

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



ANNUAL REPORT - TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	4
The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.....	5
The Goldfields-Esperance Region.....	5
Goldfields-Esperance Region Map	8
STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK - BETTER PLANNING: BETTER SERVICES ...	9
OVERVIEW	11
Major Achievements in 2004 - 2005.....	11
Planned Initiatives for 2005 – 2006.....	13
REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES – 2004-2005	15
Service 1 – Policies, Strategies and Plans.....	15
Service 2 – Industry and Enterprise Development.....	19
Service 3 – Coordination of Infrastructure Identification.....	37
Service 4 – Regional Promotion	43
GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION STRUCTURE	47
CORPORATE STRUCTURE	48
Enabling Legislation and Policy	48
Legislation impacting on the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's activities	48
Responsible Minister.....	48
Vision	48
Mission.....	48
Objectives and Desired Outcomes.....	49
Outputs (goods or services) provided to the public sector in WA.....	49
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT	51
STAFF	54
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	56
Human Resource Management	56
Public Sector Standards	56
Staff Training and Development	56
Workers Compensation	56
Compliance with Recordkeeping Plans.....	57
Publications	57
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	57
Contracts with Board Members or Senior Officers.....	57
Changes in Written Law.....	57
Ministerial Directives	57

REPORT ON EQUITY, ACCESS AND CUSTOMER FOCUS	58
Reports on Customer Outcomes	58
Customer Focus Outcomes	58
Disabilities Service Plan Outcomes	59
Equal Employment Opportunity Outcomes	60
Cultural Diversity and Language Services Outcomes	60
Youth Outcomes	61
REPORTS ON OTHER ACCOUNTABILITY ISSUES	63
Information Statement.....	63
Advertising and Sponsorship	63
STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR STANDARDS	64
Compliance with Human Resource Management Standards.....	64
Compliance with Codes of Ethics and Codes of Conduct.....	64
Statement of Compliance with Public Sector Management Act Section 31(1).....	64
GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE – A PRODUCTIVE REGION.....	65
Gross Regional Product.....	65
Production by Industry Sector.....	66
Employment and Unemployment.....	66
Demography	67
INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION - PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	68
CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	69
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	70
Efficiency Indicators.....	70
Effectiveness Indicators	71
INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION - FINANCIAL STATEMENT	73
CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	74
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	75
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION.....	76
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW.....	77
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.	78

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am delighted to present the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) 2004/2005 Annual Report, which I am sure you will find interesting and informative. This is a report of people, partnerships and of projects that have been accomplished to the highest level of standards.

In my report a year ago I stated that I envisaged the role of the Board to be one of identifying the strengths and opportunities of the region and promoting them to the private sector and government to ensure that they are realized. In the past I have emphasised that the GEDC will not be able to resolve all problems, however we would always endeavour to resolve those that require human effort. I am happy to say that these objectives have been achieved.

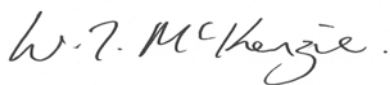
The year 2004/2005 saw a series of appointments to both our team of staff and the Board. On behalf of the Board, I take this opportunity to welcome new members and to thank those that have moved on for their major contributions to our organisation.

As an agency that exists to support economic and social development, the GEDC has been at the forefront of a number of activities that have helped to foster progress in our region. The year saw a significant move by the GEDC towards creating a new strategic plan and refreshing the projects and services we are involved in.

In today's world, partnership is the key element in both real achievement and effective use of resources. Much of the activity in the region has been facilitated by the GEDC working closely with many other partners such as local governments, businesses, community groups and agencies. An example highlighting this is the GEDC's role in the ongoing development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation and associated community infrastructure. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and collaboration in helping build on our dynamic region.

Through my position on the Western Australian Skills Advisory Board (WASAB) and the State Training Board, we are taking further steps at developing opportunities for potential employees and the businesses in the region. Other key efforts can be found in several projects such as the Regional Infrastructure Workshop held in April 2005, the "Reward Yourself" brochure, Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme, the Esperance Desalination Plant and Port Access Corridor, ongoing work in partnership with the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development and Desert Knowledge Australia.

In the coming years we will continue to investigate and identify alternative water sources for the region. We will continue to source and assist growth through the provision of infrastructure and employment opportunities in the region. Importantly, we will continue to foster successful partnerships into the future to ensure that aims for the region are achieved.



Bill McKenzie
Chairman

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission

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

The GEDC is responsible to the Hon John Bowler MLA. Minister Bowler has the portfolios of Local Government and Regional Development; Land Information; Goldfields-Esperance and Great Southern.

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

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

The Goldfields-Esperance Region

Geography

The Goldfields-Esperance region (the region) is the largest region in Western Australia encompassing almost one third of the State, with a land mass of some 771,276 km². The region is just over three times the size of the State of Victoria, and slightly smaller than the State of New South Wales.

It incorporates nine local government authority areas – the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Shires of Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjaraku and Ravensthorpe.

The Goldfields-Esperance region is bounded geographically by the Sandy and Gibson deserts to the north; the Wheatbelt region to the west; the Great Australian Bight to the south; and the South Australian and Northern Territory borders to the east.

Population

At June 2004 the Goldfields-Esperance region had an estimated resident population of 54,289. Between 1994 and 1997 the resident population increased to reach a peak in 1997 of 56,788. Since 1997, the resident population has shown a slight decline however with the current boom in the resources sector, the forecast for the region is positive in relation to increasing and retaining population into the future.

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

History

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

The towns of Coolgardie, Boulder and Kalgoorlie developed rapidly after gold was discovered. Coolgardie became the largest town in the Western Australian Goldfields during the 1890s boom, with the population reaching 15,000 by 1898. The rush to Kalgoorlie began in 1893 with the discovery of gold by Hannan, Flanagan and O'Shea. Kalgoorlie in the early 1890s was a town of canvas tents, hessian huts and galvanized iron homes, with a population of about 11,000. Water was scarce, being distilled from bores and dams, and transported by camel teams to wherever it was needed. By 1901, there were 47,301 Europeans officially residing in the Eastern Goldfields. The Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply, CY O'Connor's famous pipeline, opened in 1903 and remains the conduit for water supply to the Goldfields to this day.

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

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

Of the communities in the Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku, Warburton is the largest and was the first to be established. Initially set up as a mission station in 1934, it grew gradually as more and more people came into the mission. By the mid 1960s the effects of the long drought and the clearing of the Woomera rocket range for the firing of the Blue-Streak rocket brought between 400 to 500 Aboriginal people to reside at Warburton. In 1973, an Aboriginal Council and was formed and incorporated, taking over administration from the United Aborigines Mission. By 1975, "outstation groups" or homeland communities were established at Mantamaru (Jameson), Papulankutja (Blackstone), Irrunytju (Wingellina), and Warakurna (Giles). By the late 1980s communities at Patjarr, Wannan, Tjirrkarli, Tjukurla and Kiwirrkurra had also developed.

The Goldfields sub-region is one of the world's most productive mining provinces, based on the extraction and processing of gold and nickel. The south east sub-region is on the threshold of a new era with traditional agricultural based industries now being supplemented by major nickel mining operations and industries such as aquaculture, seed potatoes and forestry.

Natural environment

The Goldfields sub-region has a stark, sunset-red, beauty with its early mining history occasionally evident in the shape of flat-topped mullock dumps, headframes over the entrances to underground shafts. More than a hundred species of Eucalypts and mulgas form the dominant natural vegetation.

In contrast, the south coast sub-region is characterised by long, low curving white beaches, with rocky headlands and the offshore islands of the Recherche Archipelago. The coast is backed by a rich agricultural hinterland and the Fitzgerald River National Park, the natural home to diverse and spectacular scenery and flora, which in turn supports a number of threatened animals.

To the east, the Nullarbor landscape is flat, and the climate arid, yet there is still a wealth of wildlife and natural beauty. There are striking sheer cliffs to the east of Esperance, with extensive sand dunes towards the South Australian border.

Driving along the Great Central Road (Outback Highway) through the region's north you will experience the real heart of Australia. The Ngaanyatjarra Lands encompass untouched spinifex sand plains with spectacular breakaways, and the dramatic landscapes of the Warburton, Peterman Ranges and Rawlinson Ranges.

Economy

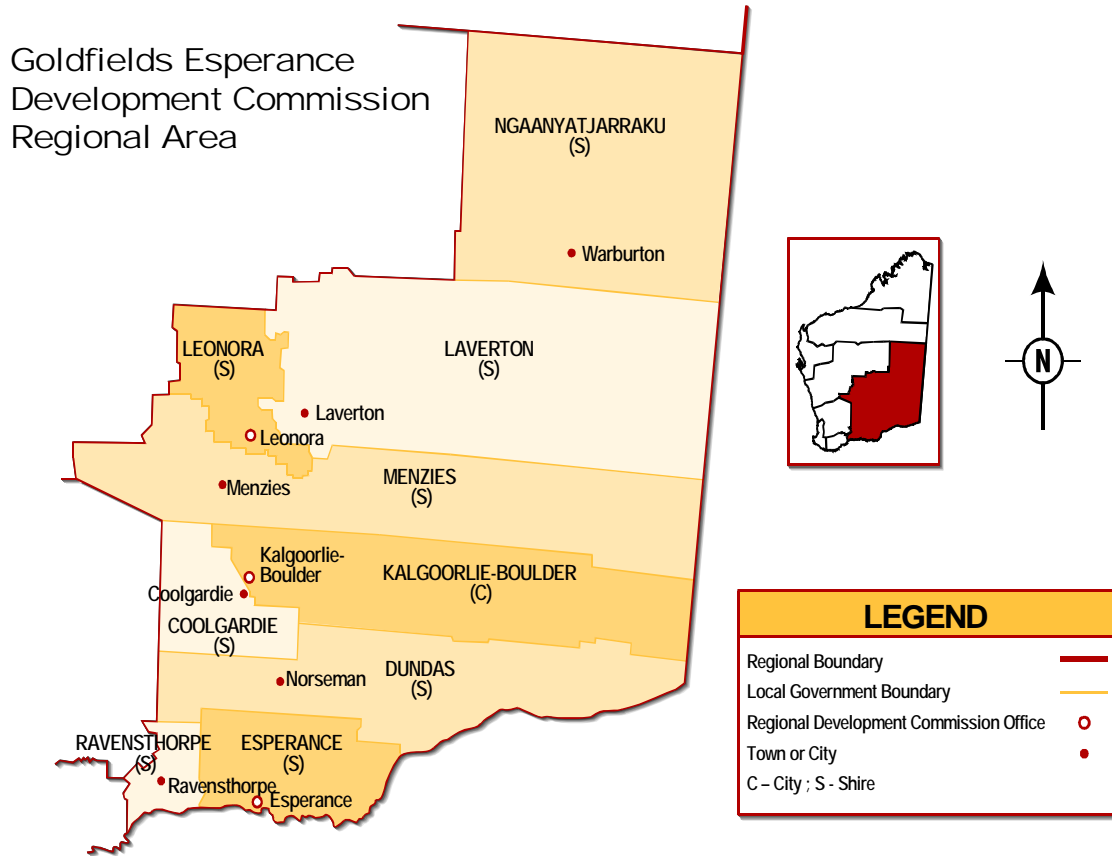
The Goldfields-Esperance region continues to make a vital contribution to the Western Australian economy and is currently experiencing considerable growth with the development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation and other new resource projects likely to commence in the near future. Mining is the predominant industry in the central and northern parts of the region, with a well-established agricultural sector in the south. Other significant industries in the region include manufacturing, retail, tourism, fishing, and timber harvesting. The Department of Local Government and Regional Development estimated the Gross Regional Product for the Goldfields-Esperance region in 2003/04 was \$4.316 billion. This accounts for 4.9% of the State total, making the region the third highest producer in the State after Perth and the South West.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance are the principal commercial centres in the region. Most recent figures available indicate that 16.6% of the working population are engaged in wholesale and retail activity, 16% in mining, 12.5% in education, health or community services, 7.7% in property and business services, 7.5% in construction and 7.1% in agriculture. The region also accounts for 6% of Western Australia's total income from tourism.

The estimated mean taxable income for individuals in the region is \$44,206 which is well above the regional Western Australian average of \$39,254 and the State average of \$40,180.

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

Goldfields-Esperance Region Map



STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK - BETTER PLANNING: BETTER SERVICES

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

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

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

- Researching and disseminating information on available funding and grants,
- Supporting projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life, including the Goldfields Football Academy, Freefall Youth Theatre Company, the Festival of the Wind and Leonora Child Care Centre,
- Facilitating the Leonora Collocation project,
- Providing comprehensive and accurate information on the region through publications, the GEDC website and statistical information,
- Continuing to encourage and support community actions that positively contribute to quality of life in the region,
- Being actively involved in community committees including the Eastern Goldfields Senior High School Local Implementation Group,
- Supporting the development of community arts projects including those in remote Indigenous communities.

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

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

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

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

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

- Facilitating the delivery of grants through the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme.
- Researching and disseminating information on funding and grants.
- Continuing to enhance partnerships with local government authorities and other organisations in the region.
- Continuing to monitor options for the provision of mains power to Widgiemooltha.
- Facilitating the Goldfields-Esperance Infrastructure Projects Workshop.
- Continuing to promote and lobby for the upgrading of transport infrastructure in the region.
- Facilitating equitable access to telecommunications and other infrastructure throughout the region.
- Promotion of the Goldfields-Esperance region at WA On Show.
- Developing a CD that promotes the benefits of the region to assist in attracting people to the region.

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

- Continuing to provide strategic advice and information to government to enable better planning and delivery of services to the region.
- Monitoring government policy and commitment to the region.
- Monitoring the implementation of the Regional Policy Statement.
- Monitoring the Goldfields-Esperance water situation.
- Incorporating sustainability principles into GEDC policies and procedures.

OVERVIEW

Major Achievements in 2004 - 2005

Service 1 – Policies, Strategies, and Plans

- Ensured that activities were conducted according to an ethos of responsive government.
- Produced Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission's Sustainability Action Plan.
- Provided a regional Grants information service to local government authorities, government agencies and community groups to enable access to grant funds to increase social and economic development in the region.
- Facilitated and administered the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Scheme.
- Responded to various draft policies, strategies and plans relevant to regional WA.
- Participated on the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure Coordinating Committees to progress development across the region.

Service 2 – Industry and Enterprise Development

- Supported the Shire of Ravensthorpe and Ravensthorpe Nickel in their preparations for nickel mining, including the renewed appointment of the GEDC Project Manager for Ravensthorpe.
- Successfully organised the Indigenous People in Mining project which promotes Indigenous business to the mining sector by developing an Indigenous People in Mining business directory and promoting these businesses at the Goldfields Mining Expo.
- Provided advice and assistance to employers seeking information and assistance with certified regional migration applications and migration initiatives to address skills shortages.
- Provided Curriculum Vitae from the skills matching database to employers who are having difficulty filling skilled positions.
- Facilitated the Desert Knowledge Australia project that aims to build partnerships and networks across Desert Australia to create an economic and socially sustainable future.
- Supported diversification opportunities for primary industries, including Curtin University's Bandy Creek pilot abalone project and Staunton Seed Potatoes.
- Facilitated Indigenous business enterprise development by providing an Aboriginal Economic Development Officer to assist Indigenous businesses.
- Supported projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life including the Goldfields Football Academy, Tidy Towns, the Graham (Polly) Farmer Partnerships for Success Foundation, Leonora Childcare Centre, Festival of the Wind and the Youth Advantage Strategy.

- Upgraded the Industry Development Centre website, a site that contains a database of regional suppliers and businesses that developers can utilise to access the services of local companies.

Service 3 – Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

- Monitored power issues in the region.
- Lobbied for the extension of telecommunications coverage throughout the region.
- Monitored transport infrastructure issues impacting on the region.
- Encouraged the development of tourism infrastructure to support the expansion of the tourism industry.
- Worked collaboratively with the Shire of Ravensthorpe to identify infrastructure needs and sourced funding for community infrastructure to support the development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation.
- Conducted the Goldfields-Esperance Region Infrastructure Tour and Workshop highlighting planned infrastructure developments.
- Supported the development of Department of Justice work camps in the Northern Goldfields.
- Supported the development of Laverton's "Great Beyond Explorers Centre" to strengthen tourism in the Northern Goldfields.
- Assisted the Shire of Leonora with collocating their library, tele-centre and tourist information centre.

Service 4 – Regional Promotion

- Provided a statistical information service to stakeholders in relation to economic indicators, industry sectors and the demographics of the region.
- Promoted the region at the Pacific Flora 2004 exhibition in Japan from April to October 2004.
- Promoted the region at "WA on Show" and developed the "Reward Yourself publication."
- Promoted the region at the Murdoch University Graduate Recruitment and Employment Fair.
- Continued to implement general initiatives to attract and retain professional staff to the region.
- Promoted the region's activities through the GEDC's quarterly newsletters.
- Continued to support the tourism industry working with Tourism WA, the Golden Quest Trails Association, Northern Goldfields Tourism Working Group and Esperance Regional Tourism Association.

