

District Council of
ROBE

The logo for the District Council of Robe features the word "ROBE" in large, bold, blue serif capital letters. The letter "O" contains a stylized graphic of a lighthouse or a striped cone, rendered in white, red, and light blue.

ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06

District Council of Robe

Robe - the heritage centre
of seafood, wine & coastal delight

INDEX

Vision.....	Page 3
Objectives	Page 3
Robe – the heritage centre of seafood, wine & coastal delight.....	Page 4
Contact Details	Page 5
Mayor's Report	Page 6
Chief Executive Officer's Report.....	Page 7
Role of Council.....	Page 9
Elected Members	Page 10
Management	Page 11
Council Committees as at 30 June 2005.....	Page 13
Council Delegates to Regional Committees as at 30 June 2005	Page 14
Council's General Information.....	Page 16
Policies.....	Page 23
Annual Financial Statement.....	Page 31
Subsidiaries of Council	Page 31
Decision Making Structure of Council	Page 31
Tenders	Page 31
Strategic Management Plan.....	Page 32
Robe Marina Corporation - Chairman's Report.....	Page 33
Robe Marina Corporation - Annual Report	Page 34

Vision

The District of Robe will comprise dynamic and expanding local businesses working with a progressive, cohesive community that enjoys prosperity, capital city standard services and an enviable quality of life in a unique heritage and coastal environment.

Objectives

Planning and Development

To control development to ensure quality housing and business premises, preserve built heritage and maintain Robe's unique appeal of coast, native vegetation and green spaces.

Utilities, IT and Communications

To facilitate the provision of power, water, broadband internet and telephone communications at capital city standards to facilitate a competitive environment and improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Coast and Natural Environment

To conserve and protect Robe's coastline and natural heritage while making it accessible for people to enjoy.

Tourism

To build on Robe's popularity as a tourist destination by expanding tourism activities and services and developing year round tourism.

Transport and Roads

To make the Robe town and district easily accessible for residents, visitors, businesses and emergency vehicles; and facilitate frequent transport services for businesses and residents.

Economic Development

To create a progressive environment that assists Robe business development, empowers and skills Robe's workers, provides year round employment and contributes to Robe's prosperity.

Sporting Facilities

To provide sporting facilities that delivers health and quality of life for Robe's residents and complements Robe's Tourism.

Health, Community, Youth and Government Services

To facilitate and assist in the provision of health, community, youth and government services to ensure a safe, healthy, vibrant and empowered community.

Asset Management

To maintain and improve the assets of Council.

From The Strategic Management Plan, 2003-2006, District Council of Robe

Robe – the Heritage Centre of Seafood, Wine & Coastal Delight

The District Council of Robe covers an area of 110,596 hectares of prime grazing and cropping land over aquifer, renowned terra rossa over limestone soil, freshwater lakes and estuaries, coastal dunes, rugged cliffs and family beaches. Robe's weather is mild in summer, with a high rainfall in winter providing lush pastures and plentiful groundwater.

Robe is home to approximately 1480 permanent residents and a retreat to a large number of holiday homeowners. During the summer season, the township of Robe welcomes up to 15,000 additional people as tourists and seasonal workers in the district's wine, fishing and tourism industries.

Robe is renowned for its unique history and its 84 historic buildings and sites. Explored by Captain Matthew Flinders and Nicolas Baudin, this busy wool trade port featured numerous shipwrecks of tall ships, and the landing of over 17,000 Chinese who walked to the Victorian Goldfields.

Robe's large Southern Rock Lobster (crayfish) fishing fleet provides bountiful harvest to Robe, Australian, and international restaurants, while its wine districts of Mt Benson and Robe Ranges produce increasingly respected quality wines for the Australian market and export. Aquaculture is expanding in the district with farmers of outstanding Barramundi, Murray Cod and Atlantic Salmon supplying local and overseas markets. Robe has long been renowned for its high-grade beef and spring lamb, and emerging produce such as olives, berries and herbs complement Robe's predominance in gourmet markets.

Robe has a thriving tourism industry with over 40 accommodation providers operating motels, caravan parks, holiday units, historic cottages, and high-grade modern apartments. Restaurants, cafes, hotels, cinema, antique and gift shops, galleries and deep-sea fishing and diving charters support this industry.

Residents of Robe enjoy a safe and vibrant lifestyle in a caring community. Facilities available to the Robe community include a community health centre, an Ambulance / CFS centre, library, public internet facilities, sporting facilities including golf course, football oval and netball courts, community bus, 7 day extended hours supermarket, hardware store, and building and mechanical tradespeople.

Population (estimated 30 June 2004)	1480
Number of Electors	1960
Area	110,576 ha
Road length	475 kms
New building approvals	59 dwellings
Additions and Improvements	75 dwellings

Contact Details

Administration

Council Office
Royal Circus, ROBE SA 5276
Postal
PO Box 1, ROBE SA 5276

Phone: 08 8768 2003
Fax: 08 8768 2432
Email: council@robe.sa.gov.au
Hours: Monday to Friday
9.00am – 5.00pm

Works Staff

Works Depot
Robe Street, ROBE SA 5276
Postal
PO Box 1, ROBE SA 5276

Phone: 08 8768 2003
Mobile: 0429 799 614
Fax: 08 8768 2432
Email: glenn@robe.sa.gov.au
Hours: Monday to Friday
7.30am – 4.30pm

Library & Visitor Information Centre

Library & Visitor Information Centre
Mundy Terrace, ROBE SA 5276
Postal
PO Box 448, ROBE SA 5276

Phone: 08 8768 2465
Fax: 08 8768 2863
Email: robelibrary@plain.sa.gov.au
Hours: Monday to Friday
9.00am – 5.00pm
Saturday and Sunday
10.00am – 4.00pm
Public Holidays
10.00am – 1.00pm
Christmas Closed
Good Friday Closed

Websites

Council Website: www.council.robe.sa.gov.au
Tourism Website: www.robesa.com.au

Robe – the heritage centre
of seafood, wine & coastal delight

Mayor's Report

Over the past several years Robe District Council has been experiencing a growth in both permanent residents and development. This is exciting for our community, however it places greater than ever demands on Council to provide the full range of services that are expected by the ratepayers of today. The challenge is not only to meet these demands but also to embrace the requirements of looking after our heritage and existing infrastructure.

Robe's location and beauty set in a natural environment makes it a great place for a "sea-change" to live in and to visit.

We need a co-operative effort to pull together to ensure we can maintain our position as the premier tourist location on the Limestone Coast as well as to provide those who live and work in our area with the best commercial facilities available.

The last year of this Council has been difficult to say the least with many areas of progress and reform being slow.

The Development Plan has now received approval and is being used in day to day Council decisions.

Boatswains Point Road is complete and is a credit to those Council workers employed on the project.

A complete review of waste management has been undertaken and adopted by Council and a new recycling will begin operation early in 2007. This will see the life of the dump extended by several years. I urge everyone to become efficient using the new system - after all it is for your long term benefit.

