

Contents

Contents	0
Our Vision and Mission.....	1
Our Values.....	1
Chairman's Annual Report 2001/02.....	2
Chief Executive Officer's Report.....	4
Council's Structure.....	5
Council's Decision Making Process.....	5
Organisational Chart District Council of Tatiara.....	6
General Statistics Council Area	7
Council Office Locations	8
Council Services	8
Auditor Bankers	8
Council Owned Facilities	9
Council Committees & Delegates	9
Nominated Council Representatives	10
Chairman and Councillors' Fees.....	11
Senior Staff.....	11
Elected Members Changes	11
Meeting Attendances	11
Elected Members Details.....	12
Elected Members Photographs	13
Council Group Photo	14
Manager Technical Services	15
Manager Corporate Services.....	18
Development Manager	20
Finance Manager.....	23
Library Manager.....	24
Section 41 Community Committees	26
Section 41 Committees - Activity Reports	30
Equal Employment Opportunity	40
Cost Effective Delivery.....	40
Community Management Plans.....	40
Strategic Management Planning.....	41
Council Policy Documents	41
Mandatory Registers.....	41
Mandatory Codes of Conduct or Practice.....	42
Training/Human Resource Programmes	42
Freedom of Information	43
Confidentiality Provisions.....	44
National Competition Principles.....	44
Council's Representation Quota	45
Rating Policy.....	47
Income Rate Rebates for Retirement Villages.....	55
Annual Financial Statements	56

THIS ANNUAL REPORT COVERS THE PERIOD
1st JULY 2001 TO 30th JUNE 2002

Our Vision and Mission

“TO BE A PROGRESSIVE AND WELL MANAGED COUNCIL COMMITTED TO MAKING THE TATIARA A BETTER PLACE TO WORK, LIVE AND VISIT WITHIN A VIBRANT, SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE ATMOSPHERE”

Our Values

- *We will look after the environment; the economic and social needs of the community and industry.*
- *We wish to facilitate socially and environmentally responsible development.*
- *We will display leadership and reflect community aspirations.*
- *We will work as a team to foster partnerships within the community.*
- *We cherish our lifestyle and enjoy a safe community.*

Chairman's Annual Report 2001/02



Local Government is essentially about people. We are referred to as the third sphere of Government but as that sphere of Government we have a much closer relationship with our communities than do the others.

Organisations are shaped by the tide of events and the passing parade of the people who become involved – those who dare to succeed and those who want to make a difference.

As we peruse the past Councillor's photographs lining the walls of the District Council of Tatiara since its inception in 1876 our history is studded with many great leaders who have shaped our District to become "The Good Country" that it is today.

Our natural environment is blessed with a wide range of soils and vast quantities of underground water and as a district we are fortunate that we can support a diversity of agricultural practices and the industries that flow from these base products. Comparing Tatiara with other rural areas our economy is sound and our district vibrant and progressive.

With a world that is changing at a rapid pace and the social and economic expectations of communities changing so too has the Council seen change, both in the strategic management of Council and it's people.

Early this year we saw the resignation of Councillor Richard Stanbury and the passing of Cr Peter Butcher. We do thank those people for their contribution to our district and to Mrs. Butcher we offer our condolences.

Council worked for nearly six months before we had our full complement of ten Councillors in place and we welcomed Ted Langley and Bruno Lablack as the new Councillors.

We have also experienced many inside and outside staff changes. To the inside staff we welcome Peter Wegener Finance Manager, Linda Longbottom Executive Assistant, Ralph Winter Officer Administrator and Kelly Hutchinson Rates Officer. Outside staff changes are referred to in the Manager of Technical Services Report.

The need for effective Local Government has never been greater and the major challenges include:

- Maintaining the quality of community life and community cohesion whilst coping with far reaching economic, social and institutional change.
- Promoting soundly based local economics and ecologically sustainable development.
- Making more efficient and effective use of resources against a background of severe financial constraints in all spheres of Government.

The vision and mission statements in our newly developed three year Strategic Management Plan and our Annual Business Plan states these facts clearly.

The range of business and community issues dealt with in any one year is huge. Highlighting but a few for the last year - Developing Stage 2 Bordertown Industrial Estate, new Works Depot Bordertown, Housing Shortage, Mundulla Yellows, GMO's, Childcare, Supermarket Development, Parks and Gardens, Business Breakfast, State Conferences whose venues were Bordertown and Keith as well as roads, rates and rubbish and continuing to service all infrastructure.

Our community based Section 41 committees continue to work tirelessly for the benefit of their respective identities adding to and making our district the vibrant and progressive one it is and we thank them gratuitously.

I express my appreciation to the C.E.O. Mr. Geoff Piesse for his input and service.

To Department Managers and Staff I offer sincere appreciation for the professionalism, endeavor and loyalty that they have shown the organisation.

I acknowledge and thank Cr Belluzzo for his untiring three terms of office as our past Chairman and to all elected members thank you for your continued encouragement, enthusiasm and diligence during the past year.

Diana Penniment
Chairman

Chief Executive Officer's Report



I have much pleasure in submitting this report to the ratepayers of 'the Good Country'. This has been an important year in our development with the completion of a three-year Strategic Management Plan. This plan was developed after significant public consultations and workshops. The process also saw Councillors and a large number of middle and senior management staff working in the pleasant surrounds of the Stonehaven Winery Conference Centre developing the heart and soul of the plan. It was a very pleasing experience to see the Councillors focus on the future development of Council. The Strategic Management Plan has been adopted by Council and will now form the basis for our progress in the next three years. This document is available for you to view at any time in either our offices in Keith or Bordertown.

Council's Section 41 Committees have in the main continued to work very hard to manage various aspects of Council's activities. Some committees need to look closely at their future and to think broadly at what they are trying to achieve. Often fresh community blood is needed to rejuvenate a committee that has become sluggish.

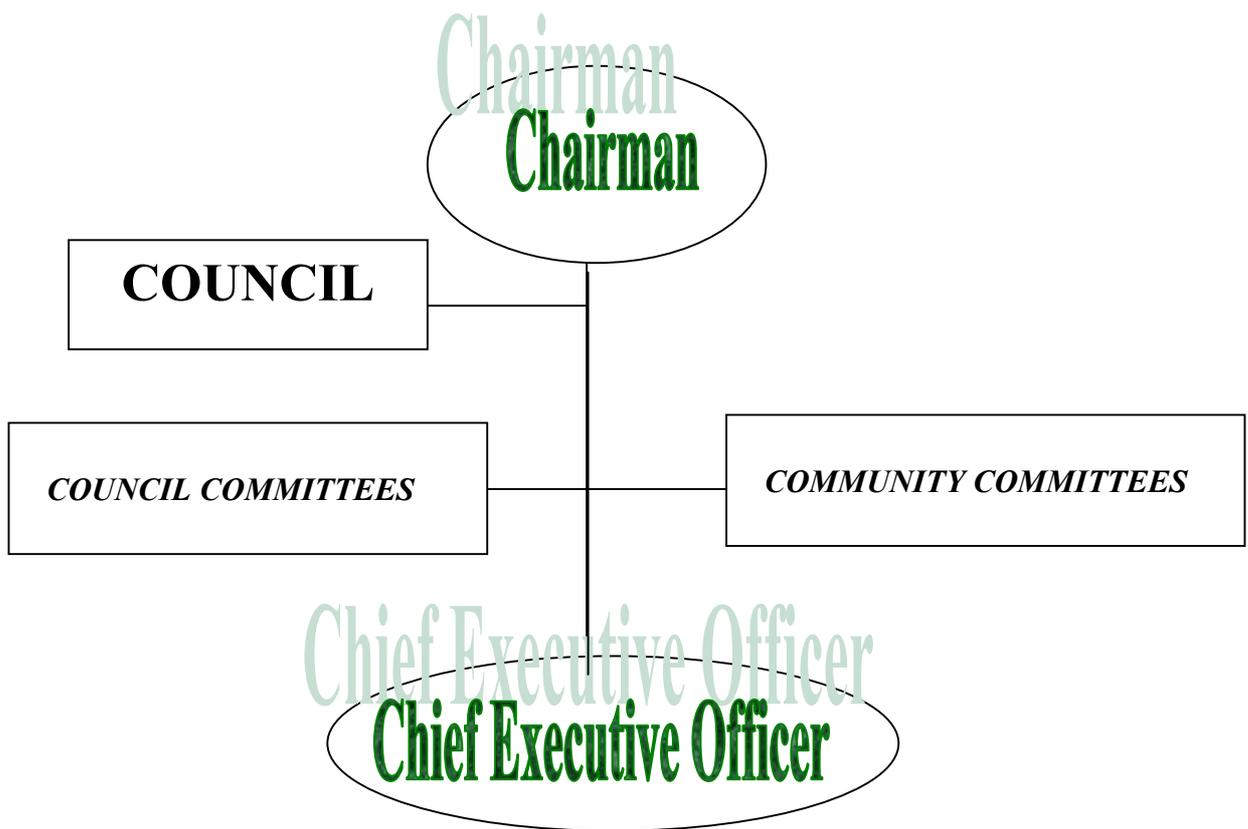
Economic development continues to be an ongoing focus for Council, with continued strong signs for future investments in our diverse rural sector. Making the Tatiara as strong and diverse as possible is one of Council's strategic goals. The moving of the ageing Bordertown Works Depot out to the Industrial Estate, coupled with the development of Stage 2 of the estate has been one of the particularly pleasing aspects of this year. It was a great thrill to see Blue Lake Milling picking up three major awards at the Limestone Coast Regional Export Awards. This company typifies the spirit of the Tatiara and we warmly congratulate them.

The benefits and the substantial commitment both by Council and the private sector in the Tolmer Park and the Morning Loaf Bakery complex are now clear. This area is now the envy of any highway town. It is attracting tourists in their droves and with the recent opening of the magnificent new supermarket we have an area of town that we can all enjoy and be very proud of. The completion of the Bob Hawke gallery in the foyer of the Council Office complex in the coming year will see another important tourism initiative completed.

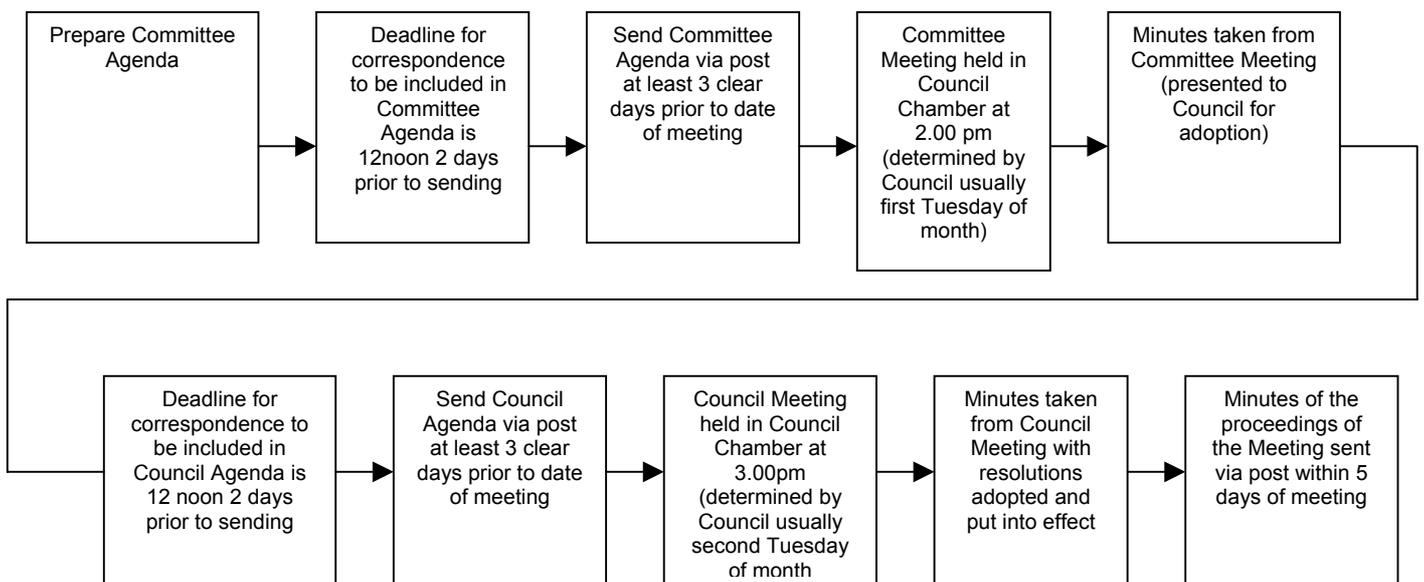
I would like to thank Council's staff for working exceptionally hard to provide a high level of quality service to its residents.