OVERVIEW

Planned Initiatives for 2005 – 2006

The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission has been allocated State Government funding of \$2,050,000 for 2005/2006. Included in this funding is \$500,000 for the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme and \$130,000 for the Sir Richard Moore Sports Centre in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Service 1 - Policies, Strategies and Plans

- Continue to provide strategic advice to Government and monitor Government's policy and commitment to the region.
- Research and disseminate information on funding and grants availability to promote funding opportunities to support development and community initiatives.
- Facilitate the delivery of grants through the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme.
- Monitor and report on the implementation of the Regional Development Policy and the State Sustainability Strategy.
- Where appropriate, work in collaboration with other State and Federal Government agencies to implement relevant strategies and policies.
- Support projects that improve social infrastructure and general quality of life such as the Goldfields Football Academy, Goldfields Arts Centre, and Leonora Child Care Centre.

Service 2 - Industry and Enterprise Development

- Continue to support the development of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation through placement of a GEDC Project Manager in Ravensthorpe to work in collaboration with the Shire of Ravensthorpe.
- Endeavour to attract new businesses to the Shark Lake Industrial Park near Esperance and the Mungari Industrial Estate located between Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie-Boulder by promoting advantages to the respective business communities.
- Continue to enhance partnerships with Local Government Authorities in the region.
- Partner the Goldfields Esperance Area Consultative Committee in the Desert Knowledge project to ensure efficient use of resources and to maximise the benefits of the project.
- Assist the Department of Industry and Resources with development projects including the United Utilities water pipeline project from Esperance to Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the new Kalgoorlie Nickel Project
- Facilitate diversification and value-adding opportunities, such as the aquaculture industry.

- Continue to enhance opportunities for Indigenous business, art and tourism development and expand Indigenous employment opportunities.
- Promote Regional Migration initiatives as an avenue to address current skills shortages.

Service 3 - Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

- Monitor the Goldfields-Esperance water situation and assist with the Kalgoorlie-Boulder bulk water project.
- Assist the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder with the Solar Cities and Technology Hub projects.
- Continue to promote and lobby for the upgrading of transport infrastructure in the region.
- Facilitate equitable access to telecommunications and other infrastructure throughout the region.
- Continue to encourage the development of sustainable tourism infrastructure.
- Continue to assist individual shires in the region with various infrastructure projects.
- Encourage the provision of residential and industrial land to meet the needs of the development needs of towns within the region.

Service 4 - Regional Promotion

- Provide comprehensive and accurate information on the region through publications, the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission website and statistical information.
- Promote the region as a desired destination for investment, employment, lifestyle and recreational opportunities.
- Monitor the shortage of skilled staff in the region and undertake projects to alleviate the situation.
- Continue to encourage and support community actions that positively contribute to quality of life in the region.
- Develop a compact disc and other promotional materials that promote the benefits of the region to assist in attracting people to the region.

REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES – 2004-2005

Service 1 – Policies, Strategies and Plans

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

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Planning and Infrastructure

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

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

- Setting priorities for the Goldfields- Esperance Regional Planning and Transport Strategies taking into account sustainability as part of the assessment criteria.
- Completion of the Esperance Port Access Corridor Review Report and endorsement of the recommendations of the broad strategies and the further planning work for the Port and the Esperance townsite.
- Endorsement of recommendations in the draft report “Noise Impact Assessment and Land Use Planning along the Esperance Port corridor. “
- The Goldfields-Esperance Water Supply Strategy.
- Completion of the zoning for the Shark Lake Industrial Park.
- The Goldfields Highway Upgrade including work on the Lake Raeside Crossing.
- Establishing a regional waste management council and development of a regional waste management plan.
- Providing opportunities for private producers to compete as suppliers of power (specifically in relation to Widgiemooltha and Eucla).
- Continuation of review for a second carriageway on Great Eastern Highway, ANZAC Drive.
- The WA Strategic Grains Infrastructure Study that is developing a policy on grain freight logistics.
- Participation in the review and direction of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Intermodal Facility Study.
- Consideration of options for a more direct northerly road route to connect the Goldfields with the Pilbara region. A freight movement study has been completed and the preferred routes examined.
- Creation of a taskforce to consider issues related to “Fly in, Fly Out “ (FIFO) workforce and initiation of a FIFO study.

Responsive Government

2004/2005 was a year of change for activities in the area of responsive government as there were several Ministerial changes. GEDC reports to the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance and provides advice and assistance to the Minister and his staff. This includes drafting correspondence, organising visits and meetings, and briefing the Minister on regional issues.

In 2004/05 Hon Tom Stephens MLC was the Minister from 1 July 2004 until he resigned his position on 16 September 2004 to contest the Federal election. Upon Minister Stephens' resignation the portfolio was delegated to the Hon Kim Chance MLC until the appointment of the Hon Ljiljana Ravich MLC to the position on the 21 September 2004. Minister Ravich remained as the Minister until the appointment of Hon John Bowler MLA on the 4 March 2005.

The GEDC is frequently called upon to provide comments to other State Government agencies on issues that affect the region. In 2004/2005, GEDC submitted comments on various new strategies and policies including, Tourism WA's Draft Destination Strategy, the National Health Paper, assisted the Department of Housing and Works with developing Year of the Built Environment postcards, the draft Sustainability Bill 2004, the draft Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy, the draft Heritage Tourism Strategy, the draft Aboriginal Tourism Marketing and Tourism Development Strategies, the Natural Resource Management Strategy, Western Australian Housing Strategy and the Grateful State Remembers program.

The GEDC, as part of its responsibilities, provides comments on numerous Cabinet Submissions and compiles Ministerial responses. The GEDC also develops itineraries and facilitates visits to the region by dignitaries and industry representatives. Activities in 2004/2005 included assisting with Consul General Stuart Gregson's visit and the sitting of Regional Cabinet in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Website

The GEDC website is located at www.gedc.wa.gov.au. The website provides information on the organisation and its staff, regional statistical information, relevant regional links and updates on regional projects.

The GEDC website underwent a design restructure during the year. New additions include a site map, feedback form, improved navigation facilities and the ability to see what projects individual GEDC staff members are working on in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

Regional Development Council

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

Issues impacting on regional development such as State water, power, telecommunications, health, roads, industry policy, staff attraction and retention, tax zone rebates and fly in fly out workforce are addressed.

In 2004-05 the RDC identified six priority areas that form the basis of each RDC agenda – these were:

- Energy
- Health
- Education and Training
- Skills Shortages
- Funding and Financing Infrastructure and
- Producer Pricing.

Issues addressed in 2004-05 included the underground power policy, electricity distribution capacity to meet current and projected requirements of regional communities, the Review of the WA Country Health Services, improved access to TAFE, tertiary, adult and community education, skilled migration and fair pricing structures for goods and services in regional Western Australia.

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

Regional Development Policy Statement

GEDC compiled a progress report on the regional achievements and outcomes to date from the Regional Development Policy. This was submitted to the Department of Local Government and Regional Development for inclusion in the State report.

Leonora Gwalia Museum Precinct

The Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum Ltd has managed the historic township of Gwalia since the year 2000. The Board consists of nine Directors, one is annually appointed as the Chairperson. The Board directly employs an on-site Manager. The Board also employs two volunteers in an official caretaker capacity. Various other volunteers provide assistance on a casual basis.

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

The GEDC has had significant input into the Gwalia project over the past 12 months. Contributions include: the GEDC Acting CEO's appointment as a Board Director and funding through GERDS for a hospitality trainee.

Regional Economic Modelling

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

The GEDC has three regionalised REMPlan models. The models have been developed using nationally collected data that has been regionalised for the Esperance and Goldfields subregions and the broader Goldfields-Esperance region.

The primary use of the REMPlan software by the GEDC is to assist organisations identify their contribution to the local economy through the multiplier or 'flow on' impact of their activities. These activities may be related to their core business revenue or expenditure in any one of thirty five industry sectors such as mining, retail or provision of cultural and recreational services. The initial local expenditure information can be entered into the software and the multiplier impact will be shown for output, household income, employment and valued added across the thirty five sectors.

Additionally planned investment such as that for a new project or expansion to an existing project can have a local impact beyond the initial dollars invested. This can be shown by REMPlan.

The REMPlan software has been utilised by organisations seeking to gain local support for their activities, planning for infrastructure provision, and obtaining funding for future projects.

Some of the organisations that utilised the GEDC service, incorporating REMPlan generated tables and an interpretive report included commercial mining companies, utility providers, local shires, small businesses and not-for-profit organisations.

Briefings for Professor Murray McGregor of the Muresk Institute of Curtin University of Technology on REMPlan and the Hon Kim Beazley, Shadow Minister for Defence on the ramifications of the Australia-US Free Trade agreement on the Goldfields-Esperance region have also been provided.

Service 1 Policies, Strategies and Plans

Service Measures	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Target	2004/05 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours	4820	4619	4278	4441
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey – Note 1	85%	94%	85%	96%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	95%
Cost				
Cost per hour	\$110	\$113	\$122	\$116

Note 1: The customer satisfaction by client survey includes excellent/good and satisfactory responses from stakeholders relating to friendliness/ courtesy of staff; the availability of staff; correctness of information and level of knowledge of the GEDC staff. This figure is contained in every service in the Annual report.

Service 2 – Industry and Enterprise Development

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

South Coast Regional Initiative Planning Team (SCRIPT)

SCRIPT is a sustainable, independent, self-managed, accountable and representative peak Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisation. It is the chief advocate for the needs of the South Coast Regional community on NRM issues.

SCRIPT had a very successful year as the South Coast NRM Strategy & Investment Plans were accepted by the WA Joint Steering Committee. This Strategy provides the vision and the framework for NRM for the Region, and will guide investments in on-ground actions for the sustainable management of the South Coast region's natural resources from 1 July 2005. SCRIPT has a budget of over \$74 million for the next three years. Bill Witham, GEDC Manager-Southern Region is a member of the SCRIPT Management Committee.

Increasing Indigenous Employment

The high unemployment levels for Aboriginal people in our region despite the current resources boom and the shortage of skilled labour is an issue that the GEDC and a number of other agencies are seeking to address. The GEDC is a member of several committees seeking to address and resolve the underlying issues that reduce access for many Aboriginal people to mainstream employment opportunities and to increase relevant training and real employment opportunities.

Issues include poor literacy and numeracy skills, the need for mentors and for better cross-cultural understanding. The GEDC is a member of the Employment Directions Community Reference Group, the Indigenous Employment Forum and also works with Nooda Ngulegoo CDEP, Indigenous Employment Centre, Curtin University, the Indigenous Coordination Centre and the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development to seek relevant training and employment opportunities.

Esperance Career and Course Opportunities (ECCO)

The Esperance Career and Course Opportunities project evolved from a pilot project at the Esperance Community College that explored ways to provide support to students undertaking tertiary education in Esperance. This project is in its second year of funding. The GEDC is a member of the steering committee for this project. In addition to providing careers and course information the ECCO project has:

- Developed a "Learning Area" at the Esperance Community College where external students can access computers, the internet and receive support.
- Developed a Study Group to support external students;
- Provided skill development workshops in academic writing, study skills, Web research and career mapping;
- Conducted an Adult Learner's Week short course program.

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

Migration Initiatives

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

The GEDC also has access to the Regional Skills Matching Database, which contains details of more than 6,000 people still living overseas seeking to migrate to a regional area in Australia. This database is a reference point for employers seeking suitably skilled people to fill vacancies that cannot be met by the local labour market. In addition to individuals on this database, the RSMS can be offered to people on other visas such as the Employer Nominated Scheme or working holiday visas, offering businesses options for attracting and retaining employees.

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

In 2004/2005 the State Government established the Skills Migration Unit within the Department of Industry and Resources. The creation of the Unit has now enabled the State to access the Skilled Independent Regional and the State/Territory Nominated Independent schemes. Access to these initiatives has expanded the options for migrants that are considering Australia as their future home.

The Skills Migration Unit gathers input and advice at a State level from the Western Australian Skills Advisory Board and Regional Western Australia is represented by the GEDC Chairman, Bill McKenzie. The GEDC's Manager of Policy and Projects represents the Goldfields-Esperance region on the Officers Working Group. The combination of these structures is directing migration initiatives in the State.

In July 2004 GEDC was supported by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs in holding Community Forums to promote migration initiatives as an avenue for employers to address skills shortages. Forums were held in Leonora, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Kambalda, Norseman and Esperance. The success of these forums has ensured that community forums will once again be conducted in July 2005.

The popularity of migration initiatives as an option to address skills shortages has once again seen an increase in the number of applications processed. In 2004/05 GEDC certified 79 regional applications, an increase on the 2003/2004 figures of 42 applications and 2002/2003 figures of 24 applications. In addition to the certification of the regional migration applications, GEDC has assisted several companies to become Pre-qualified Business Sponsors. Pre-qualification allows companies to access migration initiatives in a stream-lined way, plan for recruitment from overseas and provides the ability to access possible employees in a variety of ways.

Positions certified have included mining managers, optometrist, auto electricians, geologists, metallurgists, electricians, diesel mechanic, fitters, farm managers, chefs, computer technicians, accountants, teachers and nurses. These successful applicants have brought 133 dependents with them, increasing the region's population by 212.

However the significance of the impact to the region is that 79 positions have now been filled and employers are benefiting through increased output in the areas of production,

service provision and the expansion of their businesses. The applicants have been assured base salary rates, which realises a combined income, per annum, in excess of \$4.64 million. As the applicants and their families are required to remain in the region, for a minimum of two years, there is also a flow on effect to the local economy.

This flow on effect can be demonstrated by utilising the GEDC's Regional Economic Modelling (REM) software – REMPLAN which was developed by La Trobe University. To the reader unfamiliar with mining and support statistics some of the impacts may seem excessive. However it is appropriate to remember that the mining sector employs around 6,000 people yet it produces approximately \$4 billion in output per annum.

Findings, from the REM, show that regional migration in the Goldfields-Esperance region has generated in excess of \$52.9 million - this is a staggering figure. While the original 79 people were placed in only 13 industry sectors, they were responsible for creating employment of 195 fulltime positions across 34 industry sectors. Household income of \$9.462 million was created by the additional wages and salaries of the extra positions and \$21.3 million was added to the economy in terms of value added goods and services.

The benefits of regional migration are made very clear through REM findings (considering that these figures are annualised), and every year that our sponsored employees remain in the region these benefits continue.

Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The GEDC is a member of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry and is represented on the Chamber's City and Regional Development Sub-Committee, which meets monthly and when required. The GEDC provided input into issues such as power, water and transport. In 2005 this partnership will be strengthened by the review and further development of the Industry Development Centre.

The GEDC works very closely with the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry and is assisting the Chamber to address the shortage of skilled labour in the town. Along with the Esperance Port Authority, Portman Ltd and the Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry GEDC supported a recently launched website and information package aimed at attracting skilled workers to relocate to Esperance. The website www.workinparadise.com.au is a "one stop shop" providing information on current employment opportunities as well as relevant information on education and training, health, housing, sport, leisure, shopping, service industries, the local community and other lifestyle information.

The website is fully interactive allowing prospective workers access to detailed information on current vacancies as well as the information package. In addition local employers can easily register and advertise available positions on line.

BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation is currently in the construction phase with production expected to start in 2007. GEDC is working in partnership with the Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance Chambers of Commerce to promote and support new business opportunities developing in the southern part of the region as a result of this new project.

The Ravensthorpe Chamber of Commerce has continued during the past 12 months with the active assistance of the GEDC Ravensthorpe office. Two business skills training workshops were run for members in the period with attendances indicating potential for more events of this type in the future.

In addition, a highly successful dinner function involving almost all businesses in the Shire as well as a representative group of the mine site contractors was held in mid May. Networking and interfacing with local business was encouraged. A Power Point presentation produced by senior students of the Ravensthorpe District High School and sponsored by the Chamber was launched at this function. This production gives the contact and other details of almost every business within the Shire and will be used to promote more commercial activity within the region.

There will be more seminar/ workshops in the coming year, which will feature speakers of interest or concern to local business. These are planned to include corporate responsibility, improved acquisition of skilled workers, contractual obligations and other subjects.

The GEDC will continue to foster and encourage local business to join the Chamber and take part in activities to enhance their individual operations.

Goldfields-Esperance Area Consultative Committee (GEACC)

The GEDC's Chief Executive Officer was an Executive Board member of the Goldfields-Esperance Area Consultative Committee until October 2004. Since that time regular meetings between the Executive Officer of GEACC and the Acting CEO are held to continue the close working relationship between the agencies.

