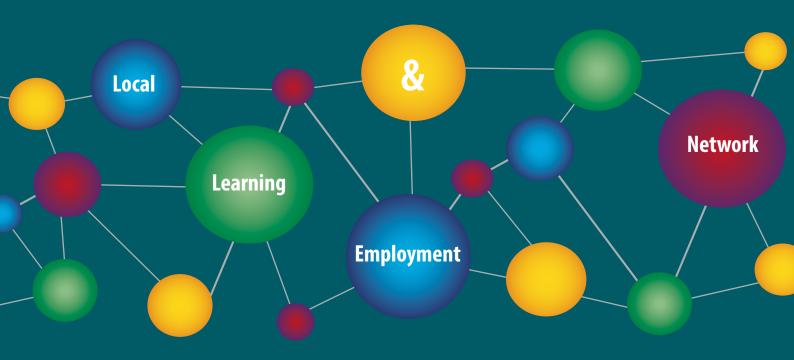
# Annual Report 2017





# Annual Report 2017



#### Who we are

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN is a not-for-profit organisation which works towards improving education outcomes for young people in the local community.

WSMLLEN is funded by the State Government of Victoria and was established in 2002.

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#### **Acknowledgements**

WSMLLEN acknowledges the following for their funding support:

- · Horsham Sports and Community Club
- · Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
- · Hindmarsh Shire
- · Horsham Rural City Council
- Rupanyup and Minyip Community Bank
- · Wimmera schools:
  - VET Cluster
  - Grampians Virtual School
  - Western Victorian Careers Expo



Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN is supported by the Victorian Government.

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#### Mission

To create partnerships between industry, education and the community that develop positive futures for our young people.

#### Vision

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network's objective is to assist young people to complete year 12 or its vocational equivalent. This includes traineeships and apprenticeships. A particular focus of our work is with young people from a disadvantaged background.

#### **Our Region**



#### We work with...



...to provide positive futures for our young people.

#### **FOCUS AREAS**

Improving Literacy

Increasing school engagement and retention rates

Raising educational aspirations

Improving outcomes for young people

#### IN 2017...



Fifty mentors were matched with young people in schools across our region in the MATES Mentoring Program.



1,621 Let's Read books were distributed to preschool children across our four shires.



We have coordinated the Wimmera Southern Mallee VET Cluster for schools across our region.



We have developed and piloted the Jumpstart program at Horsham Primary School Rasmussen Campus.



We have been a partner in the Connecting The Service Puzzle program and developed the mentoring component of this program.



We have been a long-term sponsor of the Western Victorian Careers Expo and provide office space and administration support for the Careers Expo Project Officer.



Over 40 reading buddies volunteered to read with children on a regular basis in participating schools.



We have coordinated the Grampians Virtual School providing VCE subjects to schools across our region.



We have facilitated 27 Community Action Network meetings in 7 communities.



We have delivered the Structured Workplace Learning program across our region.



We have continued to support schools to deliver Hands On Learning programs and establish one new program in 2017.



We continued to facilitate the Sports Mentoring Program funded by Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly, providing access to sporting programs for children from disadvantaged families.

# Our Committee of Management

- Chair
   Wendy Robins<sup>11</sup>
- Deputy Chair
   Ray Campling <sup>7</sup>
- Treasurer
   Debra Nelson <sup>7</sup>
- Secretary
   Brendan Ryan 8
- P Committee Members
  Joanna Day 10
  Peter Drummond 6
  Karen Fuller 3
  Anne Gawith 1
  John Gorton 9
  Alethea Gulvin 10
  Carlos Lopez 1
  Geoffrey Lord 2
  Mandi Stewart 10
  Wendy Sturgess 8

#### **Member categories**

- 1. Schools
- TAFE institutes or universities with a TAFE sector
- 3. Adult community education organisations
- Other education and training organisations including private registered training organisations, universities and group training companies
- 5. Trade unions
- Employers, peak employer organisations, regional employer organisations and employment agencies
- 7. Local government
- 8. Other community agencies and organisations, Commonwealth and State Government departments, School Focused Youth Service, adult, community and further education regional councils, regional youth councils, area consultative committees, parent organisations etc.
- Koorie organisations, peak Koorie agencies and regional Koorie organisations
- 10. Community Members
- 11. Co-opted member

See pages 10 - 11 for a full list of members



# A message from our Chair

Making a positive difference in the lives of children is exciting, rewarding and challenging. As we continue our mission to create partnerships between industry, education and the community, we need all members of our community, to join in the task of developing positive futures for our young people. It certainly does take a village to raise a child.

It is my privilege, to support the work of Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN as Chair of the Committee of the Management—and it is indeed a privilege.

Many of us reading this report have had fortunate lives. However, there are too many children in our community, through no fault of their own, who are starting their lives and their education from a place of disadvantage. A particular focus of the work of Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN is to is to address this disadvantage and to assist young people to complete year 12 or its vocational equivalent. (This includes traineeships and apprenticeships.)

This report outlines initiatives undertaken by Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN in 2017. As you flip through the pages, you will see the level of community involvement in the fabulous programs delivered by our LLEN team.

These include MATES Mentoring, Community Champions, Let's Read, Reading Buddies, Structured Workplace Learning, Jump Start Project, Try VET Day and our Community Action Networks (CANs). This community involvement is a great strength of our LLEN.

As well as being Chair of the Committee of Management, I have also had the privilege of being a volunteer mentor in the MATES mentoring program and have experienced first-hand the wonderful opportunity of being part of a program that makes a difference in the lives of so many young people in our community. I congratulate the LLEN team on matching 456 mentors with young people across our region since the inception of the MATES program in 2010. This is a truly remarkable effort and reflects the high level of community support for our young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our Committee of Management for their support and for taking the time to bring their skills to this important volunteer role, with a special mention to Deputy Chair, Ray Campling, outgoing Chair, Mandi Stewart and retiring Treasurer, Carmen Munro. Mandi served as Deputy Chair for three years and Chair for four years and Carmen served as Treasurer for nine years.

