



**Government
of South Australia**



**Board of the
Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium**

2024/25 Annual Report

BOTANIC GARDENS AND STATE HERBARIUM

Adelaide Botanic Garden, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au

Contact phone number: +61 8 8222 9311

Contact email: botanicgardens@sa.gov.au

ISSN: 0728 7704

Date approved by the Board: 12 December 2025

Date presented to Minister: 23 December 2025

To:

The Hon. Lucy Hood, MP

Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

This Annual Report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

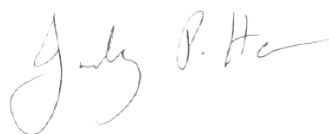
Submitted on behalf of the BOARD OF THE BOTANIC GARDENS AND STATE HERBARIUM by:

Judy Potter

Presiding Member

Date: 12 December 2025

Signature:



This Annual Report is provided after 30 September 2025 because the audited financial statements and the Auditor-General's report on those statements were not available by the statutory deadline. Under section 12(7) of the Public Sector Act 2009 and Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013, the Annual Report must include audited financial statements and the Auditor-General's report. These were not finalised in time, as the Auditor-General required additional time to complete the audit of the Board's financial statements. The report is presented with this written statement of reasons in accordance with section 12(9) of the Public Sector Act 2009.

Reconciliation statement

The Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium acknowledges Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and waters we live and work upon. We acknowledge and respect the deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to the State's lands, water, plants, and animals – commonly known as Country.

Our vision for reconciliation is for the relationship between First Nations peoples and the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium to be built on respect, understanding and acknowledgement of the past so that we can move together toward a shared vision.

From the Presiding Member and Director

2024/25 Year in Review: A Year of Impact, Innovation and Growth

The 2024/25 financial year has been extraordinary for the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium (BGS), marked by record-breaking public engagement, scientific innovation, and strategic planning for the future.



At the heart of our success was the internationally acclaimed *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden* exhibition, which ran from 27 September 2024 to 29 April 2025. Featuring the dramatic glass sculptures of world-renowned artist Dale Chihuly, this exhibition drew unprecedented attention. Chihuly's botanic gardens work is rarely seen outside the USA, with only London and Singapore previously hosting his garden-based installations. Visitation to the Adelaide Botanic Garden during this time exceeded 1.4M, breaking world records, and smashing the annual visitation to the Garden.

The project was independently assessed to have achieved a \$55M economic benefit to the State and created over 300 jobs over the course of its run. Volunteering in the gardens grew substantially with 250 new volunteers joining the organisation, and over 10,000 volunteer hours were contributed to the project.

Thanks to generous support from the philanthropic sector, \$1.05m was raised in order for the BGS to secure two of the Chihuly artworks for the State collection for permanent display at the Adelaide Botanic Garden. Each piece was created specifically by Chihuly for the Adelaide exhibition. The *Glacier Ice and Lapis* Chandelier was designed to be displayed in the Palm House and permanently remains for all to view. The South Australian floral emblem the Sturt Desert Pea (*Swainsona formosa*) being the inspiration for the creation of the *Jet and Crimson Fiori*, which remains on display in the Bicentennial Conservatory.

The active participation of the South Australian creative, technical and business community was key to the success of the project, and we thank the Major Events Fund from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, SA Tourism Commission and JamFactory as the major project partners. Over 20 other corporate sponsors and

supporters joined us to deliver this extraordinary event over seven months of the year.

Visitation across all our sites remained strong, continuing the upward trend of recent years. Beyond Chihuly, our public events program flourished, with large-scale collaborations including Illuminate Adelaide, Nature Festival, Adelaide Fringe Festival, WOMADelaide, and Moonlight Cinema. Despite the challenges posed by extreme heat during WOMAD, our teams worked well with WOMAD to ensure safe event delivery and the ongoing protection of the Grey-headed Flying Fox colony in Botanic Park.

Maintaining the grandeur of the four Botanic Gardens sites whilst facing low rainfall, extreme heat, and the highest visitation the sites have seen was testament to the skill and passion of the Living Collections and Horticulture teams. The Adelaide Botanic Garden landscapes and plantings surrounding each Chihuly artwork during *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden* reflected the truly collaborative nature of the project and the dedication and creativity of our team.

In the digital space, we celebrated the development of the new FloraSA website, set to launch in August 2025. This vibrant, modern platform replaces the retired eFlora infrastructure and offers public access to over 22,000 profile pages covering more than 11,000 taxa of South Australian plants, algae, and fungi. Built on a database of more than 520,000 records, FloraSA includes botanical descriptions, classification data, distribution maps, images, glossaries, and identification keys. This milestone was made possible by the dedicated efforts of the BGS Herbarium Science team, Department of Environment and Water (DEW) IT support, and the technical expertise of Studio Veld.

Our scientific contributions have been equally impressive, including considerable work on fungi. From vital advisory support through the fungal identification service, to the publication of the landmark book “Fungi of Kangaroo Island and Beyond”, and over 15 research papers describing 9 new truffle-like fungi and 16 new mushroom species.

Our scientific teams maintain their ongoing contributions to the broader conservation efforts of the State, through the field and laboratory work of the Seed Conservation Centre, the provision of expert advice to health services on mushroom toxicity, the recent harmful algal bloom taskforce, and the broader foundational taxonomic work that underpins biodiversity research and conservation programs.

Our education programs welcomed over 26,000 students through formal learning experiences, with a significant boost during the *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden* exhibition. We also expanded our reach through innovative digital education offerings and saw notable growth in lifelong community engagement via our volunteer program. The success of the Chihuly program was publicly recognised with BGS Herbarium receiving four awards, including two from the SA Volunteer Awards

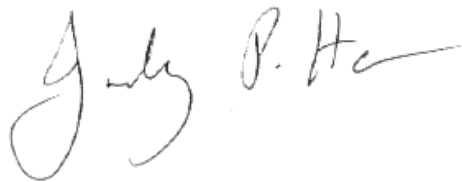
- the Andamooka Community Project Award,
- and Excellence in Volunteer Management Award for Volunteer Coordinator, and another two from the South Australian Architecture Awards for the

- City of Adelaide Prize for Design Excellence
- City of Adelaide People's Choice Prize for Design Excellence

All of this success has been underpinned by strong governance and financial management, with robust compliance and excellent collaboration with our colleagues at the Department for Environment and Water.

Looking ahead to 2025/26, BGSH is poised for national recognition, driven by the enduring legacies of the *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden* exhibition, continued improvements in data management, targeted volunteer growth, and expanded scientific and public engagement initiatives supported by Adelaide Botanic Garden Foundation.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our supporters, volunteers, Board members, and staff for their dedication and passion throughout FY24/25. We look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.