During the period in which the GEDC was represented on the GEACC Board, the GEDC undertook assessment of the applications put before the GEACC for funding under the Federal Government funding program, Regional Partnerships.

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

Liaison with Local Government Authorities

Northern Goldfields

The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office (located in Leonora) works in partnership with the four Local Government Authorities in its sub-region (i.e. Menzies, Leonora, Laverton and Ngaanyatjaraku) to achieve social and economic outcomes that benefit those areas. These shires support the operation of the Northern Goldfields Office by providing a vehicle, telecommunications and office facilities. The GEDC's Leonora-based Senior Project Officer attends selected Council meetings, participates in relevant forums and events and assists in a variety of projects including cross regional initiatives. Monthly reports and minutes of the GEDC's Board meetings are provided to these Local Government Authorities.

During 2004/2005, the GEDC worked to support the following initiatives being undertaken by these Shires including assistance with funding applications.

The Shire of Laverton:

- Youth and Community Development
- Crisis Intervention Centre
- Indigenous Male Health Worker
- Construction of the Laverton District War Memorial
- Development of Laverton Cultural Heritage Research and Exhibition Centre
- Mt Morgan projects
- Funding application for a new synthetic bowling green
- The Great Beyond – Australia's Inland Explorers Centre
- Wongatha Wonganarra Community Playground
- Wongatha Wonganarra History Project

The Shire of Leonora:

- Barnes Federal Theatre Restoration
- Leonora Child Care Facility
- Leonora Collocation Project
- Combined Sports Club/Bowling Green
- Pioneers Cemeteries Project
- Leonora School Bus
- Leonora Swimming Pool
- Youth Access Centre
- Gwalia Historic Township Related Projects

The Shire of Menzies:

- Relocation of Menzies caravan park
- Construction of a community playground
- Goongarrie Railway Cottages Conservation Plan
- Lake Ballard projects
- Menzies entry statement
- Menzies town centre developments
- Development of recreation facilities
- Tjuntjuntjarra Aboriginal Community
- Kookynie Interpretation Plan
- Kookynie and Niagara Pioneer Cemeteries
- Niagara Dam

The Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku

- Art Co-ordinator in Warakurna
- Various Collocation Projects
- Ongoing development of the Art Centres at Blackstone Patjarr, Wingellina
- Ngaanyatjarra Media Centre
- Warakurna Medical Centre

Cross Regional Initiatives:

- Natural Resource Management Issues
- North Eastern Goldfields Tourism Working Group and Tourism Issues
- Cultural Heritage Projects
- Golden Quest Discovery Trail

Central Goldfields

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

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

In 2004-05 the GEDC has worked closely with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Department of Indigenous Affairs on the issue of providing transport between Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Coonana for people from that community. This project continues into 2005-06.

The GEDC CEO meets on a regular basis with the CEOs of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Shire of Coolgardie to continue the close working relationship that has been developed between the agencies. Both local government authorities were consulted in the lead up to the GEDC reviewing its strategic plan in April 2005.

A Solar Cities bid has been developed as a joint venture by the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder with the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission and the Research Institute of Sustainable Energy (Murdoch University).

The Solar Cities project is a \$75 million Federal Government initiative by the Australian Greenhouse Office and will run from 2006 to 2013. The Solar Cities program will be implemented through trials in at least four electricity grid-connected urban areas in Australia. One of the urban areas already determined is Adelaide.

The aim of the project will be to demonstrate the economic and environmental costs and benefits of the mass installation of solar energy technology, energy efficient measures and smart meters on electricity supply and demand profiles and infrastructure needs. In addition the project aims to develop partnerships with State and Local Governments to address energy market arrangements that currently do not reward local generation of energy. The Solar Cities project has the potential to showcase a new energy scenario where the uptake of solar power by households and businesses, plus innovative approaches to energy markets that deliver more effective signals will contribute to Australia's sustainable energy future.

The GEDC is a member of the Mining Taskforce that was set-up as a result of a Communities and Mining Forum held in September 2004. The forum's aim was to explore the issue of Mining Workforce Accommodation and Regional Communities.

The GEDC with active support from the Mining Taskforce has completed a Desktop Study of readily available documentation on the issue of Fly-In/Fly-Out Accommodation. As a result of this study, the Mining Taskforce have developed terms of reference seeking further research into the economic and legislative impacts on the region in relation to Fly In/Fly Out and Workforce Accommodation.

South East

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

The GEDC employs Tony Bright as a contract staff member in the position of Project Manager in Ravensthorpe, to assist the Shire of Ravensthorpe during the development of the BHP Billiton nickel-mining project. The GEDC assists the Shire in many aspects of local infrastructure development to meet the upswing in population, business and commercial activity, as well as a growing demand for services. The GEDC's office is located in the Ravensthorpe Community Centre.

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

The GEDC is a member of the Shire of Esperance's industrial park steering committee. The committee has worked through a number of issues during the year to enable rezoning to take place for the industrial estate 15km north of Esperance. The GEDC is also working with the Shire of Esperance on projects such as the Foreshore redevelopment plan and the Greater Sportsground redevelopment.

South East Tourism

The GEDC has a position on the board of the Esperance Regional Tourism Association (ERTA). ERTA is a body that represents the tourism operators in the Esperance, Ravensthorpe and Dundas Shires. This body is responsible for supporting the management of the Esperance Visitors Centre and marketing the three shires through the Australia's Golden Outback tourism zone. It is also a networking body for the local tourism operators.

Industry Development Centre (IDC)

The IDC's principle role is to attract new industries and businesses to the region, to enable larger contractors to source other businesses in the region and to promote existing businesses. It provides information on the region and investment opportunities as well as relevant contacts.

The IDC is a virtual resource available through the website www.idcgold.org.au and contains an extensive and comprehensive interactive database of the region's businesses. It is currently updated on a six monthly basis. This resource provides a ready reference for project managers, identifying the range of goods and services available within the Goldfields-Esperance region. Regional businesses can register their capability "on-line" and enter or amend their business details at the IDC website. All tenders and contractors to BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe Joint Venture Project are referred to the IDC and its website as part of the tender requirements.

The IDC will be reviewed and upgraded to offer enhanced information and business linkages in 2005.

Aquaculture.

The GEDC is committed to developing an aquaculture industry in the region. The main two opportunities are currently a tuna farming trial and onshore abalone farms at Bandy Creek in Esperance.

The tuna trial, proposed by MG Kailis Tuna Pty Ltd, involves a 150 tonne tuna farm in the Remark Island group of the Recherche Archipelago off Esperance.

The proposed tuna farm has the capacity to significantly boost the economy in the State's south-east similar to the Port Lincoln operations in South Australia. The south-east would benefit from the project, as the tuna industry is on par with Western Australia's rock lobster industry.

The GEDC recognises the importance of this trial given the level of community interest and the nature of the environment of the waters off Esperance. The Archipelago is an area of considerable natural beauty and environmental value. It is an area the State Government has identified as being included in the State's formal marine conservation reserve system as a marine park.

Rangelands

A representative of the GEDC attended the 13th Biennial Australian Rangelands Society (ARS) conference in Alice Springs, which had a strong focus on the importance of maintaining healthy, viable communities and to ensure there are committed and informed individuals to monitor the impacts of western society and climate change on the land. Significant networking and learning opportunities were available, which assisted the GEDC in its ability to contribute to the production of the Natural Resource Management Strategy for the Goldfields Nullarbor Sub-region.

The GEDC is a member of the Goldfields-Nullarbor Sub-regional (Rangelands) Natural Resource Management Group (GNSRNRMG). The Group is required to produce a NRM strategy encompassing three overarching objectives: biodiversity conservation; sustainable use of natural resources; and community capacity building and institutional change.

The GEDC participated in regular GNSRNRMG meetings and contributed to the decision-making process in relation to the hosting arrangements for the Indigenous NRM facilitator. The GEDC provided invitee database assistance to the official launch of the GNSRNRMG. The draft sub-regional strategy has been completed and the public consultation period closed in June 2005.

The pastoral industry plays a vital role in looking after the Rangelands - not only in terms of survival of the ecology, but also in terms of survival of communities and individuals living in the Rangelands. Pastoralists in the Rangelands meet regularly in the form of Land Conservation District Committees (LCDCs) to discuss how best to care for their stations and to organise joint projects such as grazing control. The GEDC continues to assist the Department of Agriculture Western Australia in its coordination of Land Conservation District Committees, and in determining how these Committees will function under new Natural Heritage Trust funding structures.

Mining Developments

The GEDC has remained informed of mining developments in the region through liaison with the Department of Industry and Resources (DOIR), the Chamber of Minerals and

Energy and other stakeholder liaison and provides input and assistance to project activity when required.

It is anticipated that involvement in the Kalgoorlie Nickel project will gain momentum in the later part of 2005 and 2006. An opportunity to provide business linkages for local businesses to this new project through the Industry Development Centre resource will be pursued.

Through the GERPICC working group the GEDC established a taskforce that is investigating the implications of “fly in fly out” (FIFO) workforces. Draft terms of reference have been developed for further possible studies.

Mining Development South of Norseman including Ravensthorpe

There are a number of new and potential mining developments south of the traditional gold/nickel greenstone belt of the Goldfields.

Ravensthorpe Nickel.

Ravensthorpe has been the scene of continued strong activity in the last two years.

The \$2 billion project will be the largest mining development ever undertaken in the Shire of Ravensthorpe and WA's South East. The GEDC appointed a Project Manager to work with the Shire of Ravensthorpe to implement an infrastructure package involving funding provided by the Federal and State governments and BHP Billiton. The nickel operation is expected to employ up to 1800 contractors during the current construction phase and a further 350 full-time employees during the expected 20 year life of the mine. BHP Billiton will employ a residential workforce who will be located chiefly in Hopetoun and Esperance. It is anticipated an additional 800 jobs will flow on from the project to allied industries. The GEDC has been actively involved with the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation development team during 2004-05, with a particular emphasis on coordinating the necessary infrastructure to ensure a smooth transition for the region to a more mining-focussed economy and social structure.

New or upgraded infrastructure and services include:

- New Shire of Ravensthorpe airport
- New local road construction linking airport with the mine site
- Waste water treatment plant site location for Hopetoun
- Land release in Ravensthorpe/Hopetoun town sites – residential and industrial
- Improved waste removal system within the Shire
- Additional staff and facilities, including housing for the Shire
- VET upgrade at Ravensthorpe District High School
- Community buildings
- Collocated emergency services facility in Hopetoun
- Entertainment centre within Ravensthorpe Indoor Recreation Complex
- Hopetoun Community Centre
- New primary school at Hopetoun

Salmon Gums Lignite

Lignite or brown coal is a carbonaceous fuel intermediate between coal and peat. It occurs in abundance in the region from west of Salmon Gums to Balladonia. The Salmon Gums deposits have the potential to contain a lignite resource of up to 2 billion tonnes. Various companies are looking at the potential to exploit these reserves by using gasification technology to gasify the lignite to product a syngas which in turn can be exported or used to produce electricity.

Splinter Gold and Copper Project

The Splinter Gold and Copper Project is located 120km northeast of Esperance. It contains 840km² of ground considered prospective for shear-hosted gold deposits and iron oxide copper-gold deposits.

Large areas of gold and copper anomalisation have been delineated. The GEDC will monitor interest in the Salmon Gums Lignite deposits and the Splinter Gold and Copper project and support diversification through these mining developments where appropriate.

Mungari Industrial Estate

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

Despite LandCorp developing a number of innovative tenancy models, including removing the requirement for a head works charge to be paid, the committee has been unable to attract any tenants into the Park at this stage.

GEDC has been following the activities of the Department of Environments' Core Consultative Committee on Waste (3C) during the year and the likely impact of this committee's activities in relation to Mungari. A 3C presentation at the Shire of Coolgardie was attended by a GEDC officer and comments will be provided when submissions for input on waste treatment site selections is called for in August 2005.

Shark Lake Industrial Park.

The proposed Shark Lake Industrial Park is a joint project between the Shire of Esperance and the Esperance Port Authority. This 378 hectare property is located on the Coolgardie–Esperance Highway, 12 kilometres from Esperance, and has the Goldfields railway and gas pipeline adjacent to it.

This project will establish an industrial park that will cater for the needs of the region in the future and provide an avenue for broadening the skills base through diversification of industry. The establishment of the Shark Lake Industrial Park will also provide the Esperance Port with an alternative site for the bulk storage of products, and improve traffic through the town of Esperance. With the assistance of the Goldfields Esperance Regional Development Fund the partners have been able to undertake a comprehensive environmental assessment of the site and successfully initiated a Scheme Amendment to effect the re-zoning. The GEDC will assist in encouraging occupancy of the industrial park.

Department of Justice Work camps

In 2004 the State Government announced that the Shire of Laverton had been successful in attracting a Department of Justice Prison Work Camp, to be established at Mt Morgans. The GEDC's Northern Goldfields Office has worked extensively with the Department of Justice and the Shires of Laverton, Leonora and Menzies since 2001 in seeking to establish this prison work camp. It is anticipated that one of the outcomes of this proposal will be that a number of Indigenous prisoners will access this program. A further outcome will be the development of a wide variety of work-based skills.

The GEDC will continue to work with the Department of Justice and other stakeholders to identify projects for prisoner participation.

Business Enterprise Centres

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

During the year the GEDC was an active participant in Stage Two of the Review of the Business Enterprise Centre Network. The Goldfields BEC coordinated the submission on behalf of the Southern Zone, titled "Putting Small Business In Front". This was submitted in April 2005.

During the year the Goldfields BEC dealt with some 1189 clients and this led to 23 new businesses starting up and accounted for a total of 187 jobs.

The Esperance BEC is one of 35 Business Enterprise Centres throughout Western Australia, 27 of which are located in regional areas. The Esperance BEC is community-owned and managed by a volunteer committee comprising local representatives from business, private and public sector organisations and local government including the GEDC. BEC managers are employed to provide specialised guidance and small business improvement services to the local small business community and provide an important link to other private and public sector service providers. The Esperance BEC was recently awarded a substantial increase in funding after the recent small business review was tabled in Parliament.

Aboriginal Economic Development

The State Government is committed to assisting Indigenous people to achieve increased economic independence by building on an already impressive record of endeavour and success in the establishment and operation of business enterprises. In 2004-5 GEDC continued working in partnership with the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development (OAED - a division of the WA Department of Industry and Resources) as part of this commitment and specifically to increase the economic independence of Aboriginal people in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

The GEDCs main areas of focus are:

- Increasing Indigenous Employment
 - Indigenous People in Mining
 - Indigenous Arts Development
 - Indigenous Tourism and Cultural heritage
 - Indigenous business enterprise development

The GEDC worked with other State and Commonwealth government agencies and Aboriginal organisations to increase levels of Indigenous employment and assist the development of Indigenous business enterprises in the region. This included contributing to and responding to new strategies and policies such as the Draft Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy for WA, An Aboriginal Tourism Marketing Strategy for Western Australia – Discussion Paper, and the Draft Aboriginal Tourism Development Strategy. The GEDC's Aboriginal Economic Development Officer provided information to enable interested individuals to access training, business networks and mentoring programs. Assistance was also provided to Aboriginal organisations seeking funding for community enterprises through various grant-funding rounds.

Assistance with specific issues was provided to Indigenous business operators in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the Goldfields region.

This included:

- Referrals to courses and seminars such as: introductory mining courses, financial management, tendering requirements, dealing with bad debts, and computer training.
- Information on available apprenticeships and employment opportunities
- Assistance in starting new businesses
- Assistance in preparing funding applications
- Referrals to develop business plans
- Assistance and referrals to resolve financial queries
- Marketing assistance
- Assisting communities and individuals seeking to go into business
- Encouraging and responding to strategies with Indigenous economic development outcomes.
- Supporting and encouraging options that lead to increased access for Aboriginal people to full-time, part-time and casual employment

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

Indigenous People in Mining (IPiM)

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

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

The major project for 2004-05 was preparation and presentation of a combined exhibit at the GME held in October 2004. The GME provides excellent opportunities for facilitating business contacts between Indigenous enterprises, resource developers, mining contractors and other exhibitors.

Forty Indigenous businesses providing goods and services to the mining Industry in Western Australia were promoted through the 2004/05 Business Directory. This is almost double the number of businesses (21) that were profiled in the first directory produced in 2000. These businesses covered a range of services including exploration and drilling, trained personnel/staff hire, mechanical services, rehabilitation of mine sites, industrial cleaning, crane hire, retail and vending operations, drilling and mine support services.

In July and September 2004, IPiM forums were held covering issues such as pre-qualifications for tendering, the legal responsibilities relating to employees, occupational health and safety and insurances, plus presentations from several mining companies on tendering, employment and apprenticeships opportunities.