On behalf of the Committee of Management I would also like to thank our Executive Officer, Tim Shaw, our dedicated LLEN staff, our members, volunteers, teachers, parents, and all our funding partners for making a positive difference in the lives of young people across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region.

Together we can continue to improve outcomes for our young people.

On behalf of the Committee of Management I am pleased to present the 2017 WSMLLEN Annual Report to you.

Thank you!

Wendy Robins

Chair

Committee of Management



#### A message from the Executive Officer

The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN continues its mission to change young lives through the power of education. We are committed to addressing disadvantage by targeting support for those young people most in need.

Our members and partners can reflect on the achievements of 2017 and be proud that the organisation has delivered strong outcomes for our young people. Our work has a real impact in communities across the region.

We could not achieve our objectives without the support of our partners. The WSMLLEN has brokered and/or maintained more than 50 active partnerships in 2017 to improve the education and life outcomes of our young people. We thank our region's schools and our partners for their strong engagement and contribution during 2017. Our principals and schools do a great job and their continued support is an essential element in the success of our partnership initiatives.

I would like to acknowledge and thank members of the WSMLLEN Committee of Management for their valuable contribution over the past year. We are fortunate to have passionate, committed and skilled people willing to volunteer their time and expertise to improve the lives of young people throughout the region. The combined knowledge and expertise of the committee is a wonderful asset to the organisation and ensures that our strategic direction, governance and probity are maintained at very high levels.

I would like to recognise and thank the WSMLLEN staff for their performance and contribution throughout the year. The WSMLLEN team is hard-working, passionate and dedicated to improving education and life outcomes of our region's young people. It is pleasing to regularly receive positive feedback from our partners and stakeholders regarding the excellent work

and achievements of our staff members.

We would like to acknowledge the support received from the Department of Education and Training and the Victorian Government. Thank you to Brendan Ryan and Jo Day, and to DET staff at the Horsham and Warrnambool Regional Offices. Our thanks also, to the Vulnerable Children Branch and VET Reform Unit teams in Melbourne for their guidance and support.

Education changes lives and provides untold opportunities. Our mission continues to define our core purpose and why we exist. It is as relevant today as it was when it was first created in 2002. We maintain our strong commitment to achieving our mission of creating partnerships between industry, education and the community that develop positive futures for our young people.

Tim Shaw

Jim Show

**Executive Officer** 

#### **Our Staff**



Mary Bysouth Project Officer



Katrina Janetzki Project Officer (April- July)



Lorraine Merton Administration Officer



Annie Mintern Careers Expo Project Officer



Vanessa O'Loughlin Project Officer



Melissa Powell Project Officer



Angela Watson Finance Officer

Our Strategic Plan provides the framework for all of our programs and guides the directions that we take in the ever-important role of providing positive futures for our young people.

#### Goal 1

To improve the participation of vulnerable young people and their families in education

To increase the re-engagement of young people into programs leading to credentials

#### Goal 2

To increase our schools' engagement with stakeholders in their community to improve students' aspirations, education and transition outcomes

#### Goal 3

To remain a sustainable, innovative and responsive organisation, focused on key outcomes

#### STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 - 2020

#### **Process**

The strategic plan for 2016 - 2020 was developed in a consultation process between the Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN staff, Committee of Management, stakeholders and partners to clearly define the goals and objectives over the four-year period from 2016 - 2020.

#### **Implementation**

The Strategic Plan provides the framework for developing a work plan to ensure that the programs, activities and endeavours of Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN address relevant issues that provide positive futures for young people in the Wimmera Southern Mallee region.

	OUR YOUNG PEOPLE	OUR PARTNERS	OUR WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LLEN
	Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3
Our Goals	<ul> <li>a. To improve the participation of vulnerable young people and their families in education</li> <li>b. To increase the re-engagement of young people into programs leading to credentials</li> </ul>	To increase our schools' engagement with stakeholders in their community to improve students' aspirations, education and transition outcomes	To remain a sustainable, innovative and responsive organisation, focused on key outcomes
Objectives	To ensure that young people remain engaged in education, training or employment  To provide support and opportunities to ensure that vulnerable young people achieve their full potential  To improve literacy as a foundation for educational success	To build community capacity through our brokered and supported partnerships	To practise sound and responsible governance To ensure that the work of the LLEN will be responsive to needs and informed by evidence To ensure that the LLEN is financially sustainable
Strategies to be implemented	<ol> <li>Build on the work already underway to develop and improve early intervention literacy projects</li> <li>Provide active coordination and support for the provision of flexible learning options</li> <li>Support the delivery of the DET and DHHS plans (currently Marrung and Taskforce 1000) for improving Koorie education outcomes</li> <li>Further develop the Wimmera Sports Mentoring Program to provide opportunities for vulnerable young people to participate in community and sports activities</li> <li>Further develop a process and structure to facilitate effective advocacy for our community and its young people</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Ensure the effectiveness of the Community Action Networks in strengthening relationships between schools and agencies working with 'at risk' young people and their families</li> <li>Develop and implement a proactive industry engagement plan, and review the effectiveness of the plan on an annual basis</li> <li>Maintain, support and develop the MATES mentoring program and document and celebrate its success</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Develop and implement a communication/ marketing plan which communicates the unique value and purpose of the LLEN to all partners and to the general community</li> <li>Undertake a review of the governance structures and processes of the LLEN, including composition, succession planning and options to include a voice of youth within the governance structure and processes</li> <li>Develop a data-bank of locally derived data, case studies, research data and impact data to support informed decision making by the LLEN and partner agencies</li> <li>Actively seek alternative revenue sources and funding models to support program development and delivery. Actively monitor a 3-year financial plan, to ensure that the LLEN is well-placed to make financially responsible decisions at the end of the current government funding cycle.</li> </ol>

Creating partnerships between industry, education and the community that develop positive futures for our young people