Judy Potter
Presiding Member,
Board of the Botanic Gardens and
State Herbarium
12 December 2025



Michael Harvey
Director,
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
12 December 2025

Contents

Overview: about the agency	7
Our strategic focus.....	7
Our organisational structure.....	10
Our Minister	11
Our Organisational Structure	11
The Board	11
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act (1978)	12
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Regulations (2021).....	12
The agency's performance	13
Performance at a glance	13
Corporate performance summary.....	25
Employment opportunity programs.....	25
Agency performance management and development systems.....	26
Work health, safety and return to work programs	26
Executive employment in the agency.....	27
Financial performance	28
Financial performance at a glance	28
Consultants disclosure.....	28
Contractors disclosure	29
Risk management	30
Risk and audit at a glance	30
Fraud detected in the agency	30
Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud.....	30
Public interest disclosure.....	30
Reporting required under any other act or regulation	31
Reporting required under the <i>Carers' Recognition Act</i> 2005	31
Public complaints	32
Number of public complaints reported	32
Additional Metrics.....	33
Service Improvements	33
Compliance Statement	34

Overview: about the agency

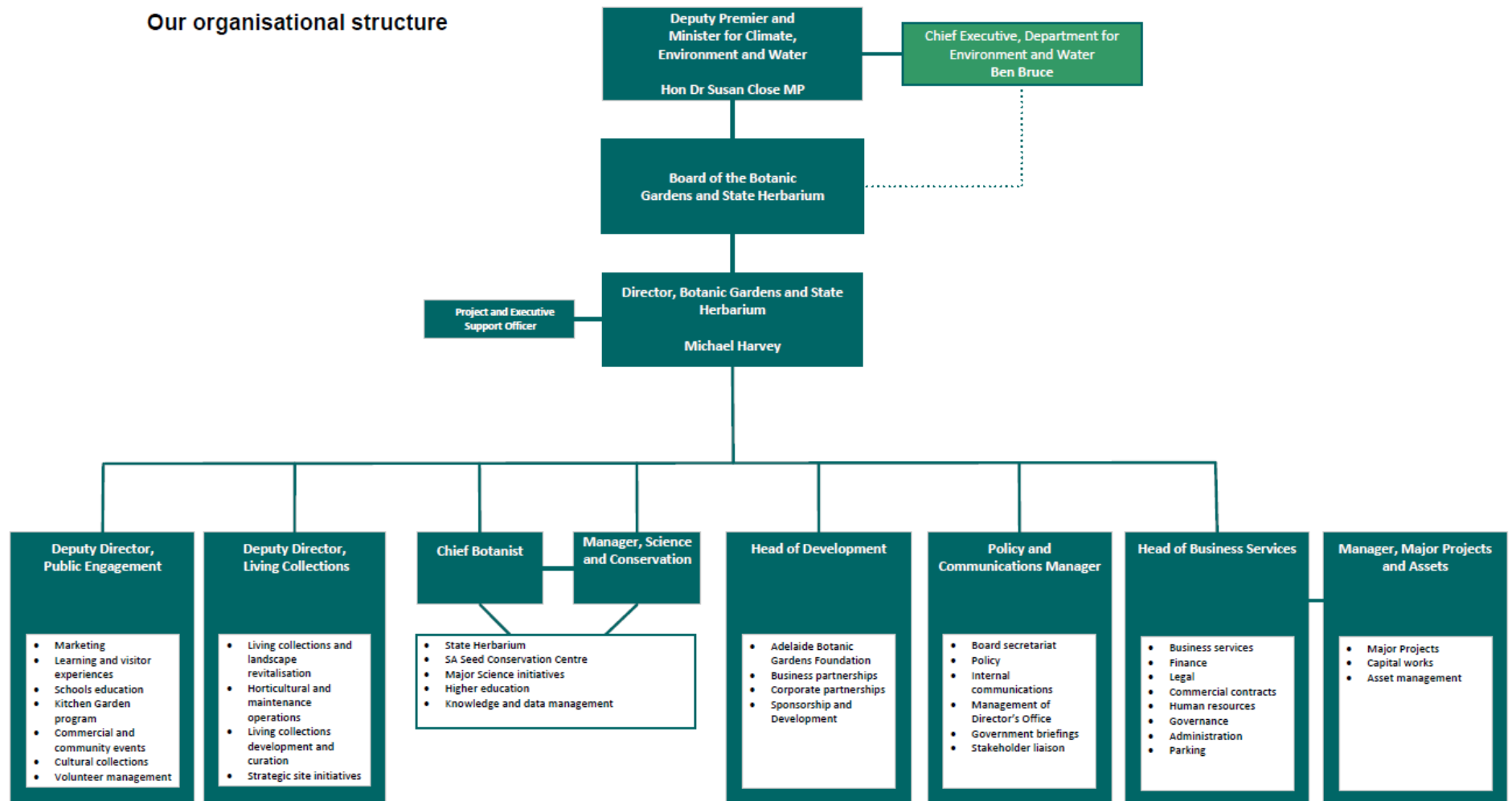
Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	We are champions, protectors and storytellers, developing our collections, sites, expertise and partnerships to understand and share how people and plants shape each other's futures. We build and share knowledge of plants, fungi and algae and their roles, to underpin global biodiversity conservation efforts. We care for living, preserved and cultural collections and sites of beauty, heritage and significance. We create landscapes, gardens and displays that attract, surprise and delight visitors. These spaces enhance our city and our state. We work with others to advance knowledge and to bring variety and new perspectives to our sites and collections.
Our Vision	Our vision is a community that is inspired to contribute to the sustainability of our living world, and understands the vital role of plants, fungi and algae in our ecosystems and to human life.
Our Values	Our core values drive the way we approach our work and work with each other and with our partners: Community Connection - Service to the public is at the heart of all we do, creating public spaces and programs, and building knowledge and sharing it openly. Excellence - We accept that perfection is impossible, but excellence is achievable, and we strive to achieve it in all we delivery. Stewardship - We are deeply aware we care for collections and sites that span multiple generations. Respect – We respect Australia's unique environment, its First Peoples, our visitors, our partners and each other. Curiosity – We are an organisation that demonstrates curiosity to better understand the natural world, our community and our visitors, and how we can best serve all of them. Optimism – We bring a fearless and positive attitude to our work, seeking to build on successes and learn from challenges.
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	Our overarching strategic focus is to conserve plant species; support and engage communities; and enhance our organisation and sustainability. We will achieve this by: 1. Enhancing our collections and our knowledge of plants, making our collections accessible, and learning from others.

	2. Creating and showcasing our beautiful gardens and sharing our knowledge of plants and stories. Ensuring a world-class workforce utilising efficient technologies and processes and ensuring diverse and sustainable income.
Our 2024/25 priorities	<i>Theme 1 - Conserving plant species and natural environments.</i> Growth in collections and collections access, in publications and in research partnerships: (a) The knowledge hub for plant science; (b) Investigate, understand and conserve threatened flora; (c) Future-aware biodiversity projects; (d) Increasing the amount of species growth in situ; (e) Promoting native flora; and (f) Traditional knowledge is integrated respectfully with our work. <i>Theme 2 - Supporting and engaging communities.</i> Growth in visitation and participation in education and public programs, new creative initiatives in public programs and gardens landscapes and horticulture: (a) Creating unique educational opportunities; (b) Developing innovative and engaging life-long learning experiences; (c) Outreach and partnership programs; (d) Support and promote First Nations knowledge; (e) Promoting urban greening; and (f) Understand our current and potential visitors. <i>Theme 3 - Enhancing our organisation and our sustainability.</i> Positive staff outlook, improved environmental sustainability, growth in volunteer engagement, growth in self-generated revenue: (a) Implementing sustainability measures across all our organisations; (b) Developing and nurturing our relationships with volunteers; (c) Implementing commercial, marketing and communications strategies; (d) Creating a supportive, inclusive and safe work environment; (e) A fit-for-purpose asset management plan; and (f) Increasing the profile of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens Foundation.

Our functions	Section 13 of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act (1978) defines the functions of the Board as follows: (a) to establish and maintain botanic and other gardens for the use and enjoyment of members of the public on land vested in or placed under the control of the Board; and (b) to establish and manage in, or in connection with, its gardens exhibitions of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history; and (c) to establish and maintain an herbarium and, subject to this Act, to retain original specimens included in the herbarium; and (d) to accumulate and care for specimens (whether living or preserved), objects and things of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history; and (e) to accumulate and classify data in regard to any such matters; and (f) to manage all lands and premises vested in, or placed under the control of, the Board; and (g) to manage all funds vested in, or under the control of, the Board and to apply those funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of any instrument of trust or other instrument affecting the disposition of those funds; and (h) to carry out, or promote, research into matters of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history; and (i) to disseminate information of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history; and (j) to engage in commercial activities for the financial or reputational benefit of the Board; and (k) to provide courses of education and training, including vocational education and training, in relation to the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment and history— (i) whether on a commercial basis or otherwise, as determined by the Board; and (ii) whether by the Board acting alone or in partnership or joint venture with another person or body; and (l) to provide consultant services; and (m) to perform any other functions assigned to the Board under this or any other Act or by the Minister.
-----------------------------	--

Our organisational structure



Changes to the agency

During 2024/25 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

Our Minister



The Hon Dr Susan Close MP is the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water

During 2024-25, the Hon Dr Susan Close MP was the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and had overall administrative responsibility of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978.

