



CANBERRA REGION
JOINT ORGANISATION

CRJO Annual Performance Statement 2020-21 Financial Year



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Canberra Region Joint Organisation Profile

In 2017, amendments to the *Local Government Act* were passed to enable Joint Organisations to be established. Joint Organisations are new local government entities with legal powers established by proclamation designed to bring regional and rural councils together for better regional outcomes. The Canberra Region Joint Organisation was proclaimed a corporate entity within the NSW Local Government Act on 1 July 2018.

The Canberra Region is a unique and diverse geographic region which stretches from the South-West Slopes, through the Sydney-Canberra Corridor across the Eurobodalla down to the Sapphire Coast and then up to the Snowy Mountains. The Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) consists of the following 10 member councils, three (3) associate member councils and one (1) affiliate member. The total population of the CRJO region, including the ACT, is 750,000 with a total area of 48,000km² and a gross regional product (GRP) of \$9.82 billion.

Member Councils



Associate Members



Affiliate Member



Role and Purpose

Our Role

The CRJO provides a forum for councils, State agencies and other stakeholders to work together at a regional level to identify shared priorities; delivering important regional projects and better outcomes for communities.

CRJO's core objectives include:

- Establish strategic regional priorities for the Joint Organisation area and develop strategies and plans for delivering these priorities.
- Provide regional leadership for the Joint Organisation area and to be an advocate for strategic regional priorities.
- Identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation on matters relating to the Joint Organisation area.

Vision & Principles

The Canberra Region Joint Organisation is the regional body advocating for strong regional partnerships that delivers improved outcomes for our regional communities.

The CRJO Mission

"Working together to deliver better outcomes for our communities and the region."

The CRJO Vision

"Our region...dynamic, innovative, connected...compelling!"



Message from Chair

The past year has marked a journey of recovery and resilience for the communities of the Canberra Region. Challenged by the ongoing impacts of border closures and the pandemic as well as continued recovery from bushfires, flood and drought, it has been a year like no other. However, during this time, members of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) have continued to work collaboratively to ensure the success and wellbeing of community members and to support each other. Beyond this, there has been a strong focus on growth and development initiatives that will carry the Canberra Region into the future.

Following NSW's first wave of COVID-19 in March 2020, the severity and duration of the pandemic's impact has been unprecedented. Despite the widespread impacts, including workforce shutdowns, small business and tourism downturns and pressure on infrastructure and building sectors throughout the past year, bushfire and flood recovery works progressed at pace. So too did exciting new projects across the region including new cultural and community facilities in Queanbeyan and Goulburn, exploration of the Special Activation precincts in Jindabyne and Wagga Wagga, continued progress on the Snowy Hydro 2.0 and a multitude of other regional roads and bridges projects, and greater traction with both the State and Federal governments.

The CRJO has continued to advocate strongly for the region through submissions and representations as well as securing vital new funding through a range of competitive grant programs. These projects will assist member councils on progressing their vision for resilience and to better equip staff to undertake important work in land management and protection of the environment. With the release of the new NSW 20-Waste and Resource Recovery strategy the CRJO is looking forward to further identifying regional opportunities to assist in the transition to a circular economy. Likewise as we seek additional support for critical infrastructure we will ensure priority projects are supported by all the members and where possible coordinated procurement delivers better value for money.

The outcomes achieved by the CRJO and its members last year are great examples of how effective we have been in our joint efforts to improve the positions of the region more broadly. This has been underpinned by the shared understanding that regional collaboration is the key to sustainable long term development.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of the outgoing CRJO Board during its term. I have been honoured to have led the current Board, General Managers group and the dedicated staff of the CRJO and to have witnessed the wonderful progress that we have made for our communities.

Sincerely



Cr Rowena Abbey

Canberra Region Joint Organisation



Strategic Regional Priorities

The CRJO developed an inaugural Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities that were endorsed by the Board in February 2019.

This Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities 2019-2021 encompassed six vital pillars including Leadership, Economic, Infrastructure, Community, Environment and Cross-Border. These six pillars demonstrated the overarching strategic goals for the region and were supported by several Priority Actions for their actualisation.

Of the 22 Priority Actions the following were delivered in the 2020/2021 year and represent the culmination of actions against this plan. An updated set of Strategic Regional Priorities for 2021-2024 is in development and will be endorsed by the incoming CRJO Board following the Local Government Elections in December 2021.

Leadership	
CRJO is a recognised leader in regional advocacy and the delivery of regional programs.	
Priority Actions	
1. Develop Regional Advocacy Plan	The CRJO attended ministerial meetings with the NSW Government in July 2021. Due to COVID-19, face-to-face opportunities were limited, although this limitation was overcome by increased virtual correspondence to address key issues as needed.
2. Develop a strategy to influence legislation and government policies	Over the financial year the CRJO worked to influence legislation and government policies through the following actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submissions and representations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the NSW Government's Regional Housing Taskforce; - Infrastructure Development Contributions Reform - The Local Government Compliance Levy - DPIE Water reforms - NSW Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety - OLG's review of JOs - Emergency Services Levy - IPART Review of Rating Reform - IPART Review of Domestic Waste Charges - Inquiry into Integrity of NSW Government Grant Programs - Inquiry into Inland Rail 2. Inclusion of an Office of Local Government representative at each GMAG and Board meeting. 3. Attendance of DPIE, LGNSW, EPA, TfNSW, Destination NSW, and other government agencies and external stakeholders at CRJO Working Group meetings.
3. Develop regional Workforce Strategy	Completed in 2019.



