Recovery

During the 2016-2017 year, Council undertook stage ten of paving works. There is now approximately 1,750m² of paving yet to be completed around the Pormpuraaw Township. Funding for Roads to Recovery is provided by Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development. This project is used to build skill capacity within the community.

Roads & Drainage Maintenance

Council is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 20 kilometres of town roads and approximately 500 kilometres of urban and rural roads within the DOGIT area. At all times roads are maintained in a trafficable condition.

In addition to roads, Council carries out required drainage and other civil construction works throughout the Pormpuraaw area which are required for various projects. Funding for some road works is received as an identified portion of the Financial Assistance Grant.



Workshop & Plant Hire

Council owns a fleet of passenger vehicles and other items of heavy plant. The workshop is responsible for the maintenance of the fleet and keeping all vehicles in good working order and roadworthy condition.

Council has a fully equipped workshop to carry out ongoing maintenance with major



overhaul work being contracted out when and as required. The workshop has a target of maintaining fleet availability at 95% of the time. All plant is issued to jobs on a hire basis. Rates for the hire of equipment are established at the commencement of the year. Operating costs such as repairs and maintenance, fuel, registration and insurance are also charged to this function on a job by job basis. Plant is hired to external parties as need be.

REPORT FROM THE FINANCE MANAGER

The 2016/17 financial year saw Council achieve another unqualified audit opinion, the fifth unqualified audit consecutively. Council has met all three measures of financial sustainability for the second year in a row and has increase the operating surplus ratio to 11% from 0% last year. Council was able to fully fund depreciation and had favourable outcomes to what was originally budgeted.

The finance department worked tirelessly to ensure that compliance was met in every manner across Council, ensuring another unqualified audit and improved processes along the way. The finance manager thanks the finance staff for their ongoing efforts and support. The finance team also acknowledges and thanks all funding bodies for not only the funding they provide to Council and community, but the ongoing support that is also provided to see our community and its people prosper and move toward a better future.

Services provided through the finance team include the Post Office that provides a full range of banking facilities and ATM services, the Admin Store which includes the sale of goods and accommodation facilities through our Guesthouses and contractor camps.

This year saw the finance department work towards capacity building by employing a senior Finance & Governance Team Leader and two trainees. The Finance & Governance officer is based in the Cairns office and will work closely to support the Finance Manager in the continually improvement of Council's processes and procedures. The trainees are both working in administration areas, with one in the Pormpuraaw office and the other based in Cairns. These trainees are the future of our community as well as local government and the finance department will work to provide these employees with the necessary skills to grow within their roles and in their profession.

Sound financial practices underpin the foundations of the way Council conducts business. Council manages its financial affairs in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 (Qld) and the Regulations made under that Act. Council will maintain a capability to perform all necessary functions to properly collect funds owed to it, to pay monies owed to employees and suppliers and to maintain proper accounting records of all financial transactions undertaken by Council.

Council is focused on long-term financial and asset management planning process while developing strategies to maintain service levels over the long-term. Council emphasis on long-term planning for infrastructure assets will strengthen the ability for services, service levels and associated costs. Major council priorities identified in the Corporate and Operational Plans form the focus of financial management strategies.

Council receives untied funding to support its overall operations and these funds are accounted for under this function. Council continues to explore opportunities that work towards a business model of income generating enterprises with the intent of reducing grant reliance.

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT

This community financial report is produced as part of Council's Annual Report. It explains in an understandable format Council's financial position to the community, employees and other interested parties.

It is a summary only. A full set of 2016-17 Financial Statements, including Notes to the Financial Statements is included in this Annual Report, see Appendix A.

Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements of Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council set out the financial performance, financial position, cash flows and the new wealth of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

The formal records of Council's financial performance and position are contained in four sets of financial statements:

1. Statement of Comprehensive Income
2. Statement of Financial Position
3. Statement of Changes in Equity
4. Statement of Cash Flows

The Financial Statements must be certified by both the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer as presently fairly. Pormpuraaw Council's financial results for the year are required to be adopted by the Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the Financial Statements by management and elected representatives.

