



INNER SYDNEY VOICE
regional social development council

Annual report 2016-2017



• PROMOTING SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INCLUSION IN THE INNER CITY SINCE 1974 •



Acknowledgment Of Country

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the traditional custodians of the lands across the areas we service, particularly the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, upon whose land our office is located.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

FRIENDS AND PARTNERS

Access Community Transport	Hunters Hills Ryde Community Services	Redfern Community Centre
ACON NSW	Inner City Domestic Violence Action Group	Redfern Community Health
Alliance Health	Inner City Health Program - St Vincent's	Redfern Legal Centre
Anglican Retirement Villages	Inner South West Community Development Organisation	REDWatch
ANHF- Stanley Hunt Chinese Day Care	Inner West Council	Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre
Australian Chinese Community Assn	Jim Diers	St Vincent's De Paul Ability Links
Australian Chinese Community Association	Junction Neighbourhood Centres	Shelter NSW
Bayside Council	Kings Cross Community Centre	South East and Sydney Area Health Districts
Benevolent Society Home Assistance	Kooloorra Community Centre	South Eastern Community Connect
Better Planning Network	LCSA -Local Community Services Association	South East Sydney Local Health District
Burger Centre	Michael Darcy	Surry Hills Community Shed Assoc.
Catholic Community Services	Mission Australia	Surry Hills Public Tenants Association
Centre for Universal Design Australia	Mental Health Carers NSW	Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre
Centrelink	Mental Health Recovery Network	Sydney Local Health District
City Futures Research Centre UNSW	National Parks Association of NSW	TAFE NSW
City of Sydney	National Trust of Australia (NSW)	Tenants Union NSW
Care Connect	Nature Conservation Council of NSW	Total Environment Centre
Care Connect	NCOSS	Transport NSW
Communicare	NEAMI	Uniting Home Modifications and Maintenance Sydney Metro
COA Sydney	Neighbour Connections	University of NSW
Counterpoint Community Services	Newtown Neighbourhood Centre	University of Sydney
Creativity Inc	NSW Heritage Network	Waterloo Public Housing Action Group
Department of Health	Inner West Sydney Partners in Recovery	Waterloo Community Gardens and Market Inc
EATS - Eastern Area Tenants Service	Prince of Wales Community Health	Waverley Council
Eastern Sydney & City of Sydney Dementia Advisory Service	Professor Peter Phibbs	Weave Family and Children Services
Eastern Sydney Multicultural Access & Support Service	Randwick City Council	Western Sydney Community Forum
FACS - Family and Community Services	Randwick Waverley Community Transport	Woollahra Council
Flourish Australia		
Holdsworth Community Centre		

Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development Inc (trading as Inner Sydney Voice)

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Statement of purpose

We support and advocate for community organisations and groups so as to build capacity of communities and people.

OUR KEY AIMS ARE TO:

Support people and agencies that support others

Work with others to empower
community and build resilience

Resource social justice campaigns

Work with others to improve access and
equity to human services

Work with social service providers to aid in the
building of stronger communities through fostering of
connections, and providing opportunities that enhance
community spirit

Advocate for the community voice and the NGO sector
to be heard, valued and respected

Question and inform on social policies
and NGO sector issues

Provide leadership in the community and be
recognised as an advocate for social justice.

OUR AGENCY VALUES:

Respect for the diversity of our communities

The principles of social justice and equity

Good governance

Equitable access to community and human services

Commitment to community development

Inclusive communities.

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● *Board and Staff*



INDI
ISV MASCOT



Joel Pringle
Chairperson



Fionn Taylor
Treasurer



Emma Couch
Board Member



Kelly Brazier
Board Member



Kate Melhopt
Vice-Chairperson



Graham Brecht
Board Member



Nigel Salmons
Board Member

INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD MEETINGS:

	Meetings attended
Chairperson	
Joel Pringle	4 out of 7
Vice-Chairperson	
Kate Melhopt	5 out of 7
Treasurer	
Current - Fionn Taylor	5 out of 7
Former - Bill Yan	2 out of 2
Members	
Graham Brecht	6 out of 7
Emma Couch	3 out of 7
Kelly Brazier	5 out of 5
Nigel Salmons	2 out of 2
Former Members	
Kirilly Woods	3 out of 5
Sharyn Green	1 out of 4
ISV Staff	
Charmaine Jones	6 out of 7
Saskia Cheney	7 out of 7 (minutes)



Charmaine Jones
Executive Officer



Ross Bennett
CHSP Sector
Development Officer



Thomas Chailloux
Waterloo Capacity
Building project worker



Saskia Cheney
Office Manager



Jimmy Fermanis
Maintainance



Susan Hawkeswood
NAB Secretariat



Kat Hines
NAB Secretariat



Katrina Hendriksen
NAB Secretariat



Geoff Turnbull
Publications Officer



David White
Tenant Participation Officer

● *Chairperson's report*

EACH YEAR ROLLS AROUND QUICKLY; it was just twelve months ago that we celebrated our 40th Anniversary at last year's Annual General Meeting. It was great to see so many of our members, long-time friends and supporters at Parliament House to mark the occasion.

The year has seen some renewal on the Board, with new faces bringing extra skills and perspectives to ensure the future of Inner Sydney Voice. We believe this new expertise will place us strategically as we move in to the last few years of this decade.

Key milestones from our 2015-17 Strategic Plan have been met, including the broadening of our funding base. Beyond the expansion of our fee-for-service program for the sector, the introduction of two new funding bodies has lowered the financial risk of losing any of our existing funders. This also has the effect of introducing new services and programs to the organisation, and meeting the needs of our communities in more ways. Our staff, led by the irrepressible Char Jones, should be acknowledged for this significant success.