The second stage of the Industrial subdivision is complete. Several allotments have been sold, with some development taking place. This is encouraging to Council in that debt incurred in development costs will be repaid quickly.

The Marina project has moved along and I know Malcolm Kentish and his team at the Robe Marina Corporation are working diligently to produce a Marina of which all ratepayers can be proud.

Some other areas of progress have been slow to progress e.g. Aged Care - a comment of many at the Strategic Plan Review sessions and the next Council will have to tackle this important aspect as soon as elected.

Events

The Robe Village Fair, Discover Robe and several smaller events such as The Christmas Parade continue to grow in stature and provide entertainment and enjoyment for a vast number of residents and visitors. Council remains keen to assist wherever possible within budgetary considerations.

Youth and Sports

Our sporting facilities continue to be used by children and adults of all ages and ability. The Skate Park area has been further expanded and is developing into a nice area. The oval, tennis courts, netball courts and other facilities are a credit to those volunteer committee members who make the effort to look after their respective club's assets.

The Football Club has been successful in 2 grants - one for upgrading of lights and the other for the construction of new change rooms. Work on the latter is expected to start shortly.

The Friends of the Institute group also deserve a mention for their untiring efforts and many hours of voluntary work in the refurbishing of the institute. Further work is about to start on the upgrade of the kitchen - thanks to a grant and the donation of some funds from the CWA Trust.

Council Elections

Council elections will now be held every 4 years - commencing in November 2006. It is likely we will see some new Councillors. Deputy Mayor Peter Wilkin will not be standing as he has sold his business and is heading to Noosa to enjoy (semi?) retirement. His input in all facets of Council, but in particular his and his wife Lesley's efforts in Tourism both at Robe and Regional level, will be missed.

As you all know, my wife Mary has not been well since May 2005 - suffering a lung cancer. Whilst Mary is currently coping okay, there are some side effects with pain management. To everyone who has asked about Mary in the past year or so, we both thank you for your interest and concern.

It has been a privilege to be your Mayor.

Peter Darr

31/7/2006.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

It has been an extremely difficult year with a divided Council and community with the staff being, as it were, in the middle. This doesn't create a harmonious and happy workplace. Added to this was my forced long absence that added to the workload of senior managers and administration staff. I wish to put on record my sincere appreciation to the Senior Managers and Administration staff for their efforts during this difficult period.

Whilst there was a downside for the year some positive forward thinking projects have occurred namely:

- Industrial Estate - the near completion of this area has already seen the establishment of businesses in the area.
- Commencement of the Robe Marina or more rightly the redevelopment of the Robe Marina. It is disappointing to continually hear the uninformed criticism of this project even when adequate information is provided. It appears some people will criticise irrespective of the facts provided. This is a far sighted venture that will have a positive impact on Robe now and in the future. It will assist with the economic growth of the town and ensure that the professional fleet will have 21st century facilities. The increased number of recreational berths will ensure the economic viability of the Marina over the long term. All undertaken at a little initial cost to Council but returns back to Council in the foreseeable future will more than compensate for the initial investment.
- Upgrade of the Boatswains Point Road to provide an improved road to Boatswains Point. This project will be completed in 2006/2007.

Unfortunately 2005/2006 has been a year where criticism has been the norm with people not interested in facts and the truth, this also includes some sectors of the media.

RJ Kay
Chief Executive Officer

Role of Council

The council, comprising the Mayor and six elected members, are charged with making policy decisions to be implemented under delegations by the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff. Policies set at the Council meeting relate to council services such as rubbish collection, road building and maintenance, library services and health services, regulation compliance such as building development, cat and dog management and food safety, economic development such as the redevelopment of Lake Butler, tourism and industry support, and management including asset management, resourcing and finances. Council also delegates specific responsibilities to its committees, including the Development Assessment Panel.

Agendas for all council meetings are placed on public display at the Council Office no less than 3 days prior to meeting. Minutes are placed on display at the Council office and the Robe Library, 5 working days after the meeting. Access to these documents is also available on the Council's website www.council.robe.sa.gov.au.

Business is conducted by Council at the Council Chambers, Smillie Street, Robe on the second Tuesday of each month, the General Council Meeting commences at 5.00pm, adjourning at 5.30pm for the Development Assessment Panel, with the General Council Meeting recommencing after the Development Assessment Panel's conclusion.

Correspondence and development applications must be received at the Council office at least one week prior to the meeting to be included in that month's agenda. If a member of public wishes to address the Council meeting, there is a public forum at 7.00pm and arrangements to address the Council at this time may be made through the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer. Members of public may also write to Council on any Council policy, activity or service, may submit written petitions, or discuss any issue relevant to Council with their elected member.

Elected Members

The District Council of Robe has a representation quota of a mayor and 6 elected members spread over two wards – the Town Ward and the Rural Ward.

A comparison of the Councils of similar size namely Cleve, Elliston, Flinders Rangers, Franklin Harbour, Karoonda-East Murray, Kimba, Le Hunte, Orroroo/Carrieton and Streaky Bay shows that the representation varies between 111 - 295. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, Robe's representation quota will be reviewed to be in effect for the 2006 Local Government Election. Advertisements were placed seeking electors' submissions on representation prior to the representation quota review. Council has resolved that no change be made and has forwarded the final report to the Electoral Commissioner.

Elected Members from May 2003:

Mayor

Peter Darr
PO Box 374, ROBE SA 5276
Tel: 87682263 Fax: 87682988
Allowances: \$15,000 per annum

Deputy Mayor

Peter Wilkin
PO Box 70, ROBE SA 5276
Tel: 8768 2237 Fax: 8768 2730
Allowances: \$2,500 per annum

Town Ward

Mark Denton
PO Box 262, ROBE SA 5276
Ph: 8768 2411 Fax: 8768 557
Allowances: \$2,000 per annum

Jenny Mathews
27 Lake Road, ROBE SA 5276
Ph: 8768 2616
Allowances: \$2,000 per annum

Marcia Dening-Wasson
PO Box 168, ROBE SA 5276
Ph: 8768 2659
Allowances: \$2,000 per annum

