

Like &  
Follow us



# Wakefield Regional WRAP

Winter/Spring 2022

Keeping the region informed of Council's progress, activities and topics of interest for the community.

## Grants plant the seeds for groups to grow

Community groups, schools and sporting clubs have all benefited from Council's latest round of Minor and Major Community Grants.

■ Read about some of the great projects happening in Wakefield on page 2



### 2022/23 Annual Community Plan Summary

- Pages 3-6



### Have you thought about nominating for Council?

Find out how you can on page 7

# Minor and Major Community Grants announced for 2022

COMMUNITY groups in the Wakefield Regional Council area will benefit from more than \$100,000 in funding as Council's Minor and Major Community Grants are awarded for 2022/23.

Each year grants are awarded with Minor Grants funding projects up to \$2,000, while Major Grants fund projects from \$2,001 to \$25,000.

This year 19 community projects received funding across both grant categories.

The largest project funded in the Major Grants category was Owen Golf Club, with the club receiving \$25,000 to support upgrading its dilapidated lawn mower – other headline grants included \$8,545 for the installation of a new air conditioner in the Lochiel hall, and \$8,564 for the Balaklava Lion's Club to support funding the refurbishment of the Balaklava train turntable.

Minor Grant allocations saw Snowtown Primary School and School Based Pre-School receive \$2,000 to establish a plant and seed library, while the Port Wakefield Community Newsletter committee also received \$2,000 to upgrade its current printer and software.

WRC Mayor Rodney Reid said the grants played a vital role in supporting Wakefield's community infrastructure, arts, culture and sports initiatives that align with the Wakefield 2030 vision of a great place to do business and a great place to belong.

"The continued commitment from these groups to grow and establish these fantastic projects around our vision of creating liveable communities, a thriving region and a sustainable future is once again displayed across the successful applicants this year," Mayor Reid said.

"Regardless of the size of the chosen projects, the Minor and Major Community Grant program injects funding into our local grass roots projects each year.

"Continually the program connects



ABOVE: Hocky's Community Shed Coordinator Don 'Duck' Rayner in the newly expanded metalwork section of the community shed, which will benefit from \$4,972 in funding to support a new storage container to hold steel and supplies.

FRONT COVER IMAGE: Snowtown Primary School and School Based Pre-School students Reggie Wilkinson, Kartia Altmann, Millie McCormack plant a seed from the Schools seed library.

Council directly with our local volunteers through the application process, providing Council with an insight into how the community wants their future shaped.

"I can't wait to see all of the projects come to fruition over the coming year as they are completed across the region."

## Minor grants

- Maintenance & gutters cleared (Avon Art and Craft Guild)
- Maintenance to hall (Avon District Hall)
- Blyth Snowtown Cats website (Blyth/Snowtown Netball Club)
- Blyth terrace garden signage (Blyth Town Management Committee)
- New cash register (Hamley Bridge Swimming Pool)
- Owen bowling club revitalisation
- Upgrade printing copying equipment (Port Wakefield Community Newsletter)
- Plant & seed library (Snowtown Primary and School Based Preschool)

## Major grants

- Showcasing Balaklava town history (Balaklava Area Committee)
- Installing mains water to the kitchen & installation of a commercial dishwasher (Blyth Community Hall)
- Upgrade tee blocks to artificial turf (Blyth Golf Club)
- Solar panels for the Brinkworth Bowling Club Inc. (Brinkworth Bowling Club)
- Storage container for metal workshop (Hocky's Shed Snowtown)
- Port Wakefield oval lighting upgrade (Hummocks Watchman Eagles Football Club)
- Balaklava turn table restoration (Balaklava Lions Club)
- Heating the Lochiel public Hall (Lochiel Progress Association)
- Upgrade fairway mower (Owen Golf Club)
- Display protection & improvement (Port Wakefield Courthouse Museum)
- Relaunch of the Port Wakefield Men's Shed (Port Wakefield Men's Shed)



# Annual Community Plan Summary 2022/23

## Message from the Mayor

Over the next four pages you can read summary information about Council's plans and budget for the 2022/23 year.



