

CENTRAL
HIGHLANDS
COUNCIL



Central Highlands Council



Annual Report 2006/07



Corporate Vision

Our vision is for the Central Highlands to provide residents and visitors opportunities to participate in and enjoy a vibrant local economy, rewarding community life, cultural history and a natural environment that is world class.

Corporate Mission

Our mission is to provide leadership, management and action needed to ensure local government and other services are provided to meet the social, environmental and economic needs of the community.

Strategic Plan

Council's Strategic Plan is available free of charge by contacting either Bothwell or Hamilton Office

Central Highlands Council

2006-2007

Mayor and Councillors

Mayor	9 Councillors	
<i>Term ends 2007</i> Deirdre E Flint	<i>Term ends 2007</i>	<i>Term ends 2009</i>
Deputy Mayor	Deirdre E Flint Andrew J Downie Loueen M Triffitt Julie A Honner	Richard G Bowden John P F McShane Janet M Monks Lynette A Burke Henry R C Edgell
<i>Term ends 2007</i> Richard G Bowden		

Councillor Attendance Details

	Contact Numbers	Meeting Attendance (including Special meetings)			
		Full	Part	Absent	Possible
Deirdre E Flint	0418 319 832	14			14
Richard G Bowden	6259 5542	10	3	1	14
Andrew J Downie	6286 1202	12	1	1	14
Henry R C Edgell	6259 5612	13	1		14
Loueen M Triffitt	6286 3275	9	1	3	14
Julie A Honner	6259 8270	9	3	2	14
Janet M Monks	6259 5696	12	2		14
Peter F McShane	6259 5517	11		3	14
Lynette A Burke	6286 3291	14			14

MAYOR'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to submit to you my fifth Annual Report which covers the period from July, 2006 to June, 2007.

There are many issues facing Council and decisions will need to be made that will not only benefit our residents, but they must also be financially sustainable. There has to be a balance to what is acceptable and what residents are able to financially afford.

One of these issues is the discussion on who will manage Council water and sewerage schemes throughout the State. Discussions are centred around whether these schemes become a State run entity or managed by Councils on a regional basis. Council will keep residents advised once a Discussion Paper has been formulated on each option.

Council is continuing negotiations with the Forestry Companies to secure funding to offset any damage caused to our roads.

Council is continuing to lobby the State Government for extra road funding, pointing out that the State collects some \$11.7 million from the Heavy Vehicle Registration fees, and we receive approximately \$104,000 which is supposed to assist us. This is quite inadequate when our Municipality covers 8,010 sq km with 716 km of gravel roads and 116 bridges – but we will continue to fight for a better outcome.

In March we were delighted to have the Governor of Tasmania, His Excellency William Cox and Mrs Cox spend the day in Bothwell visiting our developments, school, aged facility and meeting the community over a relaxed lunch.

Research shows this is the first time Bothwell has had a Vice Regal visit that spanned the day.

In May, the State's Health Plan was released without any consultation with our community, by a mainland consultant who never took the time to visit our Municipality. This Plan recommended that the aged facility at the Ouse District

Hospital be closed. Council with the Community will fight this closure and the downgrade of our wonderful hospital which services the whole of the Central Highlands Council area.

Our elderly residents have the right to choose if they would like to stay in their local community, and we will fight for this democratic right.

Council has been continuing discussions with our neighbouring Councils to resource share qualified staff in the areas of planning, environmental health, building surveyors and engineers. To date a planner has been appointed under this arrangement.

Major works have been carried out on the following bridges at a cost of \$143,275.

Clyde River Bridge Bothwell

Kenmere Creek Bridge, Victoria Valley

Brown Marsh Creek Bridge

I would like to place on record my sincere gratitude to the Deputy Mayor, Richard Bowden, for his continued support, and his local knowledge which he has so freely shared with me to the benefit of the Municipality.

I wish to acknowledge Councillors' contributions particularly those who represent Council on Committees. These Committees are time consuming and their input is invaluable. I also wish to acknowledge the contributions from the General Manager, Departmental Managers and their staff for their commitment to the Central Highlands Municipality.

Deirdre E Flint

Mayor

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The year has again been a busy year with Council moving forward in each direction. We have achieved highly over the past year. Councillors and all staff are working as a team to ensure positive outcomes for the Central Highlands area.

Council remains responsive to community needs and reflects the values of a strong rural community.

Challenges remain in the agriculture, tourism small business sector to ensure ongoing growth and development of this sector within the Central Highlands. Recently Council received a \$50,000.00 grant from the Department of Economic Development to prepare an Economic Development Plan for the whole area incorporating an expanded strategy plan and the final stage of the document will address the tourism infrastructure needs of the district.

The rural sector in the Central Highlands municipality faces increased pressure due to the current dry conditions and global impacts on commodity prices and import competition.

Improved asset management practices and systems continue to be developed within the organization. Asset condition and other data continue to be gathered, recorded and utilized. This will underpin valuable work to be undertaken by Council in the future management of its infrastructure assets. Major inroads are continuing particularly in relation to infrastructure improvements in the areas of roads, bridges, water and sewerage

Council has received in conjunction with the adjoining councils of Brighton, Derwent Valley and Southern Midlands a grant of \$100,000.00 over two financial years for a Regional Planning Scheme and it is expected that the draft document will be available for public exhibition in February 2008.

The shack site project recommenced in November 2006 with the complete work under Council's control. The support from the Department of Primary Industries has been excellent and the council employees have moved forward with the support of the community to achieve a high standard of workmanship. It is expected that the project will be completed by August 2008.

