

# Annual Report 2025

Lara District Community  
Enterprise Limited

Community Bank  
Lara District

ABN 67 134 347 087



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# Chair's report

For year ending 30 June 2025



The 2024/25 financial year has once again been one of success for Lara District Community Enterprise Limited. For the second successive year we have invested in excess of \$500,000 back into 40 groups who make our respective communities a great place to live.

Once again it is a great pleasure to update our shareholders and friends of Community Bank Lara District, OUR COMMUNITY BANK. It is incredibly important to understand that our purpose is to support the community we serve. I emphasise our community bank because the reality is we are owned by people with a direct link to the Lara, Anakie and Little River communities and that our volunteer Board of Directors all have links to the community and are focused on strengthening our community.

The 2024/25 financial year has once again been one of success for Lara District Community Enterprise Limited. For the second successive year we have invested in excess of \$500,000 back into 40 groups who make our respective communities a great place to live.

In terms of banking performance, we are really proud of our banking team with our overall individual customer numbers up nearly 10% with a total of over 5,500 individual customers choosing to bank with us and taking our total banking business \$270 million.

Our loan booked exceeded \$100 million for the first time, closing at a total of \$106 million representing an in excess of 10% improvement over last year. In addition, over the year deposits also grew to \$162.8 million. Both represent impressive performance for which we are grateful to our customers and staff. Strong growth is imperative to supporting our local community and as a Board and Community Bank, we are proud of this achievement.

Net Profit (after donations, grants and contributions) for Lara District Community Enterprise Limited was \$446,746 (pre-tax).

Thank you to all our shareholders who support what we do in our community. As a company we welcome new shareholders and see it as a vote of confidence in what we do. During the year we paid a dividend of 12 cents per share.

Bendigo Bank have continued to support us and along with other community banks in the Geelong region we continue to have the most physical branches of any bank in the region. We wish to acknowledge the support we receive from the Geelong Regional office.

Our Board receives great feedback on our staff, the majority of whom live, work and play in our community. Our staff are the face of our business, and we are indebted to them in the way they work to provide great service and grow our business.

In terms of staff movements, we welcomed Mitch into a Customer Relationship Manager role and Hareem into a Customer Service Officer role. We also like to recognise Britt Munari who commenced maternity leave earlier this year. During the year we implemented a Business Development Manager role in order to allow us to provide a mobile lending option for our customers.

## Chair's report (continued)

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As always, our staff look forward to providing a great banking service, and as a Board there is nothing more rewarding than supporting a huge range of groups who add to the fabric of the Lara, Little River and Anakie communities. As our community continues to grow, the challenges to our schools, sporting clubs and service groups, along with pressures on passive recreation areas also increases. As a Community Bank, we see this as an opportunity to support many groups so they can meet the needs of their current and future members as well as the general community.

In fact, this why it is imperative that we continue to grow our business and maintain a strong physical presence both from a Community Bank perspective and with our Board of Directors getting out and about along with our staff visiting the many groups we support.

On a personal note, I would like to thank each of our Directors and Sheyne Berry, our Administrative Support Officer for their work in this past year.

Banking is our business; Community is our purpose.



**Andrew Hilliard**  
**Chair**  
**Lara District Community Enterprise Limited**

# Manager's report

For year ending 30 June 2025



We at Community Bank Lara District are so proud to say that we were there for our customers, new and existing, through it all, supporting through identifying banking needs and solutions and providing a high level of personalised, local customer service.

Dear valued customers, staff, Board, and community members,

Financial year 2024/25 has come to a close and marks the end of a very successful 12 months for us here at Community Bank Lara District.

It was a very interesting year in the finance industry, for investors and in the housing markets, with peaks and dips that kept us all guessing. We saw inflation begin to stabilize and interest rates finally begin to fall, as well as rising house prices and that ever-increasing cost of living. We at Community Bank Lara District are so proud to say that we were there for our customers, new and existing, through it all, supporting through identifying banking needs and solutions and providing a high level of personalised, local customer service.

In return, our wonderful and loyal customers supported us, trusting us to provide banking products and services that suit their needs and help them to reach their financial goals and dreams. As we know, their support of our business, and our overarching community purpose, allows us to increasingly give back to our much-loved Lara District community. Financial year 2024/25 saw Community Bank Lara District generate enough profit to return over \$500,000 directly back into local community. This is something that we should ALL be so incredibly proud of.

This combined effort saw a year of success and growth for Community Bank Lara District. As of the 30 June 2025, the combined branch's business is noted as:

- Total Loans \$106.6 million
- Total Deposits \$162.8 million
- Total Business \$270 million

This is an overall footings increase of \$13 million or a 5.05% growth on Financial year 2023/24. We edged closer to our goal of becoming Lara and districts bank of choice, increasing our customer base to over 5,500 individuals. These results are of course, a testament to the hard work of our staff team and also those individuals, clubs, groups and businesses who have made the decision to bank locally and therefore support each other. It is also thanks to those who advocate for us through referrals and those in our community who tirelessly share with others the importance of community banking to the Lara, Anakie and Little River district.

At Community Bank Lara District, the financial year saw a number of staffing changes. We farewelled our Customer Relationship Officer, Josh Berry, who accepted a very deserved promotion with Bendigo corporate. This vacancy was filled by our very own Dylan Lyall, choosing to bring his wealth of knowledge and experience back to the Customer Relationship role.

## Manager's report (continued)

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We welcomed Mitch Austin to the Community Bank Lara District family as our new Home Lending Specialist. Mitch comes directly from the Corio Bendigo Bank team and has had over 14 years' experience in the banking industry. We are very lucky to have someone with his level of experience join our diverse team. We also welcomed Hareem Sohail to a Customer Service Officer role, making a wonderful addition to our fantastic customer service team. Hareem is new to the banking industry but is passionate about supporting our valued customers and working to identify banking solutions. She has been supported by our incredible existing Customer Service Officers Neelam Chotrani and Deb Willigen.

Adapting to customer preference and diverse banking requirements, the Board made the decision in February to appoint a Business Development Manager. We congratulate Ravinder Singh on his promotion into this new role within our branch. This modern and flexible position allows Ravinder to immerse into our local and broader community, providing mobile banking options for customers but also further developing community connections.

We also welcomed Britt Munari to the team as our Branch Operations Manager. Britt has been with Bendigo Bank for over 10 years and has worked in all branch roles within the company. We were very lucky to have Britt's knowledge in branch before she welcomed her, and husband Galen's, second child in early July. Britt is currently on maternity leave; we wish her all the best at this precious time.

It was an absolute pleasure and truly a privilege to work alongside such a passionate, dedicated and hard-working team that cares so deeply for our customers and the greater Lara District Community. They are always willing to go the extra mile to ensure the best outcomes for our customers, and I would like to personally thank them for all their incredible efforts last financial year.

I am grateful for another year working for our extraordinary volunteer Board and for their trust in me to lead our wonderful branch team. Their passion for Lara, its growth and prosperity, is unwavering and inspirational.

I am incredibly proud of the year that was, and the positive impact we have had on individuals, clubs, organisations and businesses within Lara, Little River and Anakie.

Thank you for continuing to support us to support you. Together, we really are making a difference.



**Kyna Woodford**  
**Branch Manager**  
**Community Bank Lara District**

# Bendigo and Adelaide Bank report

For year ending 30 June 2025

This year marks another significant chapter in our shared journey, one defined by **adaptation, collaboration, and remarkable achievements**. I'm immensely proud of our collective progress and the unwavering commitment demonstrated by our combined networks.

We began 2025 with a renewed focus on **model evolution**, a top priority that guided our decisions and initiatives throughout the year. This involved navigating the Franchising Code and broader regulatory changes to the **Franchise Agreement**. Thanks to the network's proactive engagement and cooperation, we successfully reviewed the agreement, and the necessary changes were implemented smoothly.

Beyond the operational successes, I want to highlight the **invaluable contributions** our Community Banks continue to make to their local communities. The dedication and commitment to supporting local initiatives remain a cornerstone of our combined success and a source of immense pride for Bendigo Bank.

