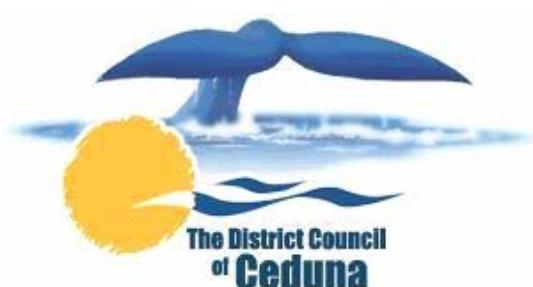


Annual Report



2005/06



About the Ceduna area

Ceduna is rapidly developing a reputation as an ideal tourist destination with it's abundant seafood, pristine beaches and wilderness, spectacular sunsets, whale watching and friendly people.

Ceduna is the major centre to a large and diverse business and industry sector on the Far West Coast of Eyre Peninsula.

It is the established focal point of a wide range of services. The Eyre Highway or National Highway One passes directly through Ceduna with approximately 236,000 tourists passing through the town annually (Nicholas Clarke & Associates, May 1996).

The District Council of Ceduna is the most western Local Government area of South Australia, being one of the most isolated and remote Councils of the State.

The town of Ceduna is located on the Far West Coast of South Australia, on the scenic shores of Murat Bay on the Great Australian Bight, approximately 800kms from Adelaide and 1900 road kms to Perth.

The word Ceduna is believed to have come from the Aboriginal word *Cheedoona* which means "a place to rest".

Ceduna has a population of 3,697 people as at the 2001 ABS Census.

A high proportion of this number of people live in Ceduna/ Thevenard with the towns of Koonibba, Smoky Bay, Denial Bay and Nunjikompita having smaller populations within the Council's boundary.

Ceduna has been described as having one of the most complex multi-cultural communities in the country (Nicholas Clarke & Associates May 1996) with many nationalities prominent in the town and immediate region.



Demographic Profile

Population	3,697
Median Age	35 years
Aboriginal descent	22.4%
Size (area)	5431 sq km or 543,120 Ha
Roads	1,712 kms

Special thanks to Andrew Brooks, Lyn Keanelly and Tourism Eyre Peninsula for supply of photos for the annual report and website.

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Mayors Message

My thanks to all those who assisted in the planning and running the EPLGA Annual Conference—It was one of the best ever.

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2005/06 annual report for the Ceduna District Council.

Some of the projects completed or underway at this time include:-

- ◆ Skateboard Park
- ◆ CBD Upgrade
- ◆ Puckridge Boat Ramp Upgrade
- ◆ Pinky Point BBQ Area
- ◆ Eastern Information Bay
- ◆ Planning for Increased activity at the Ceduna Airport
- ◆ Port of Thevenard Study
- ◆ Ceduna Keys Marina Project
- ◆ CCTV Camera installation on the CBD and at the Airport.
- ◆ Smoky Bay Development

Together with these projects, the discovery of "World Class" mineral sands in our region hold much promise for the future. I predict that there are exciting times ahead.

Regrettably, despite Council's best efforts in keeping the Railway Line—Thevenard to Wudinna—open, it remains closed. Representations have been made to both State and Federal Governments and many other organisations and work will continue until there is a satisfactory outcome.

The Far West Football Commission kept football alive in our region, to the extent that it received an award for excellence. Well done Deputy Mayor, Allan Suter, & fellow Commissioners Lynton Brown & Graham Schaedel, CEO Tony Irvine and Deputy CEO Trevor Smart. Congratulations to the Koonibba Football Club who completed 100 years of football this year.

My thanks to all those who assisted in the planning and running the EPLGA Annual Conference—It was one of the best ever—due in no small measure to the efforts of the administration staff of Council.

During the year relations with the Port Augusta City Council and the District Council of Coober Pedy were strengthened because we share similar issues.

Rates were increased by 5% for 2006/07 which is about in line with inflation in our area. Rate capping has been extended so that people on fixed incomes will have their rates capped at an increase of no more than 5%. General rate capping remains at 10%.

Council staff work long hours to ensure that smooth running of Council—their work, led by CEO Tony Irvine is much appreciated and recognised. My thanks as well to all elected members for their contributions and support over the past twelve months. Like the Council staff, they have the Ratepayers best interest at heart.

Finally, my thanks to all community members who in so many ways have contributed to an enhanced way of life. You are many and often overlooked.

By the time this report is published a new Council will have been elected. I wish them well and I know they will find "A Wealth of Opportunity" for the betterment of our community.

*Mayor
Ken McCarthy*



Chief Executive Officers Report

Community engagement is the new priority for Councils as they come to grips with balancing increasing demands and services with limited resources.



Like all communities we have many issues to face but currently before us are some lifetime opportunities. The Ceduna Keys Marina, Port of Thevenard's planned upgrade and potential mining will present huge opportunities that other communities dream about. In the near future we will witness further major infrastructure development as our community is set to grow through the likes of the above projects. Much of the new infrastructure development will be undertaken by the private sector but will have an impact on local government infrastructure too. All Local Governments are charged with becoming sustainable and engaging their communities to ensure the hard decisions that have to be made are the right ones for the next decade or so. Many tough decisions will revolve around infrastructure renewal. In the future asset management is critical in that it will prioritise the infrastructure the community wishes to be maintained at the highest level. Whilst Ceduna Council has been extremely successful at attracting capital grants we can not become too reliant on funding from the other spheres of government. The other spheres are demanding more a partnership approach to grant funding or attaching more conditions to the funding and therefore the expectation of continuing to gain the levels of funding of the past into the future could be dangerous from a budget perspective.

In Council's budget process it attempted to engage the community and this involved fully disclosing budget details to the residents who were keen to gain the information. Whilst many still have difficulty in understanding the budget process Council will need to continually engage the residents & ratepayers through this process. There will be changes next time around to assist in the better understanding of the budget process as Council attempts to refine it further. It is obvious from the budgeting difficulties in meeting the community's expectations that there is a need for a further review of the rating methods. Strategic Planning and long term financial planning reviews will be undertaken early in the four year term of the next Council and will be setting the directions for the next four years at least. Again public input

through surveys, meetings, smaller community planning etc all assist Council in developing its long term plans.

Ceduna Council like most others is working on how it provides the right amount of information (ever increasing amounts), how it effectively consults and what level of involvement and collaboration is provided to the community. The benefits of Council undertaking improved community engagement processes have spin offs in community trust, social capital and better connections with the community. I believe many residents think that the District Council of Ceduna is responsible for all public spending within our area; in fact on average it is responsible for about 5% of public spending. Hence even the local newspaper concentrates on Council and ignores the other higher spending government organisations that collectively have a far wider and greater responsibility in meeting community demands and services. This situation unfairly impacts on the reputation of the Council and also significantly adds to the workload of Councillors.

Whilst the future looks very promising there are still many hard yards to be made, many difficult issues facing Council and many more very difficult decisions to be debated and made. Our future is in all our hands and with a united vision and continuing strong leadership our community can grow and prosper.

I take this opportunity to thank our valued volunteers for their unselfish personal commitment to our community's well being over the many years. To Elected Members and staff I personally thank them for their commitment and determination to make our community one of the best to live, work and play in.

Tony Irwin

Elected Members

The District Council of Ceduna is made up of a Mayor and eight Elected Members elected by the community to represent the interests of everyone in the council area.

Through their daily activities living and working in the area and through their role of receiving representations from constituents, Councillors bring to the policy making and budgetary process a vast reservoir of knowledge and understanding of community aspirations.

Through the formal debating processes of the Council this knowledge and understanding assists in creating policies and priorities which are uniquely suited to the people of Ceduna.

The Mayor and Councillors of the Ceduna Council were elected in May 2003 to represent your interests, with the next Local Government elections to be held in November 2006.



1. Mayor
Ken McCarthy

2. Deputy Mayor
Allan Suter

3. Cr Eddie Burge

4. Cr Lynton Brown
5. Cr Ian Cawood
6. Cr Michael Ross



7. Cr Carolyn Ronan
8. Cr Sharyn Spry
9. Cr Trevor Trenowden

Resignations:

Cr Trevor Trenowden—13th February 2006

Cr Eddie Burge—20th March 2006

Not in Office:

Cr Michael Ross—1st October 2005 until 14th of February 2006

Elected Members Allowances

Allowances and reimbursements paid to elected members for the 2005/06 financial year were as follows:

Elected Members Allowances 2005-2006

Elected Member	Expenses Reimbursed		Other Benefits				Annual Allowance	Total
	Travel	Other	Accom.	Meals	Airfare	Other		
Mayor McCarthy	0.00	0.00	2,710.25	810.25	1,574.82	2,456.39	9,000.00	16,551.71
Deputy Mayor Suter	0.00	0.00	230.00	0.00	1,948.90	0.00	3,000.00	5,178.90
Cr Burge	575.00	0.00	443.00	63.50	0.00	350.14	1,438.89	2,870.53
Cr Brown	122.61	0.00	157.50	16.50	250.69	0.00	2,000.00	2,547.30
Cr Cawood	1274.15	324.45	439.00	122.00	0.00	709.50	2,000.00	4,869.10
Cr Ronan	288.36	0.00	222.00	12.40	778.34	203.50	2,000.00	3,504.60
Cr Ross	16.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,016.56
Cr Spry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Cr Trenowden	26.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,244.44	1,271.32
	2,303.56	324.45	4,201.75	1,024.65	4,552.75	3,719.53	23,683.33	39,810.02