Geoffrey Piesse
Chief Executive Officer

Council's Structure



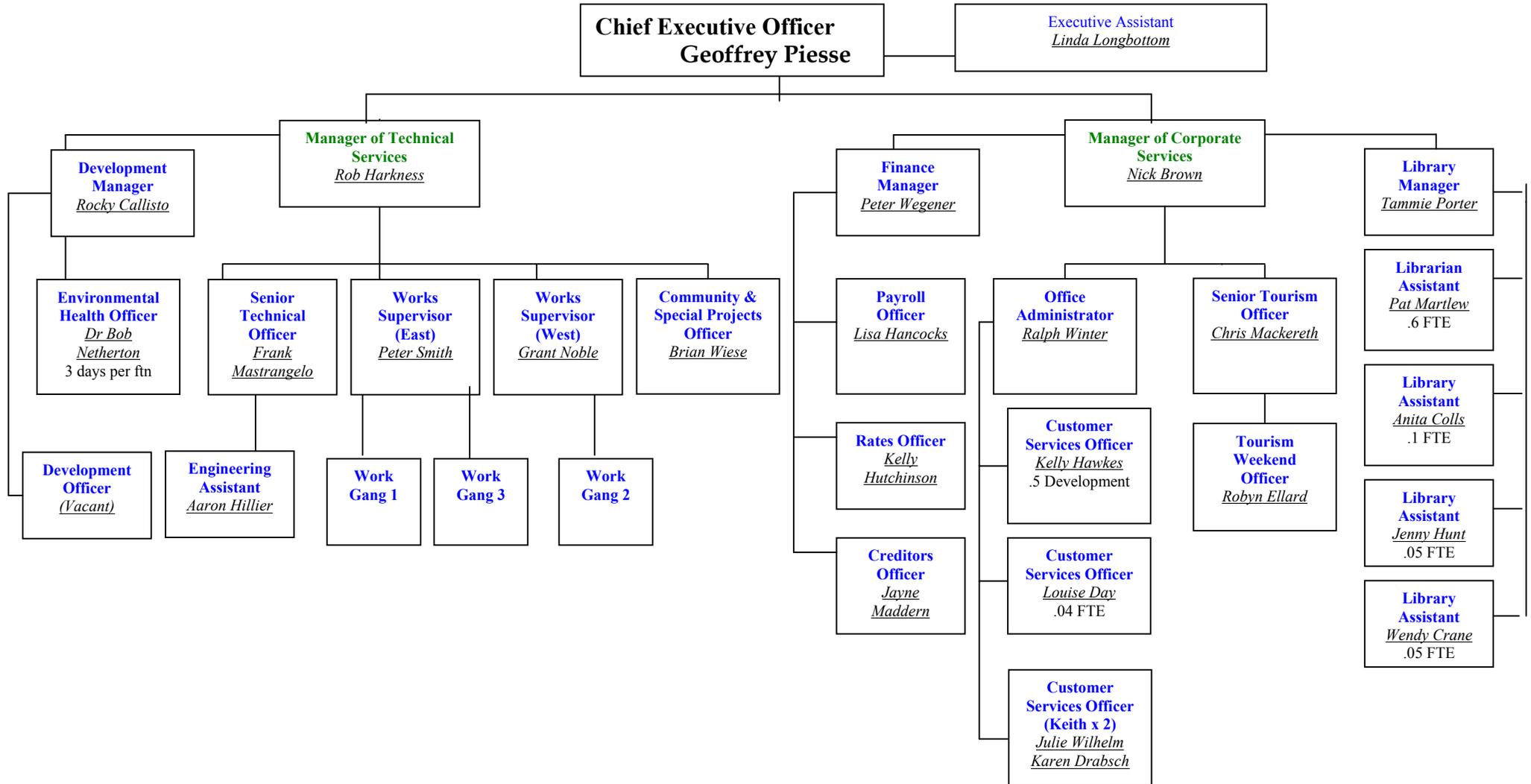
Council's Decision Making Process





Organisational Chart

District Council of Tatiara



General Statistics Council Area

Total District Population:	6819
Bordertown	2445
Keith	1128
Mundulla	189 (area population)
Padthaway	340 (area population)
Willalooka	358 (area population)
Wolseley	367 (area population)
Length of road system:	
National Highway	72.4 km
State roads	248 km
Council roads & streets	1,879 km
Capital valuation of rateable land:	
Bordertown	\$ 117,364,200
Keith	\$ 46,819,100
Mundulla	\$ 6,519,900
Wolseley	\$ 2,148,100
Padthaway	\$ 3,328,900
Rural	\$780,683,120
Council Staff as at 30th June 2002:	51
<u>Administration Staff</u>	12
Full Time Employees: 9	
Part Time Employees: 2	
Casual: 1	
<u>Library Staff</u>	5
Full Time Employees: 1	
Part Time Employees: 1	
Support Wage: 1	
Casuals: 2	
<u>Local Government Award Employees</u>	25
Full Time Employees: (Outdoor staff) 25	
<u>Local Government Award Supervisors</u>	2
Full Time Employees: 2	
<u>Technical Staff</u>	5
Full Time Employees: 5	
<u>Visitor Information Centre (Tourism)</u>	2
Full Time Employees: 1	
Casual Employees: 1	

Council Office Locations

Bordertown

43 Woolshed Street
Bordertown SA 5268
Telephone: (08) 8752 1044
Facsimile: (08) 8752 1442

Postal Address

PO Box 346
Bordertown SA 5268
Email: office@tatiara.sa.gov.au

Hours: Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm

To book a Council facility please ring the Bordertown office.

Keith

Tatiara District Council
34 Hender Street
Keith SA 5267
Telephone: (08) 8755 3347
Facsimile: (08) 8755 3354
Email: lisahancocks@tatiara.sa.gov.au
Hours: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.30pm

Padthaway

Padthaway General Store
15 Memorial Drive
Padthaway SA 5271
Telephone: (08) 8765 5020
Facsimile: (08) 8765 5020
(Branch Office only)

Council Services

Council Provides and Maintains

- *Roads, Footpaths, Kerbing
- *Traffic Control
- *Parking Bays/Street Closures
- *Street lighting
- *Car Parks
- *Street Sweeping
- *Street Tree Planting
- *Public Toilets
- *Seats/Signs
- *Library Facilities
- *Reserve Areas
- *Parks/Gardens

Council Conducts

- *Citizenship Ceremonies
- *Australia Day Awards

Council Inspects and Licenses

- *Nursing/Rest Homes
- *Food Premises
- *Sanitary Conditions of Buildings
- *Outdoor Signs

Council Administers

- *Parking Controls
- *Litter Controls
- *Sign Controls
- *Planning Regulations
- *Building Regulations
- *Development Plan
- *Dog Control/Registration
- *Immunisation Programs
- *Home and Community Care

Council Advises on

- *Infectious Diseases
- *Pool Hygiene
- *Pest Eradication
- *Fire Regulations

Council Assists

- *CFS Brigades
- *State Emergency Service
- *Community Organisations
- *Sporting Groups

Auditor

Galpin Engler Bruins & Dempsey
233 Commercial Street (West)
Mount Gambier SA 5290

Bankers

Westpac Banking Corporation
81 Woolshed Street
Bordertown SA 5268

Council Owned Facilities

Tatiara Council owns a number of buildings and structures throughout the district and is responsible for managing many parcels of crown land. Since the introduction of the Local Government Act 1999, Council staff is considering the requirements of the Act relating to its community land and has commenced the preparation of management plans for this land.

Major Facilities Include:

- Council Office and Chambers, Woolshed Street, Bordertown
- Bordertown Civic Centre, Woolshed Street, Bordertown
- Senior Citizens' Clubrooms
- Swimming Pool, Bordertown
- Wildlife Park, Dukes Highway, Bordertown
- Workshop, Store & Office, Council Depot, Bordertown and Keith
- New Council Depot - Bordertown Industrial Estate
- Former School Building, South Terrace, Bordertown
- Stockyards, Bordertown
- Institute, Heritage Street, Keith and Railway Terrace, Wolseley
- Recreation Ground and Buildings, Wolseley
- Old Council Chamber, Mundulla
- Bordertown Caravan Park

Council Committees & Delegates

Council Committees:

1. **Administration and Finance Committee:** - All Councillors
2. **Development Committee:** - All Councillors
3. **Engineering Committee:** - All Councillors
4. **Single Bargaining Unit:** (*Award Restructuring and Job Training*)
Chief Executive Officer (GW Piesse), Manager Technical Services (RJ Harkness), Manager Corporate Services (NM Brown), P Polak, T Clark and B Jarrett.
5. **Manex Committee:** (*Management and Organisation Development*)
Chief Executive Officer (GW Piesse), Manager Technical Services (RJ Harkness), Manager Corporate Services (NM Brown).
6. **Workplace Consultative Committee:** (*Award Restructuring and Job Training*)
Chief Executive Officer (GW Piesse), Manager Technical Services (RJ Harkness), Manager Corporate Services (NM Brown), L Hancocks, T Porter and FA Mastrangelo.
7. **Occupational Health Safety & Welfare Committee:**
R Meakins, J O'Connor, B Hausler, M Lamb, FA Mastrangelo, RJ Harkness, NM Brown, RL Winter.

Nominated Council Representatives

<u>Committee / Organisation:</u>	<u>Nominated Council Rep's:</u>
A Bordertown Memorial Hospital Board	Cr Langley
B Lacepede Tatiara Robe Animal & Plant Control Board	Cr I Belluzzo
Philip Salmon (Chairman)	Cr MF Murphy
John Maney (Landowner)	Cr JE McLellan (proxy)
	Cr DE Penniment (proxy)
C Lacepede/Tatiara District Local Action Plan	Cr Walladge
D Limestone Coast Tourism Board	Cr Lablack
	Cr Malthouse (proxy)
E Local Government Association	Cr Penniment
	Cr Lablack
F Local Government Association Plant & Animal Control Commission	Cr Belluzzo
G Local Government Finance Authority SA	Cr Penniment
H South East Catchment Water Management Board	Cr Davis
I South East Local Government Association (SELGA)	Cr Penniment
	Cr Lablack
J Tatiara Community Health Service Advisory Board	Cr McLellan
	Cr Malthouse
K Upper South East Water Conservation & Drainage Advisory Committee	Cr Davis
L Roadside Vegetation Policy - Sub Committee	Cr Davis
T Thomas, B Clark, R Harkness, B Wiese, R Callisto	
J Samuel-White, Rep from the Lacepede Tatiara Robe Animal & Plant Control Board	
M Development Assessment Panel	Cr DE Penniment
RL Callisto.	Cr I Belluzzo
	Cr MJ Malthouse
	Cr K Walladge
	Cr JE McLellan
	Cr M F Murphy
N Bordertown on the Move	Cr Penniment
O Tatiara Road Safety Group	Cr Malthouse
P Tatiara Tourism Group	Cr Malthouse
Q Bordertown High School Equipment Trust Fund	Cr Penniment
R Box Flat Dingo Control Board	N/A
Tony Hedges (proxy).	
S Lacepede/Tatiara Soil Conservation Board	N/A
Arnold Thorpe, Peter Ridgway, R Eats	
T SELGA's Waste Management Subcommittee	Cr McLellan
Rob Harkness (MTS)	

Chairman and Councillors' Fees

Type of Allowance:	Amount
Chairman's Allowance	\$24,000 pa payable monthly in arrears
Deputy Chairman's Allowance	\$ 7,500 pa payable quarterly in arrears
Standing Committee Presiding Members	\$ 7,500 pa payable quarterly in arrears
Elected Members Allowance	\$ 6,000 pa payable quarterly in arrears

Senior Staff

At 30th June 2002 Council had one senior staff member employed on contract, under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1999 and two members employed permanently. The total remuneration packages consisted of the following:

Chief Executive Officer, Mr Geoff W Piesse - Total remuneration package includes salary, superannuation plus full private use of vehicle, (3-year contract).