In FY25, more than \$50 million was invested in local communities, adding to a total of and \$416 million since 1998. This funding enables community infrastructure development, strengthens the arts and culturally diverse communities, improving educational outcomes, and fosters healthy places for Australians to live and work.

On behalf of Bendigo Bank, thank you for being a shareholder in your local Community Bank. Your resilience, adaptability, and unwavering belief in our vision have been instrumental in our success. You are an integral part of the Bendigo Bank Community Banking family.

Your continued support is vital, and the results we've achieved together in 2025 underscore the continuing relevance and importance of the Community Bank model.

**Justine Minne**

**Head of Community Banking, Bendigo Bank**



# Community Bank National Council report

For year ending 30 June 2025



A warm welcome to our existing and new shareholders. Thank you for your support and for sharing in our purpose. We're immensely proud of our Community Bank network which was a first mover in Australia in 1998 through our unique social enterprise model.

The principles of the Community Bank model are the same as they were when the first Community Bank opened its doors. The principles are centred on:

- Relationships based on goodwill, trust and respect
- Local ownership, local decision making, local investment
- Decisions which are commercially focussed and community spirited
- Shared effort reward and risk; and
- Decisions which have broad based benefits.

Today the network has grown to 303 Community Bank branches. We represent a diverse cross-section of Australia with more than 214 community enterprises, 70,000+ shareholders, 1,500+ volunteer Directors, 1,700 staff and 998,000 customers.

Our Community Bank National Council (CBNC) plays a pivotal role in the success story. The CBNC consists of both elected and appointed members from every state and territory sharing and reflecting the voice of the network. It's the role of the CBNC to initiate, lead and respond to strategic issues and opportunities that enhance the sustainability, resilience and prospects of the Community Bank model.

We utilise a range of forums to ensure the ongoing success of the network. Our State Connect events have been one of many network engagement activities that have enabled Bendigo Bank execs, staff, the CBNC and Directors to come together to share ideas, insights and ensure we are collaborating better together.

As consumer behaviours shift, and the environment in which we operate challenges the status quo, we embrace the opportunities that come with this new reality. We've already completed the mandatory changes to the Franchise Agreement with Bendigo Bank which were required by 1 April 2025.

The mandatory changes of the Franchise Agreement were in response to the Franchise Code of Conduct Review along with requirements from other external statutory and government bodies. This process which was led by Council in partnership with the Bank, was necessary to ensure our long-term sustainability. Council also sought legal advice on behalf of the network to ensure the changes were fair.

We also recognise the time is now to consider our model and how we combine the value of local presence with new digital capabilities that expand rather than diminish our community impact. This work forms part of the Model Evolution process which will be co-designed with Bendigo Bank and implemented over the next 12 months. Building further on our enhanced digital presence, community roots and measurable impact, we've reached another major milestone. We now have 41 Community Bank companies formerly certified as social enterprises through Social Traders. It's a powerful endorsement of our commitment to delivering both commercial and social outcomes.

This recognition through Social Traders opens new opportunities for our network. It's paved the way for new partnerships with other enterprises in the sector that share our values and mission to build a better, stronger Australia.

Our increased engagement with the broader social enterprise sector has not only enabled us to diversify our partnerships; we've also deepened our impact. Over \$416 million and counting – that's how much has been reinvested back into local communities.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to the founding principles of the Community Bank model. Community is at the centre of everything we do, and our purpose remains clear: to create meaningful, lasting value for the communities we serve.

**Community Bank National Council**



## Contributions totals by sector



**\$210,679**

SPORTS &  
RECREATION



**\$116,342**

HEALTH &  
WELLBEING



**\$15,135**

ENVIRONMENT &  
ANIMAL WELFARE



**\$30,250**

EMERGENCY  
SERVICES & SUPPORT



**\$68,231**

EDUCATION &  
RESEARCH



**\$25,064**

INFRASTRUCTURE

## Powering Sustainability

### Lara Golf Club

The Lara Golf Club have been steadily building their fleet of golf carts, some of which they have funded and some through grants from our community investment program. To extend the life of these carts and be more sustainable, the club submitted a grant for lithium batteries. These carts make a huge difference to club operations; as well as producing revenue, they increase the ability of those with mobility issues to continue playing the game they love which promotes a social connection and improved physical and mental wellbeing for club members.



## Investing in the future

### Youth and Community Programs

The Board of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited will at times offer programs to the wider community based on a need we see as existing. Three of the programs we held this year were:

#### First Aid and CPR Course –

this course was offered to our community groups and we had 15 participants, representing 14 different groups complete this. Thank you to provider Gen-U for facilitating and to the Lara Community Centre for hosting us.

#### Cyber Safety Information

**Session** – in May we held an information session, which was free and open for parents

of all local schools to attend. The session was facilitated by Trent Ray of The Cyber Safety Project who provided knowledge and guidance on how to navigate the world of cyberspace to keep ourselves and our families, safe while engaged in online activities.

**Money Mentor Program** – this program was a partnership run with the Local Impact group (part of the Inner West Foundation) and was implemented with the Year 10 cohort at Lara Secondary College during Term 2. The aim of this program was to improve financial literacy and covered modules on budgeting, savings plans, tax information and wages. Our Branch Manager, Kyna, was trained as a facilitator to run this program in the future.



## Heading on the right track

### Geelong Youth Engagement

This is the third year we have sponsored Geelong Youth Engagement (GYE), with the focus being on their Kokoda Program. Our sponsorship of this program is to support students to financially attend this program which literally changes lives. At-risk students across our region are identified and need to go through an application and interview process to be accepted. They then attend training sessions over a six month period in preparation to tackle walking the Kokoda Track. As well as helping the students build resilience and teamwork skills, they are armed with knowledge on life skills by being paired with a mentor. Last year, we supported previous Branch Manager Jesse Church to attend the program as a mentor, and this year, Director Natalie was brave enough to take on Kokoda. The Board are proud of their support of GYE and were more than happy to attend the Trivia Night which is held as a fundraiser for the program.



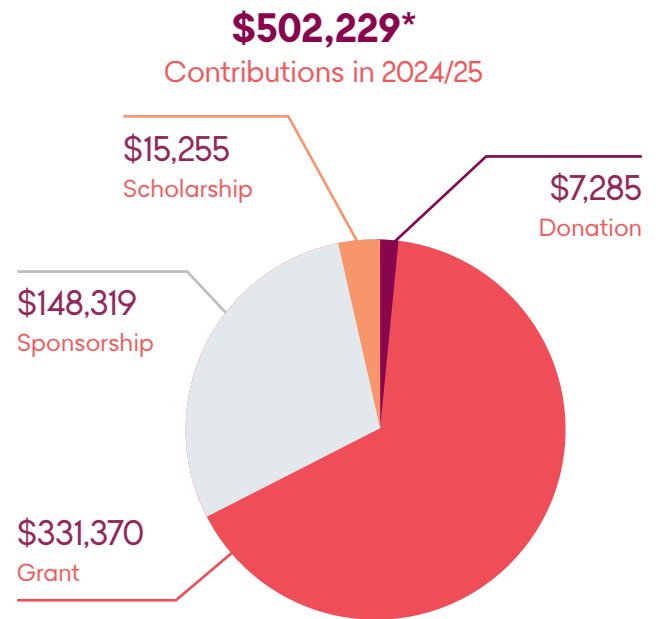
### Exercising Mind, Body & Soul Lara Lifestyle Village Social Club

Our local Lifestyle Village Social Club committee are keen to provide programs for the residents which not only provide an opportunity for socialising, but also to keep the body moving. They submitted a grant for us to assist with subsidising costs for residents to attend chair yoga classes. They've been such a hit with the residents, that not only did they have a waiting list, but they applied for a second grant to continue with the classes in 2025. We received some lovely testimonials from those involved. One resident said, "I enjoy classes and believe they have helped tremendously in improving my balance, strength and flexibility" while another says she feels "revitalised" after each session.