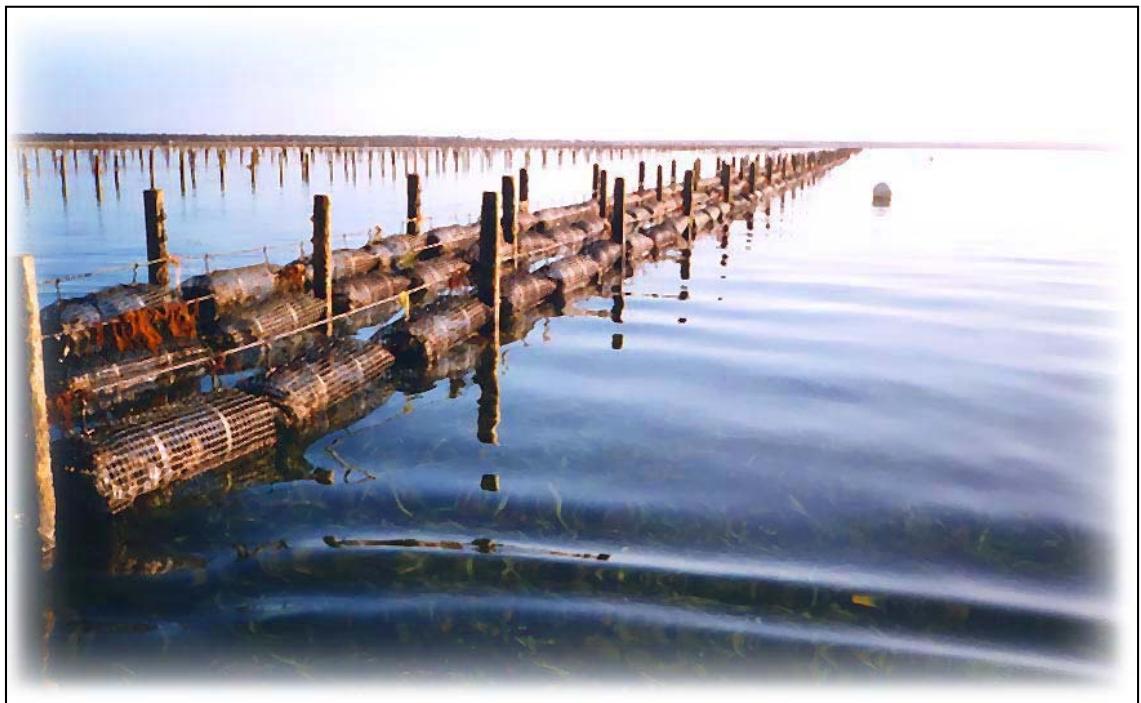


Attendance at Meetings

Figures are representative of Council, committee and sub-committee meetings only. They do not show community group meetings, ministerial delegations etc.

Elected Members Meeting Attendance

	Total	Attended	Apology	Non Attendance
Mayor McCarthy	27	21	6	0
Deputy Mayor Suter	29	27	2	0
Cr Burge	19	19	0	0
Cr Brown	33	27	1	5
Cr Cawood	26	26	0	0
Cr Ross	13	8	3	2
Cr Ronan	22	21	1	0
Cr Spry	30	25	4	1
Cr Trenowden	9	8	1	0



Customer Service

Council's philosophy on customer service is "everyone in the District Council of Ceduna must serve the customer or support someone who does".

Council's philosophy on customer service is "everyone in the District Council of Ceduna must serve the customer or support someone who does".

This philosophy and other customer service values were adopted by Council in September 1998 with the aim to improve service to our customers by providing an excellence in customer service. There are now guidelines on how our customers should be treated, and outlines to the customer what can be expected from Council staff in their service.

Although it is human nature to dislike criticism, Council recognises that complaints give us the opportunity to put things right. To aid us in becoming more aware of problems that exist with Council's operations we have developed a 'PLEASE REVIEW' form for our customers to complete. These can be obtained from the Council Office, online at www.ceduna.net or can be posted out on request.

Public Enquiries

Council's Customer Action Request System (CARS) has assisted both customers and Council Officers alike in improved management of enquiries from the public. The CARS system is designed to capture information from the public, and then provides requests to relevant officers to action the enquiry. There are reporting functions of this system that provide for a greater level of accountability from Council.

This system is a continuation of our internal assessment and development of better management practices.

Written Reports to Council

All senior officers report to Council on a monthly basis on various matters in their area of responsibility. Approximately 150 reports were presented to Council by Officers in the past year. These reports generally have recommendations from the relevant officer to the Council, and Council then has the option of accepting these recommendations or taking a different course of action.

Correspondence Received

A total of 2145 items of correspondence were received by Council. All correspondence does not get presented to Council as Council provides direction for Council Officers to act under Council Policy. Approximately 124 items of correspondence were referred to Council Meetings for consideration with comments and recommendations provided to Council by Council Officers.

Funding Submissions

Council's officers prepared a number of detailed submissions seeking funding for infrastructure improvements, responding to legislative changes, reporting to the other two tiers of government etc.

Council has a relatively small rate base, and as such the obtaining of grant funds is vitally important in developing infrastructure and services throughout the district.



Council Staff

Council has six senior officers with allowances, bonuses and benefits that are made available to those officers as part of a salary package as detailed.



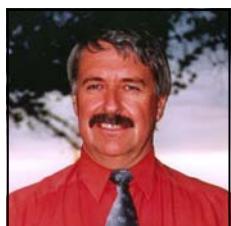
Chief Executive Officer—Tony Irvine

Vehicle with private usage
Civic Allowance
Own Home Owner Allowance
Professional & Personal Development Allowance
Private Health Cover
Superannuation
Home Phone & Mobile Costs



Deputy Chief Executive Officer—Trevor Smart

Vehicle with private usage
Own Home Owner Allowance
Home phone rental & mobile phone use
Work Attire Subsidy



General Manager Operations—Grant Drummond

Vehicle with private usage
Home phone rental & mobile phone use
Work Attire Subsidy
Own Home Owner Allowance



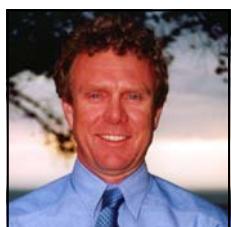
Manager Administration & Finance—Francois D'Hotman de' Villiers

Own Home Owner Allowance
Mobile phone use & Home phone rental
Work Attire Subsidy



Manager Environmental Services – Chris Holland

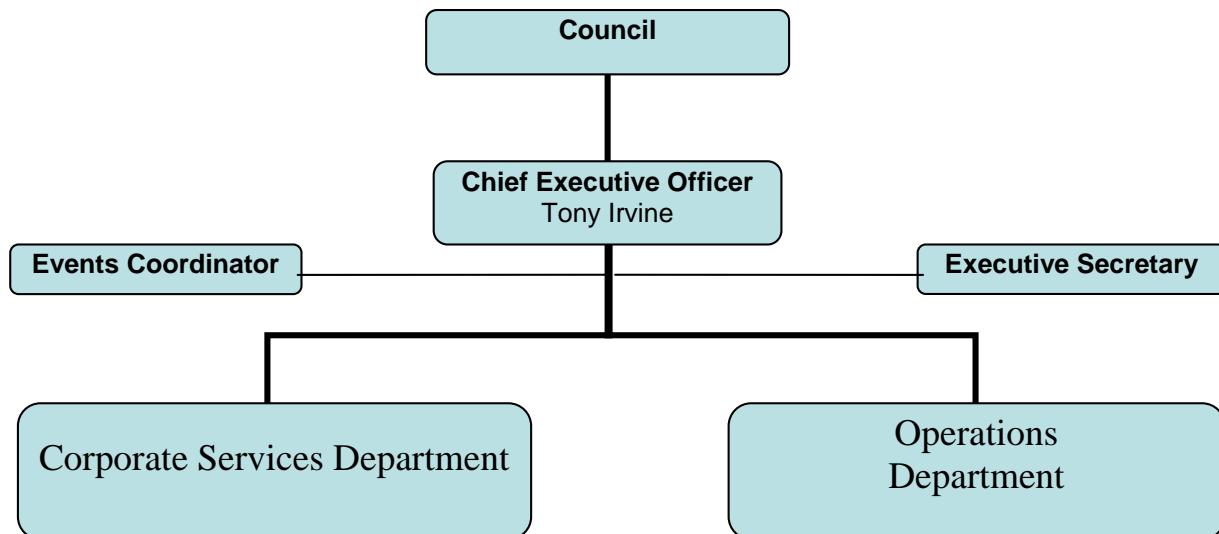
Vehicle with private usage
Rental Allowance
Home phone rental & mobile phone use
Work Attire Subsidy



Works Manager—Andrew Johns

Vehicle with private usage
Mobile phone use
Work Attire Subsidy
Own Home Owners Allowance

