

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements**

1 January – 31 December 2014

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 DECEMBER 2014**

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Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014

Statement of Local Council Members' and Executive Secretary's Responsibilities

The Local Councils (Financial) Regulations require the Executive Secretary to prepare a detailed annual administrative report which includes the Local Council's Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year and of the Council's retained funds at the end of year. By virtue of the same regulations it is the duty of the Local Council and the Executive Secretary to ensure that the financial statements forming part of the report present fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies applicable to Local Councils, the income and expenditure of the Local Council for the year and its retained funds as at the year end, and that they comply with the Act, the Local Councils (Financial) Regulations, and the Local Councils (Financial) Procedures issued in terms of the said Act.

The Executive Secretary is responsible to maintain a continuous internal control to ascertain that the accounting, recording and other financial operations are properly conducted in accordance with the Local Councils Act, Local Councils (Financial) Regulations, and the Local Councils (Financial) Procedures. The Executive Secretary is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Local Council and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf on 28 April 2015 by:


Nicky Saliba
Mayor


Diane Tagliaferro
Executive Secretary

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2014

	Notes	31 December 2014 €	31 December 2013 €
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	<u>1,107,913</u>	<u>1,097,594</u>
		<u>1,107,913</u>	<u>1,097,594</u>
Current Assets			
Receivables	4	101,672	126,589
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	<u>154,691</u>	<u>172,377</u>
		<u>256,363</u>	<u>298,966</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>1,364,276</u></u>	<u><u>1,396,560</u></u>
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES			
Capital and reserves			
Retained Fund		770,364	818,956
Non-current Liabilities			
Deferred Income grants	6	344,742	284,596
Liabilities			
Payables	7	249,170	293,008
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		<u><u>1,364,276</u></u>	<u><u>1,396,560</u></u>

The notes on pages 8 to 20 are an integral part of the financial statements.

These Financial Statements were approved by the Local Council on 14 April 2015 and signed on its behalf by:


Nicky Saliba
Mayor


Diane Tagliaferro
Executive Secretary

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Year ended 31 December 2014

	Notes	2014 €	2013 €
REVENUE			
Funds received from central government	8	472,743	533,429
General Income	9	<u>8,793</u>	<u>5,368</u>
		<u>481,536</u>	<u>538,797</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Personal emoluments	10	(72,111)	(70,191)
Operations and maintenance	11	(236,894)	(221,895)
Administration and other expenditure	12	<u>(222,983)</u>	<u>(270,383)</u>
		<u>(531,988)</u>	<u>(562,469)</u>
Operating (Loss) for the year		(50,452)	(23,672)
Investment income	13	<u>1,860</u>	<u>2,737</u>
Total Comprehensive (Loss) for the year		<u><u>(48,592)</u></u>	<u><u>(20,935)</u></u>

The notes on pages 8 to 20 are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
Year ended 31 December 2014

	Retained Funds 2014 €	Retained Funds 2013 €
At 1 January	818,956	839,891
Total Comprehensive (Loss) for the year	<u>(48,592)</u>	<u>(20,935)</u>
At 31 December	<u>770,364</u>	<u>818,956</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 20 are an integral part of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014 €	2013 €
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Total Comprehensive (Loss) for the year		(48,592)	(20,935)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		140,268	203,254
Provision for doubtful debts		683	-
Investment income		(1,860)	(2,737)
Deferred Income amortised		(60,227)	(28,860)
Operating Profit before Working Capital Changes		30,272	150,722
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables		24,234	(8,000)
(Decrease)/Increase in payables		(50,192)	192,877
Net Cash inflow from operating Activities		4,314	335,599
Cash flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment		(150,587)	(304,879)
Government grants received		126,727	63,515
Interest received		1,860	2,737
Cash Flow used in Investing Activities		(22,000)	(238,627)
Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(17,686)	96,972
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of Year		172,377	75,405
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of year	5	154,691	172,377

The notes on pages 8 to 20 are an integral part of the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014

1. General Information

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council is the local authority of Zebbug Gozo setup in accordance with the Local Councils Act. The office of the Local Council is situated at Church Street, Zebbug, Gozo. The Zebbug Local Council forms part of the Gozo Regional Committee.

