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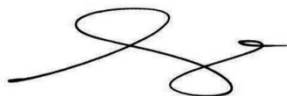
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## Statement of compliance

HON. MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

In accordance with Section 68(3)(b) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Final Report of the Curriculum Council for the period 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012. As the Curriculum Council ceased operations on 29 February 2012, this report is submitted, signed by the Reporting Officer, Mr Allan Blagaich, as appointed by the Treasurer under Section 68(1) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.



**A. BLAGAICH**  
**REPORTING OFFICER**

3 May 2012

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## Executive Summary

### Introduction

On 29 February 2012, the Curriculum Council ceased operation as a consequence of the proclamation of the Curriculum Council Amendment Act 2011. The amendment act abolished the Curriculum Council and established the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). All existing functions previously undertaken by the Curriculum Council were transferred to the Authority.

### Background

On 18 May 2011, the Minister for Education introduced the Curriculum Council Amendment Bill 2011 into Parliament with its first and second readings in the Legislative Assembly. The intent of the bill was to replace the Curriculum Council with an independent seven-member board consisting of experienced education experts.

As a consequence of the proclamation of the Act, Sections 70 and 72(3) of the *Financial Management Act 2006* requires the completion and tabling of a final report of the Curriculum Council's operations for the period 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012, including a full set of financial statements for the period, full year comparatives and a limited report on operations.

### CEO's report

This was the second year that schools could select from the full list of 52 WACE courses, and each school offered its students a range of courses.

A total of 21,621 Year 12 students completed at least one pair of WACE course units this year. In addition, 34.2 per cent of Year 12

students participated in VET programs and almost 7,000 students completed at least one endorsed program.

### Exams

The Council delivered 94 WACE course examinations, as well as the examinations for eight courses 'borrowed' from the eastern states. The success of the WACE course examinations was highlighted by the fact that 13,326 students sat four or more WACE exams. This compares to 13,266 students who sat four or more WACE course examinations in 2010, and 10,757 students in 2007, the first year that a significant number of WACE courses were examined.

### Success with social media

The Council's use of social media increased the scope of its communications during the 2011 WACE examinations period from mid-September until the end of November. A combination of Facebook, Twitter and an exam blog was used. Social media analytics showed that the news feeds were viewed approximately 187,100 times and more than 1200 students "liked" the Facebook page. Students used the Facebook page to solicit advice about resources from the Council and fellow students.

### Consultation and coordination of feedback for the Australian Curriculum

The Council was the key agency for coordinating Western Australian feedback to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on a wide range of Australian Curriculum draft documents.

Over the course of the year, feedback was provided on:

- the draft Australian Curriculum: Geography F-12
- the draft shape paper for Languages

- descriptions and ideas of the cross-curriculum priorities
- descriptions and continuum for the general capabilities
- supporting documents for students with disability (progressing to Foundation)
- supporting documents for teachers of English as an Additional Language or Dialect

Consultation also involved:

- WA teachers taking part in the validation workshops for the achievement standards for F–10 English, mathematics, science and history.
- The selection of State representatives to be part of national panels for the senior secondary courses in English, mathematics, science and history.

The consultation has involved teachers and consultants from across the sector/systems, and has included the facilitation of consultation workshops (including regional workshops for consultation on the geography curriculum), and drafting of feedback reports.

The Council established a process to ensure that, wherever possible, consistent messages were forwarded to ACARA from Western Australia. The work was undertaken with the full cooperation of the sector/systems. Current consultation includes the draft shape papers for Health and Physical Education, Technologies and the draft curriculum for the senior secondary courses in English, mathematics, science and history. Consultation also began on the development of the draft shape paper for civics and citizenship.

It is timely for me to thank the members of the Curriculum Council for their guidance during this period of significant transition. Particular thanks to chair Professor Patrick Garnett for his counsel and guidance in the complex change management process. We have been fortunate to draw on his extensive experience and previous involvement in reviews of university course and teaching programs, research centres and institutes, schools and faculties, offshore teaching and governance arrangements.

*Allan Blagaich*

### Chair's report

Curriculum Council staff have been positively engaged in planning for the transition to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

Formal planning for the transition began with the formation of a transition operations group to identify the tasks necessary to implement the change. Representatives from this group and the Council executive met regularly with advisors from the Public Sector Commission and the Department of Education Services. The process of transition was also a feature of the CEO's regular meetings with the Minister for Education.

The Council's executive and management team were involved in a change management project. This featured a highly successful collaboration/consultation with international education adviser, Dame Pat Collarbone, to develop a change management strategy.

Highlighting the significance of the transition to the Authority, the Council appointed a director of special projects to oversee the transition project.

I congratulate all staff for the professional way in which they prepared for the transition from the Curriculum Council to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

*Emeritus Professor Patrick Garnett*

## Report on Operations

### Mission

To set and monitor educational standards in Western Australia by providing

- curriculum policy and guidelines for Kindergarten to Year 12 schooling
- an equitable and rigorous student assessment and examination system for the senior secondary years, and
- certification of student achievement in senior secondary schooling.

### Authority establishing agency

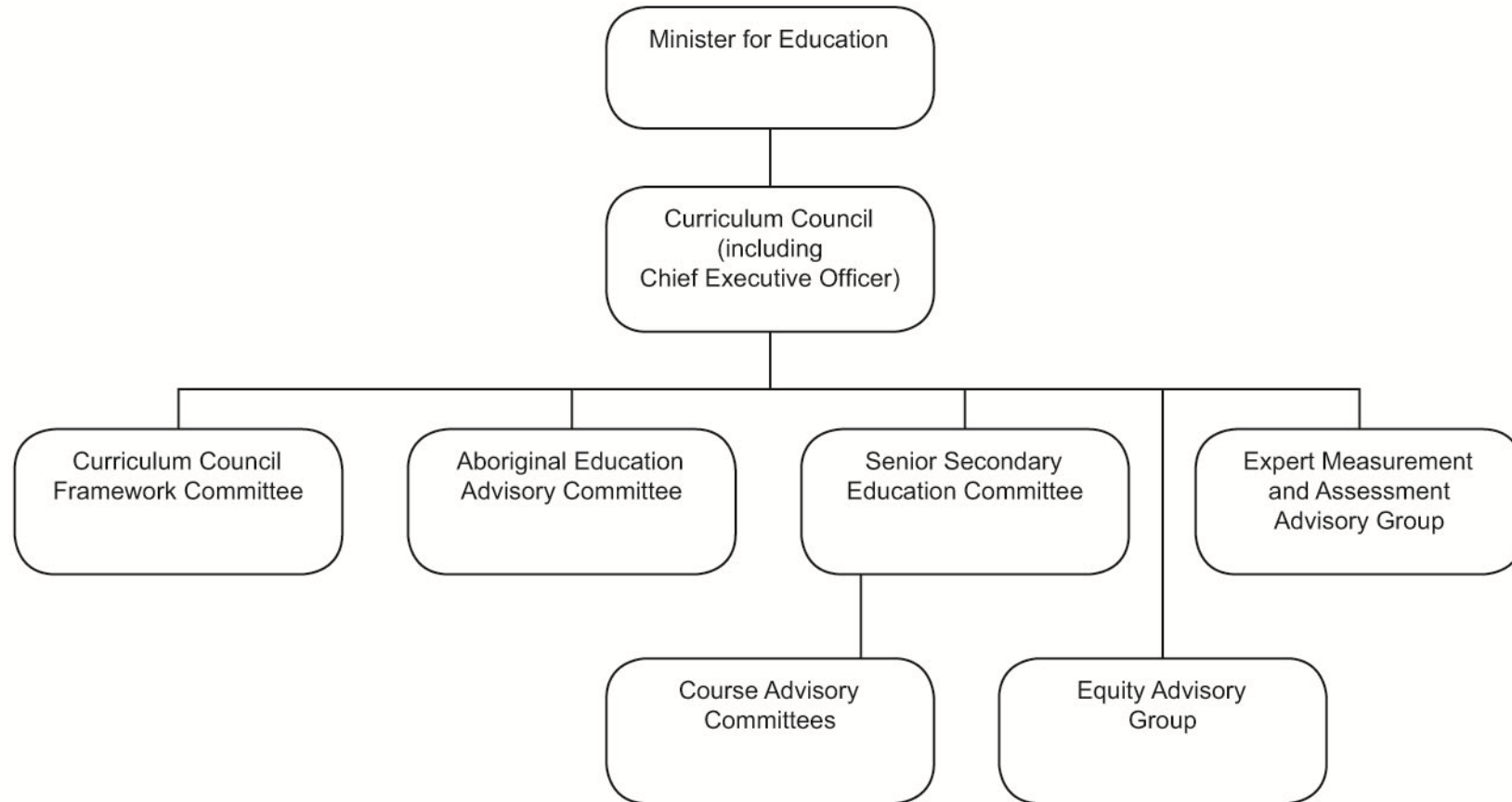
The Curriculum Council was created pursuant to the *Curriculum Council Act 1997*. The Council had statutory responsibility to develop a curriculum outline for all Western Australian schools, covering both government and non-government schools and all years from Kindergarten to Year 12.

The Council consisted of a chair appointed by the Minister, the chief executive officer of the Council secretariat and 11 other persons appointed by the Minister.



## Organisational Structure

### Curriculum Council 2011–2012



## Council membership

### **Professor Patrick Garnett**

Chair. Emeritus Professor Garnett retired as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Edith Cowan University in December 2007. He has extensive teaching experience in chemistry and science with particular interests in teaching chemistry to students with limited pre-university knowledge and environmental chemistry. He is the author or co-author of more than 100 publications in chemistry and science education.