4. Develop Regional Project Management Model	Regional Project Management Office trial established in 2020 led by Wagga Wagga City Council. Participating Councils include Queanbeyan-Palerang and Snowy Monaro Regional Council.
5. Investigate opportunities for regional collaboration	The CRJO together with several other JO entities has participated in the Southern Lights projects. Following a review of the project the CRJO Board resolved to suspend membership in September 2021. CRJO in association with three other JOs delivered the best practice in aggregated procurement project. The CRJO has subsequently agreed to engage a full time procurement manager to progress opportunities for regional procurement in 2021-2022. A Regional Community Strategic Plan is being developed with seven CRJO member Councils and is being managed the Wellbeing and IP&R Working Group. This CSP is expected to be drafted and exhibited to councils between December 2021 and February 2022, with adoption expected for March 2022.
6. Develop creative and futuristic 30 year vision for shaping the region	Postponed to late 2021, due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions. The vision will be encapsulated into the revised Strategic Regional Priority statement for 2021-2024
Economic	
Our Economy is strong and diverse with extensive business and job opportunities.	
Priority Actions	
7. Develop the Canberra Region Economic Development Strategy	Together with NSW Government and ACT Government a regional framework was developed throughout 2019. The Draft CREDS was presented by ACT Government to GMAG in May 2020. The CRJO Regional Economic Development Working Group, with ACT Government and NSW Government continue to develop the strategy and look for opportunities for implementation.
8. Support the development of a regional Agrifood Export Precinct	In 2020/21 progress on this initiative was impacted by Covid-19 and the suspension of international flights from Canberra.
Infrastructure	
Our region is connected and serviced by infrastructure that meets contemporary. Emerging and future expectations.	
Priority Actions	
9. Develop further infrastructure prospectuses – recreation and cultural	CRJO member council continued to utilise innovative software to record infrastructure and transport initiatives across the region. Member worked through the year to further develop the following prospectuses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freight and Transport • Road and Bridges • Water & Waste Water • Tourism, Culture and Recreation
10. Facilitate funding to eliminate telecommunication black spots	Throughout the year, the CRJO has maintained an alliance with Telstra to explore opportunities to build and support the regional network. Meetings are ongoing to discuss opportunities for collaboration to capitalise on upcoming Commonwealth funding initiatives.
11. Facilitate regional communities to embrace smart technology	The development of a smart cities model has been discussed based on the EVO-cities work across NSW. Led by Goulburn



	Mulwaree Council, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council and Wagga Wagga City Council this project will continue to evolve in 2021 and seek to integrate emerging technology that includes regional data, jobs, housing, and education information.
12. Refine and update strategic CRJO infrastructure documents	Continued refinement of the CRJO Infrastructure prospectus has been delivered through member councils subscription to the PIPE software platform.
Community	
Our community is resilient and feels informed, connected and capable and valued.	
Priority Actions	
13. Advocate for funding to assist Councils manage Crown Land and Native Title Issues	The issue of Crown Land and Native Title issue was addressed by the CRJO in submissions to the NSW Regional Housing Taskforce in late August 2021. These submissions include advocacy for investigation into these issues by the taskforce.
14. Provide direct support to assist Councils manage Crown Land and Native Title issues	As above.
15. Develop Regional Social Infrastructure prospectus	Continued refinement of the CRJO Regional Social Infrastructure prospectus has been delivered through member councils subscription to the PIPE software platform.
Environment	
Our environment is valued and enhanced for future generations.	
Priority Actions	
16. Facilitate an increase in the capacity of councils to deal with biodiversity	Since the cessation of funding for the CRJO's Biodiversity Officer in 2019, the CRJO has sought to progress relevant initiatives from the NSW Department of Industry, Planning and Environment through the General Managers Advisory Group and relevant CRJO Working Groups including Infrastructure and Planning.
17. Advocate for funding support to assist Councils with contaminated land management	Funding from Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for two contaminated land officers to assist the 10 member councils to increase capacity was awarded in December 2018. Since their commencement, these officers have worked with regional communities in member councils to develop the CRJO Contaminated Land Policy, which will guide councils in their contaminated land management. The CRJO will continue working with councils to ensure smooth implementation of the policy and associated procedures.
18. Develop Regional Waste Action Plan	The inaugural Regional Waste Action Plan was developed in 2018 and underwent review by the CRJO Waste Working Group October 2019. This policy is currently in the process of being renewed, guided by the NSW Government's newly released 20-year waste strategy. The CRJO has also worked collaboratively with NSW EPA, ACT Government and the member councils adjoining the ACT to work on resolving issues related to soil and VENM material within the cross border region.
19. Develop Regional Energy Action Plan	To be progressed in 2021/22.
20. Develop Regional Climate Adaptation Plan	The CRJO participated in an early trial to host an Emergency Preparedness Officer in 2020. The role has since transitioned to