#### **OUR MEMBERS**

#### 1. Schools (18 Members)

**Balmoral Community College** Horsham College Rainbow P-12 College **Beulah Primary School** Horsham Primary School Rupanyup Primary School Dimboola Memorial Secondary College Horsham Special School St. Brigid's Secondary College Edenhope College Kaniva College Warracknabeal Secondary College Goroke P-12 College Murtoa College Warracknabeal Special School Hopetoun P-12 College Nhill College Yaapeet Primary School

#### 2. TAFE Institutes or Universities with TAFE Sector (2 Members)

Federation University Longerenong College

#### 3. Adult Community Education Organisations (7 Members)

Centre for Participation Nhill Neighbourhood House Learning Centre Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House and

Gateway BEET Inc Learning Centre

Skillinvest

Kaniva LINK Neighbourhood House Rainbow Community Learning Group &

Murtoa and District Neighbourhood House Neighbourhood House

SLAAM Inc

Community Axis

**Business Horsham** 

4. Other Education and training organisations including private registered training organisations, universities and group training companies (2 Members)

Companies (2 Members)

#### 5. Trade Unions (1 Member)

Victoria Trades Hall Council

#### 6. Employers, Peak employer organisations, regional employer organisations and employment agencies. (24 Members)

Allan and Trev's Workwear GWM Water O'Connors Case IH

Australian Industry Group Hopetoun Courier Simpson Personnel

Beaurepaires Horsham Horsham Autoelectrical Services Pty Ltd Stanford Enterprises

(Resigned Dec. 2017) Horsham Real Estate Toy's Garden Restaurant

Horsham Regional Art Gallery

Dimboola Pharmacy Luv-a-Duck Warracknabeal Herald - North West Press

Warracknabeal AMCAL Pharmacy

Edenhope Post Office J & F May Wimmera Mail Times

(Resigned Dec 2017) McLennan Smash Repairs Woodbine Inc

Feet First Footwear Morrow Motors

#### 7. Local Government (4 Members)

Hindmarsh Shire Council West Wimmera Shire Council Yarriambiack Shire Council

Horsham Rural City Council

# 8. Other community agencies and organisations, Commonwealth and State Government departments, School Focused Youth Service, Adult, community and Further Education regional councils, Regional Youth Councils, Area Consultative Committees, parent organisations. (18 Members)

Art Is Festival Leadership Wimmera Warracknabeal Memorial Kindergarten Inc

Department Education and Training NEXUS Youth Centre Wimmera Business Centre

Department of Health and Human Services Regional Development Victoria Wimmera Development Association

Department of Planning & Community SalvoConnect Western, Horsham Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Development St Laurence Wimmera Regional Library Corp.

Grampians Community Heath Uniting Wimmera Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly

Horsham Police

#### 9. Koorie Organisations (3 Members)

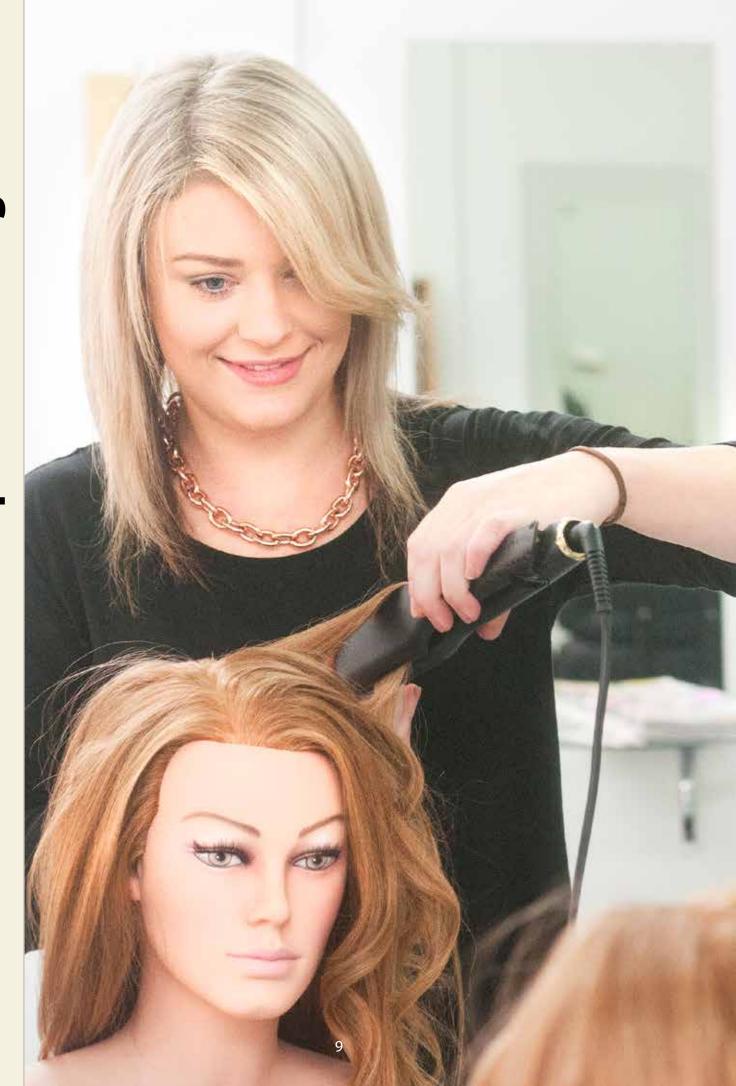
Barengi Gadjin Land Council Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative Local Aboriginal Education Consultative

Group (LAECG)