Ongoing progress is being made with our waste management depots within the municipality and with the expenditure being approximately 9% of Council's overall Budget for 2006/2007; Council is monitoring each site as to the method of operation and the opening hours of each site. A questionnaire will be enclosed with the rate notices to be sent to ratepayers in July 2007 seeking the community's views.

The Bothwell Town Urban Design Framework Plan is in progress and will provide a vision for visitors coming to Bothwell. Importantly it will contribute to the town's streetscape values, sense of place and provide the necessary services for distributing quality information about the range of opportunities and experiences available to visitors within Bothwell and other towns within the municipality.

As a small council the issue of longer term financial viability will always be a present concern. I believe we are making significant inroads on much needed works and services but this progress will be reliant on the future planning and hard decision making by Council with the support of the community.

I wish to thank the Central Highlands Council workforce for the solid contribution it has made over the year. Ever increasing demands are being placed on our small number of staff. Our dedicated team continues to accept the challenges and provide levels of service this community can be proud of.

My thanks to the Mayor and Councillors for their support over the past year. I look forward to the Central Highlands continuing to move forward over the coming year

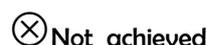
Rod Walsh

General Manager

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LEGEND



ROADS AND BRIDGES PROGRAM

Strategy

Provide, maintain and as required, construct gravel roads and sealed roads, bridges, culverts and appropriate furniture that forms the Central Highlands road network which enables residents, property owners and visitors safe access to conduct their business activities.

Efficiently and effectively implement Council's maintenance and construction roadwork programs.

Activity	Comment	Status
Continue to lobby the State Government to seal the balance of the Highlands Lake Road	Council have representation on the Highland Roads Consultative Group. Council continually lobby the State Government to complete the sealing of the Highlands Lakes Road.	
Ensure that all Council roads are inspected on a regular basis	Regular inspections of Council roads are carried out.	
Ensure that all Council bridges are inspected on a regular basis	Council bridges are inspected every three months.	
Manage Council's Asset Register for Roads and Bridges	Council's assets are progressively being recorded on "conquest" software. Revaluations of Council's Road, Bridges, Footpaths, Kerbs & Gutters assets were completed and values recorded as at 30 June 2005. The next revaluation is expected to be completed by June, 2008.	
Prepare a five year rolling capital works program for construction / reconstruction of Council roads and bridges	Bridge program developed and Roads program ongoing.	
Ensure that maintenance of roads and bridges are carried out within budget limits.	Council's road maintenance budget was \$1,100,000. Maintenance works completed totalled \$961,322.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Council completed \$44,096 maintenance works on bridges out of an allocated budget of \$56,000.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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LEGEND

Achieved

In Progress

Ongoing

Not achieved

\$15,065 was spent on footpath, kerbs & gutter maintenance with an additional \$5,103 spent on drainage works.



Complete the capital works budget for roads and bridges

Roads (capital)

\$6,247 was spent on completing the sealing of Tanina Road. \$235,107 was allocated from the Roads to recovery Grant to reseal sections of sealed roads throughout the municipality.



Bridges (capital)

Expenditure attributed to capital works on bridges is as follows:-

- Clyde River Bridge, Logan Road – replaced - \$43,314
- Replaced Kenmere Creek bridge on Victoria Valley Road at a cost of \$48,974
- Replaced Brown Marsh Creek Bridge at a cost of \$50,987



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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

WATER PROGRAM

Strategy

Provide water services that meet the needs of town residents and business operators and comply with established health and environmental standards.

Efficiently and effectively implement Council's maintenance and construction works for the various town water schemes, including reservoirs, treatment plants, pump stations, water mains and connections for private customers.

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintenance on water schemes	Maintenance was undertaken on all water schemes	
Capital Works Water	<p>Work continued on the Ellendale Water Treatment Plant. The Plant is currently being monitored to ensure that the quality is consistent with the Drinking Water Guidelines before the plant is finally commissioned.</p> <p>Council were successful in obtaining a Community Water Grant of \$32,686 in 2005/2006 to upgrade the components of the Bothwell Water Scheme. This work has now been completed.</p> <p>\$6,930 was spent on the Gretna Water Scheme.</p>	<p></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

SEWERAGE AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE

Provide sewerage and stormwater drainage services that comply with established health and environmental standards.

Efficiently and effectively implement Council's maintenance works for sewage treatment plants, sewerage mains and connections.

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintenance on Sewerage Schemes	\$71,352 was spent on sampling, maintenance and operating costs for Council sewerage schemes.	
Capital works sewerage schemes	The Bothwell Sewerage Re-Use Scheme (funded through the Riverworks component of the National Heritage Trust) was completed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	An engineer was engaged to provide Council with a report on modifications necessary to the Gretna Wastewater Plant upgrade to enable the plant to work at the required capacity and achieve the desired emission limits. \$72,710 was spent during the financial year implementing the recommendations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONTRACTING EXTERNAL WORKS AND SERVICES

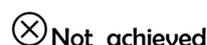
Improve the efficiency and competitiveness of Council's workforce and actively seek to undertake private works and services whilst maintaining accurate costs of activities to ensure that Council continue to make a profit.

Activity	Comment	Status
Supply plant, labour and materials for external works	Private works are carried out by Council for ratepayers, businesses and government departments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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LEGEND



COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Continue to maintain and improve a range and standard of Council halls, parks, gardens, public toilets and community and recreational facilities that meet community needs, enable an active community life and reflect a positive image for the district.