### Building Connections Lara & District Men's Shed

One of the grants we funded this year for the Lara and District Men's Shed was for a wood thicknesser. This tool has made building jobs so much easier for members. The wood thicknesser has been in demand since its arrival at the club as it is simple to use and is more time efficient. One of the projects the thicknesser has been used for is to create mini SES vans. This collaborative project has seen members sharing skills and ideas which has enhanced social connections for the group.



\* Includes an administration fee charged by the Community Enterprise Foundation. Net community contributions recognised in the audited financial statements are \$497,325.

#### COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

Lara Cricket Club	Lara & District Men's Shed
Australia Day Breakfast Committee	Lara Lifestyle Village Social Club
2nd Lara Scout Group	North Geelong Warriors Football Club
Little River Cricket Club	Rotary Club of Lara District
Lara Bowling Club	Lara Golf Club
Croatian Cultural Association	Lara Swimming Club
Lara Secondary College	Friends of Elcho Park
Friend in Me	Anakie Primary School
Lara Little Athletics Club	Little Teapot Café & Play
Geelong Youth Engagement	Lions Club of Lara
Larinda Calisthenics	Lara RSL Sub Branch
Barwon Health Foundation	You Yangs Mountain Bike Club
L2P Driving Program	Lara Big Band
Wombat's Wish	Neighbourhood Houses Barwon
Royal Children's Hospital 2025 Good Friday Appeal	Lara Lake Primary School
Lara Lake Primary School Helping Hands Program	Lara Combined Churches
Christmas in Lara	Bluestone Community Hub
Geelong Rams Rugby Union Club	University & TAFE Scholarship Program
Friends of Kevin Hoffman Walk	Lara Giants Basketball Club
	Hope Bereavement

# Directors' report

**30 June 2025**

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2025.

## Directors

The following persons were directors of the company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Name:	Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Andrew holds a Bachelor of Training and Development. He has an extensive experience in the Human Resources profession across a range of industries. Since retiring from full time employment in 2015, a range of short term assignments have been undertaken. During the this last year has been in acting Business Partner role with an ASX listed company specialising in the automotive after market across international markets. Andrew was elected to the Community Bank National Councils one of two regional Victorian and Tasmanian Community Bank representatives during the last year.
Special responsibilities:	Chair, Member of Governance Committee, Finance, Community Investment Program and Major Projects Committees
Name:	Elizabeth Joy Bate
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Retired school teacher who takes an active role in the Lara community and beyond. President of Cancer After Care Group Geelong who have been active in bringing cancer services to Geelong with the opening of the Andrew Love Cancer Centre in 1992 and continued fundraising for equipment donating over \$4m; active in the Lara C.F.A particularly with community education programs; Chair of the House4Health Advisory committee, (A Barwon Health Foundation project) active roles on Parish Council and the activities at Parish of Lara, Holly Trinity Lara with Christ Church Little River.
Special responsibilities:	Deputy Chair, Convenor Community Investment Program Committee.
Name:	Charles John Saliba
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Charles has operated a small taxation business from home for the past 35 years. He has a strong banking, finance and taxation background. Charles is currently the accountant for the Laverton Catholic Parish.
Special responsibilities:	Finance Committee
Name:	Jürgen Ulrich Günther Strauss
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Self-employed. Jürgen is the founder of Innovabiz, specialising in digital marketing, website development and lead generation strategies. He also hosts the InnovaBuzz innovation podcast. Jürgen holds B.Sc. (Hons) and PhD in Chemistry, has marketing qualifications from the Wharton Business School and Melbourne Business School. Jürgen has had a 27 year corporate career in chemical R&D, marketing, business management and people management.
Special responsibilities:	Major Community Project Committee, Member of Governance Committee
Name:	Natalie Grace Salcombe Candy
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Corporate superannuation professional with over 20 years experience in the financial services industry. Currently employed as a Relationship Manager at Aware Super. Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Melbourne. Previously held positions on other volunteer committees.
Special responsibilities:	Community Investment Program



## Directors' report (continued)

Name:	Ian Graeme Duff
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Self employed CPA accountant and tax agent for 20 years. Involved with Auction at The Mill. Fundraiser for Give Where You Live Charity (Geelong)
Special responsibilities:	Treasurer
Name:	Kylie Grzybek
Title:	Non-executive director
Experience and expertise:	Executive Assistant at Fire Rescue Victoria, Treasurer/Secretary Lara United FC, former Councilor/Deputy Mayor City of Greater Geelong.
Special responsibilities:	Member of Governance Committee

### Company secretary

The company secretary is Sheyne Maree Berry. Sheyne was appointed to the position of company secretary on 29 November 2023.

Experience and expertise:	Sheyne Berry commenced in the role of Administration Support Officer for Lara District Community Enterprise Ltd in March 2020. Her experience in administration comes from her various voluntary roles on both the Junior and Senior committees of Lara Football Club, as well as being a committee member and Licencee of Lara Lake Community Pre-School. Sheyne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree (major in Psychology) and a Postgraduate Bachelor of Education degree. She has worked as a primary school teacher at Deer Park Primary School and an Education Support Officer and Teacher Aide at Lara Lake Primary School. The Board appointed Sheyne as Company Secretary at the start of 2024 and she has completed a Company Secretary course through Governance Institute Australia. She is also part of the Governance and Community Investment Program sub-committees.
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### Principal activity

The principal activity of the company during the financial year was facilitating Community Bank services under management rights of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited (Bendigo Bank).

There have been no significant changes in the nature of this activity during the financial year.

### Review of operations

The profit for the company after providing for income tax amounted to \$342,841 (30 June 2024: \$303,190).

Operations have continued to perform in line with expectations.

### Dividends

During the financial year, the following dividends were provided for and paid. The dividends have been provided for in the financial statements.

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Fully franked dividend of 12 cents per share (2024: 12 cents)	<u>105,600</u>	<u>105,600</u>

### Significant changes in the state of affairs

During the year, the company became an accredited social enterprise. This change aligns with the company's mission but is not expected to significantly impact operations or financial position.

There were no other significant changes in the state of affairs of the company during the financial year.

### Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

## Directors' report (continued)

### Likely developments and expected results of operations

No matter, circumstance or likely development in operations has arisen during or since the end of the financial year that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company.

### Environmental regulation

The company is not subject to any significant environmental regulation under Australian Commonwealth or State law.

### Meetings of directors

The number of directors meetings attended by each of the directors of the company during the financial year were:

	Board	
	Eligible	Attended
Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard	11	10
Elizabeth Joy Bate	11	9
Charles John Saliba	11	11
Jürgen Ulrich Günther Strauss	11	9
Natalie Grace Salcombe Candy	11	9
Ian Graeme Duff	11	11
Kylie Grzybek	11	10

Eligible: represents the number of meetings held during the time the director held office.

### Directors' benefits

No director has received or become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company, controlled entity or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest except as disclosed in note 25 to the financial statements. This statement excludes a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the company's accounts, or the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the company, controlled entity or related body corporate.

### Directors' interests

The interest in company shareholdings for each director are:

	Balance at the start of the year	Changes	Balance at the end of the year
Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard	14,500	-	14,500
Elizabeth Joy Bate	6,001	-	6,001
Charles John Saliba	5,001	-	5,001
Jürgen Ulrich Günther Strauss	1,000	-	1,000
Natalie Grace Salcombe Candy	-	-	-
Ian Graeme Duff	6,000	-	6,000
Kylie Grzybek	10,000	-	10,000

### Shares under option

There were no unissued ordinary shares of the company under option outstanding at the date of this report.

### Shares issued on the exercise of options

There were no ordinary shares of the company issued on the exercise of options during the year ended 30 June 2025 and up to the date of this report.

## Directors' report (continued)

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### **Indemnity and insurance of directors and officers**

The company has indemnified all directors and management in respect of liabilities to other persons (other than the company or related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors or management of the company except where the liability arises out of conduct involving the lack of good faith.

Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality clause of the contract of insurance.

### **Proceedings on behalf of the company**

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or part of those proceedings.