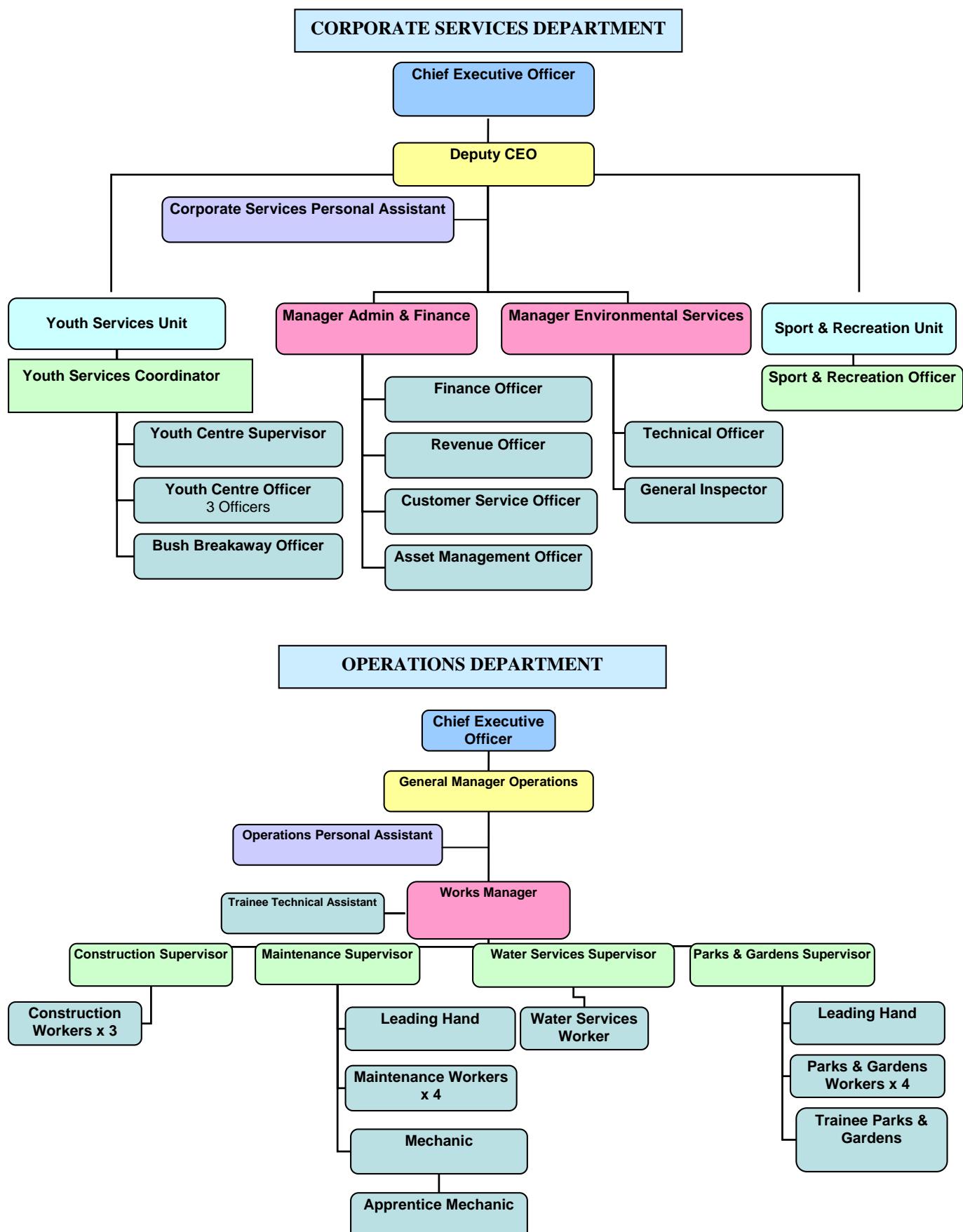
Council Staff cont.



Salary Range for all employees

Salary Range	No. of Employees	Previous Year
0-\$10,000	0	0
\$10,001-\$20,000	1	2
\$20,001-\$30,000	4	5
\$30,001-\$40,000	19	12
\$40,001-\$50,000	13	12
\$50,001-\$60,000	2	2
\$60,001-\$70,000	3	3
\$70,001-\$80,000	0	0
\$80,001-\$90,000	0	0
\$90,000-\$100,000	0	0
\$100,000-\$110,000	1	1
Total Employees	43	37

Council Staff



Council Committees & Delegations

The roles and responsibilities of all committees are contained within Council's Policy Manual and are a requirement of the Local Government Act 1999. Members of the public can access these policies at the Council Administration Centre, or purchase a copy for a fee.

Council reviews the structure, membership and relevance of all committees at least on an annual basis.

The membership of most committees has been expanded to provide for non-council organisations and/or community members to have full voting rights on the relevant committee.

The inclusion of community members on Council committees is seen as a direct consultative process where members of these organisations can have direct input into the decision making process of the committees.

All committees then make recommendation to full Council for their decision on issues.

Council Committees

Technical Services & Works Committee
Technical Services & Works Skate-Park Sub-committee
Administration & Finance Committee
Social Services Committee
Davenport Creek Management Committee
Ceduna & Districts Bushfire Prevention Committee
Development Assessment Panel
Oysterfest Committee
Ceduna Hotel Development Advisory Group
Australia Day Judging Panel
Ceduna & Districts Sport & Recreation Committee



Council Appointments to Community Committees, Boards, Organisations etc.

Great Australian Bight 1000 – West Coast Strategy Committee (Joint Councils)
Western Animal Plant Control Board
Ceduna & Districts Health Services Board
Ceduna Community School Library Board
Miltaburra Area School Council
Ceduna Area School Council
Ceduna & Districts Group CFS
Nunjikompiita CFS Brigade/Smoky Bay CFS Brigade
Ceduna Business & Tourism Association
SA Co-operative Bulk Handling Committee (silo)
Spencer Institute of TAFE – Ceduna Campus
Far West Rural Service Group
Port of Thevenard Committee
Ceduna Area School Swimming Pool Committee
Ceduna Community Radio Committee
Western Eyre Peninsula Soil Conservation Board
Far West Recreational Fisheries Committee
Ceduna Area School Redevelopment Committee
Coastal Councils Committee
CBTA Safe Swimming Enclosure Committee
Ceduna Student Support Team

Ministerial & Other Appointments (Non-Council)

Eyre Peninsula Catchment Water Management Board (Ministerial)
Eyre Peninsula Community Foundation (Regional Development Board)
Eyre Regional Development Board

Council Committees & Delegations cont.

Far Western Enterprise & Learning Alliance
(Local Community)
Flinders Region Area Consultative Committee
(Ministerial)
State Aboriginal Advisory Committee
(Ministerial)
Local Government Association Aboriginal
Advisory Committee (LGA)
DHS – Aboriginal Services Implementation
Committee (Dept)
Ceduna Community Service Committee
(Community)

Annual General Meeting Delegate
Local Government (LG) Finance Authority
Annual General Meeting Delegate
Australian LGA Annual Conference & Annual
General Meeting Delegates
Australian Airports Owners Association
Annual Conference & Annual General
Meeting Delegates
EPLGA Roads & Transport Reference Group
SA Local Government Roads & Works
Conference
LG Grants Commission Road Indices
Reference Group
LG Future Directions Implementation
Reference Group (State, Federal & Local
Government Based) (LGA)
Australian LGA National Local Roads
Congress
Youth Advisory Group

Council Appointments to the Local Government Association & Other Bodies

Eyre Peninsula (EP) Local Government
Association Executive
EP Local Government Association
Conference Delegate
Local Government Association (LGA) of SA



Council Directory & Services

A full overview of Council's services can be viewed on the website at www.ceduna.net

Administration Office

44 O'Loughlin Terrace
PO Box 175, Ceduna, SA, 5690

Office Hours: Mon to Fri

8.30am – 5.30pm

Ph: (08) 8625 3407
Fax: (08) 8625 3435
Email: council@ceduna.sa.gov.au
Website: www.ceduna.net

Works Depot

Goode Rd Ph: (08) 8625 3434

Airport

Eyre Highway Ph: (08) 8625 3432

Refuse Depot

Goode Rd Ph: (08) 8625 2267

Youth Centre

1 Bergmann Drive Ph: (08) 8625 2005

Council Provides & Maintains

Airport
Beach Shelters
Beach/Foreshore Areas
Bicycle Tracks
Boat Ramps
Carparks
Cemeteries
Community Bus
Disposal Effluent Systems
Dog Control
Dog Boarding Kennels
Garbage Collection
Jetties & Pontoons
Library Facilities
Litter Bins
Parking Bays/Street Closures

Parks & Gardens

Plant & Machinery

Playgrounds

Public Toilets

Reserve Areas

Roads, Footpaths, Kerbing

Seats/Signs

Septic Tank Pump Outs

School Crossings (some)

Skatepark

Street Lighting

Street Tree Planting

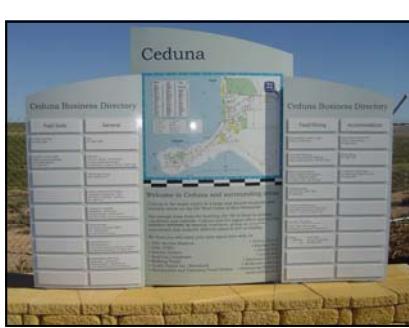
Streetsweeping

Town Halls

Traffic Control

Water Supply

Youth Affairs



Council Directory & Services cont.

Council Inspects & Licences

Food Premises
Nursing Homes & Rest Homes
Outdoor Signs
Sanitary Conditions of Buildings
Road Reserve Permits for business purposes

Council Assists

Advocacy for the Community
Community Organisations
Community Swimming Pool
Economic Development
Festivals & Annual Events
Local Businesses
Senior Citizens Clubs
Sporting Groups
Tourism

Council Conducts

Australia Day Awards
Citizenship Ceremonies
Civic Receptions
Oysterfest
Other various events

Council Advises on

Fire Regulations
Infectious Diseases
Pest Eradication
Pool Hygiene

Council Administers

Beach Controls
Parking Controls
Litter Controls
Sign Controls
Planning Regulations
Building Regulations
Development Plans
Dog Control & Registration
Yalata Bus Service
Far West Football League
Dry Areas Legislation



Council Registers

Council is required to maintain the following registers that are available for perusal to the general public:

- ◆ Register of Interest
Members of Council
- ◆ Register of Allowances & Benefits
Members of Council
- ◆ Register of Benefits – Council Staff
- ◆ Register of Public Roads
- ◆ Register of Community Land
- ◆ Register of By-Laws
- ◆ Register of Election Campaign Returns

Community Land

Council adopted Community Land Management Plans in December 2004 for land classified as community land under the Local Government Act 1999.

These plans assist Council with managing issues of risk management, facility provision, inspection and maintenance of the land, and other general issues.

By adopting the plans, the public is also offered ongoing protection for their 'expected continued access' to community land.

Community Land Management Plans were adopted for:

- Ceduna Soldiers Memorial Hall
- Reserves
- Median Strips
- Recreation Facilities (Leased)
- Emergency Service Facilities
- Ceduna Memorial Park

Codes of Conduct

Council has adopted Codes of Conduct as for:

- Elected Members Code of Conduct
- Staff Code of Conduct



Representation Review

Council's last representation received certification from the State Electoral Office in November 2001 with the next review due by November 2007.

Council completed its last review in 2000/2001 with notification of completion of the review being published in the Government Gazette on 22 November 2001.