Our Organisational Structure

The Board

The Board of the BGSHP is established in accordance with section 6 of the *Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978* and consists of eight members appointed by the responsible Minister, for a term not exceeding four years. The Minister may determine to reappoint a member on expiration of a term of office.

As at 30 June 2025, the BGSHP Board membership included:



Judy Potter

Presiding Member

Chair, Board

Chair, People and Culture Subcommittee

Term dates: 8 February 2025 to 7 February 2027

Member since 21 January 2010



Andrew Kay

Board Member

Member, People and Culture Subcommittee

Term dates: 10 July 2020 to 9 July 2024

Member since 19 July 2019



Peter Kennedy

Board Member

Chair, Asset Management Subcommittee

Term dates: 29 September 2022 to 28 September 2026

Member since 29 March 2021



Sally McLennan

Board Member

Member, Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee

Term dates: 8 February 2025 to 7 February 2028

Member since 8 February 2022



Laura Parry

Board Member

Member, Finance and Risk Management Sub-Committee

Term dates: 25 November 2023 to 28 November 2026

Member since 25 November 2019



Elizabeth (Libby) Raupach OAM

Board Member

Chair, Adelaide Botanic Gardens Foundation

Term dates: 7 December 2021 to 6 December 2024

Member since 7 December 2017



James Allen

Board Member

Chair, Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee

Term dates: 10 July 2024 to 9 July 2027



Sophie Thomson

Board Member

Terms dates: 5 July 2023 to 4 July 2027

Our Executive team



Michael Harvey

Director, Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Member, People and Culture Subcommittee

Member, Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee

Member, Science and Research Subcommittee

Member, Adelaide Botanic Gardens Foundation Committee

1 July 2021 to current

Legislation administered by the agency.

Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act (1978)

Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Regulations (2021)

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

The performance of the Board of the BGSB is guided by its *Strategic Plan 2023-2027* and implemented through an annual plan that guides operations.

Achievements aligned to the Board's strategic focus areas in 2023-27 include (but are not limited to):

Strategic Plan Theme 1

Conserving plant species and natural environments

Enhancing collections and our knowledge of plants, making our collections accessible, and developing collaborative research programs.

General Measures

Growth in collections and collections access, in publications and in research partnerships.

(a) The knowledge hub for plant science;

The legacy eFlora digital platform was successfully decommissioned and replaced with FloraSA, supported by DEW. A test import of the new system was completed in March 2025, confirming successful data integration.

(b) Investigate, Understand and Conserve Threatened Flora

Tree Risk Management: We delivered proactive and reactive tree care works under the Annual Tree Care Program,

Seed Bank Viability Testing: We progressed testing of >10-year-old seed collections, with 30% tested and over 60% showing >50% viability.

(c) Future-Aware Biodiversity Projects

Priority conservation science projects were progressed in alignment with external funding agreements. Draft Grey-headed Flying Fox Management Plan received. Successfully managed colony during WOMADelaide with minimal impact.

(e) Promoting Native Flora

Weed and Flora Biosecurity: Delivered annual weed detection and distribution documentation. Partnered with Green Adelaide, Landscape Boards, and community groups. South Australia's efforts aligned nationally.

Strategic Plan Theme 2

Supporting and engaging communities

Create and showcase our beautiful gardens and share our knowledge of plants and stories.

General Measures:

Growth in visitation and participation in education and public programs, new creative initiatives in public programs and gardens landscapes and horticulture.

a) Understand Our Current and Potential Visitors

A total of 1.4m visitors attended the *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden* exhibition, taking overall BGSB visitations to 3,364,781 for 2024/25. Overall satisfaction across all BGSB facilities met targets of 95%.

b) Creating Unique Educational Opportunities

A positive year for the education team with targets exceeded for the number of school-based participants in formal plant-based learning programs including Chihuly-related and unrelated visitations, Aboriginal STEM conference (students and teaching staff), Adelaide Botanic High School-led excursions onsite, and 222 teachers attending BGSB-led teacher professional development opportunities.

Strategic Plan Theme 3

Enhancing our organisation and our sustainability

Ensure a world-class workforce utilising efficient technologies and processes and ensure diverse and sustainable income.

General Measures

Positive staff outlook improved environmental sustainability, growth in volunteer engagement, growth in self-generated revenue.

c) Implementing Sustainability Measures Across All Our Organisations

Business Continuity & Emergency Response: We updated Adelaide Botanic Garden (ABG) site plans, Safe Work Method Statements; developed BGSB site plan for *Chihuly in the Botanic Garden*; supported by detailed risk assessment procedures.

d) Developing and nurturing our relationships with volunteers

Volunteers and philanthropic donors made significant contributions, with 250 volunteers joining the garden and contributing over 10,000 hours' service, approximating over \$400,000 value.

Agency specific objectives and performance

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Achieve overall visitation targets for all BGS sites combined	Successful delivery of key marketing and activation projects utilised to deliver 2.5M visitors across all sites as set out in Agency Statement targets	3,364,781 visitors recorded after the success of <i>Chihuly in the Botanic Garden</i> in significantly driving visitation from ABG.
Annual Appeal Campaign	Achieve an annual tied campaign that increases donor participation by 10% and can support the delivery of the project within the set time frame.	Successful completion of the Annual Appeal Campaign, with the ABG Foundation Biodiversity and Conservation scholarship awarded to Andrew McDougall for native orchid research.
	ABG Foundation Biodiversity and Conservation scholarship fund contribution to scientific research.	
Annual public-facing science communication, media and engagement	Support Development and Public Engagement teams to promote next generation of scientists, including series of Science tours, public presentations and blog articles.	In collaboration with the wider BGS organisation, several Herbarium tours and public presentations were delivered, including high level government tour groups, and stakeholder engagement during significant events such as the <i>Fungi of Kangaroo Island</i> book launch.
Annual Tree Care Program	Trees managed for health, vistas, conservation, and risk mitigation outcomes in accordance with management plans.	Proactive and reactive tree risk management works were delivered. Tree risk management systems and planning were developed.
Certificate III Horticulture traineeship training program for 10 places.	90% of Trainees completing their Certificate III in Horticulture.	Four replacement Trainees were employed this year. Full complement of 10 trainees are completing certification.
Development of concept material to define the next generation ideas for the Bicentennial Conservatory.	Completed documentation for the uplift for improved living collection and landscape: Bicentennial Conservatory.	Funding bids were prepared for restoration and uplift in collections and interpretation in the Conservatory.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Deliver the ABG Chihuly Project with engaging daytime and night-time programs tailored to diverse audiences, enhancing exhibition engagement and generating income.	750,000 visits, supported by the development and review of Spring, Summer and Autumn programming Deliver <i>In Full Colour: Dale Chihuly</i> exhibition in the Bicentennial Conservatory: Visitation of 66,000	1.4 million visits were made to ABG during the <i>Chihuly in the Botanic Garden</i> exhibition. Target Exceeded: 199,886 tickets sold to the Bicentennial Conservatory during this period.
Complete Bushfire preparedness site works and approved Bushfire Response Plans.	Site remediation works delivered and both Bushfire Response Plans endorsed on time. Mount Lofty Botanic Garden (MLBG) and Wittunga Botanic Garden (WBG) bushfire works completed.	Bushfire Risk Management plans reviewed and approved. Site mitigation works completed on time.
Complete market revaluations of existing commercial leases.	Complete revaluations and renew Blanco Horner, Diggers Lease and Bailey water licence.	Saville's Consultant report was completed in January 2025. Blanco Horner licensing renewal is complete. Diggers lease renewal was 95% complete as of EOFY 24/25.
Complete required operational WHS compliance and accredited training of operational workforce	100% compliance for licences, certification, and training.	Training schedule delivery is on track.
Complete Wayfinding and lighting project.	Contemporary wayfinding signage updated installed across ABG.	All works were completed ahead of Chihuly exhibition.
Continuous improvement upon contemporary internal communication challenges.	Ongoing development of data management and communication processes	BGSH teams completed the <i>People Matter</i> Staff Survey. Quarterly all-staff forum events were held and science presentations and forums promoted to wider organisation for staff knowledge and engagement. Microsoft Cloud services were implemented for improved data management.
Data management technology and collection management improvement	Integrate <i>BioData</i> requirements with Collections management needs.	Collaboration with DEW <i>BioData</i> program informed updates to Herbarium collections

