

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



**GOLDFIELDS
ESPERANCE**
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I open the Chairman's Report by honouring my predecessor, Kath Finlayson CitWA for her time and talent in directing the activities of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) and knowing that Kath had the interests of the Region at heart. My circumstances are different to Kath's. I work full-time as a legal practitioner and have some other community hats to wear. My limited time will have to be put to good use. My knowledge of and involvement in GEDC activities prior to my appointment has been minimal.

I will say since being appointed as Chairman of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission I have been asked on many occasions, what do I hope to achieve during my tenure of office. As my knowledge of, and involvement with, the GEDC's activities grow I will feel more qualified to expand on the organisation's role within the Region and at a State and Federal level. I will say that there will not be a paradigm shift in priorities, policies or business procedures in the immediate future.

In my short time at GEDC I have chaired and attended a variety of meetings on behalf of GEDC and I have found this rewarding and informative. As an introductory step into being the Chairman I offered to visit each of the local government authorities (9 in total) in the Region to listen to their comments about how they see the role of GEDC. The Board have also adopted a different operating format for the Board Meetings. Board Meetings still occur on bi-monthly basis, with a tele/video conference meeting initially followed by a face-to-face meeting on a selected theme. The GEDC Board, so far, have covered themes on Tourism and Skills Shortages. Other themes that have been identified for future Board Meetings are Infrastructure, Indigenous Issues, Community Sustainability and Coastal Management.

As Chair of the GEDC, I see the role of the Board as one of identifying the strengths and opportunities of the Region and promoting those strengths and opportunities to the private sector and government (where necessary) to ensure that they are realised and capitalised on. Additionally, the Board must be able to analyse areas of weakness and "present the case" to government and the private sector (where necessary) to have those weakness addressed.

In closing, I can say that GEDC will not be able to solve all problems – particularly if the solution to a problem is seen as money; GEDC has very limited financial resources. But, if a problem is within our strategic goals and can be solved by human effort, we will endeavour to solve it.



Bill McKenzie
Chairman

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) is a statutory authority of the Government of Western Australia, established in 1993 to encourage and promote balanced social and economic development in the Goldfields-Esperance region of Western Australia. GEDC is one of nine Regional Development Commissions in Western Australia.

GEDC is responsible to the Hon Tom Stephens BA MLC as the appointed Minister for Goldfields-Esperance. Minister Stephens also has the portfolios of Local Government and Regional Development; Heritage; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne.

A Board of Management comprising ten members, including Local Government, Community and Ministerial appointees, sets GEDC's overall strategic direction and goals. The organisation receives an annual budget from the State Government to carry out its activities.

GEDC is based in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, with branch offices in Esperance, Leonora and Ravensthorpe.

The Goldfields-Esperance Region

Geography

The Goldfields-Esperance region is located in the South Eastern corner of Western Australia and incorporates nine local government authority areas – the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjarraku and Ravensthorpe.

It is bounded geographically by the Sandy and Gibson deserts to the North; the Wheatbelt region to the West; the Great Australian Bight to the South; and the South Australian and Northern Territory borders to the East.

A land area of 771,276 km² makes the region over three times the size of the State of Victoria, and just under a third of Western Australia's total land mass. It is the largest region in Western Australia.

Population

At June 2003 the Goldfields-Esperance region had an Estimated Resident Population of 54,951 (2002: 54,776; 2001: 55,099; 1996: 56,411; 1993: 53,040). Between 1993 and 2003 the Estimated Resident Population increased overall, however the Region's population peaked in 1998 at 56,763. From 1998 the population declined to 54,766 in 2002, however the 2003 figure records an increase for the first time in five years, demonstrating a positive outlook for the Region.

Just under 9% of the Region's population is of Indigenous descent, compared with just over 3% for Western Australia as a whole. Ngaanyatjarraku (82%) and Menzies (47%) are the local government areas with the highest proportion of Indigenous residents.

History

European contact with the Region was first recorded in 1792 when two French frigates mapping the southern coastline of Australia took shelter in Esperance Bay. The first settlers, the Dempster brothers, arrived in the Esperance area in 1863. Following the discovery of gold at Coolgardie in 1892, Esperance became the Region's principal port. However, with the opening of the Perth-Coolgardie railway in 1896 Fremantle became the preferred port and Esperance became a fishing and holiday town, servicing a small agricultural hinterland.

Coolgardie, Boulder and Kalgoorlie developed rapidly after gold was discovered. Coolgardie became the largest town in the Goldfields during the 1890s boom, with the population reaching 15,000 by 1898. The rush to Kalgoorlie began in 1893 with the discovery of gold by Hannan, Flanagan and O'Shea. Kalgoorlie in the 1890s was a town of canvas tents, hessian huts and galvanized iron homes, with a population of about 11,000. Water was scarce, being distilled from bores and dams, and transported by camel to wherever it was needed. The Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply, CY O'Connor's famous pipeline, opened in 1903 and remains the conduit for water supply to the Goldfields to this day.

Kambalda was originally a gold town and boomed between 1897 and 1906. When the gold ran out, the town lay abandoned until the accidental discovery of nickel in the 1950s. In 1966 Western Mining Corporation began development of a nickel mine and Kambalda was reborn. Mining activity in the Shire of Coolgardie has seen many mines reopen and new deposits being developed in recent years.

Menzies, Leonora and Laverton's development were also based on gold mining activities, with the new town of Leinster established in the 1970s to service a nickel mine. Gold was first discovered in the Norseman area in 1892. Central Norseman Gold Corporation (now owned by Croesus Mining) is the longest running gold mining and processing operation in Australia having been established in 1935.

The Goldfields subregion is one of the world's most productive mining provinces, based on the extraction and processing of gold and nickel.

The South East subregion is on the threshold of a new era with traditional agriculture industries soon to be supplemented by new aquaculture ventures and nickel mining operations.

Natural environment

There is a stark, sunset-red, beauty about the Goldfields region. The Region's early mining history is evident everywhere in the shape of flat-topped mullock dumps, headframes over the entrances to underground shafts and the grand public buildings of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie.

In contrast, the south coast is characterised by long, low curving white beaches, with rocky headlands and the offshore islands of the Recherche Archipelago. The coast is backed by a rich agricultural hinterland.

To the east, the Nullarbor landscape is flat, and the climate arid. There are striking sheer cliffs to the east of Esperance, with extensive sand dunes towards the South Australian border.

Driving along the Great Central Road (Outback Highway) through the North of the Region you will experience dramatic landscapes of the Rawlinson Range, Walter James Ranges, and Gill Pinnacle. Other sites along the way are Beadell's Tree and the Giles Meteorological Station. The Ngaanyatjarra Lands encompass untouched Spinifex sand plains with spectacular breakaways, the Warburton and Peterman Ranges and river systems.

Economy

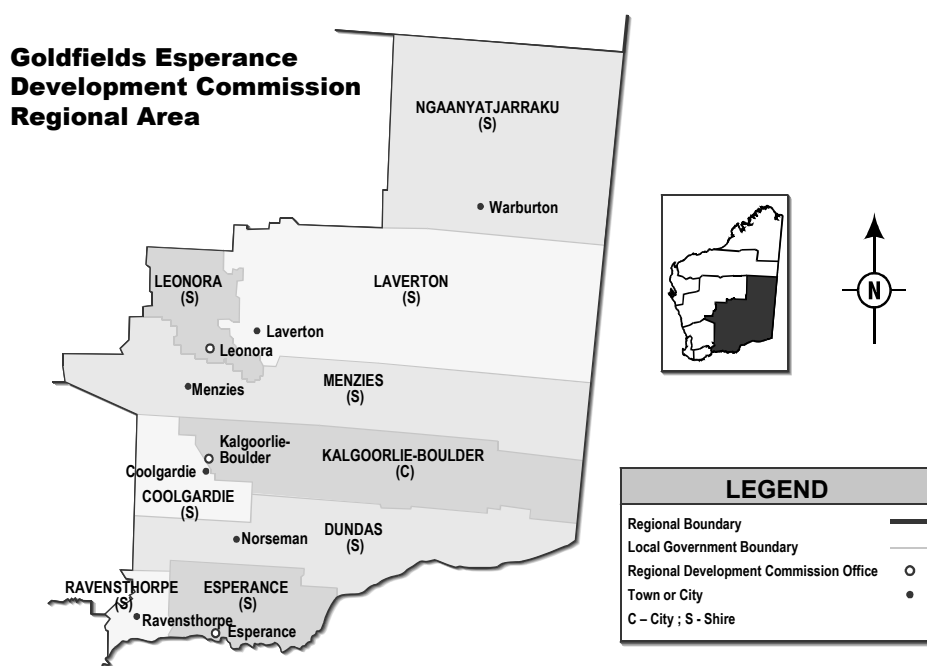
The Goldfields-Esperance region makes a vital contribution to the Western Australian economy and is well positioned for further growth. Mining is the predominant industry in the central and northern parts of the Region, with a well-established agricultural sector in the south. The Department of Local Government and Regional Development recalculated previous estimates for Gross Regional Product in 2003. The estimated GRP for the Goldfields-Esperance region was \$4.256 billion in 2002/03, an increase of \$143 million from the 2001/02 figures of \$4,113 billion.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance are the principal commercial centres in the Region. In 2003, 16.6 per cent of the working population were engaged in wholesale and retail activity with education, health and community services accounting for another 12.5 per cent.

The estimated average taxable income for income earners in the Region for 2001/02 was \$42,303, an increase of \$1,849 from the 2000/01 average of \$40,454. This is well above the regional WA average of \$37,150 and the WA average of \$38,331.

The Goldfields-Esperance region offers excellent infrastructure with north-south-east-west connections by road and rail, a regional port capable of handling ships with a capacity of 180,000 dwt, natural gas and a competitive energy supply, well equipped education and training amenities, and high quality recreation facilities.

Goldfields-Esperance Region Map



STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK, BETTER PLANNING: BETTER SERVICES

The State Government have adopted a strategic planning framework for the Western Australian Public Sector and is committed to ensuring that the best opportunities for current and future generations. The vision is that “Western Australia will be a creative, sustainable and economically successful State that embraces its multicultural heritage and its rich natural resources. It will provide the best opportunities for the current and future generations to live better, longer and healthier lives.”

The Principles that underpin this Vision are Respect, Equity, Reconciliation, Sustainability, Inclusiveness, Fiscal responsibility and Accountability. GEDC has contributed to the five goals of the Framework during the course of its operations as follows.

People and Communities: *To enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of all people throughout Western Australia.*

- Researching and disseminating information on available funding and grants.
- Supporting projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life, including the Goldfields Football Academy, Youth Driver Development Program and Festival of the Wind, Leonora Child Care Centre and Esperance Aboriginal Land Development.
- Continuing to pursue the provision of mains power to Widgiemooltha.
- Facilitating the Leonora Collocation project.
- Providing comprehensive and accurate information on the Region through publications, the GEDC website and statistical information.
- Continuing to encourage and support community actions that positively contribute to quality of life in the Region.

The Economy: *To develop a strong economy that delivers more jobs, more opportunities and greater wealth to Western Australians by creating the conditions required for investment and growth.*

- Supporting the development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project.
- Endeavouring to attract new businesses to the Mungari Industry Estate and supporting investigations into the establishment of an industrial park in Esperance.
- Leading the Desert Knowledge Australia project in the Goldfields-Esperance region.
- Facilitating diversification and value-adding opportunities, such as aquaculture industries.
- Continuing to enhance opportunities for Indigenous business, art and cultural tourism development and expanding Indigenous employment opportunities.
- Promoting the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme as an avenue to address current skills shortages.
- Continuing to encourage the development of sustainable tourism infrastructure.
- Partnering the Golden Quest Trails Association in the future management of the Golden Quest Discovery Trail.
- Monitoring the shortage of skilled staff in the Region and undertaking projects to alleviate this situation.

The Environment: To ensure that Western Australia has an environment in which resources are managed, developed and used sustainably, biological diversity is preserved and habitats protected.

- Develop a sustainability policy for the Region.
- Supporting Land Conservation District Committees.
- Engaging with Desert Knowledge Australia in developing appropriate housing design and sustainable industries.
- Developing a sustainability action plan.
- Assisting the Southern Coastal Regional Initiative Planning Team.
- Being an active member of working groups developing natural resource management strategies.

The Regions: To ensure that Regional Western Australia is strong and vibrant.

- Facilitating the delivery of grants through the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme.
- Researching and disseminating information on funding and grants.
- Continuing to enhance partnerships with Local Government Authorities in the Region.
- Facilitating the Goldfields-Esperance Infrastructure Projects Workshop.
- Continuing to promote the upgrading of transport infrastructure in the Region.
- Facilitating equitable access to telecommunications and other infrastructure throughout the Region.
- Promotion of the Region at WA On Show.
- Developing a CD that promotes the benefits of the Region to assist in attracting people to the Region.

Governance: To govern for all Western Australians in an open, effective and efficient manner that also ensures a sustainable future.

- Continuing to provide strategic advice to government and monitor governments policy and commitment to the Region.
- Implementing and reviewing the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Priority Plan.
- Monitoring the implementation of the Regional Policy Statement.
- Monitoring the Goldfields-Esperance water situation.
- Incorporating sustainability principles into GEDC policies and procedures.

OVERVIEW

Major Achievements in 2003 - 2004

Output 1 – Policies, Strategies, and Plans

- ⇒ Ensured that activities were conducted according to an ethos of 'responsive government'.
- ⇒ Compiled the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Priority Plan.
- ⇒ Provided a significant Regional grants information service to local government authorities, government agencies and community groups.
- ⇒ Completed Regional Economic Modelling for the Shires of Esperance, Dundas and Ravensthorpe.
- ⇒ Facilitated and administered the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme.
- ⇒ Participated on the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure Coordinating Committees.

Output 2 – Industry and Enterprise Development

- ⇒ Supported the Shire of Ravensthorpe and Ravensthorpe Nickel Operations in their preparations for nickel mining. Including the appointment of a GEDC Project Manager for Ravensthorpe.
- ⇒ Successfully coordinated the Indigenous People in Mining project.
- ⇒ Provided advice and assistance relating to the Regional Migration Schemes and certified Regional applications.
- ⇒ Supported diversification opportunities for primary industries, including Curtin University's Bandy Creek pilot abalone project and the Fitzgerald Biosphere Marketing Association.
- ⇒ Facilitated Indigenous business enterprise development.
- ⇒ Coordinated and supported an Investment Tour for the Region.
- ⇒ Supported projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life, including the Goldfields Football Academy, Youth Driver Development Program and Community Leadership Program, Tidy Towns, Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation – Partnerships for Success Program, Leonora Childcare Centre, Esperance Summer School, Festival of the Wind, Croc Festival and Freefall (Youth) Theatre.
- ⇒ Upgraded the Industry Development Centre website.

Output 3 – Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

- ⇒ Continued assisting Government to identify feasible options for an alternative sustainable supply of water for the Region.
- ⇒ Monitored power issues in Esperance, in particular the development of a new power station and the Kambalda to Esperance gas pipeline.
- ⇒ Lobbied for the extension of telecommunications coverage throughout the Region.
- ⇒ Monitored transport infrastructure issues.
- ⇒ Encouraged the development of tourism infrastructure.
- ⇒ Conducted the Goldfields-Esperance Region Infrastructure Tour and Workshop.
- ⇒ Supported the pursuit of a Department for Justice Workcamp for the Northern Goldfields.
- ⇒ Supported the development of Laverton's Great Beyond Explorers Centre

Output 4 – Regional Promotion

- ⇒ Provided a pivotal information service for statistics in the Region.
- ⇒ Contributed to Pacific Flora 2004 for the promotion of the Region in Japan and provided information for the Emigrate 2004 Expo held in London.
- ⇒ Promoted the Region through the Realms of Possibility Goldfields-Esperance regional feature.
- ⇒ Continued to have involvement in general initiatives to attract and retain professional staff to the Region, particularly medical staff.
- ⇒ Promoted the Region's activities by producing quarterly newsletters and bulletins on the GEDC website.
- ⇒ Continued to support the tourism industry through involvement with the Western Australian Tourism Commission Golden Zone, Kalgoorlie Goldfields Tourism, the Esperance Regional Tourism Association and the Northern Goldfields Tourism Working Group.

OVERVIEW

Planned Initiatives for 2004 - 2005

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission has been allocated State Government funding of \$2.066 million in 2004/2005 (including the \$250,000 Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund and \$400,000 Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme allocations). This funding will enable GEDC to implement the following programs and initiatives to promote sustainable and balanced social and economic development throughout this dynamic Region.

Output 1 - Policies, Strategies and Plans

- ⇒ Continue to provide strategic advice to government and monitor governments policy and commitment to the Region.
- ⇒ Monitor/Review the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Priority Plan.
- ⇒ Develop a sustainability policy for the Region.
- ⇒ Develop a sustainability action plan for GEDC.
- ⇒ Research and disseminate information on funding and grants.
- ⇒ Facilitate the delivery of grants from the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme.
- ⇒ Monitor and report on the implementation of the Regional Development Policy.

Output 2 - Industry and Enterprise Development

- ⇒ Support the development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project.
- ⇒ Endeavour to attract new businesses to the Mungari Industry Estate.
- ⇒ Support investigations into the establishment of an Industrial park in Esperance.
- ⇒ Continue to enhance partnerships with Local Government Authorities in the Region.
- ⇒ Facilitate the Desert Knowledge Australia project in the Region.
- ⇒ Facilitate diversification and value-adding opportunities, such as aquaculture industries.
- ⇒ Continue to enhance opportunities for Indigenous business, art and tourism development and expand Indigenous employment opportunities.
- ⇒ Promote the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme as an avenue to address current skills shortages.
- ⇒ Support projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life including the Goldfields Football Academy, Festival of the Wind and the Leonora Child Care Centre.

Output 3 - Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

- ⇒ Monitor the Goldfields-Esperance water situation.
- ⇒ Facilitate the Goldfields-Esperance Infrastructure Projects Workshop.
- ⇒ Continue to promote the upgrading of transport infrastructure in the Region.
- ⇒ Facilitate the equitable access to telecommunications and other infrastructure throughout the Region.
- ⇒ Continue to encourage the development of sustainable tourism infrastructure.
- ⇒ Continue to pursue the provision of mains power to Widgiemooltha.
- ⇒ Facilitate the Leonora Collocation project.

Output 4 - Regional Promotion

- ⇒ Partner the Golden Quest Trails Association in the future management of the Golden Quest Discovery Trail.
- ⇒ Provide comprehensive and accurate information on the Region through publications, the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission website and statistical information.
- ⇒ Promote the Region at Western Australia On Show.
- ⇒ Monitor the shortage of skilled staff in the Region and undertake projects to alleviate the situation.
- ⇒ Continue to encourage and support community actions that positively contribute to quality of life in the Region.
- ⇒ Develop a Compact Disc that promotes the benefits of the Region to assist in attracting people to the Region.

REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES – 2003-2004

Output 1 – Policies, Strategies and Plans

Output description: *To provide advice on opportunities, policies and strategies for the economic and social development of the Region and facilitate the planning and implementation of regional and local development initiatives.*

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure

The Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure Coordinating Committee (GERPICC), a committee constituted under the Western Australian Planning Commission, has responsibility for prioritising regional planning and infrastructure issues and monitoring the implementation of the strategies contained in the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Transport Strategies documents. The Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure Working Group, (GERPIWG) consisting of state agencies and local government representatives, provides technical support to the Coordinating Committee. The GEDC is represented on both bodies. The Chairman of the Western Australian Planning Commission chairs the GERPICC.