Implement programs to enable all community properties owned by Council to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

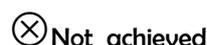
Activity	Comment	Status
Carry out maintenance to all halls	Expenditure totalled \$27,379	
Undertake maintenance and upkeep of all Council parks and gardens	Maintenance and upkeep totalled \$29,125. An arborist is engaged when necessary to report on the health and maintenance required on trees in Council parks.	
Cleansing and maintenance of Council's public conveniences	Regular cleansing and maintenance carried out. Cost \$37,346.	
Maintain Council cemetery	<p>Council's cemetery was well maintained. Council's Cemetery Committee comprising council and community representation meet regularly.</p> <p>The Committee is proactive in monitoring and maintaining the local cemetery.</p> <p>Council are in the process of negotiating for the purchase of additional land to extend the lawn cemetery.</p>	
Maintenance of town verges and nature strips, recreation grounds and other community amenities	Regular mowing is undertaken and maintenance completed as required. Council budgeted of \$74,500 for town mowing with actual costs being \$54,935. \$20,472 was spent on recreation ground maintenance.	

OTHER COUNCIL PROPERTIES AND MISCELLANEOUS WORKS

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LEGEND



Maintain the Library, Caravan Park, Medical Centre and Council houses to the standard specified by Council.

Maintain efficient depot and workshop facilities.

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintain the caravan park in a clean and tidy state and undertake repairs as needed.	<p>The Bothwell Caravan Park is kept in a clean and tidy state and is being well utilised.</p> <p>Campers often camp on the grassed area along the Clyde River at Hamilton and utilise the new laundry and shower facilities.</p> <p>Grey water disposal sites have been installed at both the Bothwell and Hamilton sites to empty porta potties and mobile toilet waste into the waste treatment system.</p>	
Maintenance of library facility and housing assets	Routine maintenance undertaken	
Provide waste collections and associated services of town rubbish collections, bulky waste collections and tip cover.	<p>Once a year Council collects rubbish from towns that are too bulky or unsuitable for the domestic door to door service.</p> <p>Bulky Waste is collected from satellite waste transfer stations by Council and transferred to the regional refuse site at Hamilton</p> <p>To ensure the best use of the Hamilton RDS, cover is stockpiled and used when necessary.</p>	
Provision of Housing Services	Council began the construction of two new 2 bedroom Independent Living Units at Bothwell. These were partly funded by the Department of Health & Human Services. It is expected that these units will be completed and ready for occupancy by the end of November, 2007. This brings the	

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

total of units available to six.

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

WORKS and SERVICES MANAGEMENT

Continue to develop trained, appropriately resourced and self-managed work teams.

Ensure that work activities are accurately costed to enable control of costs, quality and time frames for work completion.

Ensure that occupational health and safety (OHS) policies and procedures are fully implemented.

Activity	Comment	Status
Provision of training, clothing, minor plant, protective equipment.	Council have a diversified workforce who are multi-skilled. Training is provided to ensure staff are kept up to date with changing work practices and regulations.	

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Maintain all Council's plant and equipment in a serviceable, safe and optimum operating condition and ensure it is effectively utilised and replaced in a timely, cost effective and efficient manner.

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintain plant and ensure its optimised use	Maintenance and operating costs amounted to \$490,723 with plant hire received of \$836,329. Plant purchases during the year were 2 x Holden Rodeo 4x4's 1 Triton Ute 1 Hino Truck 1 Nissan X-Trail 1 Mack Fleetliner 1 Honda Lawnmower Stihl chainsaw & stihl brushcutter 1 Ride-on lawnmower 1 Auger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

EMERGENCY SERVICES

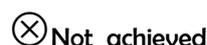
Maintain appropriate plans and practices, in conjunction with the relevant State authorities and voluntary groups, to protect the Central Highlands district and its residents from natural or other community risks and to assist in emergency services.

Activity	Comment	Status
State Emergency Service	<p>Council transport damaged cars to the Wayatinah SES for training purposes.</p> <p>Council SES co-ordinators are Gilbert Dillon, Manager Works & Services and Ross Johnstone, Supervisor Hamilton.</p>	
Fire Protection	<p>Council staff and plant are available, if required, during the fire season to assist local volunteer fire-fighters and landowners.</p>	

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LEGEND



DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

Process development and subdivision applications efficiently and professionally within the appropriate statutory time limits.

Provide a comprehensive range of advice to Council on existing and proposed development in the Central Highlands.

Administer Council's planning scheme for the Central Highlands and ensure it provides consistent and clear direction and policies for development, protection of the environment and provision of infrastructure assets.

Continue to inform the community on relevant aspects of Council's development and environmental services.

Conduct regular reviews of the Central Highlands Planning Scheme 1998 to:

Correct anomalies

Reflect the perceived needs of the community and Council

Address the model planning scheme provisions

Identify strategic links to the Derwent Catchment Natural Resource Management Plan.

Activity	Comment	Status
Provision of statutory requirements for development of land within the Central Highlands	Council employs a Consultant Planning Officer who works with Council one day a week.	
	66 "Permitted" and 61 "Discretionary" development applications have been processed for assessment.	
	There has been 17 subdivision applications received during the year equating to 53 new lots being created. From the 57 new lots, 20 are on hold waiting further information before a decision can be made and 9 lots were subject to the approval of an application for an amendment to the Central Highlands Planning Scheme 1998.	
	2 applications for amendments to the Central Highlands Planning Scheme 1998 was received during 2006/07.	