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
	Investigate options for next steps of Specify 7 implementation (new Schema use). Documented <i>BioData</i> occurrence records data sharing requirements	management system, with progress contingent on <i>BioData</i> development.
	Establish test version of Specify 6/7 with revised schema use	BGSH contract obligations have been met.
Decommissioning of outdated <i>eFlora</i> and replacement with new <i>FloraSA</i> through BioData SA initiative	<i>FloraSA</i> technology solution including Content Management System user acceptance testing.	<i>FloraSA</i> web resource was developed in concert with DEW team. Core content was successfully tested, with further development in progress.
Deliver annual asset repair and replacement program: All prioritised works proceeding according to plan.	Ongoing maintenance of assets and all other regular maintenance.	Completed all mandatory testing and reporting across 4 sites. Reactive asset repairs delivered promptly. Procurement for engineering review of the Bicentennial Conservatory is now scheduled for 2025/26. Department for Infrastructure and Transport redeployees assisted long-term minor maintenance projects at ABG and MLBG.
Deliver base annual recurrent living collection and landscape horticulture care program for visitors.	Site Managers and Curators prepare and deliver on a Site Horticulture Delivery plan. Garden Rangers rostered for afterhours and weekend shifts.	Program completed with living collections and supporting landscape managed in accordance with management plans and strategies. Gardens appropriately staffed during approved opening hours.
Deliver BGSH annual suite of stewardship events for donors and corporate partners, in conjunction with ABGF.	Donor and stakeholder engagement events held regularly throughout the year.	Chihuly program, Annual Appeal and ABG Foundation - supported events were held, with significant growth in donor support.
Deliver <i>Chihuly in the Botanic Garden</i> associated horticulture and site works: before, during and post events.	Delivery of exhibition on site and installation horticulture preparation and post event remediation.	Horticultural preparation work increased to account for focus on key exhibition areas and increased visitation impacts.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
		Post-Chihuly decommissioning of site, and landscape horticulture remediation prioritised and completed.
Deliver minor capital works program : Projects approved for funding under DEW Minor Capital Works budget	Delivery of Minor Capital Works items to scope and budget.	Completed fencing repairs at MLBG, lighting upgrades to ABG (except offices). Treatment of rising damp at Schomburgk Pavilion completed.
Delivery of collection based data to external data aggregators.	Quarterly targets for data pipeline delivery met.	12,677 new specimens were recorded and 41,803 nomenclature updates completed. Resulting in improved <i>FloraSA</i> data quality.
Delivery of Science Seed Centre projects via external funding and partnerships.	Projects delivered according to contracts entered for 2024/25 and additional projects as capacity allowed.	Funding received from external grants and project contracts. Conservation actions were undertaken for threatened species recovery.
Develop and deliver the Chihuly-led Philanthropy and Cultivation Campaign.	Raise \$300K to acquire Chihuly <i>Jet and Crimson Fiori</i> artwork by April 2024. New asset added to the Cultural Collection.	Two Chihuly artworks were acquired through philanthropic donations of \$1.05m, <i>Glacier Ice and Lapis Chandelier</i> and <i>Jet and Crimson Fiori</i> .
Develop proactive and integrated pests and pathogen management across BGSH sites	Impact of destructive pest animals and pathogens reduced or mitigated.	Management programs implemented for ibis, rabbits, foxes, deer and goats.
DEW major initiative BioData SA includes incorporation of BGSH data.	<i>eFlora</i> revitalisation to <i>FloraSA</i> complete. BioData SA stage 2 Project plan for AWS based resource developed.	<i>FloraSA</i> developed and ready for public accessibility FY 25/26. BioData program under development, with high level of engagement with DEW.
Education programs and systems reviewed in line with recent curriculum changes to facilitate better outcomes for teachers and students, and integration with Science Plan targets.	Number of school-based participants in formal and informal plant-based learning programs <i>target</i> : 25000 students/teachers in BGSH guided programs. Professional learning opportunities for teachers	Target exceeded totalling over 40,000 participants: • 26,721 visits derived from the regular education program delivery. • 14,000 additional school-based participants were engaged during Chihuly Exhibition.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Engage professional pruner to reshape and prune for flowering of the western wisteria arbor.	Engage professional pruner to increase arbor health, shape and flowering. Staff learning opportunities utilised.	Project completed with training delivered during western wisteria arbor pruning event.
Growth across Sponsorship support and Corporate Partnership for BGS and ABG.	Achieve \$200K annual sponsorship support towards a suite of programs. New principal partner secured. 2-4 x proposals submitted per quarter.	Completed renewal with SA Power Network \$150K over 3 years. Commenced renewal of ECH partnership for FY 25/26.
Herbarium Collections Management:	Annual acceptance and processing of new vouchers (>5,000 pa typically) (note integration with data pipeline program in 2024/25). Next stage of post vault reorganisation collections management – genus audit.	Ongoing work to update collections, accepting new accessions from the community and deliver support for data sets requested by external stakeholders. Delivered annual collections incorporation and post-capital works collections management improvements program, allowing the completion of the Genus audit and new collections contributed to herbarium processed and documented.
Implement online volunteer management program: <i>Rosterfy</i>	Use of new volunteer management program integrated ahead of Chihuly program	250 new volunteers recruited during <i>Chihuly in the Botanic Garden exhibition</i> . <i>Rosterfy rolled out at EOFY 24/25</i>
Individual estate Business Continuity and Emergency Response and Safety managed.	All safe work documentation current and understood and implemented by users.	Documentation completed ahead of Chihuly Exhibition and for all other sites.
Maintain MLBG visitation of 300,000 visits	5% increase to 2022/23 figure, which was 266,945	291,938 visits recorded.
Maintain visitation to 22/23 level at ABG of approximately 1 million visitors	Visitation levels within +/- 5% of 2022/23 figure which was 1.319M.	1,925,631 visitors recorded for FY 24/25.
Maintain Wittunga visitation of 200,000 visits	WBG visitation consolidated at 200,000 level +/- 5%	219,286 visits recorded.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Maintained health and clean water in waterways. Manage and ensure compliance of the Aquifer Recovery and Storage System.	Maintained health and clean water in waterways across all sites.	Waterways managed, capital works required in the future to maintain functionality and water quality of the lakes. Aquifer system assets maintained to specification.
Management of Autumn Colours traffic and event activities	Development of strategy to improve visitor safety and experience; and Recommendation to Board	Completed successful program and traffic management within resourcing limitations. Parking management review will be undertaken in 2025/26
Management of the Grey Headed Flying Fox (GHFF) Colony, to ensure conservation and all regulatory requirements meet.	Complete GHFF Botanic Park camp management plan. Required for Board risk management and compliance with legislation	GHFF Management Plan draft received. WOMADelaide successfully delivered with minimal impact on GHFF camp.
Plant Selector uplift.	Agreement for shared funding with Green Adelaide	User consultation completed in December 2025. Technical resource assessment in progress. The project will extend into 2025/26 with Green Adelaide support.
	Move Plant Selector to new platform, revitalise and improve user interface and to generate site that can be managed directly by BGS staff	User interface requirements were specified and developed, allowing for the site test and public launch to commence early FY 25/26
Onsite interpretation: enhance signage for visitors	Signage refreshed, with Mediterranean Garden, ABG Wayfinding, and Chihuly as priorities.	All key signage delivered
Operate with a Work, Health, and Safety mindset.	Respond to new Board WHS reporting focus, work with DEW to develop WHS dashboard for Leadership and Board. Maintain DEW targets for workplace injury claims on a %FTE basis	In Progress & On Track for end of financial year 24/25