Provisions of the Local Government Act 1999 require Council to comprehensively review the composition of the Council at least once every six years. Accordingly Council will be required to complete the next representation review by November 2007.

A review will outline issues including Ceduna Community background, communities of Interest including physical & topographical, demographic trends, economic factors, recreational & social, and regional Issues, participation in decision making, the consultation process and representation options.

Council continues to function on a no-wards basis with representation of a elected Mayor and eight elected members. The number of electors for the area is currently 2,533 which gives a representation ratio of 1:281. Council is classified as a Rural Agricultural Medium Council (RAM) as per the Australian

Classification of Local Government. Within this classification the highest representation quota is Peterborough Council with 1:194 and the lowest, Yankalilla Council with 1:647. The average representation quota within the RAM classification is 1:351. Based on this average representation, Ceduna Council would only be represented by seven elected members (including Mayor) if this was utilised to calculate members required.

Boundary Adjustments - Public Initiated Submissions

Under Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1999 'electors' can initiate submissions for boundary adjustment.

Electors requiring detailed requirements of a Public Initiated Submission can contact Council to obtain further details of the requirements of the Local Government Act .

Statistical Data from other Councils

Council	Electors	Total Members (inc Mayor)	Representation Quota
Peterborough	1746	9	194
Southern Mallee	1953	9	217
Kingston	2654	11	241
Tumby Bay	2460	9	273
Barunga West	2852	10	285
Ceduna	4081	9	281
Goyder	4058	13	313
Mount Remarkable	3135	7	447
Kangaroo Island	4976	10	497
Lower Eyre	4025	7	575
Yankalilla	5829	9	647

Public Information

Council has a Code of Practice for the Use of Confidentiality Provisions in the Local Government Act 1999.

Meetings of Council

In fulfilling the role of an effective Council which 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 Ceduna is fully committed to the principle of open government, whilst recognising that on some occasions it may be necessary in the broader community interest to restrict public access to discussion and/or documents.

Public access to Council and Council Committee Meetings is guaranteed and encouraged, except where the Council believes it is necessary in the broader community interest to exclude the public from the discussion of a particular matter.

A simple example would be a case where the Council is intending to bid at auction to acquire land and would not want others involved (such as the vendor) to have prior knowledge of what the Council was setting as an upper limit to bid at the auction, as to do so would prejudice the position of Council and disadvantage the community.

Further examples occur when information pertaining to the health, safety or financial position of a person is involved. The public is only excluded when considered absolutely necessary.

Council used the confidential-provisions pursuant to Sections 90 of the Local Government Act on 7 occasions from a total number of Agenda items of 348. This reaffirms our commitment to conducting Council business in an open and transparent manner.

The confidentiality provisions were used as such:

November 2005

- Native Title ILUA for Ceduna Keys Marina*- this matter to remain in confidence until the ILUA agreement was signed and executed.

- Ombudsman Inquiry – Woods Pit* - this matter to remain in confidence as directed by the Ombudsman until the matter is fully resolved.
- CBD Construction Tender — this matter to remain in confidence until tender is formally awarded and executed.
- Property Sale* — matter to remain in confidence until property sale settlement is completed to protect Council's reserve sale price or the in-confidence order is lifted by Council. Whichever is earlier.

December 2005

- Ceduna Desalination Project* — matter to remain in confidence until the purpose and outcomes of the Memorandum of Understanding are resolved or the Memorandum of Understanding is terminated by any of the parties.
- Assessment of Council Land for Sale* — matter to remain in confidence until the purchase of any and all allotments of land being offered for sale is settled.

April 2006

- Performance Evaluation of Chief Executive Officer — matter to remain in confidence until the completion of the discussion & making of resolutions in relation to the matter of the CEO's performance evaluation.

Of the above confidential items, 3 have had the in-confidence order lifted and are now publicly available. Those items marked with an asterisk * remain in confidence.

Freedom of Information Statement

Most information held by the District Council of Ceduna are available for public viewing.

The Freedom of Information Act 1991 provides legislation and guidelines for access and provision of information to the public. If Council refuses access to a document we must issue a certificate stating why the document is a restricted document.

Most information held by the District Council of Ceduna are available for public viewing. There are a few exceptions, such as personal and personnel records and matters which are subject to litigation, but generally, information is readily available for viewing at no charge or a minimal reproduction charge.

In rare cases, retrieving the requested information involves considerable staff time. It is important to specify what you require as clearly as possible so our staff may quickly and efficiently help you. If extraordinary staff time is required to comply with an information request, charges may apply.

Most information is readily available without recourse to the Freedom of Information Act and we invite you to discuss your information needs with us.

For the year 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006, Council received one application under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act

to provide information. Council provided some general information and referred the applicant to a third party who may have been able to assist the applicant.

Requests under the Freedom of Information Act 1991 for access to documents in the possession of Council should be accompanied by the relevant application fee and directed in writing to

Freedom of Information Officer
District Council of Ceduna
44 O'Loughlin Terrace
CEDUNA SA 5690

Additional search fees may apply to requests where substantial time is involved to access the required documentation.

All general enquiries on Freedom of Information Act issues should be directed to Freedom of Information Officers, Trevor Smart or Sonia Oats.

Information Available to the Public

Council is regulated under several Acts, and/or is required to provide information under other Acts. A listing of Acts and Plans that Council operates under follows on page 22.



Freedom of Information Statement cont.

Acts, Regulations & Plans

Local Government Act
Freedom of Information Act
Building Code of Australia
Public & Environmental Health Act
Real Property Act
Food Act
Housing Improvement Act
Environmental Protection Act
Parking Regulations
Dog & Cat Management Act
Development Act
Strategic Plan
Ceduna Development Plan
Eyre Development Plan

Minutes

Minutes of each monthly Council Meeting are available on Council's Website for free or in hard copy for a small fee. They are also displayed in the Council Foyer for public information.

Agendas

Agendas are displayed in the Council Foyer for public information three days prior to the Council Meeting.

Documents Available

The following documents are available for public inspection at the Council Office free of charge. Members of the public can purchase them for a fee:

- Council & Committee Agendas
- Council & Committee Minutes
- Policy Manual
- Annual Report
- Strategic Plan, Business Plans, & Financial Plans
- By-laws
- Register of Elected Members - Allowances and Benefits
- Register of Employees' Salaries & Wages and Benefits
- Assessment Book
- Register of Public Streets and Roads
- Register of Fees and Charges levied by Council
- Supplementary Development Plans previously on exhibition
- Development Application Register
- Financial Statements



Equal Employment Opportunity

The District Council of Ceduna believes it has a social responsibility toward all members of its community and is required to create an employment environment which reflects the values and needs of the community.

Council has an ongoing Equal Employment Opportunity program, which includes the identification of any policies, procedures and practices that have implications for equal employment opportunity.

These are subject to ongoing review by Council to ensure that discriminating policies and structures are eliminated.

Indigenous Employment

As part of its equal employment initiatives policy, the District Council of Ceduna is committed to providing employment opportunities to the same percentage of Aboriginal people as in the Ceduna community (currently approximately 22%).

Through Council initiatives, and partnerships formed with other organisations, employment opportunities have been created through:

Youth Services

Two full-time and three part-time staff operate the Ceduna Youth Centre. Council's Bush Breakaway Program also provides employment for up to two youth mentors. Other organisations involved include Families SA, Ceduna Area School and SA Police. Three Indigenous staff are employed part-time at the Ceduna Youth Centre, and one Indigenous person is employed part-time as a Bush Breakaway Mentor.

Municipal Services

Council receives funding to provide refuse collection, road maintenance and environmental health services to Koonibba Aboriginal Community and all Homeland Communities within the Council area. These works are performed on a contract basis by existing staff and services.

Parks & Gardens

Council currently employs two full-time Indigenous employees in our Parks & Gardens Team.

Contractors

From time to time Council contracts the

services of indigenous persons to undertake projects including graffiti prevention (mural painting), by-law enforcement, and native title and heritage clearance issues.

With the above projects and employment opportunities Council currently has six Indigenous persons employed on a full or part-time basis.

This sees Council's current employment of aboriginal persons to approximately 14% of our total workforce. This does not take into account works carried out on a contractual basis by Indigenous persons.

With Council progressing the Ceduna Keys Marina project, there will also be a commitment required from developers to provide local and Indigenous employment opportunities during the construction phase of this project.

Council maintains a strong commitment to equal employment opportunity principles and the employment of target groups.

As a requirement of the Local Government Act 1999, Council is required to adopt a rating policy as part of the annual budget process. Even though this is a legislative requirement, it also assists Council in its approach to rating issues, and gives consistency to decision making relative to rating issues.

A summary of this policy is provided for your information, with a copy of the entire policy available for inspection by the public free of charge at the Council Office, or for purchase if



Council Rates

Council has introduced rate capping to assist in more equitable rating across the Council area, and to assist those ratepayers affected by abnormal property valuations.

Aims & Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to assist Council to:

- outline clearly the rates policy position and approach;
- provide information on the rates policy to ratepayers;
- summarise the legal position relating to the setting and collection of rates; and
- comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999.

The policy is based on the Local Government Act 1999 and the Valuation of Land Act.