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.

a. Accounting convention

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).

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

b. Standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards

Annual Improvements: 2014 made several minor amendments to a number of IFRSs. None of the changes to IFRSs and interpretations has had, or is expected to have, a material impact on the council's financial statements.

New and amended standards adopted by the council

Information on new standards, amendments and interpretations that are relevant to the Council's financial statements is provided below. Certain other new standards and interpretations have been issued but are not relevant and therefore are not expected to have any impact on the council's financial statements.

Amendments to IAS 32 Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

Amendments to IAS 32 Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities specifically clarify the meaning of 'currently has a legally enforceable right of set-off' and 'simultaneous realisation and settlement'. The amendments require retrospective application. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014.

IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements

IFRS 11 classifies joint arrangements on the basis of their substance by focusing on the rights and obligations of the arrangement, rather than its legal form. 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. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014.

Amendments to IAS 36 Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets

These amendments to IAS 36 address the disclosure of information about the recoverable amount of impaired assets if that amount is based on fair value less costs of disposal. The amendments are to be applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2014 – continued

Standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are not yet effective and have not been adopted early by the council

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published but are not yet effective, and have not been adopted early by the council. These include the following:

The IASB issued 'Annual Improvements 2010-2012 cycle', a collection of amendments to IFRSs, in response to issues addressed during the 2010-2012 cycle. Five standards are primarily affected by the amendments, with consequential amendments to numerous others. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments – This standard represents the completion of the classification and measurement part of the IASB's project to replace IAS 39. This Standard addresses the classification and measurement of certain financial assets and financial liabilities. IFRS 9 requires financial assets that fall due within its scope to be classified on the basis of the entity's business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The standard requires financial assets to be subsequently measured at amortised cost or at fair value. The new requirements in relation to financial liabilities address the problem of volatility in profit or loss arising from an issuer to measure its own debt at fair value. With the new requirements, any entity choosing to measure the liability at fair value will present the portion of the change in its fair value due to changes in the entity's own credit risk in other comprehensive income rather than within the profit or loss. This standard is applicable for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018.

The IASB issued 'Annual Improvements 2011-2013 cycle', a collection of amendments to IFRSs, in response to issues addressed during the 2011-2013 cycle. The issues included in this cycle are Meaning of effective IFRSs (IFRS 1); Scope exceptions for joint ventures (IFRS 3); Scope of paragraph 52 (IFRS 13); and Clarifying the interrelationship of IFRS 3 and IAS 40 when classifying property as investment property or owner occupied property. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014.

Council members anticipate that all of the relevant pronouncements will be adopted in the council's accounting policies for the first period beginning after the effective date of the pronouncement and that they will have no material impact on the financial statements in the period of initial application.

c. Revenue recognition

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

d. Local Enforcement System

During 2014 the amount disclosed in the financial statements under Local Enforcement Income represents the administrative fee of 10% that is chargeable to the various Regional Committees for contraventions paid at the Council.

e. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment loss 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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2014 – continued

e. Property, Plant and Equipment (cont)

	%
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
Road and traffic 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 financial reporting 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 Local 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.

f. Government Grants

Government grants are accounted for on the Income Approach according to IAS 20. They are accounted for on a systematic basis in the Statement of Comprehensive income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs which they are intended to compensate. If such costs have already been incurred when the grant is made, or if there are no related cost, then the grant is accounted for when it becomes receivable.

g. 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 cost to sell and the value in use. Impairment losses are immediately recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

h. 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 amounts of the asset in 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 - continued

i. 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 Euro which is the Council's functional and presentation currency.

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

j. Surplus and deficits

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 deficits 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.

k. Cash and 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.

l. Related parties

Related parties are those persons or bodies of persons having relationships with the Council as defined in IAS 24.

During the year under review, the Local Council's related party that exercises a significant control was the Department for Local Government. The parties that exercise no control were Water Services Corporation and Malta Environment and Planning Authority whereas there was joint control with the Gozo Joint Committee.

m. Payables

Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer). If not they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Local Council.

n. Financial Instruments

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 - continued

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.