The Transport Advisory Group (TAG) was disbanded in favour of the GERPICC structure, a model that is being used as a trial for regional WA by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and the GEDC.

The GERPICC conducted its annual audit of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning Strategy. Twenty two of the thirty five agencies identified in the Strategy as lead agencies responded to the 2003 Audit.

Major Regional planning and infrastructure issues considered by the GERPICC included:

- The setting of priorities for the Goldfields Esperance Regional Planning and Transport Strategies taking into account sustainability as part of the assessment criteria.
- The Esperance Port Access Corridor Review – Scoping of Stage 2.
- Involvement in the Auslink process.
- The Goldfields-Esperance Water Supply Strategy.
- The Shark Lake Industrial Park.
- The Goldfields Highway Upgrade including work on the Lake Raeside Crossing. This item has also been considered by the Transport Committee of the Western Australian Planning Commission. It has been resolved that this project should be considered a high priority on a statewide basis.
- Investigating possible options for a more direct northerly road route to connect the Goldfields with the Pilbara region, with the consequences of the sealing of the Mt Magnet - Sandstone – Leinster Road at the end of 2002 now becoming evident. Since then there has been a significant reduction in traffic (50% of volume) between Wiluna and Meekatharra. This is attributed to trucks using the Sandstone Road; and while it is a longer trip compared to the section between Wiluna and Meekatharra, the sealed road means less “wear and tear” on trucks using this new sealed section of road into the Mid West region.

Responsive Government

GEDC reports to the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance and provides advice and assistance to the Minister and his staff. This includes drafting correspondence, organising visits and meetings, and briefing the Minister on Regional issues.

GEDC is frequently called upon to provide comments to other State Government agencies on issues that will affect the Region. In 2003/2004 GEDC submitted comments on the Regional Housing Strategy, State Housing Strategy, draft Resource Guide for Sustainability Code of Conduct, proposed Biodiversity, Raising School Leavers Age and Doing Business with Government. GEDC also provides comments on numerous Cabinet Submissions and Ministerial responses.

GEDC also develops itineraries and facilitates visits to the Region by dignitaries and industry representatives.

Website

GEDC's website is at www.gedc.wa.gov.au. The website provides information on the organisation and its staff, regional statistical information, relevant regional links and updates on regional projects in a 'What's New' section. Online job descriptions and other information for vacant positions are also available.

Plans to redesign the website in the first half of 2004 to reduce the amount of time required on maintenance were put on hold as the GEDC worked on redesigning all of its publications to ensure consistency across all medium. The GEDC website will be updated in line with other publications in the 2004-2005 financial year

Regional Development Council

The Regional Development Council (RDC) is an advisory body to the State Government on regional development issues. RDC membership includes Mr Ian Taylor as the independent Chairman, the Chairs of the nine Regional Development Commissions, a representative of the Department of Local Government and Regional Development and two representatives of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

The Council provided advice to the Cabinet Standing Committee on Regional Policy on a range of issues. Issues impacting on Regional Development such as State Water, Power, Telecommunications, Health and Roads strategies, Industry Policy, staff attraction and retention, tax zone rebates and fly in fly out workforce are addressed. The major items discussed in 2003-04 included the Electricity Market Reform, Regional Impacts of Procurement Reform, Regional Road Funding, Regional Health Commitments, new National Parks, Water Supply and the Productivity Commission Review of National Competition Policy.

GEDC is represented on the Regional Development Council by its Chairman, Mr William (Bill) McKenzie. The GEDC CEO attends the meetings on an as required basis as an observer. Meetings are held six times a year, with one meeting being held in a regional location.

Regional Development Policy Statement

During the year GEDC was actively involved in the working party reviewing the Regional Development Policy statement.

The Regional Development Policy, titled "Regional Western Australia - A Better Place to Live" was released in November 2003.

A set of “Regional Indicators” was agreed to in May 2004 and GEDC will report against these. This will allow progress to be measured against the strategies contained in the Regional Development Policy. The GEDC is also a member of the Regional Policy Implementation Group.

Investment Tours

The Goldfields-Esperance Region Investment Tour occurred in August 2003, bringing regional business operators together with investors and financiers. The aim was to give regional business operators the opportunity to promote their goods and services to investors, attract investment and also develop an understanding of what investors are looking for and how the finance and investment industry operates.

The financiers met with business operators in Ravensthorpe, Esperance, Norseman, Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Leonora to listen to 16 project proposals. As a result of the Investment Tour several companies have either obtained funding or are continuing to negotiate with venture capitalists for funding for their projects.

Leonora Gwalia Museum Precinct

The Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum Ltd has managed the historic township of Gwalia since the year 2000. The Board consists of nine (9) Directors, one of who is annually appointed as the Chairperson. The Board directly employs an on-site Manager; the position being vacated in February 2004 and filled via contract in May 2004. The Board also employs two (2) volunteers in an official caretaker capacity. Various other volunteers also provide assistance on a casual basis.

The Manager is responsible for all operational, developmental and promotional aspects of Gwalia, which include: the former Mine Managers House (aka Hoover House), the Museum and Archive Buildings, the museum collection, the historic wooden Head Frame and Steam Winder, and several restored vintage vehicles. The Manager is also responsible for a number of Reserves and historic buildings located within the old Gwalia townsite.

The GEDC has had a significant input into the Gwalia project over the past 12 months. Contributions include: the GEDC CEO’s appointment as a Board Director, the on-site secondment of the Senior Project Officer to Gwalia for a two (2) month continuous full-time period (March - April 2004), executive assistance associated with the official opening of Hoover House in March 2004, ongoing liaison and support to the on-site Manager including assistance with grant applications and acquittals.

Regional Economic Modelling

Regional economic modelling is used to evaluate likely growth within regions as well as the potential impact of infrastructure and business investment upon the Region. It provides a tool for the GEDC to generate predictive data and to be in a better position to be proactive in providing for the Region’s economic development. It can assist in identifying growth in relation to any new requirements; and assist with economic planning for the Region by helping to identify opportunities and potential new projects.

During 2003 funding was secured to allow the economies of the Shires of Ngaanyatjarraku, Dundas, Esperance and Ravensthorpe to be modelled. This was further to GEDC successfully obtaining funding to conduct a pilot economic modelling study of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and the Shires of Coolgardie, Menzies, Leonora and Laverton in 2002. The outcomes of the two studies were aggregated so as to present an overall Goldfields-Esperance Regional Economic Model.

The study included a targeted business survey, progress briefings to local government, businesses and Chambers of Commerce; and training on the REMPlan software for GEDC staff members. An economic profile of the LGA's involved in the pilot study was also completed. After a demonstration of the REMPlan software, the Shire of Ravensthorpe decided to fund a REM study of its Shire as a "stand alone" exercise.

The REMPlan software was utilised for the following case studies:

- Economic modelling of the tourism potential of the Golden Quest Discovery Trail and Gormley Statutes as part of a submission for the Premier's Awards and also in support of a funding application.
- Economic modelling for a submission to the Standing Committee on Public Administration and Finance on its "Inquiry into Local Government Rating and Distribution of Funds".
- Economic modelling data on the impact of workers, located to the Region through the Regional Skilled Migration Scheme, on the Regional economy.
- Economic modelling data on the impact of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project on the Esperance sub-region economy.

Output 1 Policies, Strategies and Plans

Output Measures	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours	4400	4072	4820	4619
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey – <i>Note 1</i>	85%	94%	85%	94%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	91%
Cost				
Cost per hour	\$102	\$96	\$110	\$113

Note 1: The customer satisfaction by client survey includes excellent/good and satisfactory responses from stakeholders relating to friendliness/ courtesy of staff; the availability of staff; correctness of information and level of knowledge of the GEDC staff. This is a different methodology applied in 2003/04 therefore the 2002/03 figures were changed to apply the new calculation. This figure is contained in every output in the Annual report.

Output 2 – Industry and Enterprise Development

Output description: *To assist industry, business and commerce to contribute significantly to the Region's economy, employment and population base.*

South Coast Regional Initiative Planning Team (SCRIPT)

SCRIPT represents all catchment, landcare, coastal management and other Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups along the South Coast. GEDC is a member of SCRIPT's Management Committee.

During the year SCRIPT completed the draft South Coast Regional Strategy for Natural Resource Management. This Strategy provides the vision and the framework for NRM for the Region, and will guide investments in on-ground actions for the sustainable management of the South Coast Region's natural resources. A State and Australian Government Review Team approved the draft's release for public comment between 21 June and 30 July 2004. The final document is expected to be completed by September.

SCRIPT also coordinated the delivery of Southern Incentive 2, a devolved grants program that provided \$230,000 to landholders in the South Coast region to encourage sustainable land use and to protect biodiversity, wetlands and waterways. An application has been submitted to the National Heritage Trust for the 2004-05 South Coast Facilitator Funding Package that will potentially provide greater job security to NRM facilitators in the Region.

Training and Skills Development

In Kalgoorlie-Boulder the GEDC worked with local education and training providers, mining companies and Indigenous organisations in the Region to promote and support access to available apprenticeships, training and career opportunities.

The GEDC also supported the Graham Farmer Foundation's Partnerships for Success program. The program provides assistance to aspiring Indigenous students seeking to successfully complete their secondary schooling in order to compete effectively for apprenticeships, traineeships, cadetships or to pursue further education and employment opportunity

Esperance Career and Course Opportunities (ECCO)

The Esperance Career and Course Opportunities project evolved from a pilot project at the Esperance Community College that explored ways to provide support to students undertaking tertiary education in Esperance. GEDC assisted the ECCO steering committee to successfully apply for funding through the Regional Solutions Program that has employed a part-time Coordinator for two years. The GEDC is a member of the steering committee for this project. In addition to providing the community with careers and course information the ECCO project has:

- Developed a "Learning Area" at the Esperance Community College where external students can access computers, the internet and the support of the Coordinator;
- Developed a Study Group to support external students;
- Provided skill development workshops in academic writing, study skills, Web research and career mapping;
- Conducted an adult Learner's Week short course program; and
- Conducted a Careers Expo, which was attended by over 550 people.

The Coordinator's role is to improve community access to post compulsory education using technology and mentor support, to assist students to successfully complete their studies from any education and training provider in Australia using flexible delivery modes and to develop networks with other organisations and institutions to improve access to the range and scope of education and training available in Esperance.

Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme

GEDC is a Regional Certifying Body for Regional Migration Programs for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). These include the Regional 457 Migration Scheme for 1066 applications and the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS).

GEDC receives monthly updates to the Regional Skills Matching Database, which lists those people still living overseas seeking to migrate to a regional area in Australia. This database is a reference point for employers seeking suitably skilled people to fill vacancies that cannot be met by the local labour market. In addition to individuals on this database, the RSMS can be offered to people on other visas such as the Employer Nominated Scheme or working holiday visas, offering businesses options for retaining and attracting employees.

During 2003/04 GEDC certified 42 migration applications. Professions included auto electricians, medical practitioners, metallurgists, electricians, diesel mechanic, fitters, farm managers, teachers and mental health nurses. These successful applicants have brought 82 dependents with them, increasing the Region's population by 124. However, the really significant impact to the Region is that 42 positions have now been filled. Employers are benefiting through increased output in the areas of production, service provision and the expansion of their businesses.

The 42 applicants have been assured base salary rates, which realises a combined income, per annum, in excess of \$2.78 million. As the applicants and their families are required to remain in the Region, for a minimum of two years, there is also a flow on effect to the local economy.

GEDC is encouraging local employers to consider utilising the Regional Migration initiatives if they cannot fill positions via the local labour market. Advantages to be considered by employers include the fact that there is no labour market testing under the initiatives, and DIMIA expedites the processing of applications.

Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The GEDC is a member of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry and is represented on the Chamber's City and Regional Development Sub-Committee, which meets monthly and when required. The GEDC provided input into issues such as power, water, transport that are on the agenda of the City and Regional Development Sub-Committee.

The GEDC was a sponsor of the successful second annual Regional Chambers of Commerce (WA) Conference held in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder between the 28th and 31st August 2003, and hosted by the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce as part of its centenary celebrations.

GEDC is a member of the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry and is working with the Chamber to address the shortage of skilled labour in the town. A survey of local businesses and farmers who are members of the Esperance Organised Primary Producers confirmed anecdotal evidence in relation to an acute shortage of mechanics, metal trade workers, skilled farm workers and skilled workers in the hospitality industry.

The current situation will be exacerbated by BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe nickel project, which is currently in the construction phase with production expected to start in 2007. A plan to address the issue has been developed and, depending on financial support from local industry, strategies to attract skilled workers to the South East coastal sub-region will be implemented early in the 2004-05 financial year.

The North Eastern Goldfields Chamber of Commerce continues to meet in Leonora on a monthly basis. Since the adoption of a Constitution over 12 months ago, the Chamber has worked closely with the GEDC and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry to achieve desired outcomes.

Goldfields-Esperance Area Consultative Committee (GEACC)

GEDC's Chief Executive Officer is an Executive Board member of the Goldfields-Esperance Area Consultative Committee. GEDC's Manager Southern Region is a member of GEACC's Esperance sub committee, which meets to consider local applications for financial support through various Federal Government funding agencies.

During the year the GEDC was involved in a review of the GEACC Marketing and Communication Strategy, the GEACC Risk Management Plan, GEACC Strategic Regional Plan 2004-2007 and the GEACC Business Plan 2004-2005. In addition to this the GEDC undertook assessment of the applications put before the GEACC for funding under the Federal Government funding program, Regional Partnerships. The GEACC has been very successful in having projects under Regional Partnerships funded during 2003-04.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between GEACC and GEDC during the year. This outlines the objectives of the agencies and the cooperation between them to achieve the best outcome for the Region.

The Business Incubator continues to be extremely successful and has a very positive influence on business development in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Liaison with Local Government Authorities

Northern Goldfields

The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office (located in Leonora), works in partnership with the four (4) Local Government Authorities in its sub-region (i.e. Menzies, Leonora, Laverton and Ngaanyatjarraku) to achieve social and economic outcomes which benefit those areas.

The Shires of Menzies, Leonora and Ngaanyatjarraku support the operation of the Northern Goldfields Office by providing a vehicle, telecommunications and office facilities. GEDC's Leonora-based Senior Project Officer attends selected Council meetings and participates in relevant forums and events. Monthly reports and minutes of the GEDC's Board meetings are provided to these Local Government Authorities, which regularly receive assistance from GEDC staff on a variety of projects, including cross-regional initiatives.

During 2003/2004, collaborative work undertaken between the GEDC and the Northern Goldfields Local Government Authorities have included:

- Cultural Heritage Projects.
- Golden Quest Discovery Trail.
- Goongarrie Railway Cottages Conservation Plan.
- Gwalia Historic Township Related Projects.
- Leonora Child Care Facility.
- Leonora Collocation Project.
- Leonora Telecentre Projects.
- Natural Resource Management Issues.
- Niagara Dam Conservation Plan.
- North Eastern Goldfields Tourism Working Group and Tourism Issues.
- Outback Way.

Central Goldfields

In Kalgoorlie-Boulder GEDC is represented on the 'Mayor's Leadership Group', which has representation from the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy (Eastern Regional Council) and all local politicians, State and Federal. The meeting is an opportunity for the leaders of 'peak groups' in Kalgoorlie-Boulder to discuss strategic issues that may impact on the development of the Goldfields. The group met on two occasions during the year to discuss issues of importance for the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

The GEDC maintains a watching briefing on the Council minutes for both the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Shire of Coolgardie to ensure that a collaborative approach can be applied to issues that have impact on both organisations. The CEO of the GEDC also attends the Esperance Eastern Goldfields Zone meetings of Local Government as an invited guest.

South East

GEDC chairs the Blueprint Implementation Group, which comprises members from the Shires of Esperance, Ravensthorpe and Jerramungup. The Group was formed to implement recommendations of the Blueprint For the Future, a document prepared to address issues relating to the impact BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe nickel project will have on the three local government authorities.

During the 2003-04 financial year, the Group worked with the Department of Agriculture to address issues that affect farmers across the southeast coastal region, and has initiated discussion with the Dieback Working Group and the Department of Conservation and Land Management with the view of preparing a common dieback strategy for the three local government authorities.

GEDC is also a member of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project Development Coordinating Committee, which deals with issues relating to community and multiple user infrastructure in the Shire of Ravensthorpe. The committee has worked with government departments and agencies over the past four years to address infrastructure issues relating to power, wastewater treatment, solid waste, land and roads. The resolution of these issues is paramount to BHP Billiton deciding to employ a residential workforce for its nickel operations in Ravensthorpe or to use fly-in fly-out workers.

The Commission worked with the Shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe to address funding issues relating to the infrastructure package, which included organizing meetings between shire representatives and Federal and State politicians.

GEDC is also a member of the Shire of Esperance's industrial park steering committee. The committee has worked through a number of issues during the year to enable environmental approval to be given for work at the proposed site of an industrial estate about 15km North of Esperance to start in 2004-05.

Goldfields Tourism

During the year the CEO of the GEDC was appointed as an interim Board member of the structure that is now known as the Australia's Golden Outback (AGO). AGO is one of the five new tourism zones created within Western Australia by the Western Australian Tourism Commission (WATC). It covers some 51% of the States land mass and includes 52 Local Government Authorities.

AGO is primarily responsible for the intrastate marketing of all attractions within its area. AGO must also work collaboratively with local visitor centres and the WATC to ensure that they have the opportunity to participate in interstate and overseas marketing as well.

The Board of AGO was appointed on 30 April 2004 and the active involvement of the GEDC ceased at that time.

Industry Development Centre (IDC)

GEDC took over sole responsibility for the IDC in November 2001 following the expiration of the funding arrangement between the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the GEDC. The IDC's principle role is to attract new industries and businesses to the Region, while supporting existing businesses in the Region to expand. It provides information on the Region and investment opportunities as well as relevant contacts, as requested by interested businesses and individuals. Lobbying government on behalf of business and industry in terms of infrastructure and establishment costs is another function that it fulfils.

The IDC website at www.idcgold.org.au contains an extensive and comprehensive interactive database of the Region's businesses, which is updated on a six monthly basis. Due to additional funding becoming available through the year a major, successful effort was made to encourage regional businesses not already on the database to register. This resource provides a ready reference for project managers, identifying the range of goods and services available within the Goldfields-Esperance region. Regional businesses can register their capability "on-line" and enter or amend their business details at the IDC website. All tenders and contractors to BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe Joint Venture Project are referred to the IDC and its website as part of the tender requirements.

The IDC researched and completed a submission to the Legislative Assembly's Economic and Industry Standing Committee on the possible implications and ramifications of the proposed Australia-US Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) on the Goldfields-Esperance regional economy. Through the IDC, information seminars were organised in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance on the AUSFTA specifically and other FTAs generally. These were addressed by a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Director on the Australian-US Free Trade Agreement Negotiating Taskforce.

Aquaculture

GEDC is supporting initiatives by the MG Kailis Group to establish a trial tuna farm near Remark Island in the Recherche Archipelago. Research undertaken at the island, about 18 nautical miles from Esperance, early in the year proved positive and the company installed a single empty tuna cage at the site in January this year to determine the ability of the structure to withstand local weather conditions. This test was also successful and MG Kailis is expected to trial tuna farming in the Recherche Archipelago during the 2004-05 financial year.

Depending on the success of the farming trial the company may consider relocating its Port Lincoln operations to Esperance.