### **David Axworthy**

Department of Education. Mr Axworthy was nominated for Council by the Department of Education. He is the Deputy Director General.

### **Allan Blagaich**

Acting Chief Executive Officer (from May 2011). Immediately prior to his appointment, Mr Blagaich was Executive Director, Statewide Planning and Delivery at the Department of Education. He was previously principal at Melville Senior High School.

### **Phil de Garis**

Education and Training (from April 2010). Mr de Garis is Managing Director, Education and Training International. He has been involved in education for more than 30 years, first as a teacher then deputy principal, principal, superintendent, district director and director of the Schools of Isolated and Distance Education. In 2004 he was appointed General Manager of WestOne Services. He took up his present role in 2007.

### **Ron Dullard**

Deputy Chair. Mr Dullard is the Director, Catholic Education in Western Australia and was nominated by the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia.

### **Carol Garlett**

Aboriginal Education. Ms Garlett is the Chair of the Aboriginal Education and Training Council and has been involved in education since 1973. Ms Garlett's previous roles include district director of the Department of Education's Kimberley Education Office.

### **Anne Gisborne**

Teachers' interests. Ms Gisborne is president of the State School Teachers' Union of WA and has more than 20 years' experience working in and for public schools.

### **Valerie Gould**

Association of Independent Schools of WA. Ms Gould is Executive Director of the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA).

### **Shelley Hill**

Representative of WA Council of State School Organisations and Parents and Friends Federation of WA (to October 2010). Mrs Hill was nominated by the Parents and Friends' Federation of Western Australia Inc. to represent the interests of parents of children attending school. Mrs Hill is currently the President of the St Pius Parents & Friends Association and an executive member of the Leeming Senior High School, Parents and Citizens Association.

**Verity Harris**

Representative of WA Council of State School Organisations (WACSSO) and Parents and Friends Federation of WA (from November 2010). Ms Harris is a WACSSO Executive Committee member, a State councillor, president of the East Narrogin Primary School P & C and also serves on the school council.

**David Harrison**

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (from May 2010). Mr Harrison is General Manager, Advocacy, and is responsible for the CCI's advocacy activities including policy development, promotion and government engagement. He joined the CCI after nine years with ABC news as a senior radio and television reporter.

**Professor David Macey**

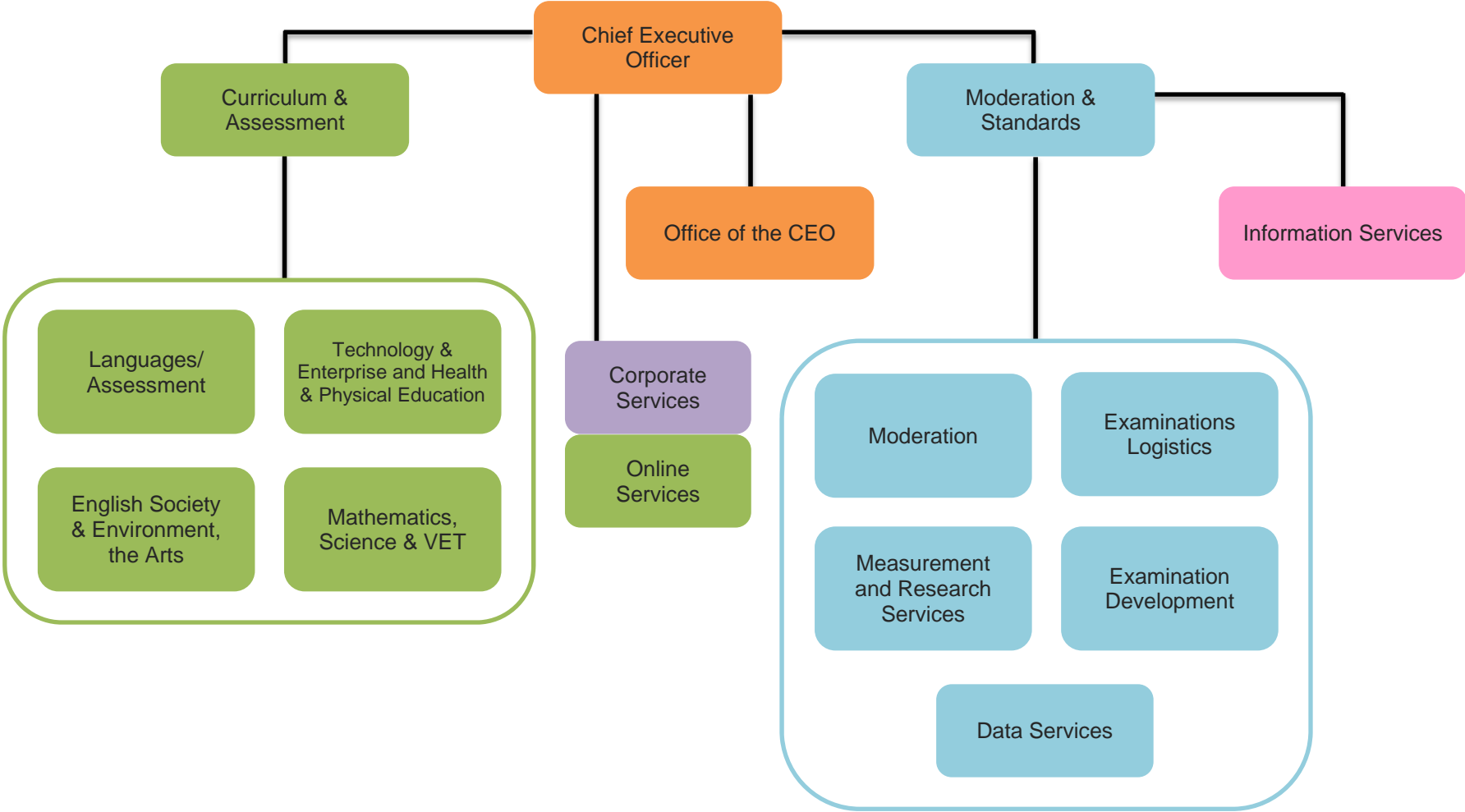
Representative of the university sector, Professor Macey was appointed to the Council in July 2008 for a three-year term. He was Executive Director, Student Services, at Murdoch University until February 2011 when he was appointed Pro Vice Chancellor, Science and Engineering.

**Sharyn O'Neill**

Department of Education. Ms O'Neill is the Director General of the Department of Education. Prior to this appointment, she held a number of senior positions within the Department, where she was responsible for strategic management, policy development and executive management.

Organisational chart 2011-2012

CURRICULUM COUNCIL SECRETARIAT



**Senior officers**

Mr Allan Blagaich, A/Chief Executive Officer

Mr Steve Donatti, Director, Moderation and Standards

Ms Robyn Smith, Director, Curriculum and Assessment

**Administered legislation**

The Minister for Education also administers the following related legislation:

*Education Service Providers (Full-Fee Overseas Students)*

*Registration Act 1991*

*School Education Act 1999*

**Other key legislation**

In the performance of its functions, the Curriculum Council complies with all relevant written laws, but is particularly responsive to the requirements of the following legislation:

- *Auditor General Act 2006*
- *Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003*
- *Copyright Act 1968*
- *Disability Services Act 1993*
- *Electoral Act 1907*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*
- *Financial Management Act 2006*
- *Freedom of Information Act 1992*

- *Industrial Relations Act 1979*
- *Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*
- *Public Sector*
- *Management Act 1994*
- *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*
- *State Records Act 2000*
- *State Supply Commission Act 1991*
- *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981.*

**Employment and industrial relations**

Full-time equivalent staffing follows:

**Table 1: Staff Profile**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Full-time permanent	74	70	73
Full-time contract	39	44	45
Part-time permanent	20	18	16
Part-time contract	15	17	10
Secondments	6	7	7
<b>Head count</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>134.2</b>	<b>133.93</b>	<b>134.3</b>

## Retention and participation

In 2011, 4030 17-year-olds were registered as being engaged in programs including employment, training organisation courses and/or apprenticeships/traineeships. Table 2 outlines the programs in which the students were engaged.

Registration figures in 2011 (130,444) show a small increase in number from 2010 (129,270) with the half-year cohort now settled into

Year 10. The increase of 1.68 per cent (1174 students) is spread over the year cohorts, with the Year 12 cohort showing an increase on 2010 Year 12s of almost 350 students (1.43 per cent). The half-year cohort was in Year 9 in 2011 and this figure will continue to impact on statistics until these students complete Year 12 in 2014.