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 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'.

o. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS as adopted by the EU requires council members to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in making estimates. Actual results in future could differ from such estimates and the differences may be material to the financial statements. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

In the opinion of the council members, 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 (revised).

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

3a Property, Plant and Equipment

	Office Furniture /fittings	Office/ Computer Equipment	Plant & Machinery	Urban Improvements	Asset under construction	New Street Signs	Construction/Special Programmes	Total
Cost	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
At 1 January 2014	29,229	26,082	5,620	374,050	-	58,919	1,716,978	2,210,878
Additions this year	2,104	3,135	-	74,058	-	-	71,290	150,587
Reclassifications this year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2014	31,333	29,217	5,620	448,108	-	58,919	1,788,268	2,361,465
Grants and other reimbursements								
At 1 January 2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	(84,498)	(84,498)
Additions this year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	(84,498)	(84,498)
Depreciation Provision								
At 1 January 2014	(13,167)	(20,546)	(2,168)	(232,969)	-	(58,919)	(701,017)	(1,028,786)
Charge this year	(1,276)	(1,339)	(631)	(43,624)	-	-	(93,398)	(140,268)
At 31 December 2014	(14,443)	(21,885)	(2,799)	(276,593)	-	(58,919)	(794,415)	(1,169,054)
Net Book Value								
At 31 December 2014	16,890	7,332	2,821	171,515	-	-	909,355	1,107,913

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

3b Property, Plant and Equipment

Cost	Office Furniture / fittings	Office/ Computer Equipment	Plant & Machinery	Urban Improvements	Asset under construction	New Street Signs	Construction/Special Programmes	Total
€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
At 1 January 2013	26,112	22,590	5,620	179,294	61,995	58,919	1,551,469	1,905,999
Additions this year	3,117	3,492	-	132,761	-	-	165,509	304,879
Reclassifications this year	-	-	-	61,995	(61,995)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2013	29,229	26,082	5,620	374,050	-	58,919	1,716,978	2,210,878
Grants and other reimbursements								
At 1 January 2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	(84,498)	(84,498)
Additions this year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	(84,498)	(84,498)
Depreciation Provision								
At 1 January 2013	(11,961)	(19,908)	(1,396)	(121,034)	-	(58,919)	(612,314)	(825,532)
Charge this year	(1,206)	(638)	(772)	(111,935)	-	-	(88,703)	(203,254)
At 31 December 2013	(13,167)	(20,546)	(2,168)	(232,969)	-	(58,919)	(701,017)	(1,028,786)
Net Book Value								
At 31 December 2013	16,062	5,536	3,452	141,081	-	-	931,463	1,097,594

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

4 Receivables	2014	2013
	€	€
Accounts receivable	2,255	3,144
Provision for doubtful debts	(683)	-
Prepayments and accrued income	100,100	123,445
	<u>101,672</u>	<u>126,589</u>

Trade receivables

Within the current period	99,871	125,480
Exceeded credit period but not yet impaired	1,801	1,109
	<u>101,672</u>	<u>126,589</u>

5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash in hand and balance with banks. Cash and cash equivalents included in the Statement of cash flows comprise the following amounts in the Local Council's Statement of Financial Position:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Bank Balances:		
Operating Accounts	154,621	172,307
Cash in hand	70	70
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>154,691</u>	<u>172,377</u>

6 Deferred Income Grants

	2014	2013
	€	€
Deferred Income 1 to 2 years	32,937	27,191
Deferred Income 2 to 5 years	81,104	66,954
Deferred Income over 5 years	230,701	190,451
	<u>344,742</u>	<u>284,596</u>

	2014	2013
	€	€
Opening Balance	314,659	280,004
Increase in grants	126,727	63,515
Release of grants	(60,227)	(28,860)
Closing balance	381,159	314,659
Less Current portion	(36,417)	(30,063)
Non-current portion	<u>344,742</u>	<u>284,596</u>

7 Payables

	2014	2013
	€	€
Accounts payable	64,605	32,178
Accruals	148,148	230,767
Deferred income	36,417	30,063
	<u>249,170</u>	<u>293,008</u>