1. Statement of Comprehensive Income

Shows all the revenue Council has earned and the expenses incurred for the financial year. There are two main categories of revenue for the financial year, Recurrent Revenue and Capital Revenue.

Council's net surplus in 2016-17 was \$5.57M, however \$2.55M is allocated for grant programs in the 2017-18 financial year. This is due to the requirement to recognise grant monies as income when received by Council.

Council made an operating surplus of \$1.47M for the 2016 -17 financial year that represents the results of the primary business activities of Council, with the largest source of revenue being grants from various government departments and organisations at \$7.69M and largest expense being the depreciation of assets at \$4.54M.

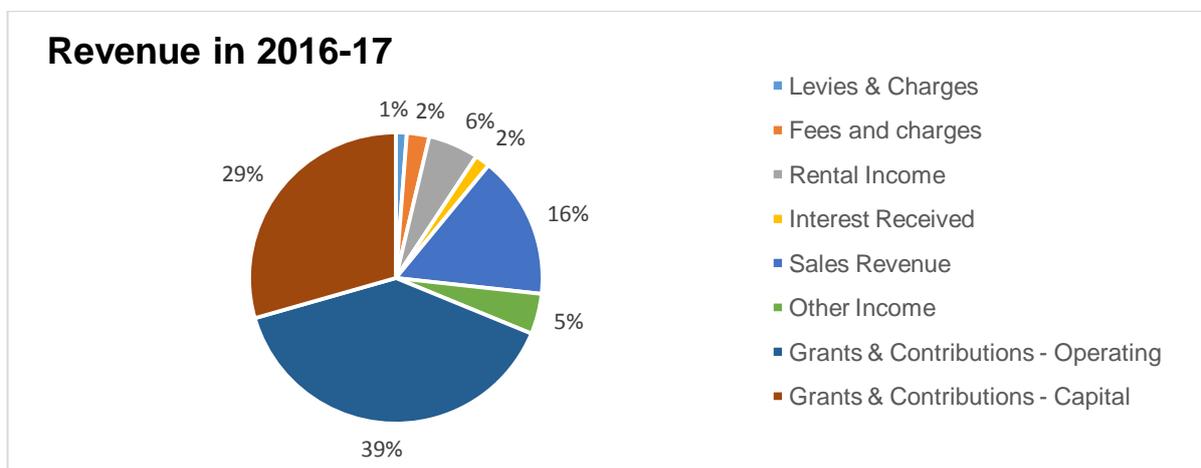
	Actual 2017 \$,000	Actual 2016 \$,000	Actual 2015 \$,000
Operating Revenue	\$13,808	\$11,561	\$11,670
Capital Revenue	\$5,764	\$8,159	\$4,730
TOTAL REVENUE	\$19,572	\$19,720	\$16,400
Recurrent Expenditure	\$12,339	\$11,595	\$12,887
Capital Expenditure	\$1,576	\$3,947	\$3,930
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$13,915	\$15,542	\$16,817
Net Result	\$5,657	\$4,178	(\$417)
+ / (-) in Asset Revaluation Surplus	(\$1,366)	\$6,577	\$468
Total Comprehensive Income	\$4,291	\$10,755	\$51

Sources of Revenue – Where Our Money Comes From

For the 2016-17 financial year, 68% of total revenue come from State and Federal grants. These include \$2.42M from the Financial Assistant Grant, \$1.94M from Queensland Reconstruction Authority for roads maintenance and upgrade, and \$1.28M of State Government Financial Aid.

Sales revenue equalled 16% of total income with the greatest contributor being housing maintenance at \$1.69M, followed by fuel sales at \$631K.

