



**Government
of South Australia**

**ALINYTJARA WILURARA LANDSCAPE
BOARD
2023-24 Annual Report**

ALINYTJARA WILURARA LANDSCAPE BOARD

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2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT for the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

To:

The Hon Dr Susan Close MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science

Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *Landscape South Australia Act 2019 and Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020* 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 ALINYTJARA WILURARA LANDSCAPE BOARD by:

Brenz Saunders

Presiding Member

Date 26 November 2024

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brenz Saunders', written over a horizontal line.

Reconciliation statement / Engagement with First Nations Australians

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board acknowledges Anangu as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters we live and work upon. The board has made a strong commitment to reconciliation and to strengthening partnerships with First Nations across the state by being a signatory to a historic [Statement of Commitment from South Australia's landscape boards](#).

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board values the opportunity to achieve stronger relationships with Aboriginal people and organisations in South Australia, support greater economic prosperity and wellbeing for Aboriginal people and communities, and look after our Country and sea better, together.

From the Presiding Member

On behalf of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board I am pleased to present the Annual Report 2023-24 which shares some of the great activities being accomplished across the organisation as well as the challenges being experienced that are impacting our effectiveness which is being adequately managed to ensure we meet our community and statutory obligations.

The 2023-24 financial year was a challenging one for the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board. It started on a positive note: at its first meeting of the year, the board reviewed a comprehensive report on the outcomes from the previous five years of funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program (LNP2). The report showed that all targets and milestones were met, with some exceeding expectations.

Unfortunately, negotiations for the next five years of funding through the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust (NHT), were delayed substantially. The Board was ultimately successful in becoming a delivery partner for the NHT program and received a small amount of NHT funding late in 2023-24.

Despite the pace of the Australian Government negotiations, the Board persisted in its efforts to deliver positive outcomes for the region, using funding from the South Australian Government, a limited extension of NLP2 funding for the malleefowl project, along with the eventual NHT funding.

A further challenge arose in January, when former Chair Mick Haynes retired, leaving the position unfilled for the remainder of the financial year. Again, the Board and staff rose to the challenge and continued to pursue its strategy of forging stronger partnerships with Anangu communities and organisations in and around our region.

The AW Board, along with South Australia's other regional landscape boards, has made a strong commitment to reconciliation and to strengthening partnerships with First Nations across the state by re-committing to their Statement of Commitment. Further to this, the Board began development on its own Statement of Commitment outlining its determination to fostering meaningful and respectful partnerships with Anangu communities of the region and recognising the invaluable knowledge and cultural heritage that Anangu communities contribute to the stewardship and sustainable management of natural resources.

The Board built on its national leadership in the battle against buffel grass, the ecological transformer weed that threatens remote communities, Anangu cultural sites and activities, and entire ecological systems across our region and beyond. Its advocacy for a coordinated national approach to managing the threat included contributing to a successful campaign to have buffel declared a weed in the Northern Territory and advancing the nomination of buffel as a Key Threatening Process under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999. The Board is also leading an expression of interest for buffel to be recognised as a Weed of National Significance, and a biological control target under the National Biological Control Pipeline Strategy.

As the incoming Presiding Member of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board, I'm heartened by its successes to date and look forward working with our regional partners to continue achieving positive results for our Country.



Brenz Saunders

Presiding Member

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

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Overview: about the landscape board

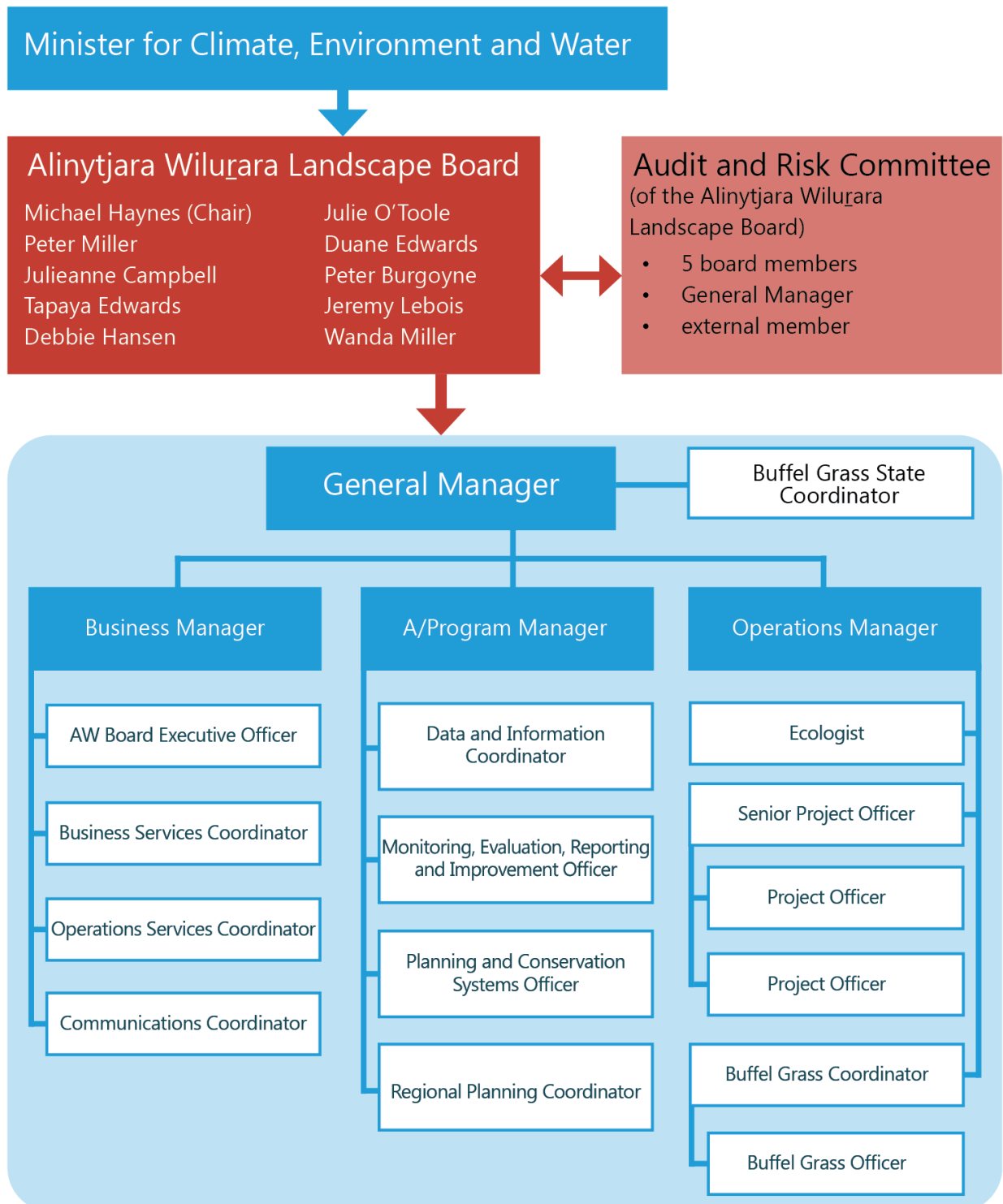
Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	<p>The Alinytjara Wilurara (AW) Landscape Board (the Board) was established on 9 January 2020 under the provisions of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.</p> <p>The board undertakes an active role in managing South Australia's landscapes through the preparation and implementation of a regional landscape plan which is the principal document guiding the management of the state's landscape in the AW Region.</p>
Our Vision	A healthy and valued region, managed responsibly now, for the future benefit of people and Country.
Our Values	<p>As an all-Aboriginal board, we feel the close connection and responsibility of our ancestors for ensuring that our land and sea and all that lives there is cared for now and for the generations to come.</p> <p>The aspirations of the region's Traditional Owners in caring for Country are the basis of what our board value. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional and Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and places of significance • People on Country • Important plants • Important animals • Coast and marine ecosystems. • Grasslands, dune and desert • Mulga woodlands • Nullarbor Plain • Ranges and rocky outcrops • Groundwater • Surface water • Healthy soil • Leadership
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	<p>The objectives of the board are to support and enhance ecologically sustainable development by establishing an integrated scheme to promote the use and management of the natural resources that make up or contribute to our state's landscape in an integrated manner that:</p> <p>(a) Recognises and protects the intrinsic values of landscapes and recognises the interconnection between different elements of</p>