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

8 Funds received from Central Government	2014	2013
	€	€
In terms of section 55 of the Local Councils Act (CAP 363)	405,344	405,764
Government supplementary income	525	2,887
Other Government income	66,874	124,778
	<u>472,743</u>	<u>533,429</u>
9 General Income	2014	2013
	€	€
Income from tender documents	1,015	1,845
Income from permits	3,932	2,317
Income from regional committees	906	546
Contributions and donations	2,940	660
	<u>8,793</u>	<u>5,368</u>
10 Personal Emoluments	2014	2013
	€	€
Personal emoluments include, inter alia:		
Mayor's Honoraria	6,868	6,606
Mayor's and Councillors' Allowance	6,400	6,400
Executive Secretary salary and allowances	28,020	27,387
Employees' Salaries	26,899	25,939
Social Security Contributions	3,924	3,859
	<u>72,111</u>	<u>70,191</u>
11 Operations and Maintenance	2014	2013
Operations and maintenance includes, inter alia:	€	€
Repairs and Upkeep:		
Road and Street Pavements (patching works)	29,320	68,668
Street signs and markings	9,885	9,182
Public Property	11,776	25,274
Total	<u>50,981</u>	<u>103,124</u>
Contractual Services:		
Refuse Collection	38,305	32,713
Tipping fees	28,169	12,214
Bulky Refuse Collection	1,075	1,168
Road and Street Cleaning	996	2,487
Cleaning and Maintenance of Non-Urban Roads	48,174	11,910
Cleaning and Maintenance of Public Conveniences	12,399	10,211
Cleaning and Maintenance Parks and Gardens	10,533	5,655
Cleaning and Maintenance of soft areas	918	1,224
Cleaning and Maintenance of Beach and Coastal areas	3,938	5,699
Hire of skips	11,958	16,048
Street Lighting	29,448	19,442
	<u>185,913</u>	<u>118,771</u>
Total Operations and Maintenance Expenses	<u>236,894</u>	<u>221,895</u>

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

12 Administration and other expenditure	2014	2013
	€	€
Utilities	5,017	7,371
Other repairs and upkeep	7,430	927
Rent	6,324	3,662
National and International Memberships	824	1,062
Office Services	4,817	5,532
Transport and travel	2,671	3,030
Information services	6,914	2,524
Other contractual services	1,433	2,410
Professional Services	8,816	13,801
Community and Hospitality	3,359	3,958
Social events	1,440	4,624
Cultural events	31,201	17,186
Other expenses	1,786	1,042
Increase in provision for doubtful debts	683	-
Depreciation	140,268	203,254
	<u>222,983</u>	<u>270,383</u>
 13 Investment income	 2014	 2013
	€	€
Bank Interest Receivable	1,860	2,737
	<u>1,860</u>	<u>2,737</u>

Zebbug (Gozo) Local Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

14 Capital Commitments

The following are the Capital Commitments at the end of financial years 2013 and 2014 respectively:

	2014 €	2013 €
Capital expenditure contracted but not provided for in the financial statements	26,065	45,000
Capital expenditure approved but not yet contracted	182,431	-
Capital expenditure approved but not yet contracted		
Paving works at Triq Ulisse M'forn	28,256	-
Pjazza l-Assunta & Madonna tal-Virtut project	154,175	-
	182,431	-
Capital expenditure approved and contracted		
Resurfacing Triq ta' Habel it-Twil	26,065	-
Pavements	-	45,000
	26,065	45,000

15 Related Parties Disclosures

During the year under review, the Council carried out transactions with the following related parties:

Name of entity	Nature of relationship
Department of Local Councils	Significant control
Gozo and Malta Regional Committees	No control
Ministry for Gozo	No control
Malta Environment and Planning Authority	No control

The following were the significant transactions carried out by the Council with related parties having:

	2014 €	2013 €
Significant control:		
Revenue:		
Annual financial allocation	405,344	405,764

The ultimate controlling party of the Local Council is Central Government since the Council's main revenue is from the Government allocation received every quarter. Apart from the normal funds received from Government, Councils also receive funds relating to specific projects as well as other funds for the improvement and betterment of the locality.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 – continued

16 Contingent liability

The Council has a pending court case before the small claims tribunal whereby a resident is claiming damages to his motorcycle. However the Local Council is claiming that it is not responsible as the work was not being carried out by the Local Council.