	<p>the new Resilience NSW agency but continues to be actively involved in grant funded resilience projects with the CRJO. In addition to this, the CRJO has created the Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit in conjunction with the Insurance Council of Australia and the Minderoo Foundation to promote community-lead preparedness through housing development and upgrades. This toolkit has been rolled out in two workshops so far to emergency management officers, in addition to government and industry partners.</p> <p>The CRJO has been successful in securing three project grants through the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience fund to progress a suite of projects including; A Simtable for assisting communities understand fire related risks, a contaminated lands database to determine vulnerable land across the region and development of an overarching Blueprint for resilience. These projects will be further developed and implemented in 2021-2022.</p>
Cross-Border	
Our region operates seamlessly across all boundaries.	
Priority Actions	
21. Cross-border impacts and opportunities are considered in the delivery of all strategic regional priorities	<p>The CRJO signed an MoU with the ACT Government in September 2018. The MoU outlines six key themes for Cross Border collaboration and regional engagement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure 2. Freight & Logistics 3. Economic Development 4. waste management & Resource Recovery 5. Sorts, Culture & Wellbeing 6. Procurement & Shared Services <p>The CRJO has also participated in discussions regarding the draft MoU between the NSW Government and ACT particularly around infrastructure. The MOU is due to be refreshed in 2022.</p>
22. Advocate for positive cross-border connectivity	<p>The CRJO actively engages with the ACT and East Gippsland Shire Council as they strongly advocate a borderless approach to collaboration and shared ideas.</p> <p>This has been especially important during the recent border closures as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>

In summary, the CRJO Councils, associate and affiliate members have worked in collaboration, engaging with Government (both NSW and ACT) agencies, organisations, State and Federal Ministers to bolster the JO's capability and deliver on its key strategic priorities.

The CRJO continues to grow its capability and has been awarded several grants that support funded positions including:

- Waste and Resource Recovery Coordinator (commenced 2018 - *continuing*)
- Food Donation Officer (2020-2021)
- Waste and Resource Recovery Officer (commenced 2021)
- Contaminated Land Officer – Eastern Cluster (commenced 2019 - *continuing*)
- Contaminated Land Officer – Western Cluster (commenced 2019 - *continuing*)



- Data Engagement Officer (Due to commence 2021)
- Blueprint for a Resilient SE NSW project team (6FTE commencing in September 2021)

These positions assist member councils to deliver important projects and to grow their skills in specialist areas. Looking ahead the CRJO will continue to seek opportunities for collaboration and delivery of joined up services delivering value for money and efficiency across critical service areas.



Review of Strategic Regional Priorities

The CRJO has undertaken a preliminary review of Strategic Regional Priorities to inform the next iteration of the organisation's 2021-2024 business plan. The Priorities and Pan will be finalised in early 2022 pending additional input from the newly elected CRJO Board and the outcomes of the independent review of Joint Organisations conducted the Office of Local Government. The updated strategic pillars aligns more closely with emerging regional priorities and the key components of the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.



Community

A resilient and informed community that is connected, capable and confident

Priorities

Communities are prepared and able to respond and recover when faced with unexpected shocks

Diverse education and employment opportunities that meet known and emerging needs

Improved understanding of the health and wellbeing of our communities

Housing options and supply meet the needs of growing regional communities

Actions

- Support members with disaster and resilience planning in close collaboration with Resilience NSW.
- Develop a regional resilience plan for the South East (subject to grant).

- Seek opportunities for regional skills and training programs to be delivered with members.
- Support members to implement recommendations identified in the CRJO Regional Workforce Strategy.

- Collaborate with social researchers to identify and monitor health and wellbeing indices across the South East.

- Support development of a regional housing strategy and land use planning strategy with members

Environment

A healthy and productive environment that is protected for future generations

Priorities

A secure and reliable water supply for towns, farms and industry

Efficient waste and resource recovery initiatives

Enhanced biodiversity outcomes and effective land management regimes

Progress towards Net Zero emissions through regional energy savings

Actions

- Develop a regional water and wastewater prospectus.
- Advocate for priority regional water infrastructure.
- Collaborate with JO Forum, State Govt, Utilities and LGNSW on key water strategies incl Town Water supply

- Provide education and services for members in waste, resource recovery and contaminated lands management.
- Seek opportunities for regional investment in emerging circular economy industries and programs.

- Provide education and services for members in biodiversity and land management.
- Support members in implementing changes and reforms to land management requirements including the management of Crown Lands.

- Seek opportunities to deliver energy saving programs for members.

Leadership

A strong regional voice that advocates for shared priorities and helps deliver transformational projects

Priorities

Regional collaboration that enhances partnership opportunities and networks

Better outcomes for the region through advocacy and representations that influence government and decision makers

Initiatives that deliver better value for members through aggregation and centralised delivery

Actions

- Participation in key forums including; Regional Leadership Executive, Destination Networks, Joint Organisation Network and Forum, and with the NSW Cross Border Commissioner and OLG.
- Collaboration with ACT Government in delivering priorities identified in the Canberra Region Economic Development Strategy.
- Coordination of active networks and communities of practice within member councils to share learning, skills and resources.