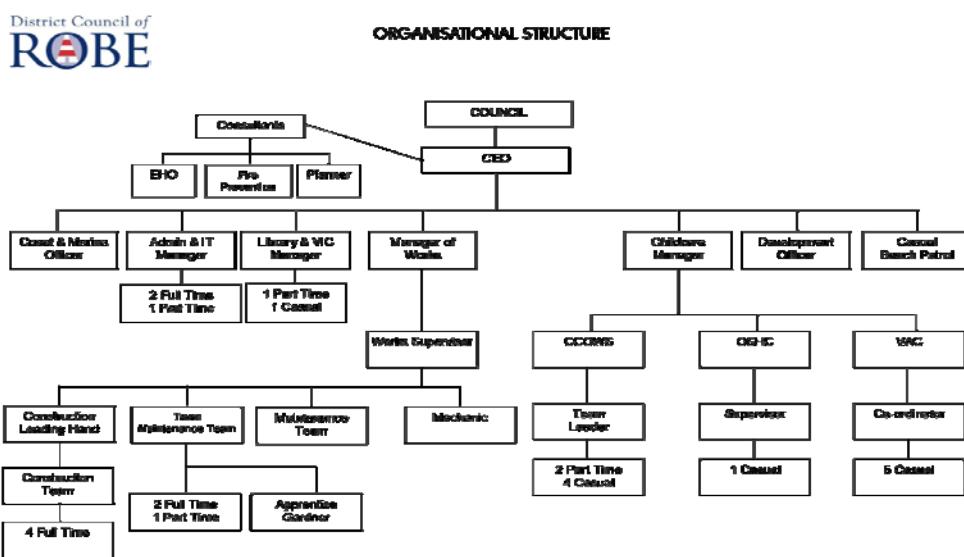
Rural Ward

Frank Boylan
PO Box 261, MILLCENT SA 5280
Ph: 8735 2067
Allowances: \$2,000 per annum

David Loxton
RSD 2080, GREENWAYS SA 5272
Ph: 8734 2065
Allowances: \$2,000 per annum

Management

The diagram below is the organisational structure adopted by Council (includes number of staff in each area).



Chief Executive Officer

Rob Kay Dip. LGA, FLGMA, JP

Responsible for the operations of the local government authority

Allowances & Benefits: Car with private use, telephone

Bonuses: Nil

Manager of Works and Harbour Master

Glenn Sanford, JP

Responsible for works and engineering services

Allowances & Benefits: Car with private use, telephone rental

Bonuses: Nil

Development Officer

Dennis Crafter MAIBS, MWOBO

Responsible for planning, building, and general inspection services

Allowances & Benefits: Car with private use, telephone rental

Bonuses: Nil

The Chief Executive Officer, Director of Environmental Services, the Director of Engineering Services and the Director of Child Care Services are provided with mobile telephones.

Employees of the District Council of Robe have entered into an Enterprise Bargaining Agreement that is due for review on 28 February 2006.

The District Council of Robe has an Equal Opportunity program to fulfill its responsibility to create an employment environment which is free of discrimination and reflects the diversity and needs of the community it serves.

Council is regularly visited by an Occupational Health and Safety specialist from the Local Government Associations' Workers' Compensation Scheme.

Council Committees – as at 30 June 2006

Child Care Services Management Committee

Sally Smith, Leah Franklin-Thorpe, Michelle Gibbs/Paula Bigmore, Rob Kay, Robyn Paterson, Sonia Legoe, Tracy Harris, Julia Dunsford, Cr Dening Wasson

Terms of Reference: To advise on the management of the Child Care on Wheels Service (CCOWS).

Meetings held 2005/2006: 7

Development Assessment Panel

Mayor Peter Darr, Cr Frank Boylan, Cr David Loxton, Cr Peter Wilkin, Cr Mark Denton, Cr Jenny Mathews, Cr Marcia Dening-Wasson

Terms of Reference: To hear and approve development applications.

Meetings held in 2005/2006: 12

Industrial Relations Committee

Mayor Peter Darr, Rob Kay, Cr Frank Boylan, Cr David Loxton

Terms of Reference: To monitor and formulate council's Industrial Relations policy.

Meetings held in 2005/2006: Nil

Lake Butler Boat Haven Committee

Peter Sangster, Cr Mark Denton, Cr Peter Wilkin, Rod McIntyre, Ian Regnier, Sharon Pettit (Secretary), Glenn Sanford (Harbour Master), Mayor Peter Darr

Terms of Reference: To manage Lake Butler Boat Haven.

Meetings held in 2005/2006: Nil

Machinery Committee

Rob Kay, Glenn Sanford, Cr Mark Denton, Cr Frank Boylan

Terms of Reference: To monitor Council's plant, equipment and purchases.

Meetings held in 2005/2006: 4

School / Robe Library Management Committee

Joann Rose, Nicole Slater, Faye Hartwig, Meghan Denton, Sally Smith, Francine Sneath, Cr Jenny Mathews, Cr Marcia Dening-Wasson, Mayor Peter Darr

Terms of Reference: To facilitate the school's involvement with the Robe Public Library.

Meetings held in 2005/2006: 2

All Council Committees, excepting the Development Assessment Panel, meet as required. All meetings are open to the public. Council Committees do not receive any allowances.

Council Delegates to Regional Committees – as at 30 June 2006

Aged Care Committee

Mayor Peter Darr, Cr David Loxton & Cr Jenny Mathews

Allowances paid: Nil

Council/Robe Bowling Club Working Committee

Cr Jenny Mathews, Cr Mark Denton, Rob Kay, 3 Bowling Club representatives

Allowances paid: Nil

Council/Robe Golf Club Working Committee

Cr Peter Wilkin, Mayor Peter Darr, Rob Kay, Glenn Sanford, 4 Robe Golf Club representatives

Allowances paid: Nil

Kingston Community School

Cr Marcia Dening Wasson

Allowances paid: Nil

Kingston Robe Ambulance Service

Janet Ingham

Allowances paid: Nil

Kingston Soldiers Memorial Hospital

Cr Jenny Mathews

Allowances paid: Nil

Sout East Natural Resource Management Board

Chief Executive Officer & Cr David Loxton

Allowances paid: Nil

Limestone Coast Tourism

Cr Peter Wilkin, Mayor Peter Darr (proxy)

Allowances paid: Nil

Robe Bushfire Prevention Committee

Cr David Loxton & Cr Frank Boylan

Allowances paid: Nil

Robe KESAB Committee

Cr Jenny Mathews

Allowances paid: Nil

Robe Sports and Recreation Association

Cr Mark Denton & Cr Marcia Dening Wasson

Allowances paid: Nil

Robe Tourism and Traders Association

Cr Peter Wilkin

Allowances paid: Nil

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Robe Youth Advisory Committee

Cr Marcia Dening Wasson

Allowances paid: Nil

SE Coastal Management Group

Cr Mark Denton & Rob Kay

Allowances paid: Nil

SELGA Roads and Transport Working Group

Cr Frank Boylan, Glenn Sanford

Allowances paid: Nil

SELGA Waste Management Group

Cr David Loxton & Glenn Sanford

Allowances paid: Nil

Skate & Recreation Park Advisory Group

Cr Jenny Mathews & Manager of Works Glenn Sanford

Allowances paid: Nil

South East Local Government Association

Mayor Peter Darr, Cr Frank Boylan

Allowances paid: Nil

Council's General Information

Strategic Management Plan

Under the Local Government Act, Council is required to prepare a Strategic Management Plan for the next 3 – 5 years. Public consultation took place regarding the draft plan and the Strategic Management Plan was adopted by Council in November 2002, reviewed in December 2003. The Strategic Management plan addresses strategies in relation to the economic, social and environmental needs of the district.