Policy Detail

1. INTRODUCTION

- ◆ This document sets out the policy of the District Council of Ceduna for setting and collecting rates from its community. The policy covers:
 - ◆ method used to value land
 - ◆ adoption of valuations
 - ◆ business impact statement
 - ◆ Council's revenue raising powers
 - ◆ differential general rates
 - ◆ fixed charge
 - ◆ separate rates
 - ◆ service rates and/or charges
 - ◆ pensioner concessions
 - ◆ payment of rates
 - ◆ late payment of rates
 - ◆ sale of land for non-payment of rates
 - ◆ remission and postponement of rates
 - ◆ rebate of rates
 - ◆ Disclaimer

2. STRATEGIC FOCUS

In setting its rates for the 2006/07 financial year the Council has considered the following:

- ◆ it's Strategic Plan which has undertaken a major review and adopted by Council at its meeting of 12 November 2003. Council's next major review of its Strategic Plan is planned to be undertaken in December 2006 following local government general elections.
- ◆ Business Plan which was adopted in May 2004 which incorporates long term financial planning models.
- ◆ the current economic climate including:
 - continuing impact of GST on Council including cash flow effects,

- compliance costs, greater outstanding rate debt level etc
- impact of GST on ratepayers
- cost shifting from Federal and State governments
- continuing impact of legislative compliance issues (risk management, records management, etc)
- ◆ the specific issues faced by our community including:
 - seasonal conditions
 - remoteness
 - local economic development
 - age and condition of major infrastructure (i.e. common effluent system, roads)
 - social issues
- ◆ the budget for the 2006/07 financial year and the Strategic Plan;
- ◆ the impact of rates on the community including:
 - different levels of service and infrastructure in the townships of Ceduna, Thevenard, Denial Bay & Smoky Bay ratepayer base
 - single farm enterprise provisions of the Local Government Act 1999.
 - rate capping policy introduction.
 - completion of rate model review in November 2004.
- ◆ consideration of the issue of consistency and comparability in imposing differing levels of rates in different areas such as Ceduna and Thevenard townships, Denial Bay township, Smoky Bay township, and rural areas.
- ◆ consideration of community feedback achieved through policies and programs such as public consultation, customer service standards, media relations (print and radio), and general community interaction with elected members and executive staff. Direct consultation on the budget has been undertaken in the form of written requests for budgetary consideration to:
 - Ceduna Business & Tourism Assoc
 - Denial Bay Progress Association
 - Smoky Bay Progress Association
 - Thevenard Ratepayers' Association

In addition to the placement of advertisements in the West Coast Sentinel (local publication) requesting issues from the public for

Council Rates cont.

consideration in the 2006/07 pre-budget process.

The Strategic Management Plan and the Council's budget are available for inspection at:

Council Administration Centre, 44 O'Loughlin Terrace, Ceduna.

3. ANNUAL ADOPTION OF THE POLICY

Section 171 of the Local Government Act requires a Council to prepare and adopt each year, in conjunction with setting the rates, a rate policy. The policy must be available at the principal office of the Council and a summary version must be distributed with the rate notice.

This policy is available for inspection at:
Council Administration Centre, 44 O'Loughlin Terrace, Ceduna

4. METHOD USED TO VALUE LAND

Councils may adopt one of three valuation methodologies to value the properties in its area. They are:

- Capital Value – the value of the land and all the improvements on the land.
- Site Value – the value of the land and any improvements which permanently affect the amenity or use of the land, such as drainage works, but excluding the value of buildings and other improvements.
- Annual Value – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

Following a major review of rating models (completed in November 2004) the Council has decided to continue to use site 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:

- the nature of land-holdings and the mix of land uses in the district (i.e. residential, business, tourism & hospitality, aquaculture, agriculture, and other uses).
- the equity principle of taxation

5. ADOPTION OF VALUATIONS

A Council may employ or engage a valuer to value the land in the area or it may use the valuations provided by the Valuer-General or it may use a combination of both, subject to

certain restrictions. The Valuer-General is a statutory officer appointed by the Governor.

The Council has adopted the valuations made by the Valuer-General, and provided to the Council, on 14th June 2006.

If a ratepayer is dissatisfied with the valuation made by the Valuer-General, then the ratepayer may object to the Valuer-General in writing within 60 days of receiving the notice of the valuation, explaining the basis for the objection provided they 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. The address of the office of the Valuer-General is:

The Office of the Valuer-General
101 Grenfell St, Adelaide
GPO Box 1354, Adelaide SA 5001
Phone: (08) 8226 3855
Email:objections@saugov.sa.gov.au

Please note that the Council has no role in this process. It is also important to note that the lodgement of an objection does not change the due date for the payment of rates.

6. 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 the following matters:

- ◆ Council consultations with:
 - Ceduna Business & Tourism Assoc
 - Denial Bay Progress Association
 - Smoky Bay Progress Association
 - Thevenard Ratepayers' Association
 - Advertisement in local publication requesting budget information requests.
- ◆ Those elements of the Council's Strategic Plan relating to business development including:
 - Objective 1.01 Improve the quality and supply of water
 - Objective 1.04 Improve the standard of streetscaping
 - Objective 1.06 Further develop the infrastructure and service level of the airport
 - Objective 3.01 Develop and increase the tourist potential and trade

Council Rates cont.

- Objective 3.02 Maximise the benefit to industry from partnerships and government incentives
- Objective 3.03 Actively promote the growth of new and existing industries and businesses
- Objective 3.04 Further the economic development of our infrastructure
- ◆ The equity of the distribution of the rate burden between classes of ratepayers including the levels of service and infrastructure provided in different areas of the district such as Ceduna, Thevenard, Denial Bay, and Smoky Bay townships.
- ◆ Specific Council projects for the coming year that will solely or principally benefit businesses and primary producers including:
 - Furthering the development of Marina and Coastal Centre
 - Pursuing and encouraging mining and tourism opportunities
 - Continuing the upgrade of Ceduna Business District
 - Continuation of rural road construction and upgrades
 - Continuation of urgently needed welfare facilities including the Ceduna Youth Centre
 - Implementation of long term plans for the Ceduna/Thevenard and Smoky
 - Bay STEDS Schemes, the Ceduna Koonibba Water Scheme, Building Assets, and Council infrastructure
 - Upgrade of Puckridge Boat Ramp, Ceduna
 - Involvement in functional reform negotiations with the State & Federal Governments

Measurement of council's performance will be assessed through the following:

- Performance Development Reviews of Chief Executive Officer and staff
- Customer Surveys though the Local Government Association Comparative Performance Measurement Project.
- Reviewing the Strategic Plan and other operational plans for meeting of time lines
- Complaints received
- Commendations received
- Additional grants received
- Budget performance (i.e. actual compared against budget)

The Annual Report will address these performance measures.

7. COUNCIL'S REVENUE RAISING POWERS

All land within a Council area, except for land specifically exempt (eg crown land, Council occupied land and other land prescribed in the Local Government Act – refer Appendix 1 and Section 147 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, or through differential general rates, which apply to classes of properties. In addition, Council can raise separate rates, for specific areas of the Council or service rates or charges for specific services. The Council also raises revenue through fees and charges, which are set giving consideration to the cost of the service provided and any equity issues.

The list of applicable fees and charges is available at:
Council Administration Centre, 44 O'Loughlin Terrace, Ceduna

8. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

The Council considers that it is equitable to differentiate the distribution of the rate burden between classes of ratepayers including the levels of service and infrastructure provided in different areas of the district such as Ceduna, Thevenard, Denial Bay, and Smoky Bay townships. Council recognises that there are varying levels of infrastructure, community services, and local amenity to all of the aforementioned areas, and as such Council has decided to impose differential general rates on the following classes of properties:

- ◆ Land within Policy Area No.10 zoned Industry under the Councils Development Plan within the township of Ceduna
- ◆ Land within the township of Ceduna
- ◆ Land within the township of Thevenard.
- ◆ Land within the township of Smoky Bay
- ◆ Land within the township of Denial Bay
- ◆ Land in the remainder of the area of the District Council of Ceduna

At its meeting of 14th June 2006 the Council decided to raise \$2,088,803 (excluding rebates) in a total revenue budget of \$6,458,181. The Council has set the following differential general rates:

Council Rates cont.

- ◆ Differential general rate:
 - i) of 48.35780 cents in the dollar on rateable land within Policy Area No.10 zoned Industry under the Council's Development Plan within the township of Ceduna;
 - ii) of 2.01570 cents in the dollar on all other rateable land within the township of Ceduna;
- ◆ Differential general rate of 1.81550 cents in the dollar on rateable land within the township of Thevenard;
- ◆ Differential general rate of 0.75530 cents in the dollar on rateable land within the township of Smoky Bay;
- ◆ Differential general rate of 0.81912 cents in the dollar on rateable land within the township of Denial Bay;
- ◆ Differential general rate of 1.11575 cents in the dollar on rateable land in the remainder of the area of the District Council of Ceduna;

Locality is used as a factor to levy differential rates.

The levels of rate revenue expected from the above differentiating rating (including fixed charge component) localities will be:

Ceduna	\$918,383	45.3%
Thevenard	\$282,592	13.9%
Smoky Bay	\$183,822	9.1%
Denial Bay	\$36,062	1 . 8 %
Industry Zone	\$30,399	1 . 5 %
Other (Rural)	\$576,346	28.4%
Total	\$2,027,604	

General rate revenue is expected to provide for approximately 31.4% of Councils total revenue for the 2006/07 financial year.

9. FIXED CHARGE

A Council may impose a fixed charge on every property in its area, provided that it has not imposed a minimum rate. Where two or more adjoining properties have the same owner, or where there is a single farm enterprise comprising more than one property, only one fixed charge may be payable by the ratepayer.

The Council has decided to impose a fixed charge on rateable properties of \$417.50 consisting of:

- ◆ A fixed charge of \$352.50; plus
- ◆ A fixed charge of \$65.00 to provide funding for the upgrade of the Ceduna Central Business District.

The reasons for imposing a fixed charge are that everyone enjoys some level of benefits from the activities of the Council and as such this is seen as an equitable charge.

Council has adopted a policy to address Single Farm Enterprise issues and the exemption of fixed charges where ratepayers are eligible for an exemption.

10. SEPARATE RATES

The Council has undertaken construction of infrastructure to provide a general water supply to the residents of rural properties and Denial Bay township as delineated in the plan of the Ceduna/Koonibba Water Scheme as per Council Policy 15.06 - Ceduna Koonibba Water Scheme Designated Water District.

The Council has decided to raise \$61,628.01 by way of separate rates to maintain infrastructure for this financial year. The Council has declared a separate rate of:

- Residential Land .8901 cents
- Primary Production Land .2908 cents
- Vacant Land .8901 cents
- Yarilena Homelands \$2,000.00
- Koonibba Aboriginal Community \$8,000.00

The revenue raised from this rate can only be applied to the operations of the Ceduna/Koonibba Water Scheme. This revenue is raised from ratepayers within the Water Scheme on the concept of 'user pays' for provision of infrastructure to ratepayers who receive a direct benefit.