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LEGEND



Achieved



In Progress



Ongoing



Not achieved

One application was to rezone a parcel of land from rural to holiday residential to allow for a 5 lot subdivision. The application was initiated and certified by Council but was refused by the Resource Planning and Development Commission. The other application is to rezone part of a lot from rural to village to allow for a 4 lot subdivision and this application is still pending approval.

Continue with developing a GIS system

This system continues to be a valuable tool for the Development and Environmental Services team in the delivery and assessment of client services.



Development Statistics

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total No Applications	110	94		125	152	127
No. Permitted	69	76	119	74	97	66
Average Days Processing	23	20				
No. Discretionary	41	18	56	51	55	61
Average Days Processing	34	33	35	36	39	39
Subdivision Applications	12	6	11	13	17	17
No. Lots	37	18	83	84	111	53
Planning Scheme Amendments				1	1	2

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LEGEND



Achieved



In Progress



Ongoing



Not achieved

NATURAL RESOURCE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Monitor all water and sewerage schemes to ensure compliance with environmental standards.

Liaise closely with Government agencies and stakeholder groups, such as farmers, shack owners and land care groups, with responsibilities and interest in catchment management to ensure consistent and effective policies and actions.

Actively pursue resources to assist in environmental and natural resource management planning through programs such as the Natural Heritage Trust and Landcare or by contracting with Government agencies to provide specialist local services.

Ensure the provision of best practice environmental management.

Activity	Comment	Status
Monitor and sample water supplies to ensure safe potable water supplies	Sampling of Council's water supplies has been undertaken in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines to monitor compliance with the quality standards contained in the guidelines. Statutory reporting to the Department of Human and Health Services is completed annually.	
	The treated supplies of Bothwell, Hamilton, Ouse and Wayatinah complied with the quality standards specified for small water supplies.	

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

The untreated supplies of Ellendale and Gretna do not comply, and as required under the Public Health Act 1997, "Boil Water Notices" remain in force. Upgrading of the Ellendale Water Supply is well underway and this should result in the water complying with the relevant standards. 

Council has prepared a Draft Drinking Water Management Plan for its Bothwell Plant. Further plans for each supply will be progressively prepared. The Natural Resource Management Officer is also involved with the preparation of these plans.

Natural Resource Management

Council continues to fund Natural Resource Management and the implementation of the Derwent Catchment NRM Plan (as applicable), and is working with the local NRM Co-ordinator to implement its Weed Management Strategy. 

Monitor and sample sewerage supplies to accepted environmental standards.

Sewerage effluent from Council's five sewage treatment systems and from other commercial sewage plants has been monitored and analysed to determine compliance with the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act. Results are reported to the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment on a monthly basis. 

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Strive for ongoing and measurable improvements to community health through responsive, educative, monitored, participative and enforcement programs.

Implement inspection and immunisation services and education programs for the health of the community and provide advice to the community on environmental and public health issues.

Activity	Comment	Status
Provision of environmental health service	Council registers all food premises and offers food handler training sessions for the community and charity organisations based on the Foodsafe Accreditation Guidelines.	
	Council monitors food quality as part of the state-wide food-sampling program.	
	Places of Assembly are inspected annually to ensure compliance with the Public Health Act and the Guidelines for Health and Safety in Public Places.	
Continue immunisation programs for adults and children	Council's Environmental Health Officer, in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health operates annual school immunisation programs in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Act 1997.	
	Council adopts a co-operative approach with the two local doctors both offering "free" immunisation by appointment.	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Council performed its functions under the Public Health Act 1997 and the Food Act 2003 as detailed below. Council employs a part-time Consultant Environmental Health Officer (EHO) and a Cadet EHO.

Council strives for ongoing and measurable improvements to community health through responsive, educative, monitored, participative and enforcement programs. Council has implemented inspection and immunisation services and education programs for the health of the community and to provide advice to the community on environmental and public health issues.

These objectives and strategies form part of Council's Strategic Plan, and this was developed in consultation with the Central Highlands community. Thus, the programs implemented by Council can be seen to be meeting at least part of the needs of members of the community.

The various public health strategies that have been undertaken by Council are detailed.

- 53 food premises have been registered and licensed in accordance with the Food Act 2003. These premises are audited as required in accordance with a risk based assessment protocol.
- 22 Places of Assembly require licensing in accordance with the Public Health Act and the Guidelines for Health and Safety in Public Places. On completion of Certificate of Occupancies, these premises will be progressively licensed.
- 4 Special Events Licences have been issued during the year.
- A DrumMUSTER collection facility continues to operate at the Hamilton Regional Disposal and Recycling Site to provide an ongoing service with two new employees being trained as DrumMUSTER inspectors.
- School immunisation was carried out in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council Immunisation Schedule, and was conducted by Council's Medical Officer of Health at the two schools in the municipality (Bothwell and Ouse).
- "Free" infant immunisation continues to be offered by appointment at the Ouse Surgery and Bothwell Medical Centre as per the national immunisation schedule.

BUILDING AND PLUMBING CONTROL

Ensure that all new buildings and structures within the Central Highlands comply with statutory requirements and Council policies and that inspections are made at appropriate stages during construction to

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

ensure compliance with approved plans, codes and standards and to provide advice to the community on building and plumbing issues.

Special Projects – participate in special projects which may require local government expertise, experience and statutory control.