Development Plan

The District Council of Robe participated in the Section 30 Regional Planning Review conducted by the South East Local Government Association in June 2002. Council has reviewed its Development Plan and has forwarded it to the Minister for authorisation.

Management Plans for Community Land

Council has developed management plans for Community Land as required by Section 196 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Community Services

Robe Public Library

The Robe Public Library is a service provided for the community by the District Council of Robe. The Library is open seven days a week and is only closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday. The library collection currently holds approximately 10,000 items but patrons can access many more resources through the Regional Network and State PLAIN system. This proves to be cost effective as apart from sharing our collection there is a constant exchange of ideas and other resources. There are currently around 3000 borrowers exceeding the district population, but this is contributed to by the non-resident population who holiday in Robe regularly. There are a number of absentee ratepayers who become members and borrow whilst on holidays in Robe.

Currently Council employs three staff members to operate the Library and Visitor Information Centre - one permanent full time and two part time. Council requires monthly reports on the activities of the Library, including monthly book/item loans. During the 2005/2006 financial year loans were in keeping with previous years, however borrower numbers increased.

The collection is being culled at the moment and good quality literature is on the rotation lists. Old and tatty books are being discarded and will be offered for sale at the End of Year Book Sale.

Computer use in the Library is strong, with patrons using them for research and email facilities.

Video's, particularly children's, are always in demand and especially over the summer months if the weather is unkind. DVD's are being purchased and added to the collection together with interactive CD/books and hear-a-books.

Visitor Information Centre

The Robe Visitor Information Centre is located opposite the Foreshore in Mundy Terrace. Parking can be found on three sides and disabled parking is at the rear of the building.

The Centre is open seven days a week allowing locals and visitors alike to access tourism information. Staff maintain high levels of customer service to all users. Visitors to Robe are assisted in locating accommodation which meets their individual needs. The staff provide unbiased information in relation to accommodation, restaurants, hotels and businesses generally. There is an excellent supply of brochures on Robe and Limestone Coast region, South Australia and Interstate. Staff constantly monitor the information provided to ensure that it is up to date, relevant and accurate.

Information sheets are produced by the Council for use by visitors. These are regularly updated and are being presented in a more up-to-date format.

The Historical Interpretation Centre is part of the VIC and Library. This is an excellent presentation of Robe's history in photographic format and text. We regularly receive extremely favourable comments about the presentation.

The Datatrax Machine has proven to be a valuable asset. This enables visitors to access accommodation after hours. The Datatrax also contains information on shopping, wineries and other attractions in the region and throughout Australia.

Robe Community Newsletter

Council produces the monthly Robe Community Newsletter that is distributed to all residents. The newsletter gives feedback to the community about Council initiatives and development, makes provision for Robe Community Groups to report on and promote their activities and includes advertisements from local businesses. Non-residents may arrange to have the newsletter posted to them for a small annual charge to cover this expense.

Casuarina Lodge – Independent Living Aged Homes

Council has purchased Casuarina Lodge, 13 Hateley Crescent, Robe comprising 7 independent living units for the aged, built and formerly managed by the Housing Trust of South Australia.

Community Bus

The Robe Community Bus operates each Thursday to take elderly people and other residents to key services such as the Post Office, the library and the supermarket. The bus is also available for use by sporting and community groups and may be hired for other purposes. Council thanks the Robe RSL for rostering drivers to operate the Community Bus for the benefit of the Robe community.

Red Cross Car

As part of the Red Cross Community Transport Service, Council houses and maintains the Red Cross Car. For enquiries and bookings telephone 8725 3622.

Child Care

The Robe Child Care On Wheels Service (CCOWS) is an innovative service which provides child care in Robe three times a week and in Kangaroo Inn once a week. This service is well supported and appreciated by families, and has a waiting list even though licensed places have been increased.

Vacation Care operates during school holidays and after school and is widely used and enjoyed by children from local families, and those from the surrounding district and visitors from interstate.

Sport & Recreation

In 2005/2006 Council allocated \$13000 from its Robe Sporting Assistance Program to local sporting clubs in the Robe district.

Development

Heritage

The heritage of Robe, particularly in the historic district of Robetown, is a major feature of our town's appeal to residents and visitors. The Council's Development Plan seeks to ensure that development enhances the historic charm of Robe and maintains low density, high quality housing and other development. With regard to the heritage area of Robetown, Council consults heavily with Richard Woods, South East Heritage Adviser, to review plans for development. The Advisor is particularly concerned about suitable roof pitches, windows and doors, the use of heritage colours and finishes, and ensuring that new additions do not obscure the ability of the public to observe the original heritage features of the building. Council also consults with its planning consultants, Masterplan, regarding significant developments that are likely to have an impact on the surrounding area.

Height Restrictions

In the newer parts of town, particularly near West Beach and Long Beach, Council has been particularly challenged at ensuring height restrictions are enforced. Property owners are all anxious to secure themselves a waterfront view, but in so doing the view of existing or future properties must not be obscured.

Transportable Homes

Council has been concerned about the number of transportable homes of varying quality that have been brought to Robe, particularly in new subdivisions. Council has reviewed its development requirements for transportable homes to ensure that such homes are of a suitable quality and do not degrade the surrounding neighbourhood.

New Subdivisions

There is considerable pressure on Council to approve new residential subdivisions. Council takes care to ensure that such subdivisions will be provided with adequate services and that suitable access and easement conditions are met. Council is mindful of the rapid growth of Robe and considers that some foresight applied now will ensure a sufficiently low density housing configuration in the future and the development of parkland areas as proposed by a developer in Thompson Road.

Supervising Builders

Owner builders of a residential development must now engage a licensed builder or building works supervisor to oversee the development and sign the completion certificate. Council may conduct audit inspections of residential developments to ensure that the builder has constructed the development in accordance with Council's development approval and the requirements of the Building Code of Australia.

Development Control

Council's responsibility to control development is very widespread and the definition of what work constitutes a development is extensive and complex. Before commencing any works, starting a businesses, and in some circumstances even purchasing a property where you have plans to develop it, please contact Council's Development Officer on 8768 2003 for advice of your obligation to obtain Council approval.

Works and Engineering Services

Roadworks

Roadworks undertaken during financial 2005/06, unsealed road resheeting of part sections along Sandy Lane Road, and Morphett Street.

A resolution was provided from Council that Wrights Bay Road be constructed to bitumen standard and that the received Roads to Recovery Two funds be allocated to the Wright Bay Road.

Council completed the last of the 6.0 kilometers road construction works along the Boatswain Point Road. Works included the installation of drainage pipes with some land acquisitions required to increase the curves radius to improve road safety. The design speed of the road is 100 kilometers per hour. Council received a \$162,000 grant from the Special Local Roads fund to construct and bitumen seal Stage2.