To build further on this process, the new Board will be tasked with the delivery of an update to the Strategic Plan. We encourage members and stakeholders to get in touch if they wish to provide input.

Inner Sydney Voice has continued its history of supporting public housing residents in the face of threats to their housing security by participation in the Waterloo Community Capacity Building project. The redevelopment of public housing estates continues to be concern to residents and communities across the city. If you want to hear more about this project, please contact the Inner Sydney Voice office for more information.



"I firmly believe the work of organisations like Inner Sydney Voice are critical to allow the less advantaged and more marginalised in our communities to have a voice and an avenue to contribute to conversations about their communities and homes"

I firmly believe the work of organisations like Inner Sydney Voice are critical to allow the less advantaged and more marginalised in our communities to have a voice and an avenue to contribute to conversations about their communities and homes.

It's always sad to farewell a long-standing and valued staff member, and this was the case when Enis Jusufspahic left the Community Home Support Program Sector

Support role after seven years. Whilst Enis goes on to new and exciting things, we're very fortunate to have Ross Bennett fill the role, bringing experience working in government to help us negotiate the bureaucracy.

As always, thank you to the rest of the Inner Sydney Voice Board members, the amazing and committed staff, volunteers and members of the community we meet along the way.

Joel Pringle



A YEAR IN PICTURES ...





A YEAR IN PICTURES ...



● *Executive Officer's Report*



IN THIS 21ST CENTURY WORLD OF constant news, constant noise and immediate contact, it is easy to believe the world is spinning at faster pace and we, here at Inner Sydney Voice were not immune to feeling that frantic speed during the 2016-2017 year.

The environment in which we work appears to be in constant reform, transition or re-structure. Change is our only certainty. The Targeted Early Intervention Reform for Family and Community Services funded Early Intervention and Community Building programs has continued apace and we have attempted to assist local organisations to understand where they are placed currently and as the reforms are negotiated in actual service delivery programs, we hope

to assist those organisations with the implementation of their new delivery models.

There has also been much change in the Ageing and Disability sectors with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) rolling out in the Inner Sydney region from July 1st 2017. In the year, heading up to the roll-out date, Inner Sydney Voice spoke to lots of people in the community about the NDIS; about its purpose, eligibility and access. We targeted those in the social housing communities in which our Tenant Participation Resource Services works, as many of the tenants on disability support pensions are not currently receiving supports but may be eligible for assistance under the NDIS.

Our main area of focus for the

year was the Waterloo Community, where, in December 2015, the then Family and Community Services (FACS) Minister, Brad Hazzard, had announced the redevelopment of the 2200 public housing properties on the Waterloo estate. This will be the largest urban renewal project FACS and their assets managers, Land and Housing Corp (LAHC) will have undertaken.

As a means to assist the Waterloo community, and in particular, the public housing tenants, through the master planning and redevelopment processes, Inner Sydney Voice requested funding from LAHC to support an independent Community Capacity Building project. Groundswell, a group of agencies and housing peaks, is steering the work of

our new project worker, Thomas, who hit the ground running in March 2107 and in a few short months ensured the community has access to fair and balanced information about issues such as density and social mix. We have also worked in partnership with Counterpoint Community Services, supporting their community development project for the Waterloo community. We published a special edition of Inner Sydney Voice focused the Communities Plus program and public housing redevelopment across the board to support this work.

We have also had discussions with the Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) about a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Waterloo community. Given the proposed densities for the redevelopment site, it is important to ensure the health and well-being of future communities are protected, but also it is important to understand the current community, to explore inequities in health outcomes and ensure the redevelopment addresses these. SLHD has been very supportive of the HIA and will also be hosting a community conversation in September this year.

We have provided our usual suite of training – Governance for Management Boards, Effective Meetings, Understanding Not-for-Profit finances and the Cadre Mental Health training.

We refer to our Cadre mental health program as Mental Health Neighbourhood Watch and it is a program designed to shift the concept of 'first responder' as being emergency services or the mental health crisis team to being a friend, carer or neighbour. The program has just finalised its initial pilot phase and has been evaluated, showing great outcomes for participants. The Cadre training is also connected with our work on the Inner Sydney Mental Health Recovery Network (MHRN). Each October, during mental health month, MHRN host the "Don't

“Given the proposed densities for the redevelopment site, it is important to ensure the health and well-being of future communities are protected, but also it is important to understand the current community, to explore inequities in health outcomes and ensure the redevelopment addresses these.”

Lose Your Marbles' Team Marbles Challenge and our 2016 event was a great afternoon full of laughter and fun.

In November 2016, Inner Sydney Voice was successful in its application to the Office of Emergency Management's Community Resilience Innovation Program for a two-year pilot project to develop disaster preparedness for those living in the social housing high rise, utilising the knowledge and skills of the tenants themselves. Whilst the application was submitted and approved long before the tragic Greenfell Tower fire in London, that event certainly provided some further impetus and influence on project delivery. LAHC, the City of Sydney and Emergency Services such as Police and Fire & Rescue are collaborating with us on the project and we look forward to seeing the project outcomes.

We assisted the Northcott Community Centre in Surry Hills, through the FACS Social Housing Community Infrastructure Fund, to install sun cloths, seatings and tables outside the centre, to make better use of the space, along with improvements to the community garden and interior of the centre. We also have input into the Northcott Collaboration project which will see a coordinated human services delivered to address the needs of that particular community.

I would like to thank all Inner Sydney Voice staff, our partner organisations, our funders and supporters. We could not achieve

half of what we do without all of them collaborating with us.