	<p>landscapes, including in relation to various aspects of the state's natural resources; and</p> <p>(b) Supports the state's primary production and other industries and a sustainable state economy, supports resilient communities and natural and built environments, and supports the interests of Aboriginal peoples; and</p> <p>(c) Provides for the protection, enhancement, restoration and sustainable management of:</p> <p>(i) land, soil and water resources; and</p> <p>(ii) native fauna and flora, especially so that they are resilient in the face of change; and</p> <p>(d) provides, protects and conserves biodiversity, and insofar as is reasonably practicable, supports and encourages the restoration or rehabilitation of ecological systems and processes that have been lost or degraded, and promotes the health of ecosystems so that they are resilient in the face of change; and</p> <p>(e) recognises that climate change is a significant factor in our environment (including a recognition of the need for mitigation and adaptation); and</p> <p>(f) provides for the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of animals and plants that may have an adverse effect on the environment, primary production or the community; and</p> <p>(g) provides the collaborative management of native animals that adversely affect the natural or built environments, people or primary production or other industries; and</p> <p>(h) provides educational initiatives and provides support mechanisms to strengthen the skills, knowledge and capacity of people to sustainably manage natural resources; and</p> <p>(i) supports initiatives or action to facilitate the increased capacity of people to engage in processes under this Act, including through the provision of information relevant to the protection, enhancement or management of landscapes.</p>
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Our organisational structure

Section 15 of the Landscape SA Act 2019 provides for the appointment of the board. The board comprises of at least five and not more than nine members plus a deputy member, all appointed by the Minister for Environment and Water. Each of the appointed members of the board is a person who, in the opinion of the Minister, meets requirements of section 16 of the Landscape SA Act 2019.



Changes to the Board

During 2023-24 there were no changes to the Board'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, Environment and Water.

The Board

Name	Position	Term Dates	Subcommittee
Michael Haynes	Presiding Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024	Member, Audit & Risk Management Committee
Peter Miller	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024	Chair, Audit & Risk Management Committee
Tapaya Edwards	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 31/07/2024 01/08/2024 – 30/01/2027	
Debbie Hansen	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 31/07/2024 01/08/2024 – 30/01/2027	Member, Audit & Risk Management Committee
Peter Burgoyne	Deputy Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024	Member, Audit & Risk Management Committee
	Board Member	31/01/2024 – 30/01/2027	
Julie O'Toole	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 30/01/2027	

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Duane Edwards	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 30/01/2027	
Wanda Miller	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 30/01/2027	
Jeremy Lebois	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 31/07/2024 01/08/2024 – 30/01/2027	
Julieanne Campbell	Board Member	01/03/2023 – 30/01/2024 31/01/2024 – 31/07/2024	Member, Audit & Risk Management Committee

Mick Haynes
Presiding Member



Jeremy Lebois
Maralinga Tjarutja



Debbie Hansen
Maralinga Tjarutja



Peter Miller
Far West Coast



Duane Edwards
Yalata



Wanda Miller
Far West Coast



Tapaya Edwards
APY Lands



Julie O'Toole
Tallaringa



Peter Burgoyne
Far West Coast



Julieanne Campbell
APY Lands



Our staff

As per section 35 of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.

Legislation administered by the Name of Landscape Board/GA

Landscape South Australia Act 2019

Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

- Department for Environment and Water
- Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board
- Green Adelaide
- Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
- Kangaroo Island Landscape Board
- Limestone Coast Landscape Board
- Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
- Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
- South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board
- Environment Protection Authority
- Green Industries SA
- SA Water

The Board's performance

Performance at a glance

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board's performance is guided by its Regional Landscape Plan 2021-2026 and implemented through an annual business plan that outlines its operations. The 2023-24 year has posed challenges for the board, particularly with the Chair's retirement in January 2024, as it strives to meet strategic objectives while negotiating contractual agreements with the Australian Government. Some of the 2023-24 achievements include:

- The 2024-25 Business Plan was endorsed at its board meeting in June 2024 and was noted by the Minister.
- The Board endorsed the nomination of new members to the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board and has also recommended to the Minister that one of the nominated individuals be appointed as the Presiding Member.
- Board members continue to represent the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board on various boards and advisory committees, ensuring regional voices are heard and that local issues are considered in decision-making.
- The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board was a finalist in the First Nations Landcare Collaboration category at this year's SA Landcare Awards.
- The board received a \$450,000 allocation from the Landscape Priorities Fund grant (round 4) for a two-year project focused on feral predator control in the Yalata area. This funding is intended to protect the eastern hooded plover and malleefowl populations within the Yalata Indigenous Protected Area (IPA).
- The board maintains a strong partnership with the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA), and board member, Ms Wanda Miller has been appointed as the female director for the southeast ward on the IDA board. IDA plays a role in connecting the board with ranger groups and other Aboriginal organisations across Australia's deserts.
- As leaders in managing buffel grass, the board urged Hon. Kate Worden, Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water Security (NT), to declare it under the NT Weeds Management Act 2001. On July 5, 2024, buffel grass was officially designated as a declared weed in the NT.
- Invited by the Australian Government, the Board has developed an Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan. This plan outlines strategies to mitigate emergencies that result from natural disasters like floods and fires, and identifies the resources required to support the environment and community post-natural disaster emergency.