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Plant identification services: External and internal identification services delivered to agreements and contracts	Annual ID services provided (number of clients, value of income and number of items identified)	Funding from external grants and project contracts, some DEW support for managing contracts and staff services. Plant identification services provided per contracts and agreements, to forecast.
Professional development opportunities for all staff.	Staff presenting at conferences and events. Preparing articles and BGSB works featuring in media. No. of staff undertaking approved non-compulsory training	Completed: staff attended BGCI Singapore and Treenet conferences; Gwen Thomas and Audrey Abbie bursaries awarded; all mandatory training delivered. Certificate III Horticulture program maintained with full complement of 10 trainees, including four new hires.
Provision of business services:	BGSB achieves audit compliance. BGSB provides up-to-date and accurate financial information to staff, the Board and to Government.	Delivered monthly financial reporting, HR management, fleet management, leases, contract review and negotiation and commercial licenses. Annual audit commenced March 2025. Delivered business services contractual obligations.
Renewed Memorial Program for the next decade.	New memorial funding structure established. New business process including enquiries, leasing, and maintenance. <i>Treeplotter</i> system implemented for memorial assets.	This ongoing program is on track with increased focus post-Chihuly.
Replacement of air conditioners in MEB	New air conditioners installed and functioning as required in time for Chihuly Gift Shop.	Completed ahead of Chihuly program.
Restore boundary fencing at Lot 10 and 12 of Piccadilly property which includes area of spring water licence.	Continuous fencing preventing feral pests and public trespassers. Windows replaced in 1 of the leased cottages.	Fencing work in progress with completion due early FY 25/26. Repairs to windows of cottages complete.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Review website and refresh content and user experience in advance of Chihuly	Website visitation tracked. Improved user experience. Increased online donations. Website refresh will be undertaken as part of Chihuly project.	BGSH website was refreshed ahead of Chihuly including new systems for online donation capacity.
Science Research project delivery through external funding and partnerships. Priority biodiversity research and Conservation science	External grants and funding submissions executed.	Funding from external grants and project contracts was executed, with co-funding from the Board and DEW. Each project has made progress aligned to the external funding agreement milestone commitments.
Science technical advice contract delivery, support, and advice via externally funded and through partnerships	Annual contracts and service agreements (some long term, many in response to requests).	Successful delivery of fungal identification services. Chief Botanist advice to DEW and specific contract ID services coordinated by Collections Manager, and all contracts delivered.
Scientific publications	Publication delivery of major projects and annual journal issue.	Completed technical/scientific annual publication journal <i>Swainsona</i> Over 15 research papers describing 9 new truffle-like fungi and 16 new mushroom species accepted for publication. The publication of the landmark book <i>Fungi of Kangaroo Island and Beyond</i> was launched with support from ABG Foundation. Revised edition of <i>The Plants of the Adelaide Hills and Plains</i> book is now publication-ready.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Seed Bank Collections Management: Annual collections testing and germination viability	Annual germination testing data for collections tested	Testing of the Seed Bank seed viability after prolonged storage on track and progressed with approx. 30% of materials over 10 years old tested. Over 60% of samples demonstrated more than 50% viability.
Service Delivery of Chihuly Partnership Agreements	10% of Servicing costs secured partner/sponsor funding.	BGSH had 23 corporate sponsors engaged during Chihuly exhibition, 5 Major Partners; 7 Partners; 11 Supporting Partners. Sustainable alignment with Chihuly partners who will continue partnership beyond the exhibition identified for FY25/26 projects.
Support education and health and wellbeing outcomes for public and targeted audiences	Secure one-year funding to resource extension of Therapeutic Horticulture pilot, and wellbeing in schools program.	Funding was funding from the Thyne Reid Foundation.
	Target 150 schools (primary and secondary) schools across SA.	Education programs and systems were reviewed and aligned with curriculum changes.
	Develop digital suite - to reach more regional schools	School target met. A new digital program in collaboration with Chihuly and Makers Empire was delivered.
Thriving living collections and supporting landscape managed in accordance with management plans and strategies	Project delivered on time and within budget to required horticultural and landscape standards.	Improved presentation programs were completed for the Mediterranean Garden and International Rose Garden at ABG.
Undertake visitor research and program evaluation	Work with new partner/supplier (McGregor Tan) to undertake visitor research	10,210 visitors surveyed during <i>Chihuly in the Botanic Garden</i> exhibition, with 98% satisfaction reached. Overall BGSH visitation survey results demonstrated 95% satisfaction during FY.

Project Detail FY 24/25	KPI's as identifiable outputs in this current FY	Notes on Progress updates for EOFY 24/25
Update asset data in ARAMIS	ARAMIS data updated and current for all sites.	ABG, WBG completed but MLBG asset review delayed due to staff availability.
Volunteer Toolkit developed and made available to all staff working with volunteers	Toolkit to assist BGSB volunteer-management staff, including codes of conduct, IT policies, and safety assessments, actions from WHS audit.	This is an ongoing project, into FY 25/26.
Weed and flora biosecurity detection	Service agreements in place with external stakeholders, Landscape Boards, and Green Adelaide. Annual updates to Census of SA Plants and project / partnership delivery.	Project and routine detection of new weed species and distributions underway including partnerships with external funding

Corporate performance summary

The Board met seven times during 2024/25.

In accordance with the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978, Part 2-Administration, 11 – Conduct of business by the Board, the Board formed a quorum of five members at each meeting and the Presiding Member chaired during each session.

The attendance of appointed members averaged 96% percent across the year.

In accordance with the Act Part 2 –Administration, 12, the Director attended all Board meetings.

Member	Jul-24	Aug-24	Oct-24	Dec-24	Feb-25	Apr-25	Jun-25	Meetings attended	% of Total
Judy Potter	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
James Allen	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
Libby Raupach	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
Sally McLennan	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
Laura Parry	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
Andrew Kay	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	7	100%
Sophie Thomson	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	6	86%
Peter Kennedy	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	6	86%

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
BGSH traineeship program which aims to provide lifelong learning in the field of horticultural education and excellence.	The BGSH traineeship program continues to provide opportunities for ten horticultural trainees to develop their horticultural and botanical expertise. In 2024/25, 10 Certificate III Horticulture trainees commenced the program with 2 traineeships completed in 2024/25.

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
The Board maintains a register of attendance at meetings	There were 7 meetings held during 2024/25, with annual attendance of appointed members averaging 96% percent. All meetings achieved quorum.
The Board's Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee	The Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee met 4 times in 2024/25. The Terms of Reference were reviewed in May 2024.
The Board's Asset Management Subcommittee	The Asset Management Subcommittee met twice in 2024/25 and reviewed its Terms of Reference in January 2025.
The Board's People and Culture Subcommittee	The People and Culture Subcommittee met once in 2024/25.
The Board's Science Advisory Committee	The Science Advisory Subcommittee renewed membership in 2024/25 and prepared for a meeting in early FY 25/26.

Work health, safety and return to work programs.