GEDC supported Curtin University's plan to establish an abalone pilot farm in Esperance by providing Regional Development Scheme funding, and has supported the university's initiative to seek funding for a feasibility study into the potential of the South East coastal region for aquaculture industries. Both these initiatives are expected to be carried out during 2004-05.

Following the voluntary winding up of the Esperance Marine Institute in March this year, Curtin and GEDC have been working together to establish a community-based group to pursue aquaculture industries and training in the Region.

Rangelands

The GEDC supported the Agriculture Department of Western Australia in its application to the Natural Heritage Trust Round 2, for funding of Natural Resource Management (NRM) Facilitators. This application was successful and officers were appointed in early 2003. Since that time, Regional and Sub-regional stakeholder groups have been established to work cooperatively with facilitators and strategists.

The GEDC is a member of the Goldfields-Nullarbor Sub-regional (Rangelands) Natural Resource Management group. The Group is required to produce a NRM strategy encompassing three overarching objectives: biodiversity conservation; sustainable use of natural resources; and community capacity building and institutional change. The draft sub-regional strategy must be completed and available for public consultation by December 2004.

The pastoral industry plays a vital role in looking after the Rangelands - not only in terms of survival of the ecology, but also in terms of survival of communities and individuals living in the Rangelands. Pastoralists in the Rangelands meet regularly in the form of Land Conservation District Committees (LCDCs) to discuss how best to care for their stations and to organise joint projects such as grazing control.

The GEDC continues to assist the Agriculture Department of Western Australia in its coordination of Land Conservation District Committees, and in determining how these Committees will function under the new Natural Heritage Trust funding structures.

Ravensthorpe Nickel

The Board of BHP Billiton announced on 23 March 2004, that it would proceed to develop the Ravensthorpe nickel mine. The \$A1.84 billion project will be the largest mining development ever undertaken in the Shire of Ravensthorpe and WA's South East. GEDC appointed a Project Manager to work with the Shire of Ravensthorpe to implement an infrastructure package involving funding provided by the Federal and State governments and BHP Billiton.

The nickel operation is expected to employ up to 1000 contractors during a two-year construction phase and a further 300 full-time employees during the 20-year life of the mine. BHP Billiton's preferred option is to employ a residential workforce during production and a decision on whether their employees will live in the Shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe or a fly-in fly-out workforce is expected to be made early in the new financial year.

It is anticipated that an additional 800 jobs are expected to flow on from the project to allied industries.

GEDC has been actively involved with the Ravensthorpe Nickel Project development team during 2003-04, with a particular emphasis on securing funding for the necessary infrastructure to ensure the company employs a residential workforce.

The infrastructure package included:

- Upgraded local and state roads catering for the needs of the mining operation
- New power system for Ravensthorpe
- New wastewater treatment plant at Hopetoun
- Industrial and residential land release in Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun
- New airstrip in the shire
- New collocated emergency services in Hopetoun including SES, ambulance and bushfire units
- Coastal environment access and recreational facilities upgrade
- New shire waste removal operation
- New joint medical consulting rooms and community meeting facility in Hopetoun
- New junior primary school in Hopetoun.

At the end of the 2003-04 financial year the infrastructure package had not been fully funded and GEDC and the Shires of Ravensthorpe and Esperance were continuing their negotiations with the Federal and State governments and agencies to ensure the package would be supported.

The success in providing this infrastructure will determine whether BHP Billiton employs a residential workforce living in the Shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe or whether it engages a fly-in fly-out workforce.

Mining Developments

The GEDC monitored for the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance, Hon Tom Stephens MLC, the issue of Fly In/Fly Out as pertaining to the Shire of Coolgardie township of Kambalda and Mincor's proposal to establish a miners' accommodation site south of Kambalda.

The GEDC held meetings with various stakeholders regarding the Cooke "Final Report-Review of Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Mining in the Kalgoorlie Area" and commented on its various findings to Government.

The GEDC participated in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Mayor's "Leadership Group" meetings called to address the likely repercussions of the closure of the Bulong Nickel Operations and the subsequent loss of 250 jobs. The GEDC provided economic modelling and other relevant data as part of a submission to the Minister for State Development, Hon Clive Brown MLA, on the merit of the granting of a moratorium on royalty payments by Bulong Nickel. The GEDC also met with representatives of LionOre and Rappallo Engineering regarding the purchase of Bulong Nickel's processing plant and infrastructure and briefed the Minister for the Goldfields-Esperance on this development.

Mungari Industrial Estate

The Mungari Industrial Park Coordinating Committee considers business development issues, marketing and infrastructure and planning matters. GEDC is represented on this Committee and continues to promote the park to potential tenants.

Despite LandCorp developing a number of innovative tenancy models, including removing the requirement for a headworks charge to be paid, the committee has been unable to attract any tenants into the park.

The Committee has been actively following the activities of the Department of Environment 3C Committee during the year and as a result, a draft communication strategy for the Mungari Industrial Estate was produced that will come into effect when, and if, an environmental study on the Estate is commissioned.

Esperance Industrial Estate

The Esperance Industrial Estate is a joint initiative of the Esperance Shire Council and Esperance Port Authority. A steering committee comprising of these two organisations, the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry and GEDC has been working through a number of environmental issues to ensure that a 400-hectare site at Shark Lake, 15km North of Esperance, can be developed as an industrial estate.

GEDC has supported the project with Regional Development Scheme funding to enable further environmental assessment of the site. In addition to this the Shire of Esperance engaged contractors to carry out an electromagnetic survey.

Issues relating to buffer zones around the industrial estate, road and rail routes into and out of the park, and storm water management are still being dealt with by the steering committee.

Department of Justice Workcamps

The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office has continued to work in partnership with the Department of Justice in seeking to establish a prison work camp in the Northern Goldfields. It is anticipated that one of the outcomes of this proposal will be that a number of indigenous prisoners will access this program. A further outcome will be the development of a wide variety of work-based skills.

Further progress with regard to this project is subject to funding becoming available.

Business Enterprise Centres

The GEDC is represented on both the Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance Business Enterprise Centres (BEC) Boards of Management.

During the year the GEDC was an active participant in the Review of the Business Enterprise Centre Network titled, "Communities of Enterprise" and provided in principle support to the report's recommendation to improve the WABEC network. Other major activities undertaken during the year involved the impact of the Bulong mine closure on businesses in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, assisting with a Credit Fraud Awareness seminar and promoting the Service First presentations to all small businesses. During the year the KBEC dealt with some 1500 clients and this led to 44 new businesses starting and 30 new jobs being created.

During 2003-04, EBEC dealt with 1530 clients, which led to 47 new businesses starting up, and 39 full time and 13 part time jobs being created. In addition, assistance has been provided to 44 expanding businesses. Of note is the significant increase in the number of home-based business using EBEC services. EBEC has held six seminars during the year on topics ranging from customer service to debt collection. A total of 126 clients attended these workshops.

Aboriginal Economic Development

In 2003-04 GEDC continued working in the area of Aboriginal economic development focusing on:

- Assisting Indigenous business enterprise development
- Coordinating the Indigenous People in Mining group
- Developing Indigenous arts
- Developing Indigenous tourism and cultural heritage product

GEDC was also actively involved in the Indigenous Employment Forum in Kalgoorlie-Boulder

The GEDC provided information and reports to various State and Commonwealth Government departments and responded to major reports including the Ngaanyatjarra Council's report "Doing Business with Government".

Assisting Indigenous business enterprise development

GEDC worked in partnership with the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development and other State and Commonwealth government agencies to assist the development of Indigenous business enterprises in the Region by providing information and assistance to access training, business networks and mentoring programs. Assistance with specific issues was also provided to Indigenous business operators in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Goldfields region. This included:

- Referrals to courses and seminars including; introductory mining courses, dealing with bad debts, financial management, working with community groups and computer training.
- Assistance in starting new businesses
- Assistance in preparing funding applications
- Referrals to develop business plans
- Assistance and referrals to resolve financial queries
- Marketing assistance

Indigenous business operators were also encouraged to join relevant business organisations such as the Kalgoorlie-Boulder or Northern Goldfields Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Indigenous People in Mining (IPiM)

'Indigenous People in Mining' is an informal group established in 1998, when a number of Goldfields-based Indigenous business people, representatives from mining companies and various government agencies came together with a general aim of increasing the participation of Indigenous people in the mining industry.

The major project for 2003-04 was preparation and presentation of a combined exhibit at the Goldfields Mining Expo (GME) held in October 2003. The GME provides excellent opportunities for facilitating business contacts between Indigenous enterprises, resource developers, mining contractors and other exhibitors.

Thirty-three Indigenous businesses providing goods and services to the mining Industry in Western Australia were promoted, twenty-two being Goldfields businesses with the balance from the Pilbara and Mid-West regions. The carry over of the majority of Goldfields businesses from the initial GME promotion in 2000 through to 2003 was encouraging.

The Indigenous businesses covered a range of services including exploration and drilling, vehicle hire, trained personnel/staff hire, mechanical services, rehabilitation of mine sites, industrial cleaning, crane hire, retail and vending operations, drilling and mine support services.

Since 2000 GEDC has been responsible for coordinating the activities of the IPiM group, providing ongoing support and assisting individual operators to develop company profiles, coordinating the production of promotional materials such as business cards and posters and compiling an IPiM Business Directory for distribution at the Expo and to mining companies.

In July 2003 and May 2004, IPiM forums were held, covering issues such as the direction of the IPiM group and information from mining companies on tendering, employment and apprenticeships.

Indigenous Arts Development

The development of Indigenous Arts in the Goldfields-Esperance region offers a number of positive outcomes. The development of new outlets and markets for regional art and the sale of art and craft works offer a positive income source that is also culturally appropriate. It is one of the few regular income sources available to individuals in communities in the more remote areas of the region such as the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, and enhances tourism in these areas.

Apart from being an additional income source arts development enhances cultural heritage and offers Indigenous people a higher profile within their own communities and in the wider community. For the younger people of the Region, various visual and performing arts projects offer an opportunity to gain self-esteem and confidence in projects that also strengthen literacy and numeracy skills, problem solving and a wide range of production skills such as script-writing, lighting and sound.

In 2003-04 GEDC continued to facilitate the establishment of a number of new arts projects and supported several existing projects. These included:

- The exhibition 'Yaala Pukurlpa Ngurraku' (We celebrate our home) was held from 24th July to 24th August 2003 at the Goldfields Arts Centre to coincide with the annual Diggers and Dealers conference. The exhibition was coordinated by the GEDC in partnership with the Arts Centre, communities and arts organisations in the Shires of Ngaanyatjarraku, Laverton, Leonora and Kalgoorlie-Boulder and was sponsored by Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines. Sales earned over \$10,000 for artists involved.
- Ongoing assistance to ArtSource and the Artists Foundation to run professional development workshops for artists in Leonora, Laverton and Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
- The promotion of the Percent for Arts Scheme to regional artists. This scheme enables funds to be allocated towards public art in conjunction with major public works. Artists can tender to carry out these public art works individually or working cooperatively with other artists.
- Freefall Theatre Company (previously Desert Drama) - offers a range of performing arts opportunities for young Indigenous and non-Indigenous people aged between six and twenty-one. In 2003 the group was awarded an outstanding commendation by the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research for its programs assisting the mental health and well being of young people aged six to twelve. A GEDC representative is on the board of Freefall Theatre.
- Investigating opportunities and possible outlets to promote and sell Indigenous art and craft work.

Developing Indigenous Tourism and Cultural Heritage

The development of Indigenous tourism ventures provides opportunities for full-time, part-time and casual employment and economic development for Indigenous communities.

The GEDC maintains regular contact with the WA Indigenous Tour Operators Committee (WAITOC) and is a member of the Government and Industry Liaison Committee for Indigenous Tourism (GILCIT), forwarding information on industry and funding opportunities, seminars and workshops to existing and potential tour operators and interested communities.

Grants information

GEDC provides Local Government Authorities and community groups with information on a range of grant opportunities as they become available. GEDC subscribes to Internet-based grants notification services and gathers information about grant opportunities from these sources, as well as from newspaper advertisements, established networks and from other government agencies.

GEDC also offers a grant research service to assist Local Government Authorities and community groups seeking more detailed funding advice in relation to specific grants for identified projects. This service is regularly utilised by key stakeholders and community groups and the demand for this service continues to grow.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund and Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme

Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund

The objective of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund is to assist projects that will improve social infrastructure and the general quality of life in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

In 2003-04 the following projects were funded:

Company	Project	Funds Allocated
Western Australian Indigenous Sporting Foundation	Goldfields Football Academy	\$ 55,000
Rhythms in the Outback Music Festival	Rhythms in the Outback Music Festival	\$ 15,765
Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation	Kalgoorlie Partnerships for Success Program	\$ 42,131
Goldfields Motor Cycle Club	Facility Improvements	\$ 14,580
Goldfields Men's Health Incorporated	Linking Men with Health and Social Services in Kalgoorlie-Boulder	\$ 50,000
Anglican Parish of the Eastern Goldfields	Refurbishment of the Clifton Pipe Organ	\$ 3,300
Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital	Coordinator for Volunteer Program for Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital	\$ 33,700
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Basketball Assn	Backboards replacement at Hansen Stadium	\$ 14,100
Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Corporation	Tjuma Pulka Indigenous Community Radio Station	\$ 15,000
Western Australian Newspapers	Realms of Possibility	\$ 4,659

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Scheme is administered by GEDC, and is a component of the State Government's Regional Investment Fund. \$400,000 was available for distribution in 2003-04.

The primary objective of this Scheme is to enhance social and economic development in the Goldfields-Esperance region through funding projects that will assist in attracting investment and increasing employment.

In 2003-04 priority was given to activities that encouraged investment in the Region; projects that demonstrated partnerships between stakeholders; tourism development and projects fitting into the framework of GEDC's Strategic Plan.

27 applications were received, with a project value of over \$4.9million. Projects funded in 2003-04 were:

Company	Project	Funds allocated
Shire of Esperance	Shark Lake Industrial Park	\$ 33,000
Curtin University of Technology - Vocational Training and Education Centre	Bandy Creek Abalone Pilot Farm	\$ 56,738
Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	Pacific Flora 2004 - Goldfields Region Involvement	\$ 33,000
Shire of Laverton	Great Beyond Explorers Centre	\$ 110,000
Festival of the Wind Inc	Festival of the Wind	\$ 10,120
Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	Ravensthorpe Project Officer	\$ 50,021
Wongatha Wonganarra Aboriginal Corporation	Training program to develop and build the Wongatha Village playground/recreation area	\$ 33,000
Leonora District High School Parents and Citizens	Purchase of School Bus	\$ 33,000
Christian Aboriginal Parent-directed School Inc	New CAPS Coolgardie Hostel - Accommodation 56 Students	\$ 42,557
Freefall Theatre Company Inc	Journeys Project - Leonora	\$ 20,350
Esperance Bay Yacht Club	Purchase of a rescue/training vessel	\$ 11,500
Esperance Community College	Esperance Summer School 2004	\$ 7,040

Recherche Archipelago Group

GEDC has assisted Recherche Archipelago Group commission a Socio-Economic Study of the Recherche Archipelago. This study will overlay the comprehensive marine habitat data that has been compiled by the University of WA during a \$2 million, three-year research project in the Recherche Archipelago.

A steering committee comprising representatives from the Shire of Esperance, GEDC, Cooperative Research Centre for Coastal Zone and the Recherche Advisory Group has been formed to progress this Socio Economic Study.

The Study will update the user profile and include an extensive community education and consultation process to develop a collective vision for the Archipelago.

Esperance Aboriginal Land Development

Esperance Aboriginal Land Development Pty Ltd (EALD) is company that manages farmland under the control of the Aboriginal Lands Trust. The surplus generated from the management of the farms is returned to the Esperance Aboriginal Community through a funding scheme overseen by EALD. GEDC holds a position as Associate Director on the EALD Board and provides assistance to the Board as required.

Desert Knowledge Australia

Formed in 2000, Desert Knowledge Australia (DKA) is a consortium of desert Australian businesses, Aboriginal organisations, government and non-government parties. DKA seeks to “establish networks of people to undertake the research, product development and marketing needed for thriving desert knowledge economies”.

DKA aims to build thriving desert knowledge economies, operating on the basic principles of harmony, sustainability and wealth creation. There are currently five “nodes” of the DKA community, these are; Alice Springs, Broken Hill, Mt Isa, Upper Spencer Gulf and Kalgoorlie-Boulder. The GEDC is the project leader for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder node.

In 2004 DKA was successful in securing \$200,000 of funding through an AusIndustry program for its “Linked Business Networks” project. There are five business groups that DKA has identified for this initiative. These are Bush Products, Tourism, Mining Services, Renewable Energy and Housing.

Desert Knowledge – Tourism

As a result of the interest within the DKA network a sub-group dealing with tourism has been formed. The GEDC was invited to be part of the Desert Knowledge Tourism Working Group and has provided assistance and support aimed at further supporting the collaboration and maximising tourism opportunities for Outback Australia. This includes assisting DKA prepare an application to the Australian Tourism Development Program (AusIndustry) for funding research into how an appropriate management structure for tourism business networking might be formed and resourced.

Sustainability

In September 2003 the State Government released “Hope for the Future: The Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy”. Under this Strategy, all government agencies are required to produce Sustainability Action Plans by December 2004. The GEDC has an officer tasked with drafting the Action Plan.

The GEDC is already active in many areas identified for action in the State Strategy, through its project work and service provision.

Output 2 Industry and Enterprise Development

Output Measures	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours	4500	4461	5400	5883
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	94%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	91%
Cost				
Cost per hour - Note 1	\$102	\$94	\$96	\$122

Note 1 GERDS and KBDF grants were estimated in the budget to be \$275,000. Grant payouts to this level would have provided a cost per project hour of \$90. This level of grant payout was considerably less at \$82,207 effectively increasing the hourly cost by \$32.

Output 3 – Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

Output description: *To coordinate the identification of infrastructure requirements in the Region to ensure that they meet the expanding needs of the Region.*

Goldfields-Esperance Infrastructure Projects Workshop

The inaugural Workshop was held in March 2001 with the second workshop occurring in February 2004. The forum was an opportunity for public sector infrastructure providers to detail their agency's infrastructure developments to colleagues and counterparts from across the Region and from Perth. The GEDC believes that comprehensive infrastructure is vital to enhanced economic development in the Region.

The well attended workshop and associated tour was held in Esperance. Given the support and success of this project, GEDC has committed to make it an annual event.

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Water

During the year the GEDC continued to be proactive in seeking the best option, or options, for the provision of alternative and affordable sources of water for the Region.

The continuing water crisis in the metropolitan area, which shows no signs of abating, has added a greater sense of urgency to finding a long-term solution for the water supply needs of the Goldfields-Esperance region. Failure to do so will prove a major inhibitor to the Region's continued prosperity.

The State Government officially announced on the 15th January 2004 that due to insufficient demand from the mining industry, price level and the need for a Government subsidy, the proposal to pipe desalinated water from Esperance to the Goldfields would not proceed at this time. Since then United Utilities has been having further discussions on this proposal with key stakeholders, including the mining industry, and will take a revised proposal to the State Government for its consideration.

The GEDC has continued to provide support to the Balladonia Waste Water Project, which attracted State financial assistance to apply an innovative approach to the recycling of used water. The re-use of "grey water" has commenced at the Balladonia Roadhouse on the Eyre Highway as part of this project.

The Water Corporation commissioned Leonora's new water treatment plant during the year and Menzies is scheduled to have a new plant online in 2004-05.