10.	Community Members (40 Membe	rs)			
1.	John Ackland	15.	Gail Harradine	29.	Sue Radford
2.	Leigh Andressen	16.	Serena Kereopa	30.	Dianne Richards
3.	Kim Boulton	17.	Neil King	31.	Joe Richardson
4.	Steve Braybrook	18.	Mandy Kirsopp	32.	Wendy Robins
5.	Bev Buckley	19.	Ross McFarlane	33.	Murray Robinson
6.	Margaret Burdett	20.	William McGrath	34.	Graeme Sargent
7.	Russell Christie	21.	Bruce McInnes	35.	lain Sedgman
8.	Joanna Day	22.	John Millington	36.	Kylie Smith
9.	Hugh Delahunty	23.	Alan Montague	37.	Mandi Stewart
10.	Louise Dower-Amor	24.	Gloria Muldoon	38.	Margaret Stewart
	(Resigned Feb 2017)	25.	Carmen Munro	39.	Lyn Sudholz
11.	Kim Drummond		(Resigned Aug. 2017)	40.	Barbara Whitfield
12.	Rob Gersch	26.	Robyn Murphy	41.	Mark Zimmerman
13.	Susan Griffiths	27.	Campbell Pallot		
14.	Alethea Gulvin	28.	Gary Pilgrim		

Members as at 31 December, 2017 = 115

Yarriambiack Shire Schools	Hindmarsh Shire Schools	West Wimmera Shire Schools	Horsham Rural City Schools
14 Schools	8 Schools	5 Schools	9 Schools
<ol> <li>Beulah Primary School</li> <li>Hopetoun P-12 College</li> <li>Minyip Primary School</li> <li>Murtoa College</li> <li>Our Lady Help of Christians School (Murtoa)</li> <li>Rupanyup Primary School (Hopetoun)</li> <li>St Joseph's Primary School (Warracknabeal)</li> <li>Tempy Primary School (Warracknabeal Secondary College</li> <li>Warracknabeal Primary School</li> <li>Warracknabeal Primary School</li> <li>Warracknabeal Special Development School</li> <li>Woomelang Group School (Primary)</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Dimboola Primary School</li> <li>Dimboola Memorial Secondary College</li> <li>Jeparit Primary School</li> <li>Nhill College</li> <li>Nhill Lutheran School</li> <li>Rainbow P-12 College</li> <li>St Patrick's School (Nhill)</li> <li>St Peter's Lutheran School (Dimboola)</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Apsley Primary School</li> <li>Edenhope College</li> <li>Goroke P-12 College</li> <li>Kaniva College</li> <li>St Malachy's Primary School (Edenhope)</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Holy Trinity Lutheran College (Horsham)</li> <li>Horsham College</li> <li>Horsham Primary School</li> <li>Horsham Special School</li> <li>Horsham West – Haven Primary School</li> <li>Laharum Primary School</li> <li>Natimuk Primary School</li> <li>St Brigid's College</li> <li>Ss Michael and John's Catholic Primary School (Horsham)</li> </ol>



Navigating a pathway from school into employment can take many turns. This was very much the case for Horsham College student, Grace Christian.

Grace studied Cert II VET (Vocational Education and Training)
Hairdressing at Federation University one day per week. She also
undertook one day per week of on-the-job structured workplace
learning (SWL) in a salon.

After wondering if hairdressing was the career path she truly wanted, she tried another work placement in Community Services.

At the end of year 11 Grace decided hairdressing was what she really wanted and enrolled in Certificate II Salon Assistant for her second year VET course.

In year 12 Grace commenced a work placement and after only two weeks into her placement, an apprenticeship became available. What a great outcome for Grace, exploring opportunities offered through her VCAL Program at Horsham College to help shape a positive career path locally.

# Structured Workplace Learning

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN supports schools across our region through the Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) Program. A key focus of the program is to engage local businesses to provide structured workplace learning placements and school-based apprenticeships for secondary students



listing of work placement opportunities available for secondary school students. This initiative has been welcomed by local schools. The portal is a valuable resource for students seeking a work placement as part of their vocational education and training.

2017 was the first full year of operation of the Structured Workplace Learning portal. Of the 140 students in our region requiring a Structured Workplace Learning placement or a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship, 80 students (57%) found their placements via the SWL Portal.

#### **DATA**

School	Number of VET Students in 2017	Number requiring SWL/SBAT placement	Total number of VET students taking up placement opportunities:	
			Advertised on the SWL Portal	Not on the SWL Portal
Dimboola Memorial SC	14	8	3	1
Edenhope College	9	5	0	0
Goroke P-12 College	5	5	2	0
Holy Trinity Lutheran School	4	4	3	0
Hopetoun P-12 College	6	4	0	0
Horsham College	92	43	49	2
Horsham Special School	6	0	0	0
Kaniva College	13	5	2	0
Murtoa College	13	4	6	0
Nhill College	18	16	0	0
Rainbow P-12 College	9	3	0	0
St Brigid's College	33	22	9	0
Warracknabeal SC	33	21	6	0
Warracknabeal SDS	0	0	0	0
Total	255	140	80	3

#### SWL /SBAT Placements by industry





## EXTENDING CLASSROOM LEARNING

Structured workplace learning (SWL) is on-the-job training that is required to extend classroom learning within a nationally recognised vocational education and training (VET) course. VET courses are undertaken as part of either the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). It includes a work placement or a School Based Apprenticeship/ Traineeship (SBAT) which allows students to gain real world experience in their chosen course. It offers businesses a chance to raise their profile in the community whilst influencing young people's career choices.

The benefits to students include:

- Improved understanding of the work environment and employers' expectations
- Exposure to the world of work
- Increased self-understanding, maturity, independence and self-confidence, especially in the workplace
- Increased motivation to continue study and/or undertake further training
- Enhanced opportunities for part-time and casual employment
- Opportunity to develop and gain workrelated competencies
- Opportunity to acquire skills relevant to the workplace
- Opportunity to try out career choices before leaving school
- Opportunity to develop contacts with potential employers
- Opportunity to demonstrate mastery of specific skills and competencies related to the accredited course which they are undertaking
- Opportunity to undertake relevant courses which count towards the student's exit credential and articulate into further education and training.

#### **Our Goal...**

To increase
our schools'
engagement with
stakeholders in
their community
to improve
students'
aspirations,
education
and transition
outcomes

#### **SNAP SHOT**

Initiatives of the SWL program:

Marketing SWL to local businesses

A significant component of the Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) program involves visiting local businesses to promote the benefits to their business of hosting a structured workplace learning student.