Program name	Performance		
The Board abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures to meet whole of government and legislative requirements.	Work, health and safety and return to work programs are reported through the DEW Annual Report 2024/25, noting staff are employees of the Department for Environment and Water.		
Workplace injury claims	Current year 2024/25	Past year 2023-24	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims BGSB Board members	0	0	0%
Total new workplace injury claims	3	1**	+200%
Fatalities	0	0**	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0**	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0**	0%

*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment meeting the relevant threshold under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

**Staff employed by the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) to support the Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium. BGSB staff data is also reported in the DEW Annual Report 2024/25.

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2024/25	Past year 2023-24	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i>)	0	1	-100%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i>)	0	0	0%
Return to work costs**	Current year 2024/25	Past year 2023-24	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	26,908	181,528	-85%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	5,410	72,734	-93%

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
SAES 1 Director	1

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2024-2025 are attached to this report.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2024/25 Budget \$000s	2024/25 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	Past year 2023-24 Actual \$000s
Total Income				10,108
Total Expenses				8,271
Net Result				1,837
Total Comprehensive Result				18,821

Statement of Financial Position	2024/25 Budget \$000s	2024/25 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	Past year 2023-24 Actual \$000s
Current assets				4,514
Non-current assets				96,209
Total assets				100,723
Current liabilities				405
Non-current liabilities				0
Total liabilities				405
Net assets				100,318
Equity				100,318

Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	N/A	\$0

Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Business name	N/A	\$0
	Total	\$0

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/board-of-botanic-gardens-and-state-herbarium-annual-report-data)

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	N/A	\$923,849

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
McGregor Tan Research	Major event market survey/report	30,118
Sassafras PR	PR for major event	15,076
Studio Veld	e-Flora design work	46,753
Amanda Wheeler	Event sponsorship management	106,084
George Graetz	Major event media players and film editing	13,536
Novatech Creative Event Technical	Major event CCTV system, ABG	55,500
Mulloway Studio	Major event spatial designs, ABG	15,818
Tailored Trees	Arboriculture services	26,511
Nova Traffic Management	Traffic control at MLBG	52,595
Mechanical Vegetation	Arboriculture services	20,988
Sage Automation	Supply ABG gate counter system	16,000
Limestone Coast Bushcare	Services to Seed Centre projects	10,000
Appollo Lighting and Electrical	Event electrical/lighting services	52,270
	Total	461,249

NB: Interim figures until Financial Statements have been Audited by AG

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/board-of-botanic-gardens-and-state-herbarium-annual-report-data)

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
All types of fraud	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

The Board's Finance and Risk Management Subcommittee monitors, measures and mitigates the Board's exposure to all types of risk, including fraud. It does so under advice of the Auditor-General's Department.

The Board also implements the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) strategies to control and prevent fraud. DEW has established internal controls to mitigate the risks of fraud through updates from management and DEW's Risk Management and Audit Committee of Executive (RMAC).

The DEW Fraud and Corruption Prevention, Detection and Response Policy and supporting Procedure for the Reporting and Review of Suspected Incidents of Fraud or Corruption establish the respective roles and responsibilities across the Department relating to the identification of and response to fraud.

For the full reporting period, 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025, the Board is not aware of any suspected or actual instances of fraud of any type.

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/board-of-botanic-gardens-and-state-herbarium-annual-report-data)

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

Nil to report

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/board-of-botanic-gardens-and-state-herbarium-annual-report-data)

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Nil to report

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Nil to report

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	No. Complaints
			2024/25
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	4
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	1
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	3
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, outdated, or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0

Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	1
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	2
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	11
		Total	22

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	13
Number of negative feedback comments	57
Total number of feedback comments	70
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100%

Data for previous years is available at: [Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Annual Report Data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/board-of-botanic-gardens-and-state-herbarium-annual-report-data)

Service Improvements

Complaints regarding staff attitude are reviewed and, where appropriate, addressed with relevant staff and contractors with appropriate training, coaching and or advice applied where required.

Complaints with regard to safety are reviewed as a matter of priority and appropriate steps are taken to minimise or preferably, mitigate risks to safety.

Feedback and complaints are registered on Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, and Department for Environment and Water registers; reported to the Board; filed and taken into consideration as part of future planning and improvements for service delivery and design and future access initiatives.

Compliance Statement

Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
Department for Environment and Water has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2024-25

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Government of South Australia

Audit Office of South Australia

Level 9
State Administration Centre
200 Victoria Square
Adelaide SA 5000
Tel +618 8226 9640
ABN 53 327 061 410
enquiries@audit.sa.gov.au
www.audit.sa.gov.au

To the Presiding Member Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium (the Board) for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 30 June 2025, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2025
- notes, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member, the Director, Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium and the Chief Financial Officer of the Department for Environment and Water.

Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of the Board. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

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

Responsibilities of the Director and Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium and the Board for the financial report

The Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account any policy or funding decisions the government has made which affect the continued existence of the entity. The Director is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The Board is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 22(2) of the *Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978*, I have audited the financial report of the Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Presiding Member and the Director about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.



Daniel O'Donohue
Deputy Auditor-General

16 December 2025

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Certification of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

We certify that the:

- financial statements of the Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium:
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board;
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
 - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at the end of the financial year and the result of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



Judy Potter

Board Member

Board of the Botanic Gardens and
State Herbarium

12 December 2025



Michael Harvey

Director

Board of the Botanic Gardens and
State Herbarium

Department for Environment and Water

12 December 2025



Shaun O'Brien

Chief Financial Officer

Department for Environment and Water

12 December 2025

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Income			
Fees and charges	3.1	5 374	2 250
Grant revenues	3.2	4 087	1 463
Resources received free of charge	3.3	2 160	5 350
Interest	5.1	201	211
Other income	3.4	2 169	834
Total income		13 991	10 108
Expenses			
Depreciation	5.5	3 321	2 655
Reimbursement of DEW expenses	4.2	3 151	2 287
Supplies and services	4.1	5 963	3 305
Board member expenses	2.3	123	123
Other expenses	4.3	69	(99)
Total expenses		12 627	8 271
Net result		1 364	1 837
Other Comprehensive Income			
Changes in property, plant and equipment asset revaluation surplus		-	18 559
Total other comprehensive income		-	18 559
Total comprehensive result		1 364	20 396

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	5 517	3 986
Receivables	5.2	249	341
Inventories	5.3	197	187
Total current assets		5 963	4 514
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5.5	95 956	96 209
Total non-current assets		95 956	96 209
Total assets		101 919	100 723
Current liabilities			
Payables	6.1	237	405
Total current liabilities		237	405
Total liabilities		237	405
Net assets		101 682	100 318
Equity			
Retained earnings		45 471	44 107
Asset revaluation surplus		56 211	56 211
Total equity		101 682	100 318

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2023		37 652	42 270	79 922
Net result for 2023-24		-	1 837	1 837
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of property, plant and equipment		18 559	-	18 559
Total comprehensive result for 2023-24		18 559	1 837	20 396
Balance at 30 June 2024		56 211	44 107	100 318
Net result for 2024-25		-	1 364	1 364
Total comprehensive result for 2024-25		-	1 364	1 364
Balance at 30 June 2025		56 211	45 471	101 682

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Cash inflows</i>			
Fees and charges		6 011	2 585
Receipts from grants		4 126	1 609
Interest received		199	215
Other receipts		2 234	864
<i>Cash outflows</i>			
Payments for supplies and services		(6 702)	(3 383)
Reimbursement of DEW expenses		(3 151)	(2 287)
Net GST paid to DEW		(83)	(142)
Board member payments		(123)	(123)
Other payments		(36)	(19)
Net cash from operating activities		2 475	(681)
Cash flows from investing activities			
<i>Cash outflows</i>			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	5.5	(944)	(85)
Net cash used in investing activities		(944)	(85)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1 531	(766)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		3 986	4 752
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	5.1	5 517	3 986

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2025

1. About the Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

The Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium (the Board) is a reporting entity, established pursuant to the *Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium Act 1978* (the Act).