These plans will continue to advance and deliver key initiatives from our Wakefield 2030 Community Plan with the aim of making our region more liveable, enticing and exciting – a thriving and connected regional community.

There is a significant program of activity planned for the year ahead, including transformational plans for Port Wakefield, major projects to pump new life into our aquatic facilities and 'spade ready' community land and sporting precinct upgrade plans. We will also remain focused on closing the infrastructure gap on our roads and addressing roadside vegetation issues.

In 2022/23, Council will implement its new Rating Policy, which will see a reduction in average rates for vacant land, industrial and commercial properties. The introduction of a safety net and automatically applied rate cap will ensure ratepayers who experience large capital valuation increases have a level of protection from significant rate rises.

I'm so proud of what our Council and community have achieved over recent years as we strive to deliver our shared vision of Wakefield as a great place to do business and a great place to belong.

Rodney Reid  
Mayor

## Major projects



**\$4.04M**

upgrading and renewing  
Balaklava and Owen  
Swimming pools



**\$490K**

for roads and stormwater  
management at Townsvale  
Estate, Balaklava



**\$400K**

for South Terrace Blyth to  
include stormwater upgrade,  
kerbing and landscaping.



**\$1M**

delivering Stage (1) of the  
Port Wakefield Master Plan



**\$4.6M**

renewal of Council's roads



**\$290K**

for Roadside vegetation  
maintenance



**\$45K**

for Snowtown Sporting  
Precinct Master Plan



**\$40K**

for detailed design for Blyth  
Sporting Precinct (priority  
project)



**\$50K**

for detailed design for  
railway corridor in  
Balaklava



# Budget for 2022/23

In delivering services and programs contained within this Annual Community Plan, Council is targeting an operating surplus of \$442K in 2022/23: resulting from operating income of \$17.9M and expenses of \$17.46M.

Council is proposing to deliver a capital works program of \$9.6M, which consists of \$7.25M in renewal capital works and \$2.35M in new capital works. This capital budget will allow Council to continue to reduce the maintenance and renewal backlog on its roads, buildings and other key assets and support the ongoing delivery of our community plan Wakefield 2030, including the Port Wakefield Master Plan Stage (1) works.

This program of works will require an increase in Council's overall borrowings. It is forecast direct borrowings will increase from \$5.81M at the end of 2021/22 to \$8.15M at the end of 2022/23. Council will pursue external grants to offset these borrowings.

Overall, key financial indicators show Council to be in a strong and financially sustainable position with sustainable borrowings at the end of 2022/23.



Total  
income

**\$17.9M**



Income from  
general rates

**\$9.8M**



Income from  
grant funds

**\$4.8M**



Total  
expenditure

**\$17.4M**



Total capital  
expenditure

**\$9.6M**

## Key achievements

- Renewed 66.4km of unsealed roads and resealed approximately 8.14km of roads.
- Trimmed more than 99.5km of roadside vegetation across the region.
- Completed main street upgrades at Balaklava and Hamley Bridge.
- Secured \$800,000 grant under the SA Government's 'Local Projects Local Jobs' fund and \$1.6M grant from the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund to upgrade and renew the Balaklava Swimming Pool.
- Commenced the redevelopment of the Balaklava Swimming Centre and upgrade of the Owen Swimming Pool.
- Adopted a new Rating Policy, which is supported by a new methodology to ensure fair and equitable rating across the region while protecting ratepayers against significant capital valuation increases.
- Completed the development of Council's new depot in Balaklava.
- Delivered almost \$230,000 in grants supporting 16 local business (Small Business Incentives) and 24 community groups (minor/major grants, event sponsorships, water support program)
- Finalised the transfer of private roads to public roads within Townsville Estate, Balaklava.
- Adopted the Port Wakefield Township Master Plan.
- Substantially completed master plans for Ralli Park in Balaklava and the Hamley Bridge Sporting Precinct.



# Road network

Council's work to address a significant roadworks backlog will continue in earnest in 2022/23.

It is proposed Council will invest \$4.98M in 2022/23 in renewing 13.36km of sealed roads, 72.12km of unsealed roads and numerous township footpaths, kerb and water table assets. In total, Council plans to renew almost 86kms of roads compared to approximately 74km in 2021/22.