Activity	Comment	Status
Provision of plumbing and building control service	<p>93 building permit applications and 83 plumbing permit applications have been lodged with Council.</p> <p>Council employs a full time Building and Plumbing Inspector to undertake routine inspections and assessment of applications. Council continues to employ a Building Surveyor (part time) to issue Certificates of Likely Compliance and to oversee enforcement issues under the Building Act 2000. 78 Certificates of Likely Compliance were issued by Council's Building Surveyor with only 15 being undertaken by private Building Surveyors.</p> <p>Each application was assessed to determine compliance with the Building Code of Australia and the Tasmanian Plumbing Code. Appropriate site inspections were conducted as applicable for each permit.</p> <p>32 special connection (septic tank) permit applications were lodged with Council. Each application was processed following on-site assessment for compliance with the Plumbing Regulations and Tasmanian Plumbing Code.</p>	

Building Statistics

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

No. Buildings	98	124	162	109	112	93
No. Plumbing	97	304	261	87	79	83
No. Special Connections	83	303	234	74	35	32
Value of Building Applications	\$2,039,542	\$2,880,136	\$4,400,760	\$4,147,996	\$3,747,091	\$5,336,995

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Provide solid waste management services and facilities for the entire Central Highland district that are efficient and effective, reduce waste and comply with statutory, public health and environmental requirements. Ensure that Council promotes the "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" theme in the community.

Activity

Provision of a door to door garbage and kerbside recycling service

Comment

Council provides a relatively comprehensive kerbside collection service with recyclables transported to Hobart for processing.

Kerbside garbage and recycling collection continues to be provided to residents of Bothwell, Ellendale, Fentonbury, Gretna, Hamilton, Ouse, Wayatinah and Westerway

Tenders were called during 2005/2006 for the door to door weekly garbage collection service using 120ltr mobile garbage bins (MGB's) and a fortnightly recycling collection. This was due to the inability of Contractors to collect garbage bags. The tender was awarded to Thorp Waste with the new MGB service to commencing on 14 August, 2006.

Status



Maintain and operate Council's

Servicing of Council's remote Waste Transfer Stations continues to be done under contract, with



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LEGEND Achieved  In Progress  Ongoing  Not achieved

waste transfer stations

waste from the “Lyell Highway Sites” being compacted and disposed of at the Hamilton Refuse Disposal Site. Waste from the waste transfer stations near Great Lake continues to be compacted and disposed of at the Launceston City Council Refuse Disposal Site. The tender was awarded to Jones Waste Management with a five year contract.

During 2005/06 it was resolved to close three waste transfer stations and upgrade and staff a number of other sites. During 2006/07 implementation of these changes were undertaken.

Control and maintenance of refuse disposal sites

Council operates one controlled refuse disposal site at Hamilton. 

Operating hours are reviewed regularly to ensure that they are appropriate for the community. 

The DrumMUSTER collection facility is available at the Hamilton Regional Disposal Site. 

Collect static recycling and clean sites

Council engage a contractor to collect recycling from static sites and ensure that sites are clean. 

Council is a member of the Southern Waste Strategy Authority, along with all other Southern Councils. During the year the Authority continued implementation of the waste strategy jointly developed by the member councils. 

SWIMMING POOL

Ensure that the Bothwell Swimming Pool is maintained and monitored to provide a safe and healthy recreation facility.

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintain and operate the Swimming Pool	<p>The Bothwell Swimming Pool opens between the months of December and March each year. The Bothwell District High School continues to use the pool during the month of December for school activities such as learn to swim.</p> <p>Prior to the pool opening in December, heat pumps were installed to allow for backup heating so that better heating efficiency can be achieved. This has proven to be very successful.</p> <p>The Bothwell Swimming Pool Committee meet regularly during the season to ensure the smooth operation of the facility.</p>	

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

ANIMAL CONTROL

Ensure that the control of dogs is performed according to statutory requirements; and directions; from Council.

Activity	Comment	Status
All dogs in the area are to be identified and registered	Council appointed another staff member as a Dog Control Officer bringing the total number of staff authorised by Council to undertake duties in relation to dog control to three.	
Advertise and promote registration, control and care of dogs and Council's Dog Management Plan	Council provides information to ratepayers (by pamphlet) on dog management, responsibilities of dog ownership, control of barking dogs, etc. Complaints received by Council are attended to by one of Council's Dog Control Officers.	 

Dog Control Statistics

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Dogs Registered	761	710	749	744	825
Kennel Licenses	0	0	0	0	0
Infringement Notices	0	1	2	0	1
Impounded Dogs	3	9	4	5	17
Declared Dangerous Dogs	1	1	1	3	1

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

Provide advice and information to Council to assist Council fulfil and comply with its statutory functions and legal responsibilities.

Ensure that Council's processes and procedures fulfil the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and other relevant Acts and statutory obligations.

Provide timely and efficient support services to enable all Councillors to fulfil their responsibilities.

Implement policies and decisions of Council as documented in the minutes of Council meetings, Council's Strategic and Operational Plans, the Annual Budget and other programs.

Maintain Council's strategic and annual operational plans and planning processes and assist Council in its involvement in and response to major regional and local strategic issues.

Ensure the best use of Council's resources and implement improvements as required.

Monitor services to customers and identify areas where Council can improve to provide the best, most efficient and effective service to the Central Highlands community.

Activity	Comment	Status
Implementation of Policies and decisions of Council	Council policies and decisions are implemented by staff. Central Highlands Council, together with Southern Midlands, Brighton and Derwent Valley Councils have identified significant benefits through Councils working together to achieve similar aims and objectives. The shortage of professional staff for Planning, Environmental Health and Building Surveying is an opportunity where Councils may resource share to ensure that these services are provided.	

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Maintain Council's strategic and annual plans

Council's Strategic Plan was adopted by Council in 2002 and annual plans are prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act. A revision of the Strategic Plan will be completed during 2007/2008.