No proceedings have been brought or intervened in on behalf of the company with leave of the Court under section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

### **Indemnity and insurance of auditor**

The company has not, during or since the end of the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify the auditor of the company or any related entity against a liability incurred by the auditor.

During the financial year, the company has not paid a premium in respect of a contract to insure the auditor of the company or any related entity.

### **Non-audit services**

The company may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the company are important. Details of the amounts paid or payable to the auditor (Andrew Frewin Stewart) for audit and non-audit services provided during the year are set out in note 26 to the accounts.

The board has considered the non-audit services provided during the year by the auditor and is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with, and did not compromise, the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the board to ensure they do not impact on the impartiality, integrity and objectivity of the auditor
- the non-audit services provided do not undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*, as they did not involve reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or decision making capacity for the company, acting as an advocate for the company or jointly sharing risks and rewards.

### **Auditor's independence declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the directors



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Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard  
Chair

15th September 2025

# Auditor's independence declaration



Andrew Frewin Stewart  
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550  
ABN: 65 684 604 390  
afs@afsbendigo.com.au  
03 5443 0344

## Independent auditor's independence declaration under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* to the Directors of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited

As lead auditor for the audit of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited for the year ended 30 June 2025, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Frewin Stewart'.

**Andrew Frewin Stewart**  
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550  
Dated: 15 September 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lachlan Tatt'.

**Lachlan Tatt**  
**Lead Auditor**



# Financial statements

## Lara District Community Enterprise Limited Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue from contracts with customers	6	1,867,159	1,928,875
Other revenue	7	115,363	33,423
Finance revenue		61,008	61,422
Gain on disposal of assets		-	6,409
Total revenue		<u>2,043,530</u>	<u>2,030,129</u>
Employee benefits expense	8	(782,955)	(698,114)
Advertising and marketing costs		(21,621)	(26,091)
Occupancy and associated costs		(27,063)	(33,583)
System costs		(31,078)	(29,267)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	8	(79,959)	(76,471)
Loss on disposal of assets		(886)	-
Finance costs	8	(37,304)	(37,751)
General administration expenses		(118,593)	(123,212)
Fair value losses on financial assets		-	(4,289)
Total expenses before community contributions and income tax expense		<u>(1,099,459)</u>	<u>(1,028,778)</u>
<b>Profit before community contributions and income tax expense</b>		944,071	1,001,351
Charitable donations, sponsorships and grants expense	8	<u>(497,325)</u>	<u>(608,207)</u>
<b>Profit before income tax expense</b>		446,746	393,144
Income tax expense	9	<u>(103,905)</u>	<u>(89,954)</u>
<b>Profit after income tax expense for the year</b>		342,841	303,190
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u><u>342,841</u></u>	<u><u>303,190</u></u>
		<b>Cents</b>	<b>Cents</b>
Basic earnings per share	28	38.96	34.45
Diluted earnings per share	28	38.96	34.45

*The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

## Financial statements (continued)

### Lara District Community Enterprise Limited Statement of financial position As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	123,209	335,315
Trade and other receivables	11	172,289	83,225
Investments	12	1,267,387	1,059,511
Current tax assets	9	8,054	-
Total current assets		<u>1,570,939</u>	<u>1,478,051</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Financial assets	13	737,518	620,475
Property, plant and equipment	14	192,980	167,764
Right-of-use assets	15	583,420	605,373
Intangible assets	16	56,918	69,962
Deferred tax assets	9	-	21,701
Total non-current assets		<u>1,570,836</u>	<u>1,485,275</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>3,141,775</u>	<u>2,963,326</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	17	38,008	25,005
Lease liabilities	18	74,956	92,008
Current tax liabilities	9	-	61,996
Employee benefits		29,186	31,057
Total current liabilities		<u>142,150</u>	<u>210,066</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Lease liabilities	18	712,951	709,438
Deferred tax liabilities	9	3,532	-
Employee benefits		6,618	5,014
Provisions		10,386	9,911
Total non-current liabilities		<u>733,487</u>	<u>724,363</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>875,637</u>	<u>934,429</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>2,266,138</u>	<u>2,028,897</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Issued capital	19	857,526	857,526
Retained earnings		<u>1,408,612</u>	<u>1,171,371</u>
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>2,266,138</u>	<u>2,028,897</u>

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

## Financial statements (continued)

### Lara District Community Enterprise Limited Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Issued capital \$	Retained earnings \$	Total equity \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2023</b>		857,526	973,781	1,831,307
Profit after income tax expense		-	303,190	303,190
Other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	303,190	303,190
<i>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</i>				
Dividends provided for or paid	21	-	(105,600)	(105,600)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2024</b>		<u>857,526</u>	<u>1,171,371</u>	<u>2,028,897</u>
 <b>Balance at 1 July 2024</b>		 857,526	 1,171,371	 2,028,897
Profit after income tax expense		-	342,841	342,841
Other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income		-	342,841	342,841
<i>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</i>				
Dividends provided for or paid	21	-	(105,600)	(105,600)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2025</b>		<u>857,526</u>	<u>1,408,612</u>	<u>2,266,138</u>

*The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

## Financial statements (continued)

### Lara District Community Enterprise Limited Statement of cash flows For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		1,971,596	2,220,826
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(1,585,016)	(1,746,284)
Dividends received		23,820	22,061
Interest received		57,773	44,470
Interest and other finance costs paid		(38)	-
Income taxes paid		(148,723)	(101,739)
Net cash provided by operating activities	27	319,412	439,334
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for financial assets		(25,500)	(23,132)
Investment in term deposits		(207,876)	(9,910)
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(52,630)	(135,193)
Payments for intangible assets		(71,148)	-
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		-	21,819
Net cash used in investing activities		(357,154)	(146,416)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Interest and other finance costs paid		(36,791)	(37,297)
Dividends paid	21	(105,600)	(105,600)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(31,973)	(40,982)
Net cash used in financing activities		(174,364)	(183,879)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(212,106)	109,039
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		335,315	226,276
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	10	<u>123,209</u>	<u>335,315</u>

*The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

# Notes to the financial statements

**30 June 2025**

## **Note 1. Reporting entity**

The financial statements cover Lara District Community Enterprise Limited (the company) as an individual entity, which is a for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The company is an unlisted public company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is 5 Waverley Road, Lara, VIC 3212.

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activity is included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

## **Note 2. Basis of preparation and statement of compliance**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. The financial statements comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual and historical cost basis and are presented in Australian dollars, which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to pay its debts as and when they fall due for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 15 September 2025. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

## **Note 3. Material accounting policy information**

The accounting policies that are material to the company are set out either in the respective notes or below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

### **Adoption of new and revised accounting standards**

The company has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period. The company has assessed and concluded there are no material impacts.

### **Accounting standards issued but not yet effective**

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the company for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2025. The company has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

### **Current and non-current classification**

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

### **Impairment of non-financial assets**

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of any impairment loss.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the present value of the estimated future cash flows relating to the asset using a pre-tax discount rate specific to the asset or cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Assets that do not have independent cash flows are grouped together to form a cash-generating unit.

# Notes to the financial statements (continued)

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## Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires the directors to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. The directors continually evaluate their judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses.

The directors base their judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events that it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Differences between the accounting judgements and estimates and actual results and outcomes are accounted for in future reporting periods. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

### Judgements

#### *Timing of revenue recognition associated with trail commission*

The company receives trailing commission from Bendigo Bank for products and services sold. Ongoing trailing commission payments are recognised on a monthly basis when earned as there is insufficient detail readily available to estimate the most likely amount of revenue without a high probability of significant reversal in a subsequent reporting period. The receipt of ongoing trailing commission revenue is outside the control of the company.

#### *Allowance for expected credit losses on trade and other receivables*

The allowance for expected credit losses assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. It is based on the lifetime expected credit loss, grouped based on days overdue, and makes assumptions to allocate an overall expected credit loss rate for each group. These assumptions include recent sales experience and historical collection rates.