Listing SWL placements on the online portal

When businesses decide to offer a SWL placement, assistance is provided to list the opportunity on the SWL online portal.

Training for staff and students to use the SWL Online portal

Our SWL staff provide training for school staff and students on the process involved in accessing and applying for a work placement via the online portal.

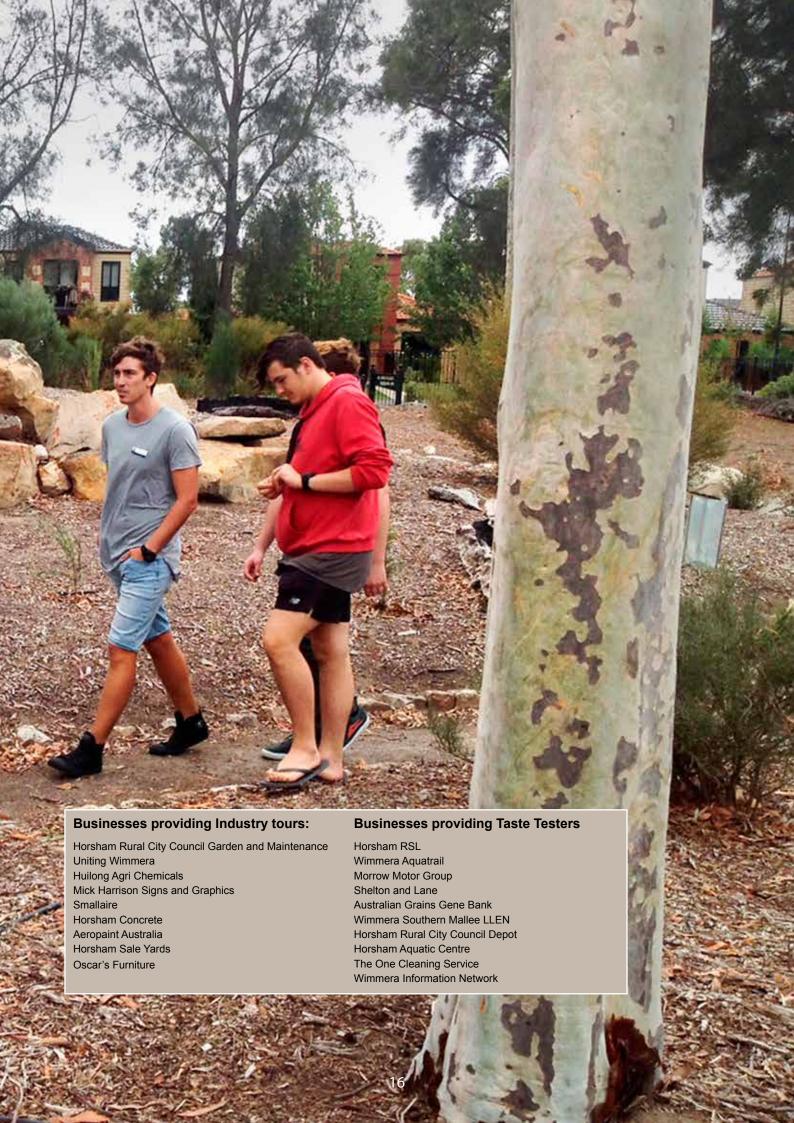
Support for businesses to host workplace students

An Employers Guide to Student Work Placements is provided for businesses, along with individual support on a needs basis.





















#### **VET Coordination**

Since 2016, Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN has coordinated the Wimmera Southern Mallee VET Cluster

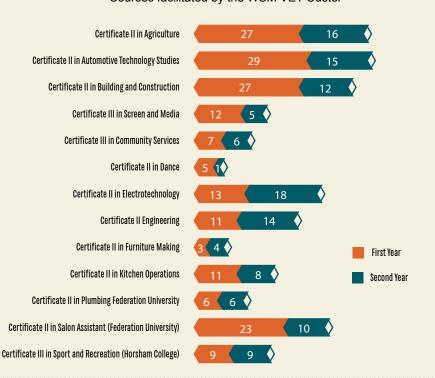
The cluster is comprised of 15 secondary schools across our region.

In 2017, the WSM VET Cluster provided 13 VET courses, with 323 students enrolling in courses. Courses were delivered by Federation University, Skillinvest, Centre for Participation and Horsham College. Courses delivered by Horsham College were auspiced by external registered training organisations.



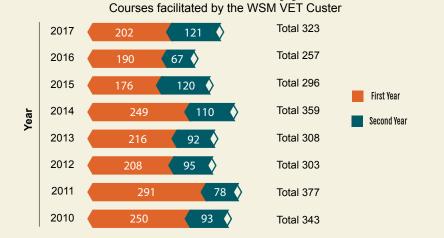
#### **VET ENROLMENTS 2017**

#### Student enrolments by course 2017 Courses facilitated by the WSM VET Custer



#### **VET ENROLMENT HISTORY**

#### Student enrolments by year



\*Enrolment data is based on the number of students who enrolled at the commencement of the school year and does not take into account, the number of students who subsequently withdrew or did not complete the course.

#### **MEMBER SCHOOLS**

The WSM VET Cluster is comprised of the following schools:

- Balmoral Community College
- · Birchip P-12 School
- Dimboola Memorial Secondary College
- Edenhope College
- · Goroke P-12 College
- Holy Trinity Lutheran School, Horsham
- Hopetoun P-12 College
- · Horsham College
- Kaniva College
- Murtoa College
- Nhill College
- · Rainbow P-12 College
- · St Brigid's College, Horsham
- Warracknabeal Secondary College.

A small number of students from noncluster member schools from other regions participate where sufficient places in courses are available.

### STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING

Structured Workplace Learning is a key feature of VET programs. Although it is not a requirement in order to complete a course, all students are encouraged to complete a minimum of one week (40 hours) work placement in a related industry. This enhances their learning and prospects of attaining an apprenticeship or entry into further training.

Structured Workplace Learning enables students to demonstrate acquired skills and knowledge in an industry setting. During the work placement, a student undertakes tasks to build on their skills and knowledge. If a student is having difficulties finding a structured work placement, WSMLLEN offers assistance, to source a suitable placement.

#### **VET ENABLES STUDENTS TO:**

Connecting schools with local businesses

Multiply post-school opportunities

Trial a career and explore possible areas of interest

Improving school retention rates

Develop strong links with industry and local community employers

Improve employment prospects

**Raising aspirations** 

Gain knowledge
of employers'
expectations and real
working conditions

Develop cooperation, teamwork and leadership skills

Improving outcomes for young people

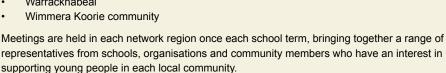
Pursue career
directions in an area of
interest

Transition from school to work

#### **Community Action Networks**

The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN has established seven Community Action Networks across our region, providing connection and support for young people in:

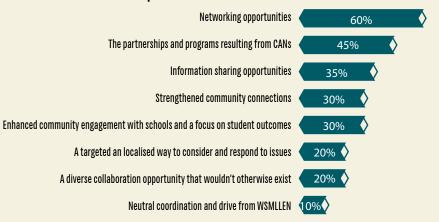
- Dimboola
- Edenhope
- Horsham
- Murtoa
- Nhill
- Warracknabeal



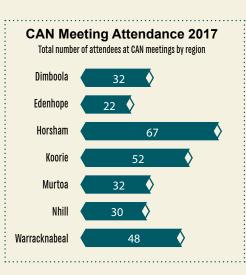
#### **OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS**

In a survey of CAN participants, respondents were asked to identify the three most important benefits of the CANs in which they were involved. Responses were grouped into eight categories as shown:

#### Most Important Benefits of the CANs



Sixty per cent of respondents reported that the networking opportunities created by the CANs were one of the three most important benefits to come from them.



CANS

#### WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY

"Bridges the gap between and links together key service areas. Really important from the Shire Council's point of view."

"Gets all players in the one room to increase awareness of local needs, services and programs and encourages sharing of knowledge, skills and resources in practical ways at the local level."

"Identifying the support to get programs up and going. The CAN points us in the right direction."



Connecting organisations, local businesses and community with schools

Linking schools with local services and programs

Addressing local issues in local communities

Improving outcomes for young people

#### **KEY INITIATIVES SUPPORTED BY CANS**



- Establishing Hands On Learning Program at DMSC.
- Extending MATES Mentoring at DMSC and Dimboola Primary School
- Linking DMSC students with the White Ribbon committee
- Fostering the partnership between Dimboola schools and Wimmera
   Healthcare Group to deliver health education programs
- Linking Dimboola schools with youth counselling and support services
- Support for Let's Read Hindmarsh



- Continuing support for MATES Mentoring and Reading Buddies programs
- Support for 'Girls in Gumboots' Day, showcasing careers in agriculture for airls
- Ongoing support for Let's Read West Wimmera



- Connecting schools with services and programs delivered by Federation University, Headspace, Red Cross, Centre for Participation, Grampians Community Health, Wimmera Healthcare Group, Uniting Wimmera, Victoria Police, Horsham Rural City Council, Dispute Settlements Centre, Wimmera Development Association and Wimmera Drug Action Taskforce
- Linking WHCG Allied Health staff into the Reading Buddies and MATES Mentoring programs



- Linking schools with services and programs delivered by Centre for Participation, Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative, Delkaia Best Start, Federation University, Victoria Police, Department of Health and Human Services, Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc., Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, Red Cross, Grampians Community Health
- Linking Goolum Goolum staff to the Reading Buddies program



Linking Murtoa schools with programs and services delivered by Hands on Learning, Murtoa Neighbourhood House, Yarriambiack Shire Council, Department of Health and Human Services, Dispute Settlements Centre, West Wimmera Health Service, Victoria Police and Grampians Community Health, Uniting Wimmera



- Linking Nhill schools with services and programs delivered by Hindmarsh Shire Council, Victoria Police Operation Flinders, Headspace Horsham, Dispute Settlements Centre
- Support for the establishment of Ready Set Read program



- Delivery of the two-day Bridges out of Poverty Training in partnership with the Warracknabeal Oral Reading Development Strategy
- Supporting an initiative to establish a Youth Shed in Warracknabeal
- Linking Warracknabeal schools with services and programs delivered by Hands on Learning, Dispute Settlements Centre, Victoria Police, Department of Health and Human Services, Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House, Yarriambiack Shire, Woodbine

#### **MATES**

#### **Mentoring Program**

The MATES Mentoring Program continues to make a difference in the lives of young people across our region.

By the end of 2017, 456 students from across our region had been matched with a mentor since the inception of the MATES program in 2010

Volunteer mentors meet with their mentee for one hour a fortnight for a whole year. This small time commitment, just 24 hours in a year, can make a huge difference in the life of a young person.



#### **MENTORING AWARDS**



Pictured from left: Mary Bysouth, Tanya Turner (Apsley Primary School, Mentoring Team of the Year), Tim Shaw

#### **OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS**

#### A survey of students participating in MATES found:

93% feel more confident

70% say their behaviour is better

79% have a better attitude towards school

87% feel better about themselves

61% go to school more often



Apsley Primary School mentors (Mentoring Team of the Year) receiving awards from Tim Shaw and Mary Bysouth



Community Champion of the year award: Pictured from left, Mary Bysouth, Shane Gillespie (Bendigo Bank representative ), Tim Shaw



Pictured from left, Mary Bysouth, Julie Merrett-Mills (Mentor of the year), Tim Shaw





My mentor has helped me come out of my shell and now I feel not so scared talking to adults and older people.