11. SERVICE CHARGE(S)

Denial Bay Reticulation

The Council provided a reticulated water supply to the residents of Denial Bay Township. The full cost of establishing this service was raised from a loan. The Council will recover this cost through the imposition of a service charge. Where a service that is subject to a service charge is available to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against that land.

The service charge for each separate allotment receiving or able to receive the service will be \$167.25 per annum per allotment. The Council has decided to raise the revenue by means of a service charge because of the concept of user pays.

Common Effluent Drainage Schemes

Ceduna & Thevenard Common Effluent Scheme

Council Rates cont.

The Council provides a septic effluent disposal and desludging system in the townships of Ceduna and Thevenard. The full cost of establishing, operating, maintaining, improving and replacing this service for this financial year is budgeted to be \$175,161 (excluding depreciation). This includes setting aside funds in a specific account 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. Where a service that is subject to a service charge is available to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against that land.

The service charge for each separate allotment receiving or able to receive the service will be:

- In respect of each effluent unit applying to occupied allotments a charge of \$179.00 per annum
- In respect of each vacant allotment a charge of \$142.00 per annum

The Council has decided to raise the revenue by means of a service charge because of the concept of user pays. The effluent units have been calculated utilising Council Policy 15.07 – Establishing Property Units for STEDS.

Smoky Bay Common Effluent Scheme

The Council provides a septic effluent disposal and desludging system in the township of Smoky Bay. The full cost of establishing, operating, maintaining, improving and replacing this service for this financial year is budgeted to be \$80,774 (excluding depreciation). This includes setting aside funds in a specific account 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. Where a service that is subject to a service charge is available to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against that land.

The service charge for each separate allotment receiving or able to receive the service will be:

- In respect of each effluent unit applying to occupied allotments a charge of \$319.00 per annum
- In respect of each vacant allotment, a charge of \$266.00 per annum
- In respect of land known as the Smoky Bay Aquaculture Park plots, a charge of \$79.00 per allotment.

The Council has decided to raise the revenue by means of a service charge because of the concept of user pays. The effluent units have been calculated utilising Council Policy 15.07 – Establishing Property Units for STEDS.

Waste Collection & Disposal

The Council provides a domestic refuse collection service for all properties within the townships of Ceduna, Thevenard, Smoky Bay and Denial Bay. Additionally Council also provides other waste management services including Ceduna Landfill Site maintenance and operations, and recycling initiatives and services. The full cost of establishing, operating, maintaining, improving and replacing these services for this financial year is budgeted to be \$184,207 (excluding depreciation). This includes setting aside funds in a specific account 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. Where a service that is subject to a service charge is available to non-rateable land, a service charge is levied against that land.

The service charge for each separate assessment receiving or able to receive the service will be:

- \$114.00 on each occupied assessment within the township areas of Ceduna, Thevenard, Smoky Bay and Denial Bay, to which the service is provided or made available; and
- \$71.00 in respect of each assessment in the remainder of the Council area, subject to any assessment or assessments which are subject to contiguous land provisions or single farm enterprise provisions paying only one annual service charge.

The Council has decided to raise the revenue by means of a service charge because of the concept of user pays.

12. PENSIONER CONCESSIONS

If you are an eligible pensioner, you may be entitled to a rebate on your rates if you do not currently receive one.

Application forms, which include information on the concessions, are available from the Council at 44 O'Loughlin Terrace, Ceduna. They are also available from the SA Water Corporation and its District Offices and Revenue SA.

Council Rates cont.

An eligible pensioner must hold a Pension Card, State Concession Card or be a T.P.I. Pensioner. They must also be responsible for the payment of rates on the property for which they are claiming a concession. The State Government administers applications. Payment of rates must not be withheld pending assessment of an application by the State Government, as penalties apply to unpaid rates. A refund will be paid if Council is advised that a concession applies and the rates have already been paid.

Further discretionary rebates may be available to pensioners that are eligible – please refer to Section 17 of this Policy.

13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS' CONCESSIONS

The Department of Human Services may assist unemployed persons with the payment of Council rates for their principal place of residence (remissions are not available on vacant land or rental premises). Please contact the nearest Department of Family and Community Services office for details.

14. PAYMENT OF RATES

The Council has decided that the payment of rates will be available to ratepayers by way of four instalments, with the due dates and approximation of the instalments as follows:

- 1st instalment 4/9/2006 25% of amount due and payable
- 2nd instalment 4/12/2006 25% of amount due and payable
- 3rd instalment 5/3/2007 25% of amount due and payable
- 4th instalment 4/6/2007 25% of amount due and payable

Section 181(3) makes provision which allows the first instalment payable in the first financial year, that rates are payable in four instalments to not necessarily approximate the other three instalments, but also provides that the first instalment cannot be more than twice the amount of each of those other three instalments.

Cash, cheque, money order, credit card, and EFTPOS may be used to pay rates. In-person payments at the Council offices can be made at the Council Administration Centre, 44 O'Loughlin Tce, Ceduna, with the opening hours being 8.30am-5.30pm Monday to Friday. Payment can also be made electronically utilising the Council Website (www.ceduna.net), or Bill Express kiosk

outlets throughout Australia (including Spry's Newsagency in Ceduna).

Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, experience difficulty with meeting the standard payment arrangements is invited to contact Trevor Smart or Kathryn Pearce on (08) 8625 3407 to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Such enquiries are treated confidentially by the Council.\

15. LATE PAYMENT OF RATES

The Local Government Act provides that Councils impose a penalty of 2% on any payment for rates, whether instalment or otherwise, that is received late. A payment that continues to be late is then charged an interest rate; set each year according to a formula in the Act, for each month it continues to be late. The purpose of this penalty is to act as a genuine deterrent to ratepayers who might otherwise fail to pay their rates on time, to allow Councils to recover the administrative cost of following up unpaid rates and to cover any interest cost the Council may meet because it has not received the rates on time.

The prescribed interest rate for the 2006/07 financial year has not yet been declared. When the interest rate is declared, the Council will publish the rate in the West Coast Sentinel.

The Council imposes late payment penalties strictly in accordance with the Local Government Act.

When the Council receives a payment in respect to overdue rates, the Council applies the money received as follows:

- first – to satisfy any costs awarded in connection with court proceedings;
- second – to satisfy any interest costs;
- third – in payment of any fines imposed
- fourth – in payment of rates, in date order of their imposition (starting with the oldest account first).

16. REMISSION AND POSTPONEMENT OF RATES

Section 182 of the Local Government Act permits a 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, they are invited to contact Trevor Smart, Deputy Chief Executive Officer on (08) 8625 3407 or 0409 673 733 to discuss the matter.

Council Rates cont.

Council has no eligibility criteria for the consideration of remission or postponement of rates, with each individual application treated on its merits on a confidential basis by Council. No delegation is provided to Council Officers for the consideration of such applications.

17. 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. Under Section 166 of the Act, the Council may apply discretionary rebates.

General Discretionary Rebate

The Council adopts rate rebates under Section 166 of the Act, which includes the discretionary rebate of the following properties based on the criteria of:

- Child Care Centres – provision of equitable rating impositions;
- Recreational land – provision of 100% rate rebate on assessments under the care and control of Council that are leased to a community organisation for the purposes of sport and recreation;
- Other land – provision of 100% rate rebate on land that provides a general or historical benefit to the community (ie community halls, historical water tanks).
- Foodland Carpark – private land that is provided to the general community for carparking purposes where the landowner has provided the required infrastructure.

Ceduna Child Care Centre Inc.	Possums Corner – ass 1468 (100%)
The Murat Bay Kindergarten Inc.	Ceduna Pre-School – ass 2184 (100%)
Aboriginal Housing Authority	Youth Centre – ass 1858 (100%)
Aboriginal Housing Authority	Town Camp – ass 2451 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Pistol Club – ass 148 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Thevenard Oval – ass 1083 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Senior Citizens' Club – ass 1266 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Sports Club – ass 1481 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Golf Club – ass 1490 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Golf Club – ass 1493 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Bowling Club – ass 1830 (100%)

District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Sailing Club – ass 1851 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Ceduna Racing Club – ass 2246 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Smoky Bay Sports Club – ass 2296 (100%)
District Council of Ceduna	Smoky Bay Sports Club – ass 2297 (100%)
Far West International Rules Basketball Association	Basketball Stadium – ass 2182 (100%)
Charra Hall Inc.	Charra Hall – ass 8 (100%)
Nunjikompita Hall Inc. ass	Nunjikompita Hall – 527 (100%)
Scout Association of Australia	Scout Hall – ass 2238 (100%)
Charra Wells/Tanks	ass 339 (100%)
Charra Water Reserve & Well	ass 201 (100%)
Charra Water Reserve & Well	ass 329 (100%)
Denial Bay Water Reserve & Tank	ass 418 (100%)
Boettcher GR & S	Foodland Carpark ass 1377(50%)

The above rebates are applied by Council automatically and are not subject to any application from a ratepayer.

Maximum Rate Increase (Rate Capping)

Council adopts rate rebates under Section 166 of the Act, which includes the discretionary rebate of the following:

- a) Rate rebates (capping) to apply for all rate increases that equate to greater than 10% over and above the average annual rate increase for the entire Council area. For the 2006/07 financial year this equates to a percentage of 15% over and above general rates charged for 2005/06 financial year, subject to:
 - i) any additional fixed charge component that is levied for the purpose of the Ceduna CBD Upgrade is not to be included in the rate increase calculation;
 - ii) rate capping to apply to all assessments with the exception of:
 - any new assessments;
 - any assessments that already receives any form of rate rebate from Council;
 - any assessments that are subject to the imposition of additional charges from the previous year (i.e. fixed charge imposed in one year that was not imposed in a previous year).
 - assessments that have been merged with other assessments (i.e. tenements that have been merged, etc)
 - iii) Rate Capping is to apply to general rates only.