This time last year, we were celebrating the organisation's 40th Annual General Meeting at NSW Parliament House. It was gratifying to reflect on all the great, dedicated people who had worked or volunteered for Inner Sydney Voice, or Regional Council as everyone called us back in the day and to assess the wonderful work they had undertaken. But there is no time for us to rest on our laurels as we celebrate our 41st Annual General Meeting. In this era of Trump where politics and media reporting have become a farcical tragedy it's more important than ever for communities to have access to balanced and impartial information and avenues to have their voices heard.

It wouldn't seem right to finish this report without mentioning the loss of the late, great Ross Smith, who passed suddenly in October 2016. Ross was a tireless advocate for social housing tenants and communities across NSW and Australia. Earlier in 2016 he had written a piece for the South Sydney Herald where he was quoted as saying we need "to acknowledge that housing is not a commodity for short-term speculation or a vehicle for wealth accumulation. Rather, it is the place for people to raise a family and the base from which they can be part of a community – that is, a home." Now ain't that the truth! Vale Ross!

Charmaine Jones

Community Home Support Program (CHSP) Sector Development Project

THE LANDSCAPE OF AGED AND disability services is changing at a rapid pace.

The Eastern Sydney Sector Support and Development program is funded through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). The Home and Community Care Program was replaced by CHSP on 1 July 2015. The system of service that preceded Commonwealth Home Support Program evolved over the previous forty years. Key components of that system of service were developed by local communities coming together, investing time, and effort. Inner Sydney Voice played a crucial role in advocating for funding to quench unmet need and acting as an incubator for emerging localised services. This social capital built a system of support and assistance within their community for older people and people with disability.

The objective of the reformed Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) is to "help frail, older people who are living in the community to maximise their independence. Through the delivery of timely, high quality entry-level support services which takes into account each person's individual goals, preferences and choices" CHSP seeks to allow older people to stay living in their own homes for as long as they wish, with support for carers assisting older people.

Over time as a grants based program, CHSP allowed restrictions to timeliness and choice to develop. Not all service types and choices were available to all communities. Many of the historical and inequitable patterns of service disadvantaged already vulnerable citizens, in particular those isolated by personal or family circumstances and geography.

Starting with the Productivity



"Many of the historical and inequitable patterns of service disadvantaged already vulnerable citizens, in particular those isolated by personal or family circumstances and geography."



“Many people who previously accessed block funded services from local community services, charities or government providers, have successfully transitioned the NDIS. In the coming year the focus will be on people with a disability not currently accessing services.”

Commission's 2011 Caring for Older Australians and Aged Care Sector Committee 2016 Aged Care Road Map successive governments have moved towards “an aged care system operating more like a consumer driven market.” Key features of this reformed aged care system include; a single free, fair and independent assessment process dealing with eligibility and funding decisions; equitable access focused on need regardless of culture, language, sexuality, location or life circumstances; a single market based system without government control of demand or supply; a single provider scheme of accreditation and registration; a sustainable market with price determination with the government providing a “safety net.”

The National Disability Insurance Scheme arrived in Inner and Eastern Sydney on 1 July 2017. The NDIS brings the long advocated choice, portability, individualised plans and life time support access to community services and support to people with a disability. Many people who previously accessed block funded services from local community services, charities or government providers, have successfully transitioned to the NDIS. In the coming year the focus will be on people with a disability not currently accessing services.

As this new market for support emerges, there is evidence of increased supply of aged care packages and NDIS funded support plans within the Inner Sydney and

Eastern Sydney region. The entrance of new often for profit providers, sole traders and the transformations occurring amongst existing providers is indicative of a developing market across aged care and disability services.

Unfortunately, greater supply and choice have not come without risk or impact. Little data is available to support examination of the uptake and delivery of services in the Inner Sydney and Eastern Sydney region. The capacity of those needing services to navigate and locate service providers has not been fully explored. The Aboriginal community and people from culturally diverse communities and inner city public and social housing communities, are most likely to experience difficulty during the transition. Nationally key themes or concerns have yet to emerge from the Quality Framework and the work of the Aged Care Complaints Commissioner.

In planning this transition, the government appears to have significantly underestimated the contribution of volunteers in aged and disability sector. Many not for profit community centres in the Inner Sydney and Eastern Sydney region report high numbers of active volunteers out numbering employee staff on a ratio of 5:1. Any unintended interruption to the continued participation of these volunteers would be detrimental to the provision of support generally and community connectedness.

Building the work force to deliver

market based support remains a significant challenge. The National Disability Insurance Scheme estimates the work force will need to increase from 73,600 full time equivalent workers to 162,000 workers by 2019-2020. The Scheme also notes the need to work closely with related community service sectors particularly health and aged care to ensure demand for labour is to be met.

The Inner Sydney and Eastern Sydney region is a high cost housing market. The casual, lower paid and part time nature of the ageing and disability workforce hinders the ability of support workers to live and work locally and our ability to ensure connected communities.

The challenge ahead is to ensure access, choice and control are delivered with a view to equity, quality, and local services whilst retaining the community spirit our forebears created.

Also this year Enis Jusufspahic moved on to fresh challenges at Early Childhood Intervention Australia, the peak body for early childhood intervention services for young children with disability and developmental delays and their families. Over seven years Enis worked hard to improve the quality of services for older people and people with disability. We thank Enis for his service to the community through Inner Sydney Voice

Ross Bennett – Sector Support Development Officer



Waterloo Redevelopment Capacity Building Project

THE WATERLOO REDEVELOPMENT CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT is one of the most recent services operated by Inner Sydney Voice. Funded by Family and Community Services (FACS), this project independently run by our organisation started in March 2017. It seeks to support and empower public housing tenants of the Waterloo Estate before and during the Master Planning process of the redevelopment led by FACS Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC).