**Table 2: Student registrations, 2011**

	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Total</b>
Government	16125	9577	17244	17465	13397	73,808
Non-Government	12590	8393	12338	11407	10081	54,809
Other	130	109	166	451	971	1,827
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,845</b>	<b>18,079</b>	<b>29,748</b>	<b>29,323</b>	<b>24,449</b>	<b>130,444</b>

Table 3: Participation of students born in 1994 and 1995 in programs in 2011

		Year of birth 1994	Year of birth 1995
<b>A. Participating students</b>			
<b>(i)</b>	<b>Schooling</b>		
	Government	13,643	16,117
	Non-government	10,360	11,244
	Home education	60	85
		<b>24,063</b>	<b>27,446</b>
<b>(ii)</b>	<b>Non-school program (Notice of arrangements)</b>		
	TAFE/RTO (Form A)	1,048	862
	Apprenticeship/traineeship (Form ATRS)	1,958	785
	Employment (Form C)	694	263
	Combination of above (Form B)	98	22
	Pending (i.e. no learning program supplied)	232	92
		<b>4,030</b>	<b>2,024</b>
	<b>Sub-total: participating students</b>	<b>28,093</b>	<b>29,470</b>
<b>B. Non-participating students</b>			
<b>(i)</b>	<b>Schooling</b>		
	Left secondary education/provider (no Notice of arrangements)	438	418
	Not re-registered from previous year	206	155
		<b>644</b>	<b>573</b>
<b>(ii)</b>	<b>Non-school program</b>		
	Rejected (no learning program supplied)	147	40
	Cancelled (withdrawn from learning program)	772	192
		<b>919</b>	<b>232</b>
	<b>Sub-total: Non-participating students</b>	<b>1,563</b>	<b>805</b>
<b>C. Other students</b>			
	Whereabouts unknown	443	400
	Working with Participation Directorate	493	118
	Graduated from secondary school	115	4
	Left Western Australia	98	87
	Deceased	2	3
		<b>1,151</b>	<b>612</b>
	<b>Sub-total: Other</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>612</b>
	<b>Total all students</b>	<b>30,807</b>	<b>30,887</b>

Note: These figures were taken as a 'snapshot' on 31/10/2011 (census date) and do not include full-fee paying students or overseas students.

Young people undertaking alternative programs to full-time school are required to apply for a Notice of Arrangements through the Participation Unit at the Department of Education. Once the Notice of Arrangements has been approved by the Participation Unit, the Curriculum Council is notified and details placed on the student's record.

Table 3 shows the number of students born in 1994 (generally in Year 12, 2011) and 1995 (generally in Year 11, 2011) and the type of

Notices of Arrangements they were undertaking.

#### Year 12 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander student registrations

Table 4 indicates the number of Year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students registered with the Curriculum Council between 2010 and 2011.

**Table 4: Year 12 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander student registrations**

A. Participating students	1994 year of birth			1995 year of birth		
	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
<b>(i) Schooling</b>						
Government	2	225	642	123	1001	0
Non-government	28	48	151	50	240	2
Home education	0	0	1	0	0	0
	<b>30</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>(ii) Non-school program Notices of Arrangements</b>						
Training organisations (Form A)	0	12	46	3	40	0
Apprenticeship/traineeship (Form ATRS)	0	2	17	0	7	0
Employment (Form C)	0	4	17	0	5	0
Combination of above (Form B) or Pending	0	0	3	0	1	0
	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sub-total: participating students</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>1294</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>B. Non-participating students</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3</b>
Includes students who have left secondary education, not re-registered, on cancelled or pending Notices of Arrangements.						
<b>C. Other</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>2</b>
Includes students whose whereabouts are unknown, already graduated, left Western Australia etc.						
<b>Total all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>1583</b>	<b>7</b>

Note: These figures are compiled from information collected as a mandatory requirement when schools upload student demographic information to the Curriculum Council



## Enrolment and retention trends

### Year 11 and 12 school enrolments

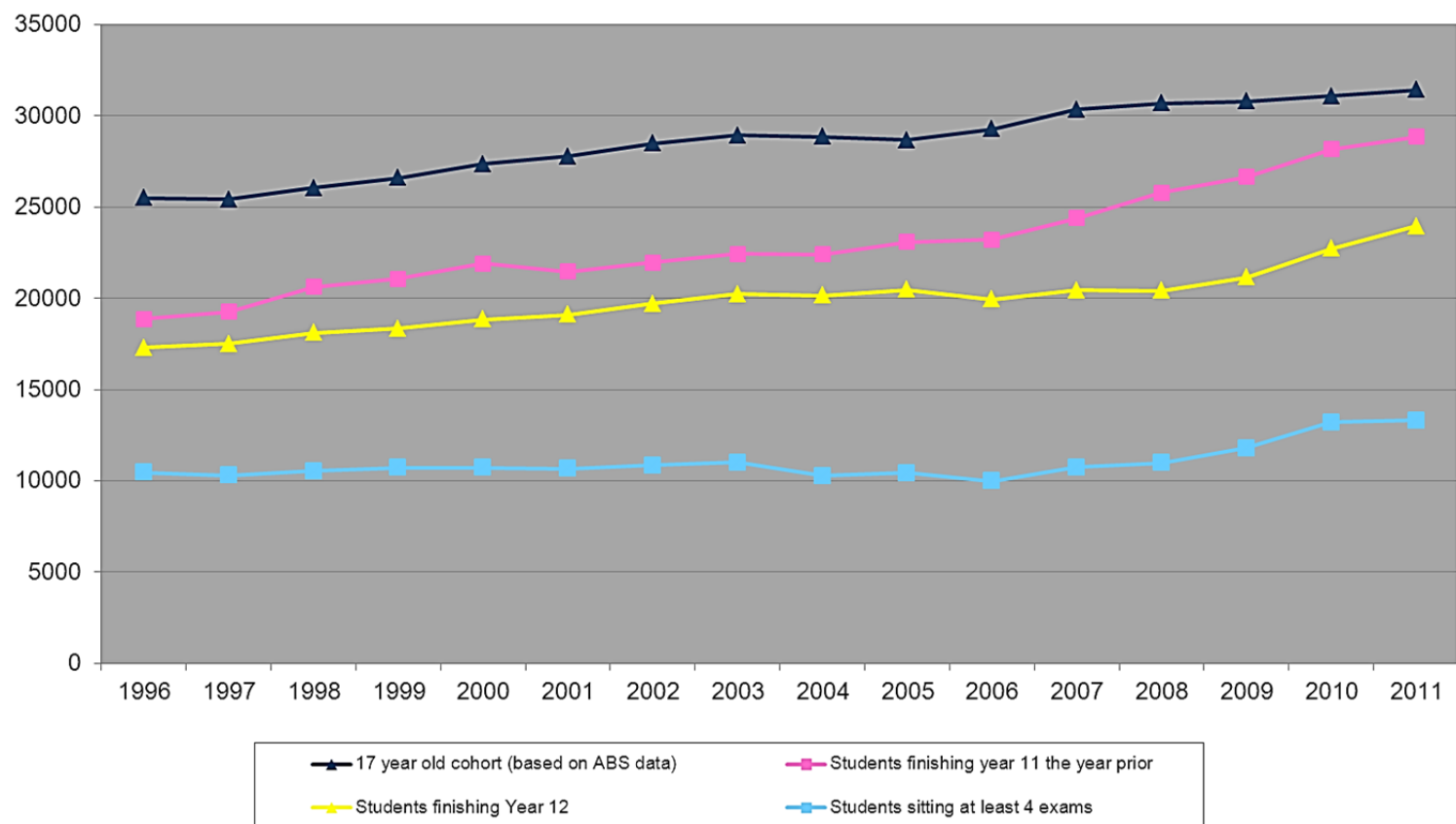
Figure 1 contains Year 11 and Year 12 retention data that was generated from the following:

- The number of 17 year-olds in Western Australia based on data provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These data provide the 'base line' to enable calculation of the proportion of

the age cohort in Year 11 and 12.

- The numbers of Year 11 and 12 students who completed at least one WACE course unit or subject or at least one unit of competency. These numbers were generated by the Council from data collected from schools at the conclusion of each school year.
- The numbers of students who sat for at least four examinations. These numbers were generated by the Council.

Figure 1: Year 11 and Year 12 student retention data



### Vocational education and training (VET) in schools

VET in school programs provides opportunities for students to participate in programs that contribute to full or partial, nationally recognised qualifications. In addition they have the opportunity to gain employability skills and experience in the workplace.

Table 5 shows the numbers of Year 12 students achieving full AQF qualifications.

Completed units of competency and qualifications were recorded on students' statements of results.

**Table 5: Year 12 Achievement of VET qualifications, 2004–2010**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of qualifications	1 840	2 726	2 344	3 337	4 633	5 987	7 936	8 257
Number of students	1 569	2 066	1 782	2 401	3 323	4 317	5 637	5 868
Number of qualifications achieved through a traineeship	169	275	77	55	91	182	175	199

### Exhibitions and awards

A total of 1636 exhibitions and awards were granted to students who achieved academic excellence. The awards recognise general educational excellence as well as course-specific excellence.

In 2011, awards were introduced for Workplace Learning.

Awards were made in the categories shown in Table 6.

**Table 6: Number of exhibition and award winners, 2011**

Award	Number awarded
Beazley Medal: WACE	1
Beazley Medal: VET	1
General Exhibitions	40
General Exhibition (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander)	1
General Exhibition (English as Second Language/ English as a Second Dialect)	1
Course Exhibitions	38
VET Exhibition	9
WPL Exhibition	1
Certificate of Distinction	262
Special Certificate of Distinction	19
Certificate of Distinction (VET)	23
Certificate of Distinction (WPL)	2
Certificate of Excellence	1 238
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 636</b>

The Minister for Education announced the winners of the Beazley Medals at Kings Park on Friday, 6 January 2012. The full list of award winners was published on the Curriculum Council website that same day and in *The Western Australian* on Saturday, 7 January 2012.

Certificates and/or awards were presented at the Curriculum Council's Awards Ceremony at Murdoch University on Wednesday, 8 February, 2012. The five Western Australian universities jointly agreed to sponsor the Beazley Medal: WACE. Westscheme Division of AustralianSuper sponsored the Beazley Medal: VET. Sponsorship of \$42,454 was sourced to assist with the conduct of the awards ceremony.