Across the 2020/21 financial year, the backlog on the sealed and unsealed roads network reduced from \$14.12M to \$12.55M – a massive \$1.57M of works on top of the annual roads program.

By November 2021, the gaps had further reduced on unsealed roads from \$13.70M to \$12.11M (a decrease of \$1.59M). This equated to a catch up of 59.29km of roadworks.



## Key 2022/23 initiatives

Council has budgeted for a range of community programs and projects in 2022/23, including:

### Council Elections:

- \$55,000 for Electoral Commission of South Australia costs for council elections in November 2022

### Community Grants:

- \$185,000 for a revised community contributions program comprising:
  - \$25,200 for town committee contributions
  - \$110,000 community grants program (minor / major grants)
  - \$2,800 town newsletter funding
  - \$27,200 water support program
  - \$20,000 sponsorships to support community events and celebrations aligned to Wakefield 2030 (including seed funding for new events)
- \$40,000 small business incentives program
- \$10,000 is also proposed for Council events to launch major projects and celebrate with the community

### Community & Growth Programs:

- \$20,000 for sport and recreation initiatives
- \$5,000 for further development of a youth strategy to engage under 25s across the region
- \$5,000 for a refreshed volunteer program to attract new volunteers
- \$5,000 for town hall activation initiatives
- \$10,000 for Public Health Plan implementation
- \$2,000 to develop and begin implementing a program to support revegetation projects
- \$10,000 for Disability Access & Inclusion Plan initiatives, including \$2,000 contribution to centralised local government Disability Advisory Group
- \$20,000 for finalisation of business prospectus
- \$3,000 pigeon control program
- \$75,000 for Public Swimming Pools Lifeguard support program

### Infrastructure Projects:

- \$60,000 to continue the Wool Trail between Blyth and Brinkworth (subject



to 50% external grant funding)

- \$20,000 to implement outcomes from disability audit of Council-owned buildings and structures
- \$15,000 for the removal of Aleppo Pines on the pool side of Wallace Street, to protect the new Balaklava

Swimming Pool from roots and debris.

- Review of Council-owned buildings (dispose of or repurpose)
- \$20,000 from 2021/22 budget for Blyth street beautification (tree planting), tied in to South Terrace works.



# Rates in 2022/23

Rates are the key source of income for Council as we seek to deliver the projects, services and actions outlined in our community plans.

A new Rating Policy will be applied for the first time in 2022/23 and will set safety nets to cushion ratepayers from sharp rate increases.

Based on the most current capital valuations provided by the State's Valuer-General, Council is proposing to apply the following cents in the dollar for the differential land use categories:

- Residential
  - > \$0.41026 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of category (a) (Residential).
- Commercial (Shop, Office, Other)
  - > \$0.496954 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of categories (b) (Commercial – Shop), (c) (Commercial – Office) and (d) (Commercial – Other).
- Industrial (Light, Other)
  - > \$0.466831 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of categories (e) (Industry – Light) and (f) (Industry – Other).
- Primary Production
  - > \$0.247121 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of category (g) (Primary Production).
- Vacant Land
  - > \$0.545433 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of category (h) (Vacant Land).
- Other
  - > \$0.431758 cents in the dollar for rateable properties with a land use of category (i) (Other).

## Other charges

Council is required to recover the cost of providing Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) and Mobile Garbage Bin (MGB) services from property owners who receive those services.

To achieve this, Council's CWMS service charge will be increased by 5% in 2022/23 to:

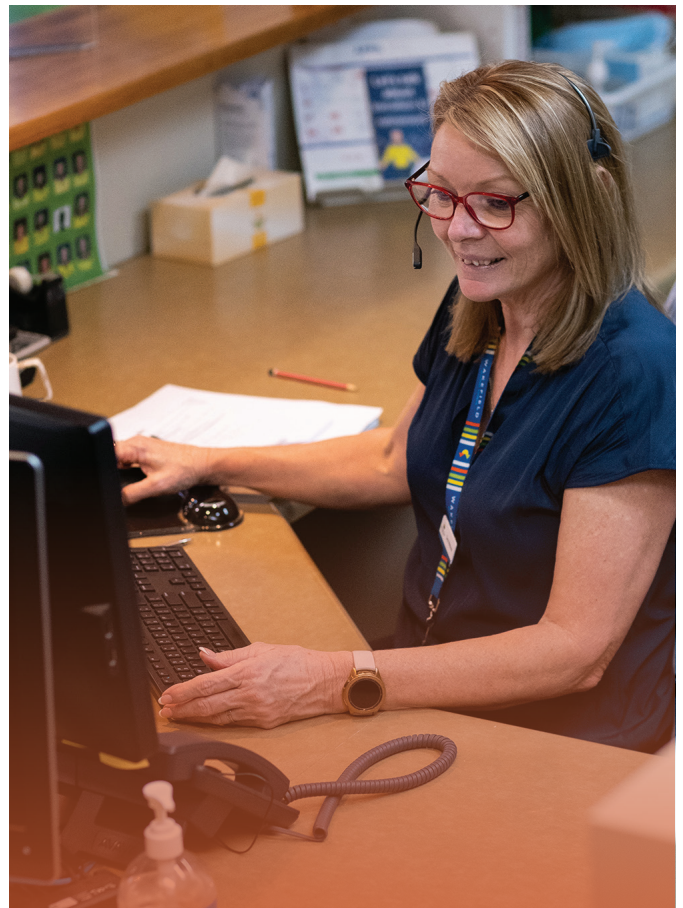
- \$407 for each unoccupied property unit
- \$529 for each occupied property unit

In 2022/23, the charge for MGB services will be:

- \$248 for 2 bins service (commercial businesses)
- \$280 for 3 bins service (residential and other) Residential services shall consist of two 240 litre and one 140 litre bins provided to the property.

Council is required under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, to collect the Regional Landscape Levy on behalf of the Landscape Administration Fund for distribution to the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board. Council does not retain this revenue or determine how it is spent. In 2022/23 this levy will be:

- \$0.013539 for Residential, Vacant and Other
- \$0.013539 for Commercial
- \$0.013539 for Industrial
- \$0.013539 for Primary Production



This Annual Community Plan Summary document includes highlights of our full plan, which can be found at [www.wrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wrc.sa.gov.au) or as a hard copy at Wakefield Regional Council's office, Scotland Place, Balaklava.

To request a hard copy of this summary document or the 2022/23 Annual Community Plan call us on 8862 0800.

## Support for ratepayers

**Financial difficulties:** Council supports ratepayers who are experiencing financial stress through the provision of flexible payment options. Support may be provided for ratepayers experiencing short term or ongoing payment difficulties. Contact Council for a confidential discussion with our Rates Officer if you are having difficulties paying your rates on 8862 0800.

**Seniors:** ratepayer who hold a State Senior's Card may be eligible to postpone a proportion of their rates. To apply to postpone payment of rates please contact the Council office on 8862 0800.

**Rebates:** Council considers discretionary rebates of up to 100% of rates for not-for-profit, sporting and community organisations upon application. These rebates recognise local groups and the positive community benefits they provide. Council also applies a range of mandatory rebates as required by legislation.





# Nominate for Council

LOCAL Government Elections are fast approaching and Wakefield Regional Council is encouraging eligible community members to step up for the chance to represent the region.

“We’re encouraging people to find out more about what it takes to be a Council Member and think about throwing their hat in the ring,” Wakefield Regional Council CEO Andrew MacDonald said.

“Elected Council Members have an opportunity to influence and shape how our region will develop into the future and to help our communities thrive.

“They will set the direction, decide on policies, represent ratepayers and ensure the interests of the Wakefield community are looked after through the plans we deliver.

“It’s really important we have a diverse group of Council Members who can

represent all walks of life in Wakefield and we encourage women, young candidates, people living with disability and people with a range of experiences to nominate.

“Elected Members create a direct connection between the community and Council, providing a voice to local residents, groups and businesses to help achieve our community’s vision.”