Revenue	Actual \$,000	%
Levies & Charges	236	1%
Fees and charges	485	2%
Rental Income	1,087	6%
Interest Received	326	2%
Sales Revenue	3,100	16%
Other Income	880	4%
Grants & Contributions - Operating	7,695	39%
Grants & Contributions - Capital	5,764	29%
TOTAL INCOME	19,573	100%

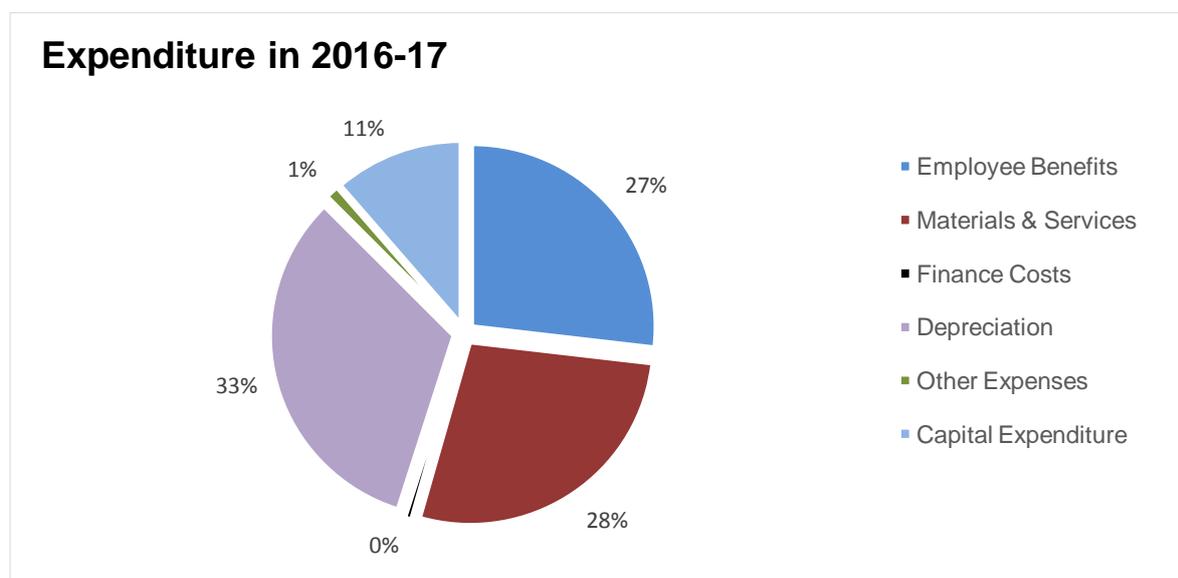


Expenses – Where Our Money Goes

The costs for materials and services include payments for the delivery of essential services such as roads, water, sewerage, building services and airport. Pormpuraaw’s other services incorporate Aged Care, environmental management, the Indigenous Knowledge Centre and various cultural activities.

Expense	Actual \$,000	%
Employee Benefits	3,736	27%
Materials & Services	3,835	28%
Finance Costs	72	1%
Depreciation	4,541	33%
Other Expenses	155	1%
Capital Expenditure	1,577	11%
TOTAL EXPENSES	13,916	100%

The chart below shows the breakdown of recurring expenses (excluding capital expenses). Council’s depreciation expenses does not represent cash spent, but the book value of assets consumed.



Revenue & Expenditure: A Snapshot of the Past Three Years

The below table is a review of the past three years of Council’s earnings and expenditure. Expenditure on employee benefits is less in 2016-17 compared to the past two years however this is due to various staff vacancies including management roles.

Financial Performance \$,000	Year Ended 30.6.17	Year Ended 30.6.16	Year Ended 30.6.15
INFLOWS:			
Levies and Charges	236	235	192
Fees and Charges	485	639	212
Rental Income	1,087	1,120	1,223
Interest Received	326	267	202
Sales Revenue	3,100	3,256	2,350
Other Income	880	492	844
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations	13,459	13,710	11,377
TOTAL INCOME:	19,573	19,719	16,400
OUTFLOWS:			
Employee Benefits	3,736	4,225	4,755
Materials & Services	3,835	3,841	4,480
Finance Costs	73	11	30
Depreciation	4,541	3,519	3,622
Other Expenditure	155	0	0
Capital Expenditure	1,577	3,947	3,929
TOTAL EXPENSES:	13,915	15,543	16,816
Net Result	5,657	4,176	(416)
+/-) in Asset Revaluation Surplus	(1,366)	6,577	468
Total Comprehensive Income	4,291	10,754	51

2. Statement of Financial Position

Shows the assets and liabilities of Council. The difference makes up the community equity.