Indigenous Arts Development

The development and promotion of Indigenous Arts in the Goldfields-Esperance region offers a number of positive outcomes for individual artists and communities. For people living in remote communities, the development of strong, well-managed Art Centres as community enterprises offers artists real, local employment opportunities, which are not only culturally appropriate but can also provide a considerable independent income for the artists.

The development over several years of four Art Centres (Kayili Artists at Patjarr, Papulankutja Artists at Blackstone, Irrunytju Artists at Wingellina and Tjulyuru at Warburton) in communities in the Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku (with one more on the way at Warakurna) has been significant.

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

Apart from being an additional income source, arts development enhances cultural heritage and offers Indigenous people a higher profile within their own communities and in the wider community. As members of the management committees for these centres, artists gain training and experience in corporate governance, general business and marketing. For the younger people of the region, various visual and performing arts projects offer an opportunity to gain self-esteem and confidence in projects that also strengthen literacy and numeracy skills, problem solving and a wide range of production skills such as script-writing, lighting and sound.

In 2004-05 GEDC continued to assist a number of arts projects and supported several existing projects.

These included:

- The exhibition 'BIG RED Country' was held from 15th April to 24th May 2005 at the Goldfields Arts Centre. The exhibition was coordinated by the GEDC in partnership with the Goldfields Arts Centre and KCGM. Art works were mostly from new and emerging artists from arts organisations in Patjarr, Warburton, Blackstone, Wingellina and Kalgoorlie-Boulder and was sponsored by Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines. Sales earned over \$10,000 for artists involved. A smaller exhibition of unsold works from BIG RED Country was then shown at the John Curtin Gallery at Curtin University (Perth) resulting in further sales.
- Ongoing assistance to Artsource to run professional development workshops for artists in Leonora, Laverton and Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
- Freefall Theatre Company (previously Desert Drama) - offers a range of performing arts opportunities for young Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the Goldfields aged between six and twenty-one. In 2004, Freefall Theatre Company hosted the Inter-regional Drama Wild Youth Arts and Leadership Camp.
- A GEDC staff member is on the Board of the Freefall Theatre Company.
- Investigating opportunities and possible outlets to promote and sell Indigenous art and craft work both in the region and in Perth.

Developing Indigenous Tourism and Cultural Heritage

GEDC supports Aboriginal people to participate in the tourism industry either through the development of Indigenous tourism and cultural heritage product or as providers of mainstream tourism services.

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

The GEDC maintains regular contact with Tourism Western Australia and the WA Indigenous Tour Operators Committee (WAITOC), forwarding information on industry and funding opportunities, seminars and workshops to existing and potential tour operators and interested communities.

The GEDC provided information and reports to various State and Commonwealth Government departments and responded to a number of reports and draft strategies.

Community Foundations

The GEDC assisted the Western Australian Community Foundation (WACF) to inform Goldfields regional communities of options for distributing endowed funds thus encouraging the sharing of knowledge to meet emerging needs. The GEDC will continue to support WACF in the coming year to establish community foundations in the region where possible.

Recherche Advisory Group

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

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

A 'Profile of Users of the Recherche Archipelago, WA' has been completed in draft form and the next phase of the study will include an extensive community education and consultation process to develop a collective vision for the Archipelago.

Grants information

The GEDC provides Local Government Authorities and community groups with information on a range of grant opportunities as they become available. GEDC subscribes to internet-based grants notification services and gathers information about grant opportunities from these sources.

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

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

Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund

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

In 2004-05 the following projects were funded:

Company	Project	Funds Allocated
Golden Mile Loopline Railway Society	Locomotive Service Pit	\$11,205.00
Goldfields Disabled Sport Inc	Computing and Office Technology	\$5000.00
Goldfields Street and Strip Club Inc	Development of a motor sports complex	\$20,000.00
Goldfields Individual and Family Support Association	Goldfields Support Workers Registry	\$49,171.00
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Safe Homes Association	Child Safety Demonstration House	\$49,995.00
Goldfields Football Academy	Goldfields Football Academy	\$55,000.00
Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Corporation	Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Language Centre	\$5,500.00
709 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets	Replacement of training aids and furniture	\$26,234.75
Goldfields Youth Coordinating Network	Goldfields-Esperance Regional Youth Affairs Conference	\$5,300.00
Cancer Foundation of WA Inc	Kalgoorlie-Boulder Regional Volunteer Training Program	\$8,862.71
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Kalgoorlie-Boulder Technology Park - Feasibility Study.	\$30,000.00
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Tourist Centre	Relocation of the Kalgoorlie Goldfields Visitor Centre to the Kalgoorlie Town Hall	\$55,000.00

Goldfields-Esperance Regional Development Scheme

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Scheme is administered by the GEDC, and is a component of the State Government's Regional Investment Fund. \$400,000 was available for distribution in 2004-05.

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

In 2004-05 priority was given to activities that encouraged investment in the region; projects that demonstrated partnerships between stakeholders; tourism development and projects fitting into the framework of the GEDC's Strategic Plan. 27 applications were received, with a project value of over \$4.9million.

Projects funded in 2004-05 were:

Company	Project	Funds allocated
Staunton Seed Potatoes	Seed potato grading and storage facility	\$52,700.00
Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Skills Attraction	\$10,000.00
Shire of Menzies	Conservation Works – Historic Goongarrie Railway Cottages	\$31,801.00
Ngaanyatjarra Media Aboriginal Corporation	Ngaanyatjarra Media Communications Centre	\$72,102.97
Esperance and Districts Recreation Association	Strategic Club Development Officer	\$33,000.00
Shire of Coolgardie	Economic Development and Project Officer	\$26,135.43
Festival of the Wind	Festival of the Wind 2005	\$16,500.00
Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	Ravensthorpe Project Officer	\$51,000.00
Shire of Leonora	Regional Tourism Development Plan	\$28,600.00
Nature and Agriculture Rehabilitation Association	NARA Sustainable Indigenous Crop Development Trials	\$79,750.00
Shire of Menzies	New Community Playground	\$22,000.00
Toowacka Campsite Committee	Refurbishment and upgrade of the Toowacka Campsite in Esperance	\$13,890.80
Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum Ltd	Hospitality/Tourism Traineeship	\$34,528.03

Desert Knowledge Australia

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

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

In 2004 DKA was successful in securing \$200,000 of funding through an AusIndustry program for its “Linked Business Networks” project. The Linked Business Networks Project aims to facilitate the development and growth of business networks in Desert Australia.

There are four business groups that DKA has identified for this initiative. These are Bush Products, Tourism, Mining Services and Sustainable Housing (which includes renewable energy). The GEDC facilitates the Bush Products, Tourism and Sustainable Housing groups and an officer from the Goldfields Esperance Area Consultative Committee facilitates the Mining Services Group.

The GEDC and DKA have successfully facilitated a number of forums locally and at a cross state and territory level, utilising video-conferencing. The feedback from small businesses within the region has been very positive as these forums are providing networking and business opportunities for them in a supportive environment. Utilising video and teleconferencing technology has provided a solution to the 'tyranny of distance'. The Desert Knowledge Australia Linked Business Network Project is supported by AusIndustry, Telstra, state and territory agencies, industry boards and Chambers of Commerce and a range of businesses.

Desert Knowledge – Tourism

Desert Knowledge Australia successfully applied for federal funding (Australian Tourism Development Program) to initiate a major project called the Desert Knowledge Australia Cross Border Development of Outback Tourism Project. The GEDC is an active member of one of the working parties which oversees this project. The expected outcomes of this project are:

- Better informed industry/communities working together across Outback Australia
- Improved policy alignment at national, state and regional levels
- Improved access to strategic resources/support for outback communities
- A sense of forward action and leadership including identification of a project champion and broker to drive implementation

Workshops and meetings were held in the Goldfields in July 2005. The GEDC provided support for workshops held in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Leonora and Laverton.

Sustainability

The Sustainability Code of Practice for Government Agencies was released in September 2004 as part of the Western Australian Governments strategy to address sustainability through a comprehensive, integrated whole-of-government approach. The Code of Practice requires government agencies to lead the way in addressing a range of issues including agency governance, sustainable resource management and community engagement by preparing a Sustainability Action Plan to respond to the goals and commitments outlined by the Code.

The GEDC has developed and implemented the GEDC Sustainability Action Plan and the GEDC WA Cleaner Production Action Plan. Both documents are subject to annual reviews.

Service 2 Industry and Enterprise Development

Service Measures	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Target	2004/05 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours	5400	5883	8447	7297
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	96%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	95%
Cost				
Cost per hour – <i>Note 1.</i>	\$96	\$122	\$90	\$111

Service 3 – Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

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

2005 Goldfields- Esperance Regional Infrastructure Workshop

In early April 2005, the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) in conjunction with the Shire of Coolgardie hosted a two day tour/workshop on infrastructure development in the region.

The event provided an opportunity for public sector agencies and industry to present their current and proposed infrastructure development projects.

The Regional Infrastructure Tour included Anzac Drive Industrial Estate (Kalgoorlie), Mungari Industrial Estate (Coolgardie), the historic Coolgardie township, Kambalda West town centre, a site visit to St Ives Gold Mine (Lake Lefroy, Kambalda), the Kambalda township and concluded with the vista from Red Hill in Kambalda.

The Regional Infrastructure Workshop provided a snapshot of all the current major infrastructure development projects within the region. A number of regional 'hot-spot' issues were also identified – including land access, provision of power, the cost of headworks, infrastructure bonds, and the replacement costs for existing community infrastructure/facilities. The workshop also provided the opportunity for more than 30 students from Curtin University to learn about the issues facing the region, public infrastructure development and the importance of promoting the Goldfields-Esperance region as a viable employment option.

Goldfields / Esperance Regional Water

Since the construction of the Mundaring to Kalgoorlie pipeline in 1903, the need to increase and/or provide an alternative water supply to the Goldfields-Esperance region has been raised on many occasions. These concerns generated the need to consider alternative supplies.

The responsibility of considering the implementation of the recommendations of the Goldfields-Esperance Region Water Supply Strategy was given to the Premier's Water Taskforce. The Taskforce had the responsibility of developing a state-wide water strategy and considering the Goldfields-Esperance Water Supply Strategy in the context of this wider view.

One of the options presented was an Esperance to Kalgoorlie-Boulder pipeline. The United Utilities Australia Pty Ltd organisation (UUA Pty Ltd) responded to the need to accommodate future water demand with a proposal for a desalination plant at Esperance and a pipeline to the Goldfields region. The GEDC have provided regional economic modelling support to the United Utilities Pty Ltd project by way of an extensive REMPlan report on the local multiplier impacts for Esperance and the broader Goldfields-Esperance region of the anticipated initial construction and ongoing capital and operational expenditure of the facility.

This proposal would allow a significant increase in the availability of water in the Goldfields, and along the Esperance to Kalgoorlie-Boulder pipeline. The UUA proposal enjoys regional support for a number of reasons including:

- The opportunity to grow new industries and expand existing ones
- A reliable source of water independent of climate and limited groundwater conditions
- The ability to provide cost savings to mining organisations and agricultural activities
- The improvement of the water quality in Esperance
- Providing cost savings to domestic and commercial customers in Esperance by increasing the lifespan of domestic appliances such as water heaters

The Economic Regulation Authority (ERA), at the instruction of the State Government, prepared an inquiry into the cost of supplying bulk water to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the surrounding area. This cost-benefit analysis compared the cost of the UUA project against the avoided cost to the Water Corporation, plus the benefits to mines switching to the potable supply. The draft report stated there would be a net loss from progressing with the desalination plant option.

In 2005-2006, the GEDC will continue to facilitate the development of additional water supplies in the region.

Regional Power

The GEDC aims to improve access to and provision of power within the region. Priorities continue to be strengthening the electricity grid in the Ravensthorpe area, improving quality of supply in Kambalda, Eucla and Widgiemooltha. It is also hoped that Leonora will have an underground power system.

Electricity is provided to commercial, industrial and residential consumers via a variety of arrangements. Western Power's large South West Interconnected Grid System (the SWIS) is connected to networks in Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Kambalda and Ravensthorpe. However the system is augmented by the private TransAlta Power Station at Parkeston (just east of Kalgoorlie-Boulder) which supplies some major mining operations in the Goldfields and other customers on the SWIS.

Esperance is supplied by a combination of gas-fired and wind-generated electricity which Western Power purchases under a power purchase agreement with Burns Roe Worley (BRW). The Port of Esperance purchases electricity directly from Burns Roe Worley.

BRW is providing supply to Esperance from a new (2003), automated but manned, dual fuel, gas turbine power station located at the Esperance Port area. Wind power is generated at wind farms west of Esperance, which supply up to 5.6 MW of renewable energy.

Hopetoun and surrounding farmland is supplied on a local network that is supplied by Western Power through a combination of diesel-fired and wind-generated electricity. Western Power plan to erect a new wind turbine in 2005-06. The towns of Laverton and Menzies are currently supplied with electricity by Western Power diesel stations but these will be replaced by new technology stations operated by Statewest Power (a subsidiary of Wesfarmers) that will build, own and operate the new stations and supply electricity to Western Power. Statewest Power using gas already supplies power in Leonora.

In Norseman and Leinster, local mining companies use diesel to generate electricity on behalf of Western Power as well as for their own use.

Ravensthorpe Nickel Operations have impacted on the power needs for the region. The Ravensthorpe Nickel Operations, which is currently under construction, has decided to generate its own electricity using a combination of diesel technology and waste heat from the processing plant.

However, to strengthen the SWIS in the Ravensthorpe area, an upgrade of the supply capacity from the SWIS is being examined. Meanwhile, Western Power will install temporary local generation capacity to cope with the upswing in local demand.

Western Power will be disaggregated into four entities by 31 March 2006 and the new Regional Power Entity will cover everything outside of the southwest interconnected system.

Telecommunications

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

This has been achieved through the following activities:

- Participation in the state-wide Communications Advisory Committee (CAC), which meets quarterly and provides advice to the Minister for State Development, Hon Alan Carpenter MLA, on communications issues that impact on regional and remote parts of Western Australia.
- Regular provision of progress reports relating to the State Communications Policy.
- The GEDC is a member of the committee coordinated by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development, which developed and is now implementing the IT Training and Technical Support Program which will provide up-skilling in IT and the use of telecommunications in remote communities across Western Australia.
- The past Minister for State Development, Hon Clive Brown MLA, announced funding of \$5.8 million for the Ngaanyatjarra Lands Telecommunications Project in May 2004. The GEDC continues to be involved in this project assisting in addressing the very poor telecommunications infrastructure and services that currently exist in this large area of the northern part of the Goldfields-Esperance region.
- Provision of support to the Eastern Goldfields Division of General Practitioners' Project for the provision of affordable broadband technology to all GPs in the region.
- Provision of support to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's Broadband Demand Aggregation Project.

Transport

The GEDC monitors developments and lobbies for improved transport infrastructure on behalf of the region. During 2004-05 activities undertaken were:

- Investigation with the Department for Planning and Infrastructure, Main Roads WA and other key stakeholders into alternative, more direct road routes between the Goldfields-Esperance and the Pilbara regions.
- Met with the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and other key stakeholders in Kalgoorlie-Boulder to discuss and progress the concept of a transport hub in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder; finalised the consultants brief and contributed \$10,000 towards the cost of the study. The study is underway and the findings for stage one will be presented to stakeholders by the consultants early in 2005-2006.
- Investigated the concern that waiting time for driver tests in Kalgoorlie-Boulder is greater than it is in Perth.
- Provided a detailed submission to Auslink highlighting critical major transport issues that confront our region.
- Supported stakeholders to secure funding for the Port Access Corridor in Esperance where issues of safety, efficiency and amenity are being affected by the increase in train and truck movements.
- Coordinated and provided a detailed submission to The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services in its Inquiry into the Integration of Regional Rail and Road Freight Transport and Their Interface with Ports.
- Lobbied for the upgrade of the Goldfields Highway Crossing at Lake Raeside to be completed earlier than the 2007 date currently set.

Developments at Ravensthorpe have led to upgrades being necessary on local and regional roads. The Albany MRWA office is managing the upgrade of the South Coast Highway linking Esperance and Albany which includes a new bridge and a number of passing lanes. It is understood that the work will commence in late 2005.

The Shire of Dundas was successful in a RADS application and work has commenced on the upgrade of the Norseman airstrip and should be completed by the end of the year.

At Esperance Port, almost \$31 million will be spent on the construction of a sulphur storage shed and a shore-based gantry crane to assist with exports from BHP Billiton's Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation.

Outback Highway

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

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

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

Leonora Collocation

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

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

The Shire of Leonora has been extremely supportive of this project and this has been demonstrated by a significant financial contribution, as well as through in-kind contributions. In May 2005 the successful tenderer, Majstrovich Building Consultants, were appointed and commenced work, which is expected to be completed during 2005.