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Work closely with the community to assist in the planning and provision of community services and ensure its needs for these services are advocated to those responsible.

Work closely with the relevant State agencies to facilitate the sustainable development of the Central Highland's significant economic potential including the creation of employment generating opportunities.

Progress youth employment opportunities and facilitate career pathways where available and to continue to participate in the Youth Council.

Encourage and support an expansion of the tourism industry in line with acknowledged trends and in consultation with local operators.

Activity	Comment	Status
Promote the Central Highlands by supporting and encouraging community projects which encourage visitors to the area	Council supports the Australasian Golf Museum with a heritage building at no cost.	
	Support is given to the Hamilton Agricultural Show, and Steppes Rodeo events which draw large numbers of visitors to the district.	
	Council support the International Highland Spin-in which is held every two years in Bothwell.	

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

<p>Develop strong linkages with those involved in the promotion and development of economic and tourist activities in the area</p>	<p>Council contribute towards Tasmania's South Regional Tourism Association.</p> <p>Council offers support to local tourism groups.</p>	<p></p> <p></p>
<p>Ensure Council's supports and facilitates appropriate new initiatives whilst maintaining and upholding sustainable development</p>	<p>Council supports both the Bothwell and Ouse on-line access centres to continue to provide a valuable service to the Central Highlands community.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Ensure there are opportunities for the community to realise its full potential by supporting programs where Council considers it appropriate and by giving assistance to community based groups and organisations where the need is justified.</p>	<p>Council provide an annual allocation to Centralinc to assist with providing community and economic development programs to the area.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Ensure relevant Council information is disseminated to the community in a timely manner.</p>	<p>Council disseminates information to the community by:</p> <p>Advertising/articles in the Highlands Digest</p> <p>Advertising in the three daily newspapers</p> <p>Newsletter with rates each year</p> <p>Letter box drop when necessary</p>	<p></p>
<p>Conduct community consultation on major issues in a manner that ensures an indicative cross section of the community has input</p>	<p>Meetings were held on the proposed closure of the Ouse hospital by the State Government. The Special Medical Services Committee of Council was established to be proactive in ensuring that the Central Highlands have available the necessary services and medical facilities available to our residents, ratepayers and visitors.</p> <p>Public meetings were also held on the future of the Osterley War Memorial Hall. No decision has yet been made on its future.</p>	<p></p>

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Conduct an open and available access policy to ensure members of the community can discuss items of interest or make representation to Councillors and where appropriate, senior staff.

The community has access to all Senior Council Managers. 

Public question time is allocated at all Council meetings.

Arrangements can be made with Council for delegations to attend and make representations at Council meetings.

DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The following donations were made during the year:

Centralinc	\$10,800	Citizenship Awards 3 Schools	\$300
Bothwell District High School	\$500	3 x Bursarys	\$750
Glenora District High School	\$100	Bothwell Anglers Club	\$200
Bothwell On-line Access	\$500	Miena Volunteer Ambulance	\$500
Australasian Golf Museum	\$4,000	Hamilton Agricultural Show	\$500
Ellendale Hall Committee	\$500	Bronte park Bushwatch	\$500
Bothwell Gun Club	\$500	Save the Hospital Fund	\$100
Bothwell & Ouse District High Schools – combined leavers dinner	\$200	Go Highlands	\$7,500
T Allwright	\$100	Anglers Access	\$9,900
Great lake Community Centre	\$650	Gretna Cricket Club	\$500
		Bothwell International Spin-In	\$3,000

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LEGEND

Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

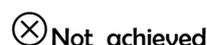
Assistance is also provided to community groups and clubs by way of in-kind support such as provision of plant and labour, photocopying, and free or subsidised use of Council premises, to name a few. Groups to benefit were:

Hamilton Church Guild
Centralinc Senior Lunches
Landcare Groups
Hamilton District Agricultural Show Committee
Lions Club Bothwell
Hamilton Anglican Church
Natural Resource Management Committee
Ouse On-Line Access Centre
Bothwell Historical Society
Bothwell Tourism Committee
Watatinah Sports & Social Club
Bothwell International Spin-In Committee
Gretna Cricket Club
Central Hawks Football Club

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CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Prepare the estimates for the forthcoming year in accordance with the operational needs of Council.

Provide timely information and assist management and Council with budget planning and meeting financial objectives.

Ensure that Council's rating structures are equitable, appropriate and generate sufficient revenues for Council's operations.

Initiate appropriate action to ensure the recovery of outstanding rates and debts due to Council.

Manage cash flows so that Council is able to meet its financial obligations.

Efficiently and effectively administer a range of financial services such as Councillors expenses, valuation, advertising, legal fees, insurance, subscriptions, audit, long service leave, loan management, oncosts and creditors.

Promote the concept of taxation reform between State and Local Government and other options for revenue generation such as grant availability.

Activity	Comment	Status
Recovery of Rate Debts	Council continue to monitor rate debtors. Rate debtors as at 30 June 2007 amounted to \$178,898 compared to \$154,910 for the previous financial year.	
Creditors Control	Council endeavour to ensure that all creditors are paid in a timely manner.	
Estimates, Annual Plan and Annual Report.	These were all completed and adopted.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sundry financial services	Monthly reports and quarterly reports are submitted to Council.	

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT AND EQUIPMENT

Activity	Comment	Status
Ensure that Computer and Office Equipment is maintained and replaced when necessary	Computer hardware and software is replaced when necessary.	
	Information is continually added to the Conquest Asset Management System with details of the revaluations of roads, bridges, footpaths, drainage, water and sewerage loaded.	
	Council's Records Management Software package enables correspondence to be accessed and viewed electronically by staff.	