Assets – What Council Owns

Council controlled assets had a total value of \$130.6M, with property, plant and equipment making up 76.6% of total assets, followed by cash at 14%. The finance leases for the 40-year leases on social housing comprise 8.5% of total assets.

The table below provides a summary of major items that make up Pormpuraaw community's wealth.

Major Items that Make Up Pormpuraaw's Community Wealth:	Actual 2017 \$,000	Actual 2016 \$,000
Available Cash & Investments	\$18,218	\$10,446
Debtors	\$549	\$987
Inventories	\$381	\$383
Other Financial Assets	\$372	\$365
Buildings	\$30,207	\$32,584
Furniture & Fittings	\$103	\$136
Plant & Equipment	\$2,674	\$2,857
Water Infrastructure	\$4,691	\$4,762
Sewerage Infrastructure	\$9,258	\$9,279
Other Infrastructure (Roads)	\$52,572	\$51,503
Capital Work in Progress	\$498	\$147
Finance Leases: 40 Yr. Leases on Social Houses	\$11,072	\$11,599
Less Liabilities	(\$2,541)	(\$1,285)
NET COMMUNITY EQUITY	\$128,054	\$123,763

3. Statement of Changes in Equity

Shows the change in value of Council's net worth for the financial year.

Community equity is the value of what Council is worth. It is measured as assets (what Council owns) less liabilities (what Council owes). Council's total community equity as at 30 June 2017 was \$128 million.

	2016/17 \$	2015/16 \$	Changes in Equity
Asset Revaluation Surplus	85,982,539	87,348,727	(-1,366,188)
Retained Surplus	42,071,356	36,414,178	5,657,178
Total Equity	128,053,895	123,762,905	4,290,990

4. Statement of Cash Flows

Shows the cash inflows and outflows of Council during the financial year.

The Statement of Cash Flows only reports on cash at the beginning of the reporting period and cash received in the period less cash disbursed in the period.

At 30 June 2017, Council held \$18,218,341 in cash. Most of this is invested with the Queensland Treasury Corporation to maximise interest earned.

	2016/17 \$	2015/16 \$
Cash at the beginning of the year	10,446,406	7,468,376
+/(-) cash from operating activities	7,860,738	3,972,169
+/(-) cash from investing activities	(-88,804)	(-994,139)
Cash at the end of the year	18,218,341	10,446,406

Measures of Financial Sustainability

The Financial Sustainability of Councils continues to be a cornerstone of the Local Government Act and a core responsibility of individual Councils across Queensland.

The Financial Sustainability indicators (in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012) that Council must publish are as follows:

1. Operating Surplus Ratio – Net Result divided by Total Operating Revenue
2. Asset Sustainability Ratio – Capital Expenditure on Asset Renewals divided by Depreciation Expense
3. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio – Total Liabilities less Current Assets divided by Total Operating Revenue

Ratio	Target	Actuals									
		at 30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021	30 June 2022	30 June 2023	30 June 2024	30 June 2025	30 June 2026
Operating surplus ratio	Between 0% and 10%	11%	-17%	-8%	-6%	-6%	-6%	-6%	-6%	-6%	-6%
Asset sustainability ratio	greater than 90%	100%	97%	96%	88%	82%	80%	79%	78%	77%	77%
Net financial liabilities ratio	not greater than 60%	-123%	-155%	-148%	-135%	-148%	-164%	-181%	-197%	-213%	-213%

STATUTORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with *Chapter 5, Part 3 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*. The 'Act' refers to *The Local Government Act 2009*.