Regional Power

The GEDC continues to liaise with the Office of Energy, the Shire of Coolgardie and the owner of the Widgiemooltha Roadhouse in seeking a lasting solution for the provision of mains power to Widgiemooltha. Western Power has been approached to assist with finding a remedy to this protracted matter.

Western Power has invited proposals for diesel-fired or diesel-hybrid power stations for various small communities, including Menzies and Laverton, as part of its "Remote Towns Power Project". Tenders closed on the 14th June 2004 and the preferred bidder will be announced in August 2004. This will be followed by the signing of a Power Purchase Agreement during December 2004; with the new power stations to be operational within twelve months of the date of that Agreement coming into force. The GEDC has been liaising with Western Power over this project.

Esperance Power Station and Gas Pipeline

The \$106 million Esperance Power Project was completed in March when the Minister for Energy officially opened a new 25-megawatt power station located on Esperance Port Authority land. The major components of the project were the \$45 million power station, the \$45 million gas pipeline extension from Kambalda to Esperance and the \$6 million upgrade of Esperance's electricity distribution network.

The Office of Energy recently awarded BRW Power Generation (Esperance) Pty Ltd, who own and operate the new power station, the gas trading and gas distribution license to provide lower pressure gas to urban and industrial areas of Esperance. Work to reticulate part of the town will start in the second half of 2004.

GEDC has worked with Burns and Roe Worley to keep the community informed about the project and to facilitate meetings for the company in Esperance during the construction phase of the project.

Telecommunications

The GEDC continues to liaise with, and lobby, telecommunications carriers and governments with the aim of providing improved telecommunications infrastructure and services to the Region.

This has been achieved through the following activities:

- Participated in the statewide Communications Advisory Committee (CAC), which meets quarterly and provides advice to the Minister for State Development, Hon Clive Brown MLA, on communications issues that impact on regional and remote parts of Western Australia.
- The GEDC was an active partner in the formulation of the State's "Telecommunications Needs Assessment" (TNA) Report, which will be used for, among other things, developing a State Communications Policy.
- Assisted in the formulation of the State Communications Policy by providing detailed comments on the draft policy.
- The GEDC provided feedback on the Ngaanyatjarra Council's major "Doing Business with Government" Report. The report covered a multitude of service areas including telecommunications infrastructure and services for the Lands communities.
- The Minister for State Development, Hon Clive Brown MLA, announced funding of \$5.8 million for the Ngaanyatjarra Lands Telecommunications Project in May 2004. The GEDC has been involved in this project for some years. It will greatly assist in addressing the very poor telecommunications infrastructure and services that currently exist in a large area of the northern part of the Goldfields-Esperance region.

- Met with consultants undertaking a pre-feasibility study for a proposed Aboriginal run and controlled FM radio station; with its studios to be located in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
- Provided support to the Eastern Goldfields Division of General Practitioners' Project for the provision of affordable broadband technology to all GPs in the Region.
- Distributed information on the Federal Government's "Community Based Broadband Demand Aggregation Brokers Program".
- Provided support to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's successful funding bid for a "Community Based Broadband Demand Aggregation Broker".
- Briefed an Optus representative on the benefits and advantages of establishing a direct presence in the Goldfields-Esperance region.
- Liaised with the operators of the iPSTAR satellite internet base station to be built in Kalgoorlie-Boulder during 2004. It is anticipated that between ten to twenty new jobs will be created through this project.
- Continued to lobby Telstra Country Wide for terrestrial mobile phone coverage for the town of Menzies and along the Eyre Highway between Norseman and Eucla.
- The GEDC provided input and comments to the Federal Government's \$8.3million Telecommunications Action Plan for Remote Indigenous Communities and a submission to the Regional Telecommunications (Ester's) Inquiry.
- Providing support for the provision of Telecentres in selected Lands communities.
- Lobbying for the extension of ADSL broadband internet access to various towns in the Region.
- The Premier of Western Australia, Hon Geoff Gallop MLA, launched the \$89 million "Network WA Project" in Kalgoorlie-Boulder during June 2004. The project will deliver high-speed broadband services to 59 health and 249 educational and training sites, encompassing 58 towns, throughout regional WA.

Transport

The GEDC monitors developments and lobbies for improved transport infrastructure on behalf of the Region. During 2003-04 activities undertaken were:

- Investigation with the Department for Planning and Infrastructure, Main Roads WA and other key stakeholders into alternative, more direct road routes between the Goldfields and the Pilbara regions.
- Made a presentation to the North Eastern Goldfields Chamber of Commerce on the Federal Government's Auslink Green Paper and its implications for the Region.
- Researched Regional road funding priorities for the Regional Development Council to present to the State Government in light of road funding cutbacks to local government.

Responded to final version of Main Roads WA “South West to Goldfields Study”. Main Roads WA commissioned this study in 2000-01 to research possible new transport links between the South West and the Goldfields. The GEDC was represented on the Steering Committee.

- Compiled Board responses to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure survey on the level of satisfaction of Sky West’s regional air services.
- During the year GEDC continued to lobby for the upgrade of the Goldfields Highway Crossing at Lake Raeside to be completed earlier than the 2007 date currently set.

GEDC was involved with several initiatives in relation to air services in 2003-04, this included making a submission to the Tourism Council of WA on regional air services and its impact and implications for regional based tourism enterprises; participating in the “Regional Air Services Seminar” organised by the Tourism Council of WA.

Outback Highway

GEDC is a member of the Outback Highway Development Council (OHDC), which is lobbying for the development of the Outback Highway from Laverton in Western Australia to Winton in Queensland via Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. The Council includes representatives from local government authorities along the route, government road agencies, indigenous communities and regional development authorities.

To date, only small amounts of funding to upgrade the Outback Highway have been secured all of which has come from State and Territory Governments. However the Federal Government have given an indication that they have recognised the importance of the Outback Highway and the OHDC are confident of securing Federal Government funding in the near future. The Shires of Laverton, Ngaanyatjarraku, Alice Springs, Boulia and Winton are joint funding an Executive Officer/Lobbyist position, appointed in 2003. It is through this position that the five Local Government Authorities have continued lobbying the Federal Government for a financial commitment to the Outback Highway.

During the year the OHDC completed the “Outback Highway-Social, Cultural and Economic Impact Study. This document has proved to be invaluable in highlighting the important impact the Outback Highway can and will have on regional Australia. This Impact Study clearly identified the very important role of tourism in the future of the Outback Highway. The OHDC has called for interested consultants and requested a fee for proposal for an Integrated Tourism Plan covering the Outback Highway. An application seeking funding for this Integrated Tourism Plan has been submitted to the Federal Government for consideration. The GEDC Chairs the sub committee overseeing this tourism plan for the OHDC.

Leonora Collocation

The GEDC, in partnership with the Shire of Leonora, is in the process of collocating a number of essential community services to the Town Centre. These services include the Leonora Community Telecentre, the Leonora Information Centre and WA Library Services. The GEDC has played an important role in facilitating this project, which will provide a number of significant benefits to the local community and travelling public.

The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office has been instrumental in securing Commonwealth funding for this project, as well as additional State Government funding to assist with the relocation of the Leonora Community Telecentre.

The Shire of Leonora has been extremely supportive of this project and this has been demonstrated by a significant financial contribution, as well as through in-kind contributions. Contract Architects have been engaged by the Shire of Leonora to prepare detailed plans for the project, which will take into consideration a number of heritage aspects associated with this project.

The GEDC will continue to play an important role in the facilitation of this project.

Childcare Centre - Leonora

The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office has played an important facilitation role in the establishment of a Child Care Centre in Leonora. This has primarily involved working with the community-based Residents for Child Care Group and the Leonora Shire Council, but has also involved extensive liaison with the Western Australian Department for Community Development, the Children's Services Support Unit of WA and Curtin University – Kalgoorlie.

The GEDC has also been instrumental in securing funding for this project, which will be derived from a number of different sources including the Goldfields Esperance Regional Development Scheme, the Shire of Leonora, LotteryWest and the Commonwealth Government. In addition to the funding, significant in-kind contributions have come from Sons of Gwalia and the local community.

The Child Care Centre is in the construction and fit-out phase, and it is anticipated that it will be completed in the near future. The GEDC, in conjunction with the Department for Community Development, is currently investigating a number of different management models for the operation of the Child Care Centre.

Output 3 Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

Output Measures	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours - <i>Note 1</i>	800	965	1600	1070
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	94%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	91%
Cost				
Cost per hour - <i>Note 2</i>	\$90	\$105	\$100	\$121

Note 1. Hours for the position Senior Project Officer Northern Goldfields were reduced by approximately 400 as the incumbent was required to act in the position of Manager Policy and Projects until December 2003 when a replacement officer was recruited.

Note 2. Higher cost is due to the reduction in project hours as per note 1 above.

Output 4 – Regional Promotion

Output description: *To promote the Region's advantages and attractions so as to encourage investment that will contribute to economic growth, employment and increased population base of the Region.*

During 2003-04 the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission participated in two local events - the Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines Open Day and the Goldfields Mining Expo.

In September 2003, the Goldfields-Esperance region was featured in a special liftout (Goldfields-Esperance Strength to Diversity) in the West Australian newspaper through funding from the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme. The GEDC provided information and support to this Regional project.

WA on Show

The GEDC is in the process of developing a Regional exhibition stand for the forthcoming promotional event, 'WA on Show' that will be held in August 2004. WA on Show, is a State Government initiative aimed at promoting the 175th Anniversary of Western Australia and celebrates the opening of the Perth Convention Centre. The stand being developed by the GEDC will showcase the Goldfields-Esperance region as a great place to visit, live and work.

Regional Brochure and CD

The GEDC is developing a Regional brochure and interactive CD aimed at promoting the Goldfields-Esperance region as a great place to visit, live and work. The brochure/CD package will promote the entire Goldfields-Esperance region, including the Shires of Ravensthorpe, Esperance, Dundas, Coolgardie, Menzies, Leonora, Laverton, Ngaanyatjarraku and the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Pacific Flora 2004

Pacific Flora 2004 is a six month (April-October 2004) international living garden and horticultural exhibition held in Japan. The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority and the Mid West Development Commission managed the project with support from the Gascoyne and Goldfields Esperance Development Commissions and the Western Australian Tourism Commission.

The living landscape design and Interpretation Hut was installed by staff from Kings Park and Botanic Garden in Shizuoka, Japan and features outback and regional Western Australia, including two large panels of glass artwork from the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku Tjulyuru Cultural and Civic Centre. In addition, spinifex for the stand was sourced from Minara Resources situated in the Shire of Laverton. The Mid West, Gascoyne and Goldfields Esperance Development Commissions, and the Western Australian Tourism Commission provided funding and ideas for the design of the living exhibition. The GEDC has been actively involved in this international project.

Golden Quest Discovery Trail

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission was instrumental in the establishment of the Golden Quest Discovery Trail. The Trail was officially handed over to the Golden Quest Trails Association Inc in March 2003. The GEDC provides support to the Golden Quest Trails Manager and the Association as required.

The GEDC entered the Golden Quest Discovery Trail into two recognised Awards - the 2003 Premier's Awards (November 2003) and the Australia and New Zealand Science Association International Inc (ANZRSAI) Awards (September 2003). The Trail was a finalist in the 2003 Premier's Awards, and it won the overall prize at the ANZRSAI Awards for 'Achievement in Regional Development Practice'.

Granite and Woodlands Discovery Trail (GWDT)

The Granite and Woodlands Discovery Trail promotes the Dundas Woodlands, a vast area of Eucalypt dominated woodland that is widely recognised as the world's most significant temperate woodlands, a vast wilderness mosaic that is both beautiful and fascinating. Strewn with interspersing heathlands and distinctive granite outcrops it is a unique and intriguing piece of outback Western Australia. The Trail offers 16 designated stopping places, each with quality interpretation focussed on a particular aspect of natural or cultural history. Some sites have walk trails, while others have picnic and/or camping facilities.

The development of the Granite and Woodlands Discovery Trail has linked a variety of attractions in the Goldfields-Esperance region and includes Wave Rock, a major tourist attraction in the Eastern Wheatbelt. The GEDC has provided assistance to the Shire of Dundas for the development of this 300 kilometre self-drive trail.

Newsletter

GEDC publishes a quarterly newsletter to inform Regional stakeholders about key activities and economic and community developments throughout the Goldfields-Esperance region. More than 1000 copies are distributed each quarter and the newsletter is placed on GEDC's website.

Staff Attraction and Retention

GEDC continued to assist with measures to address staff attraction and retention issues that effect the Region. This included distributing information on migration initiatives introduced to help alleviate staff attraction and retention difficulties across most employment sectors in the region.

GEDC maintains a close working relationship with the Goldfields South-East Health Region. Through this partnership GEDC has provided information and advice to assist with attraction and retention of personnel.

Fitzgerald Biosphere Marketing Association (FBMA)

The Fitzgerald Biosphere Marketing Association is a community-based group in the Ravensthorpe and Jerramungup districts. The Association aims to improve the economic, environmental and social viability of the Region by highlighting the unique values of the Fitzgerald Biosphere with a 'regional brand'.

FBMA worked in a partnership with Edith Cowan University to gain a baseline measure of how the community relate to the biosphere concept. This was achieved through a story and art competition that attracted more than 230 entries from within the Biosphere. In addition to the research value of the competition, it was a valuable education and promotion exercise that raised awareness of the FBMA and the Biosphere concept.

FBMA also worked in partnership with the Centre for Excellence in Natural Resource Management to investigate the prospects for Environmental Management Systems (EMS) adoption in the Fitzgerald Biosphere region. This project explored the potential for links between EMS and market recognition for the Biosphere brand. Outcomes from this included improved community understanding of EMS, improved business management skills for participants, increased support for regional marketing initiatives and the development of a framework to cost-effectively implement EMS in the community.

Running parallel to the EMS project the FBMA employed marketing company, Business Today, to run a seven-week trial of branded lamb from the Biosphere in selected butchers and restaurants in Perth. The trial aimed to assess the viability of lamb as a flagship product under a regional brand. The trial also assessed consumer reaction to the Fitzgerald brand and the capacity of producers to meet market demands. The FBMA aims to present information gathered from the trial to lamb producers to determine the level of grower interest in producing and marketing lamb under the Fitzgerald brand.

GEDC assists FBMA with in-kind support. A Project Officer participates in meetings, works on subcommittees, undertakes research and provides assistance to source funding and resources for the FBMA's activities

Statistical Information

GEDC provides a wide variety of statistical and other information to local government authorities, business groups and other agencies throughout the Region and further a-field. Information frequently sought includes mineral production statistics, gross regional product, demographic and population statistics, Regional Price Index data and employment/unemployment figures.

Community consultation/working groups

During the year, GEDC staff in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Esperance and Leonora were involved in a range of 'subsidiary activities' which all assisted to 'progress the Region'. The following is a sample of these involvements:

The GEDC provided project support to the Mammography Reference Group, a reference group formed to investigate mammography services in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

The GEDC supports the Goldfields Football Academy through the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme for its educational and sporting youth program. This program is a personal development program that assists young Indigenous males to improve and develop their educational opportunities whilst integrating the discipline and ethos of team sport.

GEDC is a member of the Esperance Marine Advisory Committee (EMAC) that looks at issues relating to the Bandy Creek Boat Harbour and was a member of a steering committee that supported the successful running of the Blessing of the Fleet on the 26 October 2003.

GEDC played a lead role in the revival of Esperance's Festival of the Wind committee following the resignation of all previous committee members. A new committee has been formed and the Festival of the Wind is scheduled for 18-19 March 2005. GEDC assists the committee source funding and market the Festival.

Capacity Building

The GEDC assisted the Department of Local Government and Regional Development to contact Indigenous and non-Indigenous community leaders in three shires to take part in the WA Community Leadership Program that was delivered across the State in 2003-04.

- GEDC facilitated a planning workshop for Esperance Community Mental Health to seek wide stakeholder input into the future of the Special Care Unit at the Esperance hospital.
- GEDC facilitated a planning and goal setting meeting for the Esperance Community Garden Committee.
- Employment Esperance requested assistance from GEDC to run a planning and governance workshop for their Board members.
- GEDC has supported the Youth Development Officer for Department of Community Development in establishing a Youth Coordination Network in Esperance. The network brings together people and organisations that work with youth to provide an opportunity to network, share information and facilitate partnerships on projects and programs delivered for young people.

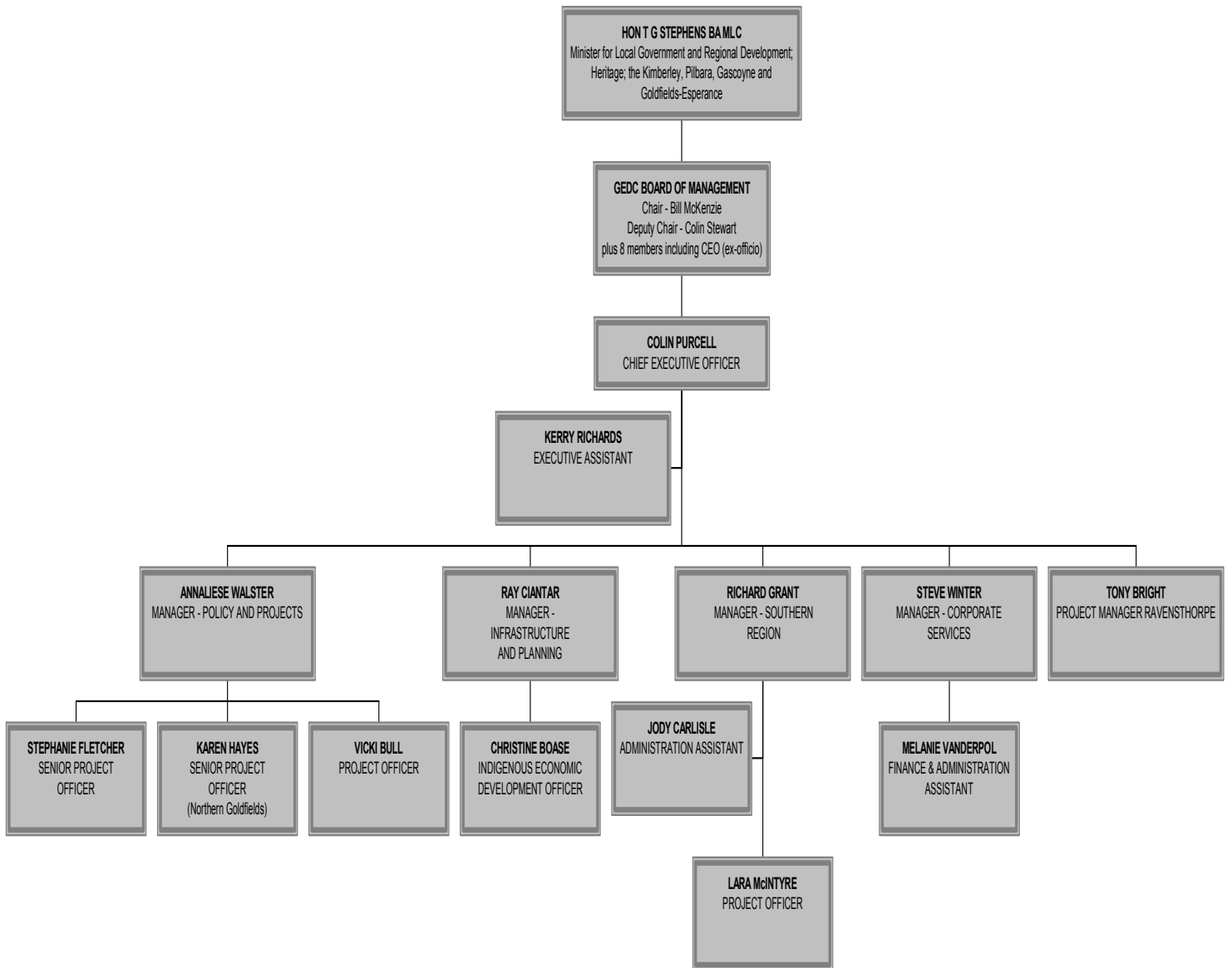
Output 4 Regional Promotion

Output Measures	2002/03 Target	2002/03 Actual	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours - <i>Note 1</i>	4500	7545	2780	2247
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	94%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey)	85%	91%	85%	91%
Cost				
Cost per hour - <i>Note 2</i>	\$102	\$124	\$101	\$131

Note 1. Projects: Staff Attraction & Retention; Kepa Kurl Interpretive Centre and Mammography Community Reference Group, had reduced activity due to priorities with other projects. Combined, this reduced hours by approximately 260.