The Capacity Building project primarily focuses on working with public housing tenants, considering that they will be the most affected by the redevelopment of the area, with a loss of their home and a potential temporary relocation.

However, the project aims at engaging with all of the Waterloo community. This includes but isn't limited to:

- Public Housing tenants
- the Aboriginal community
- culturally and linguistically diverse

(CALD) communities

- Private homeowners & tenants
- Community workers
- Government workers
- Anyone with a strong connection to the area

Empowerment, peer-learning, community capacity development - many different words for such a project. It all comes down, however, to the same thing: to build the capacity, advocate for and support the community so it can overcome the barriers to efficient participation in the elaboration of public policies. A concept very close to the statement of purpose of Inner Sydney Voice itself.

To kick off the project, a needs analysis was undertaken to identify the concerns and interests of the community. We then developed a Program to respond to the needs of various target groups.

Over the last 6 months, many community discussions were organised as part of the project.

Here are a few examples:

- "What Have We Learnt" for tenant representatives, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and government workers involved in previous consultation processes. This was a reflection on previous conversations in the area about urban renewal, in order to avoid previous shortcomings and get ready to go forward.
- "A Week in Waterloo." This photography and community mapping exercise allowed us to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the area according to tenants, in a creative and personal way.
- "Would Waterloo be a better community if it was more socially mixed?" A discussion on "social mix", the government planned arrival of private homeowners and tenants in an area previously dominated by social housing. Participants discussed why this is pushed for in Waterloo, and associated issues



“The Capacity Building project primarily focuses on working with public housing tenants, considering that they will be the most affected by the redevelopment of the area, with a loss of their home and a potential temporary relocation”

and challenges. A highlights video is available on our YouTube channel.

- “Where Do We Start.” This forum brought numerous NGOs together to discuss potential impacts of the redevelopment on services and clients. It included a brainstorming between frontline workers to reflect on how to minimise negative impacts and maximise opportunities.
- “Master Planning for non-planners.” This community discussion focused on NSW planning framework, what are planning controls, how they influence our daily lives, and finally what is a Master Plan and how community participation can help get better outcomes for everyone. A similar workshop specifically designed for Waterloo Connect & FACS workers, “Planning 101” was organised in May.
- “Living well in Greater Density? Perks & challenges of high density neighbourhoods.” Welcoming two

experts, Hazel Easthope & Sean Macken, this community discussion focused on advantages and challenges of high density. Starting from the residents’ experience of Waterloo, one of the densest places in Australia, we discussed how high density can be “done well” and what are the community’s key messages.

- A workshop about different models of social housing management such as Community Housing & Public Housing.
- We discussed Universal Design, which refers to how we can make places and buildings more easily accessible to the elderly and people with or without disabilities.

A lot of workshops in the past 6 months. We also looked at supporting the community in different ways, recognising that workshops are not necessarily what everyone needs. A site visit to Riverwood

Redevelopment was organised to engage with the Mandarin speaking residents of the Estate. Kira Osborne and myself also organised Community Key Messages drop in sessions to record the wishes of the community before the official start of Master Planning. Through participation at various events and community gatherings, I hope that I brought support and some answers about planning concepts and processes. I also work behind the scenes doing community advocacy with government, pushing the key messages that we hear every day in the community.

To conclude, if there was one message to put forward about how to do Master Planning well in Waterloo, or anywhere, it would be through the words of Jan Gehl:

“First life, then spaces, then buildings. The other way around never works.”

Thomas Chailloux



Inner Sydney Voice Magazine

THIS YEAR STARTED WITH US increasing the print run of our very popular Redeveloping Public Housing Issue of Inner Sydney Voice Magazine (ISVM). It ends with a bumper 40-page rework of that same issue with Waterloo specific material added as part of the capacity building for Redeveloping Waterloo Public Housing. The print run was three times our usual 1000 copies.

When ISV was looking at the capacity-building project for Waterloo, we realised that we had undertaken a lot of capacity building already through ISVM. The articles in ISVM over the last few years, in most part, remained as relevant today as they were when they were written. This will come as no surprise to those that enjoy our *From the Vault* section in each ISVM.

The challenge is how do we give relevant articles a longer shelf life than their usual three months. So we went back through all the online ISVM articles (since 2012) and categorised them. We then produced an ISVM resource page on our website, with links to each of the articles in each category. So now, if you are looking for background reading on particular inner Sydney topic you can easily access the relevant ISVM articles. This compilation sits now on the ISV website under the resources tab.

Given the quality of ISVM writers it has also not been surprising that some of them participated in workshops which were part of the Waterloo capacity-building program. Another legacy of ISVM for other parts of ISV's work.