HUMAN RESOURCES

To provide management support services for Council and its officers, including training and development.

To ensure that employees records are maintained with respect to leave and entitlements.

Activity	Comment	Status
Maintenance of employee records	All employees records are kept as per industry standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gilbert Dillon was appointed as Council's Manager of Works and Services.	
	Stephen Fielding was appointed as Supervisor Bothwell depot and Ross Johnstone was appointed as Supervisor Hamilton Depot.	
	Several long term casuals were also	

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

appointed as permanent employees.

Under Section 72 of the Local Government Act 1993, the following is reported:

TOTAL REMUNERATION BRACKET	NO OF SENIOR EMPLOYEES
\$40,000 - \$60,000	3
\$60,000 - \$80,000	1
\$80,000 - \$100,000	1

- Total remuneration includes salary, employer superannuation contribution, value of use of motor vehicle provided, value of other allowances and benefits paid to an employee.
- Senior Employees are employees that report directly to the General Manager

Total Allowances and expenses paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors were \$74,000.

Water Pricing

Council supplies water to the towns of Bothwell, Hamilton, Ellendale, Ouse, Gretna, Wayatinah and Westerway/Fentonbury. The supply is based on a supply charge according to locality. The supply charge incorporates a fixed allowance of water. An excess water charge is applied for water used above the annual allowance. Ellendale was progressively metered during the year and will be liable for excess water charges from 1 July, 2007.

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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

Water District	Tenement Charge \$	Allowance included	Vacant Allotment Charge \$	Allowance included	Excess Water Charge Cents per kl.
Bothwell	340	563	170	281	37
Hamilton	390	563	195	281	37
Ouse	280	563	140	281	37
Gretna	380	563	190	281	37
Ellendale	250		125		
Wayatinah	356	563	178	281	37
Westerway/Fentonbury	370	563	185	281	56

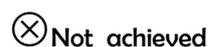
Sewerage charges applied:

Sewerage District	Tenement Charge \$	Vacant Allot Charge \$
Bothwell	210	105
Hamilton	240	120
Ouse	240	120
Gretna	430	215
Wayatinah	250	125
Flintstone Drive	320	160

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Contracts for supply or provision of goods and services valued at or above \$100,000 excluding GST (as per Section 23 (5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005)

Description	Period of Contract	Value excluding GST	Successful Contractor	Business Address of Successful Contractor
Supply and servicing of waste material from waste transfer stations	1 November, 2006 to 30 June, 2011.	\$108,679 p.a.	Willowee Holdings Pty Ltd T/A Jones Waste management	9 Donalds Avenue Prospect
Supply of Truck	Supplied 18 June, 2007	\$201,551.314	Webster Trucks & Machinery	12B Duncan Street Montrose
Resealing roads	1/10/2006 – 30/6/07	\$300,454	Roadways Pty Ltd	PO Box 303 Glenorchy

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Comparative Financial Performance Indicators are provided for the current and previous eight years.

Indicator	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Rate Revenue Analysis: Rate Income:Total Revenue Working Capital Ratio	40%	33%	25%	27%	27%	33%	34%	35%	33%
Current Assets: Current Liabilities:	7.22	8.14	5.99	5.22	4.67	3.36	4.25	3.80	3.78
Debt Ratio Total Liabilities:Total Assets:	0.84	0.99	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02

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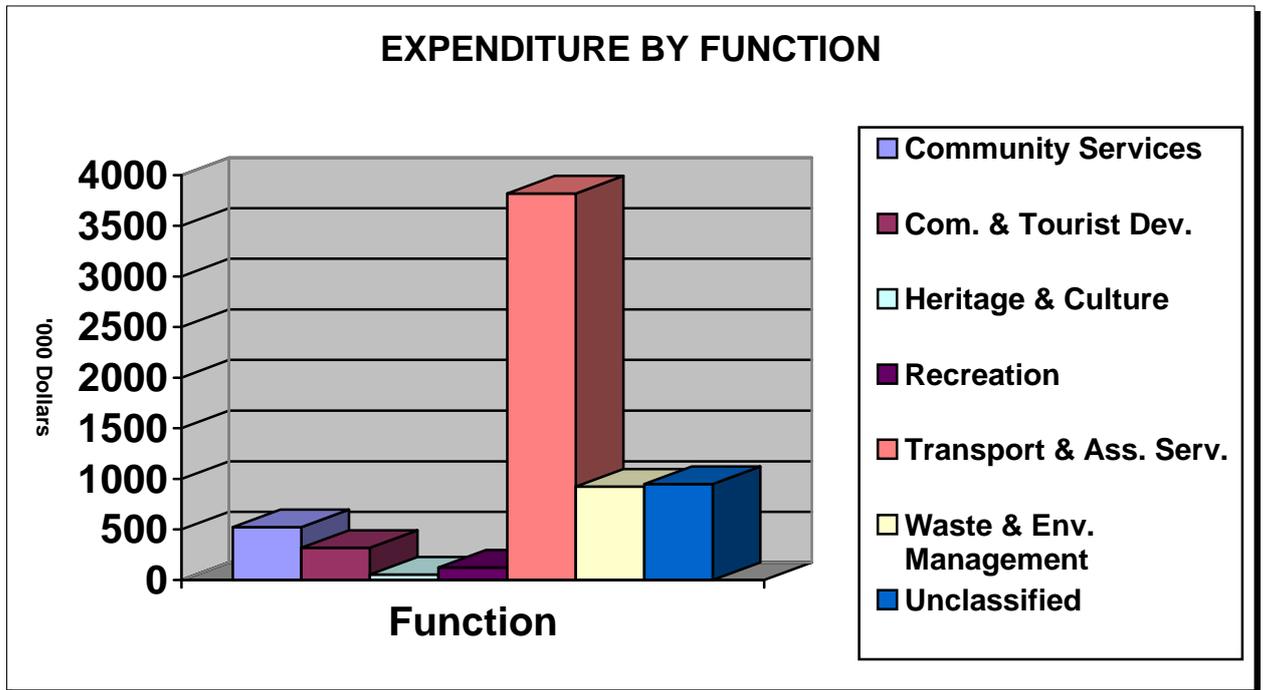
Achieved