- Mentee quote

#### mates

**Mentor** 

**Assist** 

**Target** 

**Engage** 

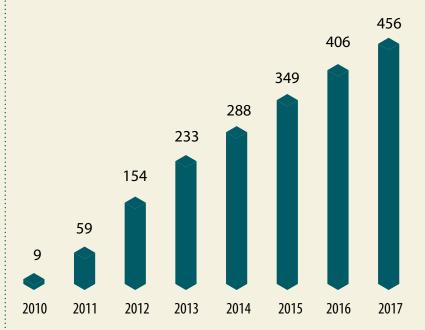
Skills

#### **SNAP SHOT**

In the eight years since the MATES Mentoring Program was established, 456 mentors have been matched with students in 23 mentoring programs

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Apsley PS								8	8
Dimboola Memorial Secondary College	9	15	11	8	11	7	9	5	75
Dimboola Primary School							9	1	10
Edenhope College				7		11			18
Goroke P-12			8	5	4		4		21
Hopetoun P-12 College			1		2	2			5
Horsham College		8	12	8	12	5	10	1	56
Horsham College McK								2	2
Horsham PS 298			16	9	2	3	2	6	38
Horsham PS Rasmussen			6	7	3	6	1	4	27
Horsham Satellite VCAL			4						4
Horsham Special School			6					1	7
Horsham West PS						5	3	6	14
Kaniva College			11	7	11	8	4	10	51
Murtoa College		7	9	4	5	3	3		31
Nhill College		10	11	5	4	5	4		39
St Mary's Warracknabeal				8		2	3		13
Warracknabeal Primary				9		1			10
Warracknabeal Satellite VCAL		9							9
Warracknabeal Sec College						2	5	5	12
Dimboola Primary School								1	1
Ss Michael & Johns PS					1	1			2
Uniting Wimmera		1		2					3
Grand Total	9	50	95	79	55	61	57	50	456

#### **Cumulative Total of MATES Mentors by Year**



Improving outcomes for young people

28

# Western Victorian Careers Expo

An estimated 2,000 students from more than 25 schools across Western Victoria attended the 2017 Western Victorian Careers Expo. This premier event is regional Victoria's largest careers expo and attracts exhibitors from right across Victoria and interstate. With over 100 exhibitors, 22 of whom were new to the expo in 2017, visitors had a wide range of career and study options to investigate to assist with finding pathways into a chosen profession.

The Careers Expo provides a one-stopshop of vocational information to Western Victorian students, school leavers, job seekers, career changers, those returning to work and people considering further study or training.

This year's event received significant coverage in local print media and on ABC local radio, with live broadcast from the site between 8.30 am –10.00 am.

A feature of the expo is the hands-on element of the try-a-trade and try-a-profession exhibits. Attendees have a chance to talk to a wide range of advisors on a one-to-one basis. Collingwood's Moana Hope, was a guest at this year's Expo and conducted two seminars where she told her story and answered questions.













Victoria's largest regional careers expo

- Over 100 exhibitors
- 22 new exhibitors in 2017
- 49 mini-seminars
- Over 2,000 attendees
- 25 schools represented

# Careers Expo Wins National Award

The Western Victorian Careers Expo won a national Australian Rural Education Award (AREA). This award is presented annually to an institution, organisation or industry to recognise excellence in rural education in Australia. The Western Victorian Careers Expo was the 2017 winner in the category 'Future projects that support new and creative thinking in professional practice aimed at improving student outcomes in a rural, regional and/or remote setting.'

The award was presented at the conference of the Society for the Provision of Education in Rural Australia (SPERA) and was accepted by Melyssa Fuqua from Nhill College on behalf of the Expo committee.

The award is fitting acknowledgement of the high quality of the Expo which has been held annually in the Wimmera since 1986.

Western Victorian Careers Expo chairperson, Andrew Vague, said he is very proud to receive the award and happy to see that the Expo is gaining some recognition.

"Our Expo Committee and Project Officer do a fantastic job in the organisation of our event. The growth of the event every year creates more work for the organisers and we are therefore extremely proud to receive some recognition for our efforts."

Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN has been a long-term major sponsor of the expo and in 2017, part-funded the Careers Expo Project Officer, who works out of the LLEN Office.



Nhill College's Melyssa Fuqua (right) accepts the Australian Rural Education Award from SPERA President Brian O'Neill (left) on behalf of the Western Victorian Careers Expo.

#### **Literacy Programs**

One of the objectives of the Wimmera southern Mallee LLEN is to improve literacy as a foundation for educational success. We continue to work towards this objective via the Reading Buddies and Let's Read programs.

#### **READING BUDDIES**

Many schools across our region have volunteers read with children on a regular basis to improve literacy. Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN assists schools who need help in recruiting and training volunteers to fill this role via the Reading Buddies program. In 2017 we had wonderful support from Wimmera Heath Care Group, Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative and Federation University who provided flexible work arrangement for their staff to be involved in the program in Horsham primary schools.

Reading Buddies volunteer for one hour, one or more mornings a week to listen to children read in a local school. As well a giving children the opportunity to read to someone on a regular basis, the program aims to foster a love of reading, particularly in the early years.



#### **POP-UP LIBRARIES**

The Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN has partnered with schools and the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation to establish more than 90 pop-up libraries in 15 communities across four shires. The Pop Up libraries are tubs of books which are made available in places where small children gather such as waiting rooms, playgroups, maternal and child health centres, chemists, shops and other locations visited by families. Families can borrow a book and keep it for as long as they like. They can return the book to any pop-up library in the town. The pop-up libraries enable all families to have access to a diverse range of books and promote a higher awareness of the importance of literacy throughout our communities.



#### **LET'S READ**

The Let's Read Program was first established in our region in the Yarriambiack Shire in 2014. Let's Read is an exciting initiative to promote reading with children from birth to five years. The program aims to give children the skills they need to learn to read when they start school.