The company has not recognised an allowance for expected credit losses in relation to trade and other receivables for the following reasons:

- The company's trade receivables are limited to the monthly profit share distribution from Bendigo Bank, which is received 10 business days post month end.
- The credit risk (i.e. the risk that a customer will not make repayments) is for Bendigo Bank to bear as long as the company has complied with the appropriate procedures and relevant obligations and has not exercised a discretion in granting or extending credit. The directors are not aware of any such non-compliance at balance date.
- The company has reviewed credit ratings provided by Standard & Poors, Moody's and Fitch Ratings to determine the level of credit exposure to the company.
- The company has not experienced any instances of default in relation to receivables owed to the company from Bendigo Bank.

#### *Fair value measurement hierarchy*

The company is required to classify all assets and liabilities, measured at fair value, using a three level hierarchy, based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the entire fair value measurement, being:

- Level 1: inputs are based on the quoted market price at the close of business at the end of the reporting period
- Level 2: inputs are based on a valuation performed by a third party qualified valuer using quoted prices for similar assets in an active market
- Level 3: unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Considerable judgement is required to determine what is significant to fair value and therefore which category the asset or liability is placed in can be subjective.

#### *Impairment of non-financial assets*

The company assesses impairment of non-financial assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the company and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions. The directors did not identify any impairment indications during the financial year.

#### *Recovery of deferred tax assets*

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences only if the company considers it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

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### Note 4. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions (continued)

#### *Lease term*

The lease term is a significant component in the measurement of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability. Judgement is exercised in determining whether there is reasonable certainty that an option to extend the lease will be exercised, or an option to terminate the lease will not be exercised, when ascertaining the periods to be included in the lease term.

In determining the lease term, all facts and circumstances that create an economical incentive to exercise an extension option, or not to exercise a termination option, are considered at the lease commencement date. Factors considered may include the importance of the asset to the company's operations, comparison of terms and conditions to prevailing market rates, incurrence of significant penalties, existence of significant leasehold improvements and the costs and disruption to replace the asset. The company reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option, if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances.

The company includes extension options applicable to the lease of branch premises in its calculations of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability except where the company is reasonably certain it will not exercise the extension option. This is due to the significant disruption of relocating premises and the loss on disposal of leasehold improvements fitted out in the leased premises.

#### **Estimates and assumptions**

#### *Estimation of useful lives of assets*

The company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives or assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

#### *Incremental borrowing rate*

Where the interest rate implicit in a lease cannot be readily determined, an incremental borrowing rate is estimated to discount future lease payments to measure the present value of the lease liability at the lease commencement date. Such a rate is based on what the company estimates it would have to pay a third party to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset, with similar terms, security and economic environment.

### Note 5. Economic dependency

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank that governs the management of the Community Bank. The company is economically dependent on the ongoing receipt of income under the franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The company's franchise agreement expires in June 2029.

The company operates as a franchise of Bendigo Bank, using the name "Bendigo Bank" and the logo and system of operations of Bendigo Bank. The company manages the Community Bank on behalf of Bendigo Bank, however all transactions with customers conducted through the Community Bank are effectively conducted between the customers and Bendigo Bank.

All deposits are made with Bendigo Bank, and all personal and investment products are products of Bendigo Bank, with the company facilitating the provision of those products. All loans, leases or hire purchase transactions, issues of new credit or debit cards, temporary or bridging finance and any other transaction that involves creating a new debt, or increasing or changing the terms of an existing debt owed to Bendigo Bank, must be approved by Bendigo Bank. All credit transactions are made with Bendigo Bank, and all credit products are products of Bendigo Bank.

The company promotes and sells the products and services, but is not a party to the transaction.

The credit risk (i.e. the risk that a customer will not make repayments) is for the Bendigo Bank to bear as long as the company has complied with the appropriate procedures and relevant obligations and has not exercised a discretion in granting or extending credit.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 5. Economic dependency (continued)

Bendigo Bank provides significant assistance in establishing and maintaining the Community Bank franchise operations. It also continues to provide ongoing management and operational support and other assistance and guidance in relation to all aspects of the franchise operation, including advice and assistance in relation to:

- the design, layout and fit out of the Community Bank premises
- training for the branch manager and other employees in banking, management systems and interface protocol
- methods and procedures for the sale of products and provision of services
- security and cash logistic controls
- calculation of company revenue and payment of many operating and administrative expenses
- the formulation and implementation of advertising and promotional programs
- sales techniques and proper customer relations
- providing payroll services.

### Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Margin income	1,703,800	1,753,440
Fee income	86,463	87,891
Commission income	76,896	87,544
	<u>1,867,159</u>	<u>1,928,875</u>

#### *Accounting policy for revenue from contracts with customers*

The company has entered into a franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank. The company delivers banking and financial services of Bendigo Bank to its community. The franchise agreement provides for a share of interest, fee, and commission revenue earned by the company. Interest margin share is based on a funds transfer pricing methodology which recognises that income is derived from deposits held, and that loans granted incur a funding cost. Fees are based on the company's current fee schedule and commissions are based on the agreements in place. All margin revenue is recorded as non-interest income when the company's right to receive the payment is established.

The company acts as an agent under the franchise agreement and revenue arises from the rendering of services through its franchise agreement.

Revenue is recognised on an accruals basis, at the fair value of consideration specified in the franchise agreement, as follows:

<u>Revenue stream</u>	<u>Includes</u>	<u>Performance obligation</u>	<u>Timing of recognition</u>
Franchise agreement profit share	Margin, commission, and fee income	When the company satisfies its obligation to arrange for the services to be provided to the customer by the supplier (Bendigo Bank as franchisor).	On completion of the provision of the relevant service. Revenue is accrued monthly and paid within 10 business days after the end of each month.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of GST. There was no revenue from contracts with customers recognised over time during the financial year.

#### *Revenue calculation*

The franchise agreement provides that three forms of revenue may be earned by the company which are margin, commission and fee income. Bendigo Bank decides the form of revenue the company earns on different types of products and services. The revenue earned by the company is dependent on the business that it generates, interest rates and funds transfer pricing and other factors, such as economic and local conditions.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 6. Revenue from contracts with customers (continued)

#### *Margin income*

Margin income on core banking products is arrived at through the following calculation:

	Interest paid by customers on loans less interest paid to customers on deposits
<b>plus:</b>	any deposit returns i.e. interest return applied by Bendigo Bank for a deposit
<b>minus:</b>	any costs of funds i.e. interest applied by Bendigo Bank to fund a loan.

The company is entitled to a share of the margin earned by Bendigo Bank. If this reflects a loss, the company incurs a share of that loss.

#### *Commission income*

Commission income is generated from the sale of products and services. This commission is recognised at a point in time which reflects when the company has fulfilled its performance obligation. Refer to note 4 for further information regarding key judgements applied by the directors in relation to the timing of revenue recognition from trail commission.

#### *Fee income*

Fee income is a share of what is commonly referred to as 'bank fees and charges' charged to customers by Bendigo Bank including fees for loan applications and account transactions.

#### *Core banking products*

Bendigo Bank has identified some products and services as 'core banking products'. It may change the products and services which are identified as core banking products by giving the company at least 30 days notice. Core banking products currently include Bendigo Bank branded home loans, term deposits and at call deposits.

#### *Ability to change financial return*

Under the franchise agreement, Bendigo Bank may change the form and amount of financial return the company receives. The reasons it may make a change include changes in industry or economic conditions or changes in the way Bendigo Bank earns revenue.

The change may be to the method of calculation of margin, the amount of margin, commission and fee income or a change of a margin to a commission or vice versa. This may affect the amount of revenue the company receives on a particular product or service.

Bendigo Bank must not reduce the margin and commission the company receives on core banking products and services to less than 50% (on an aggregate basis) of Bendigo Bank's margin at that time. For other products and services, there is no restriction on the change Bendigo Bank may make.

### Note 7. Other revenue

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Net fair value gain on financial assets	91,543	-
Dividend and distribution income	23,820	22,061
Other income	-	11,362
Other revenue	<u>115,363</u>	<u>33,423</u>

#### Revenue stream

Dividend and distribution income

Other income

#### Revenue recognition policy

Dividend and distribution income is recognised when the right to receive the payment is established.