Domestic and Commercial Waste

Council continues with its weekly and fortnightly domestic and commercial waste collection services.

Over the past 12 months changes have occurred with Council's existing landfill site. Some of the improvements and changes that have been established:-

- Dumping Charges and Fees have increased to reflect council's annual expenditure;
- Tyre Muster collection service continues;
- Council will provide a fortnightly co-mingled recycling pickup service for the community of Robe, this is set to start 1st February 2007. Public consultation with the inclusion of a public forum is designed to ensure two way communication and to advise the community of Council's intentions with the co-mingled recycling service.

STEDS Water Re-use

A full investigation is being undertaken to utilise Council's STEDS water for lawned areas of parks and gardens within the Robe Township and the Robe Golf Course. An estimated 153 mega litres is being disposed of by other means that could be captured and reused in an environmentally friendly way. This investigation is continuing and will conclude during 2006/07 for Council to decide on the future direction of STEDS water re-use.

Health

Food Premises

Council conducts Food Safety Audit Inspections of food premises, and in particular their food preparation areas, to ensure compliance with legislation. Non-complying operators are advised of instances of non-compliance and Council advises and works with operators to help them improve their premises and reach the required standards. Council also provides advice to owners seeking to construct new food premises. Under the new Food Act there are no heavy penalties (\$500,000) to food businesses and owners who sell food that is unsuitable and unsafe to the public.

Food Recalls

Council monitors recalls by the manufacturer of contaminated or faulty packaged and prepared food. Council follows up such recalls by contacting food retailers and ensuring that recalled foods are no longer being supplied to the public.

FoodSafe Handlers Training Program

Council has endorsed FoodSafe Food Handlers Training Program to all food businesses since 2003. To date, there have been 4 food businesses that are now FoodSafe Accredited. The majority of food businesses have purchased the program and are currently undertaking the program. Council hopes that all food businesses become FoodSafe so that Robe can be declared as a FoodSafe Town.

Environmental Health

Council conducts inspections of public swimming pools and spas, and private pools used for private lessons, in compliance with the Environmental Health Act.

Septic and STED Systems

The installations of new septic tanks, any upgrade of septic tanks and septic / STED (Septic Tank Effluent Drainage) systems are approved by Council. Council also maintains and monitors the STEDS system for the area.

Health Programs and Immunisation

Council operates community health promotions and preventative health programs, including child and youth immunisation through the Robe Medical Service.

Mosquitoes

Council works with the Department of Health to control mosquitoes and prevent the spread of the Ross River virus. Mosquito Traps have been placed throughout the Robe town to determine whether Ross River Virus carrying mosquitoes are present in the Robe district and

leaflets have been distributed to residents as well as information to tourist accommodation operators on preventative measures.

Dog Management

Dog Registrations

Council registers dogs in the district. Dog owners are required to register dogs within 14 days of acquiring the dog, or by the time a puppy is 3 months of age. Dogs must be reregistered by 31 August each year, and that year's registration disc must be displayed on the dog's collar, or similar, at all times. Fines apply where a dog is unregistered or has no disc displayed.

Dog Control

Council picks up dogs that are roaming the streets and countryside, that are not under the effective control of the owner, or that are a nuisance through persistent barking. Dogs may be impounded and fines apply. Should a dog's roaming result in a dog attack or harassment of people or animals, fines are substantial.

Health and Dogs

Dog faeces on footpaths and in other public places are considered to be a health issue and owners are required to remove and properly dispose of their dog's faeces when in public areas. In addition, dogs are not permitted in food premises under any circumstances. Fines apply.

Environmental Services

Bushfire Prevention

The Robe Bushfire Prevention Committee actively work towards the prevention of bushfires in the district and have prepared a Bushfire Prevention Plan. Council monitors flammable growth on properties in the district, and administers the Country Fires Act by serving notices on property owners to reduce flammable growth.

Pests and Plants

The control of proclaimed plants (such as Salvation Jane and Horehound) and proclaimed animals (such as rabbits and foxes) are the responsibility of the South East Natural Resource Management Board where 2 councillors represent Robe. Dean Burgoyne is the Board's Authorised Officer and can be contacted for information on spraying, baiting and other control operations by telephoning 0408 854 602.

Coast and Marine

Council acts as the host for the SE Region Coast and Marine Officer by providing an office and facilities for the Coast and Marine Officer, and paying the Coast and Marine Officer. Council is reimbursed from the Department for Environment & Heritage for these costs. Council contributes towards coastal protection by providing materials for the development of walking trails such as timber for boardwalks and fencing, and limestone gravel for surfacing walking trails. Council also provides expertise in works management and undertakes specific works such as fencing to assist volunteer groups.

Beach Patrol

Council provides a Beach Patrol Officer to patrol and enforce the speed limit on Long Beach, to give assistance and advice to people in need and to promote safe beach use. This service operates from Boxing Day to Easter as appropriate to the weather and number of visitors in town.

Policies

Policies are guidelines that Councillors and Staff refer to when making decisions on certain issues. The District Council of Robe has developed a policy document that is continually updated due to a change in circumstance or when a new issue occurs.

Rating Policy

This is a summary version of the formal rating policy document adopted by the Council. The complete policy statement is available free on request. The Council's budget and other strategic documents are available for inspection at:

The District Council of Robe
Administration Centre
Royal Circus
ROBE SA 5276

The District Council of Robe Library
Mundy Terrace
ROBE SA 5276

Further Information

Any queries in relation to this summary or requests for additional information regarding rates payments, remissions or objections should be directed to Rob Kay, Chief Executive Officer, telephone (08) 87682003.

Strategic Focus

In setting its rates for the 2005/2006 financial year the Council has considered its strategic plan, the current economic climate, the specific issues faced by our community, the budget for the 2005/2006 financial year and the impact of rates on the community.

Business Impact Statement

The Council has considered the impact of rates on all businesses in the Council area, including primary production. In considering the impact, Council assessed those elements of the Council's strategic plans relating to business development; the equity of the distribution of the rate burden between ratepayers; current local, state and national economic conditions; changes in the valuation of business and primary production properties; and specific Council projects for the coming year.

Method Used to Value Land

All land within a Council area, except for land specifically exempt (eg crown land, council occupied land), is rateable. The District Council of Robe had decided 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. The Council has adopted the valuations made by the SA Valuer-General as provided to the Council on 4 August 2005. If you are dissatisfied with a property valuation then an objection may be made to the Valuer-General in writing **within 60 days** of receiving 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 1999, in which case the objection period of 60 days from the receipt of the first notice; or (b) previously had an objection to the valuation considered by the Valuer-General. The address of the Valuer-General is: Office of the Valuer-General, GPO Box 1354, Adelaide 5001, email:

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objections@saugov.sa.gov.au 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 and Minimum Rate

At its meeting held on 4 August 2005 the Council decided to raise by a general rate on all properties in the District Council of Robe rate revenue of \$1876 000 in a total revenue budget of \$4443 500. As a result of this decision Council has declared the following general rate in the dollar of 0.3019 cents over the whole of the area to raise the necessary revenue. However a minimum rate of \$458.00 will be applied to every rateable property in the Town.