Councillor Financial Disclosures

The total remuneration including superannuation paid to each Councillor in the period 2016/2017 is as follows:

Name	Position	Councillor Fees	Superannuation	Total Remuneration	Expenses
KENDALL, Ralph	Mayor	\$99,637.98	\$11,956.62	\$111,594.60	\$2,835.00
BARNEY, Keith	Councillor	\$52,201.54	\$4,959.09	\$57,160.63	\$393.60
CONRAD, George	Councillor	\$51,268.09	\$4,870.41	\$56,138.50	\$393.60
EDWARDS, Bert	Councillor	\$48,500.43	\$4,607.47	\$53,107.90	\$393.60
KOO-AGA, Tim	Councillor	\$52,201.54	\$4,959.09	\$57,160.63	\$1,122.10
TOTAL		\$303,809.60	\$31,352.68	\$335,162.26	\$5,137.90

Current Councillors are serving a rotating role, where each elected Councillor will conduct the Deputy Mayor Role for a quarter of each year. The Councillor fees reported are inclusive of the Deputy Mayor fees payable to each Councillor whilst serving their quarter in this role. The remaining 3 quarters of the year is paid at the standard Councillor rate.

Senior Contract Employee Remuneration Disclosure

Five senior contract employees are currently employed by Council to carry out its statutory functions. The position of Human Resource Manager is currently vacant and the Operations Manager has been temporarily filled while recruitment is taking place.

Three senior contract employees are in the \$100,000 - \$200,000 remuneration bracket and two senior contract employees are in the <\$100,000 remuneration bracket.

Position	Remuneration Bracket
CEO	\$100,000 - \$200,000
Finance Manager	\$100,000 - \$200,000
Environment Manager	\$100,000 - \$200,000
Community Services Manager	< \$100,000
Operations Manager	< \$100,000
Human Resource Manager	< \$100,000

The vacant Human Resource position is also budgeted in the <\$100,000 remuneration bracket.

Councillor Attendance

Council meetings are scheduled to be held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Twelve Council meetings were held in 2016/2017.

Councillor attendance is listed in the table below:

Name	Position	Meetings Attended
KENDALL, Ralph	Mayor	10
BARNEY, Keith	Councillor	10
CONRAD, George	Councillor	11
EDWARDS, Bert	Councillor	11
KOO-AGA, Tim	Councillor	11

Councillor Conduct

In accordance with *section 186 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Annual Report must provide the following information:

Detail	Result
Section 186 (d)	
(i) The total number of the orders and recommendations made under section 180 (2) or (4) of the Act.	Nil
(ii) Orders made under section 181 of the Act.	Nil
Section 186 (e)	
(i) The name of each councillor in relation for whom an order or recommendation was made under section 180 of the Act or as order was made under section 181 of the Act.	N/A
(ii) A description of the misconduct or inappropriate conduct engaged in by each of the Councillors.	N/A
(iii) A summary of the order or recommendation made for each Councillor.	N/A

Councillor Conduct Cont.

Section 186 (f)

(i) Complaints about the conduct or performance of Councillors assessed as frivolous or vexatious under section 176C (2) of the Act.	Nil
(ii) Complaints referred to the department's Chief Executive under section 176C (3)(a)(i) of the Act.	Nil
(iii) Complaints referred to the Mayor under section 176(3)(a)(ii) or (b) (i) of the Act.	Nil
(iv) Complaints referred to the department's Chief Executive under section 176C (4) (a) of the Act.	Nil
(v) Complaints assessed by Chief Executive Officer as being about official misconduct.	N/A
(vi) Complaints heard by a conduct review panel.	N/A
(vii) Complaints heard by the tribunal.	N/A
(viii) Complaints to which section 176C (6) of the Act applied.	Nil

Overseas Travel

No overseas travel in an official capacity was made by any Councillor or Council staff during the reporting period as per *s188 – Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Expenditure on Grants to Community Organisations

Council made no expenditure on grants to community organisations during the reporting period.

Administrative Action Complaints

The Council has a complaints management process in place and is committed to dealing fairly with administrative complaints. The complaints management process is designed to ensure that any member of the public can lodge a complaint about how they have been dealt with by Council staff or how they have been affected by any Council administrative decision.