- Coordinate submissions and participation on behalf of members in response to legislative changes and programs.
- Make representations on priority regional issues including those identified in Prospectus documents.
- Participate in key government and industry forums and represent the interests of the region and members.

- Deliver cost savings for members through regional or aggregated procurement .
- Enhance capabilities for members through shared services and programs.
- Coordinate regional delivery for selected projects and programs.

Economy

A thriving regional economy with diverse opportunities and supporting infrastructure

Priorities

Support the delivery of transformative and region enhancing infrastructure

Reliable freight and transport linkages that connect the communities of the South East

A vibrant and resilient visitor economy

A comprehensive telecommunications network and application of emerging smart technologies

Actions

- Develop a regional prospectus series for infrastructure, cultural and tourism facilities and recreation/community infrastructure.
- Advocate for regional infrastructure priorities using prospect documents).

- Advocate for an East-West freight linkage.
- Participate in regional transport and freight planning forums.

- Support the rollout of Canberra Region branded programs and products.
- Participate in regional tourism and visitor economy forums including NSNSW and Visit Canberra.

- Advocate for elimination of telecommunications blackspots and for telecommunication infrastructure improvements to deliver reliable services.
- Seek opportunities to support members develop and embrace smart technology programs and infrastructure

General Purpose Financial Statements & Audit Reports

The 2020-2021 audited General Purpose Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report are included on the following pages.



Canberra Region Joint Organisation

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 June 2021



Canberra Region Joint Organisation

General purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

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Canberra Region Joint Organisation is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Suite 6B

2 Brindabella Circuit

Canberra Airport ACT 2609

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: <http://www.crjo.nsw.gov.au>.

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Statement by Members of the Board and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act* 1993 (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the regulations made thereunder
- the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Joint Organisations Supplement to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly Canberra Region Joint Organisation operating result and financial position for the period
- accord with Canberra Region Joint Organisation accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of CANBERRA REGION JOINT ORGANISATION
made on 29 October 2021.



Rowena Abbey
Chairperson
29/10/2021



Kalina Koloff
Executive Officer
29/10/2021



James Hayes
Voting Representative Board Member
29/10/2021

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Statement of Income and Accumulated Surplus for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income			
Member council contributions	B1-1	426,914.00	369,100.38
User charges and fees	B1-2	292,943.59	94,158.49
Grants provided for operating purposes	B1-3	1,062,119.25	463,227.00
Grants provided for capital purposes	B1-3	-	-
Interest and investment revenue	B1-4	3,695.80	7,502.16
Other income	B1-5	300,114.58	173,471.45
Total income		2,085,787.22	1,107,459.48
Expenses			
Employee benefits and on-costs		764,572.51	819,681.19
Administrative expenses	B2-1	1,155,535.46	798,016.73
Borrowing costs	B2-2	38.18	4,405.37
Depreciation	C1-4/C2-1	54,905.26	25,191.80
Total expenses		1,975,051.41	1,647,295.09
Net operating result for the period		110,735.81	(539,835.61)
Net result for the period		110,735.81	(539,835.61)
Accumulated surplus at 1 July		581,555.69	
Restatement of accumulated surplus for changes in accounting policy	F3		
Restatement of accumulated surplus for corrections in prior year periods	F3		
Accumulated surplus as at 30 June		692,291.50	581,555.69

*The above Income Statement and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	1,537,299.27	931,941.46
Investments	C1-2	504,141.05	504,141.05
Receivables	C1-3	73,178.80	47,220.98
Other		2,583.12	-
Total current assets		2,117,212.24	1,533,303.49
Non-current assets			
Investments	C1-2	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	C1-4	62,203.07	86,535.60
Right of use assets	C2-1	55,058.77	-
Total non-current assets		117,261.84	86,535.60
Total assets		2,234,474.08	1,619,839.09
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	172,930.20	421,203.46
Contract liabilities	C3-2	1,296,590.91	617,079.94
Lease liabilities	C2-1	24,465.79	-
Employee benefit provisions	C3-3	17,586.60	-
Total current liabilities		1,511,573.50	1,038,283.40
Non-current liabilities			
Contract liabilities	C3-2	-	-
Lease liabilities	C2-1	30,609.08	-
Employee benefit liabilities	C3-3	-	-
Total non-current liabilities		30,609.08	-
Total liabilities		1,542,182.58	1,038,283.40
Net assets		692,291.50	581,555.69
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		692,291.50	581,555.69
Total equity		692,291.50	581,555.69

*The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Receipts:</i>			
Contributions from member councils		469,605.40	406,469.89
User charges and fees		581,787.87	93,163.10
Grants		1,657,078.01	1,128,526.30
Investment received		3,695.80	7,502.16
Other		174,522.80	195,250.19
<i>Payments:</i>			
Employees and services		(2,214,607.29)	(845,576.17)
Borrowing costs		-	(4,405.37)
Other		-	(793,254.07)
Net cash flows from operating activities		672,082.59	187,676.03
Cash flows from investing activities			
<i>Receipts:</i>			
Proceeds from Sale of property, plant and equipment		-	2,119.80
<i>Payments:</i>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(12,219.81)	(46,610.25)
Other		(2,583.12)	-
Net cashflows from investing activities		(14,812.93)	(44,490.45)
Cash flows from financing activities			
<i>Receipts:</i>			
Proceeds from investments		-	4,874.77
Other		-	-
<i>Payments:</i>			
Repayment of lease liabilities		-	-
Other		(51,911.85)	-
Net cash flows from financing activities		(51,911.85)	4,874.77
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		605,377.81	148,060.35
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,436,082.51	1,288,022.16
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	2,041,440.32	1,436,082.51