The Board has successfully become a Regional Delivery Partner and preferred provider for the Commonwealth of Australia, delivering environmental protection, sustainable agriculture and natural resource management services in the Alinytjara Wilurara management unit

Landscape board objectives and performance

Healthy Soils		
Regional Priorities/ Board Objectives	Focus Areas/Regional Strategies	Performance
Be strong leaders to make effective decisions by exploring options to deliver better outcomes.	<p>Building effective partnerships to maintain regional relevance and support emerging Aboriginal leaders.</p> <p>Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to access resources that facilitate traditional and ecological knowledge transfer.</p>	<p>AW developed working relationships with the Indigenous Desert Alliance and Manager of Culture and Country (at Uluru) to support project activities relating to buffel grass management) a key threat to the transmission of traditional and ecological knowledge transfer.</p> <p>Nganngi Kanyini (Looking After Frogs) project (Grass Roots Grant 2023-2024).</p> <p>AW Landscape Board supported an exchange program between Aboriginal rangers through the allocation of the Grass Roots Grant project to the APY Lands Ranger group. In March 2023, seven rangers and three APY staff travelled to the Kosciuszko National Park in the Snowy Mountains to liaise and work with the Wiradjuri and Walgalu Rangers of NSW. This was an incredible experience for all involved and saw the APY rangers develop their skills and understanding around frog monitoring as well as form close friendships with the NSW</p>

		<p>rangers. The NSW rangers visited APY in August 2024 to see how APY rangers manage fauna species and the landscape.</p> <p>A trip was organised with Traditional Owners and school kids at the monitoring site to talk about the frog monitoring project and foster opportunities for knowledge transfer.</p> <p>School programs</p> <p>Ceduna Area School accompanied AW staff and Far West Coast rangers to undertake the annual pitfall trapping survey in the Yellabinna Regional Reserve. Students thoroughly enjoyed the camp whilst participating in the survey and many of the students hope to pursue a career in environmental conservation.</p> <p>AW worked with Oak Valley Anangu School and Oak Valley Rangers on two-way science, teaching students about wildlife camera grids and malleefowl nest mounds.</p> <p>A school trip was organised in Kalka by the ranger team to the frog monitoring sites in order to incorporate learnings into the two-way science program.</p>
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		<p>Engagement and employment of Aboriginal Ranger groups.</p> <p>A total of 20 rangers per project activities were employed as part of AWLB operations. This included a total of 72 days of ranger work and a total of 540 hours. Project activities included camel removal operations; buffel grass surveillance and control; malleefowl monitoring and camera grid maintenance; pitfall trapping for small vertebrate survey; and cat and fox control.</p> <p>Two-way knowledge transfer</p> <p>AW regional ecologist attended quarterly Warru Recovery Team meetings with APY Warru rangers as well as their AGM. The meetings support the ecological and traditional knowledge transfer between Anangu rangers, ecologists and zoo staff as part of the ongoing maintenance of the Warru program.</p> <p>AW regional ecologist attended a ranger exchange workshop focussing on malleefowl management across the Great Victoria Desert. The workshop was run by the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) in November 2023 and included ~50 Aboriginal rangers from across the region.</p>
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<p>Work with all traditional landholders and key stakeholders to keep Country strong, productive and healthy</p>	<p>Supporting landholding authorities and Traditional Owners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adopt sustainable pastoral practices to reduce soil erosion - participate in carbon farming opportunities that support sustainable pastoral practices. 	<p>1.5 FTE of Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator (SAF) were employed in 2023-2024 to support training and engagement in sustainable pastoral practices.</p> <p>SAF developed a works program to train and engage Anangu in sustainable pastoral practices (e.g. Athel pine removal, sustainable stocking rates using Landscape and Livestock Management Centres).</p> <p>The APY SAF facilitated discussions with APY Anangu pastoral lease holder around sustainable stocking rates and water points for the Landscape and Livestock Management Centres at Puntitjara and Kenmore Park.</p> <p>The Adelaide SAF attended National SAF conference and training workshops in carbon farming practices as well as SA Sustainable Agriculture Network Community of Practice.</p> <p>AWLB was asked to review AW's Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan and maps and offer guidance on the plan and any additional community dissemination efforts. After reviewing the maps, the board agreed to include culturally significant pathways that require protection, acknowledge the lack of fire response and incorporate weather stations for protection as they gather climatic data.</p>
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Pest plant and animal control		
Regional Priorities/ Board Objectives	Focus Areas/Regional Strategies	Performance
Keep Country strong by management aimed at the eradication of weeds and feral animals.	Working with key stakeholders to support Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to control priority pest plant and animals.	<p>Malleefowl protection in the Great Victorian Desert (Supporting Communities Manage Pest Animals and Weeds – NLP2 program extension)</p> <p>This investment was for additional strategic feral animal and weed control (camels, foxes, cats and buffel grass) in the Great Victorian Desert, supporting existing Malleefowl populations in the region. As part of the project, the following pest and weed control activities were undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buffel grass surveillance was undertaken over 17282 ha from July to November 2023. - Buffel grass treated over 133 ha. - Cats and foxes were controlled across 6798 ha. - 229 camels were culled across 26,751 ha. <p>Camel and buffel grass control in the AW region (State Landscape Priority Fund)</p>

		<p>Using acting GPS collars tracking on camels, a camel cull was organised by AWLB. A total of 136 camels were culled across 459,221 ha. Due to seasonal conditions, the camels were very dispersed and not congregating as expected. The cull was organised before the camels headed back to the AW border where a huge rain event had just occurred.</p> <p>Mantangka munu talingka ngura Nganamara-ku (Malleefowl) atunypangkutjaku, Great Victoria Desert, SA (National Heritage Trust)</p> <p>Pest animal surveys were undertaken for the first time in the Maralinga Tjarutja lands to provide baseline data at that site providing a better understanding of the presence/absence of cats and foxes at that site and potential impact on malleefowl and sandhill dunnart populations. The control program will follow, starting in 2024-2025 and will contribute to at least stabilising the malleefowl and sandhill dunnart population trajectories in preferred habitats within AW region, compared to the 2023 baseline.</p> <p>Two Buffel grass surveillance trips were undertaken along the railway line and in the Maralinga Tjarutja Lands covering a total of ~40,000 ha with an overall estimate of ~4.5%</p>
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		<p>of land covered by buffel grass along these transects. This monitoring work will inform the buffel grass control activities for 2024-2025.</p> <p>State Buffel Grass Strategy (Landscape Priority Fund)</p> <p>AW staff coordinated 2023-2024 pre-season Buffel Grass workshop delivered to contractors, Indigenous Rangers and coordinators, National Parks and Wildlife Service, land managers, NGOs, Iluka mine and Drought Hub staff. A total of 31 people attended the workshop. Topics included best practice herbicide control, mapping and data collection, soil classification and drone surveillance.</p> <p>AW State buffel grass coordinator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key participant in WoNS planning meetings to refine the selection criteria, nomination process and improve the likelihood of recognition of buffel grass as a WoNS through increased recognition of impacts on First Nations People, - Worked with Anangu representatives to include priority management actions in the Federal Governments Key Threatening Process nomination.
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		AW staff developed a digital dashboard for mapping and data visualisation to assist buffel control operations.
Land and sea biodiversity		
Regional Priorities/ Board objectives	Focus Areas/Regional Strategies	Performance
Keeping Country healthy for native plants and animals to be strong and plentiful for everyone now and in the future.	<p>Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to protect and restore important coast and marine ecosystems.</p> <p>Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to maintain and enhance biodiversity, including threatened species in prioritised ecosystems.</p>	<p>There was no funding in 2023-2024 to support coast and marine activities and projects.</p> <p>Malleefowl protection in the Great Victorian Desert (Supporting Communities Manage Pest Animals and Weeds – NLP2 program extension)</p> <p><u>Malleefowl mound monitoring:</u></p> <p>In 2023-2024, one fauna survey was undertaken and three malleefowl mounds were found active along the Googs Track. This work confirmed that the trajectory of breeding malleefowl populations within the monitored areas was at least stable compared to the June 2019 baseline.</p>