Service Charge

The Council provides a septic tank effluent disposal system to all properties in Robe. The full cost of operating and maintaining this service for this financial year is budgeted to be \$328 500. The Council will recover this cost through a service charge for each Property Unit for which the service is available. Where the service is provided to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against the land. A significant reserve is being established to fund upgrades to the scheme.

Water Catchment Levy

The Council is in the South East Catchment Water Management Board area and is required under the Water Resources Act 1997 to make a specified contribution to the South East Catchment Water Management Board. It does so by imposing a separate rate of \$13.50 per property. The Council acts as a revenue collector for the South East Catchment Water Management Board in this regard. The Council does not retain this revenue or determine how the revenue is spent.

Pensioner Concessions

If you are an eligible pensioner you may be entitled to a remission on your rates. Application forms (including information on the concessions) are available from the Council's Administration Centre or by phoning the Council on (08) 87682003. It is important to note that seeking a remission does not change the due date for payment of rates.

Unemployed Persons Concessions

The Department of Human Services (DHS) may assist with the payment of Council rates for your principal place of residence (remissions are not available on vacant land or rental premises). Please contact your nearest DHS Office for details.

State Seniors Card Ratepayers (self-funded retiree)

This is a new concession introduced from 1 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.

Payment of Rates

The Council has decided that the payment of rates will be by four instalments due on 15th September 2005, 15th December 2005, 15th March 2006, 15th June 2006. Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, experience difficulty with meeting the standard payment

arrangements is invited to contact the Council to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Such inquiries are treated confidentially.

Late Payment of Fees

The Local Government Act provides that Councils impose an initial fine 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.

Postponement of Rates

Under Sections 182(1)(a) and (2) of the said Act a postponement of rates may be granted if Council is satisfied that the payment of rates would cause hardship. Council may on application and subject to the ratepayer substantiating the hardship, consider granting a postponement of payments of rates in respect of an Assessment on the condition that the ratepayer agree to pay interest on the amount affected by the postponement at the Cash Advance Debenture rate and if the ratepayers satisfies the following criteria:

1. The property is the principal residence of the ratepayer and is the only property owned by the ratepayer, and
2. The property has been owned by the ratepayer and has been their principal residence for a minimum 15 years, and
3. The ratepayer is able to produce one of the following identification cards:
 - Pensioner Concession Card – Centrelink
 - Pensioner Concession Card – Veterans Affairs
 - TPI Card – Veterans Affairs

The amount postponed will not exceed 30% of the rates payable for the assessment prior to deducting pensioner concessions and shall accrue interest at the Cash Advance Debenture rate published by the LGFA for 1 July each year.

Rebate of Rates

The Local Government Act requires Councils to rebate the rates payable on some land. Specific provisions are made for land used for health services, community services, religious purposes, public cemeteries, the Royal Zoological Society and educational institutions.

Discretionary Rebate

Discretionary Rebate on Council Rate for properties incurring significant increases in Capital Value.

A discretionary rebate of general rates for the 2005/2006 financial year will be granted to the principal owner of an assessment under Section 166(1) (i) of the Local Government Act 1999 on application to the Council where the amount of any increase in rates in respect to that assessment in monetary terms between the amount of general rates imposed for the 2005/2006 financial year and the amount of general rate payable for the SAME property in the 2004/2005 financial year is greater than 50%. The amount of the rebate will be the difference between the amount of general rates (less any concessions) in monetary terms that will be imposed for the 2005/2006 financial year and the amount of general rates (less any concessions) in monetary terms payable for the 2004/2005 financial year plus 50%.

The Rebate WILL NOT APPLY where:

1. The increase is due in whole or part to an increase in valuation because of improvements. Such improvements include, but not limited to, dwellings, vineyards: or
2. The increase is due in full or part because of any rezoning: or
3. The increase is due in full or part to the change of the use of land: or
4. The ownership of the rateable property has changed since 1 July 2001: or
5. The subject property boundaries have been affected by sub-division: or
6. Other factors considered by the Chief Executive Officer that do not warrant the granting of the discretionary rate rebate.

The Rebate WILL ONLY APPLY to:

1. Where an application is submitted in the prescribed form to the Chief Executive Officer by 15 September 2005.
2. The 2005/2006 financial year only then subject to review for any subsequent years. (47/2006)

Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates

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 if payment of the outstanding amount is not received within one month, and provide the owner with details of the outstanding amounts. Except in extraordinary circumstances, the Council enforces the sale of land for arrears of rates and a copy of the policy is available from the Council.

Disclaimer

A rate cannot be challenged on the basis on non-compliance with this policy and rates must be paid in accordance with the required payment provisions.

Freedom of Information

The Chief Executive Officer is appointed as Freedom of Information Officer and is delegated to administer the Freedom of Information provisions as it relates to Local Government.

Information Summary

This information summary is published by the District Council of Robe in accordance of the Freedom of Information Act. The District Council of Robe is pleased to comply with this regulation and welcomes enquiries under the Freedom of Information Act.

Freedom of Information

The District Council of Robe publishes an Information Statement in its requirements under the Freedom of Information Act. The most recent statement is available from the Council Office. Freedom of Information enquiries or requests must be addressed to The Freedom of Information Officer, District Council of Robe, PO Box 1, Robe SA 5276 or telephone (08) 8768 2003.

Certificates Issued Under Section 65zy

No certificates relating to Freedom of Information was received in the twelve months to June 2006.

Robe 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 Robe is fully committed to the principle of open and accountable Government, whilst recognizing that on some occasions it may be necessary in the broader community interest to restrict public access to discussion or documents.

Council went into confidence (public excluded from the meeting) 7 times during 2005/2006.

National Competition Policy

The District Council of Robe has no significant business activity operated by itself or as a subsidiary or joint venture where principles of competitive neutrality apply. Competition Complaints may be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer and will be addressed using the Council's complaints procedure.

Competitive Tendering Policy

The District Council of Robe is committed to ensuring a fair, transparent and accountable process in the provision of services, purchasing of goods and services and in the disposal of land and other assets. The Council's Competitive Tendering, Contracting Out and Sale and Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy addresses the key elements of the conduct of Council affairs in these areas and the principles will guide its decision making processes. This policy has been developed and adopted in accordance with Section 49 of the Local Government Act.

Purchase of Local Goods Policy

In its usual course of business, as far as practical, Council chooses suppliers of goods and services in Robe and the greater Limestone Coast region. The use of local suppliers is also dependent of the availability of goods and services sought.