*The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

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A. About the Joint Organisation and these financial statements

A1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of the Joint Organisation on 29/10/2021. The Board has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and Regulations, and the Joint Organisation Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. CRJO is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

a. New and amended standards adopted by CRJO

No new AASB standards were adopted for the 2021 financial year.

b. Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

c. Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the CRJO's accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the CRJO and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

CRJO makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority are presented as operating cash flows.

COVID-19 Impacts

COVID-19 has had no impact on the operations of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation. There have been no financial impacts to date, and it is anticipated COVID-19 will have no financial impacts in future years.

B. Financial performance

B1. Sources of income

B1-1 Member Council contributions

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Bega Valley Shire Council	36,448.00	31,593.77
East Gippsland Shire Council	11,512.00	10,034.43
Eurobodalla Shire Council	39,482.00	34,418.80
Goulburn Mulwaree Council	33,756.00	29,077.42
Hilltops Council	24,462.00	20,701.67
Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council	56,168.00	49,099.61
Snowy Monaro Regional Council	25,964.00	22,051.39
Snowy Valley Council	21,190.00	17,720.52
Upper Lachlan Shire Council	16,130.00	13,006.46
Wagga Wagga City Council	44,934.00	39,748.73
Wingecarribee Shire Council	48,880.00	42,626.37
Yass Valley Shire Council	23,054.00	19,272.48
ACT Government	44,934.00	39,748.73
Total member council contributions	426,914.00	369,100.38

Accounting policy

Contributions by member councils are recognised as revenue at the point in time when the amount to be paid for the period has been determined and communicated to councils. The contribution may be in the form of a cash payment or non-monetary contribution (which is recorded at its fair value).

The methodology for determining the contribution is:

- equal contributions by all member councils in order to perform the principal functions of delivering on strategic regional priorities, regional leadership and intergovernmental cooperation.
- contributions by participating member councils for other functions of enhancing strategic capacity and direct service

B1-2 User charges and fees

	2021 \$	2020 \$
EPA Contaminated Land (Western Cluster)	25,678.68	-
EPA Contaminated Land (Eastern Cluster)	25,009.56	40,000.00
EPA Regional Co-Ordination Support	-	24,444.00
EPA Litter Project	32,050.83	4,483.00
EPA Illegal Dumping	9,000.00	2,000.00
EPA CRC Education	11,500.00	5,000.00
EPA Love Food Hate Waste	-	2,000.00
Private Vehicle User Fees	17,976.20	16,231.49
EPA – Green Waste Data Collection	24,811.33	-
OLG - JO Capacity Building Program	42,601.27	-
EPA – Household Chemical Cleanup	27,790.06	-
Paintback Program	2,794.35	-
Regional Community Strategic Plan	73,731.31	-
Total user charges and fees	292,943.59	94,158.49

Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees

User charges and fee recognised over time	274,967.39	-
User charges and fee recognised at a point time	17,976.20	-
Total user charges and fees	292,943.59	-

Accounting policy

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation of providing the related service is completed, and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

B1-3 Grants

	2021	2020
	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Operating</u>
	\$	\$
EPA – Regional Coordination Support Fund	23,985.32	244,443.00
EPA – Household Chemical Cleanout	108,285.00	
EPA – Contaminated Land Eastern Cluster	119,791.51	-
EPA – Contaminated Land Western Cluster	128,688.28	-
EPA – CRC Education 2019-2021	122,667.00	
EPA – Litter Regional Implementation	29,888.00	-
EPA – EPA Green Waste Data Collection	56,000.00	-
EPA – Waste Less Recycle More	316,437.98	
DPIE – Bin Trim	103,200.00	64,800.00
EPA – Love Food Hate Waste	(8,837.32)	
EPA – Regional Waste Education Support	(4,262.00)	
DCJ – BCCRF	(0.70)	
DPIE – Regional Support Officer	(16,461.82)	
OLG – JO Capacity Building Funding	15,868.00	134,832.00
OLG – Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit	26,870.00	-
OEH – Regional BioDiversity Officer	40,000.00	19,852.00
Total grants	<u>1,062,119.25</u>	<u>463,227.00</u>
Comprising:		
– Commonwealth funding	-	-
– State funding	1,062,119.25	463,227.00
– Other funding	-	-
	<u>1,062,119.25</u>	<u>463,227.00</u>

Accounting policy

Grants - enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant revenue arising from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary in accordance with each individual agreement.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods of costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under the JO's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the JO.