#### **Overseas equivalence**

The Curriculum Council has legislative responsibility for awarding Year 12 achievements and for determining the equivalence of secondary qualifications achieved overseas. These equivalence statements are required for those seeking entry into training places, university or employment. The process involves the scrutiny of a person's overseas qualifications in relation to an international educational comparisons database. This information is then aligned with Western Australian standards. There were 714 applications processed during 2011, compared with 793 in 2010.

#### **Developments**

- Malaysia: KDU Colleges, Petaling Jaya and Penang campuses, completed Year 12 WACE programs in 2011.
- Vietnam: One new school in Ho Chi Minh City, the 'Western Australian Primary and High School', commenced offering the Western Australian curriculum program for students in years 1–6 in the second half of 2011.

#### **WACE examinations**

Examinations in WACE courses, with the exception of Workplace Learning, were compulsory for students studying a pair of Stage 2 or Stage 3 units, unless they were exempt. Refinements were made to examination development and procedures for recruiting examiners and external markers. New methods of collecting, tracking and processing marks were developed.

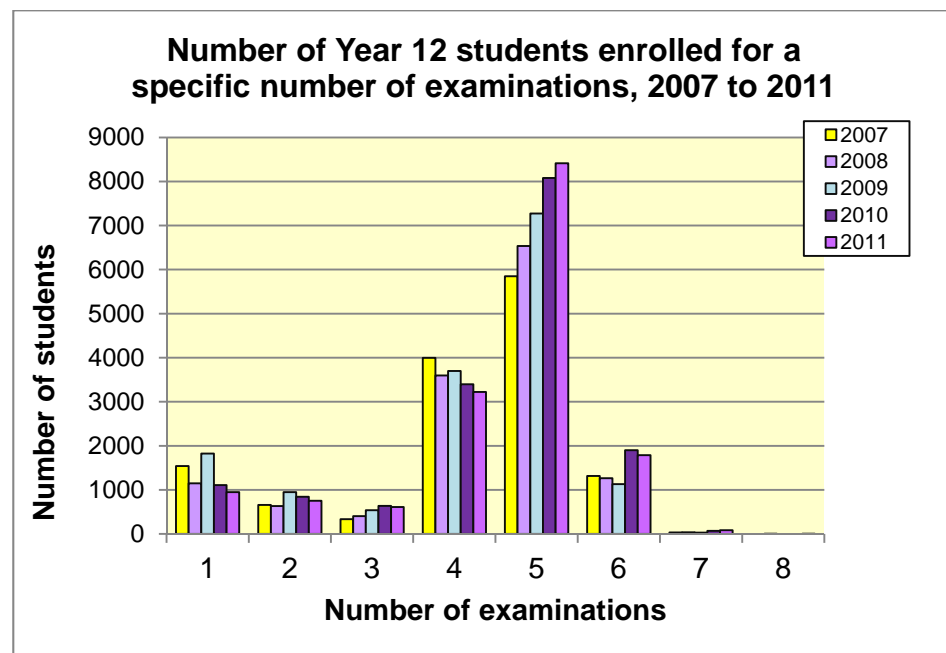
Examination papers were checked to ensure that they were valid and fair tests that provided balanced coverage of the various syllabuses, with adequate opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their achievement.

In 2011, more Year 12 students (13,199) sat four or more WACE examinations, than in 2010 (13,041). This represents a 5.2 per cent increase in the number of 2010 Year 12 students who sat four or more WACE course examinations and were therefore eligible for an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR, formerly TER).

The staff managing the examination process were supported by:

- examining panels – one for each WACE examination
- Special Examination Arrangement Panel
- Sickness/Misadventure Committee
- Examination Breaches Committee
- Appeal to Breach of Examination Rules Committee
- Appeal to Sickness/Misadventure Committee
- Appeal to Non-Genuine Attempt Committee
- Awards Working Party
- Awards and Exhibitions Committee.

Figure 2: Students enrolled in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 examinations, 2007–2011



The figures in Table 7 shows the following:

- More females were enrolled to sit the examinations than males in all years.
- Of students enrolled in four of more examinations, 81 per cent studied at a school in the metropolitan area. This compares with 13 per cent for students who studied at a country school.
- Since 2007, the number of students attending overseas schools enrolling to sit the examinations has increased by 111 per cent.

Table 7: Examination enrolments, as at October, 2005–2011 (four or more)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	5 167	4 694	5 183	5 261	5 590	6 181	6 145
Female	5 895	6 782	6 015	6 179	6 539	7 262	7 369
<b>System/sector</b>							
Government	5 127	4 581	4 824	4 763	4 838	5 506	5 374
Non-government	5 534	5 397	5 952	6 085	6 598	7 175	7 251
Overseas	391	492	419	586	685	760	885
Private candidates	10	8	3	6	8	2	4
<b>Location</b>							
Metropolitan	9 028	8 407	9 313	9 376	9 947	10 955	10 892
Country	1 633	1 571	1 463	1 472	1 489	1 726	1 733
Overseas	391	492	419	586	685	760	885
Private candidates	10	8	3	6	8	2	4

In 2011, 699 Year 12 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islanders enrolled with the Curriculum Council (713 in 2010). Of these 699 students, Table 8 shows that 153 Year 12 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islanders were enrolled to sit one or more WACE examination courses (compared with 160 in 2010).

**Table 8: Year 12 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander examination enrolments in 2011**

Origin of WACE examination candidates	Gender		Location		School Type	
	Male	Female	Metro	Country	Govt	Non Govt
Aboriginal	71	70	86	55	90	51
Torres Strait Islander	4	1	3	2	4	1
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	2	5	4	3	5	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>54</b>

Table 9 indicates that the overseas enrolments in WACE programs will continue to increase in 2011–2012.

**Table 9: 2011 Overseas enrolments students in WACE programs at 29 February 2012**

School	Year 11	Year 12
Sunway College	0	440
Sunway University College Johor Bahru	0	60
KBU International College	0	61
St Francis Methodist School	25	21
Methodist college KL	0	40
National Institute of Technology	184	190
Saigon International College	74	82
China-Australia College	29	36
Shanghai Gold Apple School	26	16
Australian International School Dhaka	9	9
Australian International School Manila	0	5
KDU University College (Petaling Jaya)	0	40
KDU College (Penang)	0	8
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>908</b>

**WACE examination attendance****Table 10: Change in numbers sitting external examinations (all students), 2005–2011**

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Candidates who sat at least one examination	11 610	10 953	11 765	11 855	14 613	15 608	15 555
Percentage change from previous year	-0.4	-5.7	7.4	0.8	23.3	6.1	-0.3
Candidates who sat at least four examinations	10,437	9 989	10 757	10 982	11 785	13 266	13 326
Percentage change from previous year	1.6	-4.3	7.7	2.1	7.3	12.6	0.5
Total examinations sat by candidates	51 897	49 273	52 625	53 863	60 711	69 016	69 278

These figures show the following.

- The number of candidates who sat at least four TEE/WACE examinations continued to increase in 2011.

**WACE examinations****Access for candidates with disabilities**

A total of 490 applications (445 in 2010) were received for 2011. This represents 3.1 per cent (2.8 per cent in 2010) of the number of candidates who were enrolled to sit at least one WACE examination. Both increases can be explained by the compulsory nature of examinations for candidates studying at Stage 2 and Stage 3 of courses.

**Practical examinations**

The practical examinations had three formats: interview, performance and portfolio/submission and were conducted under conditions specific to the requirements of particular courses.

Thirty-one practical examinations were set and conducted in Western Australia in 16 WACE courses and attended by 9605 candidates. Depending on the course, the practical examinations were worth between 25 per cent and 50 per cent of the total WACE examination, thus constituting a substantial portion of the final combined mark. The Curriculum Council also conducted 11 examinations that were set interstate. Of these, seven examinations had practical components.

**Written examinations**

In 2011, the Curriculum Council conducted 105 examinations comprising 94 WACE course examinations and 11 interstate-sourced examinations. The WACE written examinations were scheduled to be held from Monday, 31 October to Friday, 25 November. Although 20 days had been allocated for the examination period, it was possible to schedule the examinations over 17 days. This resulted in the final examinations being held on Tuesday, 22 November. At least two examinations were conducted on each day, the most being eight.

**Marking of the examinations**

Written marking commenced on 31 October with Modern History, Physics and Plant Production Systems and concluded on 8 December with six examinations completing their reconciliation and examination integrity checks. All written examination scripts were independently double-marked. Marking via the Curriculum Council's online marks collection system took an average of 16 days from start to finish, while the Pearson's ePEN online marking system took on average 24 days to complete. Part of the additional time required for the ePEN online marking is attributed to the time required to scan the scripts by Pearson's in Melbourne. Additionally, the integrity checks and data delivery from Pearson's adds two to three days to the completion of marking.

**Written papers**

For each course, the marking panel consisted of the chief marker and selected markers. A marking key ratification meeting was conducted for each course. This meeting provided an opportunity for the chief marker, the chief examiner and the curriculum specialist to mark some scripts and identify any anomalies or obscurities in the marking key and modify it appropriately. The pre-marking meeting was held immediately after the marking key ratification meeting and markers were trained in how to mark and were given the opportunity to establish a common understanding of the marking key through sample marking. Following the completion of all initial marking, the chief marker monitored the reconciliation of marks.

All written examination results in 2011 were collected via electronic marking systems.

**Checking of marks**

After receiving their statement of results, candidates had the opportunity to have their scripts checked to confirm that each question

attempted had been awarded a mark and that this mark had been recorded correctly.

A total of 229 candidates requested a results check involving 369 examination scripts. This represents 0.033 per cent of the 69,169 written examination scripts produced by candidates. Nine errors were detected.

One hundred and thirty candidates submitted applications seeking a breakdown of their examination scores in 2011.