Council Rates cont.

The above rebates are applied by Council automatically and are not subject to any application from a ratepayer.

Pensioner Maximum Rate Increase

Council adopts rate rebates under Section 166 of the Act, which includes the discretionary rebate of the following:

(a) Rate rebates (capping) for eligible pensioners for all rate increases that equate to greater than 5% over and above general rates charged for the 2005/06 financial year subject to:

- Rebates to apply to general rates only.
- Property is the principle place of residence.
- Property has been owned by current owners since 1 July 1998
- Ratepayer(s) must be eligible and receive a Pensioner Concession from SA Water for this property.
- Rate increases to determine the percentage increase shall be calculated prior to any pension concession being applied.

The above rebates are applied by Council automatically and are not subject to any application from a ratepayer.

Further information on all rebates is available from Trevor Smart or Kathryn Pearce on (08) 8625 3407.

18. 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 provide the principal ratepayer and the owner (if not the same person) 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.

19. DISCOUNTS AND EARLY PAYMENT INCENTIVES

Section 181(11) of the Local Government Act 1999 provides that a Council may grant discounts or other incentives in order to encourage early or prompt payment of rates.

For the year ending 30 June 2007 Council will not provide an early rate payment incentive.

20. DISCLAIMER

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.

Where a ratepayer believes that the Council has failed to properly apply this policy, he/she should raise the matter with the Council. In the first instance contact Trevor Smart, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (08) 8625 3407 to discuss the matter. If, after this initial contact, a ratepayer is still dissatisfied they should write to Tony Irvine, Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Ceduna, PO Box 175, Ceduna SA 5690 explaining the nature of their concern.

ADOPTED: 21/07/98

AMENDED:

05/09/00, 28/06/01, 28/06/02, 26/06/03, 21/04/04, 30/06/04, 17/06/05, 17/08/05, 14/06/06, 16/08/06.

Rate Rebates

During the 2005/2006 financial year Council received no requests for rebates on rates.

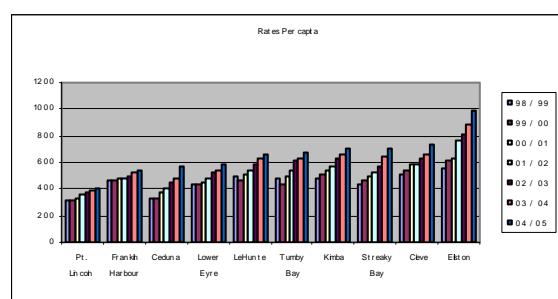
As part of the Rating Policy, Council gives rebates on various properties with these properties predominately being recreation reserves leased to various organisations, Child Care facilities, Scout Groups, and other community based non-profit organisations.

For a complete listing of rate rebates awarded through the rating policy, members of the public can view the Rating Policy free of charge at the Council Office.

Council Comparison

Council endeavours to assess rates on a fair and equitable basis, having regard to services and projects to be undertaken, economic issues, and an awareness of 'localised' comparative information on Eyre Peninsula.

Council compared favourably to other Councils on Eyre Peninsula as evidenced by the graphical information below.



Policies

As at 30 June 2006 Council had the following policies as outlined below, and these are available for inspection by the public as well as on our Council website www.ceduna.net

These policies assist the Elected Council and staff members through giving guidance in different issues which lends itself to a more consistent decision making system.

Through delegated authority, some policies give direction to, and empower the Council Administration to make decisions on issues as they arise. This allows for more efficient, timely and effective administrative processes.

All policies are subject to review and change as required.

Administration

Council Chamber
Indemnification of Council by Contractors
Itinerant Traders
Delegations of Power
Freedom of Information
Special Event Permit
Customer Service Policy
Printing Resources
Business Support & Incentive Policy
Records Management Manual
Delegations Listing

Human Resources

Formal Addresses to Groups
Training and Development
Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement
Allocation of Council Vehicles Owned Vehicles to Staff
Recruitment & Selection of New Staff
Corporate Uniform - Employees
Christmas Shutdown – Staff Leave
Leave Entitlements
Court Service by Employees
Employees' Code of Conduct
Membership and Participation in Volunteer Organisations
Military Training – Wages
Salary Packaging & Sacrifice Arrangements
Senior Officers

Finance

Monies Received
Accounts for Payment
Salaries & Wages
Cash Management
Loan Register
Loans

Petty Cash
Stock
Depreciation
Asset Register
Recovery of Overhead Charges
Private Works
Debtors
Tenders & Purchasing Policy
Travel Allowances & Reimbursements
Credit Card Use
Donations by Council
Council Rating Policy
Council Rates – Single Farm Enterprise Fees & Charges

Regulatory Services

Dogs – Impounding
Barking Dog Complaints
Fireworks Permits
Dogs – Boarding Kennels
Impounding Vehicles
Hire of Cat Traps
Surrender of Dogs & Cats
Fire Prevention Officers Appointments
Reserved Parking (Permit Areas)
Delegations - Public & Environmental Health & Food Acts

Development

Building Rule Assessment – Footings
Delegations - Authorised Officer
Building - Setback
Building - Underskirting
Development Assessment Procedures
Minimum Size of Dwellings
Car Parks – Minimum Sealing Requirements
Building Inspection Policy
Zincalume/Colourbond Policy
Residential Outbuilding Policy
Documentation required for timber truss roofs
Subdivisions – Road Sealing

Governance

Western Animal & Plant Control Board Representation
Release of Media Statements
Council Meeting Correspondence or Late Correspondence
Technical Services & Works Committee
Technical Services & Works - Skate Park Sub-Committee

Policies cont.

Administration & Finance Committee
Social Services Committee
Environmental Services & Planning Committee
Davenport Creek Management Committee
Ceduna & Districts Bushfire Prevention Committee
Council Representation on Non Council Committees
Development Assessment Panel
Regional Building Fire Safety Committee
Marketing Ceduna Committee
Oysterfest Sub-Committee
Sport & Recreation Committee
Ceduna Coastal Centre Advisory Committee
Community Consultation
Elected Members Code of Conduct
Visiting Ministers or Government Officials
Elected Member Casual Vacancy
Elected Members Allowances & Support
Review of Decisions
Elected Members & Staff Travel
Community Delegates-Representatives Reporting
Deputations to Council & Committee Meetings
Public Access to Meetings & Council Documents
Business Support & Incentive Policy
Australia Day Awards
Elected Member Training & Development

Transport

Vehicular Crossings
Use of Council Plant at Emergencies
Altering Roads
Graffiti Removal
Street Tree Removal
Rubble Pits Agreement to Enter and Occupy Land
Provision of Crusher Fines for Road Verges
Restricted Access Vehicles Clearances
Memorial Plaques

Information Technology

Website Maintenance
Internet & Email
Computer Workstation Management Policy

Community Facilities & Services

Jointly Owned PA System
Community Bus
Refuse Collection
Cemetery Interment Sites Reuse
Cemetery Grave Top Specifications
Community Land Management Plans – Reserves

Community Land Management Plans – Memorial Hall
Community Land Management Plans – Emergency Services
Community Land Management Plans – Median Strips
Community Land Management Plans – Recreation Facilities
Community Land Management Plans – Soldiers Memorial Park
Ceduna Memorial Hall Hire
Recreation Use of Council Reserves
Street Stalls
Ornamental Plants Hire Policy

Social Services

Youth Centre – Behaviour Management
Youth Centre – After Hours
Youth Centre Uniforms – Staff
Youth Centre – Staff Vehicles
Youth Centre – Off Site Activities
Youth Centre – Medical Treatment
Youth Centre Staff – Personal Boundaries
Youth Centre Occupational Health & Safety
Youth Centre OH&S - Chemicals
Youth Centre OH&S – Kitchen Safety
Youth Centre OH&S – Fire Safety
Youth Centre – Behaviour Management
Youth Centre – After Hours
Youth Centre Uniforms – Staff
Youth Centre – Staff Vehicles
Youth Centre – Off Site Activities
Youth Centre – Medical Treatment
Youth Centre Staff – Personal Boundaries
Youth Centre Occupational Health & Safety:

- Youth Centre OH&S - Chemicals
- Youth Centre OH&S – Kitchen Safety
- Youth Centre OH&S – Fire Safety

STEDS & Water Services

Services Entitlements – CKWS
Pressure & Flow Devices – CKWS
Water Leakage
Connections to CKWS
Backflow Prevention – CKWS
Designated Water District – CKWS
Establishing Property Units for STEDS



Major Projects

Puckridge Boat Ramp extended

Ceduna visitors and residents will benefit from work planned for the Puckridge Boat Ramp, located on the Murat Bay foreshore in Ceduna.



The District Council of Ceduna staff and contractors have commenced work to extend the boat ramp to provide three extra loading lanes adjacent to the existing ramp.

Work to upgrade the ramp includes adding floating pontoons and a breakwater that will extend to the North East of the ramp.

The breakwater will ensure that the new launching ramps are provided with protection from the Northerly and Western winds that presently make loading and retrieving boats very difficult in adverse weather conditions.

The new facility will allow boats to be launched into deeper water, designed to overcome present problems with vessels launching at low tide; this will also provide up to date pontoon systems, that will provide safe and effective launching facilities.

The project is estimated to cost a total of \$660,000.00. Funding for the project has been secured from the Boating Facilities Fund administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport and Energy, and the Flinders Ranges Area Consultative Committee.

The Puckridge Boat Ramp is used by locals, and visitors from across Australia, many of whom return annually to fish in the region.

Ceduna Bulk Hauliers has been awarded the contract to undertake the upgrade and will be commencing works within the next few weeks.

Whilst disruption to boating activity has been kept to a minimum, it is expected that at times there will be delays and restrictions in accessing the present ramps.

CCTV

Council have installed a Closed Circuit TV Camera (CCTV) System consisting of 6 cameras at the Ceduna Airport, 5 cameras within the CBD area and 1 at the Ceduna Youth Centre/Skatepark.