All other revenues that did not contain contracts with customers are recognised as goods and services are provided.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 8. Expenses

#### Employee benefits expense

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Wages and salaries	655,867	558,802
Non-cash benefits	6,160	12,463
Superannuation contributions	73,124	59,275
Expenses related to long service leave	7,721	9,582
Other expenses	40,083	57,992
	<u>782,955</u>	<u>698,114</u>

#### Depreciation and amortisation expense

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<i>Depreciation of non-current assets</i>		
Leasehold improvements	3,966	2,663
Plant and equipment	1,305	1,557
Furniture and fittings	11,076	9,748
Motor vehicles	10,181	2,913
	<u>26,528</u>	<u>16,881</u>
<i>Depreciation of right-of-use assets</i>		
Leased land and buildings	40,387	38,628
<i>Amortisation of intangible assets</i>		
Franchise fee	2,174	3,494
Franchise renewal fee	10,870	17,468
	<u>13,044</u>	<u>20,962</u>
	<u>79,959</u>	<u>76,471</u>

#### Finance costs

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Bank loan interest paid or accrued	38	-
Lease interest expense	36,791	37,297
Unwinding of make-good provision	475	454
	<u>37,304</u>	<u>37,751</u>

#### Charitable donations, sponsorships and grants expense

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Direct donation, sponsorship and grant payments	410,961	458,207
Contribution to the Community Enterprise Foundation™	86,364	150,000
	<u>497,325</u>	<u>608,207</u>

The overarching philosophy of the Community Bank model, is to support the local community in which the company operates. This is achieved by circulating the flow of financial capital into the local economy through community contributions (such as donations, sponsorships and grants).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 8. Expenses (continued)

The funds contributed to and held by the Community Enterprise Foundation™ (CEF) are available for distribution as grants to eligible applicants for a specific purpose in consultation with the directors.

When the company pays a contribution in to the CEF, the company loses control over the funds at that point. While the directors are involved in the payment of grants, the funds are not refundable to the company.

### Note 9. Income tax

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<i>Income tax expense</i>		
Current tax	89,631	102,194
Movement in deferred tax	25,233	(1,017)
Net benefit of franking credits on dividends received	(10,209)	(9,455)
Under/over adjustment in respect for prior periods	(750)	(1,768)
Aggregate income tax expense	<u>103,905</u>	<u>89,954</u>
<i>Prima facie income tax reconciliation</i>		
Profit before income tax expense	<u>446,746</u>	<u>393,144</u>
Tax at the statutory tax rate of 25%	111,687	98,286
Tax effect of:		
Non-deductible expenses	625	527
Other assessable income	2,552	2,364
Net benefit of franking credits on dividends received	(10,209)	(9,455)
Under/over adjustment in respect for prior periods	(750)	(1,768)
Income tax expense	<u>103,905</u>	<u>89,954</u>
	2025 \$	2024 \$
<i>Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)</i>		
Carried-forward capital losses	3,175	3,175
Employee benefits	8,951	9,018
Provision for lease make good	2,596	2,478
Income accruals	(5,047)	(4,239)
Lease liabilities	196,977	200,362
Right-of-use assets	(145,855)	(151,343)
Property, plant and equipment	(15,481)	(11,788)
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(48,848)	(25,962)
Deferred tax asset/(liability)	<u>(3,532)</u>	<u>21,701</u>
	2025 \$	2024 \$
Income tax refund due	<u>8,054</u>	<u>-</u>
	2025 \$	2024 \$
Provision for income tax	<u>-</u>	<u>61,996</u>

# Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## Note 9. Income tax (continued)

### Accounting policy for income tax

The income tax expense or benefit for the period is the tax payable on that period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate adjusted by the changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences, unused tax losses and the adjustment recognised for prior periods, where applicable.

### Accounting policy for current tax

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at amounts expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

### Accounting policy for deferred tax

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

## Note 10. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	123,209	335,315

## Note 11. Trade and other receivables

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Trade receivables	148,206	66,273
Accrued income	20,187	16,952
Prepayments	3,896	-
	24,083	16,952
	172,289	83,225

### Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. The company's trade receivables are limited to the monthly profit share distribution from Bendigo Bank, which is received 10 business days post month end.

## Note 12. Investments

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current assets		
Term deposits	1,267,387	1,059,511

## Note 13. Financial assets

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Equity securities - designated at fair value through profit or loss	737,518	620,475
Reconciliation		
Reconciliation of the carrying amounts at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:		
Opening carrying amount	620,475	601,632
Additions	25,500	23,132
Revaluation (decrements)/increments	91,543	(4,289)
Closing carrying amount	737,518	620,475

### Accounting policy for financial assets

Financial assets are recognised at their market value. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have been transferred and the company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 14. Property, plant and equipment

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Leasehold improvements - at cost	79,309	79,309
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(10,495)	(6,529)
	<u>68,814</u>	<u>72,780</u>
Plant and equipment - at cost	13,233	13,233
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(10,434)	(9,129)
	<u>2,799</u>	<u>4,104</u>
Fixtures and fittings - at cost	332,199	317,118
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(290,321)	(279,499)
	<u>41,878</u>	<u>37,619</u>
Motor vehicles - at cost	89,977	53,568
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(10,488)	(307)
	<u>79,489</u>	<u>53,261</u>
	<u>192,980</u>	<u>167,764</u>

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Leasehold improvements \$	Plant and equipment \$	Furniture and fittings \$	Motor vehicles \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	15,475	4,249	27,122	18,016	64,862
Additions	59,968	1,412	20,245	53,568	135,193
Disposals	-	-	-	(15,410)	(15,410)
Depreciation	(2,663)	(1,557)	(9,748)	(2,913)	(16,881)
Balance at 30 June 2024	72,780	4,104	37,619	53,261	167,764
Additions	-	-	16,221	36,409	52,630
Disposals	-	-	(886)	-	(886)
Depreciation	(3,966)	(1,305)	(11,076)	(10,181)	(26,528)
Balance at 30 June 2025	<u>68,814</u>	<u>2,799</u>	<u>41,878</u>	<u>79,489</u>	<u>192,980</u>

#### Accounting policy for property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are measured at cost or fair value as applicable, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Leasehold improvements	15 to 20 years
Plant and equipment	5 to 10 years
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	2 to 5 years
Motor vehicles	3 to 8 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 15. Right-of-use assets

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Land and buildings - right-of-use	794,643	776,209
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(211,223)</u>	<u>(170,836)</u>
	<u>583,420</u>	<u>605,373</u>

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Land and buildings \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	607,493
Remeasurement adjustments	36,508
Depreciation expense	<u>(38,628)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2024	605,373
Remeasurement adjustments	18,434
Depreciation expense	<u>(40,387)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2025	<u>583,420</u>

#### Accounting policy for right-of-use assets

Right-of-use assets are initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment and are adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

Refer to note 18 for more information on lease arrangements.

### Note 16. Intangible assets

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Franchise fee	34,462	34,462
Less: Accumulated amortisation	<u>(24,976)</u>	<u>(22,802)</u>
	<u>9,486</u>	<u>11,660</u>
Franchise renewal fee	171,482	171,482
Less: Accumulated amortisation	<u>(124,050)</u>	<u>(113,180)</u>
	<u>47,432</u>	<u>58,302</u>
	<u>56,918</u>	<u>69,962</u>

Reconciliations of the carrying values at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

	Franchise fee \$	Franchise renewal fee \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	3,296	16,480	19,776
Additions	11,858	59,290	71,148
Amortisation expense	<u>(3,494)</u>	<u>(17,468)</u>	<u>(20,962)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2024	11,660	58,302	69,962
Amortisation expense	<u>(2,174)</u>	<u>(10,870)</u>	<u>(13,044)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2025	<u>9,486</u>	<u>47,432</u>	<u>56,918</u>



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 16. Intangible assets (continued)

#### *Accounting policy for intangible assets*

Intangible assets of the company relate to the franchise fees paid to Bendigo Bank which conveys the right to operate the Community Bank franchise.