Other grants

Assets (e.g. cash) received from other grants are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. The JO considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received

B1-4 Interest and investment income

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost	3,695.80	7,502.16
Other	-	-
Total interest and investment income	3,695.80	7,502.16

Accounting policy

Interest and investment income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B1-5 Other Income

	2021 \$	2020 \$
(d) Other Income		
Procurement rebate	110,583.00	104,623.78
Management Fees	144,531.58	68,847.67
Reimbursements	45,000.00	-
	300,114.58	173,471.45

Accounting policy

Other income is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

B2. Cost of providing services

B2-1 Administrative expenses

	2021 \$	2020 \$
(a) Administrative expenses		
Accommodation	7,051.90	-
Accounting	16,535.00	-
Advertising	82,858.20	45,659.69
Audit Fees	11,275.00	
Bank Fees	466.82	710.96
Cleaning	3,213.21	2,874.63
Consulting	447,263.41	382,065.96
Freight & Courier	607.50	295.26
General Expenses	185,793.67	207,278.84
Insurance	14,991.46	10,444.51
Legal expenses	2,535.34	3,800.00
Light, Power, Heating	385.85	905.59
Meeting Expenses	36,263.97	46,229.06
Motor Vehicle Allowances	814.31	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses	19,944.80	28,043.34
Office Expenses	28,898.79	17,691.77
Printing & Stationery	2,805.63	6,721.40
Project Management	198,244.85	-

Rent	3,304.56	4,609.18
Repairs and Maintenance	311.37	-
Sitting Fees	28,750.00	-
Subscriptions	56,973.14	7,308.70
Telephone & Internet	6,246.68	8,663.84
Operating leases:		-
– Buildings	-	12,274.00
– Computers	-	1,440.00
Total administrative expenses	1,155,535.46	787,016.73

Accounting policy

Employee benefit expenses

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee. Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the JO receives the goods or services.

B2-2 Borrowing costs

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Interest on leases	38.18	-
Other borrowing costs	-	4,405.37
Total borrowing costs	38.18	4,405.37

Accounting policy

Borrowing costs are expenses as incurred.

C1. Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	1,543,910.87	1,442,426.64
Deposits at call	504,141.05	-
Credit Facility	(6,611.60)	(6,344.13)
	<u>2,041,440.32</u>	<u>1,436,082.51</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
External restrictions	1,296,590.91	1,023,680.03
Internal restrictions	-	-
Unrestricted	744,849.41	413,000.00
	<u>2,041,440.32</u>	<u>1,436,082.51</u>
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents		
Total cash and cash equivalents per statement of financial position	2,041,440.32	1,436,082.51
Less: bank overdraft	-	-
Balance as per statement of Cash Flows	<u>2,041,440.32</u>	<u>1,436,082.51</u>

Accounting policy

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

C1-2 Investments

	2021		2020	
	Current \$	Non-current \$	Current \$	Non-current \$
Debt securities at amortised cost				
- Term Deposits	504,141.05	-	504,141.05	-
	<u>504,141.05</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>504,141.05</u>	<u>-</u>

Accounting policy

Term deposits are initially recognised at fair value and then subsequently classified and measured at amortised cost. Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on derecognition are recognised in profit or loss.

C1-3 Receivables

	2021	2020
	Current	Current
	\$	\$
Receivables from member councils	45,678.80	35,127.32
Grant receivables	27,500.00	-
GST	-	12,093.66
Total	<u>73,178.80</u>	<u>47,220.98</u>
Less: provision for impairment:		
– Other (specify if material)	-	-
	-	-
Net receivables	<u>73,178.80</u>	<u>47,220.98</u>

Accounting policy

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

The JO applies the simplified approach for receivables in providing for expected credit losses prescribed by AASB 9, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision. To measure the expected credit losses, debtors have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

C1-4 Property, plant and equipment

	At July 1 2020			Movements			At 30 June 2021		
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accum Depn	Net Carrying Amount	Additions	Disposals	Depn	Gross Carrying Amount	Accum Depn	Net Carrying Amount
Office Equip	4,792	(4,792)	-	12,220	-	(12,220)	17,012	17,012	-
Vehicles	119,222	(32,686)	86,536	-	-	(24,333)	119,222	57,019	62,203
Totals	124,014	(37,478)	86,536	12,220	-	(36,552)	136,234	74,031	62,203

Accounting policy

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the JO and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are expensed during the year in which they are incurred.

When property, plant and equipment are acquired by the JO for significantly less than fair value, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

C2. Leasing activities

C2-1 Joint Organisation as a lessee

(a) CRJO as a lessee

CRJO has leases over a range of assets including land and buildings and IT equipment. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

Terms and conditions of leases

Buildings

The CRJO held a property lease over an office facility at 24 Richmond Avenue Canberra Airport Fairburn ACT. This lease was entered into on 1/8/2019 and expired on 31/7/2020.

The CRJO executed a property lease over an office facility at 6B & 6B-M, 2 Brindabella Circuit, Canberra Airport ACT 2609. This lease was entered into on 1/10/2020 and expires on 30/9/2023.

Right-of-use assets

	Buildings \$	Office and IT \$	Other \$	Total \$
Opening balance at 1 July 2020	64	-	-	64
Additions of right-of-use assets	73,412	-	-	73,412
Adjustments to right-of-use assets due to remeasurement of lease liability	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Charge	18,353	-	-	18,353
Impairment of right-of-use assets	64	-	-	64
Balance at 30 June 2021	55,059	-	-	55,059

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below.