Council's complaints management process is made available to the public on Council's website under the '*Complaints including Administrative Policy*'. During 2016/17, no complaints were lodged with Council under the complaints management process.

Particular Resolutions

The annual report must contain a copy of the resolutions made during the financial year under s250 (1) and s206 (2). Section s250(1) outlines that '*A local Government must adopt an expenses reimbursement policy*' and s206(2) outlines that '*The Local Government must, by resolution, set an amount for each different type of non-current physical asset below which the value of an asset of the same type must be treated as an expense*'.

During 2016/17, Council did not review or update the expense reimbursement policy. A copy of the *Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy* is available on Council's website.

Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council did not make any resolutions setting an amount for each different type of non-current physical asset below which the value of an asset of the same type must be treated as an expense.

Other Contents

Assessment of Performance in Implementing Corporate, Operational and Community Plans including Particulars of Other Issues

Implementing the Corporate Plan

The Council elected in March 2016, has chosen to run with our current Corporate Plan 2013 – 2018, with intention to review and update the Plan in December 2018 to reflect future vision and strategic direction.

Implementing the Operational Plan

Council will continue to align our Operational Plan with realistic and achievable goals that link to our budgets, while recognising that individuals and their committed capacity must be a part of the Plan.

Implementing the Community Plan

The Community Plan continues to inform Council decision making and guide medium term strategies to meet community needs and expectations that are contained in the Corporate Plan and the Operational Plan. Council is currently on track to meet the major outcomes that are outlined in the Community Plan.

Other Issues

No other issues impacted on the informed assessment of council operations and performance.

Beneficial Enterprises and Business Units

Council does not have any beneficial enterprises. Council did not conduct any significant business activities during the reporting period that fall under section 45 of the Act.

Joint Government Activity

There is no joint government activity to report for which another local government supplied goods and/or services for which Council levied special rates and charges in the financial year.

However, Council had a Memorandum of Understanding with Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council for the shared employment of a Senior Finance Officer to support the Finance Managers in each Council; this MOU was concluded in December 2016.

Invitations to Change Tenders

There are no instances to report where a company or persons who had submitted a tender to Council were invited to change their tender.

List of Registers

The following registers are held by Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council and are available for viewing by members of the public on request:

- Registers of Interests Of Councillors (s247)
- Registers of Interests Of Councillor Related Persons (s247)
- Registers of Interests of Relevant Employees and Related Persons (s1140)
- Minutes of Council Meetings (s468)
- Council Policy Register
- Register of Delegations
- Register of Contracts
- Register of Legal Documents
- Register of Financial Authority Limit Delegations
- Register of Related Parties

Concessions for Rates & Charges

No concessions for rates and charges were granted by the Council in 2016/17.

Internal Audit Report

Council's internal audit function is undertaken by Altius Advisors Chartered Accountants. The objective of the Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council's 2017 internal audit plan is to identify and document those areas of significant operational risk to Council with a view to finding practical recommendations for improvement.

The two major areas of focus for the 2016/17 financial year ending were:

- Review of processes to capture related party transactions and disclosures; and
- Review of the Asset Revaluation Report and the application of indexation factors.

For the first time local government was required to provide related party disclosures as a result of amendments to AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* in the 2016/17 Financial Statements. Internal audit reviewed Council's processes, systems and newly adopted policies that captured related parties, relationships, and the associated transactions to ensure compliance with disclosure.

The valuation of non-current assets is considered to be a highly complex and specialist area. The risk exists of an incorrect valuation methodology being used for non-current assets, and incorrect accounting treatment of the necessary revaluation adjustments, resulting in a potential audit qualification. In addition, in 2015/16 Council had uploaded the asset register into a new accounting system.

The internal audit function served to ensure that the desktop revaluation report and disclosures on the revaluation undertaken on behalf of the Council were in accordance with the Better Practice guidelines issued by the Queensland government and that the indexation factors had been correctly applied in the accounting system.

Competitive Neutrality Complaints

There are no competitive neutrality complaints to report.

APPENDIX A: THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