Note 2. Higher cost is due to lump sum payments totalling \$70,000 with respect projects Golden Quest Trails Association (\$40,000) and Pacific Flora (\$30,000). Without these lump sum payments, the cost per project hour would have been \$102.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION STRUCTURE



CORPORATE STRUCTURE

Enabling Legislation and Policy

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission is established as a Statutory Authority under the Regional Development Commissions Act 1993.

Legislation impacting on the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's activities

In the performance of its functions, the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission complies with the following relevant written laws:

- ☞ Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985
- ☞ Public Sector Management Act 1994
- ☞ Salaries and Allowances Act 1975
- ☞ Equal Opportunity Act 1984
- ☞ Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
- ☞ Workplace Agreement Act 1993
- ☞ Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993
- ☞ Industrial Relations Act 1979
- ☞ Disability Services Act 1993
- ☞ State Supply Commission Act 1991
- ☞ Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003
- ☞ State Records Act 2000

In the financial administration of the GEDC, we have complied with the requirements of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985 and every other written law and exercised controls that provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of moneys, the acquisition and disposal of public property and incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars in this statement misleading or inaccurate.

Responsible Minister

The Hon Tom Stephens BA MLC, Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Heritage; The Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne and Goldfields–Esperance.

Vision

To be the peak body responsible for the coordination of sustainable and balanced social and economic development in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

Mission

Our mission is to increase investment and population in our Region.

Objectives and Desired Outcomes

The GEDC provides an integral component of a “Whole-of-Government” approach to the requirements of regional development. By assisting in the co-ordination of responsibilities of a wide range of agencies having impact on regional development, the GEDC is able to perform an important role in identifying needs and providing advice on the appropriate application of Government resources to the Region.

As prescribed under Section 23(1) of the Act, the objectives of the GEDC are to:

- Maximise job creation and improve career opportunities in the Region.
- Develop and broaden the economic base of the Region.
- Identify infrastructure services to promote economic and social development within the Region.
- Provide information and advice to promote business development within the Region.
- Seek to ensure that the general standard of government services and access to those services in the Region is comparable to that in the metropolitan area.
- Generally take steps to encourage, promote, facilitate and monitor the economic development in the Region.

In order to meet its objectives, the desired outcomes of the GEDC are to:

- Promote the Region.
- Facilitate coordination between relevant statutory bodies and State Government agencies.
- Cooperate with representatives of industry and commerce, employer and employee organisations, education and training institutions and other sections of the community within the Region.
- Identify the opportunities for investment in the Region and encourage that investment.
- Identify the infrastructure needs of the Region and encourage the provision of that infrastructure in the Region.
- Cooperate with:
 - Departments of the Public Service of the State and the Commonwealth and other agencies, instrumentalities and statutory bodies of the State and Commonwealth.
 - Local Government authorities in order to promote equitable delivery of services within the Region.

Outputs (goods or services) provided to the public sector in WA

To ensure that our objectives and desired outcomes are achieved, the GEDC implemented the following:

- A Customer Satisfaction Survey was sent to major customers of the GEDC during the year.
- A number of information pamphlets for customers were produced.

GEDC has been called upon recently to comment on a number of State and Federal Policies, Programs and Strategies. In 2003/04 this included the following:

- Commented on the "Establishment of a Hazardous Waste Precinct - Draft Site Selection Criteria";
- Provided comment on the Cooke Review final report;
- Provided input into the draft State Telecommunications Policy;
- Commented on Main Roads' "South West to Goldfields Study";
- Prepared submission to the "Inquiry into Water Services in WA " conducted by the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Public Administration and Finance;
- Bioregional Marine Planning in Western Australia. (Integrated and Multi-sectorial Planning and Management of the Marine Environment.)
- Central South Coast Strategic Analysis (Department of Agriculture and Great Southern Development Commission)
- Prepared a Contentious Issues report for Cabinet on issues in Esperance and Ravensthorpe.

In addition to providing comments on documents GEDC is frequently called upon by other State Government Agencies to coordinate community consultation in the Region. Examples of this in 2003/04 are the Regional Investment Tours and the Greenhouse Strategy consultation. GEDC was also a member of the judging panel for Telstra Small Business Awards in Esperance and the Tidy Towns competition.

The Department of Local Government and Regional Development also call upon GEDC to provide support and information for a range of funding programs including the Western Australian Regional Initiatives Scheme, Regional Infrastructure Funding Program, Indigenous Infrastructure Projects Program and the Indigenous Arts and the Tourism Facilities Funding Program.

GEDC coordinated the itinerary for the US Consul General Oscar De Soto's visit to Esperance.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission is established under Sections 7, 15 & 16 of the *Regional Development Commissions Act 1993* and comprises the following membership:

- Three members representing the Regional community.
- Three members representing Local Government.
- Three members appointed at the Minister's discretion.
- The GEDC Chief Executive Officer.

The Board consists of the Chairman, Deputy Chairperson and eight members, including the Chief Executive Officer (ex-officio). The Minister for Goldfields-Esperance appoints board members. The Board is GEDC's governing body and meets on a bi-monthly basis. It sets major policy directions, reviews progress on projects, determines budget priorities, approves major expenditure and advises the Minister on Regional Development issues, especially those relating to the Goldfields-Esperance region.

Six board meetings were held in 2003-04.

Chairman Bill McKenzie proposed that the GEDC Board Meetings be conducted under a different format. The GEDC Board still meets on a bi-monthly basis by tele/video conference and then, a fortnight later, a face-to-face meeting occurs on a selected topic of interest.

As at 30 June 2004, Board members were as follows:

Bill McKenzie (Chairman)

Appointed Chairman on the 23 December 2003 – commenced meeting attendance from February 2004.

Community representative

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meeting attended 5 (5 possible)

Kalgoorlie born Bill McKenzie is a Barrister & Solicitor practising predominantly in the field of commercial and business law. He is married (25 years) to Carmel and they have four teenage children.

Bill has served on many boards since the 1980's including, Chairman - Eastern Goldfields Transport Board for 3 years in the mid 1980's; Director - Kalgoorlie College for 10 years in the 1990's; Chairman - Goldfields Group Apprenticeship Scheme, which he helped establish; President – Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce 1985 – 1988 and Deputy President since 2001; Director – Eastern Goldfields YMCA since 2000; Chairman Goldfields Credit Union since 2002; and Director for 10 years and a member of Northern Goldfields Health Service Ethics Committee until 2002.

Colin Stewart (Deputy Chairman)

Ministerial representative.

Term expires 31 December 2004.

Meetings attended: 6 (6 possible)

Mr Stewart is the CEO of the Esperance Port Authority and was the inaugural Deputy Chairperson of the Goldfields Esperance Development Authority from 1990-1993. Colin chairs the Southern Cross-Esperance Regional Minerals Study and is the Regional Port Representative on the WA Rail Advisory Council.

Sandra Trenowden

Local Government representative.
Meetings attended: 5 (6 possible)

Term expires 31 December 2004.

Mrs Trenowden is the President of the Shire of Coolgardie and a member of the Australia Unlimited Taskforce and the Golden Quest Trails Association. Sandra believes the development of local infrastructure and the expansion of community facilities and services will assist in the retention and attraction of people to the Region. The encouragement of investment into the Region, alternative industries and sustainable growth are areas in which Sandra has a special interest.

Kado Muir

Ministerial representative.
Meetings attended: 2 (6 possible)

Term expires 31 December 2004.

Kado Muir understands issues facing small towns and Indigenous people after living in Kalgoorlie and Leonora. Kado, whose academic background is in anthropology, has business interests in media and publishing. He is also a Board Member of the Goldfields-Esperance Area Consultative Committee.

Kay Curson

Community representative.
Meetings attended: 6 (6 possible)

Term expires 31 December 2004

Kay has been actively involved with GEDC as a representative on various community-related committees such as the Chairperson on the Australia Unlimited Taskforce, and a member of the Golden Quest Trails Association. She has always had a real interest in the communities in which she has resided and has been prepared to contribute to their development. She consistently demonstrates an understanding and concern for the promotion of the Goldfields-Esperance region as a great place for people to live, work and invest and this has been reflected in her representation and participation in the development of this Region.

Dr William John Mortimer

Community representative.
Meetings attended: 4 (5 possible)

Term expires 30 June 2006

Dr John Mortimer was born in Perth, and was appointed Principal of Eastern Goldfields Senior High School in 1997 having spent the last 37 years as a teacher and school administrator. He holds four university degrees including a Doctor of Education (Ed D) from the University of Western Australia. Dr Mortimer is a member of a variety of professional associations, including the Australian College of Educators since 1984, Associate Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management since 1993, is an Accredited Member of Australian Council for Educational Leaders and is a member of the Western Australian Secondary Schools Executives Association since 1997.

In the Goldfields community, Dr Mortimer is also President of the Rotary Club of Boulder; Deputy Chairman of the Board of Esperance Group Training Scheme Inc.; and is a member of the City and Regional Development Committee of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Graham Dawes

Local Government representative.
Meetings attended: 3 (5 possible)

Term expires 30 June 2006

Mr Dawes was elected to the Leonora Shire Council in 1997, becoming Shire President in 2002 and has also been a Justice of the Peace for 2 years.

During the last 30 years Mr Dawes has been a Business Manager and is heavily involved in managing and operating his own businesses both in Western Australia and Victoria. He currently employs 12 people in Leonora.

Mr Dawes has a wide range of management, strategic planning and technical experience and was also one of a number of Councillors who instigated a strategic planning process with the Shire of Leonora, which is now reaping the benefits.

Sally Wilson

Ministerial representative.
Meetings attended: 5 (5 possible)

Term expires 30 June 2005

Mrs Wilson who holds a Diploma of Art and Design and has completed the WA Rural Leadership Course. She is currently farming at Gibson. Her background is in the travel industry and as a volunteer in arts, sporting and education groups in Esperance. Through her involvement with these groups, she has been able to create an extensive community network and believes her strengths lie in communication and leadership, with a dedication to sustainable community development.

Colin Purcell (ex-officio)

Mr Purcell is the Chief Executive Officer of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.

Board Members Terms that expired during 2003/2004

Meeting attendance – period July 2003 to December 2003

Kath Finlayson CitWA (Chairman)

Local Government representative.
Meeting attended: 1 (1 possible)

Term expired 22 December 2003.

Mrs Finlayson is President of the Shire of Menzies. She and her husband John ran Jeedamya Station (between Menzies and Leonora) for twenty-seven years, but now live in Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Mrs Finlayson is Chairman of the Centre for the Management of Arid Environments at Curtin University in Kalgoorlie, a member of Curtin University's Kalgoorlie Campus Council, a member of the Remote and Rural Education Advisory Council and participated on the State Coordinating Committee for the Year of the Outback. A nurse by training, Kath was Chairman of the Northern Goldfields Health Service for eight years until June 2002.

A former ABC Rural Woman of the Year for Western Australia, Kath was further honoured during June 2002 as a WA Citizen of The Year with the Governor's Award for Regional Development.

Gary Lye

Community representative.

Term expired 31 October 2003.

Meetings attended: 1 (1 possible)

Mr Lye was the Manager Strategic Mine Development with Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines Pty Ltd (KCGM), Kalgoorlie-Boulder's largest employer. Gary continued his interest in improving infrastructure in the Goldfields Region through his involvement in the Goldfields Esperance Regional Planning Implementation Coordinating Committee (GERPICC) and as Chairman of the Goldfields Mining Transport Working Group.

Tony Bright

Local Government representative.

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meetings attended: 1 (**Resigned 16 March 2004**)

Cr Bright holds a Bachelor of Science (UWA) degree and has been a Shire Councillor for 5 years and a Justice of the Peace for 7 years.

Cr Bright was previously the Director Southern Region of Goldfields Esperance Development Commission between 1991 and 1997. Tony is a member of many Local Government Committees and has been the Secretary/Treasurer of the Eyre Highway Operators' Association (Inc) since 1983 and Treasurer of the Esperance Community College Management Services Committee since 2003.

Cr Bright was a Consultant for Community & Regional Development specialising in project co-ordination, workshop facilitation, strategic & business planning, submissions to Government and applications for Government Funding Assistance Programs. Tony resigned from the GEDC Board on the 16th March 2004 as a result of his appointment to the position of Ravensthorpe Project Manager for GEDC.

Lynn Webb

Local Government representative.

Term expires 31 December 2004.

Meetings attended: 1 (**Resigned 17 November 2003**)

Mr Webb is President of the Shire of Dundas. A self-employed engineer, Lynn is committed to the tandem development of economic and social opportunities to ensure that a healthy community structure exists throughout the Region as industries develop. Training of young people and, in particular apprentices is an area that Lynn believes will impact on the long-term economic development, especially if businesses continue to be reluctant to take on apprentices.

Ken O'Reilly

Ministerial representative.

Term expires 31 December 2004.

(**Resigned 17 November 2003**)

Now based in Perth, but having lived in Laverton, Ken is a strong supporter of education and youth development. He believes that the Zone tax rebates and Fly-in Fly-out need to be addressed to ensure the Goldfields-Esperance region maintains its traditionally strong character and unique way of life.

Ken feels that more economic and social development needs to be sought from in and around the Goldfields-Esperance region, and a comprehensive regional model for infrastructure needs to be developed and maintained to ensure the growth and stability of our Region.

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer

Colin Purcell joined GEDC in May 1999 and was appointed to his substantive position in July 2000. Colin came to GEDC from the Bunbury Office of the Department of Commerce and Trade where he had been a Regional Trade Manager since 1991. Colin has a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Diploma in Technology. In his spare time he plays golf and hockey, and enjoys scuba diving.

Manager - Infrastructure and Planning

Ray Ciantar joined GEDC in 1994 from ATSIC where he was the Regional Planning Officer in the Kalgoorlie office. Ray worked in the Northern Territory for ten years and prior to that spent five years overseas. Ray has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in the Social Sciences. He enjoys aero-modelling, travelling, reading, camping and spending time with his family.

Manager - Policy and Projects

Annaliese Walster joined GEDC in March 2001. Annaliese was formerly a Native Title Case Manager with the Department of Minerals and Energy. She has also worked for the Aboriginal Legal Service and a private heritage consultancy. Annaliese holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with Honours in Anthropology, and completed an MBA in 2001.

Manager - Southern Region

Richard Grant joined GEDC in January 2001, with a background in management planning, public relations and journalism. Richard was born and educated in Kalgoorlie, and has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of WA. Richard completed two years as Commodore of the Esperance Bay Yacht Club in June 2004.

Manager - Corporate Services

Steve Winter joined GEDC in December 2002 after transferring from the Kimberley Development Commission (KDC) where he had been employed since July 1997. Prior to joining KDC Steve had a career with Westpac Banking Corporation in South Australia that spanned 27 years. Steve has a Diploma in Accounting.

Senior Project Officer

Stephanie Fletcher has worked for GEDC since July 1996. Stephanie's family history in the Goldfields stretches back until 1894 when her great grandfather settled at Trafalgar. Stephanie's three sons keep her busy, but she still finds time for her family and friends.

Senior Project Officer – Northern Goldfields

Karen Hayes joined the GEDC in December 2003 in the position of Senior Project Officer and is based in the Northern Goldfields Office in Leonora. Karen has 10 years experience in Local Government, in community development work and community based projects.

Karen has enjoyed her previous Local Government roles and was thrilled with the opportunity to take up the Senior Project position in Leonora. Karen has made a commitment to the position and to the Northern Goldfields region, and hopes to remain in the area for several years.

Project Officer

Vicki Bull joined GEDC in 1998 and has lived in Kalgoorlie-Boulder since 1983, except for a period in 1999-00 when she was based at the Esperance office of the GEDC. Vicki has a Diploma in Human Resource Management and a Graduate Diploma in Regional Development.

Project Officer – Esperance

Lara McIntyre joined GEDC's Esperance office in November 2000 having previously worked in agriculture, private enterprise, Local Government and for the Department of Transport. Lara has lived in Esperance for 12 years and enjoys an active lifestyle, making full use of the sensational beaches and camping areas along the south coast.

Aboriginal Economic Development Officer

Christine Boase commenced working with the Commission in August 2000, having moved to Kalgoorlie-Boulder earlier that year. Christine holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in History and English and has worked in private enterprise, an academic institution and in the retail and mining industry sectors. In August 2002, Christine became a full-time staff member. With her husband and daughter, she enjoys community activities and travelling around the Goldfields.

Executive Assistant

Kerry Richards commenced with the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission in March 2003. Kerry was previously, employed by the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. for 4^{1/2} years. Born in Kalgoorlie-Boulder Kerry has raised two wonderful children and enjoys the lifestyle Kalgoorlie-Boulder has to offer.

Finance & Administration Assistant

Melanie Vanderpol joined GEDC in March 2004, after having worked in the administration field in various industries for the past 4 years. As a resident of Kalgoorlie Boulder since the age of 6, Mel enjoys the diversity this area has to offer.

Administration Assistant

Jody Carlisle joined GEDC's Esperance office in June 2003. Originally from Kalgoorlie, Jody moved to Esperance 5½ years ago. She has a Certificate III Qualification in Business Office Administration and hopes to expand her knowledge and qualifications. She has a keen interest in all outdoor activities and practices pilates to keep her body and mind healthy and active.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Human Resource Management

GEDC's Human Resource Guidelines, reviewed and updated in October 2003, ensure that human resource activities within the organisation comply with Public Sector Standards. The areas covered by these Guidelines include recruitment, selection and appointment, transfer, secondment, performance management, redeployment, termination and discipline. GEDC has complied with Section 31(1) of the Public Sector Management Act in the administration of the organisation's human resource management practices relating to the Public Sector Standards and the Code of Ethics and Conduct.

As at 30 June 2004, GEDC operated with 14 staff, one more than the previous year.

	2002/2003	2003/2004
Permanent full - time	10	11
Permanent part- time	0	0
Temporary/contract full-time	3	3
Temporary/contract part-time	0	0
TOTAL	13	14

Public Sector Standards

The GEDC's Induction and Information Manual is issued to all new and existing staff members and provides information relating to Public Sector Standards, administrative and human resource matters. Contained within the manual is the GEDC code of conduct that assists employees to understand their rights, responsibilities and obligations in their respective roles within the organisation. The Code relies on staff taking responsibility for their own behaviour to ensure public sector standards for behaviour are not breached.

The manual also contains information such as the organisation's objectives and key activities, employment conditions, work ethics and grievance resolution procedures. A formal induction process is followed for all new Board members. The Board has its own written Code of Conduct, copies of which are distributed to all Board members.