		<p><u><i>LiDAR survey:</i></u></p> <p>A LiDAR survey was undertaken in May 2024. This same transect as in 2019 was flown in May 2024, along Googs track, covering a slightly wider area with ~14,598ha in 2024 compared to 12,591 ha in 2019. From this LiDAR survey and data analysis, it was estimated that around 30 malleefowl mounds are active along this transect on Googs Track. This is a substantial increase from 11 active mounds known in this area in June 2023, from previous LiDAR and ground truthing work.</p> <p>Mantangka munu talingka ngura Nganamara-ku (Malleefowl) atunypangkutjaku, Great Victoria Desert, SA (National Heritage Trust)</p> <p><u><i>LiDAR surveys:</i></u></p> <p>The 2024 LiDAR surveys covered a very large area, with an additional 33,436 hectares of LiDAR occurring as part of this survey. This almost added another third of all the areas surveyed with in the Googs track Yellabinna Yumbarra complex. In total, since 2019 AWLB has undertaken a total of 101,635.12 hectares of LiDAR (including the 2024 surveys), which is approximately 4.5% of the entire Yellabinna Yumbarra complex.</p> <p>LiDAR has proven to be a very effective tool in the surveying for malleefowl mounds,</p>
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		<p>especially in very remote areas. The 2024 surveys have further increased the knowledge of malleefowl mounds in our region, potentially becoming one of the most understood and monitored within the arid and semi-arid zones of Australia.</p> <p>Extensive ground truthing of all the LiDAR sites will be undertaken in 2024-2025.</p> <p><u><i>Sandhill dunnart (Sminthopsis psammophila) and small vertebrate monitoring:</i></u></p> <p>The May 2024 survey was the eighth annual survey in which preferred habitat was assessed from large, continuous, and preferred Triodia.</p> <p>Interestingly more sandhill dunnart were encountered during this survey, despite a long period of dry in the region from late winter into summer, and then sporadic and unpredictable rainfall across the Yellabinna and Yumbarra complex from summer 2024 until June 2024 (after this survey occurred) in which rainfall was very low. Fewer mammals were around, although several species were recorded, including little, long-tailed dunnart (<i>Sminthopsis dolichura</i>), Mitchell's hopping mouse (<i>Notomys mitchellii</i>), sandy inland mouse (<i>Pseudomys hermannsburgensis</i>), and western pygmy possum (<i>Cercartetus concinnus</i>).</p> <p>During this annual survey, research was conducted to find the rare Yellabinna rufous</p>
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		<p>grasswren (<i>Amytornis whitei aenigma</i>) whose population is in decline and under pressure from climate change and habitat loss. Both species, the dunnart and the grasswren, share preference for the same habitat of long-unburnt spinifex.</p> <p>Nganngi Kanyini (Looking After Frogs) project (Grass Roots Grant 2023-2024). The project seeks to survey frogs (<i>Pseudophryne lunki</i>), using audiomoth devices, at a spring located near Kalka in APY lands. SD cards were retrieved from audiomoths devices to process and analyse the results from frog monitoring.</p> <p>Other activities</p> <p>AW regional ecologist supported warru recovery trips at Pintji with trapping and translocation activities in the APY lands at key Warru sites:</p> <p>A follow-up survey and removal of tracking collars from warru translocated to Kulitjara in 2022 was undertaken. Fauna surveys at Wamitjara and New Well showed the wild populations there are thriving. A second translocation to Kulitjara added 45 more warru to the newest population.</p>
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Water Management		
Regional Priorities/ Board objectives	Focus Areas/Regional Strategies	Performance
Taking care of water for our people and country	<p>Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to manage ground water affecting activities.</p> <p>Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to actively manage ecologically and culturally significant surface and groundwater sites.</p>	<p>AW staff met with DEW to investigate partnership projects that involve maintaining remote weather stations maintenance in the APY lands and ground water monitoring.</p> <p>Ecologically and culturally important surface water sites were protected through the camel control activities undertaken in 2023-2024: In total, 365 camels were removed over 998,42ha across the Great Victoria Desert.</p> <p>Kalka IPA rangers undertook land management activities at important surface water sites as part of the frog monitoring project. Cleanup of water sites was carried out by ranger teams. Burning operations were undertaken around water sites for ecological and cultural benefits. Weeds and in particular buffel grass were also hand pulled around the water sites.</p>

Corporate performance summary

The Board's corporate, governance and administrative support services are provided by the Business Services Unit, reporting to the General Manager as per section 35 of *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. The Department for Environment and Water provides additional corporate, governance and administrative support services to the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board on a fee for service basis in accordance with a Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Key corporate achievements for 2023-24:

- Board members ensure regional voices and local issues are represented in decision-making through their participation on various boards and committees.
- The Board endorsed new Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board members and recommended one as the new Presiding Member to the Minister.
- The Board developed a unified statement of commitment with the AW region landholding authorities (LHAs) for collaborations in the community.
- Board members participated in refresher training on good governance practices and workplace health, safety and injury management during 2023-24.

A total of four board meetings were held during the 2023-24 financial year. The table below illustrates meetings that landscape board members have attended:

Board member	Meetings attended	Meetings not attended	Reasons for unavailability
Michael Haynes	1	1	Other commitment
Peter Burgoyne	4	0	
Debbie Hansen	4	0	
Wanda Miller	3.5	0.5	Unwell on day 3 of Meeting 16
Julie O'Toole	3	1	Other commitment
Peter Miller	2	0	
Julieanne Campbell	1	3	Other commitments
Jeremy Lebois	1.5	2.5	Other commitments
Duane Edwards	4	0	
Tapaya Edwards	4	0	

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Nil	The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board does not employ staff as per section 35 of <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> . Those staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.