17 Risk management objectives and policies

The Council's activities expose it to credit risk and liquidity risk through its use of financial instruments which result from its operating activities. The Council is not exposed to any market risk. The Council's risk management is coordinated by the council members and focuses on actively securing the council's short to medium term cash flow by minimising exposure to financial risks.

The most significant financial risks to which the council is exposed are described below.

17.1 Credit risk

The council's exposure to credit risk is limited to the carrying amount of financial assets recognised at the end of the reporting period, as summarised below:

	2014	2013
Class of financial assets – carrying amounts	€	€
Trade and other receivables	101,672	126,589
Cash and Cash Equivalents	154,691	172,377
	<u>256,363</u>	<u>298,966</u>

The council continuously monitors defaults of counterparties, identified either individually or by group, and incorporates this information into its credit risk controls. The council's policy is to deal with only creditworthy counterparties.

The council considers that the above financial assets that are not impaired for each of the reporting dates under review are of good credit quality, including those that are past due. See notes 4 and 5 for further information on impairment or financial assets that are past due.

None of the council's financial assets is secured by collateral or other credit enhancements

The credit risk for liquid funds is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

17.2 Liquidity risk

The council's exposure to liquidity risk arises from its obligations to meet its financial liabilities which comprise payables. Prudent liquidity risk management includes maintaining sufficient cash and committed credit facilities to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of funds to meet the council's obligations when they become due.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 (cont)

17.2 Liquidity risk (cont.)

The council manage its liquidity needs through yearly budgets and business plans by carefully monitoring expected cash inflows and outflows on a daily basis. The council's liquidity is deemed to be sufficient in view of an excess of financial assets.

	2014	2013
	€	€
Payables	249,170	293,008
	<u>249,170</u>	<u>293,008</u>

17.3 Interest rate risk

The Council has no significant interest-bearing assets other than cash and cash equivalents (Note 5), issued at variable rates. Cash and cash equivalents issued at variable rates expose the Council to cash flow interest rate risk. Management monitors the level of floating rate bank balances as a measure of cash flow risk taken on. Based on this analysis, management considers the potential impact on profit or loss of a defined interest rate shift that is reasonably possible at the end of the reporting period to be immaterial.

17.4 Summary of the financial assets and liabilities by category

The carrying amounts of the council's financial assets and liabilities as recognised at the reporting dates under review are categorised as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Current Assets		
Receivables:		
Trade and other receivables	101,672	126,589
Cash and Cash Equivalents	154,691	172,377
	<u>256,363</u>	<u>298,966</u>
Current Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised costs:		
Payables	249,170	293,008
	<u>249,170</u>	<u>293,008</u>

17.5 Capital risk management

The Council's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Council's ability to continue as a going concern so that it can continue to provide a service to the residents of the Local Council by maintaining an optimal capital structure to reduce cost of capital.

The Council's equity, as disclosed in the statement of financial position, constitutes its capital. The Council's capital structure is monitored by the Executive Secretary and the Council with appropriate reference to its financial obligations and commitments arising from operational requirements. In view of the nature of the Council's activities, the capital level as at the end of the reporting period is deemed adequate by the Council.

18 Fair value estimation

At 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2013, the carrying amounts of cash at bank, receivables and payables reflected in the financial statements are reasonable estimates of fair value in view of the nature of these instruments or the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected realisation.

LOCAL COUNCIL ZEBBUG (GOZO)

Report of the Local Government Auditor to the Auditor General

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Local Council Zebbug (Gozo) set out on pages 4 to 20, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31st December 2014, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows of the Local Council for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

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Council Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

As described on page 3, the Executive Secretary and the Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU and for such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Local Government Auditor's Responsibility

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control of the Local Council. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Executive Secretary and the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as of 31 December 2014 and of the Council's financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion, the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Local Councils Act, (CAP 363); the Financial Regulations issued in terms of the said Act; and the Local Councils (Financial) Procedures.



This copy of the audit report has been signed by
Conrad Borg FCCA FIA DipIFR CPA (Partner) for and on behalf of
Spiteri Bailey & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
Members of PrimeGlobal
Level 2, SB Business Centre,
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28/04/2015