Staff Training and Development

In 2003/04 GEDC staff participated in a number of training courses. An assessment of staff training needs is identified through individual Performance Improvement and Development Agreements. The GEDC expended 2.6% of payroll costs on staff training and development.

Workers Compensation

In compliance with Treasurer's Instruction 903, GEDC is insured in respect of workers compensation, with no claims being recorded during the year.

Records Management

During 2003/2004 the GEDC created a Records Management Plan and a Retention and Disposal Plan in accordance with the requirements of the State Records Act 2000. This Legislation was introduced on 7 March 2004. Also during the year, the GEDC maintained a comprehensive records management system that was updated to reflect modifications to the Strategic Plan to enable documents to be linked to Outputs and ensure easy retrieval and management of all records.

Publications

The GEDC issues a number of publications that provide information on the development of the Region, customer service and equity issues. GEDC also contributes to reports concerning the Region published by other agencies. GEDC also maintains a web site at www.gedc.wa.gov.au. Publications of the GEDC include:

- 📖 Goldfields-Esperance Community Resource Manual
- 📖 Goldfields-Esperance Regional Marketing Strategy
- 📖 Goldfields-Esperance Economic Perspective
- 📖 Newsletter
- 📖 Client Survey
- 📖 Disability Service Plan
- 📖 Complaints Management Strategy
- 📖 GEDC information brochure
- 📖 Golden Quest Discovery Trail Guide book
- 📖 Golden Quest Brochure
- 📖 Indigenous People in Mining Business Directory

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Contracts with Board Members or Senior Officers

At the date of reporting, other than normal contracts of employment or service, no Board Member or Senior Officers, or firms of which Board Members or Senior Officers are members, or entities in which Members or Senior Officers have substantial interests, had any interests in existing or proposed contracts with the agency, Board Members or Senior Officers.

Changes in Written Law

There were no changes in written law during the financial year.

Ministerial Directives

No Ministerial directives were received during the financial year.

REPORT ON EQUITY, ACCESS AND CUSTOMER FOCUS

Reports on Customer Outcomes

Customer Focus Outcomes

The five objectives for Regional Customer Service Delivery, and GEDC's responses, are as follows:

- 1. Regional Customers have equitable (in comparison to Perth) access to the services provided.*

GEDC is based in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the regional centre of the Goldfields-Esperance region, with branch offices in Leonora, Esperance and Ravensthorpe. GEDC believes that this geographic spread of offices provides customers with excellent access to its services. Staff of the GEDC undertake regular visits to small and isolated communities in the Region.

- 2. Regional customers are informed of the services available to them*

GEDC has a high public profile, which is achieved through media activity, the networking of Board members and staff in the community, and through formal and informal meetings with stakeholders in the Region. A newsletter is published on a regular basis and is distributed throughout the Region. It is also published on the GEDC web site, itself a valuable source of information about the activities of the agency. The GEDC also contributes to local community newspapers.

- 3. The extent to which GEDC uses regional suppliers.*

GEDC uses local suppliers wherever possible, and where the goods or services offered are cost-competitive. The 'Buy Local Policy' is applied as appropriate.

- 4. The extent to which GEDC consulted with regional communities about the effect of proposed changes to its activities.*

GEDC's Board members come from a number of different locations within the Region. Information and opinions gained from their formal and informal contacts within their home communities can have a significant effect on their shaping of GEDC's policies and activities. GEDC places particular store by its relationship with local government authorities in the Region, particularly with local government CEOs'. Regular meetings are held, at which time consultation takes place in respect of the GEDC's activities.

Staff at GEDC consult with their respective communities when implementing programs, and often amend strategies based on local attitudes and responses. GEDC staff members have also attended training on the Consulting Citizens initiatives developed by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and utilise the associated publications as a guide and for templates when conducting consultation.

- 5. The extent to which GEDC supported local planning processes*

GEDC was proactive in encouraging local input into various planning processes. This included the development of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Priority Plan and continued input into the Goldfields Nullarbor Sub-regional Natural Resource Management Strategy, South Coast Regional Initiative Planning Team and Ravensthorpe Nickel Developments.

Disabilities Service Plan Outcomes

In December 1995, GEDC prepared and adopted a Disabilities Service Plan, which ensures that people with disabilities can access the organisation's services and facilities. The Plan recognises that people with disabilities are valued members of the community who contribute to social, economic and cultural life in a variety of ways.

The Disabilities Service Plan was reviewed and updated in the third quarter of 2003 and is scheduled for review every two years. The frequency of the review is to ensure that outcomes meet current community expectations, with particular reference to the evolving priorities and needs of people with disabilities.

Recommendations of the Disability Services Commission are reviewed by GEDC and are adhered to in respect of the production of publications, the GEDC website and when organising public functions and consultations.

The GEDC is progressing towards achievement of the five Disability Service Plan key outcomes:

1. *Existing services are adapted to ensure they meet the needs of people with disabilities* – The GEDC does not provide services that require access by the general public. Irrespective of this, the GEDC considers all situations when organising functions or arranging the printing of publications.
2. *Access to buildings and facilities is improved* - People with physical disabilities can gain access to the four offices of the GEDC, however, the offices at Kalgoorlie, Ravensthorpe and Esperance are housed within older buildings that provide a barrier to unrestricted access. Improved Disability Access will be addressed with Landlords at the time of renewal of the leases. The GEDC does have a policy of visiting customers should the need arise.
3. *Information about services is provided in formats that meet the communication requirements of people with disabilities* – Publications produced by the GEDC are on non-glossy paper and in a larger print font to assist the visually impaired. The GEDC web site is also in a larger print font and easily navigated. The GEDC website will be updated in 2004/05 and will be developed in accordance with website guidelines to obtain the access standards required.
4. *Advice and services are delivered by staff who are aware and understand the needs of people with disabilities* – A staff member participated in the state wide consultative committee with respect to the review of Disability Services Act 1993. All GEDC staff have participated in the review of GEDC's Disability Services Plan and are aware of the commitment and services expected of them.
5. *Opportunities are provided for people with disabilities to participate in public consultations, grievance mechanisms and decision-making processes* – Every consideration is provided in this field, including GEDC's Disability Services Plan and the Complaints Handling Policy.

Equal Employment Opportunity Outcomes

In accordance with Section 145 of the Equal Opportunity Act (1984), GEDC has ensured that:

- ☉ All employees are issued with a formal copy of the Policy Statement on Equal Opportunity in Employment.
- ☉ Information pertaining to Equal Opportunity in Employment is circulated to all employees.
- ☉ Equal Employment Opportunity developments are known to employees, with comment being sought from employees, as appropriate.
- ☉ All job advertisements contain:
 - Non-discriminatory language, occupational titles and graphics
 - An accurate statement of the duties to be performed
 - No requests for unnecessary qualifications and/or prerequisites.
- ☉ Employees are selected and treated solely on the basis of their merit and abilities applicable to the position.
- ☉ Policies and practices are administered and carried out in line with EEO principles.
- ☉ Employees are informed of their conditions of service.
- ☉ Disciplinary and counselling procedures are administered fairly.
- ☉ All employees are issued with a formal copy of the policy statement on 'prevention of harassment in the workplace'.

A review of GEDC's policies in relation to Equal Employment Opportunities was also conducted in 2003/04.

The GEDC has contributed towards the Government's Equity and Diversity Plan 2001-2005 in the following three key priorities as at 30 June 2004:

Improved distribution of women particularly in management positions:

- Representation of women - 64%

Improved representation at all levels for Indigenous Australians, people from culturally diverse backgrounds and people with disabilities:

- Representation of Indigenous Australians - 0%
- Representation of people from culturally diverse backgrounds - 7%
- Representation of people with disabilities - 0%.

Cultural Diversity and Language Services Outcomes

The operational activities of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission are focussed around delivery of facilitation and information services to clients both within and outside the Region. GEDC is successfully implementing the Language Services Policy to the extent of:

- In planning their work, staff of the GEDC are encouraged to be aware of the needs of the people who may require the services of a culturally appropriate interpreter, to ensure that these people have the same access to our services as do other members of the community.
- Ensuring that language services are culturally and linguistically acceptable to the client including taking into account gender and ethnicity preferences and the appropriateness of either telephone or on-site interpreting.
- Acknowledging clients' entitlements to the services of interpreters, translators and linguistically appropriate information in situations of communication difficulty. In the first half of 2003, Management attended a workshop on multiculturalism that highlighted the shortfall of interpreters in the Region. A brief on this was provided to the Minister and the GEDC will be monitoring developments emanating from the workshop.
- Established protocols for the engagement of qualified interpreters, translators and note-takers.
- Understanding that the provision of interpreting and other language services is the responsibility of the agency and not the client. To this extent, the GEDC works with the staff of the Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Language Centre based in Kalgoorlie-Boulder when translations or interpretation are required.
- Has a staff member trained in cross-cultural skills and how to work with interpreters.

GEDC officers have also attended workshops in Indigenous cultural awareness.

Youth Outcomes

Action: A State Government Plan for Young People, 2000-2003 was developed to ensure a whole of Government approach to youth affairs in Western Australia. Cabinet endorsed the Plan in October 2000. GEDC's activities are designed to progress the 'balanced social and economic development of the Goldfields-Esperance region'. Projects are designed to make long-term improvements to the Region's infrastructure, quality of life, educational and employment opportunities. Successful implementation (not necessarily by GEDC) of initiatives proposed in GEDC's projects should benefit all people in the Region, including young people.

A number of GEDC's projects and initiatives were supported by GEDC in 2003-04 that had a specific youth focus.

Youth Driver Development Program - The Youth Driver Development Program is committed to reducing the number of young people seriously injured and killed as a result of road crashes in WA. The program comprised a six-module driver-training for Year 11 students as they prepared to obtain a driver's license. The program is aimed at developing sound attitudes towards driving and safety, while simultaneously teaching driving skills. GEDC supported this program through a grant that is still being utilised to help finance this initiative.

Goldfields Football Academy

The Goldfields Football Academy was established in Kalgoorlie-Boulder in July 2002 and is run by former Fremantle Dockers player Andrew McGovern with financial assistance from the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund.

The Goldfields Football Academy provides Aboriginal participants (Years 8-10) with the opportunity to further develop their sporting abilities, the program includes specialist sports coaching, and education/counselling sessions on matters including health, diet, physical conditioning and personal development.

In return for this specialist training, the participants are required to adopt a more disciplined lifestyle and attend school regularly. Ongoing membership of the Academy is dependant upon satisfactory performance at school as well as at football.

The Goldfields Football Academy is in partnership with the Eastern Goldfields Senior High School and strong support is also provided to this valuable program by government and non-government agencies in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

REPORTS ON OTHER ACCOUNTABILITY ISSUES

Information Statement

On 1 November 1993, the Freedom of Information Act 1992 came into effect in Western Australia.

The main aims of the Act for Government agencies are:

- o To assist the public to obtain access to documents
- o To allow access to documents in a prompt manner and at the lowest reasonable cost
- o To assist the public to ensure that personal information contained in documents is accurate, complete, up to date and not misleading.

GEDC holds copies of ingoing and outgoing correspondence, internal reports, policies and the like. GEDC's publications are available at no charge, with the exception of the Golden Quest Discovery Trail guide book.

GEDC's Senior Project Officer, Stephanie Fletcher is the designated FOI Officer. Applications for access to documents can be lodged at the GEDC head office, 377 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie.

During 2003/04 no applications for access to documents under the Freedom of Information Act were received.

Advertising and Sponsorship

In accordance with section 175ZE of the Electoral Act 1907, GEDC incurred the following expenditure in advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising.

1. Total expenditure for 2003/04 was \$17,856
2. Expenditure was incurred in the following areas:

Advertising Agencies Nil

Market Research Organisations \$3,608
Asset Research \$3,608

Polling Organisations Nil

Direct Mail Organisations Nil

Media Advertising Organisations \$14,248

Marketforce Productions	\$8,213
Hocking and Company	\$579
Visitor Guide Australia	\$2,900
Reynolds Graphics	\$1,000
Business News	\$1,106
Mining Supplier	\$450

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR STANDARDS

The GEDC has complied with the Standards as follows:

Compliance with Human Resource Management Standards

The Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management are incorporated into GEDC policies and as such are available for all staff to access. The Manager Corporate Services is responsible for the HR function of the GEDC and as such ensures compliance with the Standards whenever a process controlled by the Standards is undertaken. The Recruitment, Selection and Appointment Standard is the principal Standard that occurs in GEDC HR processes. Formal training relevant to this Standard has been provided to the Manager Corporate Services. Being a small Agency, the GEDC has not considered it necessary to survey employees or to seek an audit or review by the OPSSC. There has been no breach of standards lodged. A review of the Human Resource Management Standards occurred in 2003/04.

Compliance with Codes of Ethics and Codes of Conduct

The GEDC has a Code of Conduct within its policies. The Code is in accordance with the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics revised 1 March 2002. Being a small agency, no specific assessment of compliance has been undertaken, however, all employees have a personal copy of the Code and are fully conversant with the content.

Statement of Compliance with Public Sector Management Act Section 31(1)

In the administration of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission, I have complied with the Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management, the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics and our Code of Conduct.

I have put in place procedures designed to ensure such compliance and conducted appropriate internal assessments to satisfy myself that the statement made above is correct.

The applications made for breach of standards review and the corresponding outcomes for the reporting period are:

Number lodged:	Nil
Number of breaches found, including details of multiple breaches per application:	Nil
Number still under review:	Nil



Colin Purcell
Chief Executive Officer

20 August 2004

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE – A PRODUCTIVE REGION

The following key statistics provide an indication of the overall performance of the Region's economy.

Gross Regional Product

The Goldfields-Esperance region makes a vital contribution to the Western Australian economy with a GRP (Gross Regional Product at market prices) of \$4.256 billion in 2002-03 representing 5.2% per cent of the Gross State Product. The Gross Regional Product of the Goldfields-Esperance region in 2002-03 was the second highest of any of Western Australia's nine non-metropolitan regions. The South West region had the highest Gross Regional Product at \$5.35 billion.

<i>Gross Regional Product – Goldfields-Esperance region</i>	<i>1999-00</i>	<i>2000-01</i>	<i>2001-02</i>	<i>2002-03</i>
Preliminary GRP Estimates at Market Prices (\$m)	3,586	4,088	4,113	4,256
Preliminary Nominal Growth Rate Estimates at Market Prices	3.2%	14%	0.6	3.5%
Preliminary GRP Estimates at Market Prices Adjusted for CPI (\$m)	3,098	3,350	3,282	3,304
Preliminary Growth Rate Estimates at Market Prices Adjusted for CPI	0.9%	8.1%	-2.0%	0.7%

Source: Data synthesised by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development from Australian Bureau of Statistics National Accounts data.

Goldfields-Esperance Gross Regional Product Share by Industry

	2000-01	2001-02
2002-03		
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2.9%	2.7%
Mining	70.8%	62.5%
Manufacturing	2.4%	3.1%
Electricity, Gas and Water	0.9%	1.2%
Construction	3.9%	4.8%
Wholesale	1.6%	2.3%
Retail	1.8%	2.5%
Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	1.0%	1.0%
Transport & Storage	2.5%	3.5%
Communication Services	0.9%	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	2.2%	2.9%
Property	3.6%	4.2%
Government	1.0%	2.6%
Education	1.2%	1.8%
Health and Community Services	2.1%	2.3%
Cultural and Recreational Services	0.3%	0.5%
Personal and Other Services	0.8%	1.3%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Source: Data synthesised by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development from Australian Bureau of Statistics National Accounts data.

Production by Industry Sector

Mining and processing of mineral resources

The resources industry dominates the economy in the northern and central parts of the Goldfields-Esperance region. Minerals production in the Goldfields-Esperance region for 2003 calendar year was as follows.

The \$4.2 billion value of the minerals industry in the Goldfields-Esperance region in 2003 was 15.8 per cent of the State's total minerals and petroleum industry of \$26.6 billion.

In 2003 gold production in the Region was valued at \$2.34 billion, down from \$2.48 billion in 2002. The Region produced 69.5% of the State's gold output in 2003. The Region's nickel industry (including cobalt, nickel, palladium and platinum) was valued at \$1.84 billion, up from \$1.82 billion in 2002 equating to 66.8% of the State's nickel output in 2003.

The royalties from mineral production in 2003 was valued at approximately \$109 billion.

Agriculture

The Region's agricultural production was valued at \$509.5 million in 2001-02. This compares with \$342.5 million in 2001. Agricultural output in the Goldfields-Esperance region is mainly comprised of cereals, wool, grains and livestock.

Fishing

The Region's commercial fishing fleet principally works out of Esperance, with the catch including fin fish, crab, lobster and mollusc (mostly scallop and abalone). In 2002-03 mollusc dominated the value of the fishing catch, which overall was estimated at \$12.2 million, compared with \$10.9 million in 2001-02 and \$18.8 million in 2000-01.

Tourism

In 2002-03 the annual average for domestic visitors was 377,000 for the Goldfields they spent 1,764,000 nights in the Goldfields while 347,000 visited the Goldfields in 2001-02. In the South East there were 164,500 domestic visitors in 2002-03 spending 744,000 nights. These figures have been sourced through the WA Tourism Commission (Bureau of Tourism Research's National Visitor Survey).

Construction

The total value of building approvals (combined non-residential and residential) in the Region in 2003-04 was valued at \$72 million. Including \$33.6 million being approved in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, \$19.1 million in Esperance and \$7.7 million in Laverton.

Total non-residential building approvals in the Goldfields-Esperance region in 2003-04 \$35.5 million up \$17 million from the 2002-03 figure of \$18.5 million, which was less than the 2001-02 value of \$26 million. This total represents 29.9 per cent of the total building approvals.

Total residential building approvals in the Goldfields-Esperance region were valued at \$36.5 million in 2003-04; a decrease from the 2002-03 figures of \$43.3 million. The 2002-03 figures represented an increase of \$6.9 million from the 2001-02 figures of \$36.4 million. While the average value of each residential building approved was \$135,043.60.

Employment and Unemployment

The Goldfields-Esperance region's labour force in the March 2004 quarter was 32,467 people. When this period is compared with the December 2003 quarter, the labour force in the Region declined by 230 from 32,697. While the mean taxable income for the Goldfields-Esperance region in 2001/02 was \$42,303, above the regional WA average of \$37,150 and the State average of \$38,331.

In the March 2004 quarter there were 1,239 unemployed in the Goldfields-Esperance region, compared with 1,479 unemployed in the March 2003 quarter. The Region had an unemployment rate of 3.8% in March 2004 compared to 5.2% in the June quarter of 2001/02.

The largest employment sectors in the Region are mining, retail trade and property and business services.

Demography

The Goldfields-Esperance region had an Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of 54,951 at June 2003. By comparison ERP in 2002 was 54,776, the 2003 figure represents an increase in population figures for the first time since 1997.

The Region's resident population decreased at an average annual rate of 0.6% per annum from 1998 to 2003. However, when looking at the longer period between 1993-2003 the average annual rate of increase was 0.7%.

Population numbers in the Goldfields-Esperance region are principally driven by employment, especially in the Goldfields sub-region.

Estimated Resident Population figures differ from Census numbers, in that the Census provided a count of all people in any given location on Census night in August 2001. In locations (such as Leonora) where there is a significant 'Fly-in/Fly-out' workforce associated with the mining industry the 'Census count' was significantly greater than Estimated Resident Population.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is the Region's principal economic centre. In 2002 the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder (combined urban and non-urban) had an Estimated Resident Population of 29,506 or 53.8% of the Region's total population. Esperance is the major sub-regional centre with a 2002 Estimated Resident Population of 13,329, or 24.3% of the total population of the Region.