Manager Technical Services, Mr Robert J Harkness - Total remuneration package includes salary, superannuation plus the restricted private use of vehicle in lieu of overtime (permanent employee).

Manager Corporate Services, Mr Nick M Brown - Total remuneration package includes salary, superannuation plus the restricted private use of vehicle in lieu of overtime (permanent employee).

Elected Members Changes

During the year the following changes have occurred:

October 2001 Councillor Peter Butcher - Passed Away

November 2001 Councillor Richard Stanbury - Resigned

May 2001 Council Election New Councillors West Ward Bruno Lablack and East Ward Edward Langley

Meeting Attendances

Elected Members	Normal Council	Special Council	Comments
Meetings Held	12	4	
Cr I Belluzzo	12	3	
Cr P Butcher	1	1	Passed Away October 2001
Cr EH Davis	11	4	
Cr BR Lablack	4	2	Joined Council March 2002
Cr EJ Langley	3	1	Joined Council March 2002
Cr MJ Malthouse	11	4	
Cr JE McLellan	12	3	
Cr MF Murphy	10	4	
Cr DE Penniment	11	4	
Cr JS Ross	9	2	
Cr RS Stanbury	4	1	Resigned – November 2001
Cr KR Walladge	12	3	

Elected Members Details

The District Council of Tatiara is a corporate body consisting of 10 Elected Councillors with a representation quota of 552. The Council intends to conduct an Elector Representation Review commencing in January 2005. Meetings are held as follows and the public are welcome to be in the gallery.

Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month commencing at 2.00 pm

Council Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 3.00 pm.

Belluzzo Isidoro (East Ward) <u>Development Chairman</u>	PO Box 529 BORDERTOWN SA 5268	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8758 2029 8758 2011 0418 843 174
Davis Edward H (East Ward)	39 Pigeon Flat Road BORDERTOWN SA 5268	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8752 1227 8752 1227 0428 854 915
Lablack, Bruno R (West Ward) <u>Deputy Chairman</u>	PO Box 248 KEITH SA 5267	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8755 1150 8755 1150 0429 394 553
Langley, Edward J (Ted) (East Ward)	PO Box 185 BORDERTOWN SA 5268 Email: avlang@lm.net.au	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8752 0197 8752 0197 0407 398 165
Malthouse Margaretha J (West Ward)	PO Box 175 KEITH SA 5267	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8755 3114 8755 3235 0428 849 361
McLellan Janice E (East Ward) <u>Engineering Chairman</u>	PO Box 59 WOLSELEY SA 5269	Ph: Fax:	8753 2217 8753 2201
Murphy Mark F (East Ward) <u>Administration Chairman</u>	C/- Post Office PADTHAWAY SA 5271 Email: murphy@rbm.com.au	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8765 5025 8765 5245 0408 055 085
Penniment, Diana E (East Ward) <u>Council Chairman</u>	PO Box 177 BORDERTOWN SA 5268 Email: chairtdc@lm.net.au	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8754 6037 8754 6009 0419 546 037
Ross, John S (East Ward)	RSD 629 BORDERTOWN SA 5268 Email: alga@lm.net.au	Ph: Fax: Mbl:	8754 2035 8754 2081 0407 407 929
Walladge, Keith (R.K.) (West Ward)	PMB 81 KEITH SA 5267	Ph: Fax:	8757 8230 8757 8230

Elected Members Photographs



Cr Issy Belluzzo



Cr Ed Davis



Cr Bruno Lablack



Cr Edward Langley



Cr Margaret Malthouse



Cr Jan McLellan



Cr Mark Murphy



Cr Diana Penniment



Cr John Ross



Cr Keith Walladge

Council Group Photo



BACK ROW: Councillor John Ross, Councillor Ed Davis, CEO Geoff Piesse, Councillor Keith Walladge, Councillor Edward Langley, MTS Rob Harkness, Councillor Mark Murphy and Councillor Issy Belluzzo.

FRONT ROW: Councillor Jan McLellan, Councillor Bruno Lablack, Council Chairman Diana Penniment, MCS Nick Brown and Councillor Margaret Malthouse.

Manager Technical Services



Council did very well from grants from the State and Federal Governments during 2001/2002. The Federal Government provided \$365,000 through the Roads to Recovery Program whilst the State Government provided \$110,000 through the Regional Roads Program, Meatworks Rd and \$25,675 through BikeSouth for bike projects. We will receive Roads to Recovery funding for another 3 years and we have applied for further grants from the State but we have a lot of competition for the available funds.

This grant work on top of our normal program made for another busy year for staff in Council's Engineering and Environmental areas. Projects completed during the year included: -

Rural Roads

Council reconstructed a section of Meatworks Road which included widening the seal, improving the drainage and improving the access into and out of the meatworks. We constructed and sealed 1.6 kms of Chark Rd on the outskirts of Mundulla and 2 kms of Wirrega North Rd. We also sealed the shoulders of 1.9 kms of Pigeon Flat Rd to create a safe bike access route.

Council continued its program of resheeting its unsealed roads network. The following roads had sections rubbled or resheeted:

Bannealla East, Bells, Camerons, Chain Pump, Champness, Charlies Well, Eckerts, Hills, Milnes, Munes, Leaches, Moss Hinges, Nicholls, Old Stone Tank, Road 97, Scowns, Swedes Flat, Watsons and Willalooka Roads.

Council continued its resealing program with sections of Victoria Pde Bordertown, Emu Flat Rd (6 kms) and Cannawigara Rd (8 kms) resealed by Inroads Pty Ltd

Town Streets

Council continued its program of upgrading unsealed streets in the towns by:

- Kerbing and/or sealing sections of Hay Street, Venn Avenue, Second Street, Fifth Street, Milne Street, South Avenue and Ramsey Terrace in Bordertown. Kerbing was re-laid around the new supermarket
- At Wolseley sections of East Tce and Third St were constructed and sealed.
- At Keith sections of Anzac Tce and Heritage St were sealed and the roundabout was upgraded. A section of Barclay and Mary Sts were rubbled. Survey and design work was completed for upgrading of kerbing in Makin St and the intersection of Makin and Hender Sts.

Paving work continued in Woolshed Street between Farquhar St and North Tce. Although progress was slower than hoped, this project will continue in 2002/03 when we will start on the southern end of the street. A new footpath was paved around the new supermarket at Bordertown with some assistance from the owners. At Keith, sections of footpath in Hill Ave, Carinya Tce and Hender St were paved. Pavers were purchased for the upgrading of the footpath along Nalang Rd in Mundulla. These will be laid early in 2002-2003.

Underground pipes were laid in South Ave Bordertown to cater for stormwater from a new subdivision. New stormwater pumps were installed at the corner of Elm Ave & Fifth St Keith.

Staff

2002 saw a number of changes to our workforce. Our Works Supervisor East, Max Clifford, retired and was replaced by Peter Smith from Alice Springs Council. Ron Gersch our mechanic for 24 years resigned to start his own business and Frank Kneebone our Works Supervisor at Keith will be retiring in July 2002. Frank will be replaced by Grant Noble from Cleve District Council

Plant & Machinery

During the year Council changed over a grader at a cost of \$260,000 and a 5 m3 tip truck at a cost of \$60,000. We also changed over several utilities, four-wheel drive vehicles and sedans.

New Depot & Industrial Estate

Work commenced on Council's new depot at the Bordertown Industrial site. Steplen Constructions have the main building well under way which will allow Council staff and machinery to relocate to the new site prior to Christmas 2002. Work also commenced on Stage 2 of the Industrial Estate with underground power being laid.

Swimming Pool

Although the mild summer reduced attendances, the Bordertown Pool was still very popular with the public over the summer months. Over 14,000 people enjoyed the very attractive and user friendly facilities at the pool.

Township Amenity

Council, with the assistance of community groups, continued its effort to tidy up our roadsides, parks, gardens and reserves. This work included:

- New automatic watering systems at Lions Park Keith and Padthaway
- New plantings outside the TAFE Centre, Tolmer park and along the Tatiara Creek at Bordertown
- Shade sails and lights in Don Moseley Park at Keith
- Upgrading of the median strip at Bordertown
- General tree planting

Effluent Drainage

Work commenced again on a 5 year program to pump out septic tanks in our townships. Monitoring Programs and Contingency Plans were prepared for all our Schemes.

Cemeteries

Concrete beams were constructed in the Bordertown lawn cemetery. At Keith cemetery a new car park was constructed and the path to the lawn area was sealed.

Robert J Harkness

Manager Technical Services

Manager Corporate Services



Staff

At the 30th June 2002, Council employs 50 full time equivalent, permanent and casual staff.

Staff are to be congratulated on assisting Council through a very heavy workload and during a period where Council experienced several staff changes.

The external workforce has worked particularly hard in completing their projects and I am sure that the public will appreciate their work.

There have been some changes with the internal workforce in terms of management with Peter Wegener joining Council as Finance Manager. Peter has an extensive history in Local Government and brings to us many years experience in the finance area. The following staff have also joined Council in the past twelve months and all have settled into their roles very quickly:

- Linda Longbottom Executive Assistant
- Kelly Hutchinson Rates Officer
- Karen Drabsch Customer Service Officer – Keith Office

Council has significantly upgraded the computer system with a move to a terminal server network. The new network improves the communication between Keith and Bordertown offices and increases staff efficiency with access to shared files. The upgrade also significantly improves the security of Council's computer system.

Community Services

The community services portfolio of Council has continued to develop and grow. Some of the highlights of the year are included below:

- Keith Office/Westpac Instore -The Westpac In-Store continues to provide a valuable service to the Keith community and additional income for Council. Council is very keen to extend Government services in the Keith office and Service SA (State Government on-line initiative) has confirmed a trial of State Government services at the Keith Office. The Service SA trial will commence in July 2002. The Keith community has embraced the office and this usage will help to maintain its presence into the future.
- Year of the Volunteer- Council organised and financed community barbeques in both Bordertown and Keith to celebrate Year of the Volunteer and thank the many volunteers who work tirelessly in the Tatiara District.
- Active Australia - Council joined Active Australia in the Local Government Network. This Network provides Council with information and support in relation to increasing the level of activity in the community. Local sporting clubs and Tatiara residents participated in an "Active Australia Day" in the year 2001 and the event will be repeated this year.
- Youth Week Event - Council was again involved in the National Youth Week Event. After consultation with local youth a Movie Marathon event was organised and held in the Bordertown Civic Centre. Council arranged a bus to transport Keith youth to the event and the Movie Marathon was enjoyed by all who attended.