**Certification of student achievement****WACE achievement**

In 2011, there were 21,621 Year 12 students who were eligible for the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). Of these, 20,057 achieved the WACE. Table 12 indicates that there has been a steady increase in the percentage of students who achieved a WACE since 2003.

**Table 11: Achievement of a WACE, 2002–2011**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Eligible for a WACE	18 883	18 697	19 243	18 817	19 121	18 853	19 845	21 296	21 621
Achieved a WACE	17 576	17 671	18 300	18 041	18 357	18 092	19 096	20 713	21 057
Percentage eligible	93.1	94.5	95.1	95.9	96.0	96.0	96.2	97.3	97.4

## Employment and industrial relations

### Occupational safety, health and injury management

Incidents involving injury or disease were managed in accordance with the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*.

**Table 12: Impact of fatalities, injury & diseases**

Indicator	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	1/7/11– 29/02/12
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	0
Lost time injury/disease (LTI/D) events	4	1	0	0
Number of severe incidents	0	0	0	0
Lost time injury severity rate	0	0	0	0

Council's Acting Chief Executive Officer chaired the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee.

During the period 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011, the following actions were undertaken:

- A workplace inspection of both buildings occupied by Council staff was completed (5 September 2011 for 27 Walters Drive, and 4 October 2011 for 28 Walters Drive). No major issues were identified, and all minor issues were addressed.

- The intranet was used to remind staff of the availability of:
  - the eyesight screening policy and optical subsidy
  - the employee assistance program (PPC)
  - the accident and incident procedures and form
  - first aid kits
  - names of first aid officers
  - emergency evacuation procedures.

### Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

An internal audit of human resource management transactions found that the Council had complied with section 31 (1) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

The Accountable and Ethical Decision Making PowerPoint presentation, participant's handbook and scenarios are located on Council's intranet.

### Complaints management

The Curriculum Council received and registered six complaints, which were handled in accordance with our complaints management policy.

A number of concerns were dealt with satisfactorily outside the formal complaints management process.





Auditor General

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

#### CURRICULUM COUNCIL

##### Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Curriculum Council.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 29 February 2012, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the eight months then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

##### *Reporting Officer's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The Curriculum Council ceased to exist as a statutory authority under the Financial Management Act 2006 on 29 February 2012. The Treasurer appointed a Reporting Officer under section 68 of the Act who was responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

##### *Auditor's Responsibility*

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Reporting Officer's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Reporting Officer, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

##### **Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Curriculum Council at 29 February 2012 and its financial performance and cash flows for the eight months then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

##### **Report on Controls**

I have audited the controls exercised by the Curriculum Council. The Council was responsible for ensuring that adequate control was maintained over the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Council based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

##### **Opinion**

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Curriculum Council are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

##### **Independence**

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and the Australian Auditing Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

COLIN MURPHY  
AUDITOR GENERAL  
9 May 2012

## **Certification of Financial Statements**

The accompanying financial statements of the Curriculum Council have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the period 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012 and the financial position as at 29 February 2012.

At the date of signing I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



**A. BLAGAICH**  
**REPORTING OFFICER**

**3 May 2012**

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the period ended 29 February 2012

	Note	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits expense	6	10864	14 528
Supplies and services	7	8 241	9 307
Accommodation expenses	8	981	1 438
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	9	397	593
Grants and awards	10	4 112	4 924
Other expenses	11	138	167
Total cost of services		13824,733	167
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
Sales and fees	12	793	701
Grants and contributions	13	42	43
Other revenue and recoveries	14	254	243
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>		1,089	987
NET COST OF SERVICES		23,644	29,970
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	15		
Service appropriation		24 735	28 089
Resources received free of charge		49	116
Total income from State Government		49	28,205
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		1,140	(1 765)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		1 140	(1 765)

See also Note 36 'Schedule of income and expenses by service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 29 February 2012

	Note	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	16	4 171	2 414
Receivables	17	229	409
Amount receivable for services	18	170	170
Prepayments		23	40
Total current assets		422	3 033
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	16	473	371
Amount receivable for services	18	4 451	4 006
Plant and equipment	19	105	148
Intangible assets	20	2 802	3 156
Total non-current assets		909	7 681
<b>Total assets</b>		12424	10,714
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	21	480	314
Provisions	22	2,754	2 669
Other liabilities	23	–	51
Total current liabilities		3234	51
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	22	1 265	895
Total non-current liabilities		1 265	895
<b>Total liabilities</b>		4,499	3,929
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		7,925	6785
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	24	6 325	6 325
Accumulated surplus		1,600	460
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		7,925	460

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

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the period ended 29 February 2012

	Note	Contributed Equity \$000	Accumulated surplus/(deficit) \$000	Total Equity \$000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2010</b>	24	6 325	2 225	8550
Total comprehensive income for the year		–	(1 765)	(1 765)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners		–	–	–
<b>Balance at 30 June 2011</b>		6,325	460	6785
<b>Balance at 1 July 2011</b>		6 325	460	6785
Total comprehensive income for the period		–	1 140	1 140
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners		–	–	–
<b>Balance at 29 February 2012</b>		6,325	1600	7925

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the period ended 29 February 2012

	Note	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>			
Service appropriation		24 120	26999
Holding account drawdowns		170	170
Net cash provided by State Government		170	27169
Utilised as follows:			
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Employee benefits		(10 203)	(14155)
Supplies and services		(8 138)	( 9684)
Accommodation expenses		(980)	(1 244)
Grants and awards		(4 112)	(4 924)
GST payments on purchases		(610)	(967)
<b>Receipts</b>			
Sale of goods and services		741	450
Grants from state agencies		26	26
Grants from non-government sources		17	17
Other receipts		254	243
GST receipts on sales		31	92
GST receipts from taxation authority		543	925
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>		<b>(22,431)</b>	<b>(29221)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		–	(91)
Net cash used in investing activities		–	(91)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash		1859	( 2143)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period		2 785	4 928
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD</b>	25	<b>2646</b>	<b>2785</b>

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

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**This index does not form part of the financial statements.**



## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Australian Accounting Standards

#### General

The Curriculum Council's financial statements for the period ended 29 February 2012 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' refers to Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Board (AASB).

The Curriculum Council has adopted any applicable, new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

#### Early adoption of standards

The Curriculum Council cannot adopt an early Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. There has been no early adoption of Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended (but not operative) by the Curriculum Council for the reporting period ended 29 February 2012.

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### (a) General Statement

The financial statements constitute general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB 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 Management Act* and the Treasurer's instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

#### (b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Note 3 'Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies' discloses judgements that have been made in the process of applying the Curriculum Council's accounting policies resulting in the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Note 4 'Key sources of estimation uncertainty' discloses key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a

significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial period.

### **(c) Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity is the Curriculum Council and has no related bodies.

### **(d) Contributed Equity**

AASB Interpretation 1038 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities' requires transfers, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, in the nature of equity contributions to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by Treasurer's Instruction (TI) 955 'Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities' and have been credited directly to contributed equity.

The transfer of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal.

### **(e) Income**

#### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised for the following major business activities:

#### *Sale of goods*

Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership control transfer to the purchaser and can be measured reliably.

#### *Provision of services*

Revenue is recognised on delivery of the service to the client or by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction.

#### *Service Appropriations*

Service appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Curriculum Council gains control of the appropriated funds. The Curriculum Council gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at Treasury.

#### *Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions*

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Curriculum Council obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners 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.

#### *Gains*

Realised and unrealised gains are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

**(f) Plant and Equipment****Capitalisation/Expensing of assets**

Items of plant and equipment costing over \$5,000 are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 and fit-outs for office premises on short-term leases are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

**Initial recognition and measurement**

All items of plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost.

For items of plant and equipment acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

**Subsequent measurement**

All items of plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation**

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

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Computer hardware	3 years
Communication and audiovisual equipment	3 years
Other equipment and fittings	5–10 years

**(g) Intangible Assets****Capitalisation/Expensing of assets**

Acquisitions of intangible assets and internally generated intangible assets costing over \$5,000 are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful life. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

All acquired and internally developed intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Projects-in-progress are not amortised until it is fully completed.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life which is reviewed annually) on the straight line basis using rates which are reviewed annually. All intangible assets controlled by the Curriculum Council have a finite useful life and zero residual value. The expected useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Software <sup>(a)</sup>	3 years
Student Information and Records System	7–10 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

**Computer software**

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is treated as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the period of acquisition.

**Website costs**

Website costs are charged as expenses when they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset when they may be capitalised and amortised. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a website, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are expensed.

**(h) Impairment of Assets**

Plant and equipment and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. As the Curriculum Council is a not-for-profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment at the end of each reporting period irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment.

The recoverable amount of assets identified as surplus assets is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at the end of each reporting period.

**(i) Leases**

The Curriculum Council holds operating leases for its office premises, and vehicles. Lease payments are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased properties.

**(j) Financial Instruments**

In addition to cash, the Curriculum Council has two categories of financial instrument:

- Receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

Financial instruments have been disaggregated into the following classes:

#### Financial Assets

- Cash and cash equivalents
- Restricted cash and cash equivalents
- Receivables
- Amounts receivable for services

#### Financial Liabilities

- Payables
- Other liabilities

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

#### **(k) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

#### **(l) Accrued Salaries**

Accrued salaries (Note 21 'Payables') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial period, as the pay date for the last pay period for that financial period does not coincide with the end of the financial period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial period end. The Curriculum Council considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its net fair value. The Curriculum Council also set aside funding to meet the 27<sup>th</sup> pay period that occurs every 11 years (Note 16 'Cash and cash equivalents').