By Laws

The following By Laws were adopted and reviewed by Council on 11 February 2003:

- ByLaw 1* To provide for a permit system and continuing penalties in Council by-laws, to clarify the construction of such by-laws, and to repeal by-laws
- ByLaw 2* To set standards for moveable signs on streets and roads and to provide conditions for and the placement of such signs
- ByLaw 3* For the management of roads vested in or under the control of the Council.
- ByLaw 4* For the management of land vested in or under the control of the Council.
- ByLaw 5* For the management and control of dogs within the Council's area.
- ByLaw 6* The purpose of this by-law is to regulate the use of bird scaring devices to enable land owners reasonable means by which to protect crops, but at the same time to prevent nuisances and to encourage land owners and occupiers to use a wide range of bird control techniques.

Policy Manual

Council's Policy Manual contains the following:

Section 1 – Delegations

- 1.1 Delegation Public & Environmental Health & Food Act
- 1.2 Policy Procedures for Control Delegations
- 1.3 Delegation DA and Building
- 1.4 Delegations under Development Act
- 1.5 Referrals
- 1.6 Plans Delegated Authority
- 1.7 Accounts Payable

Section 2 – Codes – LG Act Requirements

- 2.1 Contracts & Tenders Policy
- 2.2 Investment Policy
- 2.3 Control of State & Federal Election Signs
- 2.4 Public Consultation Policy

- 2.5 Registration of Interest Prescribed Officers
- 2.6 EEO Policy
- 2.7 Equal Employment Opportunity Program Outline
- 2.8 Sexual Harassment Policy
- 2.9 Code of Conduct for Employees
- 2.10 Code of Conduct for Council Members
- 2.11 Procedure for Internal Review for Council Decision
- 2.12 Code of Practice for Access to Council Meetings etc.
- 2.13 Order Making Policy

Section 3 – Occupational Health Safety & Welfare

- 3.1 Occupational Health Safety & Welfare
- 3.2 Occupational Health & Safety Responsibilities
- 3.3 Resolution of OHS Issues
- 3.4 Consultation Statement
- 3.5 OHSW Confined Spaces
- 3.6 Internal Rehabilitation
- 3.7 Hepatitis B & HIV/AIDS
- 3.8 Pre-placement Medical
- 3.9 Contracting OHSW
- 3.10 Consultation – Formalised Consultation Process
- 3.11 Safety Policy
- 3.12 Injury Management Policy and Procedures
- 3.13 Communicable Diseases/Universal Precautions
- 3.14 Inclement Weather – Skin Cancer Policy and Procedure
- 3.15 Smoke Free Workplace Policy

Section 4 – Risk Management

- 4.1 Risk management Policy
- 4.2 Fireworks
- 4.3 Playground Maintenance Policy
- 4.4 Hall Maintenance Inspection
- 4.5 Contractors Public Liability Cover

Section 5 – General Policies

- 5.1 Fundraising – Charitable & Community Groups (Raffles/Stalls/Trading Tables)
- 5.2 Long Service Leave
- 5.3 Concerts and Other Functions
- 5.4 Alterations to Roads
- 5.5 Media Reports
- 5.6 Emergency Callout – CFS and Ambulance
- 5.7 Travel Allowance
- 5.8 Septic Tank Effluent Drainage Connection Guidelines
- 5.9 Garbage Collection
- 5.10 STEDS Contribution (levy)
- 5.11 Institute
- 5.12 Plant & Equipment Use – Sporting and Community Bodies

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- 5.13 Notification and Inspection of Building Work – Development Act 1993
- 5.14 Non-Approved Building Work
- 5.15 Building Inspection Policy
- 5.16 Underground Power
- 5.17 Road Access to Properties
- 5.18 Use of Contractors
- 5.19 Outdoor Dining
- 5.20 Policy Manual – Review
- 5.21 Sign Policy
- 5.22 Trees Shrubs on Footpaths
- 5.23 Accounts Payment Process
- 5.24 Houses
- 5.25 Liquor Licences

Registers

The following registers are kept in as required by the Local Government Act 1999 or Local Government (Elections) Act 1999:

- Register of Campaign Donation Returns
- Register of Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits
- Register of Members' Allowances and Benefits
- Register of Members' Interests
- Registers of Staff Interests
- Assessment Record
- Register of Community Land
- Register of Public Roads
- Register of Bylaws
- Development Applications Register

Codes of Practice

Codes of practice are included in the adopted policies of Council.

Annual Financial Statements

See attachment A

Subsidiaries of Council

Section 42 – Robe Marina Corporation – see attachment B

Section 43 – South East Local Government Association – see attachment C

Decision Making Structure of Council

- Prepare Council Agenda
- Deadline for Council Agenda items is 1st Tuesday of the month
- Deliver Elected Members Agenda at least 3 clear days prior to meeting
- Council Meeting held in Council Chambers at 5.00 pm on 2nd Tuesday of the month
- Minutes taken from Council Meeting with resolutions adopted and put into effect
- Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting sent via post within 5 days of meeting
- Reports, Correspondence, Petitions, Deputations go to Council, with decisions put into effect
- Development Applications and Staff Reports, go to Development Assessment Panel, with decisions put into effect

Tenders

Council has not subjected itself to competitive tendering. 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 some of its services including septic tank cleaning, resealing of roads and streets and rubble raising. 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.

While 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.

Strategic Management Plan

Significant progress has been made to achieve the strategies in the Strategic Management Plan during the year with some of the major achievements being:

- Complete review of Councils Development Management Plan
- Action to maintain Councils green belt
- Continued lobbying for improved communications, with broadband being available in the town
- Commence construction of significant rural roads, Boatswains Point Road for access to the Boatswains Point community
- Commence stage two of the Industrial Area
- Assistance of expansion of the Robe Golf Club to 18 holes
- Continued emphasis to improve Childcare Services
- Asset Management Report on the Robe STEDS Scheme

Council will need to review the Strategic Management Plan in 2006 for the next 5 years.

Robe Marina Corporation Chairman's Report

The principal business objective of the Robe Marina Corporation is to develop Lake Butler and its environs into a thriving and profitable business environment that brings financial benefits to the Robe community by focussing on satisfying the needs of the:

- The professional and recreational fishermen who use the lake; and the
- Tourists who will be attracted to the area.

This will be achieved in the short term by developing a pontoon based mooring facility and infrastructure that is comparable to other modern marinas. It will be capable of providing mooring for additional commercial fishing boats and of satisfying the needs of the existing waiting list for recreational moorings in the lake.

The planning for the development has been based on treating development as an ongoing business opportunity that will generate an annual income stream for the community rather than a short to medium term one off project. The ongoing income will be achieved by having an appropriate mix of income from moorings that will be leased for a 99 year period and ones for which users will pay an annual rental.

During the last eight months, the efforts of the Corporation focussed on:

- Establishing the financial viability of the project; and
- Modifying the layout of the marina, reducing construction costs to improve the project's financial viability and finalising the engineering design
- Selecting a pontoon system supplier, with world class materials
- Obtaining the support of our anchor tenants, The Commercial fishermen
- Keeping the Council informed of the progress of the project and
- Establishing pro-active communication tools to inform the public and community of the marina progress.