< 1 year \$	1-5 year \$	> 5 year \$	Total \$	Total per statement of financial position \$
24,500	30,625	-	55,125	55,075

Extension options

Nil

Statement of Income and Accumulated Surplus

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where the CRJO is a lessee are shown below.

	\$
Interest on lease liabilities	40
Depreciation on right-of-use assets	18,353
Variable lease payments based on usage not included in the measurement of lease liabilities	-
Income from sub-leasing right-of-use assets	-
Expenses relating to short-term leases	-
Expenses relating to low-value assets	1,440

Statement of cash flows

	\$
Total cash outflow for leases	19,833

Leases at significantly below market value – Concessionary/peppercorn leases

Nil

Accounting policy

At inception of a contract, the CRJO assesses whether a lease exists – i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration?

CRJO has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

At the lease commencement, the CRJO recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the JO believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the CRJO's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is re-measured when there is a lease modification or change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI).

Where the lease liability is re-measured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement.

Exceptions to lease accounting

CRJO has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. CRJO recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term

C3. Liabilities of the joint organisation

C3-1 Payables

	2021 Current \$	2020 Current \$
Payables		
Trade payables	132,177.67	313,595.77
Superannuation Payable	-	5,408.20
PAYG Tax Payable	15,026.00	60,804.00
GST	25,726.53	-
Other	-	1,040.76
Total payables	172,930.20	421,203.46
Borrowings		
Bank overdraft	-	-
Total borrowings	-	-

Accounting policy

The JO measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs; subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the JO prior to the end of financial period that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Contract liabilities

	2021 Current \$	2020 Current \$
Funds to construct JO controlled assets	-	-
Funds received prior to performance obligation being satisfied	1,296,590.91	617,079.94
Other	-	-
Total payables	1,296,590.91	617,079.94

Accounting policy

When an amount of consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to CRJO transferring a good or service to the customer, CRJO presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability

C3-3 Employee benefits

	2021		2020	
	Current \$	Non- current \$	Current \$	Non- current \$
Employee benefit provisions				
Annual leave	17,586.60	-	40,354.73	-
Long-service leave	-	-	-	-
Total provisions	17,586.60	-	40,354.73	-
Current provisions not expected to be settled within the next 12 months	-	-	-	-

Accounting policy

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits and annual leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service) are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period, and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits, and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

On-costs

The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses that will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if the JO does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

D. Risks and accounting uncertainties

D1. Financial risk management

Risk management

The JO's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, including credit risk, liquidity risk, and interest rate risk. Financial risk management is carried out by the finance team under policies approved by the JO Board.

D2. Contingencies

The CRJO has nil contingent assets or liabilities.

E. People and relationships

E1. Related part disclosures

E1-1 Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) of the JO are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the JO, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in employee expenses is \$210,000

E1-2 Other related parties

The CRJO has nil other related party disclosures.

E2. Other relationships

E2-1 Audit fees

	2021	2020
	Current	Current
	\$	\$
Auditors of the CRJO – NSW Auditor General		
Audit of financial statements	11,365.00	11,275.00
Other services	-	-
Total fees paid to Auditor General	11,365.00	11,275.00

F. Other matters

F1. Commitments

The CRJO has Nil Commitments

F2. Events occurring after the reporting date

The CRJO has Nil events to report

F3. Changes from prior year

The CRJO has Nil changes to report



Ms Rowena Abbey
Chairperson
Canberra Region Joint Organisation
6B & 6B-M, 2 Brindabella Circuit
Canberra Airport

Contact: Lisa Berwick
Phone no: 02 9275 7165
Our ref: D2121928/1857

29 October 2021

Dear Ms Abbey

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Canberra Region Joint Organisation**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (the Joint Organisation) for the year ended 30 June 2021 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act). I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Joint Organisation's GPFS.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Joint Organisation for the year ended 30 June 2021 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

PERFORMANCE

Net result

The Joint Organisation's net result for the year ended 30 June 2021 was \$110,736.

The Joint Organisation's primary income source during the year was from operating grants of \$1,062,119 which contributed to 51 per cent of the Joint Organisation's income from continuing operations of \$2,085,787. The NSW Environmental Protection Agency was the main source of operating grants. The Joint Organisation also received \$426,914 of income from member council contributions.

The Joint Organisation's total operating expenses from continuing operations for the year ended 30 June 2021 was \$1,975,051 which primarily consisted of employee benefits and on-costs of \$764,573 and administration expenses of \$1,155,535.

Financial position

At 30 June 2021, the Joint Organisation had total assets of \$2,234,474 and net assets of \$692,292. The Joint Organisation's main assets consist of cash and investments of \$2,041,440 and Receivables of \$73,179.

OTHER MATTERS

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of non-compliance with legislative requirements or a material deficiency in the Joint Organisation's accounting records or financial statements. The Joint Organisation's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Berwick', with a horizontal line underneath the signature.