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

Childcare Centre - Leonora

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

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

Construction of the building has been completed and the fit-out phase is in progress. The GEDC in conjunction with the Department for Community Development is currently investigating a number of different management models for the operation of the Centre.

Service 3 Coordination of Infrastructure Identification

Service Measures	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Target	2004/05 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours -	1600	1070	1534	1124
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	96%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	91%	85%	95%
Cost				
Cost per hour	\$100	\$121	\$110	\$112

Service 4 – Regional Promotion

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

WA on Show

In August 2004 the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission presented a regional display at a five day event - *WA on Show* held at the Perth Convention Centre. *WA on Show* aimed at showcasing what Western Australia has to offer for visitors, potential residents and investors.

Murdoch University Open Day

The GEDC attended the Graduate Recruitment and Employment Fair at Murdoch University in April 2005 promoting the Goldfields-Esperance region as a great place to live and work. A large number of students from the university were able to obtain information regarding employment and lifestyle opportunities in the region.

Regional Brochure

The GEDC developed and produced a *Reward Yourself Brochure* showcasing the nine local government authorities within the Goldfields-Esperance region. The brochure was developed as a promotional tool to assist in the attraction and retention of professional staff to the region. The brochure has been used extensively by the GEDC and is now being actively sought by government and non-government key-stakeholders.

The GEDC plans to reprint the brochure in 2005/06 which will include information on migration and an interactive CD with links to relevant web-pages.

Pacific Flora 2004

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

The living landscape design and Interpretation Hut were installed by staff from Kings Park and Botanic Garden in Shizuoka, Japan and features outback and regional Western Australia, including two large panels of glass artwork from the Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku's Tjulyuru Cultural and Civic Centre. The 'clear float formed art glass panels', the work of Taparti Bates illustrated 'Kungkarrangkalpa Tjukurrpa' or the 'Seven Sisters story'. As part of the overall exhibition a number of competitions were held and a silver medal was awarded for the 'glass panels. In addition, spinifex was sourced from Minara Resources situated in the Shire of Laverton.

The GEDC was actively involved in this international project as a result of an invitation by Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Perth.

Golden Quest Trails Association

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

The Golden Quest Discovery Trail to date has been recognised and awarded the following;

- Finalist in the 2003 WA Premier's Awards (nominated by GEDC).
- 2003 Winner of the 'Achievement in Regional Development Practice' of the Australian and New Zealand Regional Science Association Inc Awards (nominated by GEDC).
- 2004 – Received Federal funding under the Australian Tourism Development Program (ATDP) (sourced by the Golden Quest Trails Association Inc).

The Trail continues to be used as a benchmark for other trails. The GEDC presented a paper on the development of the Trail at a national SEGRA conference held in Alice Springs in September 2004.

Newsletter

The GEDC publishes a quarterly newsletter to inform regional stakeholders about key activities, economic development and community development throughout the Goldfields-Esperance region. More than 1000 copies are distributed each quarter. The newsletter is also placed on the GEDC website.

Staff Attraction and Retention

The GEDC continued to assist with measures to address staff attraction and retention issues that affect the region. These measures included distribution of information on migration initiatives, migration forums held across the region in July 2004 and the production of the 'Reward Yourself' brochure.

The GEDC maintains a close working relationship with the Goldfields South-East Health Region. Through this partnership GEDC has provided information and advice to assist with attraction and retention of personnel including the student allied health promotions and nursing events.

Statistical Information

The GEDC provides a wide variety of statistical and other information to local government authorities, business groups and agencies throughout the region. Statistics often sought include mineral production, gross regional product, demographic and population. Regional Price Index data and employment/unemployment figures are often sought as well.

Community consultation/working groups

During the year, the GEDC staff in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Esperance and Leonora, were involved in a range of subsidiary activities which all assisted to progress the region. The following are examples of this involvement:

- The GEDC provided regional input into the Department of Sport and Recreation's strategic planning session for 2005/06.
- The GEDC was a member of the Goldfields Youth Advantage Group with compiled a Strategy for the delivery of education and training initiatives for the Goldfields. The Youth Advantage Strategies were aimed at addressing fundamental changes required

over the period 2004 to 2008. Each Education District was required to develop an Education and Training Plan outlining a targeted approach to meet the needs of the 15 to 19 year age group.

- The GEDC is represented on the Department of Education and Training's Eastern Goldfields Senior High School Local Implementation Group, which is overseeing the spilt of the two campuses into two separate high schools. The GEDC is also represented on the Communication and Public Relations and the Safety and Security working parties that report to the Implementation Group.
- The GEDC assisted the Western Australian Community Foundation (WACF) in running information forums in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance and continues to support the establishment of foundations in the region.
- The role played by the GEDC to revive Esperance's Festival of the Wind proved successful with the Festival taking place on the 18th and 19th March 2005. The GEDC provided secretarial assistance to this group aiding in the sourcing of funding and promotional activities. The secretarial role has assisted the Festival committee to develop information files to assist future committees and the sustainability of the Festival.
- The GEDC provided support to Bay of Isles Community Outreach Inc (BOICO) to assist in obtaining funding for a renovation on their community centre "Harmonee House". The GEDC continues to provide support to BOICO by facilitating volunteer meetings and coordinating material and labour donations.
- The GEDC is a member of the Esperance Marine Advisory Committee (EMAC) that looks at issues relating to the Bandy Creek Boat Harbour.
- The GEDC assisted the Blessing of the Fleet steering committee to obtain new members and provided information to assist planning for the 2005 Blessing of the Fleet.
- The GEDC Ravensthorpe office has worked closely with a number of community groups during the past twelve months to facilitate progress on specific projects. These groups include:
 - Ravensthorpe District Recreation Association
 - Ravensthorpe Tigers Football Club
 - Hopetoun Football Club
 - Lake Football Club
 - Ravensthorpe regional Chamber of Commerce (Inc)
 - Ravensthorpe Hopetoun Area Promotions Group
 - Ravensthorpe ACIS Group
 - Munglinup Progress Association
 - Ravensthorpe Community Liaison Committee
 - Ravensthorpe CWA
 - Ravensthorpe District High School.

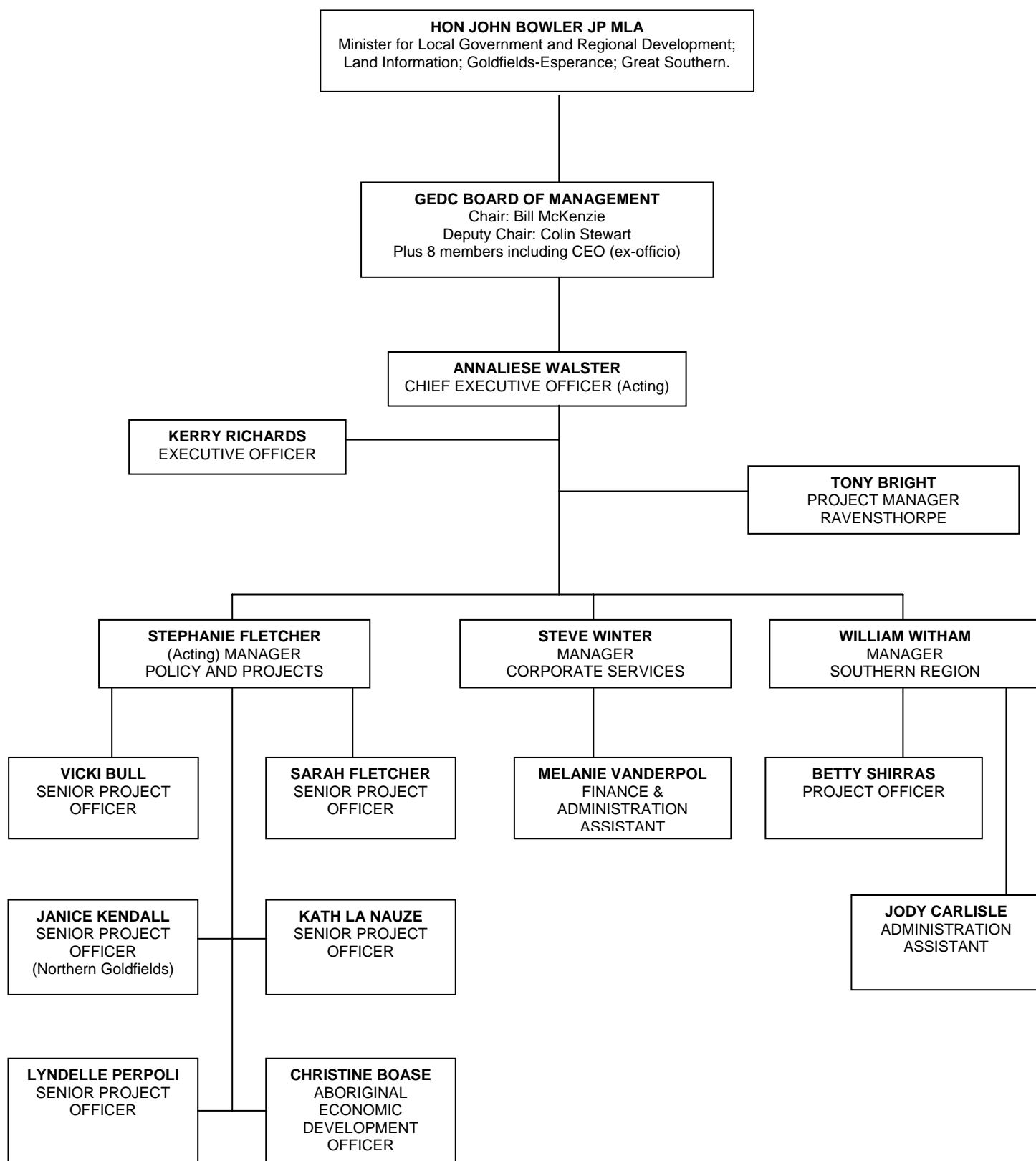
Capacity Building

- The GEDC provided the Department of Local Government and Regional Development nominations of suitable regional representatives for the Leaders in Sport Program.
- The GEDC assisted with the facilitation of a planning workshop for the Goldfields-Nullarbor Natural Resource Management Group (GNNRMG).
- GEDC is represented on the Youth Coordination Network in Esperance. The network brings together people and organisations that work with youth to provide an opportunity to network, share information and facilitate partnerships on projects and programs delivered for young people.
- GEDC has facilitated the establishment of a working committee to progress a 'Men in Sheds' project in Esperance.

Service 4 Regional Promotion

Service Measures	2003/04 Target	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Target	2004/05 Actual
Quantity				
Chargeable Hours -	2780	2247	1685	1760
Quality				
Customer satisfaction by client survey	85%	94%	85%	96%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction by client survey)	85%	91%	85%	95%
Cost				
Cost per hour -	\$101	\$130	\$140	\$143

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION STRUCTURE



CORPORATE STRUCTURE

Enabling Legislation and Policy

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

Legislation impacting on the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's activities

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

- ☐ The Regional Development Commissions Act 1993 (as amended)
- ☐ Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985
- ☐ Public Sector Management Act 1994
- ☐ Salaries and Allowances Act 1975
- ☐ Equal Opportunity Act 1984
- ☐ Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
- ☐ Workers Compensation and Assistance Act 1981
- ☐ Government Employees Superannuation Act 1987
- ☐ Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993
- ☐ Industrial Relations Act 1979
- ☐ Disability Services Act 1993
- ☐ State Supply Commission Act 1991
- ☐ Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003
- ☐ Freedom of Information Act 1992
- ☐ Official Corruption Commission Act 1998
- ☐ State Records Act 2000
- ☐ Library Board of Western Australia Act 1954

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

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

Responsible Minister

The Hon John Bowler MLA, Minister for Local Government and Regional Development, Land Information, Goldfields-Esperance and Great Southern.

Vision

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

Mission

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

Objectives and Desired Outcomes

The GEDC provides an integral component of a “Whole-of-Government” approach to the requirements of regional development. The GEDC is able to perform an important role in identifying needs and providing advice on the appropriate application of Government resources in the Goldfields-Esperance region.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- A Customer Satisfaction Survey was sent to major customers of the GEDC during the year.
- A number of information pamphlets for customers were produced including the regular GEDC newsletter and ‘Reward Yourself’ brochure.

The GEDC has been called upon recently to comment on a number of State and Federal Policies, Programs and Strategies. In 2004/05 this included the following:

- Department of Local Government and Regional Development (DLGRD) funding guidelines.
- Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy
- Preparation of a submission to the federal parliamentary inquiry into Skills Recognition Upgrading and Licensing.
- Preparation of a submission to the federal parliamentary inquiry into the Integration of Regional Rail and Road Freight Transport and Their Interface with Ports.

In addition to providing comments on documents the GEDC is frequently called upon by other State Government Agencies to assist them in the functions of the region. Examples of this in 2004/05 are the GEDC was a member of the judging panel for the Tidy Towns competition in Esperance. The GEDC also participated in an agency planning session with the Department of Education and Training looking into regional issues effecting apprenticeships and traineeships.

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

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

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

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

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

Ten board meetings were held in 2004-05.

The GEDC Board meets on a bi-monthly basis by tele/video conference and then, a fortnight later, a face-to-face meeting occurs on a selected topic of interest.

As at 30 June 2005, Board members were as follows:

Bill McKenzie (Chairman)

Community representative

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meetings attended 10 (10 possible)

Kalgoorlie born Bill McKenzie is a Barrister & Solicitor practising predominantly in the field of commercial and business law. He is married (26years) to Carmel and they have four teenage children.

He has served on many boards since the 1980's including, Chairman - Eastern Goldfields Transport Board for 3 years in the mid 1980's; Director - Kalgoorlie College for 10 years in the 1990's; Chairman - Goldfields Group Apprenticeship Scheme, which he helped establish; President - Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce 1985 - 1988 and Deputy President since 2001; Director - Eastern Goldfields YMCA since 2000; Chairman Goldfields Credit Union since 2002; and Director for 10 years and a member of Northern Goldfields Health Service Ethics committee. He has recently been appointed to the Western Australian Skills advisory Board (WASAB) and the State Training Board.

Colin Stewart (Deputy Chairman)

Ministerial representative.

Term expires 31 December 2007

Meetings attended: 8 (10 possible)

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

Dr William John Mortimer

Community representative.

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meetings attended: 7 (10 possible)

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

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

Graham Dawes

Local Government representative.

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meetings attended: 6 (10 possible)

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

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

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

Sally Wilson

Ministerial representative.

Term expired 30 June 2005

Meetings attended: 10 (10 possible)

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

Colin (Cobb) Johnstone

Ministerial representative

Term expires 31 December 2007

Meetings attended: 3 (4 possible)

Mr Johnstone is the General Manager of Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines (KCGM) – Cobb has spent the past 20 years working in the mining industry both in Australia and overseas. The last 10 years have been spent in General Manager roles in various regional communities.

Graham Thomson

Local Government representative

Term expires 30 June 2006

Meetings attended: 4 (4 possible)

Mr Thomson is currently the Managing Director of Logistic Management Services, Goldfields Utilities Ltd and LMS Industries Ltd. Mr Thomson is also the Director of Mine Chaplaincy Inc in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, GPC Pastoral Management Services Pty Ltd, Goldfields Olive Developments, the Family Training Institute and the National Reconciliation Forum. Graham is also the coordinator of the Diggers and Dealers Forum and Deputy Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Graham is very passionate about the region and is committed to the long-term social and economic sustainability of the region.

Cr Brenda Tilbrook

Community representative

Term expires 31 December 2007

Meetings attended: 3 (4 possible)

Ms Brenda Tilbrook is a Ravensthorpe local and the Deputy President of the Ravensthorpe Shire Council. Brenda is also involved in the Rural Communities Program, the South East Coastal Regional Education and Training Group, the South East Coastal Blueprint Implementation Group, the Ravensthorpe Anglican Parish Council and the Ravensthorpe Health Advisory Committee. Brenda works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure positive social and economic outcomes for the region, particularly with regard to the Ravensthorpe Nickel Operation.

Annaliese Walster (ex-officio)

Ms Annaliese Walster is the Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission.

Board Members Resignation/Term expired during 2004/2005

Sandra Trenowden

Local Government representative.

Resigned 9 May 2005

Kado Muir

Ministerial representative.

Resigned 17 September 2004

Kay Curson

Community representative.

Term expired 31 December 2004

Colin Purcell (ex-officio)

Retired 15 October 2004

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

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer (Acting)

Annaliese Walster joined GEDC in March 2001. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with Honours in Anthropology, and completed an MBA in 2001. Annaliese was formerly employed with the Department of Minerals and Energy involved in native title negotiation and mediation. She has also worked for a private Aboriginal Heritage consulting firm and for the Aboriginal Legal Service involved in native title claims research. Annaliese has an 18 month old daughter and together with her husband who works in the mining industry, enjoys the bush and the relaxed atmosphere that living and working in the region offers.