The potential demand for berths was again confirmed by the responses to a request for Registrations of Interest which provided estimated costs.

This response has indicated that:

- The correct marketing strategies have been developed in the business plan; and
- There was a high probability that the financial objectives will be achieved.

Future work will focus on obtaining final approvals for the project, dredging and commencing installing the moorings in Lake Butler.

Malcolm Kentish
Chairman

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**RMC
ANNUAL REPORT 2005/2006**

The Robe Marina Corporation was established pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999 and Gazetted on December 23, 2004.

The purpose of the subsidiary was to develop, maintain and operate facilities and services comprising a marina. Market the berths, services and associated facilities offered and to further develop and implement relations reflecting a co-operative approach to the development, maintenance and operations of the marina. Provide efficient provision, planning, funding and management of facilities and services for the benefit of berth holders, users of the facilities and services, the District Council of Robe and the community.

Membership

Mr Malcolm Kentish	Chairman (Appointed 1 January 2006)
Dr Mark Tregoning	Deputy Chairman
Mr Ian Smith	
Mr Peter Sangster	
Mr Ian Regnier	(Appointed October 2005)
Mr Rob Kay	(Appointed October 2005)

Directors Fees 2004-31.12.2005

Chairman	\$7750
Members (3)	\$6500
Members (1)	\$7500

Directors Fees 2005-30 June 2006

Chairman	\$10000
Deputy Chairman (specialist)	\$15000
Members (1 specialist)	\$15000
Members (2)	\$7500

One member is not eligible for fee payment. All fees paid quarterly in advance.

Powers and Functions

The powers and functions delegated by the Council to the Subsidiary include but are not limited to:

- becoming a member or co-operating or contracting with any other association or organisation;
- entering into contracts or arrangements with any government agency or authority, including but not limited to the entry into a lease (or sub-lease as the case may be) from the Council in respect of the area to comprise the Marina
- entering into contracts with any person or body for the acquisition or provision of goods and services;
- entering into contracts with any person or body for the sale, leasing or licensing of Marina berths or for the provision of services or facilities offered by the Marina;
- appointing, employing, remunerating, removing or suspending officers, managers, employees or agents;
- acquiring, holding, dealing with and disposing of any real or personal property;
- opening and operating bank accounts;
- accumulating surplus funds for investment purposes;
- borrowing money;
- printing and publishing any reports, articles, books, leaflets, statistics or other like writings
- providing a forum for the discussion and consideration of topics related to the Council's obligations and responsibilities in respect to the Subsidiary's objects;
- the power to do anything else necessary or convenient for or incidental to the exercise, performance or discharge of the Subsidiary's powers, functions or duties.

Decision Process

Decisions of the Board are made by a majority of members present, at any formally constituted meeting of the Board and by majority vote subject to the provisions of the Charter and any overriding direction of the Council.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Council is provided with a copy of the minutes and reports of each Board meeting for distribution to the elected members of the Council.

The board must submit to the Council a report on the operations of the Subsidiary, detailing achievements of the aims and objectives of its business plan and any other reports as required by the Council, as well as a proposed budget for the ensuing financial year.

The Board must also submit financial statements in accordance with the Local Government (Financial management) Regulations 1999 to the council at the end of each financial year.

Meetings

Formal meetings of the Subsidiary are not held on a regular basis due to the nature of the development of the project, but all meetings are open to the public unless exclusion under Section 90 (3) of the Local Government Act 1999 is invoked.

Thirteen meetings were held during the period October 2005 to June 2006.

on six occasions the board went into confidence during formal meetings of the Board in 2005/2006, excluding the public, due to the commercial nature of decisions.

Documents for Public Inspection

The rules of the Subsidiary are available for public inspection at the offices of the District Council of Robe and were last published in the Government Gazette dated 9 March 2006. The Agenda and Minutes of meetings, as well as the Business and Marketing plans of the Subsidiary are available for inspection at the offices of the District Council of Robe or by arrangement with the Executive Officer of the Subsidiary.

Strategic Management Plans

A revised business and Marketing Plan was produced by the Subsidiary and formally accepted by council in December 2005. Revision of the financial modelling is carried out after each meeting to ensure the commercial viability and Net present Values are maintained within the parameters of the direction from the District Council of Robe.

Executive Officer

In accordance with Section 4 of the Subsidiary's charter, a body corporate was appointed to provide the services of an Executive Officer to the Board on a part time basis at a daily rate for services.

Purchasing and Tendering

The subsidiary has policies and procedures in place and legal opinion on the practices within the parameters allowed under the Local Government Act and the Charter.

Application of Competition Principles

All Subsidiary business activities include checks for competitive neutrality. In estimating fees and charges the Subsidiary has taken into account:

- Relevant Legislation
- Community Service considerations
- Industry standards
- Impacts on consumers and interest of the community
- Council directions and policies.

History

The operation of the Board was suspended by Council in July 2005 until October 2005, whilst a review on the operation and structure of the Corporation and a further investigation on the redevelopment of Lake Butler occurred.

Upon lifting the suspension the Board was directed by Council to revise the business Plan and provide evidence of the ongoing viability of the redevelopment. This occurred during October and November and the financially modelling, confirmed by Council's and Corporation's auditors, confirmed the project's viability and community benefit.

The District council of Robe accepted the revised Business Plan in December 2005 and thereby approval to proceed with the redevelopment.

The Board's term expired on 31 December 2005 and a new Board consisting of all of the previous members (excluding the Chairman) was re-instated and a new Chairman appointed.

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Achievements

Since January 1 2006, the board negotiated with the Commercial users of Lake Butler, as the anchor tenants, to take up the majority of the 38 Commercial Berths on either a 99 year perpetual lease or short term annual lease. Twenty five 99 year and three annual leases were initially procured by these users.

The Head Lease from the Crown to the District Council of Robe and the Head Underlease to the Robe Marina Corporation were approved and signed.

Approval to borrow funds of up to \$3.5m, for the commencement of the project, from the Local Government Financing Authority was authorised by Council.

A transportable office building has been procured and located on site as an administrative and project office.

A contract for the repairs to the breakwater was let under direction from Council with the Corporation acting as Project and Contract administrators. This work was completed but has not as yet been signed off.

The contract for supply of all pontoons for the Commercial and Recreational berths was accepted by the Board, at immense savings on original tender prices. Continuing endeavours, to ensure the provisions of the Environmental Protection Authority with respect to the disposal of dredge material from the lake, has occurred, with a number of environmental studies undertaken by expert external providers. All additional development applications have been lodged and are pending approval.

It is expected that the construction phase of the project will commence in the early part of the new financial year.

Freedom of Information

The Robe Marina Corporation is pleased to comply with the legislation and welcomes enquiries.

No applications under the legislation were received in 2005/2006.