<i>Local Government Authority</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Coolgardie	5651	4301	4176	4161
Dundas	1653	1247	1228	1138
Esperance	12300	13319	13329	13,354
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	29587	29735	29506	29,684
Laverton	1214	1246	1202	1201
Leonora	2774	1986	1979	1987
Menzies	354	353	362	360
Ngaanyatjarraku	1445	1545	1594	1630
Ravensthorpe	<u>1433</u>	<u>1523</u>	<u>1479</u>	<u>1436</u>
TOTAL	56,411	55,255	54,855	54,951

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Regional Population Growth*, 3218.0

CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2004.

Bill McKenzie
Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Purcell', written in a cursive style.

Colin Purcell
Chief Executive Officer

20 August 2004

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

GEDC has developed an outcome for the organisation, which is to promote the sustainable and balanced social and economic development of the Goldfields-Esperance region

Efficiency Indicators

To achieve its outcome, GEDC's activities are based on the following Key Outputs:

Output	Cost Per Hour				
	2003/04 Actual	2003/04 Target	Comparative Figures		
			2002/03 Actual	2002/03 Target	2001/02 Actual
OUTPUT 1 <i>Policies, Strategies and Plans</i>	\$113	\$110	\$96	\$102	\$99
OUTPUT 2 <i>Industry and Enterprise Development</i>	\$122 <i>see note 1</i>	\$96	\$94	\$102	\$100
OUTPUT 3 <i>Coordination of Infrastructure Identification</i>	\$121 <i>see note 2</i>	\$100	\$105	\$90	\$82
OUTPUT 4 <i>Regional Promotion</i>	\$130 <i>see note 3</i>	\$101	\$124	\$102	\$89

Reason for Significant Variations between Target and Actual Costs

Note 1: GERDS and KBDF grants were estimated in the budget to be \$275,000. Grant payouts to this level would have provided a cost per project hour of \$90. This level of grant payout was considerably less at \$82,207 effectively increasing the hourly cost by \$32.

Note 2. Increased cost per project hour due to reduced hours (approximately 400) for the position Senior Project Officer Northern Goldfields, as the incumbent was required to act in the position of Manager Policy and Projects until December 2003 when a replacement officer was recruited.

Note 3: Higher cost is due to lump sum payments totalling \$70,000 with respect projects Golden Quest Trails Association (\$40,000) and Pacific Flora (\$30,000). Without these lump sum payments, the cost per project hour would have been \$102.

Effectiveness Indicators

GEDC recognises that the most accurate measure of its performance against this outcome is through the surveying of its clients and equating effectiveness with client satisfaction.

GEDC commissioned Asset Research to conduct a client survey in April 2004.

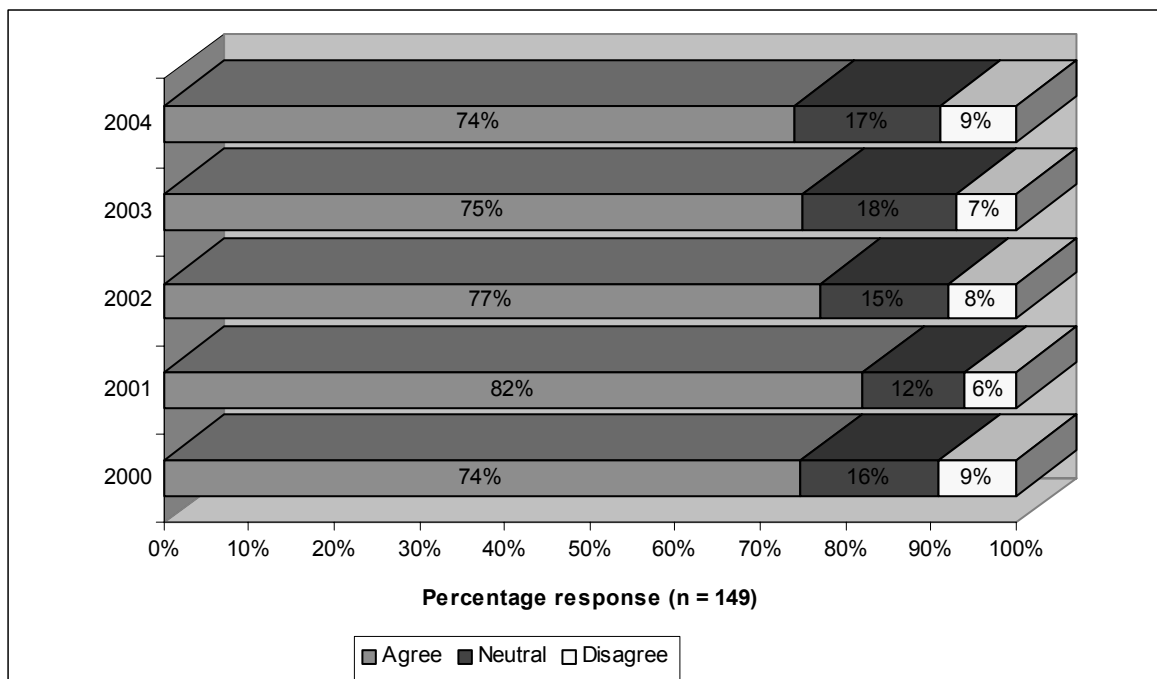
A questionnaire was mailed to a list of 250 clients the GEDC had dealings with in the past twelve months. A total of 154 questionnaires were returned, a 61.6% response rate.

The respondents were asked, inter alia, to what extent they agreed with the following statements:

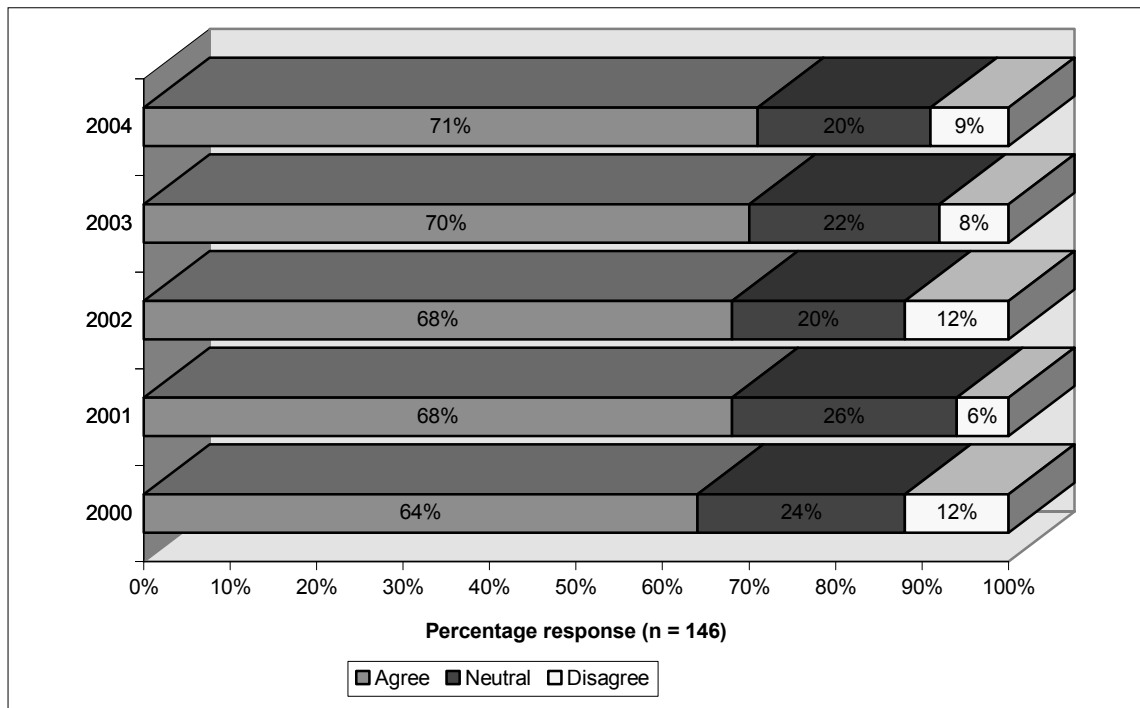
- o That the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission has contributed to the economic development of the Region within the last 12 months.
- o That the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission has contributed to the social development of the Region within the past 12 months.
- o That the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission contributes to the creation of balanced economic and social development with the Region.

The following tables show the results of the 2004 client satisfaction survey, with comparative figures from 2002, 2001 and 2000. There were no significant changes in clients' perceptions of GEDC's contribution to economic development, social development or the balance between the two.

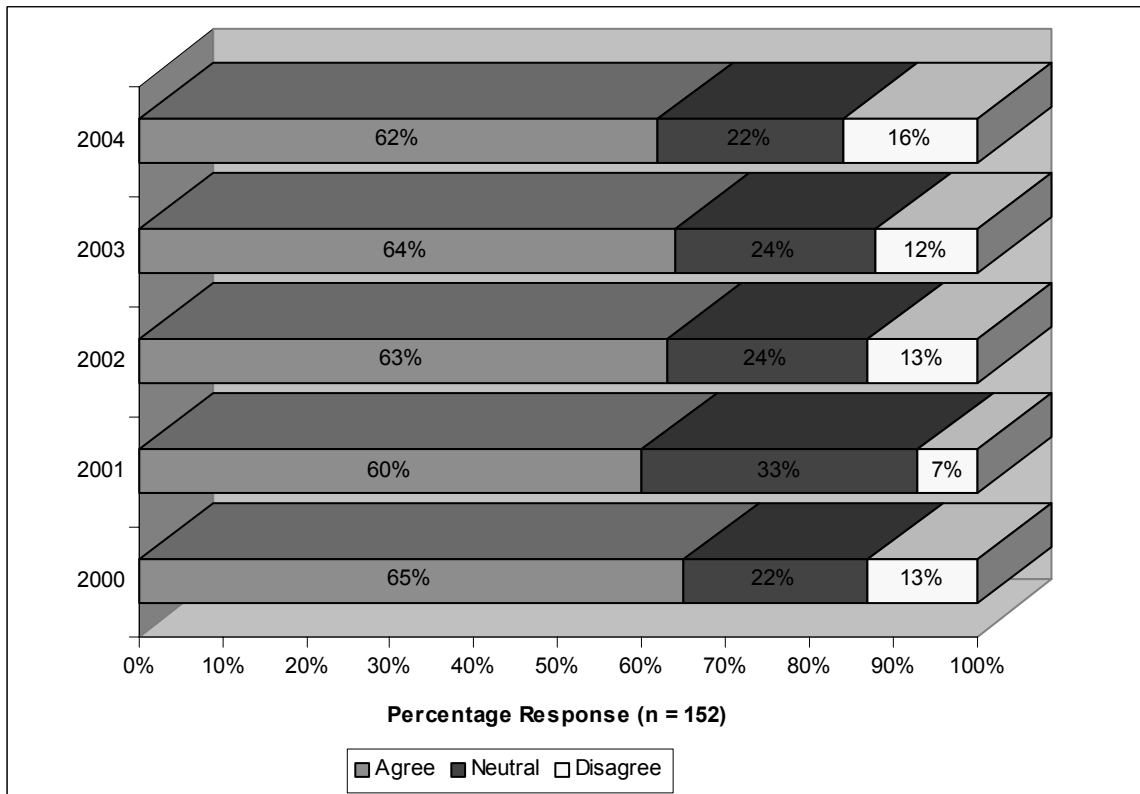
GEDC's Economic Contribution to the Region



GEDC's Social Contribution to the Region



GEDC's Balanced Contribution to the Region



CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985 from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the year ending 30 June 2004 and the financial position as at 30 June 2004.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Bill McKenzie

Chairman

Date: 20 August 2004



Colin Purcell

Chief Executive Officer

Date: 20 August 2004

Steve Winter

Principal Accounting Officer

Date: 20 August 2004

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	NOTES	2003/04 \$	2002/03 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employee expenses	2	1,030,092	1,001,227
Supplies and services	3	233,094	433,216
Grants and subsidies	7	545,846	187,714
Depreciation expense	4	22,181	22,701
Accommodation expenses	6	160,309	151,992
Administration expenses	5	211,747	212,132
Capital user charge	8	8,840	29,620
Total cost of services		2,212,109	2,038,602
Revenues from ordinary activities			
<i>Revenues from operating activities</i>			
User charges and fees	9	8,909	5,087
Commonwealth grants and contributions	10	60,250	0
<i>Revenues from non-operating activities</i>			
Other revenues from ordinary activities	11	104,360	173,628
Total revenues from ordinary activities		173,519	178,715
NET COST OF SERVICES		2,038,590	1,859,887
REVENUES FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	12		
Output appropriation		1,567,000	1,362,187
Grants and contributions		480,000	781,950
Resources received free of charge		0	18,500
Total revenues from State Government		2,047,000	2,162,637
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		8,410	302,750
TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY OTHER THAN THOSE RESULTING FROM TRANSACTIONS WITH WA STATE GOVERNMENT AS OWNERS		8,410	302,750

The Statement of Financial Performance should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2004

	NOTES	2003/04 \$	2002/03 \$
Current Assets			
Cash assets	22	292,102	196,845
Restricted cash assets	13	356,950	449,484
Receivables	14	14,937	18,818
Amounts receivable for outputs	15	52,000	48,000
Other assets	16	45,906	6,362
Total Current Assets		<u>761,895</u>	<u>719,509</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for outputs	15	46,000	23,000
Plant and equipment	17	26,665	43,008
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>72,665</u>	<u>66,008</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		834,560	785,517
Current Liabilities			
Payables	18	31,597	33,467
Provisions	19	183,209	176,123
Other liabilities	20	35,811	33,965
Total Current Liabilities		<u>250,617</u>	<u>243,555</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	19	69,725	36,155
Total Non-Current Liabilities		<u>69,725</u>	<u>36,155</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>320,342</u>	<u>279,710</u>
NET ASSETS		514,218	505,807
Equity	21		
Accumulated surplus		<u>514,218</u>	<u>505,807</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>514,218</u>	<u>505,807</u>

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	NOTES	2003/04 \$	2002/03 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Output appropriations		1,540,000	1,339,187
Grants and contributions		480,000	781,950
Net cash provided by State Government		<u>2,020,000</u>	<u>2,121,137</u>
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee costs		(1,008,124)	(926,588)
Supplies and services		(242,612)	(429,490)
Capital user charge		(8,840)	(29,620)
GST payments on purchases		(118,567)	(102,671)
Other payments		(931,566)	(529,830)
Receipts			
Sale of goods and services		104,360	172,541
User charges and fees		8,909	5,087
Commonwealth grants and contributions		60,250	0
GST receipts on sales		22,863	52,330
GST receipts from taxation authority		102,300	38,971
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	22(b)	<u>(2,011,027)</u>	<u>(1,749,270)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(6,850)	(11,481)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(6,850)</u>	<u>(11,481)</u>
Net Increase (decrease) in cash held		2,123	360,386
Cash assets at the beginning of the financial year		646,329	285,943
Petty Cash		600	0
CASH ASSETS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	22(a)	<u>649,052</u>	<u>646,329</u>

The Statement of Cash Flow should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 June 2004

1. Significant accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements. Unless otherwise stated these policies are consistent with those adopted in the previous year.

General Statement

The financial statements constitute a general-purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and Urgent Issues Group (UIG) Consensus Views as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording. The Financial Administration and Audit Act and the Treasurer's Instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Accounting Standards, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and UIG Consensus Views. The modifications are intended to fulfil the requirements of general application to the public sector together with the need for greater disclosure and also to satisfy accountability requirements.

If any such modification has a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and where practicable, the resulting financial effect, are disclosed in individual notes to these financial statements.

Basis of Accounting

The statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that, as noted, are measured at valuation.

(a) Output Appropriations

Output Appropriations are recognised as revenues in the period in which the Commission gains control of the appropriated funds. The Commission gains control of the appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited into the Commission's bank account or credited to the holding account held at the Department of Treasury and Finance.

(b) Contributed Equity

Under UIG 38 "Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities" transfers in the nature of equity contributions must be designated by the Government (owners) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer, before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions in the financial statements.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2004

(c) Grants and Other Contributions Revenue

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the Commission obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon their receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

(d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from the sales of goods and disposal of other assets and the rendering of services is recognised when the Commission has passed control of the goods or other assets or delivery of the service to the customer.

(e) Acquisition of assets

The cost method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets. Cost is measured as the fair value of the assets given up or liabilities undertaken at the date of acquisition plus incidental costs directly attributable to the acquisition.

Assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Assets costing less than \$1,000 are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items that are significant in total).

(f) Depreciation of non-current assets

All non-current assets having a limited life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line basis, using rates that are reviewed annually. Expected useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Furniture & Fittings	10 years
Equipment	5 to 7 years
Computer Hardware	3 to 4 years
Computer Software	3 to 4 years
Works of Art	7 years

(g) Leases

The Commission has entered into a number of operating lease arrangements for the rent of the office buildings and motor vehicles where the lessor effectively retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the items held under the operating leases. Equal instalments of the lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Performance over the lease term, as this is representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

(h) Cash

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash assets and restricted cash assets.

(i) Receivables

Receivables are recognised as the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts that are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised where some doubts as to collection exists and in any event where the debt is more than 60 days overdue.

(j) Payables

Payables, including accruals not yet billed, are recognised when the Commission becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. Payables are generally settled within 30 days.

(k) Employee benefits

Annual Leave

This benefit is recognised at the reporting date in respect to employee's service up to that date and is measured at the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date is recognised in the provisions for employee benefits, and is measured as the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The liability for long service leave expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date is recognised in the provisions for employee benefits and is measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Consideration is given, when assessing expected future payments, to expected future wage and salary levels including relevant on costs, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

This method of measurement of the liability is consistent with the requirement of Accounting Standard AASB 1028 "Employee Benefits".

Superannuation

Staff may contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefits pension scheme now closed to new members, or to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme, a defined benefit lump sum scheme now also closed to new members.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

All staff who do not contribute to either of these schemes become non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme, an accumulation fund complying with the Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992. The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) administers all of these schemes.

The Pension Scheme and the pre-transfer benefit for employees who transferred to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme are unfunded and the liability for future payments are provided for at reporting date.

The liabilities for superannuation charges under the Gold State Superannuation Scheme and West State Superannuation Scheme are extinguished by payment of employer contributions to the Government Employees Superannuation Board.

The note disclosure required by paragraph 6.10 of AASB 1028 (being the employer's share of the difference between employees' accrued superannuation benefits and the attributable net market value of plan assets) has not been provided. State scheme deficiencies are recognised by the State in its whole of government reporting. The Government Employees Superannuation Board's records are not structured to provide the information for the Commission. Accordingly, deriving the information for the Commission is impractical under current arrangements, and thus any benefits thereof would be exceeded by the cost of obtaining the information.

(l) Employee benefit on-costs

Employee benefit on-costs are recognised and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which they relate are recognised as liabilities and expenses. (See notes 2 and 19)

(m) Accrued Salaries

Accrued salaries (refer note 20) represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the end of the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with the end of the financial year. The Commission considers the carrying amount approximates net fair value.

(n) Resources Received Free of Charge or For Nominal Value

Resources received free of charge or for nominal value that can be reliably measured are recognised as revenues and as assets or expenses as appropriate at fair value.