Visitor Information Centre

The Bordertown Visitor Information Centre has now been in operation since November 2000. The Bordertown VIC has worked extremely well and visitors have averaged 1,147 per month this year, which is a 16% increase from the first year of operation. Many Bordertown businesses have observed increased trading since the introduction of the Centre. The Centre has served many interstate and overseas travellers and I'm confident the well trained Council staff and volunteers have left a lasting impression on the visitors. Seventeen volunteers work at least once a month in the VIC and provide a very valuable backup to Council staff. The Centre has provided a venue for local businesses to promote their products and also enabled local artists to display their artwork. The Bordertown VIC has also supplied packaged information/general assistance and publicity for many Tatiara events. A Visitor Information Outlet has been established in Keith with Council's assistance at the Mobil Service Station.

In late June 2002 the Bordertown VIC hosted the Annual State Conference of Visitor Information Officers with 100 delegates attending the three days. The delegates stayed in Bordertown however each day's program was conducted in different venues in the Tatiara district. The conference was very successful and showcased the Tatiara to the delegates.

Nick Brown
Manager Corporate Services

Development Manager



The district has continued to develop in the past twelve months, which has continued to provide employment opportunities. Viticulture, horticulture and other farming enterprises have contributed significantly to the continued investment in the district. This is evident with the substantial investment and expansion of companies such as Ausbulk at Keith and Wolseley, Tatiara Meat Company, Blue Lake Oats, small seed establishments, machinery dealerships and many other enterprises.

As industries contemplate expansion, the residential accommodation shortage is having ramifications, as it is difficult to attract and retain labour. A Regional Workforce Accommodation Solutions Study undertaken by Hassell Pty was completed in March 2002 so hopefully some of the recommended solutions are implemented.

Managing underground water resources continues to be a very topical subject but the development of Catchment Water Management Plans, which will be integrated into the Council Development Plan, is a positive move. There needs to be a balance between economic returns and conservation so the water resource is sustainable for future generations.

Development - Planning

Planning policies are incorporated into Council's Development Plan. The Plan also contains objectives and principles, which are the basis for assessing land use applications. Legislation requires Council's to review a Development Plan every three years. The Development Plan review was completed in June 2002 in conjunction with the six other South East Councils.

Key issues identified in the review included:

- Development Plan policies should promote sustainable land use; promote value adding industries, environmental and natural resource management.
- Facilitate industry into the region.
- Management of water resources, dry land and groundwater salinity.

- The provision and suitability of infrastructure to support existing and new industries.
- Protect local heritage.
- Lack of residential accommodation for part and full time workers.

Council has recently commenced the process to amend the Tatiara District Council Development Plan that will involve consultation with the public and government agencies.

Development - Building

The value of building work in our district exceeded \$9,500,000 in the last twelve months.

Building Statistics - 1st July 2001 to 30th Jun 2002

Dwellings	37
Dwelling Additions	15
Commercial	7
Outbuildings	76
Other	15

Council controls the structural, technical and safety features of building work. Building work means the erection, construction, underpinning, alteration of, addition to or demolition of any building or structure. It includes:

- New buildings
- Alterations and extensions to existing buildings
- Garages, carports, toolsheds etc greater in area than 10m² and the building height being over 2.5 metres above natural ground level
- Pergolas if roofed (polycarbonate or steel)
- Swimming Pools

Building Inspection Policy

Council's building inspection policy requires Council to inspect a majority of building work at least once and residential buildings at least twice.

Development Assessment Panels

The Development Assessment Panel has been in operation for approximately twelve months. Council has recently reviewed the Terms of Reference and the operation of the Panel. No changes were made to the membership of the Panel or the Terms of Reference.

The Panel assesses applications that are:

- Non Complying
- Controversial
- Subject to third party representations

There have been sixteen decisions made on applications by the Panel in the past twelve months with fifteen applications approved and one refused. There have not been any appeals to the Environment, Resources and Development Court against a Panel decision or conditions imposed on an approval.

The Panel comprises of the following members:

Councillors I Belluzzo (presiding member), D Penniment, J McLellan, M. Murphy, M Malthouse, K Walladge and Council's Development Manager R.Callisto.

Native Vegetation Advisory Body

Council's Advisory Body, which comment on native vegetation clearance applications, has been in operation for approximately 2 years. The primary role of the group is to comment on the amenity value of vegetation under application. It may also comment on other aspects where relevant to the principles of clearance set out in the Native Vegetation Act and where the body believes it has appropriate qualifications or experience to provide such comments.

The Advisory Body members are:

David Lowe (Chairman), Charles Crozier (Secretary), John Samuel-White, Ed Davis, Peter Will, Kym Vogelsang, Bryan Paech.

Wolseley Water Scheme

Council has now taken over the operation of the water scheme in Wolseley. As part of the upgrade Council replaced the water meters and installed a new bore which is providing an improved water supply to residents on the southern side of town in addition to being a back up water supply.

Council Building Projects

The new toilet block has been completed at the Willalooka recreation grounds, which is an excellent facility for locals and passing motorists.

Council has also contributed \$75,000 towards the construction of new toilets at the Mundulla showgrounds.

The walkway between the Council offices and the Civic Centre has been converted to an art gallery/public display area. The upgrade included rendering walls and improved lighting. An area of the Council foyer has also been altered to include a glass wall, improved lighting and carpet, which is used for the "Bob Hawke Gallery". Council displays the painting purchased of Bob Hawke and other memorabilia in this area.

Rocky Callisto
Development Manager

Finance Manager



I commenced duties with Council on 20th February 2002. Shortly after commencing it was time to commence the annual budget preparations and subsequently the end of financial year accounts to be prepared for audit. Whilst I have worked in Local Government for 28 years, the majority of this time being a Finance Manager, it is a challenge to join a new Council.

Annual Budget

Meetings were held during June 2002 to consider the annual budget and Council then adopted this at their meeting held on 9th July 2002. The budget included a 5% increase in rate revenue. Valuations throughout the Council area increased by 28%, or approximately \$200M. This resulted in a decrease in the rate in dollar to reflect the 5% increase in rates. The Council also received an increase in the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants of approximately 19%. Overall the annual budget predicts a deficit of \$63,918.00. the budget is reviewed quarterly throughout the financial year by the Council.

30th June 2002 Financial Statements

The 30th June 2002 Financial Statements have been prepared and were audited in November 2002. The audit statements are at the back of this report.

Full Cost Accounting

As part of the development of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Financial Management Regulations 1999, Councils are now required to implement a change in the way they regard costs. The change has been made to assist Councils to make more informed decisions based on a more accurate cost accounting basis.

BPay

Council has implemented the payment of rates by BPay. This can be seen on your rate notices. I urge you to use this method of payment, as it is quicker and cheaper for Council to operate. If you require further information on the BPay method of payment, please contact your bank or financial institution.

Peter W Wegener
Finance Manager

Library Manager



Statistics

Current Borrowers

Adults 2090

Children 674

Total Loans 45564

2001/02 has been a busy year for library staff. A number of programs and events were commenced and we have seen many people through the library door. Statistics show that library membership continues to increase, so too has the annual loans figure.

The beginning of the year saw a new library trainee commence. Dianne Smith spent twelve months with us in the library carrying out all library duties with great enthusiasm, whilst studying Certificate III in library studies as part of her traineeship.

Staff attended a presentation evening by Mem Fox, which focused on the benefits of reading to small children in order to develop lifelong reading skills. This coincided with the library's storytelling for under 5's program. Staff returned with ideas and motivation to improve our storytelling program. Whilst in Adelaide staff also visited Salisbury Library Service to gain an insight into operations of a large metropolitan library service.

With the arrival of a number of immigrants to the Bordertown area library staff had to look at how services could be delivered as many of them had limited English. However they were keen to learn and were also interested in utilizing resources the library had to offer. Thus library staff taught several migrants how to access the newspaper in their language on the internet and also provided books from a central collection in their language. Conversational English meetings were held in the library and Pat Martlew, library assistant continues to volunteer her own time to run these meetings.

School holiday programs continued to be popular with several activities held, including slime making, picture frame decorating, lip gloss making and terracotta pot decorating.

For the first time the Bordertown Library held a literary evening. Author Ann Clancy provided an entertaining talk about her life as an author and some of the yarns she has come across whilst researching her books. We hope to make this a regular event as it was received so well.

Administrative changes which have occurred include, Robyn Collins Associate Director of PLAIN Central Services finished and was replaced by Tania Paull who was the Library Manager at Salisbury Library Service. A review of library funding was carried out and it was determined that funding per capita is still the fairest way to allocate library funds. Community Information funding was also reviewed and it was determined that that would also be allocated based on population despite in the past when “first dressed – best dressed” was the system used.

Overall a successful year for both the library and staff. We look forward to another year of challenges and change, with a fresh coat of paint and new carpet to be laid.

Tammie Porter
Library Manager

Section 41 Community Committees

Under the Local Government Act, 1999, Council has established the following Section 41 Committees of Council to manage Council owned facilities. All Committees have provided an activity report.

Bordertown Civic Centre Management Committee		Bordertown on the Move Committee		Bordertown Sports & Showgrounds Management Committee	
Chairman:	Tammie Porter	Chairman:	Dennis Hudd	Chairman:	Nick Brown
Secretary:	Nancy Mattinson	Secretary:	Vida Maney	Secretary:	rotating
Members:	Merrilyn Bittner	Members:	Christine Butler	Members:	Gavin Blackwell
ex-officio	Rocky Callisto	ex-officio	Geoff Piesse		Greg Flavel
	Jenny Hunt		Neville Carter		Ken Grey
	Robert Mackereth		Viesturs Ceilens		Bob Hunter
	Jen Mattinson		Merrilyn Cox		Ken Inglis
	Chris Muster		Wayne Dodd		Cherie Jolly
	Kerren Neale		Jamie Edwards		Max Mead
	Yvonne Paech		Darryl Foulis		Rose Milton
			Don Hunt		Phil Salmon
			Mark Lamb		Liz Wurst
			Ted Langley		Chris Wurst
			Jack Lawson		
			John Maney		
			Ken McInerney		
			Ken McPhee		
			Doug Murch		
			Cr Diana Penniment		
			Beryl Pietsch		
			R. Rodda		
			Merrilyn Scott		
			Brett Smedley		
			Trevor Thomas		
Meetings held:	3rd Wednesday monthly	Meetings held:	3rd Thursday monthly	Meeting held:	Thursdays as necessary
	in Bordertown Public Library at 8pm		in Council Committee Room at 8pm		in Council Committee Room at 6pm
Contact:	Tammie Porter	Contact:	Dennis Hudd	Contact:	Nick Brown
C/-	Bordertown Public Library		PO Box 58, Bordertown SA 5268		Council Office PO Box 346 Bordertown
Phone:	87521473	Phone:	87522547	Phone:	87521044

Clayton Farm Heritage Museum Committee		Tatiara District Memorial Pool Committee		Tatiara Native Vegetation Advisory Group	
Chairman:	Geoff Piesse	Chairman:	Mick O'Connell	Chairman:	David Lowe
Secretary:	Phyllis Brophy	Secretary:	Rosemary Gibbons	Secretary:	Charles Crozier
Treasurer	Shirley Smedley	Members:	Jenny Campbell	Members:	Cr Ed Davis
	Brian Altus	Proxy	Sandy Crawford	ex-officio	Rocky Callisto
	Geoff Clarke	Ex-officio	Rob Harkness		Bryan Paech
	Muriel Compton		Maryke Krop		John Samuel-White
	Robyn Ellard		David Maney		Kym Vogelsang
	Richard Halleday		Paul Noonan		Peter Will
	Jack Henderson		Cathy Rodert		
	Louise Henderson		Peter Stewart		
	Jeff Holly		Sue Walter		
	Mick McMaster		Heather Warncken		
	Neil Smedley				
	Jeff Wiese				
	Phil Salmon				
Meetings held:	1st Thursday monthly	Meetings held:	3rd Monday monthly	Meetings held:	when necessary
	at Clayton Farm at 8.00 pm		at Swimming Clubrooms 8 pm during season		by committee
Contact:	Phyllis Brophy	Contact:	Rosemary Gibbons	Contact:	David Lowe
	PO Box 596, Bordertown SA 5268		64 Milne Street, Bordertown SA 5268		25 East Terrace, Mundulla SA 5270
	Phone: 87520918		Phone: 87521566		Phone: 87534148