#### **(m) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts (that is, impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written-off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Curriculum Council will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

#### **(n) Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)**

The Curriculum Council receives income from the State Government partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The accrued amount appropriated is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover leave entitlements and asset replacement.

**(o) Inventories**

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Costs are assigned by the method most appropriate for each particular class of inventory, with the majority being valued on a first in first out basis.

**(p) Payables**

Payables are recognised when the Curriculum Council becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services at fair value, as they are generally settled within 30 days.

**(q) Provisions**

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing and amount and are recognised where there is a present legal, equitable or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period.

***(i) Provisions – Employee Benefits***

All annual and long service leave provisions are in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period.

**Annual Leave**

The liability for annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Annual leave not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is measured at the present value

of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments, consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The provision for annual leave is classified as a current liability as the Curriculum Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period.

**Long Service Leave**

The liability for long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments, consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-



salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Curriculum Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Curriculum Council has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

#### **Deferred Leave**

The provision for deferred leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund an additional 12 months leave in the fifth year of the agreement. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees to be used in the fifth year. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave. Deferred leave is reported as a current provision as employees can leave the scheme at their discretion at any time.

#### **Superannuation**

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) administers public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements.

Eligible employees contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme closed to new members since 1987, or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme closed to new members since 1995.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for agency purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Authority to GESB extinguishes the agency's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The Curriculum Council has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS Scheme transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS Scheme obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the Curriculum Council to the GESB. The concurrently funded part of the GSS Scheme is a defined contribution scheme as these contributions extinguish all liabilities in respect of the concurrently funded GSS Scheme obligations.

Employees commencing employment prior to 16 April 2007 who were not members of either the Pension or the GSS Schemes became non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS). Employees commencing employment on or after 16 April 2007 became members of the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS). Both of these schemes are accumulation schemes. The Curriculum Council makes concurrent contributions to GESB on behalf of employees in

compliance with the *Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*. These contributions extinguish the liability for superannuation charges in respect of the WSS and GESBS.

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension and GSS Schemes, and is recouped from the Treasurer for the employer's share.

**(ii) Provisions – Other**

**Employment On-Costs**

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the Curriculum Council's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

**(r) Superannuation Expense**

The superannuation expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS and the GESBS.

**(s) Resources Received Free of Charge or for nominal cost**

Resources received free of charge or for nominal cost that can be reliably measured are recognised as income at fair value. Where the resource received represents a service that the authority would otherwise pay for, a corresponding expense is recognised. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Assets or services received from other State Government agencies are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**(t) Comparative Figures**

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

The 2011 comparatives in these statements are for twelve months from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.

**3. Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements about the application of accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The Curriculum Council evaluates these judgements regularly.

**4. Key sources of estimation uncertainty**

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial period.

**Long Service Leave**

Several estimations and assumptions used in calculating the Curriculum Council's long service leave provision include expected future salary rates, salary inflation, discount rates, employee retention rates and expected future payments. Changes in these estimations



and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision.

## 5. Disclosure of changes in accounting policy and estimates

### (a) Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard

The Curriculum Council has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2011 that impacted on the Curriculum Council:

#### *AASB 2009-12*

*Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 5, 8, 108, 110, 112, 119, 133, 137, 139, 1023 & 1031 and Interpretations 2, 4, 16, 1039 & 1052]*

This Standard makes editorial amendments to a range of Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations. There is no financial impact.

#### *AASB 2010-4*

The amendments to AASB 7 clarify financial instrument disclosures in relation to credit risk. The carrying amount of financial assets that would otherwise be past due or impaired whose terms have been renegotiated is no longer required to be disclosed. There is no financial impact.

The amendments to AASB 101 clarify the presentation of the statement of changes in equity. The disaggregation of other comprehensive income reconciling the carrying amount at the

beginning and the end of the period for each component of equity is no longer required. There is no financial impact.

#### *AASB 2010-5*

Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 101, 107, 112, 118, 119, 121, 132, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 112, 115, 127, 132 & 1042]

This Standard makes editorial amendments to a range of Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations. There is no financial impact.

### (b) Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Curriculum Council cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements*. Consequently, the Curriculum Council has not applied early any following Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued that may impact the Curriculum Council. Where applicable, the Curriculum Council plans to apply these Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

Title and Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:	
<p><b>AASB 9</b> Financial Instruments</p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.</p> <p>The Standard was reissued on 6 Dec 2010 and the Department is currently determining the impact of the Standard. DTF has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 January 2013
<p><b>AASB 2009-11</b></p> <p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Interpretations 10 &amp; 12].</p> <p>This Standard is superseded by AASB 2010-7.</p>	1 January 2013
<p><b>AASB 2010-2</b></p> <p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 101, 102, 107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 124, 127, 128, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 1050 &amp; 1052 and Interpretations 2, 4, 5, 15, 17, 127, 129 &amp; 1052].</i></p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to many Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations to introduce reduced disclosure requirements into these pronouncements for application by certain types of entities.</p> <p>The Standard is not expected to have any financial impact. However this Standard may reduce some note disclosures in the financial statements of the authority. Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the amendments to these Standards for agencies.</p>	1 July 2013
<p><b>AASB 2010-7</b></p> <p><i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Interpretations 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 &amp; 127]</i></p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in Dec 2010. Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 January 2013

Title and Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:	
<p><b>AASB 2010-7</b>  <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Interpretations 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 &amp; 127]</i>            This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in Dec 2010. Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 January 2013
<p><b>AASB 2011-8</b>  <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 13 [AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 101, 102, 108, 110, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 128, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140, 141, 1004, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Interpretations 2, 4, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 131 &amp; 132]</i>            This Standard replaces the existing definition and fair value guidance in other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as the result of issuing AASB 13 in Sep 2011. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 January 2013
<p><b>AASB 2011-9</b>  <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Presentation of Items of Other Comprehensive Income [AASB 1, 5, 7, 101, 112, 120, 121, 132, 133, 134, 1039 &amp; 1049]</i>            This Standard requires to group items presented in other comprehensive income on the basis of whether they are potentially reclassifiable to profit or loss subsequently (reclassification adjustments). Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 July 2012
<p><b>AASB 2011-10</b>  <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 119 (September 2011) [AASB 1, 8, 101, 124, 134, 1049 &amp; 2011-8 and Interpretation 14]</i>            This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 119 <i>Employee Benefits</i> in Sep 2011. Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 January 2013
<p><b>AASB 2011-11</b>  <i>Amendments to AASB 119 (September 2011) arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements</i>            This Standard gives effect to Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements for AASB 119 (Sep 2011). Treasury has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard for agencies.</p>	1 July 2013

**6. Employee benefits expense**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Wages and salaries <sup>(a)</sup>	8 968	12 260
Superannuation – defined contribution plans <sup>(b)</sup>	1 405	1 782
Long service leave <sup>(c)</sup>	581	375
Annual leave <sup>(c)</sup>	(90)	111
	<u>10864</u>	<u>14,528</u>

(a) Includes the value of fringe benefits to employees plus the fringe benefits tax component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, Gold State and GESB Super Scheme (contributions paid).

(c) Includes a superannuation contribution component.

Employment on-costs such as workers' compensation insurance are included at Note 11 'Other expenses'. The employment on-costs liability is included at Note 24 'Provisions'.

**7. Supplies and services**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Consultants and contractors	7 423	8 399
Communications	152	216
Consumable supplies	666	692
	<u>818</u>	<u>9,307</u>

**8. Accommodation expenses**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Lease rentals	895	1 244
Repairs, maintenance and fit-outs	36	96
Cleaning	50	98
	<u>981</u>	<u>1,438</u>

**9. Depreciation and amortisation expenses**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Plant and equipment	43	58
Intangible assets	354	535
	<u>397</u>	<u>593</u>

**10. Grants and awards**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Grants for implementation of the Australian Curriculum <sup>(a)</sup>	4,873	4,873
Grants to universities for research on senior school education under the Australian Research Council linkage projects <sup>(a)</sup>	50	40
Grants for Year 12 Art Exhibition <sup>(a)</sup>	3	3
Awards for educational excellence	4	8
	<b>4,930</b>	<b>4,924</b>

(a) The grants were provided for ordinary activities.

**11. Other expenses**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Employment on-costs <sup>(a)</sup>	4	2
Repairs and maintenance	105	137
Audit fees <sup>(b)</sup>	29	28
	<b>138</b>	<b>167</b>

**12. Sales and fees**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Sale of examination and framework materials and fees from examination related services <sup>(a) (b)</sup>	242	172
Fees from overseas full fee paying students <sup>(c)</sup>	551	529
	<b>793</b>	<b>701</b>

(a) No trading account is prepared for the Statement of Comprehensive Income as the materials for sale are priced at cost recovery of only printing expenditure. The development costs are included in Note 7 'Supplies and services'.

(b) Sale of past years' examination papers and some obsolete framework materials ceased in January 2010. During the period ended 29 February 2012, the sale of the remaining framework materials was completely phased out. Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) examination papers are available in the Curriculum Council's website for downloading by users for personal use.

(c) These fees are based on cost recovery for the services provided.

**13. Grants and contributions**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
From state agencies and non-government sources for the Curriculum Council's awards ceremony for educational excellence	42	43

**14. Other revenues and recoveries**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Fee for information system services performed for a State Government department <sup>(a)</sup>	–	77
Government Vehicle Scheme contributions	18	22
Sundry revenues and recoupment of previous period expenses <sup>(b)</sup>	236	144
	<u>254</u>	<u>243</u>

(a) The agreement for this service was not finalised during the period ended 29 February 2012.

