

The notes on pages 8 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015**

**1. General Information**

The Munxar Local Council is the local Authority of Malta set up in accordance with the Local Councils Act, 1993. The office of the Local Council is situated at Triq Profs Guze Aquilina, Munxar. These financial statements were approved for issue by the Council Members on \_\_\_\_\_ April 2016. The Local Council's presentation as well as functional currency is denominated in €.

**2. Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

*Accounting convention*

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified to include fair values where it is stated in the accounting policies below. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Councils Act Cap. 363, the Financial Regulations issued in terms of this Act and the Local Councils (Financial) Procedures 1996 enacted in Malta and with the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU.

These financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with the accounting policies and reporting procedures prescribed for Local Councils in the Financial Regulations issued by the Minister of Finance in conjunction with the Minister responsible for Local Government in terms of section 67 of the Local Councils Act (Cap. 363).

*New and amended standards adopted by the Local Council*

During the year under review, the Local Council has adopted the following International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU:

On 21 November 2013 the IASB published narrow scope amendments to IAS 19 Employee Benefits entitled Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions (Amendments to IAS 19). These amendments apply to contributions from employees or third parties to defined benefit plans. The objective of the amendments is to simplify the accounting for contributions that are independent of the number of years of employee service, for example, employee contributions that are calculated according to a fixed percentage of salary. The amendments are effective from 1 July 2014 with earlier application permitted.

In December 2013, the IASB issued Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2010-2012 Cycle, a collection of amendments to IFRSs, in response to eight issues addressed during the 2010-2012 cycle. The amendments reflects issues discussed by the IASB during the project cycle that began in 2010, and that were subsequently included in the exposure draft of proposed amendments to IFRSs Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2010-2012 Cycle (published in May 2012). The issues included in this cycle are: Definition of 'vesting condition' (IFRS 2); Accounting for contingent consideration in a business combination (IFRS 3); Aggregation of operating segments (IFRS 8); Reconciliation of the total of the reportable segments' assets to the entity's assets (IFRS 8); Short term receivables and payables (IFRS 13); Interest paid that is capitalised (IAS 7); Revaluation method – proportionate restatement of accumulated depreciation (IAS 16 and IAS 38); a Key management personnel services (IAS 24). The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)**

**Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures (cont.)**

In December 2013, the IASB issued Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2011-2013 Cycle, a collection of amendments to IFRSs, in response to four issues addressed during the 2011-2013 cycle. The amendments reflect issues discussed by the IASB during the project cycle that began in 2011, and that were subsequently included in the exposure draft of proposed amendments to IFRSs Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2011-2013 Cycle (published in November 2012). The issues include in this cycle are Meaning of effective IFRSs (IFRS 1); Scope exceptions for joint ventures (IFRS 3); Scope of paragraph 52 (portfolio exception) (IFRS 13); and Clarifying the Interrelationship of IFRS 3 Business Combinations and IAS 40 Investment Property when classifying property as investment property or owner-occupied property (IAS 40). The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014.

*New standards and amendments not yet effective and not yet adopted by the Local Council*

The following standards and amendments to existing standards have been published and are mandatory (as applicable) for the Council accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016 or later periods, but the Council has not early adopted them:

IFRS 9, 'Financial instruments', addresses the classification, measurement and recognition of financial assets and financial liabilities. The complete version of IFRS 9 was issued in July 2014. It replaces the guidance in IAS 39 that relates to the classification and measurement of financial instruments. IFRS 9 requires financial assets to be classified into two measurement categories: those measured at fair value and those measured at amortised cost. The determination is made at initial recognition. The classification depends on the entity's business model for managing its financial instruments and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the instrument. For financial liabilities, the standard retains most of the IAS 39 requirements. The Council is yet to address the full impact of IFRS 9 and intends to adopt IFRS 9 subject to endorsement by the EU, no later than the accounting period beginning on or after 1 January 2018.

IFRS 15, 'Revenue from contracts with customers' deals with revenue recognition and established principles for reporting useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from an entity's contracts with customers. Revenue is recognised when a customer obtains control of a good or service and thus has the ability to direct the use and obtain the benefits from the good or service. The standard replaces IAS18 "Revenue: and IAS11 'Construction contracts' and related interpretations. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017 and earlier application is permitted, subject to endorsement by the EU. The Council is assessing the impact of IFRS 15.

On 12 May 2011, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements. IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements classifies joint arrangements on the basis of their substance by focusing on the rights and obligations of the arrangement, rather than its legal form (as is currently the case of IAS 31 Interests in Joint Ventures). Under IFRS 11, joint arrangements are classified as joint ventures or as joint operations. Joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method of consolidation since the use of proportionate consolidation for such arrangements has been eliminated. Joint operations are accounted for in a manner that is similar to the current accounting treatment applicable for jointly controlled assets and jointly controlled operations. IFRS 11 supersedes IAS 31 Interests in Joint Ventures and SIC-13 Jointly Controlled Entities-Non-monetary Contributions by Ventures. At the same time, the IASB issued a revised version of IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures. The new and revised Standards are applicable for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014, with earlier application being permitted. However when endorsing these Standards the European Union has allowed that these become applicable for annual periods beginning on and after 1 January 2014, with earlier application being permitted.



**Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)****Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures (cont.).**

The Councillors and Executive Secretary are assessing the impact that the adoption of these International Financial Reporting Standards will have on the financial statements in the period of initial application. The Council anticipates that the adoption of other International Financial Reporting Standards that were in issue at the date of authorisation of these financial statements, but not yet effective will have no material impact on the financial statements in the period of initial application.