Apart from the Redeveloping

(Waterloo) Public Waterloo Housing issues, we also produced an issue for the 40th Anniversary of Inner Sydney Regional Council. This was a good opportunity both to tell some of the ISRC story but also to look at how what happened in the past relates to the ISV of today. It was also pleasing to be able to have the print issue alongside some of the early video about ISRC and to have some of those who wrote for the 40th

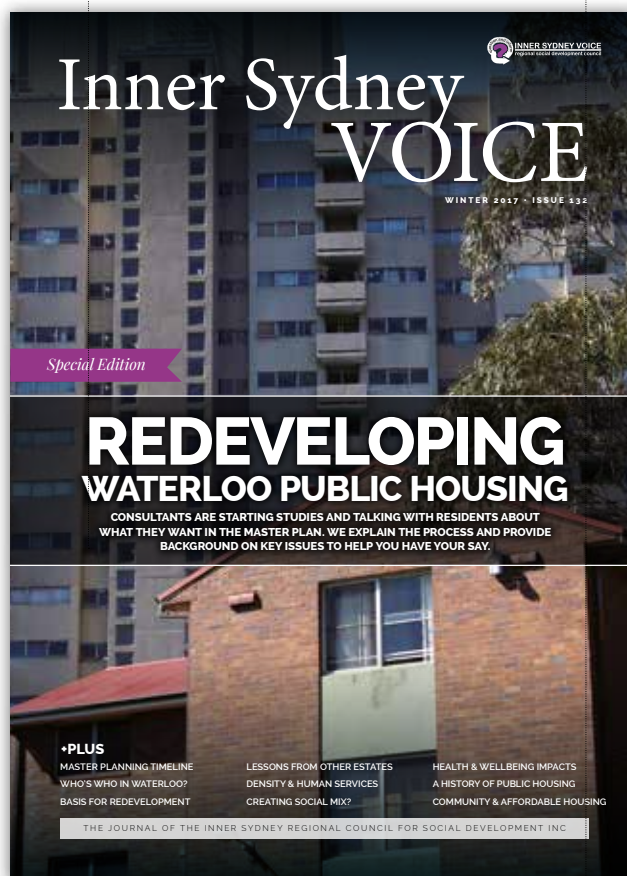
Support Development Officer, Enis Jusufspahic, needed to obtain or write the material that we thought would be most helpful across the sector. It was not all about the NDIS, we also included articles about how the CALD community is under-represented in accessing disability services and how the cognitively impaired are overly represented in the justice system. The issue was very well received.

This year we missed an issue of ISV, in part due to the extra time needed to pull together the NDIS issue, and in part, because of difficulties in getting the input we needed for two other specialty issues we wanted to produce – one on local government and the other on planning. A magazine like ISVM is dependent on the availability and goodwill of our writers to write on the topic areas we suggest. Mostly this works but sometimes it does not. Our success in getting an issue together is also determined by the timing. With local government returned to locally elected councillors and major changes in planning we are hoping we will be able to produce issues on both these themes in the coming year – writers willing.

A big thank you to all our writers, proof-readers and sub-editors – without you all, ISVM would not be possible. A big thank you to Alys Martin our designer who manages to make ISVM look amazing even if it does have more words to the page than is desirable!

We hope that you have found the ISVM articles of interest and we welcome any suggestions and contributions.

**Charmaine Jones and
Geoffrey Turnbull – Co-Editors**



Anniversary issue also being part of the 40th Anniversary video that launched our YouTube channel. Those that came to last year's AGM and Marg Barry Lecture 40th Celebration received a reprint of the very first Inner Voice from March 1978.

In the lead up to the NDIS we also did our "Making the NDIS work for everyone" issue. This was a tricky issue to pull together as our Aging and Disability Sector



Tenant Participation Resource Service

This Report is a quick snapshot of the service provided. Central Sydney North Tenant Participation Resource Service (CSNTPRS), is a service funded by Family and Community Services (FaCS), to support Social Housing Tenants in Northern Sydney District (NSD) and parts of Sydney District (SD) and South Eastern Sydney District (SESD).

As per the FaCS TPRS Program plan, the CSNTPRS worked to 5 core areas,

- Social Housing Tenants are engaged in Communities,
- Their needs are identified and considered in planning and service delivery,
- They are informed about their rights and responsibilities and are supported with their housing needs,
- They have skills and resources to participate in community life and
- That they receive services that are coordinated, flexible and responsive to their needs.

The CSNTPRS Program provided support to tenants and agencies to enable their involvement with each other and the broader community. This support included a mix of administration, resourcing, participating, hosting and/or facilitating meetings, taking on and implementing action points, and in maintaining links across all the groups. In terms of communication stats, the TPRS received over 4,700 TP related emails, sent over 1,550 emails, received over 2,000 mobile phone calls and received over 2,000 text messages. On a day to day basis, the CSNTPRS was available for drop-in enquires, telephone enquiries, social networking enquires and emails and dealt with 489 outreach meetings with Tenant Groups and Agencies, 62 of which were in NSD,

189 in SESD and 238 in SD. These included 152 meetings of Tenant Groups, 71 Neighbourhood Advisory Board meetings, Housing and Tenant Liaison Groups and Area Tenant Councils meetings through the year & 71 interagencies & forums. The participation in these meetings is to allow the TP resource worker to work with all attended Interagencies and Tenant Groups to make a difference to social outcomes and to serve and strengthen their Tenant Communities. It involves working jointly on a range of issues affecting tenants, including Mental Health, Crime, Health & Safety issues and seeking funding for projects and included visiting Tenant Groups and helping them with the process and procedures in dealing with a multitude of issues.

The CSNTPRS Program has seen an increase across most areas in tenants participating in Tenant Participation (TP) activities, or asking for assistance from the CSNTPRS Program. Tenants are interested in understanding what is happening in their local communities and in higher level policy arenas.

The CSNTPRS auspiced the funding for a number of tenant projects this year, including the Social Housing Community Improvement Fund for Oakley Community Gardens, Thornleigh and the Doomben St complex, Eastwood as well as grants for Waitara Ave, Waitara and Dora Street, Marsfield, Tower Street, Manly and Poplar St, Surry Hills. The worker also supports tenants through the development of projects like the Northcott Surry Hills Community Shed and Collaboration Project. It also supported tenant's call to rename the community room at 254 Crown St to the John Hill Community Room after the tragic death of John Hill in Oxford Street earlier in 2016.