Tatiara Road Safety Group		Tatiara Roadside Vegetation		Tatiara Tourism Group	
Chairman:	Peter Cook	Chairman:		Chairman:	Jo Edwards
Secretary:	Rob Harkness	Secretary:		Secretary:	Chris Mackereth
Members:	Trevor Beams	Members:	Brian Clarke	Members:	Heather Cozens
ex-officio	Geoff Piesse	ex-officio	Rob Harkness	ex-officio	Geoff Piesse
	Nilesh Bhindi		Cr Ed Davis		Bob Dungey
	Roger Clothier		Keith Lee		Robyn Ellard
	P Davis		Jenny McInerney		Pam & Daryl Foulis
	Mary Dawkins		Grant Noble		Norma Goldsmith
	Ron Gersch		Peter Smith		Helena Klemich
	Ray Hill		Trevor Thomas		Hugh Koch
	Don Hunt				Cr Bruno Lablack
	Chris Mackereth				Ken Maidment
	Cr Margaret Malthouse				Cr M Malthouse
	Brenton Mattiske				Annie Moorhouse
	Cr Jan McLellan				Mandy Moss
	Cr Mark Murphy				Shane Redden
	Heather Parker				Ian Ridgway
	Stow Penniment				Ted Skewes
	Bordertown Police Rep.				Lynette Staude
	Ian Ridgway				Brian Wiese
	N. Schnickel				Rob Zubin
	Mark Taylor				
	Karen Woodcock				
Meetings held:	2nd Monday monthly	Meetings held:	when necessary	Meetings held:	2nd Wednesday monthly
	in Council Committee Room at 5.30pm		by committee		in Council Committee Room at 6.00pm
Contact: Rob Harkness		Contact: Rob Harkness		Contact: Chris Mackereth	
Council Office PO Box 346 Bordertown		Council Office PO Box 346 Bordertown		Bordertown Visitor Information Centre	
Phone: 87521044		Phone: 87521044		Phone: 87520700	

Tatiara Towns		Wolseley RS&L Community Rec Club	
Chairman:		Chairman:	Jim McLellan
Secretary:	Vida Maney	Secretary:	Joy Wise
Members:	Chris Butler	Members:	John Ballinger
ex-officio	Geoff Piesse		Simon Ballinger
	A Haselton		Ivan Batchelor
	Bill Hender		Heather Batchelor
	Helena Klemich		Bob Buckley
	Cr M Malthouse		Bill Makin
	Adrian Packer		Jeff Makin
	Joy Wise		Cr Jan McLellan
			Ellis Melis
			Grant Wise
Meetings held:	to be advised	Meetings held:	when determined necessary
			by committee
Contact: Nick Brown		Contact: Joy Wise	
Council Office PO Box 346 Bordertown SA		PO Box 31, Wolseley SA 5269	
Phone: 87521044		Phone: 87532211	



Section 41 Committees - Activity Reports

Bordertown Civic Centre Management Committee

The Bordertown Civic Centre continues to be a central focus for community activities. Although Table tennis and Kindergym are the regular users of the main hall, weddings and cabarets have also featured. Country Arts SA and Talents of the Tatiara made use of the whole complex.

The committee members were excited to be able to bring cinema back to the district. Although plans were in place for this project the arrival of a Cinema Technician, Dan Perger, brought a new perspective. Under Dan's instruction enthusiastic young men have been training to become cinema operators. One of these is now able to go solo. This is a valuable skill that they can use in the future as well as contributing to entertainment for the community.

Necessary repairs and maintenance including extensive electrical re-wiring in the theatre have continued and we look forward to improvements in the kitchen area and the purchase of new attached leg tables replacing the old long trestles.

The theatre still receives praise from visiting performers and delegates visiting for the Country Arts SA Conference applauded the whole complex.

There are many more opportunities for the continued use and development of the Bordertown Civic Centre.

Nancy Mattinson Chairman

Bordertown on the Move

It is with pleasure I present the Annual Report of Bordertown on the Move for the year 2001-2002.

There have been eight meetings held during the year with a recess in December and January, our year not starting until August 2001 and my report closing at the May 2002 meeting. Disregarding the time frame the committee has kept on track and projects are in the pipeline. It never ceases to amaze me until I put the years work on paper, the issues and subjects that we have addressed.

In March the committee arranged their annual community consultation meeting. The participants revisited the work accomplished with approval and then looked ahead at the next stage. The meeting was adamant that the next stage must aesthetically match work already completed.

The consultation and documentation of Stage 3, the Western Entrance to Bordertown, is funded by a \$6,500 grant from Planning SA – Streets Ahead Program.

August saw the successful completion of Jeff Creaser's Sculpture Gates at the Showgrounds at the southern end of Woolshed Street. These were funded with a grant from SA Country Arts to the value of \$2,335.

With \$20,000 already in hand, we have been successful in receiving a further 2 grants for the final Art Feature, the Water Tower Sculpture at the Recreation Lake. An \$11,000 grant from Arts SA and a further \$2,500 from Partnerships and Collaboration – Country Arts SA, make up the total cost of \$33,800 for this wonderful sculpture.

Roger Noakes has been commissioned to complete the third piece that he previously designed for this area. Work has started on this project. My sincere thanks to Doug Murch for the overseeing of this particular project.

We witnessed the completion of the Gateway Henge in Tolmer Park in late October in time for the State Country Arts Conference. This project was in the form of a partnership with Martin Corbin working with Shane Redden to create the Henge and imaginative play equipment. Funding of \$4,000 came from the Regional Arts Partnership and Collaborations program.

Other projects completed are the entrance flagpoles and flags obtained, TAFE corner beds constructed, drippers and plants installed and shredded bark on the medium strip.

As a committee we work closely with Council Officers Brian Wiese and Neville Carter and we say thank you to them for the liaison and help given to our volunteer gardening group. A big thank you to the wonderful work this group continues to do.

The Rotary Club continues to maintain and clean the Highway from Caltex to the eastern side of the overpass with their KESAB Roadwatch program. They have also erected a new BBQ shelter in Memorial Park and paved the area and contributed \$4,000 to this project.

Brett Smedley continues to keep the Recreational Lake supplied with fish and fishing contests are a regular feature. Thank you Brett.

Our representative on the Tatiara Towns Committee has been Christine Butler. As a committee we continue our involvement with KESAB and in 2001 collected a number of awards. This year we have instigated the Primary and High Schools to take part in this project.

Our monthly awards continue and are very popular with the recipients, it is a very small way to say thank you to our community. Recipients this year being the Racing Club, Memorial Park Tennis Club, Highway Christian Centre, Council Gardening Staff, Bordertown Football Club and McCarthy Transport.

A special meeting was held in May to discuss how we might best celebrate 150 years of the Gold Escort Route. This celebration will take place in the coming year if enough community interest is forthcoming.

I sincerely thank the Bordertown on the Move committee for the nomination of me for an SA Great Award. Receiving this award is something that I will never forget. It was a great night but the implications go further than just me, it was a great night for Bordertown. The town also received accolades and what a great way to provide heaps of free publicity to a really switched on group of people.

This is the sad part for me now. To all the committee members thank you so much for your commitment, time and your friendship, during my term of office. Special thanks to Vida our minute secretary, my private advisor and mentor. You have always had time to sit (I hope) and listen when I've been on the other end of the phone and your knowledge never ceases to amaze me. As I have said before I am just another person doing my little bit to make this town and area a better place.

I believe in the last 10 years this committee and our community has taken a huge step forward and I wish the Bordertown on the Move committee success with their future endeavors.

Diana Penniment Chairman

Bordertown Sports and Showgrounds

The Bordertown Sports & Showgrounds Management Committee has now been in operation for more than 18 months. The committee coordinates the activities of the nine clubs that use the land known as the Bordertown Showgrounds. The majority of issues raised by the various clubs concern maintenance of the land and buildings. Tatiara District Council has set aside \$2,000 in the 2002-2003 budget to assist with maintenance of the grounds.

Tatiara District Council will enter into five-year leases with each of the clubs using the grounds. The leases will be negotiated with the clubs and will clearly set out the responsibilities of all parties.

Bryan Paech resigned as Chairman after twelve months and his input and experience was invaluable during the formation of the management committee.

Nick Brown Chairman

Clayton Farm Heritage Museum Management Committee

This year has seen a significant change come to Clayton Farm. This has come in the form of having to meet the exacting standards of Councils 'Risk Management Policy' and secondly the farm has delightful caretakers who treat Clayton Farm as if they owned it.

The area of 'Risk Management' came as quite a shock for all of us and after a thorough inspection by Council's Risk Management Coordinator it was decided that the farm should be closed to the public for a short period until the various defects and problems were resolved. The committee members were outstanding in their response. Blackboard lists were made up, jobs delegated and the work commenced in earnest. The result saw Clayton Farm reopen in a few short weeks looking much better and in particular much safer. Since that time a variety of ongoing projects, all designed to improve safety of the public have been implemented. The icing on the cake has been the love and attention shown by Jack and Louise Henderson, the resident caretakers. The gardens and lawns look good, untidy areas have been cleaned up and visitors are impressed at what they see. I can recommend a visit by any ratepayer, you will be impressed with what you see - Clayton Farm has changed for the better! The hard work of this committee was recognised in the annual Limestone Coast Tourism Awards when the committee won the 'Volunteers of the Year' award. This is a great effort and one well deserved.

The committee has also embarked on its own strategic planning and is currently completing its own document that will help guide them through the next three years. I would like to congratulate this committee on a great year with their great camaraderie.

Geoff Piesse Chairman

Tatiara District Memorial Pool Management Committee

The swimming season started on Sunday 18th November 2001 and closed on Sunday 24th March 2002. Cool conditions prevailed throughout the summer meaning attendance numbers were down, but this was offset by cheaper running costs for the pool in chemicals and staff salaries. The numbers of season tickets sold were only slightly down on last year.

The Pool Management Committee, together with support from the Tatiara District Council, aims to not only maintain but to improve the standard of the pool each year. This year either prior to the commencement of the season or during the season a number of improvements were made including:

- Partially solar heating the pool - a major priority and expense
- Sports shirts and hats for pool staff
- Concrete placed around basketball ring
- Pavers placed around heavy traffic areas
- Minor maintenance including painting of the seats.

The pool was inspected by the Royal Life Saving Society and a report was provided. They were impressed by the pool, and surroundings but have made some recommendations, mainly regarding safety signage and providing a designated first aid area. Much of the signage has been addressed and other areas are in progress or will be addressed by the committee when meetings resume in August.

Early morning swimming, school swimming and Vac Swim continued with many positive comments made on the quality of the water and standard of the pool surrounds. Some of the newer activities commenced during the season included Cathy Rodert's swimming classes, the Pool Life Guards course run by the Royal Life Saving Society, which included the use of a spinal board and oxygen equipment and a Swimathon fund raiser, in conjunction with Royal Life, where of the \$2000 raised our half was put towards the purchase of a solar blanket. In the coming season a similar event may be run, but organised by the committee so all the funds can be retained and put toward the solar blanket.

The solar blanket is seen as a priority because cool nights, worse if associated with a breeze, takes away a considerable amount of the heat from the water. Some funds have been sought for the solar blanket through a grant application made to the Department of Recreation and Sport. The solar heating and solar blanket together should improve the water temperature and the number of people using the pool.