Manager - Policy and Projects (Acting)

Stephanie Fletcher joined the GEDC in July 1996. Since then she has been involved in almost every aspect of the GEDC's operations. Stephanie has significant knowledge of policy and issues that impact on the region.

Stephanie has three sons who keep her busy. One of her interests outside of work is ballroom dancing.

Manager - Southern Region

Bill Witham joined GEDC in February of 2005 and is based in Esperance. Bill has a background in mining and petroleum exploration. He has worked overseas in South Africa and America for geophysical contracting companies. Prior to commencing at GEDC Bill was the Manager of Esperance Community College. Bill is married with three young children.

Manager - Corporate Services

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

Senior Project Officer – Northern Goldfields

Karen Hayes resigned effective 2 May 2005.

Project Officer

Kath La Nauze joined the GEDC in May 2005. Kath has been in Kalgoorlie for 5 years, previously working as an Environmental Consultant with Rally Revegetation. She has a Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Development. When not at work, Kath is kept busy with her two children, playing sport and being active in the community.

Senior Project Officer

Sarah Fletcher has a Bachelor of Business (Honours) Curtin University and joined the GEDC in April 2005 as a part time worker. Previously Sarah has worked as a Marketing Lecturer at Central TAFE, Project Officer with the Department of Commerce and Trade and she has also been a small business owner. Sarah has five sons and together with her husband, loves to share hobbies which include watching the boys' sport or drama activities, exploring the bush, motorcrossing, documentaries, cooking and photography.

Senior Project Officer

Lyndelle Perpoli joined the GEDC in May 2005 on a six month contract. Lyndelle has a Bachelors degree in Commerce, majoring in marketing and management. She is currently working towards a Masters Degree in Development Planning. After living in the region on and off since November 2003, Lyndelle has come to love the opportunities and the lifestyle that the region offers.

Senior Project Officer

Vicki Bull joined the GEDC in 1998. She has a Diploma in Human Resource Management and a Graduate Diploma in Regional Development. Prior to working for GEDC Vicki was employed at the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Outside of work Vicki's interests include photography, reading, fitness, sewing and she is a member of the Ulysses Club and the Goldfields Camera Club.

Project Officer – Esperance

Betty Shirras joined the GEDC's Esperance office in January 2005 having previously worked in education as a teacher, and for the Department for Community Development. She also spent two years in an administrative role with United Farmers Cooperative limited. Betty has lived in the Esperance area for 19 years along with her husband and five daughters. She enjoys gardening, photography, and walking on the beautiful beaches around Esperance.

Aboriginal Economic Development Officer

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

Executive Assistant

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

Finance & Administration Assistant

Melanie Vanderpol joined the GEDC in March 2004, having worked in administration roles within the Goldfields for four years prior to this. Melanie has been a resident of Kalgoorlie-Boulder since the age of 6 and enjoys the diversity the area has to offer.

Administration Assistant

Jody Carlisle joined the GEDC's Esperance office in June 2003. Originally from Kalgoorlie, Jody moved to Esperance 7½ years ago. She has a Certificate III Qualification in Business Office Administration and hopes to expand her knowledge and qualifications. She has a keen interest in all outdoor activities and practices pilates to keep her body and mind healthy and active.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Human Resource Management

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

As at 30 June 2005, the GEDC operated with 15 staff.

	2003/04	2004/05
Permanent full – time	11	10
Permanent part- time	0	0
Temporary/contract full-time	3	3
Temporary/contract part-time	0	2
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>

Two part time contract employees job share to cover the absence of one full time equivalent employee on twelve months leave.

Public Sector Standards

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

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

Staff Training and Development

In 2004/05 GEDC staff participated in a number of training courses. An assessment of staff training needs is identified through individual Performance Improvement and Development Agreements. The GEDC expended 5.9% of payroll costs on staff training and development.

Workers Compensation

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

Compliance with Recordkeeping Plans

During 2003/2004 the GEDC created a Recordkeeping Plan and a Retention and Disposal Plan in accordance with the requirements of the State Records Act 2000. At this time key staff in each of the GEDC offices received training to support the implementation of these plans.









These plans take into account relevant government policy and endorsed standards for the making and keeping of proper and adequate records.

The efficiency and effectiveness of the GEDC's recordkeeping system will be evaluated before June 2006.

New employees are informed of their role and responsibility in regard to their compliance with the GEDC's record keeping plan and trained accordingly as part of their induction process.

Publications

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

-  Goldfields-Esperance Economic Perspective
-  GEDC Newsletter
-  Client Survey
-  Disability Service Plan
-  Complaints Management Strategy
-  Reward Yourself Brochure
-  GEDC information brochure
-  Indigenous People in Mining Business Directory

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**Contracts with Board Members or Senior Officers**

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

Changes in Written Law

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

Ministerial Directives

No Ministerial directives were received during the financial year.

REPORT ON EQUITY, ACCESS AND CUSTOMER FOCUS

Reports on Customer Outcomes

Customer Focus Outcomes

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

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

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

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

The GEDC has a high public profile, which is achieved through media activity, the networking of Board members and staff in the community, and through formal and informal meetings with stakeholders in the region. A newsletter is published quarterly and is available both electronically on the GEDC web site and by mail to stakeholders and interested community members within the region.

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

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

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

The GEDC Board members come from a number of different locations within the region. Information and opinions gained from their formal and informal contacts within their home communities can have significant effect on shaping of the GEDC policies and activities. The GEDC has a positive relationship with Local Government Authorities in the region, particularly with their Chief Executive Officers. Regular meetings are held with various Local Government representatives where consultation takes place in respect of GEDC activities.

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

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

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

Disabilities Service Plan Outcomes

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

The Disabilities Service Plan was reviewed and updated in the third quarter of 2003 and is scheduled for review at the end of 2005. The frequency of the review is to ensure that outcomes meet current community expectations, with particular reference to the evolving priorities and needs of people with disabilities.

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

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

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

Equal Employment Opportunity Outcomes

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

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

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

Improved distribution of women particularly in management positions:

- Representation of women - 73%

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

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

Cultural Diversity and Language Services Outcomes

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

- In planning their work, staff members are encouraged to be aware of the needs of the people who may require the services of a culturally appropriate interpreter, to ensure that these people have the same access to our services as do other members of the community.

- Ensuring that language services are culturally and linguistically acceptable to the client. This includes taking into account gender, ethnicity and the appropriateness of either telephone or on-site interpreting.
- Acknowledging clients' entitlements to the services of interpreters, translators and linguistically appropriate information in situations of communication difficulty.
- Establishing protocols for the engagement of qualified interpreters, translators and note-takers.
- Understanding that the provision of interpreting and other language services is the responsibility of the agency and not the client. To this extent, the GEDC works with the staff of the Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Language Centre based in Kalgoorlie-Boulder when translations or interpretation are required.
- Has a staff member trained in cross-cultural skills and how to work with interpreters.

GEDC officers have also attended workshops in Indigenous cultural awareness.

Youth Outcomes

The GEDC's activities are designed to progress the 'balanced social and economic development of the Goldfields-Esperance region'. Projects are designed to make long-term improvements to infrastructure, quality of life, educational and employment opportunities for people of all ages living in the region.

The GEDC supported a number of activities with a specific youth focus in 2004-2005.

Youth projects grants information

The GEDC disseminates information regarding available grant funding for youth projects to key-stakeholders in the region.

Goldfields Football Academy

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

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

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

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

Goldfields Youth Advantage Group.

The GEDC was a member of the Goldfields Youth Advantage Group that compiled a Strategy for the delivery of education and training initiatives from 2004 to 2008 in the Goldfields area.

Esperance Youth Coordination Network

The GEDC is represented on the Youth Coordination Network in Esperance. The network facilitates partnerships between community representatives and organisations in delivering projects for young people.

Freefall Theatre Company Inc.

The GEDC has continued to provide support for this youth based organisation which provides quality theatre and arts activities to young indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the Goldfields area. The highlight of the 2004/05 year was Freefall hosting a week long, inter-regional Youth, Arts and Leadership camp in Kalgoorlie-Boulder for approximately 70 young artists. This culminated in a performance at Centennial Park. A GEDC staff member is on the Board of Freefall Theatre Company.

REPORTS ON OTHER ACCOUNTABILITY ISSUES

Information Statement

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

The main aims of the Act for Government agencies are:

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

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

The GEDC's Acting Manager Policy and Projects is the designated FOI Officer. Applications for access to documents can be lodged at the GEDC head office, 377 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie.

During 2004/05 no applications for access to documents under the Freedom of Information Act were received.

Advertising and Sponsorship

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

Total expenditure for 2004/05 was \$10,505

2. Expenditure was incurred in the following areas:

Advertising Agencies	\$4,600
Reynolds Graphics	\$1,000
Visitor Guide Australia	\$2,900
The Australian Government Directory	\$700
Market Research Organisations	Nil
Polling Organisations	Nil
Direct Mail Organisations	Nil
Media Advertising Organisations	\$5,905
Market force Productions	\$3,302
Hocking and Company	\$795
West Australian Publishers	\$1,075
Unity Publications	\$675
Esperance Holdings	\$58

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR STANDARDS

The GEDC has complied with the Standards as follows:

Compliance with Human Resource Management Standards

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

Compliance with Codes of Ethics and Codes of Conduct

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

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

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

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

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

Number lodged: Nil

Number of breaches found, including details of multiple breaches per application: Nil

Number still under review: Nil



Annaliese Walster
Acting Chief Executive Officer

29 August 2005

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE – A PRODUCTIVE REGION

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

Gross Regional Product

The Goldfields-Esperance region makes a vital contribution to the Western Australian economy with a GRP (Gross Regional Product at market prices) of \$4.316 billion in 2003-04 representing 4.9% per cent of the Gross State Product.

<i>Gross Regional Product – Goldfields-Esperance region</i>	<i>2000-01</i>	<i>2001-02</i>	<i>2002-03</i>	<i>2003-04</i>
Preliminary GRP Estimates at Market Prices (\$m)	4,088	4,113	4,256	4,316
Preliminary Nominal Growth Rate Estimates at Market Prices	14%	0.6%	3.5%	1.39%
Preliminary GRP Estimates at Market Prices Adjusted for CPI (\$m)	3,350	3,282	3,304	3,284
Preliminary Growth Rate Estimates at Market Prices Adjusted for CPI	8.1%	-2.0%	0.7%	0.5%

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

Goldfields-Esperance Gross Regional Product %Share by Industry

	2000-01	2000-02	2002-03	2003-04
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2.9%	3.2%	2.7%	4.6%
Mining	70.8%	67.8%	62.5%	58.5%
Manufacturing	2.4%	2.6%	3.1%	3.3%
Electricity, Gas and Water	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%
Construction	3.9%	3.8%	4.8%	5.1%
Wholesale	1.6%	2.0%	2.3%	2.5%
Retail	1.8%	2.0%	2.5%	2.7%
Accommodation /Hospitality	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%
Transport & Storage	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%
Communication Services	0.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	2.2%	2.4%	2.9%	3.1%
Property	3.6%	3.6%	4.2%	4.5%
Government	1.0%	2.2%	2.6%	2.7%
Education	1.2%	1.5%	1.8%	1.9%
Health / Community Services	2.1%	1.9%	2.3%	2.4%
Cultural /Recreational Services	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
Personal and Other Services	0.8%	0.9%	1.3%	1.3%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

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

Production by Industry Sector

Mining and processing of mineral resources

The region's economic strength is due largely to the extraction and processing of its mineral resources, principally gold and nickel. The minerals industry in the region was valued at \$4.5 billion in 2004 which was 17.1 per cent of the State's total minerals and petroleum industry.

Agriculture

Most recent available statistics value the region's agricultural production at \$317.3 million representing 7% of the State's total. Agricultural enterprises in the region consist of cropping (grain and pasture) and livestock (sheep and cattle) with some recent diversification into the seed potato industry.

Fishing

The region's commercial fishing fleet principally works out of Esperance, with the catch including fin fish, crab, lobster and mollusc (mostly scallop and abalone).

This industry brings in approximately \$12million annually to the region and accounts for approximately 2.9% of the State's total income from the commercial fishing industry.

Tourism

In 2003-04 the annual average number of visitors (domestic and international) to the Goldfields sub-region was 388,200 staying a total of 1,772,600 nights. In the South East sub-region for the same period there were 199,300 visitors staying a total of 944,800 nights. The Goldfields sub-region received 5.5% of the Western Australian total visitors market and the South East sub-region received 2.8% of the total.

These figures have been sourced through Tourism Western Australia National Visitor Survey.

Construction

The total value of building approvals (combined non-residential and residential) in the region in 2003-04 was \$72.9 million being 1.4% of the State's total.

The total value of non-residential building approvals in the region in 2003-04 was \$35.5 million up \$17 million from the 2002-03 figures of \$18.5 million.

The total value of residential building approvals in the region in 2003-04 was \$37.5 million; a decrease from the 2002-03 figures of \$43.3 million.

The average residential building approval was values at \$186,363.

Employment and Unemployment

Most recent available statistics on employment in the region (2003/04) indicate that the number of employed people in this period was 31,338. The number of unemployed people in this period was 1,259 which is an unemployment rate of 3.9% compared to 5.2% in June 2001/02.

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

The estimated mean taxable income for individuals in the region is \$44,206 which is well above the regional Western Australian average of \$39,254 and the State average of \$40,180.

Demography

The Goldfields-Esperance region had an Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of 54,289 at June 2004.

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

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

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is the region's principal economic centre. In 2004 the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder (combined urban and non-urban) had an Estimated Resident Population of 29,684 or 54% of the region's total population. Esperance is the major sub-regional centre with a 2004 Estimated Resident Population of 13,354, or 24.3% of the total population of the region.

<i>Local Government Authority</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>
Coolgardie	4,301	4,176	4161	3,875
Dundas	1,247	1,228	1,138	1,150
Esperance	13,319	13,329	13,354	13,293
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	29,735	29,506	29,684	29,452
Laverton	1,246	1,202	1,201	1,208
Leonora	1,986	1,979	1,987	1,924
Menzies	353	362	360	360
Ngaanyatjarraku	1,545	1,594	1,630	1,683
Ravensthorpe	<u>1,523</u>	<u>1,479</u>	<u>1,436</u>	<u>1,344</u>
TOTAL	55,255	54,855	54,951	54,289

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



AUDITOR GENERAL

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

To the Parliament of Western Australia

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the key effectiveness and efficiency performance indicators of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission are relevant and appropriate to help users assess the Commission's performance and fairly represent the indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2005.

Scope

The Commission's Role

The Commission is responsible for developing and maintaining proper records and systems for preparing performance indicators.

The performance indicators consist of key indicators of effectiveness and efficiency.

Summary of my Role

As required by the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985, I have independently audited the performance indicators to express an opinion on them. This was done by looking at a sample of the evidence.

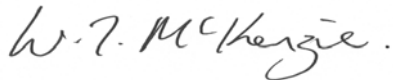
An audit does not guarantee that every amount and disclosure in the performance indicators is error free, nor does it examine all evidence and every transaction. However, my audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect the decisions of users of the performance indicators.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D D R Pearson'.

D D R PEARSON
AUDITOR GENERAL
31 October 2005

CERTIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2005.



Bill McKenzie
Chairman



Annaliese Walster
Acting Chief Executive Officer

29 August 2005

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The GEDC's major outcome as an agency is to promote the sustainable and balanced social and economic development of the Goldfields- Esperance region

Efficiency Indicators

To achieve this outcome, the GEDC's activities are based on the following Key Services:

Service	Cost Per Hour				
	2004/05 Actual	2004/05 Target	Comparative Figures		
	2003/04 Actual	2002/03 Actual	2001/02 Actual		
SERVICE 1 <i>Policies, Strategies and Plans</i>	\$116	\$122	\$113	\$96	\$99
SERVICE 2 <i>Industry and Enterprise Development</i>	\$111 See note	\$90	\$122	\$94	\$100
SERVICE 3 <i>Coordination of Infrastructure Identification</i>	\$112	\$110	\$121	\$105	\$82
SERVICE 4 <i>Regional Promotion</i>	\$143	\$140	\$130	\$124	\$89

Reason for Significant Variations between Target and Actual Costs

Increased cost per project hour due to reduced hours (approximately 700) stemming from resignations of the Manager Southern Region and the Senior Project Officer Northern Goldfields. The positions were vacant for three months and 2 months respectively. Both positions primarily worked on projects relative to service 2. The number of hours was also over estimated adding further to the margin between target and actual costs.

Effectiveness Indicators

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

The GEDC commissioned Asset Research to conduct a client survey in May 2005.