All cameras have auto record capacity and can be controlled and viewed from the Ceduna Police Station.

The airport cameras were installed with funding from the Department of Regional Services as part of the "Securing Our Regional Skies" initiative by the Federal Government.

The system installed in the Ceduna township has already lead to police action on a number of events captured on the CCTV and Council believe this will be a useful tool for the Ceduna police.



Major Projects cont.

Ceduna Skatepark

Six months after being opened, the Ceduna skatepark can be described as a success. The skatepark consistently attracts crowds of skaters and spectators during the popular times of after school hours and on weekends.

The skatepark was opened on April 1 of this year, with a Skate meet at the start of National Youth Week. The skatepark is used by skateboarders, rollerbladers, and bike riders.



The venue is supported by the Friends of the Skatepark, which is a group of interested parents who are keen to promote skateboarding and youth activities.

Since the skatepark was opened, a water fountain, tree planting & park furniture has been installed.

The skatepark was built as a result of funding from the Ceduna District Council, the Office of Sport & Recreation, Community Benefits SA, and the Ceduna Foreshore Hotel-Motel.



CBD Upgrade

Pedestrians and drivers are to be thanked for their co-operation and patience as traffic in Ceduna's central business district has been disrupted due to roadworks..

Work continues as staff remove the old infrastructure and install new lights, kerbs, medians, street furniture and median crossovers on Poynton Street between Merghiny Drive and McKenzie Street.

Works have commenced on the addition of a roundabout to the Merghiny Drive/Poynton Street intersection to assist with traffic flow.

This will complete all the works planned between the two roundabouts on Poynton Street. The end result will provide user-friendly, appropriate infrastructure, with appropriate



grades on all pedestrian and vehicular traffic areas, and a positive impression for visitors.

The upgrade of the Ceduna's Central Business District has been the result of six years of planning. This has included developing the concept in the year 2000, subsequently developing the engineering design, and a consultation period that included a display for the public to comment on the plans, consultation with local businesses, and ultimately Council approval.

The work has been funded by the Ceduna District Council, with grants from Planning SA's Places for People program.

Strategic Plan

Council has adopted a Strategic Plan for a three-year basis, with the Plan being reviewed by Council on an annual basis.

Council's Strategic Plan has provided Council with a basis on which to plan for the future direction of the Council and the means for projects to be included in the annual budget that achieve the vision, mission, strategies and goals of the Council.

The following goals were developed as part of the Strategic Plan:

- **Goal 1-Maintain, upgrade and develop physical infrastructure within Council's financial capabilities**
- **Goal 2-Enhance protect and maintain our natural environment for current and future generations**
- **Goal 3-To aggressively pursue and promote sustainable economic development opportunities**
- **Goal 4-To develop an open and transparent relationship with our community and regional partners**
- **Goal 5-Maximise the efficiency of the organisation in the delivery of Council services.**
- **Goal 6- Develop and enhance community services through leadership and advocacy.**

The following provides a summary of the implementation of the goals and strategies

with a number of projects either being completed or commenced during the 2005/2006 financial year.

Goal 1-Maintain, upgrade and develop physical infrastructure within Council's financial capabilities

- Solar Pump at Bills Hill Storage Tank for Ceduna Koonibba Water Scheme completed.
- Heads of Agreement document signed to investigate development of Desalination Plant between private sector and Council
- Water West scheme being maintained to a high standard
- Ceduna Koonibba Water Scheme 15 year financial plan completed.
- Funding received for 2 stages of sealing of Denial Bay Rd (10.6 kilometres)
- Sealing of all Denial Bay Streets completed
- Kerbing of Denial Bay streets being undertaken in stages
- Construction of Eastern Information Bay – entrance to Ceduna near completion
- Parks and gardens maintained to a high standard
- Land purchase finalised to allow for future extension of airport runway
- Ceduna Airport Security upgrades undertaken through funding received from federal Government



ab Fishing at Sunset



Strategic Plan cont.

- Jet A1 fuel facility purchased from Mobil Australia to ensure continuity of fuel supplies at Ceduna Airport
- Major upgrade of Puckridge Boat Ramp – plans finalised and funding secured for project to commence in 2006/2007
- Smoky Bay Jetty extended by 3 bays in partnership with Smoky Bay Progress Association
- Planning for Swimming Enclosure off Alexanders Beach continuing
- Denial Bay Cemetery (historical only) restoration underway
- Identification and numbering of graves project for Ceduna Cemetery well advanced

Goal 2-Enhance protect and maintain ournatural environment for current and future generations

- Effluent Pump Station 6 upgraded
- Effluent Pump Station 2 upgraded
- Independent audit by Local Government Association determined Ceduna & Smoky Bay STEDS in good order
- Investigating effluent treatment and reuse facility for Ceduna in partnership with Ceduna Keys Marina development
- Waste oil facilities installed at Ceduna Refuse Site through funding received from Zero Waste
- Funding secured for reduction of plastic bags - reusable bags purchased but little interest from retail outlets. Giving away one bag per household via a flyer included in 2006/2007 Council Rates

- Zero Waste funding received for recycling containers & waste depot improvements, and cardboard recycling introduced.
- Ceduna Waste depot sorting shed constructed for recycling purposes
- Street lighting improved through Ceduna CBD street lighting upgrades – all power now underground and streetlights replaced
- Higher level of street cleaning achieved through Council service instead of contractual arrangement
- Actively involved in support for multi-use of national and conservation parks through membership of Eyre Peninsula Natural Resource Management Board
- High level of involvement in development of Coastal Planning Strategy in partnership with Eyre Peninsula Councils and Planning SA
- Stormwater systems upgraded and improved within Ceduna CBD upgrade project
- Stormwater Inceptors installed on Ceduna Foreshore to capture greater levels of waste through stormwater

Goal 3-To aggressively pursue and promote sustainable economic development opportunities

- Agreement signed with Ceduna Business & Tourism Association to develop Tourism & Marketing Plan
- Promotional Ceduna CD launched at Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association Annual Conference hosted at Ceduna in March 2006
- Actively involved in regional branding



Strategic Plan cont.

project with Eyre Regional Development Board and Tourism Eyre Peninsula.

- Denial Bay Road sealed through Tourism Grant to promote access to tourist locations
- Local promotion of region through construction of Ceduna Eastern Information Bay facility
- Denial Bay entrance statement constructed
- Pursuing appropriate residential developments through Council owned land, and through partnerships with Far West International Basketball Association and Thevenard Football Club
- Pursuing development opportunities for Talbot Grove Estate to rejuvenate defined residential area
- Ceduna Keys Marina development provisional approval granted by State Government.
- Business plans being developed for future industry use of Ceduna Airport land
- Business plan and offer to purchase vacant Thevenard land for industry development.
- Planning Amendment Reports have commenced to ensure appropriate economic outcomes can be achieved
- Joint funding of Port of Thevenard feasibility study in future use of Port and deepening of channel in conjunction with private industry and State Government.
- Ceduna Oysterfest remains a premier regional event which is

managed and funded through Council.

Goal 4-To develop an open and transparent relationship with our community and regional partners

- Council continues to promote projects, consultation and information dissemination through various means including: West Coast Sentinel monthly page, Quarterly Information Forums, medial releases, and consultation with local regional partners.
- Council Website continues to be upgraded and maintained to provide a focus for information provision
- Ratepayer and community representative groups are now invited to attend all pre-budget and formal budget meetings to provide for improved understanding of financial resources.
- Councils Development Plan is being reviewed through Planning Amendment Reports for Smoky Bay (complete), Council General (in progress), and Ceduna Keys Marina (in progress).

Goal 5-Maximise the efficiency of the organisation in the delivery of Council services.

- Council continues to be involved in the LGA Customer Surveys on an annual basis. No benchmarking partners established, but comparison to region and state provided in survey reports.
- Council has completed an Internal Organisational Review to provide for improved organisational structure and greater outcomes. Outcomes of this review were implemented throughout the 2005/2006 financial year.
- Council has completed a major



review of all Council Policies which provide direction for both the public and Council staff in dealing with ongoing Council business.

- Conceptual plans for the extension of the Council Administration Building have been completed with Engineering Plans to be developed in 2006/2007 to allow further consideration of any proposed extensions.
- Council has signed an agreement to allow for Council Information technology requirements to be managed off-site which will reduce a high risk area for Council in conducting its business.
- A major review of Council's Strategic Plan will be undertaken in late 2006 following completion of local government elections in November 2006.

Goal 6-Develop and enhance community services through leadership and advocacy.

- Employment of a Sport & Recreation Officer in partnership with other agencies has provided for an increase in Council involvement in community services.
- Continued funding and operation of the Ceduna Youth centre has provided positive outcomes in the areas of youth health, education, and crime prevention initiatives.
- Positive partnerships and alliances have been formed with Families SA, Ceduna Koonibba Health Service, Ceduna District Health Services, Office for Recreation & Sport and other agencies through youth and

sport & recreation programs.

- Council continues to drive a Youth Network that aims to integrate youth services in Ceduna.
- A Sport, Recreation & Open Space Strategic Plan was adopted by Council to provide for future direction and planning in the area of sport & recreation.
- A Feasibility Study for a Regional Sporting Complex has commenced with completion expected in late 2006.
- An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) is under negotiation for the entire Council area to provide outcomes for all parties in matters of Native Title and Cultural & Heritage issues.
- Indigenous Employment Study being undertaken with completion expected in late 2006. This follows as an outcome from the negotiated Ceduna Keys ILUA.
- Council's Social Services Committee continues to function as a peak advocacy group for the progress and planning of services and programs of a social nature.

Strategic Plan Review

Following local government elections in November 2006, the newly elected council will undertake a major review of the Strategic Plan to provide direction over the following 4 years of their term.

The current Strategic Plan has to a large extent been completed and a new Plan will be developed using outcomes of public surveys carried out in early 2006, LGA Customer Surveys, various financial plans for Council infrastructure & operational requirements, elected member workshops, and ongoing public consultation.



Financial Statements