Mick O'Connell Chairman

Tatiara Road Safety Group

The Tatiara Road Safety Group meets on a monthly basis to discuss road safety problems and issues that relate to, or have an effect on, the Tatiara Council area. Members include representatives from Transport SA, Police, Service Clubs, Schools, Emergency Services, Community Health, Council and the public. Anyone interested in attending a meeting or who has a safety issue of concern should contact Chairperson Peter Cook at Keith, or Secretary Rob Harkness at the Council office.

Issues receiving attention over the last 12 months included:

School bus safety - during the year the Government agreed to the placing of rotating lights that operate when buses are indicating to turn. Our group had been pushing for improved safety for school buses for some time.

Rough section of the Dukes Highway - The group is concerned re the very rough section of this highway between Bordertown and the Victorian border. We have contacted federal and state politicians to try and get this important national highway upgraded.

Speed limits - our group assisted local communities at Padthaway and at Willalooka to get speed limits reduced

Rail Crossings - highlighting to Council the need to have rail crossings upgraded in and around Wolseley

Other Issues – included:

- Attended several Road Safety Conferences and forums
- Assisting with the Driver Reviver at Keith and the Lions Clubs Defensive Driving Course for young drivers
- Assisting the Bordertown Primary School to get their school crossing upgraded
- Pushing for improved footpaths in our towns
- Notified Transport SA and Council of any issues relating to road safety such as ill placed or lack of signage and long grass restricting driver vision.

Robert Harkness Secretary

Tatiara Tourism Group

My year as Chairman has been a big learning curve and as I look back over the year I see things that have been achieved, some still in the pipe line, some a long way from being achieved.

The good news is that we have four new members to the Group Ian Ridgway, Bob Dungey, Pam & Daryl Foulis and there has been an expression of interest from the new owners from the Willalooka Tavern that I hope will come to fruition. Unfortunately we lost our secretary and VIC manager – Barb Gilmore who has returned to Canada, we will miss her, but welcome Chris Mackereth to the team as the new secretary and VIC manager.

This year we have seen the development of a new brochure for the Tatiara, which for the first time has included advertising. I believe the end result is outstanding, and Barb is to be congratulated for her tireless effort. It has been a huge success and we have already had to order a reprint.

In July 2001 the committee recognised that Clayton farm was in need of some help and guidance and the committee met at Clayton Farm and walked around noting ideas. We then workshopped our ideas and presented them to the Clayton Farm Committee. The biggest problem we saw was the untidiness of the place with an array of old and un-useful junk. The garden was in disrepair and looking very sad. I followed up with a letter of support for a gardening grant, although I believe it was unsuccessful. On a recent drive through I was pleased to see the place looking neat and tidy, with new paths and garden beds greatly improving the appearance.

Throughout the year I attended a couple of workshops one for the State Tourism where we tossed ideas around as to where we saw Tourism in our area heading. I also attended a workshop in Mount Gambier on Festivals and Events, which I gained a lot from. A big problem with organising Events and Festivals is the ever-increasing public liability insurance, which we discussed in great detail. We also discussed how to plan and obtain financing for events. I have some very good notes for future reference.

In September some members of the group held a Mystery Tour of the Tatiara, with a big thanks to Ken Maidment for vehicle and tour guide. Besides being a nice day out we discovered quite a few things that need attention or could be improved. One of our major concerns was the Poocher Swamp and its dangers and lack of signage. Shane Redden is in the process of making some lovely red-gum signs for the entrance. National Parks and Wildlife have allocated significant amounts to this year's budget to deal with interpretive signage and safety. We also discovered a few places that we didn't know existed including an Old Stone Tank round and Darwent's Water Hole. Christmas Rocks was another place that we thought could be improved and it was suggested that a new entrance to the area may stop it being used as a toilet spot. The new toilets at Willalooka may help this too. In October I took 3 RAA employees on a tour of the area and had great feed back from them. We also engaged our long awaited photographer, courtesy of Limestone Coast Tourism; consequently we now have some more photos for the promotional library.

This year we have had a number of guest speakers to speak to the group

John Deckart from West Print

Speaking about maps in particular 4WD maps. The group was interested in following this up a map for the area. I am still involved in discussions with Limestone Coast and have had a good indication that we will gain support from them both financially and physically. I understand they have included 4WD mapping in their budget for this year, as have we.

Karen Hunt from 5tcb Radio

We asked Karen to come and explain and help us understand what was involved in setting up a Tourism Radio Station in the area. Karen discovered Bordertown already has a transmitter, but was unsure if it still worked. She also brought some more costings for us. This is something that we are still following up and hope to achieve this year.

Cherie Jolly from Moot Yang Gunya Outback Festival/Stockman's Challenge

We asked Cherie to come along and explain the festival and offer our help. They seem very organised and I understand, to their credit, it was a very successful event.

Peter Stone from Keith

Discussed the possibility of extending the Bluebird trips with connecting tours of the area, we encouraged Peter, but suggested that he do some more homework into where we could take visitors once they have arrived in the Tatiara. Unfortunately Peter came back saying that the public liability insurance would make it an unprofitable venture.

In April Barb Gilmore, Geoff Piesse and myself met with the West Wimmera Tourism group in the hope to join a partnership in helping each other to promote each other. I think this is a great idea and another meeting was suggested for August.

In conclusion, Tatiara Tourism has some great projects for this year including a video that Limestone Coast has offered to match \$1 for \$1 towards an advertising campaign, a tourism radio station, partnership promotions with West Wimmera, just to name a few. Signage is still an issue and we are constantly receiving requests for signage around the area. The replacement of the Civic Guide Sign is another ongoing project. On a down side we are still

having trouble obtaining the numbers to our meetings which I am finding increasingly disturbing and wonder which direction we could head to improve this.

Jo Edwards Chairman

Tatiara Towns

Meetings alternated between towns, with the host town providing the chairperson.

1st August 2001 – held at Mundulla with A Packer in the Chair. This was the last of the truly representative meetings with seven present. Two major projects reached completion at this time, the Town Walks Project and Tatiara Shopping bags.

It was decided that each town should return to their community for consultation for future projects. Unfortunately Jayne Day was unable to act as facilitator. CEO Geoff Piesse said that when P Kenyons visit did not happen he would act as facilitator but this did not eventuate. When there were no new projects to work toward the Tatiara Towns Committee seemed to “run out of steam”.

For the next four meetings there were only four members present.

7th November 2001 – at Cr M Malthouse’s home, Keith with W Hender in the Chair.

6th February 2002 - at the Wolseley Sports Centre with J Wise in the Chair.

1st May 2002 – at the Bordertown Public Library with V Maney (B/T Proxy) in Chair.

7th August 2002 – at the Willalooka Tavern with L Johnson in the Chair.

At each of these meetings reports from each centre were received. A valuable exchange of ideas and support for each other.

At the August 2002 meeting it was considered that while the value of the collective voice of small towns was considerable, while attendances were so low it was not possible to take on major projects. For this reason it was decided to approach Tatiara Tourism to see if Tatiara Towns representatives could attend and the committees amalgamate. It was considered that the aims and objectives of the two committees were very similar and it could mean two struggling committees could form one stronger one.

Toward achieving this two members attended the Tatiara Tourism AGM and the Chairman of that group was to approach the CEO re amalgamation but this was not resolved prior to his departure.

Vida Maney Minute Secretary

Tatiara Native Vegetation Advisory Group

At the annual meeting of the Committee David Lowe (Chairman) and Charles Crozier (Secretary) were re-elected to their respective positions. Other members of the Advisory Committee are Ed Davis, John Samuel-White, Kym Vogelsang, Peter Will and Bryan Paech.

During the past year there have been three on site inspections carried out by the Advisory Committee as a result of the clearance applications. I am pleased to report all members were involved in at least one of the inspections with four members attending all three.

During the year John Samuel-White and David Lowe attended an inspection on the property of TJ & MK Griffin, with Tony Latz from the Biodiversity Assessment Section to discuss a Native Vegetation Clearance application that was the subject of much discussion. I felt this meeting was very valuable, as it gave Tony an understanding of the issues that the Advisory Body had raised in the response to the application.

As the Advisory Committee has been in existence for over two years now, there seems to be an improved acceptance of comments, when responding to applications and better integration of the groups involved in the decision making process. This is also evident with Biodiversity Assessment reports, which relate to specific applications, being made available to the Tatiara District Council for information. The feedback we have received has been very positive.

A concern of the committee is the lack of care by a minority of landowners during burning off operations. This has resulted in the loss of a number of fine native trees in the Tatiara.

David Lowe Chairman

Tatiara Roadside Vegetation Management Group

This group consists of 3 members of the public, Brian Clarke, Trevor Thomas and Jenny McInerney, who have knowledge of, and an interest in native vegetation. They provide advice to Council in line with Councils approved Roadside Vegetation Management Guidelines on any applications, either from landowners or from Council, to remove vegetation on Council road reserves. They are appointed by Council and endorsed by the Native Vegetation Council. The group meets on an “as required” basis but individual members inspect roadside sites on a more regular basis.

Council is in the process of reviewing its Roadside Vegetation Management Policy.

Tatiara residents and land holders are reminded that:

- Native vegetation includes grasses, bushes and shrubs as well as larger trees.
- They cannot remove or damage any native vegetation on roadsides without the approval of Council.
- Any removal must be in line with Councils Roadside Vegetation policy, a copy of which can be obtained by contacting the Council office.

Robert Harkness

Wolseley RSL & Community Club

Through the year the town water supply was transferred to the council.
The community club contracted Sky Works to lop & chip large gum trees along the main street. The plantation of trees is growing well.
Outdoor table & seats have been purchased for the playground.
Main fundraising continues to be from grain sales.

Joy Wise Secretary



Equal Employment Opportunity

Council's Equal Opportunity Policy clearly states that Council has a commitment to appointment on merit and a policy to provide equal opportunity for all persons regardless of sex, race, marital status, religious belief, physical ability or sexual preference.

Issues associated with EEO are covered under the umbrella of Council's Consultative Committee and Single Bargaining Unit and not by a specific EEO Committee. Experience has shown that this is a very satisfactory method of dealing with all EEO issues.

Cost Effective Delivery

Council has not subjected itself to the rigors of competitive tendering to date. Council is however currently pursuing policies including full-cost attribution, unit-based costing and benchmarking to ensure that it is providing its services in a cost-effective manner.

Council does tender out a large number of services including refuse collection and disposal, septic tank cleaning, the cleaning of public toilets, resealing of sealed roads and streets, rubble raising, footpath construction works, some patrol grading and parks & gardens maintenance works. In other cases Council uses contractors and their plant and machinery to supplement its own workforce in order to carry out road construction and maintenance works.

Whilst Council does not have a written policy on the use of purchasing locally in practice, we do strongly support the local businesses and will generally opt to use local services, providing that the service is actually available and that it is reasonably competitive.

Community Management Plans

Council has until 1 January 2003 to prepare a register of community land. The preparation of this register has commenced and involves the following information:

- Title description
- Address and name of land (if any)
- Area of land
- Details of any lease or licence
- Copy of management plan (development of a management plan if it does not exist).

Council may also resolve to exclude land from the community land classification, for example land that Council has resolved to sell (Industrial Estate). The exclusion of land must also be completed by 1 January 2003.

Council may resolve to exclude land but it must undertake public consultation in accordance with Council's public consultation policy.

Strategic Management Planning

Council will adopt this Strategic Management Plan early in the next financial year. It sets out the direction of Council for the next three years. The Plan itself is a new requirement of the Local Government Act 1999 and it has been developed with the consultation of many sectors of the Tatiara Community.

The ongoing development of the Tatiara community has always been a priority of Council, which believes that the development of this plan and the associated Annual Business Plan will further strengthen our commitment to be a progressive and vibrant Council.

Council has always welcomed community involvement in its many and varied projects and accordingly we welcome any written comments on the contents of this document. Comments should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer.