Board performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
The Board maintains a register of attendance at meetings	There were 4 meetings held during 2023 – 24, with annual attendance of appointed members averaging 80 per cent. All meetings achieved a quorum attending except Day 3 of Meeting 16 at Ceduna on 27/03/2024.
The Board's Audit & Risk Management Committee	The Terms of reference were reviewed in December 2023. The Committee met twice in 2023-24 to fulfil its responsibility to review financial performance and the organisational risk register.
Australian Government Performance Framework	Quarterly, six-monthly and annual reporting requirements met for all Regional Land Partnership project (extension), regional capacity services and National Heritage Trust.
Landscape Priorities Fund	Six-monthly, annual and acquittal reporting requirements met for Landscape Priorities Fund project grants.
General Manager	Six-monthly reviews were conducted for the General Manager

Work health, safety and return to work programs

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board fulfilled the obligations set by the *Work Health and Safety Act (SA) 2012* and the *Return-to-Work Act 2014*, as well as broader Government requirements. In May 2024, the Board invited SafeWork SA to conduct an information session on workplace, health and safety for Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board staff, aimed at enhancing employee health, safety and wellbeing. Additionally, the Board has developed and implemented a range work

health and safety and injury management (WHS & IM) policies and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all employees.

Program name	Performance
Hazard and incident reporting	There were 3 hazards and incidents reported, an increase from 0 in 2022-23.
Work Health and Safety Consultative Forum	All employees held monthly meetings throughout the year to discuss matters related to workplace health and safety (WHS).

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0%
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 of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i>)	0	0	0%
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 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0%

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board does not employ staff as per section 35 of the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> . Those staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.	0

Data for previous years is available at: 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 financial performance and position as at 30 June 2024 are contained within the audited financial statements. Appendix: Audited financial statements 2023-24.

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the Board. The information is unaudited. For full audited financial statements refer to Appendix: Audited financial statements 2023-24.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2023-24 Budget \$000s	2023-24 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2022-23 Actual \$000s
Total Income	3 318	3 361	43	3 665
Total Expense	5 694	3 302	(2 392)	3 788
Net Result	(2 376)	59	(2 349)	(123)
Total Comprehensive Result	(2 376)	59	(2 349)	(123)

Statement of Financial Position	2023-24 Budget \$000s	2023-24 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2022-23 Actual \$000s
Current assets	-	5 065	-	5 176
Non-current assets	-	168	-	168
Total Assets	-	5 233	-	5 344
Current liabilities	-	380	-	573
Non-current liabilities	-	305	-	282
Total Liabilities	-	685	-	855
Net Assets	-	4 548	-	4 489
Equity	-	4 548	-	4 489

**The Board does not prepare a budget for the Statement of Financial Position.*

Consultants disclosure

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

Consultant disclosures are not required to be reported by landscape boards as they are Tier 2 reporting entities and are not required to disclose consultants in their financial statements.

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

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

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

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Nil	Nil	\$0

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

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	Various	\$ 98 286

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

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Department for Environment and Water (DEW)	Corporate services delivery	\$ 357 036
Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF)	Fixed Charges 2023-24 SSSA Delivery	\$ 75 495
Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation	Malleefowl Adaptive Management, Fauna and Flora Surveys and Buffel Grass Management on Far West Coast Lands	\$ 65 916
Anditi Pty Ltd	Malleefowl LIDAR Surveys	\$ 72 240
Helifarm Aerial Agriculture	2023-24 Camel Management	\$ 42 820
	Total	\$ 613 507

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

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.](#)

Other financial information

Under section 27(3) and section 28(6) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board must provide a report on funding support provided to community groups, industry, state and local government, landowners and individuals for various projects and programs aligned to the Regional Landscape Plan, including grants provided under the Grassroots Grants Program.

During 2023-24, the board provided \$36 976 from the Grassroots Grants Program to the following:

- Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Inc \$36 976

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

The Audit & Risk Management Committee has oversight of Alinytjara Wilurara Board's Risk Management Framework and reviews the Risk Register at each meeting. The Audit & Risk Management Committee is also responsible for liaison with the Auditor-General's Department on all matters concerning the results of audits of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board. This is achieved through both formal and informal correspondence and through the attendance at quarterly Auditor-General's Performance and Risk Committee Chair meetings.

Fraud detected in the Board

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
There were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Alinytjara Wilurara Board in this reporting period 2023-24	0

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

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

The Board has established a fraud and corruption control policy, aligned with the South Australian Public Sector Fraud and Corruption Control Policy. This policy outlines measures to prevent fraud and details the process for reporting and investigation incidents. The following is a summary of fraud prevention activities currently in place:

- An internal audit program of business systems is conducted annually, including a peer review.
- Adoption of the DEW Procurement Framework to reduce the risk of fraud associated with procurement activities.
- Fraud identified as a risk on the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board risk register, with controls in place to manage the risk to an acceptable level.
- The Audit and Risk Management Committee has oversight of fraud and corruption control and risk management policies, procedures, and programs.
- Internal controls letters received from financial services providers Shared Services SA and Department for Environment and Water.
- All employees have completed the Department of the Premier and Cabinet 'Code of Ethics Awareness' program.
- Employment screening upon employment and at regular intervals.

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

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*: 0

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

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

Act or Regulation	Requirement
Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020	8(c) The persons or bodies to whom or to which the board has delegated functions or powers under section 37 of the Act, and the nature of the functions or powers delegated to each person or body.

The Board has approved financial delegations in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 8 - Financial Authorisations as follows:

Position No.	Position Title	Procurement Contract pre-approval payment and disbursement	Contract execution	Purchase Card	Debt Write-Off
P25704	General Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓
P25696	Business Manager	✓	✓	✓	
P25697	Program Manager	✓	✓	✓	
P25691	Operations Manager	✓	✓	✓	
P25692	Business Services Coordinator	✓	✓	✓	
P52606	Operations Services Coordinator	✓	✓	✓	
P25693	Ecologist	✓		✓	
P25694	Executive Officer	✓		✓	
P25695	Coordinator, Data, & Information Management	✓		✓	
P25698	Planning & Conservation Systems Officer	✓		✓	
P25699	Regional Planning Coordinator	✓		✓	
P43707	Senior Communications Advisor	✓		✓	
P25700	Communications Coordinator	✓		✓	
P24701	MERI Officer	✓		✓	
P41237	Senior Project Officer	✓		✓	
P25703	Project Officer	✓		✓	
P25690	Project Officer	✓		✓	
P46284	Buffel Grass Coordinator	✓		✓	
P46285	Buffel Grass Officer	✓		✓	
P50511	Buffel Grass State Coordinator	✓		✓	

In addition to the financial delegations, the General Manager and the leadership group has been delegated to exercise certain powers and functions of the board under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, as prescribed by the relevant Instrument of Delegation.

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<i>Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020</i>	8(d) a report on any functions assigned to the board by the Minister

The Minister did not assign any functions to the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board during 2023-24.