Training provided to tenants over the year included Committee Skills, Effective Meetings and Precinct Rep Training. The CSNTPRS also held forums on the IPART Review of Social and Affordable Housing Rent Models. The CSNTPRS also provided input in to FACS 'Housing Connect' Digital solutions program, ensuring the online platforms used are accessible and user-friendly.

The CSNTPRS regularly liaises and provides feedback to FaCS Housing regarding Tenants social housing situation, which included over 100 meetings with FaCS Housing Staff, including all 3 District Directors, all 7 Team Leaders and Senior Client Service Officer's and Client Service Officers. This collaborative work with FaCS staff provides an avenue to ensure Tenants' needs are identified and considered in planning and service delivery.

WHO IS USING THE SERVICE?

- 8% of inquiries were from CALD and First Nation Peoples tenants.
- Community Housing tenants accounted for 10% of enquiries.
- Women at 65%, accessed the service a lot more than men.
- The two highest age groups accessing the service were the 50-70 year old bracket with 44% and the 35-50 year old bracket with 31% of the Tenant enquiries.
- Agency Staff accounted for 19% of enquiries. These include Area Health, Local Police, Local Government, NGO Service Providers and other TPRS Workers.
- 4% of enquiries come from applicants on the Pathways Housing waiting list and family or carers of tenants.

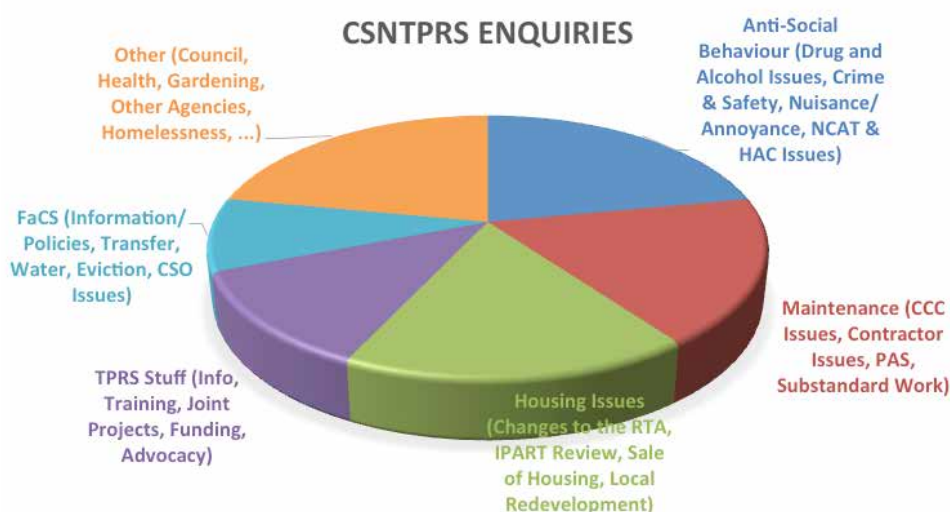
The highest areas of enquiry came from Waterloo followed by Surry Hills,

Over 4,700 TP related emails, sent over 1,550 emails, received over 2,000 mobile phone calls and received over 2,000 text messages

WHO IS USING THE SERVICE



CSNTPRS ENQUIRIES



Redfern, Glebe/Camperdown, Ryde LGA, Leichhardt LGA, Hornsby LGA and North Sydney LGA. In terms of estates, Waterloo with 2,600 Social Housing dwellings, Redfern, 1,600 Social Housing dwellings, Glebe, 1,400 Social Housing dwellings and Surry Hills with 1,000 Social Housing dwellings have always been 1, 2, 3 & 4 in terms of enquiries from the CSNTPRS. Millers Point/The Rocks faced an eviction/sales program and with now only 13 tenancies (out of 399) and 19 Tenants left (out of 579), TP is not an option for them, as it isn't

in Macquarie Park which is also in the process of redevelopment, with less than 100 tenancies left on the Estate. Waterloo Tenants have also been given letters of notice of intent of redevelopment meaning all the Social Housing Tenants living in those suburbs are experiencing increases in health stress, both physical and mental due to the forced relocations.

The number one enquiry asked of the CSNTPRS in the 2016-2017 financial year was again about anti-social behaviour and its variants, mental health issues and rebuilding

community cohesion. Maintenance, which includes complaints about contractor work and attitudes, along with complaints about the call-centre came in second, an increase of complaints from the previous years, and enquiries about Housing Issues on a multitude of subjects came in third. As noted last year, the increase in enquiries about the issue of people smoking in common areas has continued.

In Nov 2016, The NSW Government announced that around 18,000 additional Public Housing properties will be managed locally by community housing providers (They already manage around 19% of the Social Housing Portfolio across NSW). This announcement included all the Northern Sydney District, excluding the Ivanhoe Estate, which will be managed by MA Housing and AHO Properties. Management transfers will start from early 2018 and take three years to complete. The TPRS worker will support tenants as they transition to new housing providers.

While the statistics show the physicality of what is being done, there is an underlying philosophy behind all the numbers and that is to build community. Studies have shown that involvement in community has not only lessened drug misuse but increased the mental wellness of people, making a difference to social outcomes while building the capacity of social housing tenants. As such, part of our strategy in building community is to work on programs like the Cadre 'Mental Health Neighbourhood Watch' Project and expand this working concept to other areas, such as the Inner West and the Northern suburbs.

The CSNTPRS looks forward to meeting and excelling the challenges in the year ahead.

**David White Project Co-ordinator
Central Sydney North Tenant
Participation Resource Service**

Community Resilience Innovation Program

Preventing the Preventable: building a greater sense of emergency preparedness amongst social housing communities.