Intangible assets are measured on initial recognition at cost. Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates.

The franchise fees paid by the company are amortised over their useful life and assessed for impairment whenever impairment indicators are present.

The estimated useful life and amortisation method for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

<u>Asset class</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Useful life</u>	<u>Expiry/renewal date</u>
Franchise fee	Straight-line	Over the franchise term (5 years)	June 2029
Franchise renewal fee	Straight-line	Over the franchise term (5 years)	June 2029

Amortisation methods, useful life, and residual values are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each reporting date.

### Note 17. Trade and other payables

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Other payables and accruals	38,008	25,005
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as trade and other payables</i>		
Total trade and other payables	38,008	25,005
Less: other payables and accruals (net GST (payable)/refundable to the ATO)	(9,386)	(2,863)
	<b>28,622</b>	<b>22,142</b>

### Note 18. Lease liabilities

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Land and buildings lease liabilities	74,956	92,008
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>		
Land and buildings lease liabilities	712,951	709,438
<i>Reconciliation of lease liabilities</i>		
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Opening balance	801,446	806,448
Remeasurement adjustments	18,434	35,980
Lease interest expense	36,791	37,297
Lease payments - total cash outflow	(68,764)	(78,279)
	<b>787,907</b>	<b>801,446</b>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 18. Lease liabilities (continued)

#### Accounting policy for lease liabilities

A lease liability is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments to be made over the term of the lease, including renewal options if the company is reasonably certain to exercise such options, discounted using the company's incremental borrowing rate.

The company has applied the following accounting policy choices in relation to lease liabilities:

- The company has elected not to separate lease and non-lease components when calculating the lease liability for property leases.
- The company has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases and low-value assets, which include the company's lease of information technology equipment. The company recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The company's lease portfolio includes:

Lease	Discount rate	Non-cancellable term	Renewal options available	Reasonably certain to exercise	Lease term end date used in calculations
Lara Branch	4.79%	5 years	3 x 5 years	Yes - 2 x 5 years No - 1 x 5 years	June 2039

### Note 19. Issued capital

	2025 Shares	2024 Shares	2025 \$	2024 \$
Ordinary shares - fully paid	880,011	880,011	880,011	880,011
Less: Equity raising costs	-	-	(22,485)	(22,485)
	<u>880,011</u>	<u>880,011</u>	<u>857,526</u>	<u>857,526</u>

#### Accounting policy for issued capital

Ordinary shares are recognised at the fair value of the consideration received by the company being \$1 per share. Any transaction costs arising on the issue of ordinary shares are recognised directly in equity as a reduction of the share proceeds received.

#### Rights attached to issued capital

##### Ordinary shares

##### Voting rights

Subject to some limited exceptions, each member has the right to vote at a general meeting.

On a show of hands or a poll, each member attending the meeting (whether they are attending the meeting in person or by attorney, corporate representative or proxy) has one vote, regardless of the number of shares held. However, where a person attends a meeting in person and is entitled to vote in more than one capacity (for example, the person is a member and has also been appointed as proxy for another member) that person may only exercise one vote on a show of hands. On a poll, that person may exercise one vote as a member and one vote for each other member that person represents as duly appointed attorney, corporate representative or proxy.

The purpose of giving each member only one vote, regardless of the number of shares held, is to reflect the nature of the company as a community based company, by providing that all members of the community who have contributed to the establishment and ongoing operation of the Community Bank branch have the same ability to influence the operation of the company.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

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### Note 19. Issued capital (continued)

#### Dividends

Generally, dividends are payable to members in proportion to the amount of the share capital paid up on the shares held by them, subject to any special rights and restrictions for the time being attaching to shares. The franchise agreement with Bendigo Bank contains a limit on the level of profits or funds that may be distributed to shareholders. There is also a restriction on the payment of dividends to certain shareholders if they have a prohibited shareholding interest (see below).

#### Transfer

Generally, ordinary shares are freely transferable. However, the directors have a discretion to refuse to register a transfer of shares.

Subject to the foregoing, shareholders may transfer shares by a proper transfer effected in accordance with the company's constitution and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

#### *Prohibited shareholding interest*

A person must not have a prohibited shareholding interest in the company.

In summary, a person has a prohibited shareholding interest if any of the following applies:

- They control or own 10% or more of the shares in the company (the "10% limit").
- In the opinion of the board they do not have a close connection to the community or communities in which the company predominantly carries on business (the "close connection test").

As with voting rights, the purpose of this prohibited shareholding provision is to reflect the community-based nature of the company.

Where a person has a prohibited shareholding interest, the voting and dividend rights attaching to the shares in which the person (and their associates) has a prohibited shareholding interest in are suspended.

The board has the power to request information from a person who has (or is suspected by the board of having) a legal or beneficial interest in any shares in the company or any voting power in the company, for the purpose of determining whether a person has a prohibited shareholding interest. If the board becomes aware that a member has a prohibited shareholding interest, it must serve a notice requiring the member (or the member's associate) to dispose of the number of shares the board considers necessary to remedy the breach. If a person fails to comply with such a notice within a specified period (that must be between three and six months), the board is authorised to sell the specified shares on behalf of that person. The holder will be entitled to the consideration from the sale of the shares, less any expenses incurred by the board in selling or otherwise dealing with those shares.

In the constitution, members acknowledge and recognise that the exercise of the powers given to the board may cause considerable disadvantage to individual members, but that such a result may be necessary to enforce the prohibition.

### Note 20. Capital management

The board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to sustain future development of the company. The board monitor the return on capital and the level of distributions to shareholders. Capital is represented by total equity as recorded in the statement of financial position.

In accordance with the franchise agreement, in any 12 month period the funds distributed to shareholders shall not exceed the distribution limit.

The distribution limit is the greater of:

- 20% of the profit or funds of the company otherwise available for distribution to shareholders in that 12 month period; and
- subject to the availability of distributable profits, the relevant rate of return multiplied by the average level of share capital of the company over that 12 month period where the relevant rate of return is equal to the weighted average interest rate on 90 day bank bills over that 12 month period plus 5%.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 20. Capital management (continued)

The board is managing the growth of the business in line with this requirement. There are no other externally imposed capital requirements, although the nature of the company is such that amounts will be paid in the form of charitable donations and sponsorship. Charitable donations and sponsorship paid for the financial year can be seen in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income.

There were no changes in the company's approach to capital management during the year.

### Note 21. Dividends

The following dividends were provided for and paid to shareholders during the financial year as presented in the Statement of changes in equity and Statement of cash flows.

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Fully franked dividend of 12 cents per share (2024: 12 cents)	105,600	105,600

#### *Accounting policy for dividends*

Dividends are recognised when declared during the financial year and no longer at the discretion of the company.

### Franking credits

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Franking account balance at the beginning of the financial year	388,820	312,826
Franking credits (debits) arising from income taxes paid (refunded)	148,723	101,739
Franking debits from the payment of franked distributions	(35,200)	(35,200)
Franking credits from franked distributions received	10,209	9,455
	<u>512,552</u>	<u>388,820</u>
<i>Franking transactions that will arise subsequent to the financial year end:</i>		
Balance at the end of the financial year	512,552	388,820
Franking credits (debits) that will arise from payment (refund) of income tax	(8,054)	61,996
Franking credits available for future reporting periods	<u>504,498</u>	<u>450,816</u>

The ability to utilise franking credits is dependent upon the company's ability to declare dividends. The tax rate at which future dividends will be franked is 25%.

### Note 22. Financial risk management

The company's financial instruments include trade receivables and payables, cash and cash equivalents, financial assets, investments and lease liabilities. The company does not have any derivatives.