*Property, plant and equipment*

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses to date. Depreciation is calculated on a monthly basis using the reducing balance method at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

	%
Land	0
Trees	0
Buildings	1
Office Furniture and Fittings	7.5
Construction Works	10
Urban Improvements (Street Furniture)	10
Special Projects	10
Office Equipment	20
Motor Vehicles	20
Plant and Machinery	20
Computer Equipment	25
Plants	100
Litter Bins	Replacement basis
Playground Furniture	100
Traffic Signs	Replacement basis
Road Signs	Replacement basis
Street Mirrors	Replacement basis
Street Lights	100

Gains and losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by reference to their carrying amount and are taken into account in determining operating profit. The residual values and useful lives of the assets are reviewed and adjusted as appropriate, at each statement of financial position date. The carrying amount of an asset is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the carrying amount of the asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying amount of the asset or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

*Impairment of Assets*

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation or depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the fair value of the asset less costs to sell and the value in use. Impairment losses are immediately recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)**

**Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures (cont.)**

*Amounts receivable*

Amounts receivable are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of amounts receivable is established when there is objective evidence that the Council will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

*Borrowings*

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost, any difference between the proceeds and the redemption value is recognised in the income and expenditure account over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Local Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the statement of financial position date.

*Other payables*

Other payables are classified with current liabilities and are stated at their nominal value unless the effect of discounting is material in which case other payables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

*Financial instruments*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred.

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

Financial assets and financial liabilities are measured initially at fair value plus transactions costs. They are measured subsequently as described below.

*Financial assets*

For the purpose of subsequent measurement, financial assets of the Council are classified into loans and receivables upon initial recognition.

Receivables are subject to review for impairment at least at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired when there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. Different criteria to determine impairment are applied for each category of financial assets, which are described below.

All income and expenses relating to loans and receivables are presented within 'finance income' or 'finance costs', except for impairment of receivables which is presented within 'administration and other expenditure'.

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. After initial recognition these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Council's other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.



**Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)**

**Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures (cont.)**

Individually significant receivables are considered for impairment when they are past due or when other objective evidence is received that a specific counterparty will default. Receivables that are not considered to be individually impaired are reviewed for impairment in groups, which are determined by reference to the industry and region of a counterparty and other available features of shared credit risk characteristics. The percentage of the write down is then based on recent historical counterparty default rates for each identified group.

*Financial liabilities*

The Council's financial liabilities include other payables. These are stated at their nominal amount which is a reasonable approximation of fair value.

All interest-related charges are included within 'finance costs'.

*Related parties*

Related parties are those persons or bodies of persons having relationships with the Council as defined in International Accounting Standard No. 24.

*Revenue*

Revenue is recognised when there are no significant uncertainties concerning the derivation of consideration or associated costs and it can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as it accrues.

Income from central government is not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the Council will comply with any conditions attached to it, and that the income will be received. The received income is to be recorded gross and any deductions made for non-compliance are to be disclosed separately with expenses.

*Local Enforcement System*

As from September 2012, the income recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income was derived from the five Regional Committees and Local Enforcement System Agency.

*Government grants*

Government grants relating to costs are deferred and recognised in the statement of comprehensive income over the period necessary to match them with the costs that they are intended to compensate. Government grants relating to the purchase of property, plant and equipment are included in non-current liabilities as deferred government grants and are credited to the income statement over the expected lives of the related assets.

*Foreign currencies*

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Local Council operates. These financial statements are presented in €, which is the Council's functional and presentation currency.

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into € at the rates of exchange in operation on the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are translated into € at the rates of exchange prevailing at the date of the Statement of Financial Position.

*Borrowing costs*

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)****Accounting Policies and Reporting Procedures (cont.)***Profits and losses*

Only surpluses that were realised at the date of the Statement of Financial Position are recognised in these financial statements. All foreseeable liabilities and potential losses arising up to the said date are accounted for even if they become apparent between the said date and the date on which the financial statements are approved.

*Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and Cash Equivalents are carried in the Statement of Financial Position at face value. For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and balances held with banks.

*Capital Management*

The Council's capital consists of its net assets, including working capital, represented by its retained funds. The Council's management objectives are to ensure:

- that the Council's ability to continue as a going concern is still valid and
- that the Council maintains a positive working capital ratio.

To achieve the above, the Council carries out a quarterly review of the working capital ratio ("Financial Situation Indicator"). This ratio was positive at the reporting date and has not changed significantly from the previous year. The Council also uses budgets and business plans to set its strategy to optimise its use of available funds and implement its commitments to the locality.

**3. Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In the opinion of the Council, the accounting estimates and judgements made in the course of preparing these financial statements are not difficult, subjective or complex to a degree which would warrant their description as critical in terms of the requirements of IAS 1.

**4. Funds received from central government**

	2015	2014
	€	€
In terms of section 55 of the Local Councils Act	216,826	209,291
Other Government Income	7,078	32,750
Grants Released	80,373	63,836
	<u>304,277</u>	<u>305,877</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (cont.)****5. Local Enforcement system**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
Administration fees to Regional Committees/LESA	808	888
Income from Contraventions	4,760	-
	<u>5,568</u>	<u>888</u>

**6. General Income**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
Rent Receivable	2,950	2,950
Tender Documents/Info Charges	921	1,350
Income from Permits	2,207	1,939
Other income	6,847	5,251
	<u>12,925</u>	<u>11,490</u>

**7. (Deficit)/Surplus for the year**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year is stated after charging		
Staff salaries	66,221	63,602
Depreciation of property, plant & equipment	<u>122,439</u>	<u>98,380</u>

**8. Personal Emoluments**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
Mayor's Honoraria	7,048	6,868
Mayor's and Councillors' Allowances	6,400	6,400
Executive Secretary Salary and Allowances	29,054	28,020
Employees' Salaries	19,788	18,498
Social Security Contributions	3,931	3,816
	<u>66,221</u>	<u>63,602</u>