Wakefield ratepayers will have the opportunity to

elect 10 Council Members – a Mayor, two South Ward Councillors, three North Ward Councillors and four Central Ward Councillors.

Ratepayers will be posted voting packs in late October – these will need to be returned using the postage paid envelope supplied before 10 November 2022.

Visit [www.councilelections.com.au](http://www.councilelections.com.au) for more info.

## Key election dates

Nominations open	Tuesday 23 August 2022
Nominations close	12 noon, Tuesday 6 September 2022
Mailout of ballot material to electors	Between Friday 14 October and Thursday 20 October 2022
Close of voting (polling day)	5:00 pm, Thursday 10 November 2022
Scrutiny and count	9:00 am, Saturday 12 November 2022

## Group to guide childcare case

FIVE local parents have joined local education leaders on the Port Wakefield Childcare and OSHC Community Reference Group, which will help guide the development of a business case for a local childcare service.

The business case will help support future grant applications to attract funding for the construction and implementation of the

childcare service in Port Wakefield.

The reference group will inform several options in the business case, such as the ideal location of a service and what that service looks like.

Balaklava Community Children’s Centre has shown interest in running another satellite service with the centre providing administrative support similar to the operating

model in Snowtown. Other models will also be considered as part of the business case investigation.

An OSHC service would also support the ongoing viability of the Port Wakefield Primary School, a vital local education service that would benefit from population growth.

Council sees Port Wakefield as a community

with great potential to grow in the near future and childcare services are considered a key support of residential growth in regional townships.

With detailed design under way on Stage 1 of the Port Wakefield Masterplan, a childcare service would be another service to make the town an even more attractive option for families considering moving to the area.



## DrumMuster Collection Days for 2022

DrumMuster provides an easy, environmentally-friendly way of disposing of empty chemical containers across rural Australia.

DrumMuster Collection dates at Everard Transfer Station have been scheduled for 2022.

Collection dates are;

- Thursday 25 August, if sufficient booking also Friday 26 August.
- Thursday 27 October, if sufficient booking also Friday 28 October.

You will find Everard Transfer Station at 106 Hancock Road, Everard.

To book your spot or to find out more information contact Noel Bubner at Agricycling on 0477 521 014.

All containers must be triple rinsed. Metal containers must be punctured in the bottom of the drum. All lids removed.

Petroleum and liquid chorine containers are not accepted.

Cali and Aria Nelson with their eight week old registered Jack Russell puppies Echo and Koda.



## Don't forget dog registrations!

DOG and CAT registration renewal notices have rolled out across the Wakefield region – owners are encouraged to check their details are up to date and their annual fees have been paid.

Registration renewals are due on 31 August 2022 with fines issued if dogs are left unregistered beyond this date.

Wakefield Regional Council Community Safety Officer Michael Wilkin said it was important for owners to

keep their dogs and cats renewal details up to date to ensure Council can return lost animals easily.

"With over 2000 dogs and 400 cats registered in the region, we want to make sure we can return any escaped dogs or cats to their owners as soon as possible – maintaining your registration details allows us to reunite you sooner," Michael said.

Although dogs are often in the limelight at registration time, Council also

encourages you to register your cats.

Cat registrations are currently free and can be completed through the Dogs & Cats Online website.

Don't forget – all dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed.

All dogs and cats must be microchipped.

You can update and access all your pet's information at [www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au](http://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au)



## Let's keep in touch

Scotland Place, Balaklava,  
South Australia  
PO Box 167,  
Balaklava SA 546.

08 8862 0800  
[admin@wrc.sa.gov.au](mailto:admin@wrc.sa.gov.au)  
visit our website for more information  
[wrc.sa.gov.au](http://wrc.sa.gov.au)



**WAKEFIELD**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Like &  
Follow us



## Your Quarterly Cut-Out 3 month bin collection

AUGUST						
Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### Our waste depot opening times

Owen	Port Wakefield	Everard
386 Pinery Road	150 Shrike Road	106 Hancock Road
Wednesday	Thursday	Tuesday
10am - 11am	10am - 11am	9am - 11am
Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
9am - 11am	10am - 12pm	9am - 11am
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
11am - 12pm	9am - 10am	9am - 11am