The directors are responsible for monitoring and managing the financial risk exposure of the company, to which end it monitors the financial risk management policies and exposures and approves financial transactions within the scope of its authority.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 22. Financial risk management (continued)

The directors have identified that the only significant financial risk exposures of the company are liquidity and market (price) risk. Other financial risks are not significant to the company due to the following factors:

- The company has no foreign exchange risk as all of its account balances and transactions are in Australian Dollars.
- The company's franchise agreement limits the company's credit exposure to one financial institution, being Bendigo Bank. The company monitors credit worthiness through review of credit ratings, Bendigo Bank is rated A- on Standard & Poor's credit ratings.
- The company has no direct exposure to movements in commodity prices.
- The company's interest-bearing instruments are held at amortised cost which have fair values that approximate their carrying value since all cash and payables have maturity dates within 12 months.
- The company has no borrowings.

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Trade and other receivables (note 11)	168,393	83,225
Cash and cash equivalents (note 10)	123,209	335,315
Financial assets (note 13)	737,518	620,475
Investments (note 12)	1,267,387	1,059,511
	<u>2,296,507</u>	<u>2,098,526</u>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables (note 17)	28,622	22,142
Lease liabilities (note 18)	787,907	801,446
	<u>816,529</u>	<u>823,588</u>

At balance date, the fair value of financial instruments approximated their carrying values.

#### *Accounting policy for financial instruments*

##### **Financial assets**

##### *Classification*

The company classifies its financial assets into the following categories:

- Amortised cost
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)

Financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial asset.

The company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents and investments in term deposits.

The company's financial assets measured at FVTPL comprise investments in listed entities over which the company does not have significant influence nor control.

##### *Derecognition*

A financial asset is derecognised when the company's contractual right to its cash flows expires, or the asset is transferred in such a way that all the risks and rewards of ownership are substantially transferred.

##### *Impairment of trade and other receivables*

Impairment of trade receivables is determined using the simplified approach which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The company has not recognised an allowance for expected credit losses in relation to trade and other receivables. Refer to note 4 for further information.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 22. Financial risk management (continued)

#### Financial liabilities

##### Classification

The company classifies its financial liabilities at amortised cost.

##### Derecognition

A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, cancelled or expires.

##### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices - e.g. foreign exchange rates, interest rates, and equity prices - will affect the company's income or the value of its holdings in financial instruments.

Interest-bearing assets and liabilities are held with Bendigo Bank and earnings on those are subject to movements in market interest rates. The company held cash and cash equivalents of \$123,209 and term deposits of \$1,267,387 at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$335,315 and \$1,059,511).

##### Equity Price risk

All of the company's listed equity investments are listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX). Changes in equity securities value is recognised through profit or loss.

	% change increase	Effect on profit before tax	Effect on equity	% change decrease	Effect on profit before tax	Effect on equity
<b>2025</b>						
Equity securities	10%	<u>73,752</u>	<u>55,314</u>	10%	<u>(73,752)</u>	<u>(55,314)</u>

##### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the company will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The company's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the company's reputation.

The following are the company's remaining contractual maturities of financial liabilities. The contractual cash flow amounts are gross and undiscounted and therefore may differ from their carrying amount in the statement of financial position.

	1 year or less \$	Between 1 and 5 years \$	Over 5 years \$	Remaining contractual maturities \$
<b>2025</b>				
Trade and other payables	28,622	-	-	28,622
Lease liabilities	<u>76,581</u>	<u>306,323</u>	<u>689,226</u>	<u>1,072,130</u>
Total non-derivatives	<u>105,203</u>	<u>306,323</u>	<u>689,226</u>	<u>1,100,752</u>
	1 year or less \$	Between 1 and 5 years \$	Over 5 years \$	Remaining contractual maturities \$
<b>2024</b>				
Trade and other payables	22,142	-	-	22,142
Lease liabilities	<u>74,786</u>	<u>299,143</u>	<u>747,858</u>	<u>1,121,787</u>
Total non-derivatives	<u>96,928</u>	<u>299,143</u>	<u>747,858</u>	<u>1,143,929</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 23. Fair value measurement

#### *Fair value hierarchy*

The following tables detail the company's assets and liabilities, measured or disclosed at fair value, using a three level hierarchy, based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the entire fair value measurement, being:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
<b>2025</b>				
<i>Assets</i>				
Equity securities	737,518	-	-	737,518
Total assets	737,518	-	-	737,518

	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
<b>2024</b>				
<i>Assets</i>				
Equity securities	620,475	-	-	620,475
Total assets	620,475	-	-	620,475

There were no transfers between levels during the financial year.

### Note 24. Key management personnel disclosures

The following persons were directors of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited during the financial year and/or up to the date of signing of these financial statements.

Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard  
Charles John Saliba  
Natalie Grace Salcombe Candy  
Kylie Grzybek

Elizabeth Joy Bate  
Jürgen Ulrich Günther Strauss  
Ian Graeme Duff

No director of the company receives remuneration for services as a company director or committee member.

### Note 25. Related party transactions

#### *Key management personnel*

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 24.

#### *Receivable from and payable to related parties*

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

#### *Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties*

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 25. Related party transactions (continued)

#### *Transactions with related parties*

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
The company made sponsorships to community groups where company directors declared an interest.	5,979	29,124
Directors of the entity received expense reimbursements totaling:	3,429	4,746

### Note 26. Remuneration of auditors

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Andrew Frewin Stewart, the auditor of the company:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<i>Audit services</i>		
Audit or review of the financial statements	7,930	6,650
<i>Other services</i>		
General advisory services	4,355	5,440
Share registry services	5,082	4,922
	9,437	10,362
	<u>17,367</u>	<u>17,012</u>

### Note 27. Reconciliation of profit after income tax to net cash provided by operating activities

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Profit after income tax expense for the year	342,841	303,190
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	79,959	76,471
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of non-current assets	886	(6,409)
(Increase)/decrease in fair value of equity instruments designated at FVTPL	(91,543)	4,289
Lease liability interest	36,791	37,297
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(89,064)	66,850
Increase in income tax refund due	(8,054)	-
Decrease/(increase) in deferred tax assets	21,701	(1,018)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	84,151	(48,766)
Decrease in provision for income tax	(61,996)	(10,767)
Increase in deferred tax liabilities	3,532	-
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(267)	17,742
Increase in other provisions	475	455
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>319,412</u>	<u>439,334</u>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### Note 28. Earnings per share

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Profit after income tax	<u>342,841</u>	<u>303,190</u>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share	<u>880,011</u>	<u>880,011</u>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	<u>880,011</u>	<u>880,011</u>
	<b>Cents</b>	<b>Cents</b>
Basic earnings per share	38.96	34.45
Diluted earnings per share	38.96	34.45

### Note 29. Commitments

The company has no commitments contracted for which would be provided for in future reporting periods.

### Note 30. Contingencies

There were no contingent liabilities or contingent assets at the date of this report.

### Note 31. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

# Directors' declaration

**30 June 2025**

In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board as described in the notes to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date;
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- the company does not have any controlled entities and is not required by the Accounting Standards to prepare consolidated financial statements. Therefore, a consolidated entity disclosure statement has not been included as section 295(3A)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001* does not apply to the entity.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

On behalf of the directors



---

Andrew MacKenzie Hilliard  
Chair

15th September 2025

# Independent audit report



Andrew Frewin Stewart  
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550  
ABN: 65 684 604 390  
afs@afsbendigo.com.au  
03 5443 0344

## Independent auditor's report to the Directors of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited

### Report on the audit of the financial report

#### Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited, is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

#### What we have audited

We have audited the financial report of Lara District Community Enterprise Limited (the company), which comprises the:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025
- Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
- Statement of changes in equity
- Statement of cash flows
- Notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policies, and the
- Directors' declaration.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



Andrew Frewin Stewart  
61 Bull Street Bendigo VIC 3550  
ABN: 65 684 604 390  
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03 5443 0344

## Independence

We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

## Responsibilities of the directors for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that it gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatement can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Frewin Stewart'.

**Andrew Frewin Stewart**  
61 Bull Street, Bendigo, Vic, 3550  
Dated: 15 September 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lachlan Tatt'.

**Lachlan Tatt**  
Lead Auditor

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