(b) Includes on-costs on payroll for Curriculum Council's officers seconded to other State and Federal government agencies.

**15. Income from State Government**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Appropriation revenue received during the period – Service appropriations <sup>(a)(b)</sup>	24 735	28 089
Resources received free of charge: Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies:		
Department of Education – system support and secondment costs	32	97
Department of Finance – office accommodation services	9	13
State Solicitor's Office – legal services	8	6
	<u>49</u>	<u>116</u>

(a) Service appropriations are accrual amounts reflecting the net cost of services delivered. The appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises depreciation expense and any agreed increase in leave liability.

(b) Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal cost, the Curriculum Council recognises revenue equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably measured and which would have been purchased if they were not donated, and those fair values shall be recognised as assets or expenses, as applicable. Where the contributions of assets or services are in the nature of contributions by owners, the Curriculum Council makes an adjustment direct to equity.

**16. Cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Current assets:		
Cash at bank	4 170	2 413
Petty cash and till floats	1	1
	<u>4 171</u>	<u>1</u>
Non-Current assets:		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents comprise:		
– Lump sums transferred from other state agencies for accrued long service leave <sup>(a)</sup>	151	108
– Accrued salaries – 27th fortnight payroll <sup>(b)</sup>	322	263
	<u>473</u>	<u>371</u>

(a) The lump sums for unconsumed leave are restricted in that the unexpired portions have to be on-transferred if the staff members are transferred to other state agencies or returned to their home agencies.

(b) The amount is held for the purpose of meeting the 27<sup>th</sup> fortnight payroll in a financial year that occurs every 11 years.

**17. Receivables**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Receivables	182	398
GST receivable	47	11
	<u>229</u>	<u>409</u>

- (a) No provision for impairment is required for the receivables.
- (b) The Curriculum Council does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements as security for receivables.

**18. Amount receivable for services**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Current	170	170
Non-Current	4 451	4 006
	<u>4,621</u>	<u>4,176</u>

Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations restricted for use in asset replacement or payment of annual and long service leave liabilities.

**19. Plant and equipment**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
At cost	609	627
Accumulated depreciation	(504)	(479)
	<u>105</u>	<u>148</u>

Reconciliation of carrying amount at the beginning and end of the financial period is set out below.

Carrying amount at start of the period	148	115
Impaired equipment retired during the period	(19)	–
Accumulated depreciation on equipment retired	19	–
Additions	–	91
Depreciation for the period	(43)	(58)
Carrying amount at end of period	<u>105</u>	<u>148</u>

There were no indications of impairment to plant and equipment. As at 29 February 2012 there were no assets identified as surplus.

**20. Intangible assets**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Computer software:		
At cost	4715	4 720
Accumulated amortisation	(1 913)	(1 564)
	<u>5629</u>	<u>3,156</u>

Reconciliation of carrying amount at the beginning and end of the financial period is set out below.

Carrying amount at start of the period	3 156	3 691
Software no longer in use retired during the period	(5)	–
Accumulated depreciation on software retired	5	–
Additions		
– acquisitions	–	–
Amortisation for the period	(354)	(535)
Carrying amount at end of period	<u>2,802</u>	<u>3,156</u>

There were no indications of impairment to intangible assets. As at 29 February 2012 there were no intangible assets identified as surplus.

**21. Payables**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Trade payables	41	46
Accrued salaries : amount owing for nine working days (2011 : 5 working days) <sup>(a)</sup>	439	268
	<u>480</u>	<u>314</u>

(a) For 2011, the amount included the 3.75% increase in rates for the period from 15 April 2011 to 30 June 2011 awarded in the Public Service and Government Officers Agreement 2011. Employees received the 3.75% rate increase for the aforementioned period in July 2011.

**22. Provisions**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Current:		
Employee benefits provision		
Annual leave <sup>(a)</sup>	960	1,027
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	1774	1 630
Deferred salary scheme <sup>(c)</sup>	4	
	<u>2738</u>	<u>2657</u>
Other provision		
Employment on-costs <sup>(d)</sup>	16	12
	<u>2754</u>	<u>2,669</u>
Non-Current:		
Employee benefits provision		
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	1 265	895
	<u>1 265</u>	<u>895</u>

(a) Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:



	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
Within 12 months of the end of the period	411	440
More than 12 months after the end of the period	549	587
	960	1,027

- (b) Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:

Within 12 months of the end of the period	398	332
More than 12 months after the end of the period	2641	2,193
	3039	2,525

- (c) Deferred salary liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

Within 12 months of the end of the period	–	–
More than 12 months after the end of the period	4	–
	4	–

- (d) The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs for workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments. The associated expense is disclosed in Note 11 'Other expenses'.

Movement in employment on-cost provision:		
Carrying amount at start of period	12	10
Additional/(reduction) in provision recognised	4	2
Carrying amount at end of period	16	12

### 23. Other liabilities

	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
Income in advance: examination enrolment fees from overseas full fee paying students	–	51

The fees are payable prior to the end of the financial period while the examinations are conducted during the first half of the following financial period. Substantial proportion of these fees is from overseas colleges that require invoices from the Curriculum Council before they remit the payments. The invoices to these colleges to collect the fees due from them are issued in July when the enrolled student numbers used for the invoice preparation are known with more certainty.

### 24. Equity

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Curriculum Council. The Government holds the equity interest in the Curriculum Council on behalf of the community.

	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
<b>Contributed equity</b>		
Balance at start of period	6 325	6 325
Contributions by owners – capital appropriation	–	–
Balance at end of period	6325	6325
<b>Accumulated surplus</b>		
Balance at start of period	460	2 225
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	1 140	(1 765)
Balance at end of period	1600	460

## 25. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows

## Reconciliation of cash

	2012	2011
	\$000	\$000
Cash at the end of the financial period as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 16)	4 171	2 414
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (Note 16)	473	371
	<u>4644</u>	<u>371</u>

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

Net cost of services	(23 644)	(29 970)
Non-cash items:		
Resources received free of charge	49	116
Depreciation and amortisation expense	397	593
Inventories written off <sup>(a)</sup>	–	65
(Increase)/decrease in assets:		
Current receivables <sup>(b)</sup>	180	(147)
Current Inventories	–	2
Current prepayments	17	4
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities:		
Current payables	166	(152)
Current provisions	85	199
Other current liabilities	(51)	(250)
Non-current provisions	370	319
Net GST receipts/(payments)	(36)	50
Change in GST in receivables/payables	36	(50)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(22431)</u>	<u>(29221)</u>

(a) The inventories were written off when the Curriculum Council ceased the sale of past years examination and framework materials in January 2010.

(b) Excludes GST receivable (Note 17 'Receivables') in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets as these items do not form part of the reconciling items.

## 26. Lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating lease commitments for office premises and vehicles, inclusive of GST where relevant, are as follows:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Within 1 year	1 512	1 623
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1 830	3 075
	<b>3 442</b>	<b>4,698</b>

## 27. Capital commitments

There were no capital expenditure commitments as at 29 February 2012.

## 28. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

There were no contingent liabilities and contingent assets as at 29 February 2012.

## 29. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

The Curriculum Council was abolished on 29 February 2012. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) was created on 1 March 2012 under the *School Curriculum and Standards Authority Act 1997* to replace the Curriculum Council. All the assets, rights and liabilities of the Curriculum Council as at 29 February 2012 were transferred to the Authority.

## 30. Financial instruments

### (a) Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

Financial instruments held by the Curriculum Council are cash, receivables, payables and other liabilities. The Curriculum Council has limited exposure to financial risks. The Curriculum Council's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Curriculum Council's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Curriculum Council. The Curriculum Council measures credit risk on a fair value basis and monitors risk on a regular basis.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance sheet date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any provisions for impairment as shown in the table at Note (b) below.

The Curriculum Council trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Curriculum Council has policies in place to ensure that sales of goods and services are made to customers with appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Curriculum Council's exposure to bad debts is minimal. There are no significant concentrations of credit risk.

#### Liquidity risk

The Curriculum Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. Liquidity risk arises when the Curriculum Council is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Curriculum Council has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdowns of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

### Market risk

The Curriculum Council does not trade in foreign currency and is not exposed to other price risks and changes in interest rates.

### 30(b) Financial instrument disclosures

The two tables below disclose the Curriculum Council's categories of financial instruments, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate exposure.

### Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount	Not past due and not impaired	Past due but not impaired					Impaired Financial assets
			Up to 1 month	1-3 months	3-12 Months	1-5 Years	More than 5 years	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
<b>Financial assets:</b>								
<b>2012</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	4 171	4 171	–	–	–	–	–	–
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	473	473	–	–	–	–	–	–
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	182	52	116	4	2	8	–	–
Amount receivable for services	4 621	4 621	–	–	–	–	–	–
	9447	9317	116	4	2	8	–	–
<b>2011</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	2 414	2 414	–	–	–	–	–	–
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	371	371	–	–	–	–	–	–
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	398	188	130	21	59	–	–	–
Amount receivable for services	4 176	4 176	–	–	–	–	–	–
	7 359	7 149	130	21	59	–	–	–

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

### Credit risk

The following table discloses the Curriculum Council's maximum exposure to credit risk and the ageing analysis of financial assets. The Curriculum Council's maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of financial assets as shown below. The table discloses the ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired and impaired financial assets. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Curriculum Council.

The Curriculum Council does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancement relating to the financial assets it holds.

### Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table discloses the contractual maturity analysis for the Curriculum Council's financial assets and liabilities and also their interest rate exposures.

### Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Interest rate exposure		Nominal Amount <sup>(c)</sup>	Maturity dates				
	Carrying Amount	Non-Interest Bearing		Up to 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 months - 1 year	1 - 5 years	More than 5 years
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2012								
Financial assets:								
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	4 171	4 171	4 171	1 744	2 327	100	–	–
<b>Restricted cash and cash equivalents</b>	473	473	473	–	–	–	473	–
<b>Receivables<sup>(a)</sup></b>	182	182	182	52	120	2	8	–
<b>Amount receivable for services</b>	4 621	4 621	4 621	–	–	170	4 451	–
	9447	9447	9 447	1796	2447	272	4932	–
Financial liabilities <sup>(b)</sup> :								
<b>Payables</b>	480	480	480	480	–	–	–	–
<b>Other liabilities</b>	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	480	480	480	480	–	–	–	–
2011								
Financial assets:								
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	2 414	2 414	2 414	1 451	863	100	–	–
<b>Restricted cash and cash equivalents</b>	371	371	371	–	–	–	371	–
<b>Receivables<sup>(a)</sup></b>	398	398	4,574	188	151	59	–	–
<b>Amount receivable for services</b>	4 176	4 176	4 176	–	–	170	4 006	–
	7 359	7 359	7359	1639	1014	329	4377	–
Financial liabilities <sup>(b)</sup> :								
<b>Payables</b>	314	314	314	314	–	–	–	–
<b>Other liabilities</b>	51	51	51	–	–	51	–	–
	365	365	365	314	–	51	–	–

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(b) The carrying amounts are the contractual undiscounted cash flows of each class of liabilities.

(c) The nominal is the carrying amount as the Curriculum Council does not receive nor pay interest on any of the financial instruments.

### 31. Remuneration of members of the Council and senior officers

#### Remuneration of the members of the Council

The number of members of the Council, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial period, fall within the following bands are:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
\$0 – \$ 10,000	11	11
\$ 20 000 – \$ 30,000	1	1
\$140 000 – \$150 000 <sup>(a)</sup>	1	–
\$170 000 – \$180 000 <sup>(b)</sup>	–	1
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
The total remuneration of the members of the Council is:	<b>173</b>	<b>208</b>

(a) Under the *Curriculum Council Act 1997 (assented to 8 July 1997)*, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is a member of the Council. The remuneration of the Acting CEO is in this band.

(b) The remuneration of the former CEO was in this 2011 band.

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Curriculum Council in respect of members of the Curriculum Council.

No members of the Council are members of the Pension Scheme.

#### Remuneration of senior officers

The number of senior officers, other than senior officers reported as members of the Council, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial period, fall within the following bands are:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
\$100 000 – \$110 000	2	–
\$140 000 – \$150 000	–	1
\$150 001 – \$160 000	–	1
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
The total remuneration of senior officers is:	<b>207</b>	<b>299</b>

The superannuation included here represents the superannuation expense incurred by the Curriculum Council in respect of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the Council.

No senior officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

### 32. Remuneration of Auditor

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Remuneration payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit of the current financial period is as follows		
Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	29	28
The expense is included in Note 11 'Other expenses'.		

### 33. Explanatory Statement for comparison of actual results with those of the preceding period

Details and reasons for significant variations between actual expenses and revenues and the corresponding items of the immediate preceding period are detailed below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% and/or \$100,000.

	Note	Actual 2012 \$000	Actual 2011 \$000	Variance \$000
Expenses				
Employee benefits expenses		10 864	14 528	(3 664)
Supplies and services	(a)	8 241	9 307	(1 066)
Accommodation expenses		981	1 438	(457)
Depreciation and amortisation		397	593	(196)
Grants and awards	(b)	4 112	4 924	(812)
Income				
Service appropriations		24 735	28 089	(3 354)

#### Explanatory notes

The decrease in expenses and income was mainly due to the shorter period of reporting of 8 months for 2012 compared to one year for 2011.

However, there were some major variations between the two periods for the following expenses:

#### (a) Supplies and services

Included in this category were the expenses incurred for examiners, supervisors and markers. These expenses totalled \$5.841 million for the period ended 29 February 2012, \$133,000 more than that for 2011 of \$5.708 million. The increase was mainly caused by approximately 15% rise in the marker rates to keep up with the teacher relief rates to be able to attract and retain this category of examination contractors

#### (b) Grants and awards

The grants for the system and sectors for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum was \$4.055 million, \$0.867 million less than the grant funding of \$4.873 million for 2011. The drop was due to lower funding required by the Department of Education for learning, teaching and assessment resources and the transfer of cross-sectoral projects from the Catholic Education Office to the Curriculum Council arranged by the system and sectors.

### 34. Explanatory statement for comparison of annual estimates and actual results for the financial period

Treasurer's Instruction 945 requires an explanation of the significant variations between the actual income and expenses for the financial period and the estimate for each class of income and expense identified in the annual estimates published in the State Government's budget papers. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% and/or \$100,000.

		Actual 2012	Budget 2012	Variance
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee benefits expenses		10 864	13 717	2 853
Supplies and services		8 241	9 194	952
Accommodation expenses		981	1 535	554
Depreciation and amortisation	(a)	397	919	522
Grants and awards	(b)	4 112	4 906	794
Other expenses		138	305	167
<b>Income</b>				
Sales and fees	(c)	793	350	(443)
Other revenue and recoveries	(d)	254	–	(254)
Service appropriations		24 735	28 851	(4 116)

### Explanatory notes

The main cause for the variances was because the budget covered a full year forecast whereas the actual was for 8 months.

There were significant variances were in the following expenses and income:

#### (a) Depreciation and amortisation

The amortisation of the Student Records System was overestimated in the budget.

#### (b) Grants and awards

The grant to the Department of Education for the current period was \$0.4 million less than budget forecast due to its lower requirement for learning, teaching and assessment resources. Also, the transfer of cross-sectoral projects funding of \$0.5 million from the Catholic Education Office to the Curriculum Council was arranged by the system and sectors after the budget was in place.

#### (c) Sales and fees

The fees collected for examination related services were much higher than anticipated.

#### (d) Other revenue and recoveries

No budget provision was made as most of the revenues in this stream of income was non-recurrent and unpredictable.



**35. Supplementary financial information**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>\$000</b>	<b>\$000</b>
Loss of property through theft	-	-
Insurance compensation	-	1
	-	(1)

The theft of a mobile telephone issued to a staff member occurred on 27 March 2010 (2009-10) while the compensation for the loss was received on 7 September 2010 (2010-11).

## 36. Schedule of income and expenses by service

	Service 1		Service 2		Total	
	2012 \$000	2011 \$000	2012 \$000	2011 \$000	2012 \$000	2011 \$000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense	4 530	6 303	6 334	8 225	10 864	14 528
Supplies and services	522	830	7 719	8 477	8 241	9 307
Accommodation expenses	490	719	491	719	981	1 438
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	198	296	199	297	397	593
Grants and awards	4 055	4 873	57	51	4 112	4 924
Other expenses	63	70	75	97	138	167
<b>Total cost of services</b>	<b>9858</b>	<b>13 091</b>	<b>14875</b>	<b>17 866</b>	<b>24733</b>	<b>30 957</b>
Income						
Sales and fees	–	1	793	700	793	701
Grants and contributions	–	–	42	43	42	43
Other revenue and recoveries	127	122	127	121	254	243
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>1089</b>	<b>987</b>
<b>Net cost of services</b>	<b>9,731</b>	<b>12,968</b>	<b>13913</b>	<b>17 002</b>	<b>23644</b>	<b>29 970</b>
Income from State Government						
Service appropriations	10 340	12 110	14 395	15 979	24735	28 089
Resources received free of charge	24	58	25	58	49	116
<b>Total income from State Government</b>	<b>10 364</b>	<b>12 168</b>	<b>14 420</b>	<b>16 037</b>	<b>24 784</b>	<b>28 205</b>
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	633	(800)	507	(965)	1140	(1 765)

## Services

### Service 1: Curriculum development, evaluation and support

This service involves:

- curriculum development to address the needs of all students entering senior secondary education;
- accreditation for all courses to ensure high quality and standards of contemporary curriculum provision; and
- formal course review based on stakeholder feedback and consultation.

### Service 2: Student assessment and certification

This service involves:

- the provision of clear assessment policy and guidelines; and
- the provision of high quality external assessments and rigorous processes for standards setting and certification.

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Services should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## Ministerial directives

No ministerial directives were received during the financial period.

## Contracts with senior officers

At the date of reporting, no senior officers had any beneficial interests in existing or proposed contracts between Council and senior officers, other than usual contracts of employment.

## Other financial disclosures

The Curriculum Council charges for goods and services rendered on a full or partial cost recovery basis. These fees and charges were determined in accordance with the *Costing and Pricing Government Services: Guidelines for Use by Agencies in the Western Australian Public Sector* published by the Department of Treasury.

## Capital works

No capital projects were completed during 2011-12.

## Statement of Compliance with *Electoral Act 1907* section 175ZE (Advertising)

### Advertising

In compliance with section 175ZE of the Electoral Act 1907, the Council is required to report on expenditure incurred during the financial period in relation to advertising agencies, market research organisations, polling organisations, direct mail organisations and media advertising organisations.

Details are as follows:

### Expenditure with Advertising Agencies

Adcorp Australia Limited	\$2 958
<b>Total Expenditure for period from</b>	<hr/>
<b>1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012</b>	<b>\$ 960958</b>