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	Nil
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	Nil
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	Nil
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	Nil
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	Nil
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	Nil
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	Nil
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	Nil
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	Nil
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	Nil

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out-dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	Nil
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	Nil
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	Nil
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	Nil
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	Nil
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	Nil
		Total	0

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	Nil
Number of negative feedback comments	Nil
Total number of feedback comments	Nil
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	0%

Data for previous years is available at: data.sa.gov.au

Service Improvements

In line with PC039 Complaint Management in the South Australian Public Sector, agencies are required to assess and monitor the performance of their complaint management system annually; identifying any trends, measuring customer service quality and make service improvements.

The board has reviewed the complaints management system. There was no complaint received during 2023-24.

Compliance Statement

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2023-24



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To the Presiding Member Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board (the Board) for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 30 June 2024, 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 2024
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2024
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2024
- notes, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member and the General Manager.

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 General Manager and the Board for the financial report

The General Manager 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 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 that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the General Manager is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, 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 38(2) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, I have audited the financial report of the Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

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 General Manager
- conclude on the appropriateness of the General Manager'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 General Manager and the Presiding Member 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
Assistant Auditor-General (Financial Audit)

29 November 2024

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Certification of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

We certify that the:

- financial statements for the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board (the Board):
 - 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 operation and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



Brenz Saunders

Presiding Member

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

26 November 2024



Kim Krebs

General Manager

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

26 November 2024

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	\$'000	\$'000
Income			
Intra-government transfers	2.1	1 331	1 261
Commonwealth sourced grants and funding	2.2	1 270	2 001
Grant revenues	2.3	490	24
Interest	6.1	203	151
Other income	2.4	67	228
Total income		3 361	3 665
Expenses			
Employee related expenses	3.3	1 993	1 707
Supplies and services	4.1	1 189	1 968
Grants and subsidies		37	37
Depreciation	5.1	36	29
Borrowing Costs	7.3	1	2
Other expenses	4.2	46	45
Total expenses		3 302	3 788
Net result		59	(123)
Total comprehensive result		59	(123)

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

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	4 187	4 306
Receivables	6.2	878	870
Total current assets		5 065	5 176
Non-current assets			
Property plant and equipment	5.1	168	168
Total non-current assets		168	168
Total assets		5 233	5 344
Current liabilities			
Payables	7.1	178	378
Employee related liabilities	3.4	188	176
Provisions	7.2	3	3
Financial liabilities	7.3	11	16
Total current liabilities		380	573
Non-current liabilities			
Employee related liabilities	3.4	259	238
Provisions	7.2	21	8
Financial liabilities	7.3	25	36
Total non-current liabilities		305	282
Total liabilities		685	855
Net assets		4 548	4 489
Equity			
Retained earnings		4 548	4 489
Total equity		4 548	4 489

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

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022		4 612	4 612
Net loss for 2022-23		(123)	(123)
Total comprehensive result for 2022-23		(123)	(123)
Balance at 30 June 2023		4 489	4 489
Net result for 2023-24		59	59
Total comprehensive result for 2023-24		59	59
Balance at 30 June 2024		4 548	4 548

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

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Cash inflows</i>			
Intra-government transfers		1 331	1 261
Commonwealth funding received		1 292	2 181
Receipts from grants		490	24
Interest received		203	136
GST recovered from DEW		24	96
Other receipts		67	113
Cash generated from operations		3 407	3 811
<i>Cash (outflows)</i>			
Employee related payments		(1 941)	(1 667)
Payments for supplies and services		(1 446)	(2 439)
Payments of grants and subsidies		(41)	(37)
Interest paid		(1)	(2)
Other payments		(45)	(49)
Cash used in operations		(3 474)	(4 194)
Net cash used in operating activities		(67)	(383)
Cash flows from investing activities			
<i>Cash (outflows)</i>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(36)	(119)
Cash used in investing activities		(36)	(119)
Net cash used in investing activities		(36)	(119)
Cash flows from financing activities			
<i>Cash (outflows)</i>			
Repayment of leases		(16)	(19)
Cash used in financing activities		(16)	(19)
Net cash used in financing activities		(16)	(19)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(119)	(521)
Cash at the beginning of the period		4 306	4 827
Cash at the end of the period	6.1	4 187	4 306

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

1. About the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board (the Board) was established 1 July 2020, pursuant to *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* (LSA Act). The Board is a not for profit entity.

The Board operates under a Business Plan which aligns to the Landscape Plan. The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board adopted the 2023-24 Business Plan on 14 June 2023, for implementation on 1 July 2023. The Minister for Climate, Environment and Water noted the Board's business plan on 21 August 2023. The Plan identifies the Board's revenue and investment in priorities for management of landscape in the region as detailed in note 1.2.

The Board entered into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) for 2023-26 which includes the delivery of support services to the Board to ensure it is able to meet its governance and financial management statutory requirements in delivering its business. This agreement details the services, projects and funds to deliver the annual work plan. This SLA is reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

The Board's financial statements and accompanying notes include all the controlled activities of the Board.

1.1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance 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.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12-month 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 specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Significant accounting policies are set out throughout the notes.

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 (ATO), in which case GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable;
- 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.

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

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

1.2. Objectives and programs

The Board serves the Government and the people of South Australia by achieving excellence in the provision of our natural resources to ensure environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability.

Board objectives

The core function of the Board is to administer the Act and facilitate the sustainable management of landscapes in the region in partnership with key stakeholders and its communities.

To fulfil this core function, the LSA Act establishes that the Board will adopt 5 key priorities.

The Board takes a strategic leadership role in relation to these priorities and promote coordination and partnerships with other entities, agencies and authorities.

The functions of the Board under section 25 (1) of the LSA Act include to:

- undertake and promote the management of natural resources within its region;
- prepare a regional landscape plan and (where relevant) water allocation plans, landscapes affecting activities control policies and water affecting activities control policies; and
- promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region.

Board priorities

The Board's work program is based on the required action for the region, as outlined in the Board's Business Plan. In line with the Board's Business Plan, actions to be undertaken by the Board are presented under the key priorities for the region, identified as:

- Board and community leadership - Building effective partnerships to maintain regional relevance and support emerging Aboriginal leaders. This priority includes revenue and expenses that cannot be reliably attributed to the Boards other priority areas. Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to access resources that facilitate traditional and ecological knowledge transfer.
- Healthy soil - Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to adopt sustainable Pastoral practices to reduce soil erosion and to participate in carbon farming opportunities that support sustainable pastoral practices.
- Pest plant and animal control - Working with key stakeholders to support Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to control priority pest plant and animals.
- Land and sea- biodiversity - Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to protect and restore important coast and marine ecosystem and maintain and enhance biodiversity, including threatened species, in prioritised ecosystems.
- Water management - Supporting Land Holding Authorities and Traditional Owners to manage ground water affecting activities and actively manage ecologically and culturally significant surface and ground water sites.