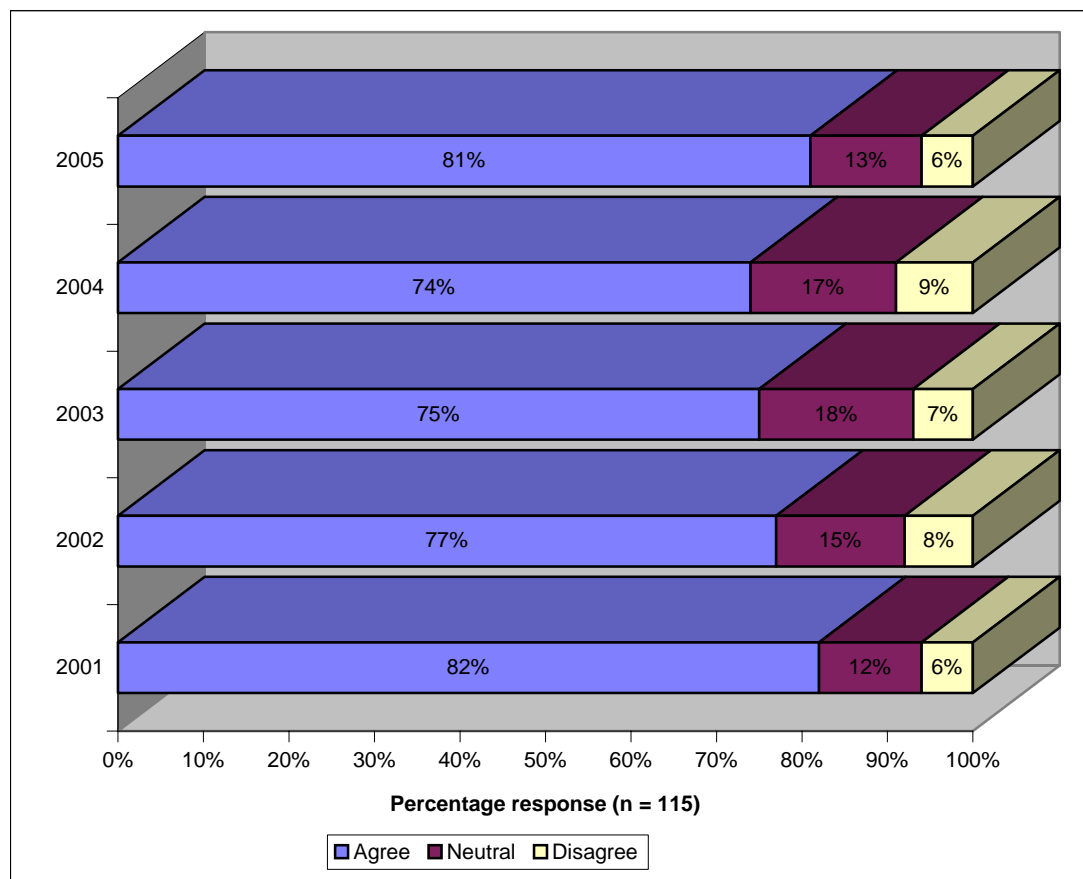
A questionnaire was mailed to a list of 174 clients the GEDC had dealings with in the past twelve months. A total of 122 questionnaires were returned, a 70.1% response rate.

Respondents were asked to agree or disagree with a variety of statements relating to the contribution made to the region by the GEDC. Respondents were asked to rate the Commission's contribution to:

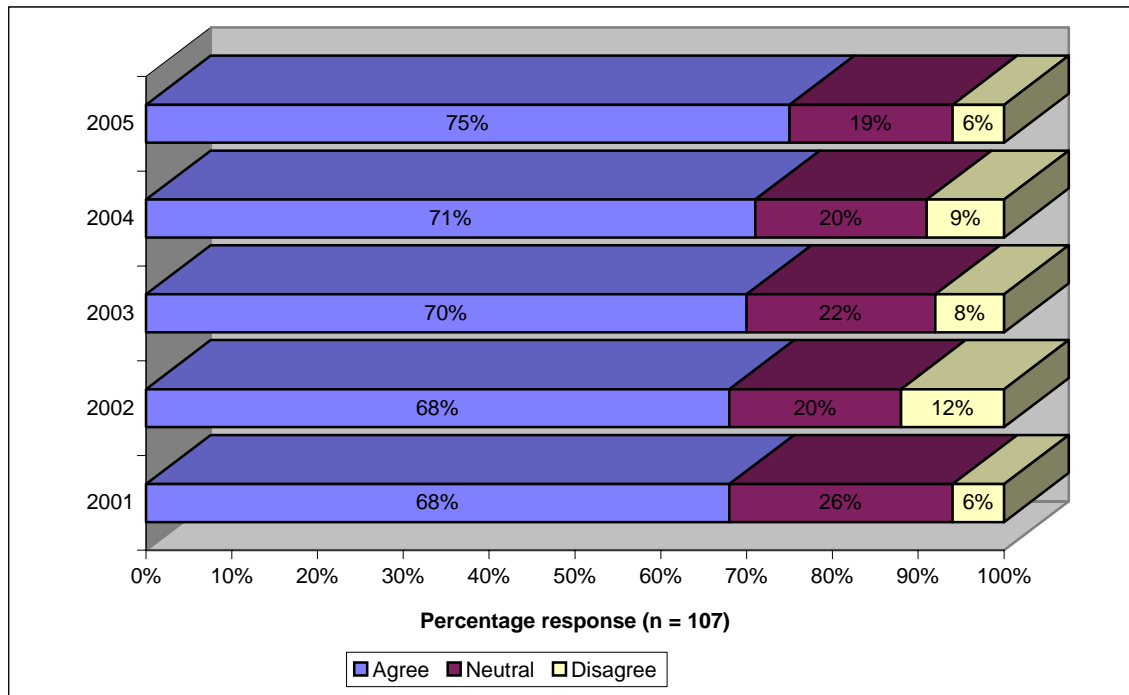
economic development,
social development,
balance between economic and social development.

The following tables show the results of the 2005 client satisfaction survey, with comparative figures from 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. In this survey period there has been a substantial increase in the score for respondents who believe that the GEDC contributes to all areas of development in the region. The scores for economic and balanced development reflect the greatest degree of improvement (7% increase compared to 2004 results).

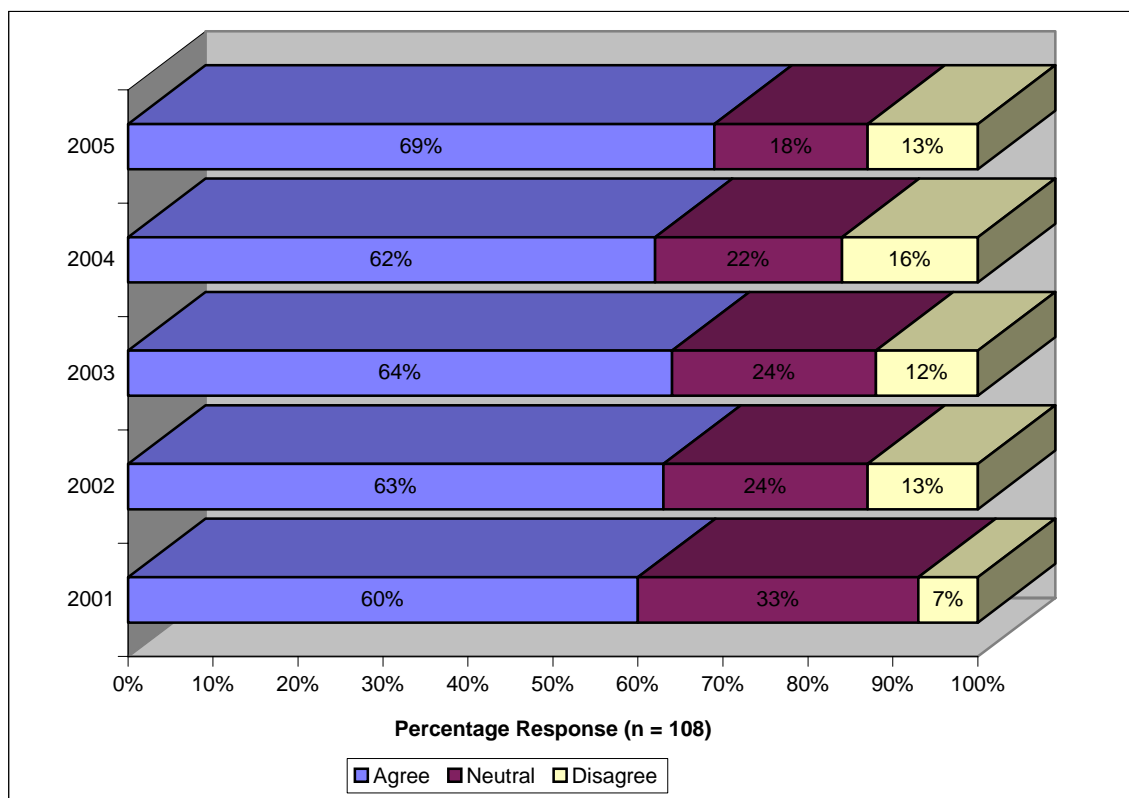
The GEDC's Economic Contribution to the region



The GEDC's Social Contribution to the region



The GEDC's Balanced Contribution to the region





AUDITOR GENERAL

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

To the Parliament of Western Australia

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

Audit Opinion

In my opinion,

- (i) the controls exercised by the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of moneys, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions; and
- (ii) the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Treasurer's Instructions, the financial position of the Commission at 30 June 2005 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date.

Scope

The Commission's Role

The Commission is responsible for keeping proper accounts and maintaining adequate systems of internal control, preparing the financial statements, and complying with the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985 (the Act) and other relevant written law.

The financial statements consist of the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Summary of my Role

As required by the Act, I have independently audited the accounts and financial statements to express an opinion on the controls and financial statements. This was done by looking at a sample of the evidence.

An audit does not guarantee that every amount and disclosure in the financial statements is error free. The term "reasonable assurance" recognises that an audit does not examine all evidence and every transaction. However, my audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect the decisions of users of the financial statements.

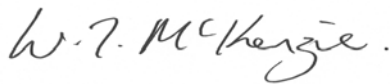
D D R PEARSON
AUDITOR GENERAL
31 October 2005

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985 from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the year ending 30 June 2005 and the financial position as at 30 June 2005.

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

Bill McKenzie



Chairman

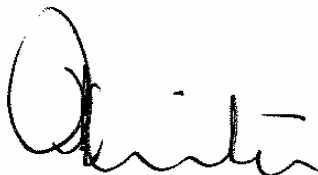
Date: 29 August 2005



Annaliese Walster

Chief Executive Officer (Acting)

Date: 29 August 2005



Steve Winter

Principal Accounting Officer

Date: 29 August 2005

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the year ended 30 June 2005

	NOTES	2004/05 \$	2003/04 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employee expenses	2	1,107,105	1,030,092
Supplies and services (a)	3	394,511	444,841
Grants and subsidies	6	2,701,517	545,846
Depreciation expense	4	18,352	22,181
Accommodation expenses	5	176,714	160,309
Capital user charge	7	18,160	8,840
Total cost of services		4,416,359	2,212,109
Revenues from ordinary activities			
<i>Revenues from operating activities</i>			
Fees	8	17,225	8,909
Commonwealth grants & contributions	9	17,250	60,250
<i>Revenues from non-operating activities</i>			
Other revenues from ordinary activities	10	142,652	104,360
Total revenues from ordinary activities		177,127	173,519
NET COST OF SERVICES		4,239,232	2,038,590
REVENUES FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	11		
Service appropriation		3,887,000	1,567,000
Grants and contributions		520,000	480,000
Resources received free of charge		2,310	-
Total revenues from State Government		4,409,310	2,047,000
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		170,078	8,410
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with WA State Government as owners		170,078	8,410

(a) Administration expenses are included in supplies and services

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the year ended 30 June 2005

	NOTES	2004/05	2003/04
Current Assets		\$	\$
Cash assets	21	81,162	292,102
Restricted cash assets	12	412,318	356,950
Receivables	13	270,664	14,937
Amounts receivable for services	14	26,000	52,000
Other assets	15	4,541	45,906
Total Current Assets		794,685	761,895
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	14	46,000	46,000
Plant and equipment	16	103,511	26,665
Total Non-Current Assets		149,511	72,665
Total Assets		944,196	834,560
Current Liabilities			
Payables	17	56,919	31,597
Provisions	18	94,383	183,209
Other liabilities	19	-	35,811
Total Current Liabilities		151,302	250,617
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	18	75,598	69,725
Total Non-Current Liabilities		75,598	69,725
Total Liabilities		226,900	320,342
NET ASSETS		717,296	514,218
Equity	20		
Contributed equity		33,000	-
Accumulated surplus/(deficiency)		684,296	514,218
TOTAL EQUITY		717,296	514,218

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

**GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 30 June 2005**

	NOTES	2004/05 \$	2003/04 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		3,861,000	1,540,000
Capital contribution		33,000	
Holding account drawdowns		52,000	-
Grants and contributions		480,000	480,000
Net cash provided by State Government		4,426,000	2,020,000
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee costs		-	-
		1,190,642	1,008,124
Supplies and services		-182,401	-242,612
Capital user charge		-7,500	-8,840
GST payments on purchases		-338,586	-118,567
Grants and subsidies		-	-545,846
		2,701,517	
Other payments		-371,436	-385,720
Receipts			
Sale of goods and services		113,840	104,360
User charges and fees		15,180	8,909
Commonwealth grants and contributions		17,250	60,250
GST receipts on sales		69,579	22,863
GST receipts from taxation authority		89,859	102,300
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	21(b)	-	-
		4,486,374	2,011,027
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		-95,198	-6,850
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		-95,198	-6,850
Net Increase/(decrease) in cash held		-155,572	2,123
Cash assets at the beginning of the financial year		649,052	646,929
CASH ASSETS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	21(a)	493,480	649,052

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

1. Significant accounting policies

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

General Statement

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

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

Basis of Accounting

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

(a) Service Appropriations

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

(b) Contributed Equity

Under UIG 38 "Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities" transfers in the nature of equity contributions must be designated by the Government (owners) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer, before such transfers can be recognized as equity contributions in the financial statements. Capital contributions (appropriations) have been designated as contributions by owners and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity in the Statement of Financial Position.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

(c) Grants and Other Contributions Revenue

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

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

(d) Revenue Recognition

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

(e) Acquisition of assets

The cost method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets. Cost is measured as the fair value of the assets given up or liabilities undertaken at the date of acquisition plus incidental costs directly attributable to the acquisition. Assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, are initially recognized at their fair value at the date of acquisition. Assets costing less than \$1,000 are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items that are significant in total).

(f) Depreciation of non-current assets

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

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

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

(g) Leases

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

(h) Cash

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005****(i) Receivables**

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

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

(j) Payables

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

(k) Employee benefits*Annual Leave*

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

Long service leave

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

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

Superannuation

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

All staff who do not contribute to either of these schemes become non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme, an accumulation fund. The Commission contributes to this accumulation fund in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992. All of these schemes are administered by the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

From June 30, 2004, the Treasurer has assumed the liability for the pension and pre-transfer benefit superannuation liabilities. The assumption was designated as a contribution to owners under TI 955(3) on 30 June 2004.

The superannuation expense comprises the following elements:

- (i) change in the unfunded employer's liability in respect of current employees who are members of the Pension Scheme and current employees who accrued a benefit on transfer from that Scheme to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme; and
- (ii) employer contributions paid to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme and the West State Superannuation Scheme.

The superannuation expense does not include payment of pensions to retirees as this does not constitute part of the cost of services provided by the Commission in the current year.

A revenue "Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer" equivalent to (i) is recognized under Revenues from State Government in the Statement of Financial Performance as the unfunded liability is assumed by the Treasurer.

The Commission is funded for employer contributions in respect of the Gold State Superannuation Scheme and the West State Superannuation Scheme. These contributions were paid to the GESB during the year. The GESB subsequently paid the employer contributions in respect of the Gold State Superannuation Scheme to the Consolidated Fund.

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

(l) Employee benefit on-costs

Employee benefit on-costs are recognized and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which they relate are recognized as liabilities and expenses. (See notes 2 and 18).

(m) Accrued Salaries

Accrued salaries (refer note 19) represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the end of the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with the end of the financial year. The Commission considers the carrying amount approximates net fair value.

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

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

(o) Comparative Figures

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

(p) Rounding of amounts

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
2 Employee expenses		
Wages and salaries	962,957	769,306
Superannuation	79,761	76,298
Annual leave	-9,157	9,392
Long service leave	-73,950	5,803
Travel expense	31,302	30,752
GEHA rental expense	57,630	67,968
Other related expenses (1)	58,562	70,573
	1,107,105	1,030,092

(1) These employee expenses include superannuation pension scheme liability, workers compensation premiums and other employment on-costs associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liability. The related on-costs liability is included in employee entitlement liabilities at note 18.