(o) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified so as to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

(p) Rounding

Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$	\$
	2003/04	2002/03
2. Employee expenses		
Salaries and wages	769,306	721,670
Superannuation	76,298	70,578
Annual Leave	9,392	18,376
Long Service Leave	5,803	40,758
Travel expense	30,752	28,633
GEHA rental expense	67,968	78,259
Other related expenses (1)	70,573	42,953
	1,030,092	1,001,227
(1) These employee expenses include superannuation pension scheme liability, workers compensation premiums and other employment on-costs associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liability. The related on-costs liability is included in employee entitlement liabilities at note 19.		
3. Supplies and services		
Consultants and contractors	176,673	321,679
Travel	6,650	17,163
Other	49,771	94,374
	233,094	433,216
4. Depreciation expense		
Computing Equipment	16,751	18,875
Plant & Equipment	4,195	2,817
Furniture & Fittings	980	1,009
Works of Art	255	0
	22,181	22,701
5. Administration expenses		
Maintenance	16,342	16,123
Communications	44,832	42,082
Consumables	37,569	36,647
Resources free of charge	-	18,500
Other costs	113,004	98,780
	211,747	212,132
6. Accommodation expenses		
Lease rentals	130,972	123,854
Repairs and maintenance	1,949	3,570
Cleaning	9,367	8,896
Other	18,021	15,672
	160,309	151,992

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$	\$
	2003/04	2002/03
7. Grants and subsidies		
<u>Recurrent</u>		
BIGhART	0	9,000
Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum	0	34,884
Chamber of Minerals and Energy	0	9,091
Shire of Coolgardie	34,540	7,268
Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School	0	31,818
Golden Quest Trails Association	0	10,909
Golden Mile Loophline Railway Society Inc	7,052	7,052
St Barbara's Festival Inc	0	10,000
West Australia Indigenous Sporting Foundation	75,000	25,000
Esperance Chamber of Commerce & Industry	0	5,455
Youth Achievement Australia Ltd	0	8,100
Northern Goldfields Health Services	0	5,909
Shire of Laverton	50,000	8,228
Shire of Esperance	45,000	15,000
Shire of Leonora	35,909	0
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	20,000	0
Eastern Goldfields Lawn Tennis Assoc.	8,550	0
Boulder Promotion & Development Assoc.	25,000	0
Rhythms In The Outback Music Festival	14,332	0
Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation	19,150	0
Goldfields Motor Cycle Club	14,580	0
Goldfields Mens Health Inc.	22,728	0
Anglican Parish of the Eastern Goldfields	3,000	0
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Basketball Assoc.	12,819	0
Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Corp.	13,636	0
Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Assoc.	12,500	0
Young Achievement Australia Ltd.	8,100	0
Eyre Travelstops Pty. Ltd.	29,319	0
Bandy Creek Abalone Pilot farm	25,790	0
Festival of The Wind Inc.	9,200	0
Wongatha Wonganarra Aboriginal Corp.	30,000	0
Esperance Bay Yacht Club	10,455	0
Esperance Community College	6,400	0
Goldfields-Esperance Development Comm.	12,786	0
	545,846	187,714

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$ 2003/04	\$ 2002/03
8. Capital User Charge	8,840	29,620
<p>A capital user charge rate of 8% has been set by the Government for 2003-04 and represents the opportunity cost of capital invested in the net assets of the Commission used in the provision of outputs. The charge is calculated on the net assets adjusted to take account of exempt assets. Payments are made to the Department of Treasury and Finance on a quarterly basis.</p>		
9. User charges and fees		
User charges	0	542
Fees	8,909	4,545
	8,909	5,087
10. Commonwealth Grants and contributions		
Department of Transport & Regional Services	40,250	0
Department of Industry Tourism & Resources	20,000	0
	60,250	0
11. Other revenues from ordinary activities		
Recoupment of costs	104,360	173,628
	104,360	173,628
12. Revenues from State Government		
<i>Appropriation revenue received during the year:</i>		
Output appropriations (i)	1,567,000	1,362,187
<i>Grants and Contributions</i>		
Department of Local Government and Regional Development	400,000	701,950
Office of Aboriginal Economic Development	80,000	80,000
Resources received free of charge (ii) Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies		
Office of Auditor General audit services (iii)	0	18,500
	2,047,000	2,162,637

- (i) Output appropriations are accrual amounts reflecting the full cost of outputs delivered. The appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2004

- (ii) Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal consideration, the Commission recognises revenues equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated, and those fair values shall be recognised as assets or expenses, as applicable.
- (iii) Commencing with the 2003-04 audit, the Office of Auditor General will be charging a fee for auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators. The fee for the 2003-04 audit (\$22,500) will be due and payable in the 2004-05 financial year.

	\$	\$
	2003/04	2002/03
13. Restricted Cash Assets		
Grant funds – Regional Development Scheme and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund	356,950	449,484
14. Receivables		
Current		
Trade debtors	4,495	3,675
GST receivable	10,442	15,143
	<u>14,937</u>	<u>18,818</u>
15. Amounts receivable for outputs		
Current	52,000	48,000
Non-current	46,000	23,000
	<u>98,000</u>	<u>71,000</u>

This asset represents the non-cash component of output appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

16. Other assets		
<u>Current</u>		
Prepayments	45,750	5,820
Accrued income	156	542
	<u>45,906</u>	<u>6,362</u>

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

17. Plant and Equipment

	\$ 2003/04	\$ 2002/03
Computing Hardware at cost	48,353	54,237
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(38,260)</u>	<u>(32,213)</u>
	10,093	22,024
Computer Software at cost	59,218	56,971
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(56,006)</u>	<u>(52,879)</u>
	3,212	4,092
Communications Equipment at cost	7,400	9,435
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(3,603)</u>	<u>(4,732)</u>
	3,797	4,703
Office Equipment at cost	19,465	17,566
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(14,072)</u>	<u>(10,782)</u>
	5,393	6,784
Furniture and Fittings at cost	11,652	14,452
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(8,209)</u>	<u>(10,029)</u>
	3,443	4,423
Works of Art at cost	1,700	1,700
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(973)</u>	<u>(718)</u>
	727	982
 Total Assets	 26,665	 43,008

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

2003/04

	Computer Hardware	Computer Software	Comms. Equip.	Office Equip.	Furniture & Fittings	Works of Art	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying amount at the start of the year	22,024	4,092	4,703	6,784	4,423	982	43,008
Additions	2,705	2,247	0	1,898	0	0	6,850
Disposals	(8,590)	0	(2,035)	0	(2,800)	0	(13,425)
Depreciation	13,624	3,127	906	3,289	980	255	22,181
Depreciation written back on disposal	7,578	0	2,035	0	2,800	0	12,413
Carrying amount at the end of the year	10,093	3,212	3,797	5,393	3,443	727	26,665

2002/03

	Computer Hardware	Computer Software	Comms. Equip.	Office Equip.	Furniture and Fittings	Works Of Art	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying amount at the start of the year	31,175	9,107	5,608	4,172	3,183	982	54,227
Additions	9,434	-	-	5,586	2,250	-	17,270
Disposals	(9,000)	-	-	(1,149)	-	-	(10,149)
Depreciation	(13,860)	(5,015)	(905)	(1,911)	(1,010)	-	(22,701)
Depreciation written back on disposal	4,275	-	-	86	-	-	4,361
Carrying amount at the end of the year	22,024	4,092	4,703	6,784	4,423	982	43,008

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$	\$
	2003/04	2002/03
18. Payables		
<u>Current</u>		
Trade payables	29,687	33,467
GST Payable	1,910	0
	31,597	33,467
19. Provisions		
<u>Current:</u>		
Annual Leave	77,023	67,631
Long Service Leave	106,186	96,543
Other (i)	0	11,949
	183,209	176,123
<u>Non-current:</u>		
Long Service Leave	29,804	33,644
Other (i)	39,921	2,511
	69,725	36,155

(i) The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including superannuation and workers compensation premiums. The liability for such on-costs is included under Employee expenses at note 2.

The Commission considers the carrying amount of employee benefits approximates the net fair value.

Employee Benefit Liabilities

The aggregate employee entitlement liability recognised and included in the financial statements is as follows:

<u>Provision for employee benefits:</u>		
Current	183,209	176,123
Non-current	69,725	36,155
	252,934	212,278
20. Other liabilities		
<u>Current</u>		
Accrued salaries	32,734	17,753
Accrued expenses	3,077	16,212
	35,811	33,965

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$ 2003/04	\$ 2002/03
21. Equity		
Accumulated surplus/(deficiency):		
Opening balance	505,808	203,058
Change in net assets	8,410	302,750
Closing balance	<u>514,218</u>	<u>505,808</u>

22. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash assets	291,502	196,845
Restricted cash assets (refer to note 13)	356,950	449,484
Petty Cash	600	0
	<u>649,052</u>	<u>646,329</u>

(b) Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

Net Cost of Services	(2,038,590)	(1,859,887)
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation expense	22,181	22,701
Resources received free of charge	0	18,500
(Increase)/decrease in assets:		
Current receivables	(433)	(773)
Other current assets	(39,544)	3,242
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities		
Current payables	(3,781)	(658)
Current provisions	7,086	51,327
Other current liabilities	1,847	19,449
Non-current provisions	33,570	6,732
Net GST receipts (payments)	6,637	(11,457)
Change in GST in receivables/payables	-	1,554
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>(2,011,027)</u>	<u>(1,749,270)</u>

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	\$ 2003/04	\$ 2002/03
23. Commitments for expenditure		
<u>Lease commitments</u>		
Commitments in relation to leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, are payable as follows:		
<u>Non-cancellable operating lease commitments</u>		
Commitments for minimum lease payments are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	30,143	24,243
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	15,023	27,144
	45,166	51,387

24. Contingent Liabilities

We are not aware of any circumstances that may result in a contingent liability.

25. Events Occurring after Reporting Date

We are not aware of any circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year to the date of this report which have significantly affected or may significantly affect the activities of the Commission, the results of those activities or the state of affairs of the Commission in the ensuing or any subsequent financial year.

26. Explanatory Statement

(i) Significant variations between estimates and actual results for the financial year

Details and reasons for significant variations between estimates and actual results are detailed below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% or \$10,000..

	2003/04 Budget \$	2003/04 Actual \$	Variance \$	Variance %
Employee expenses	837,000	1,030,092	193,092	23%
Supplies and services expense	411,000	233,094	(177,906)	(43%)
Grants and subsidies expense	650,000	545,846	(104,154)	(16%)
Administration expenses	58,000	211,747	153,747	265%
Grants and contributions	500,000	540,250	40,250	8%
User charges and fees	88,000	8,909	(79,091)	(90%)
Other revenue	10,000	104,360	94,360	944%

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Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

Employee expenses

The allocation of expenses into expenditure groups for budget estimates has varied and as a result, they do not coincide with the groups contained within the Model Financial Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. When the expenses are allocated as per the Model Financial Statements, the estimate amount for employee expenses is \$983,000. When compared to the actual of \$1,030,092 the variance is 5%.

(i) Supplies & services expense

The allocation of expenses into expenditure groups for budget estimates has varied and as a result, they do not coincide with the groups contained within the Model Financial Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. When the expenses are allocated as per the Model Financial Statements, the estimate amount is \$152,000. The Increase of \$81,000 can be accounted for through un-budgeted expenses associated with projects: - Golden Quest Discovery Trail \$40,000 (Commonwealth grant funding received to accommodate this); Investment Tours \$15,000; and a new project Pacific Flora \$30,000.

Grants and subsidies expense

Variance of (\$104,154). It was anticipated that a Regional Development Scheme grant of \$32,000 and Kalgoorlie Boulder Development Fund grants of \$67,000 from the 2002-03 financial year would be finalised during the year, however, grant recipients had not progressed their projects to the stage of seeking the 2nd grant instalment.

Administration expenses

The allocation of expenses into expenditure groups for budget estimates has varied and as a result, they do not coincide with the groups contained within the Model Financial Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. When the expenses are allocated as per the Model Financial Statements, the estimate amount for administration expense is \$176,000. The increase of \$35,000 is due to under estimation of sundry consumables \$9,000, motor vehicle expenses \$13,000 with balance spread \$13,000.

Grants and contributions received

State Government grants and subsidies were estimated at \$500,000 against actual \$480,000. There were no Commonwealth grant funds estimated in the budget, however, \$60,250 was received. Of the funds received, \$40,250 was the 2nd instalment for the Golden Quest Discovery Trail that was anticipated in the 2002-03 financial year. The balance of \$20,000 was four individual contributions of \$5,000 towards Aboriginal Economic Development initiatives.

User charges and fees

The allocation of revenue into revenue groups for budget estimates has varied and as a result, they do not coincide with the groups contained within the Model Financial Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. When the revenue is allocated as per the Model Financial Statements, the estimate amount was \$5,000 against actual \$8,909.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

Other revenue

The allocation of revenue into revenue groups for budget estimates has varied and as a result, they do not coincide with the groups contained within the Model Financial Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. When the revenue is allocated as per the Model Financial Statements, the estimate was \$83,000 against actual of \$104,360. The increase of \$21,360 relates to recoups from services provided across GEDC projects.

(ii) Significant variations between actual revenues and expenditures for the financial year and revenues and expenditures for the immediately preceding financial year.

Details and reasons for significant variations between actual results with the corresponding items of the preceding year are detailed below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% or \$10,000. Figures have been rounded for ease of comparison.

	2003/04	2002/03	Variance	Variance
	\$	\$	\$	%
Employee Expenses	1,030,092	1,001,227	28,865	3%
Supplies & services	233,094	433,216	(200,122)	(46%)
Grants and Subsidies paid	545,846	187,714	358,132	(191%)
Capital user charge	8,840	29,620	(20,780)	(70%)
Other revenues from Ordinary activities	104,360	173,628	(69,268)	(40%)
Grants and contributions received	540,250	781,950	(241,700)	(31%)

Employee expenses

Recruitment of the Project Manager Ravensthorpe increased employee expenses by \$27,000.

Supplies & services

Reduction of \$200,000 principally due to the conclusion of the project Golden Quest Discovery Trail in the 2002-03 financial year.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

(ii) Grants and subsidies paid

Payment of grants for the majority of 2002-03 financial year were met by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development due to legislative issues with the Regional Development Commission (RDC) Act. All grants in the 2003-04 financial year were paid by the GEDC.

Capital user charge

Cash resources held for payment of grants in the 2002-03 financial year were not set-aside as restricted cash assets. This had the effect of significantly increasing the capital user charge due to the higher net asset position.

Other revenues from ordinary activities

Reduction of \$70,000 principally due to the conclusion of the project Golden Quest Drive Trail in the 2002-03 financial year.

Grants and subsidies received

Reduction of \$242,000 principally due to the conclusion of the project Golden Quest Drive Trail in the 2002-03 financial year.

27. Remuneration of Members of the Accountable Authority and Senior Officers

Remuneration of Members of the Accountable Authority

The number of members of the Accountable Authority, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

\$	2003/04	2002/03
1 - 10,000	11	8
10,001 – 20,000	1	1
20,001 – 30,000	-	-
110,001 - 120,000	1	1
The total remuneration of the members of the Accountable Authority is:	152,945	151,462

The superannuation included here represents the superannuation expense incurred by the Commission in respect of members of the Accountable Authority.

No members of the Accountable Authority are members of the Pension Scheme.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

Remuneration of Senior Officers

The number of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the Accountable Authority, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

\$	2003/04	2002/03
60,001 – 70,000	2	2
70,001 - 80,000	1	1
80,001 – 90,000	1	1
The total remuneration of senior officers is:	290,689	291,444

The superannuation included here represents the superannuation expense incurred by the Commission in respect of Senior Officers other than senior officers reported as members of the Accountable Authority.

No Senior Officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

28. Additional Financial Instrument Disclosures

(a) Interest Rate Risk Exposure

Currently the Commission has no exposure to interest rate risk or re-pricing maturities as all financial assets and financial liabilities are non-interest bearing.

(b) Credit Risk Exposure

Receivables are the only financial instrument in which there is credit risk exposure. The credit risk is represented by the carrying amount.

(c) Net Fair Values

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements are not materially different from their net fair values, determined in accordance with the accounting policies disclosed in note 1 to the financial statements.

29. Related Bodies

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission has no related bodies.

30. Affiliated Bodies

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission has no affiliated bodies.

31. Supplementary Financial Information

	\$ 2003/04	\$ 2002/03
<u>Losses Through Theft, Default And Other Causes</u>		
Losses of public property through theft	1,012	5,788
	1,012	5,788

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

32. The impact of Adopting International Accounting Standards

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) is adopting the Standards of the International Accounting Board (IASB) for application to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005.

AASB 1047 "Disclosing the Impacts of Adopting Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards" (IFRS) required financial reports to disclose information about the impacts of any changes in accounting policies in the transition period leading up to the adoption date.

The Commission is managing the transition of the Australian equivalents to IFRS by monitoring the Department of Treasury and Finance web site, reviewing all the standards, extracting the ones considered relevant to the Commission and participating in information sessions conducted by the Department of Treasury and Finance. At the time of reporting, quantitative information is not known, or is not reliably estimable.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2004

33. Output Information

	Policies Strategies and Plans		Industry and Enterprise Development		Co-ordination of Infrastructure Identification		Regional Promotion		Total	
	Output 1		Output 2		Output 3		Output 4			
	2003/04	2002/03	2003/04	2002/03	2003/04	2002/03	2003/04	2002/03	2003/04	2002/03
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
COST OF SERVICES										
Expenses from ordinary activities										
Employee expenses	334,725	192,172	464,263	239,446	86,284	90,201	144,820	479,408	1,030,092	1,001,227
Supplies and services	59,719	83,150	73,401	103,605	10,070	39,028	89,904	207,433	233,094	433,216
Depreciation expense	7,208	4,357	9,997	5,429	1,858	2,045	3,118	10,870	22,181	22,701
Administration expense	68,806	40,716	95,434	50,732	17,737	19,111	29,770	101,573	211,747	212,132
Accommodation expense	52,092	29,173	72,251	36,349	13,428	13,693	22,538	72,777	160,309	151,992
Grants and subsidies	0	36,030	82,207	44,892	197,082	16,911	266,557	89,881	545,846	187,714
Capital user charge	2,873	5,685	3,984	7,084	740	2,668	1,243	14,183	8,840	29,620
Total cost of services	525,423	391,283	801,537	487,537	327,199	183,657	557,950	976,125	2,212,109	2,038,602
Revenues from ordinary activities										
User charges and fees	0	402	8,909	1,175	0	1,400	0	2,110	8,909	5,087
Commonwealth grants	0	0	20,000	0	0	0	40,250	0	60,250	0
Other revenues from ordinary activities	1,499	13,732	80,324	40,110	6,380	47,782	16,157	72,004	104,360	173,628
Total Revenues from ordinary activities	1,499	14,134	109,233	41,285	6,380	49,182	56,407	74,114	173,519	178,715
NET COST OF SERVICES	523,924	377,149	692,304	446,252	320,819	134,475	501,543	902,011	2,038,590	1,859,887
REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT										
Output appropriations	509,190	261,454	706,247	325,771	131,258	122,719	220,305	652,243	1,567,000	1,362,187
Grants and subsidies	0	61,852	177,054	180,645	138,688	215,196	164,258	324,257	480,000	781,950
Resources received free of charge	0	3,551	0	4,424	0	1,667	0	8,858	0	18,500
Total revenue from Government	509,190	326,857	883,301	510,840	269,946	339,582	384,563	985,358	2,047,000	2,162,637
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(14,734)	(50,292)	190,997	64,588	(50,873)	205,107	(116,980)	83,347	8,410	302,750