Lisa Berwick
Director, Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

cc: Ms Kalina Koloff, Chief Executive Officer



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

Canberra Region Joint Organisation

To the Board of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Canberra Region Joint Organisation (the Joint Organisation), which comprise the Statement by Members of the Board and Management, the Statement of Income and Accumulated Surplus for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021, and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021 and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion:

- the Joint Organisation's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial statements:
 - have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of this Division
 - are consistent with the Joint Organisation's accounting records
 - present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Joint Organisation as at 30 June 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards–Simplified Disclosures
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements have come to light during the audit.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Joint Organisation in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of joint organisations
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

The Board's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards—Simplified Disclosures and the *Local Government Act 1993*, and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board is responsible for assessing the Joint Organisation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Joint Organisation carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Lisa Berwick
Director, Financial Audit

Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

29 October 2021
SYDNEY

Payment of Expenses Provision of Facilities and Allowances to Board Members

The Payment of Expenses Provision of Facilities and Allowances to Board Members Policy was ratified at the CRJO Board meeting of 15 February 2019. Costs and expenses related to CRJO Board members for the 2020-21 year are outlined below:

Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Board Members.	Nil. Refer clause 5.4 of policy.
Telephone calls made by Board Members.	Nil Refer clause 5.4 of policy.
Attendance of Board Members at conferences and seminars.	Nil. Refer clause 5.4 of policy.
Interstate visits, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses.	Not applicable. No interstate travel undertaken by Board members.
Overseas visits, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses.	Not applicable. No international travel undertaken.
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanies Board Members in the performance of his or her civic functions.	Not applicable. CRJO does not meet the cost of Board Members' spouses, partners and accompanying persons. Refer clause 5.3 of policy.
Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of a Board Member.	Not applicable. Refer clause 5.7.2 in policy.
Board Member sitting fees.	Total: \$11,000.00
Board meeting expenses.	Total: \$5,122 (Ex GST)



Details of Contracts Awarded by CRJO

The CRJO did not award any contracts above \$150,000 during the 2019/2020 financial year.

Other minor contracts of \$100,000 or less for advice and services included;

- Audit Office of New South Wales
- Baker Deane & Nutt
- Biota Sustainability
- Eaton Gorge Theatre Company Pty Ltd
- Edge Environment Pty Ltd
- Impact Environmental Consulting
- Jennifer Lang Australia
- Kategic Strategic Solutions
- KPMG Australia
- Kyla Davies Creative & Interactive Design
- Lib Creative
- Little Waste Co
- Mia Swainson
- Moulis Legal
- MRA Consulting Group
- N.Marinovic
- OPC IT
- People Dynamics
- Pikes & Verekers Lawyers
- Projectura Pty Ltd

Grants

The CRJO received continued funding for the UPSS Contaminated Lands Program and the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Program from the NSW EPA which supported 4 FTE positions and associated project costs.

The CRJO was successful in attracting a number of grants to deliver expanded services to member Councils from programs aimed at supporting Bushfire impacted communities.

Grant	Snapshot	Amount
Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Grants – NSW Government, DPIE with additional contributions from Insurance Council of Australia Th Minderoo Foundation	<u>The Canberra Region Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit</u> The Toolkit will provide guidance to homeowners on action they can take to protect their homes from bushfires, floods and other natural hazards. Council will be able to work with their communities to build resilience and reduce insurance liability for existing homes.	\$179,500
The Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund	<u>Simtable for the South East</u> This project will provide a state of the art tool to engage communities in localised place-based emergency information sessions. This will assist communities to understand their hazard and bushfire risk and identify how they can plan for future disasters.	\$216,529
The Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund	<u>Identifying Vulnerable Contaminated Lands</u> Development of a Spatial Data Mapping Tool to assist Councils identify land parcels and sites containing unknown underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS) and other contamination substances of a combustible or accelerant nature that pose a hazard risk.	\$223,225
The Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund	<u>A Blueprint for a Resilient SE NSW</u> Enabling the communities of SE NSW to be better prepared for recovery and resilient to hazards by 1. building awareness; 2. facilitating community empowerment in decisions; and 3. embedding resilience in community, Council and regional planning documents. <i>*This project has been awarded a grant of \$2,760,500 in 2021/22 through the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to expand and implement the Blueprint</i>	\$299,285



Legal Costs

The CRJO incurred no legal costs in relation to legal proceedings taken either by or against the CRJO.

Delegated Functions

The CRJO did not engage any external body to exercise functions delegated by the CRJO.

Interest

The CRJO does not control or hold interest in any corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies and did not participate with any of the abovementioned entities (whether or not incorporated) during the year.

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

In 2020-21, the CRJO employed two full-time staff, the Chief Executive Officer and an Executive and project Support Officer. Three full-time staff were employed under grant agreements to deliver Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Program and the Contaminated Land Program. A further casual staff member was engaged to deliver the grant funded Regional Food Donation project.

Remuneration Package of Executive Officer

The total remuneration package for the CRJO Chief Executive Officer in 2020-21 was \$200,000 including salary, superannuation. No bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component were included.

The CRJO had no other senior staff members during this period.

Capital Works Projects

The CRJO did not undertake any capital works projects.

Government Information Public Access (GIPA)

The CRJO received no requests for public access to government information.

Information included on public disclosure activity

The CRJO has a Public Disclosure Policy and register, however did not receive any public requests for access.