1.1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in compliance with:

- section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards applying simplified disclosures.

For the purposes of preparing the financial statements, the Board is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are prepared based on a 12 month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000). The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is identified in the notes to the financial statements.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- When the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable; and
- Receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

The Board is grouped with the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) for GST purposes, and accordingly DEW prepares the Business Activity Statement on behalf of the Board via the grouping provisions of the GST legislation. Notwithstanding the use of these grouping provisions, intercompany cash alignment occurs to ensure the Board either recovers the net amount of GST recoverable from or disburses the amount payable to the ATO from DEW. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is reflected as a part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal 12 month operating cycle have been classified as current assets. Liabilities that are due to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period or for which the Board has no right to defer the settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period are classified as current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Material accounting policy information is set out throughout the notes.

1.2. Objectives and programs

Strategic context

The Board, on behalf of the South Australian community, has stewardship for the lands and premises placed under the control of the Board.

The objectives of the Board are to ensure the maintenance and development of the South Australian Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium, for the use and enjoyment of members of the public as well as supporting scientific research and educational activities.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

1.2. Objectives and programs (continued)

Financial arrangements

The financial activities of the Board are administered through the Botanic Gardens Endowment and Commercial Fund (the Fund) in accordance with the Act. The Fund is an interest bearing deposit account with the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) pursuant to section 21(1) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

DEW conducts a large number of activities directed towards meeting the Board's responsibilities under the Act. Due to DEW receiving appropriation funding for the operation of the BGSB (including the payment of staff salaries), the revenue and expenditure relating to those activities are recognised in DEW's financial statements rather than the Board's. Activities undertaken by DEW in support of the administration of the Act and the Board are disclosed in note 7.1.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Board has delegated certain functions to officers within DEW who provide certain technical and administrative support including the use of certain plant and equipment, office accommodation and various administrative services.

The costs of the services provided that are identifiable with the activities of the Board and can be measured reliably, are met by the Board. Other support services that are not identifiable and / or cannot be measured reliably are provided free of charge and have not been recognised in these financial statements.

Services to the Board are provided by personnel employed by DEW; hence no employee benefits or related provisions are included in the Board's financial statements. Employee benefits relating to relevant employees are reflected in the financial statements of DEW.

Programs of the Board

In achieving its objectives, the Board conducts its services through a single program, Botanic Gardens Management. The purpose of this program is to manage the natural and cultural resources of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium to advance plant appreciation, knowledge and conservation through our natural and cultural collections and programs. As the Board conducts its services through a single program, a Statement of Expenses and Income by Program has not been prepared.

2. Board, committees and employees

2.1. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Board include the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, the Presiding Member, the Director and the other members of the Board who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Board.

Total compensation for key management personnel was \$373 000 in 2025 and \$374 000 in 2024.

The compensation disclosed in this note excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account under section 6 the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties

Apart from the remuneration for key management personnel, the Board does not have material transactions with key management personnel, their close family members and/or their controlled or jointly controlled entities.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

2.2. Board and committee members

Members of the board during the 2025 financial year were:

Board of the Botanic Gardens & State Herbarium

J Potter (Presiding Member)

J M Allen

E A Raupach

A Kay

L J Parry

P H Kennedy

S A McLennan

S T Thomson

R Di Monte

Board and committee remuneration

The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	2025	2024
\$0	1	-
\$1 - \$19 999	8	7
\$20 000 - \$39 999	-	1
Total number of members	9	8

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$117 000 (2024: \$117 000). Remuneration of members includes sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, and any related fringe benefits tax.

2.3. Board members expenses

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Board and committees fees	105	105
Remuneration on-costs - superannuation	12	12
Remuneration on-costs - other	6	6
Total board member expenses	123	123

Board member expenses include all board fees and other costs including superannuation. These are recognised when incurred.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

3. Income

3.1. Fees and charges

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Garden functions	3 302	604
Car parking	1 403	1 231
Professional services	560	359
Sale of goods	105	52
Expiation fees	4	4
Total fees and charges	5 374	2 250

Car park revenue is collected at the Adelaide Botanic Garden (ABG) and Botanic Park and is recognised as income on receipt.

Garden function revenue is recognised when invoiced after the completion of the event or season. In 2024-25, \$2.993 million of fees and charges were received as a direct result of the Chihuly Exhibition, relating primarily to the ticketed events held within the garden.

Professional services revenue relates to recovery programs of threatened species, education programs, plant identification, and the review of pest plants. This revenue is recognised on receipt.

3.2. Grant revenues

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Grants received from other entities within the SA Government	3 944	1 320
Private industry and local government	143	143
Total grant revenues	4 087	1 463

Grant revenue is recognised on receipt.

Grants received from other entities within the SA Government includes a grant from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet for the Chihuly Exhibition for \$3.700 million (2024: \$1.300 million).

3.3. Resources received free of charge

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Park infrastructure	1 927	398
Plant and equipment	214	15
Roads, tracks and trails	17	1 043
Buildings and improvements	2	3 894
Total resources received free of charge	2 160	5 350

Assets transferred in 2024-25 relate to a night activation security system at Adelaide Botanic Garden, and a sewer system at Mount Lofty Botanic Gardens.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

3.4. Other income

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Sponsorships, donations, commissions and bequests	1 290	96
Property rental and related income	467	343
Reimbursement of expenses	401	313
Movement in Inventory	10	-
Insurance recoveries	-	46
Asset related adjustments	-	16
Other sundry revenue	1	20
Total other income	2 169	834

In 2024-25, \$1.191 million of other income is directly related to the Chihuly Exhibition and includes \$1.100 million of sponsorships received.

Asset related adjustments relate to assets that were not previously recognised by the Board which have been identified through asset stocktake processes during the financial year. Revenue is recognised at the time the asset is recognised.

All other revenue is recognised upon receipt.

4. Expenses

4.1. Supplies and services

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Fee for service	2 122	638
Exhibition and promotional	1 004	912
Accommodation	649	149
General administration	624	270
Grounds management	510	733
Minor works and equipment	468	272
Scientific and technical services	272	183
Information technology	17	69
Other	297	79
Total supplies and services	5 963	3 305

In 2024-25, \$4.299 million of supplies and services expenditure was incurred in relation to the Chihuly Exhibition. These supplies and services include marketing, electrical, security, temporary staff, printing and other contractors engaged to deliver the Chihuly exhibition at the Adelaide Botanic Garden.

Grounds management expenses are incurred through maintenance and repairs of assets across Adelaide Botanic Garden, Mount Lofty Botanic Garden and Wittunga Botanic Garden sites. These include works for tree maintenance for risk reduction and other works to enhance the comfort and safety of visitors, contractors and staff.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

4.2. Reimbursement of DEW expenses

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Department for Environment and Water (Project costs)*	2 496	1 632
Department for Environment and Water**	655	655
Total reimbursement of DEW expenses	3 151	2 287

*Contracts are predominantly signed in the name of the Board to deliver professional services. This results in funding being received directly by the Board and then paid to DEW to reimburse costs incurred for contract staff salaries and wages who provide the professional services.

**These costs are incurred under a MoAA with DEW to cover the delivery of corporate service functions to the Board and support maintenance and other enhancement works in the garden.

4.3. Other expenses

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Audit fees	33	32
Capital project costs not capitalised	18	-
Property, plant and equipment write offs	18	-
Movement in Inventory	-	17
Bad and doubtful debts	-	(148)
Total other expenses	69	(99)

Audit fees paid/payable to the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* were \$33 000 (2024: \$32 000). No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

5. Assets

All financial assets are measured at amortised cost.