Council Policy Documents

Under the Local Government Act 1999, Council is required to list policy documents of the Council current at the end of the financial year. These policies include:

- (a) Council Policy Manual
- (b) Delegated Authorities Manual
- (c) Meeting Code of Practice Policy
- (d) Elected Members' Allowance & Support Policy
- (e) Control of Election Signs Policy
- (f) Public Consultation Policy
- (g) Competitive Tendering, Contracting, Purchasing, Sale and Disposal of Land and other Assets Policy
- (h) Rating Policy
- (i) Council Fees & Charges Policy
- (j) Code of Conduct for Elected Members, Officers & Employees of Local Government
- (k) Cemetery Policy
- (l) Order Making Policy

Mandatory Registers

Under the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999, Council is required to list the following registers:

- (a) Members' Register of Interest
- (b) Members' Register of Allowances and Benefits
- (c) Officers Register of Remuneration
- (d) Officers Register of Interest

- (e) Community Land Register
- (f) Bylaw Register
- (g) Public Roads Register

Mandatory Codes of Conduct or Practice

Under the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999, Council is required to list the following codes of conduct or practice:

- (a) Meeting Code of Practice
- (b) Code of Conduct for Elected members, Officers and Employees of Local Government
- (c) Code of Practice – Access to Council Meetings & Documents

Training/Human Resource Programmes

Training costs of \$54,382 were incurred. Courses aimed at improving knowledge, skills, efficiency and work safety included:

South Australian Institute Rates Administrators
 Superannuation Coordinators
 Awards Legislation
 Development for Customer Service
 Career Path Planning
 Preparing Council & Committee Meeting Agendas
 Senior First Aid
 Service SA
 Enterprise Bargaining
 State Library Data Base
 Australian Bureau of Statistics
 Westpac In-Store
 Fire Safety/Fire Warden
 Sustainability Awareness
 Full Cost Attribution
 Workzone Traffic Management
 Injury Management
 Gravesafe
 Integrated Pest Management
 Team Building Workshop
 Civil Skills Traineeships in Horticulture and in Civil Construction(Plant)
 AWU Delegate
 Associate Diploma in Surveying

Freedom of Information

Information Summary

This information summary is published by the District Council of Tatiara in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991.

Council is pleased to comply with this regulation and welcomes enquiries under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Policy and Administrative Documents

- Standing Committee Agendas
- Standing Committee Minutes
- Ordinary Council Agendas
- Ordinary Council Minutes
- The Policy Manual
- Delegated Authorities Manual
- The Budget Statement
- Annual Financial Accounts
- Council By-Laws
- Council Corporate Plan
- Annual Report

2. Information Statement

Council publishes an Information Statement on its requirements under the Freedom of Information Act. The most recent Statement was published in November 2001 and a copy is available from the Council Office.

Freedom of Information enquiries or requests must be addressed to the Manager Corporate Services, Tatiara District Council, Box 346, Bordertown SA 5268; Telephone 08 8752 1044.

3. Certificates Issued Under Section 65zy

No certificates relating to FOI requests were issued under Section 65zy of the Freedom of Information Act in the twelve months to June 2002.

Confidentiality Provisions

In fulfilling the role of an effective Council that is responsive to the needs of the community and operates within the legal framework as prescribed by the Local Government Act, the District Council of Tatiara is fully committed to the principle of open and accountable Government, whilst recognising that on some occasions it may be necessary in the broader community interest to restrict public access to discussion or documents.

A copy of this code is displayed in the Council Office. The Council will supply a copy of the code if requested but a fee of \$2.50 will apply.

Any enquiries in relation to the process for seeking access to documents held by the Council should be directed to Council's nominated Freedom of Information Officer, Mr Nick Brown, Manager Corporate Services on (08) 8752 1044.

National Competition Principles

The State Government, Local Government Association and Councils have agreed on principles and procedures for applying the Federal Government's National Competition Policy. As such Councils have agreed on a model procedure for handling complaints against the Council in regard to this policy.

Complaints Mechanism and Reporting Requirements

Considerable time has been spent discussing the manner in which Councils could manage complaints and to ensure that there is compatibility with the State's process.

The State Government has set up a competitive neutrality complaints mechanism and any complaints it receives regarding Local Government bodies will be referred to Local Government in the first instance. The Clause 7 Statement encourages each Local Government authority to establish a system for handling complaints and competitive neutrality. Where a complainant is dissatisfied with the Local Government response to a complaint, the matter will be further investigated by the Competition Complaints Commissioner established under the GBE (Competition Act).

Further information regarding the Clause 7 Statement and National Competition Principles can be obtained from Council's Manager Corporate Services on (08) 8752 1044.

Council's Representation Quota

The Tatiara District Council area has been divided internally into areas known as wards. Wards are an electoral division for the election of Councillors to the Council and Tatiara District Council consists of an East Ward and West Ward. There is a requirement in the Local Government Act (Section 33) that the number of people represented by a Councillor in a ward, i.e. the ward quota, must not vary by more than 10% from other wards. Currently the District Council of Tatiara has 5,526 electors broken into East Ward 3,874 and West Ward 1,652. East Ward with 7 Councillors has a Councillor/Elector ratio of 1:553 while West Ward with 3 Councillors has a Councillor/Elector ratio of 1:550.

Representation Quota for Councils of A Similar Size & Type

Naracoorte Lucindale Council has 2 wards broken into Naracoorte Ward and Lucindale Ward. Current Councillor/Elector ratio is Naracoorte 1:798 and Lucindale 1:364. Naracoorte Lucindale Council amalgamated several years ago and due to the amalgamation does not have to comply with Section 33 of the Local Government Act. Naracoorte Lucindale Council is currently seeking public consultation on a proposed move to have 1 ward due to the disproportional Councillor/Elector ratios.

Review of Council Representation

Council intends to conduct a representation review commencing in January 2005.

Elector's Submissions on Representation

Under the Local Government Act 1999 (Chapter 3 Part 1 Division 2) Council must give public notice of a representation review and the notice must contain an invitation to interested persons to make written submissions to the Council on the subject of the review within a period specified by the Council.

- The specified period must be at least 6 weeks.
- The Council must also publish a copy of the notice in a newspaper circulating within its area.

A Council must give a person who makes written submissions in response to an invitation, an opportunity to appear personally or by representative before the Council or a Council committee and to be heard on those submissions.

On completion of the review, the Council must prepare a report on the public consultation undertaken by the Council and any proposal that the Council considers should be carried into effect under this section. The report must:

- a) (insofar as is relevant to the subject-matter of the proposal) take into account the principles in section 26 (Local Government Act 1999 Chapter 3) and the matters referred to in section 33 (Local Government Act 1999 Chapter 3); and

- b) if the Council decides that it should not carry into effect a proposal considered during, or arising out of, the public consultation it must set out the reasons for the Council's decision.

The Council must-

- c) make copies of its report available for public inspection at the principal office of the Council; and
- d) by public notice-
 - i. inform the public of the completion of the report and its availability; and
 - ii. invite interested persons to make written submissions to the Council on the report within a period specified by the Council.

The specified period must be at least three weeks. The Council must also publish a copy of the notice in a newspaper circulating within its area.

The Council must give any person who makes written submissions in response to an invitation an opportunity to appear personally or by representative before the Council or a Council committee, and to be heard on those submissions. The Council must then finalise its report (including in its report, recommendations with respect to such related or ancillary matters, as it thinks fit). The Council must refer the report to the Electoral Commissioner.

On receipt of the report, the Electoral Commissioner must determine whether the requirements of this section have been satisfied and then:

- e) if of the opinion that the requirements have been satisfied give an appropriate certificate; or
- f) if of the opinion that the requirements have not been satisfied refer the matter back to the Council together with a written explanation of the reasons for not giving a certificate under this subsection.

The validity of a determination of the Electoral Commissioner cannot be called into question. If a certificate is given by the Electoral Commissioner:

- g) the Electoral Commissioner must specify in the certificate a day by which an appropriate notice (or notices) for the purposes of this section must be published by the Council in the Gazette; and
- h) the Council may then, by notice (or notices) in the Gazette, provide for the operation of any proposal under this section that it has recommended in its report.

If the matter is referred back to the Council, the Council:

- i) must take such action as is appropriate in the circumstances (and may, as it thinks fit, alter its report); and
- j) may then refer the report back to the Electoral Commissioner.

Rating Policy

2002/03 RATING POLICY

Introduction

- (1) This document sets out the policy of the District Council of Tatiara for setting and collecting rates from its community. The policy covers:
 - (a) Method used to value land
 - (b) Adoption of valuations
 - (c) Business impact statement
 - (d) Council's revenue raising powers
 - (e) Differential general rates
 - (f) Minimum rate
 - (g) Service charges
 - (h) Water catchment levy (the Council's collection role)
 - (i) Pensioner concessions
 - (j) Unemployed persons concessions
 - (k) Payment of rates
 - (l) Late payment of rates
 - (m) Sale of land for non-payment of rates
 - (n) Remission and postponement of rates
 - (o) Rebate of rates
 - (p) Disclaimer

Strategic Focus

- (1) In setting its rates for the 2002/2003 financial year the Council has considered the following:
 - (a) the specific issues faced by our community, which are:
 - (i) further development of Industrial Estate;
 - (ii) relocation of Bordertown Works Depot
 - (iii) funding of the Bordertown Memorial Hospital Inc. and the Keith & District Hospital Inc. for aged care facilities
 - (b) the budget for the 2002/2003 financial year;
 - (c) the impact of rates on the community, including:
 - (i) householders, businesses and primary producers;
 - (ii) the broad principle that the rate in the dollar should be the same for all properties except where there is clearly a different level of services available to ratepayers or some other circumstance which warrants variation from the broad principle (refer section on General Rates);
 - (d) for the 2002/2003 financial year the Council has decided to limit the increase of the rate in the dollar to 5%.

- (2) The Council regularly conducts public consultation on a broad range of issues relating to the future directions of the area. These meetings are always advertised in local papers. Ratepayers and interested parties are welcome to attend. The Council also encourages feedback at anytime and such comments may be sent to:

Chief Executive Officer
District Council of Tatiara
PO Box 346
Bordertown SA 5268

Method Used to Value Land

- (1) The Council may adopt one of three valuation methodologies to value the properties in its area. They are:
- (a) *Capital Value* – the value of the land and all of the improvements on the land.
 - (b) *Site Value* – the value of the land and any improvements which permanently affect the amenity of use of the land, such as drainage works, but excluding the value of buildings and other improvements.
 - (c) *Annual Value* – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.
- (2) The Council has decided to continue to use capital value as the basis for valuing land within the council area. The Council considers that this method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers on the following basis:
- (a) the equity principle of taxation requires that ratepayers of similar wealth pay similar taxes and ratepayers of greater wealth pay more tax than ratepayers of lesser wealth;
 - (b) property value is a relatively good indicator of wealth and capital value, which closely approximates the market value of a property, provides the best indicator of overall property value;
 - (c) the distribution of property values throughout the Council area is such that few residential ratepayers will pay significantly more than the average rate per property.

Adoption of Valuations

- (1) Section 171 of the Local Government Act 1999 requires a Council to prepare and adopt each year, in conjunction with setting the rates, a rates policy. The policy must be available at the principal office of the Council and a summary version must be distributed with the rates notice.
- (2) This policy is available for inspection at contact locations listed on Page 1.

- (3) The Council has adopted the valuations made by the Valuer-General as provided to the Council on 28th June 2002. If you are dissatisfied with the valuation made by the Valuer-General then you may object to the Valuer-General in writing, within 60 days of receiving this notice of the valuation, explaining the basis for the objection - provided you have not: (a) previously received a notice of this valuation under the Local Government Act, in which case the objection period is 60 days from the receipt of the first notice; or (b) previously had an objection to the valuation considered by the Valuer-General.
- (4) The address of the Office of the Valuer-General is:

Office of the Valuer-General
GPO Box 1354
ADELAIDE SA 5001

and the telephone number is 1300 653 345. The Council has no role in this process. It is important to note that the lodgement of an objection does not change the due date for payment of rates.