Following on from the success of Let's Read in the Yarriambiack Shire, it was established in the Horsham Rural City, Hindmarsh and West Wimmera shires. The program provides training for maternal and child heath nurses to inform parents of the importance of language development in the early years and encourage parents to read with their children every day from birth. Let's Read also provides resources for families. Children receive a book at their 4 month, 12 month, 18 month and 3½ year visits to their maternal and child health centre.

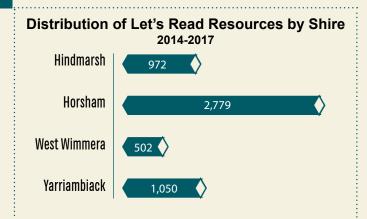
Let's Read increases community awareness of the importance of literacy and supports the creation of literacy-rich environments

Since the inception of the Let's Read program, 5,303 books have been distributed to families across our four shires. The Let's Read program was sponsored in 2017 by Hindmarsh Shire, Horsham Rural City Council, Horsham Sports and Community Club and Rupanyup and Minyip Community Bank.



#### LET'S READ RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION

# Distribution of Let's Read Resources by Year (Four Shires) 2014 442 2015 1,727 2016 1,513 2017 1,621



To improve literacy as a foundation for educational success

To provide
support and
opportunities
to ensure that
vulnerable young
people achieve
their full
potential



#### **COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS**

Community Champions are businesses and organisations that provide flexible work arrangements to allow their staff to participate in the MATES Mentoring program during school hours. These work arrangements can include allowing staff to mentor during paid work hours or providing flexible working hours.

We acknowledge in particular, Bendigo Bank Horsham Branch which has allowed six staff to participate in the MATES program during working hours.

Community Champions that supported the MATES Program in 2017 were:

- · Bendigo Bank
- Café Jas
- Centre for Participation
- · Wimmera Health Care Group
- Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN

Since the inception of the MATES Program we have had 22 Community Champions who have supported the MATES program.



The number of Community
Champions supporting the MATES
Mentoring Program in 2017



The number of Community Champions that have supported the MATES Mentoring Program since 2010



#### **Independent Audit Report**

#### To the members of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, and the Statement of Profit and Loss for the year then ended, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the Statement by Members of the Committee Declaration.

#### Committee of Management responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee of Management of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012 and for such internal control as Committee of Management determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

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

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

#### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.





ABN 40 876 591 185



#### Electronic publication of the audited financial report

It is our understanding that the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network intends to electronically present the audited financial report and auditor's report on its internet website. Responsibility for the electronic presentation of the financial report on the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network website is that of Committee of Management of the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network. The security and controls over information on the website should be addressed by the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network to maintain the integrity of the data presented. The examination of the controls over the electronic presentation of audited financial report(s) on the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network website is beyond the scope of the audit of the financial report.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network presents fairly, in all material respects the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network financial position as at 31 December 2017, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012.

**BRIAN WATTS** 

**Certified Practicing Accountant** 

26 / 2 / 2018

Watts Price Accountants 44 Wilson Street HORSHAM VIC 3400





#### **Statement of Profit and Loss**

# WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INC. STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017 \$	<b>2016</b> \$
	·	·
Revenue	460,837	450,283
Advertising and promotion expense	3,672	16,911
Depreciation and amortisation expense	9,122	7,591
Employee expenses	311,612	274,470
Employee provisions expense	2,978	4,911
Motor Vehicle expenses	8,983	9,781
Other expenses	72,893	59,849
Project expenses	66,755	54,267
Rental expense	10,268	9,909
Net current year surplus	(25,446)	12,594
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(25,446)	12,594
Net current year surplus attributable to members of the entity	(25,446)	12,594
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity	(25,446)	12,594

#### **Statement of Financial Position**

# WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017	2016
***************************************	\$	\$
ASSETS CHARGENT ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS	F10 C0F	F22 401
Cash on hand	510,695	532,481
Accounts receivable and other debtors	170,342	76,869
Prepayments TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,600	3,554
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	685,637	612,904
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	42,393	24,047
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	42,393	24,047
TOTAL ASSETS	728,030	636,951
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and other payables	24,701	19,812
Provisions	31,453	33,375
Income received in advance	259,182	168,002
Current tax liabilities	20,096	2,619
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	335,433	223,808
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	10.534	F 624
Provisions	10,534	5,634
TOTAL HABILITIES	10,534	5,634
TOTAL LIABILITIES	345,967	229,443
NET ASSETS	382,062	407,508
EQUITY		
Retained surplus	382,062	407,508
TOTAL EQUITY	382,062	407,508
101/12 200111	302,002	407,300

#### **Statement of Changes in Equity**

# WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INC. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Retained Surplus 2017 \$	Retained Surplus 2016 \$
Balance at 1 January	407,508	394,914
Comprehensive Income		
Net Surplus for the year	(25,446)	12,594
Total Comprehensive Income attributable to		
members of the entity	(25,446)	12,594
Balance at 31 December	382,062	407,508

#### **Statement of Cashflows**

# WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INC. STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Grants (state) operating received	387,898	563,770
Non Government Funded Projects funds received	63,589	12,356
Payments to suppliers and employees	(452,751)	(402,643)
Interest received	7,056	8,420
Net cash provided by operating activities	5,792	181,902
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	2,864	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	30,442	3,951
Net cash used in investing activities	(27,578)	(3,951)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(21,786)	177,951
Cash on hand at beginning of financial year	532,481	354,530
Cash on hand at end of financial year	510,695	532,481

#### **Statement by Committee of Management**

# WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE LOCAL LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK INC. STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

In accordance with a resolution of the committee of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network Inc., the members of the committee declare that the financial statements as set out:

- present a true and fair view of the financial position of Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network Inc. As at 31 December 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012; and
- at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Learning and Employment Network Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The statement is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

Chair:	Werdy (Koh-	WENDY	ROBINS
		Chair's Nam	e
Treasurer:	DNL	DEBRA	NELSON
	3005	Treasurer's	Name
Dated this	23rd Day of February 2018		