5.1. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	5 517	3 986
Total cash and cash equivalents	5 517	3 986

Deposits with the Treasurer

The Botanic Gardens Endowment and Commercial Fund was established in accordance with the Act. The Fund is an interest bearing deposit account with DTF pursuant to section 21 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

Deposits at call and with the Treasurer earn a floating interest rate, based on daily bank deposit rates. Interest earned during the year was \$201 000 (2024: \$211 000).

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

5.2. Receivables

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Contractual receivables		
Debtors	104	282
Total contractual receivables	104	282
Statutory receivables		
GST input tax recoverable from DEW	32	44
Total statutory receivables	32	44
Accrued revenue	95	15
Prepayments	18	-
Total receivables	249	341

Contractual receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Contractual receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Statutory receivables do not arise from contracts with customers. They are recognised and measured similarly to contractual receivables but are not classified as financial instruments for disclosure purposes.

Receivables, accrued revenues and prepayments are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

5.3. Inventories

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
<u>Current - held for sale</u>		
Inventories held for sale - at cost		
Finished goods held for sale - at cost	197	187
Total inventories	197	187

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost or their net realisable value.

Cost for inventory is measured on the basis of the first in, first out method. Net realisable value is determined using the estimated sales proceeds less costs incurred in marketing, selling and distribution to customers.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

5.4. Useful life and depreciation of non-financial assets

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset classes as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Park Infrastructure	7-80
Plant and Equipment	5-25
Roads, Tracks and Trails	3-35
Other Assets	65
Buildings and Improvements	15-70

Review of accounting estimates

Assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate.

5.5. Property, plant and equipment by asset class

Reconciliation 2024-25	Land \$'000	Buildings and improvements \$'000	Park infrastructure \$'000	Roads, tracks and trails \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2024	26 767	44 518	11 873	2 051
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-
Assets received for nil consideration	-	2	1 927	17
Transfers to/(from) capital works in progress	-	58	-	-
Capital WIP - expensed in current period	-	-	-	-
Write-offs	-	(18)	-	-
Depreciation	-	(1 823)	(1 024)	(197)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	26 767	42 737	12 776	1 871
Gross carrying amount				
Gross carrying amount	26 767	95 739	111 528	6 857
Accumulated depreciation	-	(53 002)	(98 752)	(4 986)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	26 767	42 737	12 776	1 871
	Plant and equipment \$'000	Other \$'000	Capital work in progress \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2024	2 038	8 846	116	96 209
Acquisitions	-	944	-	944
Assets received for nil consideration	214	-	-	2 160
Transfers to/(from) capital works in progress	40	-	(98)	-
Capital WIP - expensed in current period	-	-	(18)	(18)
Write-offs	-	-	-	(18)
Depreciation	(273)	(4)	-	(3 321)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	2 019	9 786	-	95 956
Gross carrying amount				
Gross carrying amount	7 321	9 790	-	258 002
Accumulated depreciation	(5 302)	(4)	-	(162 046)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	2 019	9 786	-	95 956

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

5.5. Property, plant and equipment by asset class (continued)

The assets presented above do not meet the definition of an investment property.

Acquisitions of \$0.944 million related to the Chihuly Chandelier and Fiori artwork and represents the value paid to Chihuly Studio on purchase of the two assets.

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board with a value equal to or in excess of \$10 000 is capitalised, otherwise it is expensed. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board is recorded at fair value. Detail about the Board's approach to fair value is set out in note 9.1.

Revaluation of property, plant and equipment is undertaken on a regular cycle as detailed in note 9.1. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

Land controlled by the Board comprises of Crown land dedicated to the Board or held by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water on behalf of the Board. The land generally has restrictions on use imposed by statute or by regulation. These restrictions have been taken into account by the independent valuers (Office of the Valuer-General).

6. Liabilities

All financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

6.1. Payables

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Current</u>		
Contractual payables	203	373
Accrued expenses	34	32
Total payables	237	405

Payables and accrued expenses are recognised for all amounts owing but unpaid. All payables are non-interest bearing.

Contractual payables

Contractual payables are normally settled within 15 days from the date the invoice is received.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

7. Other disclosures

7.1. Activities undertaken by Department for Environment and Water

The following details the expenses and revenues incurred by DEW in performing activities associated with the Board.

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Expenses		
Employee benefits expenses	9 286	8 166
Supplies and services	3 987	4 656
Depreciation	750	607
Assets donated to the Board	2 160	5 350
Total expenses	16 183	18 779
Revenues		
Sale of Goods and Services	2 592	2 185
Other Income	1 798	592
Total revenues	4 390	2 777

8. Outlook

8.1. Unrecognised commitments

The Board had no unrecognised contractual commitments at 30 June 2025.

8.2. Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

The Board is not aware of the existence of any contingent assets or contingent liabilities.

8.3. Events after the reporting period

There were no events that occurred after the reporting period for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

9. Measurement and risk

9.1. Fair Value

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

Initial recognition

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition.

Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructure of administrative arrangements, then the assets are recognised at book value (that is the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure).

State Herbarium Collection

The State Herbarium is the state's major provider of authoritative data and information on the plants, algae and fungi of South Australia. The collections of the State Herbarium comprise a large sustainable sample of the flora of South Australia, Australia and the world, particularly Mediterranean regions. These specimens, of which there are approximately 1 million, while providing a unique scientific resource require considerable maintenance.

The State Herbarium Collection is a heritage asset which is considered so unique that it is not capable of reliable measurement. Hence, the value of the collection has not been recognised in the Financial Statements.

Restrictions on use - land

Section 14 of the Act states that the Board may not dispose of any interest in land vested in it, nor may it be divested of the control of any land placed under its control, except in pursuance of a resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament.

A market based method was used when by comparing property data to that of similar sales with consideration of restrictions on use and/ or zoning, property size and shape, topography, location, sale date and market movement, if any, and other relevant factors specific to the land being valued. Restrictions on the use of the land has been taken into account by the independent valuer.

Board of Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

9.1. Fair Value (continued)

Revaluation

Property, plant and equipment are subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

Non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of a non-current asset or group of assets is only performed when its fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Asset classes that did not satisfy these criteria and are therefore deemed to be at fair value are:

- Plant and equipment.

The Board undertakes revaluation of its land, buildings and improvements, and other infrastructure assets via a Certified Practising Valuer or internal estimates based on indices or recent transactions. A valuation appraisal by a Certified Practising Valuer is performed at least every six years.

Non-current tangible assets that are acquired between revaluations are held at cost until the next valuation, when they are revalued to fair value.

For all property, plant and equipment assets that have been subject to an independent revaluation both the replacement cost and the associated accumulated depreciation have been presented on a gross basis.

Property, plant and equipment assets due for revaluation are assessed to determine whether they should be classified as generic assets or unique assets.

For land assets that have been subject to an independent revaluation, consideration was given to the impact to Fair Market Value as result of restrictions on the sale or use of assets. Importantly, the government's mandate that specified services be provided to the public that imposes restrictions on the sale or use of numerous government assets because the entity is not able to sell or change the use of the asset, unless approved by government.

The following table lists details of asset classes subject to independent revaluations:

Class of asset	Date of last independent revaluation	Name of Valuer	Fair Value Input level	Fair Value Approach
Land	30 June 2024	Office of the Valuer-General	3	Market
Buildings and improvements (data dictionary & unique assets)	1 July 2021	Valcorp Aust. Pty Ltd	3	Cost
Park infrastructure (data dictionary & unique assets)	1 July 2021	Valcorp Aust. Pty Ltd	3	Cost
Roads, tracks and trails	30 June 2025	CBRE Valuation and Advisory Services	3	Cost
Other items – library collections	30 June 2024	Mr Michael Treloar, Antiquarian and member of ANZAAB, ILAB and AAADAY	3	Cost
Other items - Fine Art Collections and Artefacts	30 June 2024	Tusmore Antiques, Mr Anthony Hurl, BA, MSAA, MAASA, CINOA, Fine Art Valuer.	3	Cost