Inner Sydney Voice is starting a new project?

We all know that disasters happen, but do we expect it to happen to us? Are we ready for what we need to do, and what will change, when a disaster does happen? Recognising the need to address such questions amongst social housing communities, Inner Sydney Voice has successfully lodged a project proposal with the NSW Office for Emergency Management (OEM), as part of the 'Community resilience Innovation Program' (CRIP). The project, which officially started in the final week of the 2016/17 year, will use the Community Engagement Framework to bring together key community actors to work towards building a more resilient community, and be better prepared in the event of an emergency (think of a flood, storm, tsunami, fire, earthquake, heatwave, terrorist attack, etc).

What does community strengthening and emergency preparedness have in common?

Disasters not only destroy property and infrastructure, but they can also disrupt the lives of people across a range of sectors. Further, the nature of disasters calls for an all-of-society approach to adequately address the unique set of challenges that arise in preparing for an emergency. This becomes significant in

considering how community actors must work together to address this common challenge. Since disasters impact all sectors in different ways, various stakeholders become dependent on each other to build a more resilient, better prepared community. This means that collaboration between stakeholders is not only critical for building emergency preparedness amongst the community, but it also provides a platform for further partnership building. Emergency planning is non-controversial.

At Inner Sydney Voice, we strive to promote social cohesion between all community actors, and this project is just another way we are doing this.

So how are you building emergency preparedness?

The Redfern and Surry Hills Community Resilience Committee (CRC) is currently being established using an all-of-society approach. Together, with social housing tenants, government agencies, emergency services, and community organisations, Inner Sydney Voice will soon begin coordinating various community focussed activities that will promote emergency preparedness and enhance community resilience. This may include: strengthening existing programs by Fire Rescue NSW

(FRNSW), NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES), NSW Police Force (NSWPF), or the Red Cross, by promoting greater input from tenants themselves; establishing a volunteer floor warden program, to ensure that all residents are well-connected and looked after before, during, and after an emergency; or, promoting the use of a personal emergency plan, to ensure that residents, particularly those with less mobility, know what to do if they need to evacuate the building.

The project philosophy?

Ideally, communities are the best positioned to prepare for and manage emergency situations. With local knowledge and details of the specifics of social housing in Australia, tenants will be able to prevent emergencies before they happen, and respond faster once they occur. This is especially poignant following the recent Grenfell Tower fire, in which close to 80 tenants lost their lives despite committees warning authorities about the danger posed by a lack of tenant preparedness and poor evacuation plans. The project therefore aims to bridge the gap between the voices of social housing tenants in Australia and those traditionally responsible for ensuring their protection.

Sam Beattie

“Collaboration between stakeholders is not only critical for building emergency preparedness amongst the community, but it also provides a platform for further partnership building.”

Treasurer's Report

I AM PLEASED THAT IN MY FIRST YEAR IN THE ROLE as Treasurer, having taken over the reins from the very capable Bill Yan, that I can state Inner Sydney Voice has had another successful year with a net operating surplus of \$33,812 for FY2016-17. This wonderful outcome is credited to good control and responsible practices of our financials from the Board members and staff led by our Executive Officer, Charmaine Jones.

The audited Financial Statements that have been made available to you outline these respectable results for the past financial year ended 30th June 2017.

The net operating surplus for the year is \$33,812, compared to \$8,074 for FY2015-16.

INCOME

Income for the 12 months ended 30th June 2017 was \$547,289 (previous year \$563,500). We received funding for our usual funded programs, along with some small one-year programs. Most of the funds in this year's surplus will be utilised to further our service improvement in FY2017-18.

EXPENSES

The total expenses were \$513,477 (previous year \$555,426). The major costs were staff salaries and consultants' fees. Our staff and consultants we engaged were essential for our service provision.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members,

all our staff and all the volunteers for their hard work in pursuing the vision and mission of Inner Sydney Voice.

It may be challenging in the years ahead with different reforms on-going in our community sector. Still, I am confident that ISV will be the leading regional peak organisation in providing our sector capacity building and welfare services to all our clients and stakeholders.

I would especially like to thank our funders, without whom Inner Sydney Voice could not continue to provide the services it does.

Fionn Taylor

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED
86 770 127 254**

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2017**

***Meagher Howard & Wright
Certified Practising Accountants
Suite 505
55 Grafton Street
BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022***

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

Committee Members

The name of each member of the committee during the year and if different, at the date of the report;

Joel Pringle
Kate Melhopt
Graham Brecht
Emma Couch
Fionn Taylor
Kelly Brazler
Nigel Salmons

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

to act as a Regional Advocacy, information and community development agency working in and for the Inner Sydney Region

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit of the association after providing for income tax amounted to \$33,812.00.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

Committee Member:

Joel Pringle

Committee Member:

Fionn Taylor

Dated this 20 day of September 2017

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED
86 770 127 254**

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
INCOME			
Grants - DSS		129,686	127,769
Grants - FACS Community Builders		159,241	154,960
Grants - FACS HNSW		157,358	155,017
Grants - Other		90,844	66,036
		<u>537,129</u>	<u>503,782</u>
Donations		564	-
Interest Received		3,304	4,729
Membership Fees		1,142	1,119
ISV Contributions		40	46,030
Secretariat		3,917	6,154
Other Income		1,193	1,686
		<u>547,289</u>	<u>563,500</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
EXPENDITURE			
Accountancy		12,119	12,000
Auditors Remuneration - Fees		2,500	2,200
Bank Charges		3	62
Board		305	-
Catering		7,056	6,887
Cleaning		2,755	2,870
Compliance		187	-
Communication			
E-mail		7,090	1,158
Postage		2,003	2,322
Telephone		3,658	11,296
Website		-	58
		12,751	14,834
Computer & IT Expenses		3,988	4,799
Consultants Fees		37,211	38,015
Depreciation		-	21
Minor Equipment <\$1,000		-	474
Equipment - Minor		7,441	1,020
Forum & Inter Agency		-	180
General Expenses		(3)	-
Insurance		6,183	5,138
ISV Contractors		2,760	1,600
Local Group Funding		1,555	1,171
Office Expenses		4,071	3,734
Programme Costs		4,607	13,217
Office Requisites		18,727	28,748
Productions/Media Designs		7,755	57,227
Rent		4,997	4,851
Repairs & Maintenance		125	-
Staff Recruitment		720	-
Secretariat		5,436	5,751

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Employment Expenses			
Salaries		331,162	298,626
Superannuation		29,879	27,485
Provision for Annual Leave		(4,809)	11,764
Long Service Leave Provision		6,981	3,254
Other		50	-
		<u>363,263</u>	<u>341,129</u>
Conferences & Training		1,460	2,773
Subscriptions		2,619	3,262
Travelling Expenses		2,886	3,473
		<u>513,477</u>	<u>555,426</u>
Profit before Income tax		<u>33,812</u>	<u>8,074</u>
Profit for the year		33,812	8,074
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year		150,147	143,209
Acquittal Surplus Recovery		-	1,136
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year		<u>183,959</u>	<u>150,147</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
SHARE CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Retained earnings		183,959	150,147
TOTAL SHARE CAPITAL AND RESERVES		<u>183,959</u>	<u>150,147</u>
Represented by:			
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash in Hand		31	106
Bendigo Bank		17,023	7,192
Bendigo Bank Management		349,434	234,805
Bendigo Bank Office		1,321	893
Bendigo Bank Deposit		99,716	97,197
Trade Debtors		-	1,140
Less Prov'n for Doubtful Debts		-	(1,140)
Income Accrued		992	1,097
Prepayments		3,325	3,220
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>471,842</u>	<u>344,510</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial Assets			
Shares in Public Companies at Cost		21	21
		<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>
Fixed Assets			
Office Equipment - at Cost		89,683	138,106
Less Prov'n for Depreciation		(89,683)	(138,106)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Fixed Assets		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>471,863</u>	<u>344,531</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade Creditors		18,769	17,026
Grants in Advance		156,965	78,601
Provision for PAYG Payable		5,798	4,904
Provision for Superannuation		2,642	2,171
GST & BAS Transactions		14,365	4,488
Provision for Annual Leave		48,847	53,656
Prov'n for Long Service Leave		40,518	33,538
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>287,904</u>	<u>194,384</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>287,904</u>	<u>194,384</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>183,959</u>	<u>150,147</u>

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	685,928	381,146
Payments to suppliers and employees	(562,005)	(532,564)
Interest received	3,409	4,729
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>127,332</u>	<u>(146,689)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	127,332	(146,689)
Cash at beginning of financial year	<u>340,193</u>	<u>486,882</u>
Cash at end of financial year	<u><u>467,525</u></u>	<u><u>340,193</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

The financial statements cover INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED as an individual entity. INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED is a not for profit Association incorporated in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The functional and presentation currency of INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED is Australian dollars.

1 Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least one year after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED**
86 770 127 254

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	2017 \$	2016 \$
3 Trade and Other Receivables		
Current		
Trade Debtors	-	1,140
Less Prov'n for Doubtful Debts	-	(1,140)
	-	-
Income Accrued	992	1,097
	<u>992</u>	<u>1,097</u>
4 Financial Assets		
Non-Current		
Shares in Public Companies at Cost	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>
5 Employee Benefits		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	48,847	53,656
Prov'n for Long Service Leave	40,518	33,538
	<u>89,365</u>	<u>87,194</u>
6 Retained Earnings		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	150,147	143,209
Net profit attributable to the association	33,812	8,074
Acquittal Surplus Recovery	-	(1,136)
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>183,959</u>	<u>150,147</u>

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED
86 770 127 254**

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

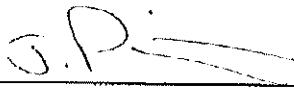
The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements as set out on pages 0 to 9:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Chairperson:


Joel Pringle

Treasurer:


Flonn Taylor

Dated this 20 day of September 2017



MEAGHER, HOWARD & WRIGHT
CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS
ABN 42 664 097 441

PARTNERS
K.J. WRIGHT J.P. M.COMM. F.C.P.A.
G. MIDDLETON B.COMM. ACA

FINANCIAL PLANNING
MARK MAYCOCK J.P.

ASSOCIATE
L.J. HOWARD O.A.M. J.P. B Ec. F.C.P.A.

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BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022
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Independent Auditor's Report
To the Members of Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development Inc

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development Inc, ("the Entity"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration of the Committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Entity is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

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 are independent of the Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("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.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the Committee, would be in the same terms if given as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and the Committee for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the special purpose financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the relevant Australian Accounting Standards in accordance with the *Australian*

Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Regulations 2013 and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines 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 special purpose financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity'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 management either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Committee are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

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 Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:


- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Committee with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Meagher Howard & Wright
ICAA

Suite 505, 55 Grafton Street
Bondi Junction NSW 2022


Greg Middleton
Partner ICAA 24953

Date 20 September 2017



INNER SYDNEY VOICE
regional social development council

Annual report 2016-2017