The table on the following page presents expenses and income attributable to each priority. Revenues and expenses are allocated to programs where these amounts can be tied directly to that program area. Where this is not the case, the amounts are allocated based on a budget allocation per the Board's 2023-24 business plan.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

1.2. Objectives and programs (continued)

Expenses and income by programs

	Board and community leadership		Healthy soil		Pest plant and animal control		Land and sea biodiversity		Water management		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income												
Intra-government transfers	1 293	1 261	-	-	-	-	38	-	-	-	1 331	1 261
Commonwealth funding	382	550	100	378	204	355	584	718	-	-	1 270	2 001
Grant revenues	-	-	-	-	490	24	-	-	-	-	490	24
Interest	203	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	203	151
Other income	32	17	-	-	15	211	20	-	-	-	67	228
Total income	1 910	1 979	100	378	709	590	642	718	-	-	3 361	3 665
Expenses												
Employee related expense	1 424	961	16	86	440	184	113	476	-	-	1 993	1 707
Supplies and services	596	657	9	202	336	569	248	540	-	-	1 189	1 968
Grants and subsidies	-	37	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	37	37
Depreciation	36	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	29
Borrowing Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	2
Other expenses	46	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46	45
Total expenses	2 102	1 729	25	288	776	753	399	1 018	-	-	3 302	3 788
Net result	(192)	250	75	90	(67)	(163)	243	(300)	-	-	59	(123)

The Board has determined that assets and liabilities cannot be reliably attributed to individual programs.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
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2. Income

2.1. Intra-government transfers

DEW receives recurrent funding, which is administered through the Landscape Administration fund and provided to regional landscape Boards to support business operation and the administration of the LSA Act pursuant to subsection 90 (4) of the LSA Act. Intra-government transfers are recognised as income when the Board obtains control of the asset which is on receipt. Total intra-government transfers were \$1.33m (2023: \$1.26m).

2.2. Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Regional Delivery Partnerships Program*	970	-
Regional Land Partnerships Program**	300	2 001
Total Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	1 270	2 001

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Regional Delivery Partnerships Program funding consists of the following components (*)		
Regional Capacity Services	381	-
Emergency Preparedness Response	250	-
Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator	100	-
Malleefowl	239	-
Total Regional Delivery Partnerships funding	970	-

From 1 July 2023, the Australian Government has commenced the Regional Delivery Partnerships Program (RDP). The funding will be used to deliver on-ground environmental protection, sustainable agriculture, and natural resource management activities across Australia. Funding for these services is provided from the Natural Heritage Trust. The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board was appointed as a delivery partner administering approved programs and projects under the agreement within the Alinytjara Wilurara region.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Regional Land Partnerships Program funding consists of the following components (**)		
Core services (NLP)	-	550
Nganamara (Malleefowl) Adaptive Management	300	575
Sustainable Pastoral Development in APY	-	378
Warru	-	498
Total Regional Land Partnerships funding	300	2 001

The Regional Land Partnership was funded by the Australian Government over five years from 2019 to 2023. The funding was provided to support vital on-ground environment and agriculture projects that offer benefits to the environment, farms and communities. However, in July 2023, the Board received additional funds from the Australian Government for additional strategic feral animal and weed control related to the Malleefowl project in the Great Victoria Desert. This project concluded in June 2024.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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2.2. Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding (continued)

The Board has determined that the Commonwealth funding included in the table above is accounted for under AASB 1058. Commonwealth funding is generally paid in arrears, subject to an approved declaration of claim by the Board. The Board has determined that it has an unconditional contractual right to receive a portion of the funding under AASB 9 when a claim is submitted, as it has satisfied the eligibility criteria and expects that the claim will be accepted. Accordingly, revenue and a receivable are recognised when the claim is submitted. When Commonwealth funding is paid in advance it is recognised on receipt.

2.3. Grant revenues

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
State Government grants	474	-
Sundry grants	16	24
Total grant revenues	490	24

The Board has determined that the grant income included in the table above under AASB 1058 has been earned under arrangements that are either not enforceable and/or not linked to sufficiently specific performance obligations.

Income from grants without any sufficiently specific performance obligations, or that are not enforceable, is recognised when the Board has an unconditional right to receive cash which usually coincides with receipt of cash.

2.4. Other income

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Sale of professional services	-	119
Sponsorship	-	82
Recoup of expenses and other recoveries	67	27
Total other income	67	228

Other income includes reimbursement income related to the operating activities of the Board and sales of professional services. Other income is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer, which is in arrears, therefore no contract liability is recognised.

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3. Board, committees and employees

3.1. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Board comprise the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, the Presiding Member, members of the Board and the General Manager who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Board.

Total compensation for the Board's key management personnel was \$210 000 (2023: \$248 000).

The compensation disclosed in this note excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water 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 (via the Department of Treasury and Finance) under section 6 the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

Related party transactions

The Board is a body corporate and was established pursuant to the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* and is wholly owned and controlled by the Crown.

Related parties of the Board include all key management personnel and their close family members; all Cabinet Ministers and their close family members; and all public authorities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole of government financial statements and other interests of the Government.

Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties

In 2023-24, the Board has a service agreement worth \$54,628 with an Aboriginal organisation, Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation (FWCAC) RNTBC to access the Aboriginal labour workforce for supporting the delivery of its projects. A member from FWCAC also serves as a member on the Board.

In 2023-24, the Board allocated \$36,976 to a grassroots grant program to support Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Inc on the Nganngi Kanyini project. In addition, \$10,120 was provided through a services agreement to engage the APY Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator, aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture practices in the Alinytjara Wilurara region. An executive board member from APY is a member of the Board.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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3.2. Board and committee members

Members during the 2023-24 financial year were:

The Board

M T Haynes (Presiding Member)
P Burgoyne
J Campbell
D Edwards
T Edwards
D Hansen
J B Lebois
P P Miller
W Miller
J O'Toole

Audit and Risk Management Committee

P P Miller (Chair)
P Burgoyne
J Campbell
D Hansen
M T Haynes
K Krebs*
P Wurdemann*

*In accordance with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's Circular Number 016, government employees did not receive any remuneration for board/committee duties during the financial year.

Board and committee remuneration

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

	2024	2023
\$0 - \$19 999	12	11
\$20 000 - \$39 999	-	2
Total number of members	12	13

Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing Board, Group and Committee member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits, and any FBT paid or payable in respect of those benefits. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$69 000 (2023: \$91 000).

For the purpose of this table, travel allowances and other out-of-pocket expenses paid to members have not been included as remuneration as it is considered to be reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses incurred by relevant members. These expenses, in addition to the payroll tax amount to \$29 000 (2023: \$32 000).

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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3.3. Employee related expenses

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Salaries and wages	1 426	1 240
Annual leave	152	102
Long service leave	70	39
Employment on-costs - superannuation	194	171
Employment on-costs - other	86	75
Skills and experience retention leave	11	(2)
Board and committee fees	39	76
Workers compensation	13	3
Other employee related expenses	2	3
Total employee related expenses	1 993	1 707

Employment expenses

The Board's employees are employed under Part 2 of the LSA Act.