3 Supplies and Services

Consultants and contractors	157,558	176,673
Travel	8,329	6,650
Maintenance	17,904	16,342
Communications	47,112	44,832
Consumables	34,941	37,569
Resources free of charge	2,310	-
Other	126,357	162,775
	394,511	444,841

4 Depreciation expense

Computing Equipment	10,692	16,751
Plant & Equipment	4,451	4,195
Furniture & Fittings	2,482	980
Works of Art	727	255
	18,352	22,181

5 Accommodation expenses

Lease rentals	148,711	130,972
Repairs and maintenance	1,494	1,949
Cleaning	7,858	9,367
Other	18,651	18,021
	176,714	160,309

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
6 Grants and subsidies		
<u>Recurrent</u>		
Shire of Coolgardie	1,511,880	34,540
Golden Mile Loopline Railway Society Inc	5,093	7,052
West Australia Indigenous Sporting Foundation	-	75,000
Shire of Laverton	50,000	50,000
Shire of Esperance	-	45,000
Shire of Leonora	26,000	35,909
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	-	20,000
Eastern Goldfields Lawn Tennis Assoc.	-	8,550
Boulder Promotion & Development Assoc.	-	25,000
Rhythms In The Outback Music Festival	-	14,332
Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation	-	19,150
Goldfields Motor Cycle Club	-	14,580
Goldfields Mens Health Inc.	22,727	22,728
Anglican Parish of the Eastern Goldfields	-	3,000
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Basketball Assoc.		12,819
Wangkanyi Ngurra Tjurta Aboriginal Corp.	5,000	13,636
Laverton Leonora Cross Cultural Assoc.	-	12,500
Young Achievement Australia Ltd.		8,100
Eyre Travelstops Pty. Ltd.		29,319
Bandy Creek Abalone Pilot farm	-	25,790
Festival of The Wind Inc.	7,500	9,200
Wongatha Wonganarra Aboriginal Corp.	-	30,000
Esperance Bay Yacht Club	-	10,455
Esperance Community College		6,400
Goldfields-Esperance Development Comm.	-	12,786
Esperance Chamber of Commerce	9,091	
Leonora Gwalia Historical Museum Ltd	15,695	
Esperance District Recreation Association	15,000	
Toowacka Campsite Committee	12,628	
Freefall Theatre Company Inc.	9,250	
Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School Inc.	31,818	
Ngaanyaatjarra Media Aboriginal Corporation	32,774	
Staunton SeedPotatoes	47,909	
Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School Inc.	19,344	
Nature and Agriculture Rehabilitation Association	36,250	
Shire of Menzies	14,455	
Shire of Menzies	10,000	
Goldfields Disabled Sport Inc.	5,000	
Goldfields Football Academy	50,000	
Goldfields Individual and Family Support Association	22,351	
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Safe Homes Association	22,725	
Wongutha Birni Aboriginal Corporation	25,000	
Family Training Institute Inc.	17,824	

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005**

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
Grants and subsidies continued		
(Department of Indigenous Affairs) Centrecare	19,221	
Cancer Foundation of WA Inc.	8,057	
Kalgoorlie-Boulder Tourist Centre	25,000	
Goldfields Street and Strip Club Inc.	10,000	
709 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets	11,925	
Goldfields Arts Centre	551,000	
Kayili Artists - Gibson Desert	1,000	
Goldfields Miner's Memorial	50,000	
	2,701,517	545,846
7 Capital User Charge		
	18,160	8,840

A capital user charge rate of 8% has been set by the Government for 2004-05 and represents the opportunity cost of capital invested in the net assets of the Commission used in the provision of services. The charge is calculated on the net assets adjusted to take account of exempt assets. Payments are made to the Department of Treasury and Finance on a quarterly basis.

8 Fees

Fees	17,225	8,909
	17,225	8,909

9 Commonwealth grants and contributions

Department of Transport & Regional Services	17,250	40,250
Department of Industry Tourism & Resources		20,000
	17,250	60,250

10 Other revenues from ordinary activities

Recoupment of costs	142,652	104,360
	142,652	104,360

11 Revenues from State Government

Appropriation revenue received during the year:

Service appropriation (i)	3,887,000	1,567,000
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Grants and Contributions

Department of Local Government and Regional Development	400,000	400,000
Office of Aboriginal Economic Development	120,000	80,000

Resources received free of charge (ii)

Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies

State Solicitor's Office	2,310	
	4,409,310	2,047,000

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005**

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

(ii) Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal consideration, the Commission recognizes revenues equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated, and those fair values shall be recognized as assets or expenses, as applicable.

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
12 Restricted cash assets		
Grant funds – Regional Development Scheme and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Development Fund	412,318	356,950
13 Receivables		
Current		
Trade debtors	76,050	4,495
GST receivable	194,614	10,442
	270,664	14,937
14 Amounts receivable for services		
Current	26,000	52,000
Non-current	46,000	46,000
	72,000	98,000

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

15 Other assets

Current		
Prepayments	4,541	45,750
Accrued income		156
	-	
	4,541	45,906

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
16 Plant and Equipment		
Computing Hardware at cost	72,547	48,353
Accumulated Depreciation	-23,925	-38,260
	<u>48,622</u>	<u>10,093</u>
Computer Software at cost	51,627	59,218
Accumulated Depreciation	-36,145	-56,006
	<u>15,482</u>	<u>3,212</u>
Communications Equipment at cost	8,517	7,400
Accumulated Depreciation	-4,570	-3,603
	<u>3,947</u>	<u>3,797</u>
Office Equipment at cost	26,079	19,465
Accumulated Depreciation	-15,005	-14,072
	<u>11,074</u>	<u>5,393</u>
Furniture and Fittings at cost	35,077	11,652
Accumulated Depreciation	-10,691	-8,209
	<u>24,386</u>	<u>3,443</u>
Works of Art at cost		1,700
	-	
Accumulated Depreciation		-973
	-	
		<u>727</u>
	-	
Total Assets	103,511	26,665

Reconciliations

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

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

2004/05

	Computer Hardware	Computer Software	Comms. Equip.	Office Equip.	Furniture & Fittings	Works of Art	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying amount at the start of the year	10,093	3,212	3,797	5,393	3,443	727	26,665
Additions	46,664	14,827	1,117	9,165	23,425	-	95,198
Depreciation	8,135	2,557	967	3,484	2,482	727	18,352
Carrying amount at the end of the year	48,622	15,482	3,947	11,074	24,386	-	103,511

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005**

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
17 Payables		
Current		
Trade payables	49,985	29,687
GST Payable	6,934	1,910
	56,919	31,597
18 Provisions		
Current:		
Annual Leave	67,866	77,023
Long Service Leave	26,362	106,186
FBT	155	
	94,383	183,209
Non-current:		
Long Service Leave	35,677	29,804
Unfunded Pension Liability	39,921	39,921
	75,598	69,725

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

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

Employee Benefit Liabilities

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

Provision for employee benefits:

Current	94,383	183,209
Non-current	75,598	69,725
	169,981	252,934

19 Other liabilities

Current		
Accrued salaries		32,734
Accrued expenses	-	3,077
	-	35,811

20 Equity

Contributed equity		
Opening balance	-	
Capital contributions (i)	33,000	-
Closing balance	33,000	-

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005**

\$ \$

2004/05 2003/04

(i) Capital contributions have been designated as contributions by owners and are credited directly to equity in the Statement of Financial Position.

Accumulated surplus/(deficiency):

Opening balance	514,218	505,808
Change in net assets	170,078	8,410
Closing balance	684,296	514,218

21 Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows**(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

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

Cash assets	80,562	291,502
Restricted cash assets (refer to note 12)	412,318	356,950
Petty Cash	600	600
	493,480	649,052

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

Net Cost of Services	-4,260,260	-2,038,590
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Non-cash items:

Depreciation expense	18,353	22,181
Resources received free of charge	2,310	-

(Increase)/decrease in assets:

Current receivables	-31,555	-433
Other current assets	41,365	-39,544

Increase/(decrease) in liabilities

Current payables	20,298	-3,781
Current provisions	-67,798	7,086
Other current liabilities	-35,812	1,847
Non-current provisions	5,873	33,570
Net GST receipts (payments)	-179,148	6,637
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	-4,486,374	-2,011,027

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
22 Commitments for expenditure		
Lease commitments		
Commitments in relation to leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, are payable as follows:		
Non-cancellable operating lease commitments		
Commitments for minimum lease payments are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	13,745	30,143
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,278	15,023
	<u>15,023</u>	<u>45,166</u>

23 Contingent Liabilities

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

24 Events Occurring after Reporting Date

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

25 Explanatory Statement

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

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

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

	2005 Actual \$	2005 Estimates \$	Variance \$
Employee expenses	1,107,105	864,000	243,105
Supplies and Services	394,511	561,000	-166,489
Grants and subsidies expense	2,701,517	650,000	2,051,517
Accommodation expense	176,714	158,000	18,714
Capital user charge	18,160	37,000	-18,840
Grants and contributions received	537,250	480,000	57,250
Fees	17,225	95,000	-77,775
Other revenue	142,652	22,000	120,652

Employee expenses

The variation can be contributed to the retirement of the CEO in October 2004 and the change in long service leave liability due to 2 employees using their entitlement during the report year.

Supplies and Services

The allocation of expenses into expenditure groups for budget estimates differs to those used in the Financial Statements contained within the published Budget Statements. This allocation has caused a variation between the estimate and the actual for the year. The Budget Financial Statements allocate other employee expenses of \$193,000 into supplies and services. This has resulted in the variation reported above. Administration expenses and supplies and services have also been amalgamated for the first time this report year.

Grants and subsidies expense

Variance of \$2,051,517 primarily due to grants of \$2,100,000 paid out as a result of election promises February 2005.

Accommodation expense

Variation due to charge of \$8,911 for variable outgoings for the previous financial year, rental on new Ravensthorpe office \$2,836 and CPI increase in terms of the lease.

Capital user charge

Estimate of \$37,000 was over stated due to mis-calculation of restricted cash position which in turn affected net asset position.

Grants and contributions received

Variation of \$57,250 due to additional funding of \$40,000 from the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development to advance fund the Aboriginal Economic Development Officer for the period July to December 2005 together with RAP funding of \$17,250, relative to the Golden Quest Discovery Trail project, stemming back to the 2002-03 financial year.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

Fees

The allocation of revenue into user charges and fees and other revenue for budget estimates differs to those used in the Financial Statements contained within the published Budget Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year.

Other revenue

The allocation of revenue into other revenue and user charges and fees for budget estimates differs to those used in the Financial Statements contained within the published Budget Statements. This allocation has caused the variation between the estimate and the actual for the year.

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

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

	2005	2004	Variance
	\$	\$	\$
Employee expenses	1,107,105	1,030,092	77,013
Supplies & services	394,511	444,841	-50,330
Grants and subsidies paid	2,701,517	545,846	2,155,671
Accommodation expense	176,714	160,309	16,405
Capital user charge	18,160	8,840	9,320
User charges and fees	17,225	8,909	8,316
Other revenues from ordinary activities	142,652	104,360	38,292

Employee expenses

Recruitment of the Project Manager Ravensthorpe in March 2004 impacted on employee expenses to the extent of \$82,308 for the report year.

Supplies & services

Variation principally due to non professional services reducing by \$30,000 and other professional services by \$25,000.

Grants and subsidies paid

Variance of \$2,155,671 primarily due to grants of \$2,100,000 paid out as a result of election promises in February 2005.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

Accommodation expense

Variation due to charge of \$8,911 for variable outgoings for the previous financial year, rental on new Ravensthorpe office \$2,836 and CPI increase in terms of the lease.

Capital user charge

Variation is due to an under estimate of the net asset position has resulted in an increase to the charge.

User charges and fees

Variation is due to increased activity of the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme.

Other revenues from ordinary activities

The increase is due to funding of \$25,000 received from the Skilled Migration Unit and a return of funds \$15,000 from Tourism WA for the Pacific Flora project.

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

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

\$	2004/05	2003/04
1 - 10,000	8	11
10,001 – 20,000	-	1
20,001 – 30,000	1	-
100,001-110,000	1	
110,001 - 120,000	-	1
150,001 - 160,000	1	-
The total remuneration of the members of the Accountable Authority is:	289,941 (a)	152,945

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

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

(a) Includes salary of \$138,792 for the CEO who retired 15 October 2004.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

Remuneration of Senior Officers

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

\$	2004/05	2003/04
30,001 - 40,000	1	-
40,001 - 50,000	1	-
60,001 - 70,000	-	2
70,001 - 80,000	1	1
80,001 - 90,000	2	1
The total remuneration of senior officers is:	319,913	290,689

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

No Senior Officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

27. Remuneration of Auditor

Remuneration to the Auditor General for the financial year is as follows:

Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	22,000	20,500
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28 Additional Financial Instrument Disclosures

(a) Interest Rate Risk Exposure

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

(b) Credit Risk Exposure

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

(c) Net Fair Values

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

29 Related Bodies

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission has no related bodies.

30 Affiliated Bodies

The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission has no affiliated bodies.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notes to Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2005

31 Supplementary Financial Information

	\$ 2004/05	\$ 2003/04
<u>Losses Through Theft, Default And Other Causes</u>		
Losses of public property through theft	-	1,012
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,012</u>

32 The impact of Adopting International Accounting Standards

Australia is adopting Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005. The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission will adopt these standards for the first time for the year ended 30 June 2006.

AASB 1047 'Disclosing the Impacts of Adopting Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards' requires disclosure of any known or reliably estimable information about the impacts on the financial statements had they been prepared using AIFRSs.

The information provided below discloses the main areas impacted due to the effects of adopting AIFRS. Management have determined the quantitative impacts using their best estimates available at the time of preparing the 30 June 2005 financial statements. These amounts may change in circumstances where the accounting standards and/or interpretations applicable to the first AIFRS financial statements are amended or revised.

Key differences in accounting policies that are expected to arise from adopting Australian equivalents to IFRS:

	30 June 2005		
	Previous GAAP	Effect of transition to Australian Equivalents to IFRS	Australian Equivalents to IFRS
Balance Sheet adjustment			
Plant and equipment (i)	103,511	-14,827	88,684
Intangibles (i)		14,827	14,827
	<u>103,511</u>		<u>103,511</u>

Accordingly, the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission has assessed the impact on the Commission as being minor.

The key difference is as per the reconciliation above with computer software (i) being recognized as an intangible asset. There has been no identified impact on the Commission's equity.

GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2005

33. Schedule of Services Delivered

	Policies Strategies and Plans		Industry and Enterprise Development		Co-ordination of Infrastructure Identification		Regional Promotion			
	Service 1		Service 2		Service 3		Service 4		Total	
	2004/05	2003/04	2004/05	2003/04	2004/05	2003/04	2004/05	2003/04	2004/05	2003/04
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
COST OF SERVICES										
Expenses from ordinary activities										
Employee expenses	319,714	334,725	565,703	464,263	89,968	86,284	131,720	144,820	1,107,105	1,030,092
Supplies and services	133,157	113,968	140,361	140,080	19,501	19,217	101,492	171,576	394,511	444,841
Depreciation expense	5,574	7,208	9,159	9,997	1,411	1,858	2,209	3,118	18,353	22,181
Accommodation expense	53,669	52,092	88,189	72,251	13,589	13,428	21,267	22,538	176,714	160,309
Grants and subsidies	15000	-	241,072	82,207	2,400,968	197,082	44,477	266,557	2,701,517	545,846
Capital user charge	5,515	2,873	9,063	3,984	1396	740	2,186	1,243	18,160	8,840
Total cost of services	532,629	510,866	1,053,547	772,782	2,526,833	318,609	303,351	609,852	4,416,359	2,212,109
Revenues from ordinary activities										
User charges and fees	-	-	17189	8,909	-	-	36	-	17,225	8,909
Commonwealth grants	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	17,250	40,250	17,250	60,250
Other revenues from ordinary activities	1,905	1,499	125,851	80,324	12,885	6,380	2,011	16,157	142,652	104,360
Total Revenues from ordinary activities	1,905	1,499	143,040	109,233	12,885	6,380	19,297	56,407	177,127	173,519
NET COST OF SERVICES										
	530,724	509,367	910,507	663,549	2,513,948	312,229	284,054	553,445	4,239,232	2,038,590
REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT										
Service appropriation	472,159	509,190	932,064	706,247	2,214,836	131,258	267,941	220,305	3,887,000	1,567,000
Grants and subsidies	30000	\$	300,005	177,054	174,995	138,688	15,000	164,258	520,000	480,000
Resources received free of charge	281	\$	554	\$	1316	\$	159	\$	2,310	\$
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total revenue from Government	502,440	509,190	1,232,623	883,301	2,391,147	269,946	283,100	384,563	4,409,310	2,047,000
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS										
	-28,284	-177	322,116	219,752	-122,801	-42,283	-954	-168,882	170,078	8,410