In Progress

Ongoing

Not achieved

EXPENDITURE



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Achieved

 In Progress

 Ongoing

Not achieved

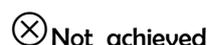
RESERVES

	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Reserve	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Plant Replacement	100	100	100	82	100	100	400	449
Roads		178						
Water	2						141	
Computer Replacement								
Sewerage	398	409	435	178	170	170	223	
Bridges	459	575	575	676	750	750	355	405
Sundry	1,033	849	509	817	1,510	369	191	305
Long Service Leave	208	209	221	225	225	225	225	225
Independent Living Units	25	25	28	39	43		187	95
Regional Refuse Site	40	50	60	70	80	80	80	80
Quarry Reserve		27	28	38	50	50	50	
Shacksites Program		33				2,476	1,560	1,270
Roads to Recovery			340	112			359	359
Bothwell Pool			5	21	23	24	25	6
Total	2,265	2,457	2,301	2,258	2,951	4,244	3,796	3,194

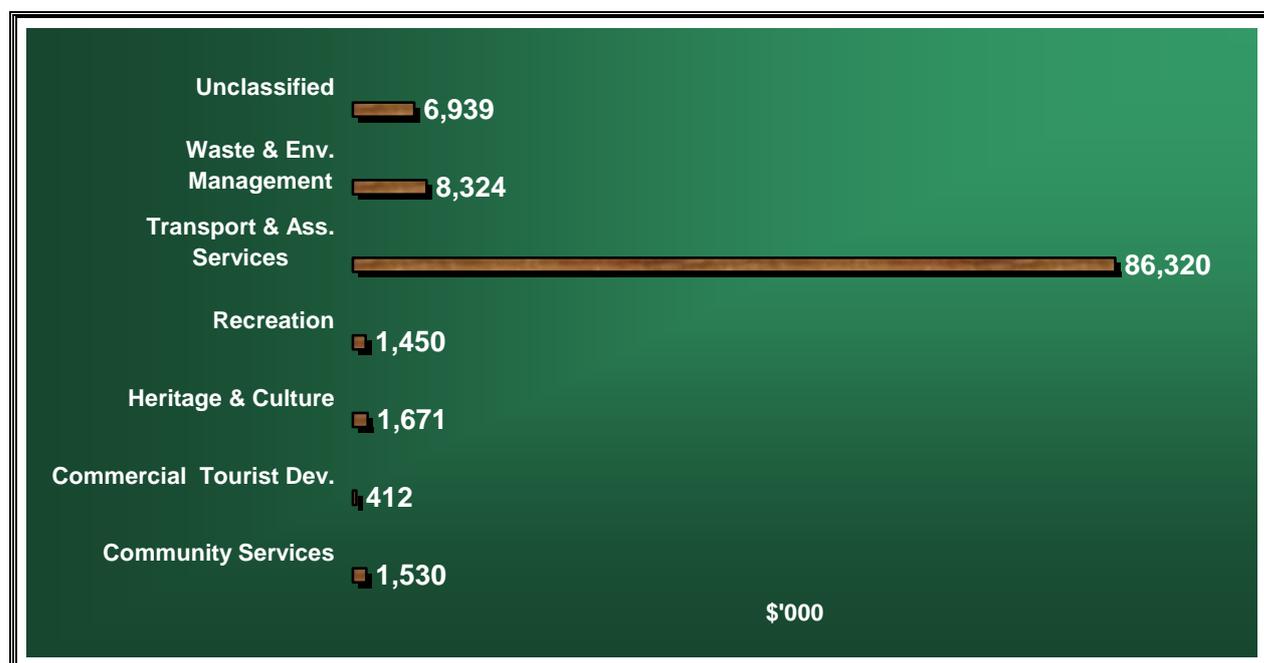
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ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO FUNCTIONS IN '000 DOLLARS



NON-CURRENT ASSETS

NON-CURRENT ASSET	30 JUNE 2006 WRITTEN DOWN VALUE \$'000	30 JUNE 2007 WRITTEN DOWN VALUE \$'000	INCREASE/ (DECREASE) \$'000
Land	1,466	1,708	242
Buildings	3,368	3,994	626
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	1,730	1,881	151
Motor Vehicles	110	78	(32)
Office Equipment	85	84	(1)
Computer Equipment	182	151	(31)
Infrastructure	299	291	(8)
Roads	70,756	76,281	5,525
Drainage Systems	652	643	(9)
Water Schemes	4,633	4,572	(61)
Sewerage Schemes	3,092	3,119	27
Bridges	4,077	4,030	(47)
Footpaths, Kerbs & Gutters	891	621	(270)
Works in Progress	2,139	2,786	647
Receivables	16		(16)
Valuer-General	93	70	(23)
TOTAL\$	93,589	100,309	6,720