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents the Boards' contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current employees.

Employee remuneration

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

	2024	2023
	No	No
\$166 001 - \$186 000	1	-
Total	1	-

The total remuneration received by those employees for the year was \$166 000 (2023: \$0).

The table includes all employees who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, termination payments, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

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3.4. Employee related liabilities

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
<u>Current</u>		
Annual leave	114	124
Long service leave	23	5
Skills and experience retention leave	9	3
Employment on-costs	42	44
Total current employee related liabilities	188	176
<u>Non-current</u>		
Long service leave	235	217
Employment on-costs-non-current	24	21
Total non-current employee related liabilities	259	238
Total employee related liabilities	447	414

Employee related liabilities are accrued as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Non-current employee related liabilities are measured at present value and current employee related liabilities are measured at nominal amounts.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

The expected timing and amount of long service leave payment is determined through whole-of-government actuarial calculations, which are based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over SA Government entities.

The discount rate used in measuring the liability is reflective of the yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds. The yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds has increased from 2023 (4%) to 2024 (4.25%).

This increase in the bond yield results in a decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

Following the actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) the salary inflation rate has increased from 2023 (2.5%) to 2024 (3.5%) for long service leave liability. This increase to the percentage has led to an overall increase in the reported long service leave for 2024.

Current long service leave reflects the portion of leave expected to be settled within the next 12 months, based average proportion of long service leave taken or paid over the last year.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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3.4. Employee related liabilities (continued)

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs include payroll tax, ReturnToWorkSA levies and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to are discharged. These on-costs primarily relate to the balance of leave owing to employees. Estimates as to the proportion of long service leave estimated to be taken as leave, rather than paid on termination, affects whether certain on-costs are recognised as a consequence of long service leave liabilities.

The Board makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board and externally managed superannuation schemes.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by DTF, the proportion of long service leave taken as leave has increased from the 2023 rate (43%) to 2024 (44%). The average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation cost on-costs has increased from the 2023 rate (11.1%) to 2024 (11.5%). These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year are immaterial.

4. Expenses

4.1. Supplies and services

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Fee for service - corporate services fee to DEW	357	209
Fee for service	310	1 137
Travel and accommodation	108	113
Minor works, maintenance and equipment	78	40
Motor vehicles	77	98
Fee for service - Shared Services SA fee	75	73
Information technology and communication charges	39	46
Staff development	34	55
General administration	17	29
Other	94	168
Total supplies and services	1 189	1 968

4.2. Other expenses

Audit fees paid/payable to the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 were \$46 000 (2023: \$45 000). No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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5. Non-financial assets

Property, plant and equipment comprises tangible assets owned by the Board and right-of-use leased assets.

5.1. Property, plant and equipment

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.

All non-current assets not held for sale with a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Reconciliation 2023-24

	Vehicles	Plant and equipment	ROU Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of period	112	5	51	168
Acquisitions	-	36	-	36
Depreciation	(11)	(8)	(17)	(36)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	101	33	34	168
Gross carrying amount				
Gross carrying amount	136	149	56	341
Accumulated depreciation	(35)	(116)	(22)	(173)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	101	33	34	168

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.

Useful life

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

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Vehicles	5-15
Plant and equipment	3-10
Right-of-use vehicles	Life of lease

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment for property, plant and equipment owned by the Board at 30 June 2024.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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5.2. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Board

Right-of-use assets for Property, plant and equipment leased by the Board as lessee are measured at cost.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low value leases where the underlying asset value is less than \$15 000 are not recognised as right-of-use assets. The associated lease payments are recognised as an expense and are disclosed in note 4.1.

The Board has 2 motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60 000 km) up to 5 years (100 000 km). No variable lease payments are provided for in the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.

Lease liabilities related to the right-of-use assets and borrowing costs are also disclosed in note 7.3. Expenses related to leases including depreciation and interest expenses are disclosed in note 4.1 and 5.1. Cash outflows related to leases are disclosed in the Statement of Cash Flows.

6. Financial Assets

6.1. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	4 187	4 306
Total cash and cash equivalents	4 187	4 306

Deposits with the Treasurer

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape fund was established in accordance with section 96 of the LSA Act. The account is an interest bearing deposit account with the Department of Treasury and Finance (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.

6.2. Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Trade receivables		
Debtors	827	130
Accrued revenues	16	737
Prepayments	25	3
Statutory receivables		
GST recoverable from DEW	10	-
Total statutory receivables	10	-
Total current receivables	878	870
Total receivables	878	870

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are generally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice, or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Receivables and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing.

The Board has assessed and determined that non-government debtors comprise a small number of low balances, which are current and collectable. No provision for doubtful debts has been made.

The net amount of GST receivable from the ATO (via DEW) is included as part of receivables.

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7. Liabilities

7.1. Payables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Trade payables	117	269
Accrued expenses	15	11
Statutory payables		
Audit fee payable	46	45
GST payable to DEW	-	53
Total statutory payables	46	98
Total current payables	178	378
Total payables	178	378

Payables and accruals are recognised for all amounts owing but unpaid. Payables are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short-term nature.

Statutory payables do not arise from contracts. Statutory payables include government taxes and equivalents, statutory fees and charges and Audit Office of South Australia audit fees. This is in addition to employee related payables, such as payroll tax, Fringe Benefits Tax, Pay As You Go Withholding and ReturnToWorkSA levies. Statutory payables are carried at cost.

7.2. Provisions

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Movement in provisions		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	11	8
Increase resulting from re-measurement or settlement without cost	8	-
Additions	5	3
Carrying amount at the end of the period	24	11

A provision has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment of the outstanding liability as at 30 June 2024 provided by a consulting actuary engaged through the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment. The provision is for the estimated cost of ongoing payments to employees as required under current legislation.

The board is responsible for the payment of workers compensation claims.

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
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7.3. Financial liabilities

All financial liabilities relate to lease liabilities.

The Board measures financial liabilities at amortised cost. Lease liabilities are measured via discounting the lease payments using either the interest rate implicit in the lease or Treasury's incremental borrowing rate. The borrowing costs associated with the lease liabilities was \$1 000 (2023: \$2 000).

Total cash outflows for leases is \$18 000 (2023: \$21 000).

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on undiscounted gross cash flows is reported in the table below.

	2024	2023
Lease Liabilities	\$'000	\$'000
Up to 1 year	12	18
1 to 5 years	25	38
Total lease liabilities (undiscounted)	37	56

8. Outlook

8.1. Unrecognised contractual commitments

Commitments include operating and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Expenditure commitments

The Board's expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
No later than one year	393	444
Total expenditure commitments	393	444

The Board's commitments relate to non-cancellable procurement contracts at the reporting date.

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 liabilities.

8.3. Events after the reporting period

There are no known events after balance date that affect these financial statements in a material manner.