General Rates

- (1) All land within a council area, except for land specifically exempt (e.g. crown land, council occupied land and other land prescribed in the Local Government Act - refer Section 168 of the Act), is rateable. The Local Government Act provides for a Council to raise revenue for the broad purposes of the Council through a general rate, which applies to all rateable properties.
- (2) At its meeting of 9th July 2002 the Council decided to raise rate revenue of \$4,819,215 in a total revenue budget of \$9,359,989.

Business Impact Statement

- (1) The Council has considered the impact of rates on all businesses in the Council area, including primary production. In considering the impact, Council assessed the following matters:
 - (a) The equity of the distribution of the rate burden - apart from the decision to provide a differential rate for primary production properties, as outlined under the heading "Differential General Rates", the Council considers that all ratepayers receive broadly comparable services and are generally similarly impacted upon by prevailing economic conditions.

Minimum Rate

- (1) Council has imposed a minimum rate of \$190 on township properties. The minimum rate is levied against the whole of an allotment (including land under a separate lease

or licence) and only one minimum rate is levied against two or more pieces of adjoining land (whether intercepted by a road or not) if they are owned by the same owner and occupied by the same occupier. The reasons for imposing a minimum rate are:

- (a) the Council considers it appropriate that all rateable properties make a contribution to the cost of administering the Council's activities;
- (b) the Council considers it appropriate that all rateable properties make a contribution to the cost of creating and maintaining the physical infrastructure that supports each property.

Differential General Rates

- (1) The Council has decided to impose differential general rates on the following properties:
 - (a) .4763 all land classified as rural on the basis that:
 - (i) the land tends to be remote from many of the services provided by Council;
 - (ii) primary production properties do not receive a waste management service;
 - (iii) primary production properties do not have footpaths or street lighting;
 - (iv) many primary production properties are served by gravel, rather than sealed roads.
 - (b) .6495 all other land.
- (2) The Council has assessed the service differential at approximately 20% and the rate in the dollar for primary production properties will be set at 0.4763 cents. There are 1959 primary production properties in the Council area and those properties will provide \$3,715,700 of total rate revenue. There are 2,822 other rateable properties, which will provide the balance of \$1,103,515 of rate revenue.
- (3) Land use is used as the factor to levy differential rates. If a ratepayer believes that a particular property has been wrongly classified by the Council as to its land use then they may object (to the Council) to that land use within 21 days of being notified. A ratepayer may discuss the matter with the Rates Officer, on 8752 1044 in the first instance. The Council will provide, on request, a copy of Section 176 of the Local Government Act, which sets out the rights, and obligations of ratepayers in respect of objections to a land use.
- (4) The objection must set out the basis for the objection and details of the land use that should be attributed to that property. The Council may then decide the objection as it sees fit and notify the ratepayer. A ratepayer also has the right to appeal against the Council's decision to the Land and Valuation Court. Objections to the Council's decision may be lodged with Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Tatiara, PO

Box 346, Bordertown, 5268. It is important to note that the lodgement of an objection does not change the due date for payment of rates.

East Ward and West Ward Separate Rate

- (1) The Council has decided to impose a separate rate for the 2002-2003 financial year for the purpose of funding the redevelopment of the Bordertown Memorial Hospital Inc. and the Keith & District Hospital Inc. for aged care facilities, the separate rates will be based on:
 - (a) A East Ward separate rate of \$19.10 on rateable properties
 - (b) A West Ward separate rate of \$24.55 on rateable properties
- (2) The East Ward and West Ward separate rates will be payable in four equal instalments in conjunction with the General rate

Service Charge

- (1) The Council provides a septic tank effluent disposal system to all residential and commercial properties in Bordertown, Keith, Mundulla and Wolseley. The full cost of operating and maintaining this service for this financial year is budgeted to be \$149,819. Council has also set aside \$111,947 for the future replacement of the assets employed in providing the service. The Council will recover this cost through the imposition of a service charge for each Property Unit. Where the service is provided to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against the land. Details on what constitutes a service charge for each Property Unit, and other information about the scheme, are available from Manager Technical Services on 8752 1044.

Water Catchment Levy

- (1) The Council is in the South East water catchment area and is required under the Water Resources Act to fund the operations of the South East Catchment Water Management Board. It does so by imposing a separate levy against the required properties in the catchment area in this council area. A map of the catchment area showing those properties within the boundary is on display at:

The District Council of Tatiara
43 Woolshed Street
Bordertown, 5268

- (2) The Council is operating as a revenue collector for the South East Water Catchment Management Board in this regard. It does not retain this revenue or determine how the revenue is spent.

Rate Concessions

- (1) The State Government, in providing equity across SA in this area, funds a range of concessions on Council rates. The concessions are administered by various State Agencies who determine eligibility and pay the concession directly to Council on behalf of the ratepayer. Concessions are available only on the principal place of residence.
- (2) Ratepayers who believe they are entitled to a concession should not withhold payment of rates pending assessment of an application by the State Government as penalties apply to overdue rates. A refund will be paid to an eligible person if Council is advised that a concession applies and the rates have already been paid.

State Seniors Card Ratepayer (self funded retiree)

- (1) This is a new concession available from 1st July 2001 and is administered by Revenue SA. If you are a self-funded retiree and currently hold a State Seniors Card you may be eligible for a concession toward Council rates. In the case of couples, both must qualify, or if only one holds a State Senior's Card, the other must not be in paid employment for more than 20 hours per week. If you have not received a concession on your rates notice or would like further information please contact the Revenue SA Call Centre on 1300 366 150.

Pensioner Concession

- (1) An eligible pensioner must hold a Pension Card, State Concession Card or a Repatriation Health Card marked TPI Gold, EDA Gold or War Widow and may be entitled to a concession on Council rates (and water and effluent charges where applicable). Application forms, which include information on the concessions, are available from Council, SA Water Corporation and its District Offices or the Department of Human Services. This concession is administered by SA Water on behalf of the Department of Human Services and further information can be obtained by telephoning SA Water.

Other Concessions

- (1) The Department of Family and Youth Services administers Council rate concessions available to range of eligible persons receiving State and Commonwealth allowances. This includes, but is not limited to, ratepayers who are in receipt of: Austudy, Newstart, Parenting Payment, Partner Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Special Benefit, Widow Allowance, Youth Allowance, Abstudy, CDEP or a New Enterprise Initiative Scheme. It may also apply to ratepayers in receipt of a pension as a war widow under legislation of the United Kingdom or New Zealand and the holders of a State Concession Card issued by Family and Youth Services. All enquiries should be direct to your nearest branch office of Family and Youth Services (refer to the White Pages for location and telephone details).

Payment of Rates

- (1) The Council has decided that the payment of all rates will be by four equal instalments, due on the 1st September 2002, 1st December 2002, 1st March 2003 and 1st June 2003.
- (2) Rates may be paid:
 - (a) In person, at the Council offices at:

The District Council of Tatiara 43 Woolshed Street Bordertown, 5268	Sub Office 34 Hender Street Keith, 5267
---	---
 - (b) During the hours of 8.30am to 5.00pm at Bordertown and during the hours of 9.00am to 4.30pm at Keith, Monday to Friday and EFTPOS facilities are available for payments at Bordertown.
 - (3) Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, experience difficulty with meeting the standard payment arrangements is invited to contact the Rates Officer, on (08) 8752 1044 to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Such inquiries are treated confidentially by the Council.
 - (4) The Council has adopted a policy that where the payment of rates will cause a ratepayer demonstrable hardship, the Council is prepared to make extended payment provisions or defer the payment of rates.

Late Payment of Rates

- (1) The Local Government Act provides that Councils impose an initial penalty of 2% on any payment for rates, whether by instalment or otherwise, that is received late. A payment that continues to be late is then charged a prescribed interest rate on the expiration of each month that it continues to be late.
- (2) The Council allows a further three working days after the due date for payment as a grace period.
- (3) The Council is prepared to remit penalties in accordance with Council's Policy "Rates - Fines Write Off":
 - (a) Council will write off fines levied on rates in the following circumstances only;
 - (i) Where the applicant can demonstrate that the rate notice was forwarded to the wrong address;

- (ii) Where the applicant can demonstrate that special legal action prevented the rates from being paid by the due date;
 - (iii) Where Council is of the opinion that such write off is appropriate.
- (b) The power to consider, and determine, requests from ratepayers, to have fines levied on rates written off, subject to any policies or guidelines adopted by Council, is delegated to the; Chief Executive Officer; and/or Manager Corporate Services.
- (c) Guidelines for Application of Policy
 - (i) Commencing on 30 June each year, and monthly thereafter, a list of all outstanding rates accounts for the preceding financial year, with a total debt of less than \$10.00 is to be prepared and reviewed.
 - (ii) Where the outstanding amount comprises only of fines, the Manager is to write the amount off, and clear the debt.
 - (iii) Where the outstanding amount comprises anything other than fines, although it can include fines, the debt is to remain on the books, and normal recovery procedures are to apply.
 - (iv) The fines write off in guideline 2 above, applies only to single property owners. Where there are multiple properties in the same ownership, all fines are to remain on the books if the total of all accounts exceeds \$10.00. If the aggregate is less than \$10.00, then all fines can be written off.
- (4) The Council issues a final notice for payment of rates when rates are overdue ie. unpaid by the due date. Should rates remain unpaid more than 30 days after the issue of the final notice then the Council refers the debt to a debt collection agency for collection. The debt collection agency charges collection fees to the ratepayer.
- (5) When the Council receives a payment in respect of overdue rates the Council applies the money received as follows:
 - (a) first – to satisfy any costs awarded in connection with court proceedings;
 - (b) second – to satisfy any interest costs;
 - (c) third – in payment of any fines imposed;
 - (d) fourth – in payment of rates, in chronological order (starting with the oldest account first).

Remission and Postponement of Rates

- (1) Section 182 of the Local Government Act permits the Council, on the application of the ratepayer, to partially or wholly remit rates or to postpone rates, on the basis of hardship. Where a ratepayer is suffering hardship in paying rates he/she is invited to contact the Rates Officer, on 8752 1044 to discuss the matter. Such inquiries are treated confidentially by the Council.

Rebate of Rates

- (1) See Rate Rebate Policy (Section 32).

Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates

- (1) The Local Government Act provides that a Council may sell any property where the rates have been in arrears for three years or more. The Council is required to notify the owner of the land of its intention to sell the land, provide the owner with details of the outstanding amounts, and advise the owner of its intention to sell the land if payment of the outstanding amount is not received within one month.
- (2) Except in extraordinary circumstances, the Council enforces the sale of land for arrears of rates and a copy of the Council's policy is available from the Rates Officer on 8752 1044 or by writing to the Tatiara District Council, PO Box 346, Bordertown, 5268.

Disclaimer

- (1) A rate cannot be challenged on the basis of non-compliance with this policy and must be paid in accordance with the required payment provisions.
- (2) Where a ratepayer believes that the Council has failed to properly apply this policy it should raise the matter with the Council. In the first instance contact the Rates Officer on 8752 1044 to discuss the matter. If, after this initial contact, a ratepayer is still dissatisfied they should write to the Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Tatiara, PO Box 346, Bordertown, 5268.

Income Rate Rebates for Retirement Villages

Reference: Section 23(4) of the Local Government (Implementation) Act 1999

The income from Retirement Villages within the District Council of Tatiara totals \$20,345.84.

The District Council of Tatiara has not provided any rate rebates to retirement villages within its local government area.

Geoffrey Piesse
Chief Executive Officer

Annual Financial Statements



Tatiara

the good country

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TATIARA

30th JUNE 2002

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS