

Murray Darling Association Inc.

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> 463 High Street P.O. Box 1268 Echuca, Vic 3564

Ordinary Meeting of the Board 10.30am, Monday, December 17, 2018 https://zoom.us/j/568437370

MINUTES - MEETING No. 382

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present				
Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	Region 1		
Cr Jane MacAllister	Wentworth Shire Council	Region 4		
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	Region 5		
Cr Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	Region 8		
Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	Region 9		
Cr John Campbell	Gunnedah Shire Council	Region 11		
Pete George	M&S Group	Treasurer		
Emma Bradbury	MDA	CEO		
Cr Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge	Region 6*		
Cr Andrew Tilley	City of Mitcham	Region 7*		
* Guests – attendance by invitatio	n			
1.2 Apologies	Maine Chine Courseil	Design 2		
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council	Region 2		
Motion: That the apologies be a	accepted.			
J Campbell/P Maytom	•	Carried		
12 Deductions				
1.3 Declarations				
Nil.				

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Meeting 381 held 10.30am Monday, November 26, 2018

Motion:Minutes of Meeting 381 held Monday, November 26, 2018 be accepted as an accuraterecord of that meeting.P Maytom/P HunterCarried

3. **REPORTS**

3.1 Chairman's Report

The Chair, Cr David Thurley discussed the outcome of the recent Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial

Council meeting, held in Melbourne, commenting the greatest positive to come out of the meeting was the commitment from state and federal ministers to implement the Basin Plan in time, and in full.

Cr Thurley noted the Murray-Darling Basin Authority's 2018 Report Card on the implementation of the Basin Plan, which showed the development of water resource plans are at risk of delay. MDBA staff are assisting Basin states with this matter.

3.2 Finance Reports

(Attachments 1-3)

The following reports were presented:

- Profit and loss report for November 2018
- Balance Sheet for November 2018
- Aged receivables for November 2018

The year to date profit is down \$38,474 compared to budget, with the difference reducing by \$7,000 during the past month. This gap is predicted to continue to reduce as there will be less account activity up to the end of the current financial year.

A refund of \$738 was received following the cancellation of staff training with Murray Mallee Training, whilst the wage and salary expenses were below budget as a three-month figure had incorrectly featured in the previous month's finance reports.

Both superannuation contributions and wages are slightly above budget, but are both forecast to be at parity with the budget by December.

The \$10,130 figure for trade debtors is an accurate figure, with queries regarding outstanding invoices in 2017/18 occurring in December 2017 and January 2018.

Cr Thurley queried Wodonga City Council's outstanding membership payment, with the council considering its options due to it and Albury City Council's Two Cities, One Community initiative.

Action: Cr David Thurley and Emma Bradbury to contact Wodonga City Council regarding its membership status.

3.3 Chief Executive Officer's Report (Attachment 4)

The Chief Executive Officer reported on her tour to the Northern Basin in late November and South Australia in early December.

Efforts during 2019 will focus on strengthening regional management, as well as the MDA's relationships with stage-based Local Government Association, the Australia Local Government Association and regional development organisations.

3.4 Region reports

Region chairs spoke to current issues/events in their regions:

Region 1 – Cr Thurley was re-elected as Region 1 chair on November 30. This meeting included a presentation from a local Commonwealth Environmental Water Office representative regarding water flows. Issues relating to the incorrect reporting of water management were also noted.

Region 4 – Cr MacAllister met with newly elected State Member for Mildura, Ali Cupper during the month. Red alerts for blue-green algae have been issued within the region. Discussions regarding the

management of Menindee Lakes also occurred.

Region 5 – Michelle Campbell from the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office spoke at the Region 6 meeting on December 10. An inter-regional meeting will be held in early 2019, with the Region 6 Annual General Meeting occurring in March 2019.

Region 6 – Close to 30 people attended the Region 6 meeting on December 14. An interim chair was arranged for the meeting, with featured a report on the Coorong Summit. Region 6 representative, Cr Brenton Lewis joined MDA Chief Executive Officer, Emma Bradbury in meeting South Australia Minister for Environment and Water, David Spiers on December 6 to discuss resolutions from this year's Annual General Meeting.

Region 7 – Cr Tilley is set to be nominated by the City of Mitcham to take on the leadership of Region 7. There is significant local interest in discussions regarding Adelaide's desalination plant being utilised.

Region 8 – A region-led membership drive will occur in early 2019.

Region 9 – The Annual General Meeting occurred on November 23, with the Region Executive reelected. Discussions at this meeting focused on water savings.

Region 11 – A Region Executive was elected at the November meeting, where succession planning was discussed. There are concerns regarding water storage levels.

Region 12 – Water availability is a concern for the communities in Region 12.

Action: Region Chairs to provide details regarding Region Executive committee members.

Motion: That the reports be noted. P Hunter/P Maytom

Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Chairs – Region 6 and 7

Following the outcome of the South Australia local government elections the CEO has met with a number of councils to re-engage leadership in withins Region 6 and 7.

Rural City of Murray Bridge and its Mayor, Cr Brenton Lewis has nominated for the position of Chair of Region 6. An election of the Chair and committee will be held at the Region 6 Annual General Meeting, scheduled for February 2019.

City of Mitcham delegate Cr Andrew Tilley have accepted an invitation to consider the role of interim char for Region 7's leadership. This will be ratified at the Region 7 Annual General Meeting, to be held on a date yet to be confirmed.

4.2 River Connections Grant Program

Investigations regarding potential opportunities have begun. Further discussions will occur at the 2019 Strategic Planning Workshop.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Inter-regional meeting

During its September 2018 meeting, Region 4 approved a resolution asking the MDA Executive to write to Regions 4, 5 and 6, inviting them to a joint meeting in Renmark to discuss Menindee proposals and the impact downstream.

Planning regarding this meeting is continuing.

5.2 Board meeting schedule 2019

Section 13.1 of the Murray Darling Association Constitution states that the Board "must hold at least 8 meetings (at least 2 of which must be face to face) in each period of 12 months, at such place and time as the Board may determine".

A proposed schedule of meeting dates and locations for 2019 has been proposed. Meetings are planned for the fourth Monday of each month, with the April, June, October and December meetings occurring on the third Monday of the month due to public holidays, Christmas office closures or nationally significant events:

Friday, February 1	Echuca/Moama	11.30am AEDST
Monday, February 25	Online	10.30am AEDST
Monday, March 25	Online	10.30am AEDST
Monday, April 15	Online	10.30am AEST
Monday, May 27	Online	10.30am AEST
Monday, June 17	Canberra	11am AEST
Monday, July 22	Online	10.30am AEST
Monday, August 26	Online	10.30am AEST
Monday, September 23	Online	10.30am AEST
Monday, October 21	Toowoomba	5.30pm AEST
Monday, November 25	Online	10.30am AEDST
Monday, December 16	Online	10.30am AEDST

Motion:That the meeting schedule for 2019, as distributed prior to the meeting, be approved.J Campbell/J MacAllisterCarried

5.3 Inquiry into the Management and Use of Commonwealth Environmental Water

In April this year the MDA made <u>submission</u> to the *Inquiry into the Management and Use of Commonwealth Environmental Water*, and testified at the public hearing in Albury.

On December 7, 2018, the Standing Committee on the Environment and Energy tabled in Parliament its report, entitled *Report on the Inquiry into the Management and Use of Commonwealth Environmental Water.*

The Committee's inquiry has now been completed and its report is available to read on the Committee's web page at this <u>link</u>. Once the Government's response to the report has been presented, it will also be made available on the web page

Motion: That the *Report on the Inquiry into the Management and Use of Commonwealth Environmental Water* be taken as read.

P Hunter/A Tilley

Carried

5.4 Premises lease

The executive office of the MDA have been located at 463-465 High Street, Echuca since 2014 as a subtenant of Parks Victoria.

The MDA has been a sub-tenant of Parks Victoria.

In December 2017 Parks Victoria notified the MDA that PV would be relocating by the end of the year, with this move occurring on December 18, 2018.

The MDA has found two offices to rent at 250 Anstruther Street, Echuca, and will relocate to this new facility on December 18, 2018.

Motion:That the actioning of the lease for 250 Anstruther Street, Echuca be noted.J Campbell/P MaytomCarried

5.5 Adelaide desalination plant

Discussion focused on the Adelaide desalination plant and the South Australia government's efforts for it to be operational.

Action: Emma Bradbury to liaise with Cr Tilley and a Region 7 council regarding the development of a position paper on the Adelaide desalination plant.

5.6 Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council outcomes

Board members noted the diversity of the decisions made by the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council on December 7.

It is essential that all chairs access and understand the decisions made and their alignments with the MDA's adopted positions.

6. MEMBERSHIP APPROVALS

6.1 Membership receipts

6.1.1 Julie Barrie (Individual member)

A former Coorong District Council representative, Julie Barrie was a Region 6 Executive Member from 2014 to 2018.

Having not been re-elected to council during the recent local government elections, Julie is seeking individual membership of the MDA to ensure there is stability in the management of the region.

Motion:That the Board accept the membership application and thank Julie Barrie for her efforts.D Thurley/D ClarkCarried

7. STRATEGY

7.1 Strategic Planning Workshop

The Board provided the following feedback regarding topics of discussion for the workshop:

- Succession planning;
- Regional economic development;
- Financial stability and how it can be strengthened;
- An understanding of changing demographics;
- Membership costs.

Action: Distribute the list above to Board members and invite Board members to respond with any additional points to cover.

Action: Invite the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and Commonwealth Environmental Water Office to co-facilitate a session at the Strategic Planning Workshop on water availability, volumes and rules that apply to each state.

11.31am Peter George left the meeting

7.2 Basin Plan Governance

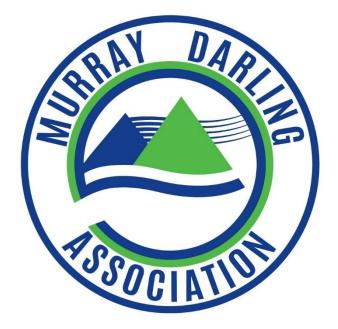
A Flying Minute will be formulated regarding a proposal calling for local government to be incorporated into the Basin decision making process.

8. NEXT MEETING

Friday, February 1, 2019 11.30am AEDST (Echuca/Moama)

9. CLOSE

Meeting closed at 11.55am



Chief Executive Officer's Report

December 2018

Emma Bradbury ceo@mda.asn.au

1. Appointments

Date	Event/meeting	Location
November 26, 2018	Toowoomba Regional Council	Toowoomba
	 Andrew Allpass – Acting Principal for Tourism and Events 	
November 26, 2018	Toowoomba Regional Council	Toowoomba
	Cr Paul Antonio – Mayor	
	Brian Pidgeon – Chief Executive Officer	
November 27, 2018	Sara Hales – General Manager, Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport	Toowoomba
November 30, 2018	Campaspe Shire Council	Echuca
	 Jason Russell – Chief Executive Officer 	
November 30, 2018	Murray River Council	Moama
	Cr Chris Bilkey – Mayor	
	 Des Bilske – General Manager 	
December 5, 2018	Gannawarra Shire Council	Cohuna
	Cr Lorraine Learmonth - Mayor	
December 5, 2018	Swan Hill Rural City Council	Swan Hill
	Cr Ann Young – Mayor	
	Muriel Schulz – Economic Development Coordinator	
December 6, 2018	Region 6 meeting	Murray Bridge
	 Glenn Rappensberg – Chief Executive Officer, Alexandrina Council 	
	Vincent Campbell – Chief Executive Officer, Coorong	
	District Council	
	• Michael Sedgman – Chief Executive Officer, Rural	
	City of Murray Bridge	
December 6, 2018	City of West Torrens	Hilton
	Cr Michael Coxon – Mayor	
	Terry Buss – Chief Executive Officer	
December 6, 2018	Campbelltown City Council	Rostrover
	 Cr Jill Whittaker – Mayor 	
	Paul Di Iulio – Chief Executive Officer	
December 6, 2018	Hon. David Spiers – South Australia Minister for	Adelaide
	Environment and Water w/ Mayor Brenton Lewis	
December 7, 2018	City of Mitcham	Torrens Park
	Cr Heather Holmes-Ross – Mayor	
	Craig Harrison – Acting Chief Executive Officer	
	Cr Andrew Tilley – Past MDA delegate	
December 7, 2018	Mount Barker District Council	Mount Barker
	Cr Ann Ferguson – Mayor	
	Greg Sarre – Manager Economic Development and	
	Sustainable Futures	
December 7, 2018	Ben Bruce – Group Director, Department of Environment	Adelaide
	and Water w/ Mayor Breton Lewis	
December 10, 2018	MDA Region 5 Ordinary Meeting	Renmark*
December 10, 2018	Gerard Jose – Chief Executive Officer, Mildura Rural City	Echuca
	Council (phone)	

December 11, 2018	Wentworth Shire Council - 2020 National Conference submission discussions	Wentworth*
December 11, 2018	National Carp Control Plan Working Group meeting	Canberra*
December 13, 2018	Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council meet and greet	Melbourne
December 14, 2018	MDA Region 6 Ordinary Meeting	Murray Bridge*
December 14, 2018	Ashley Bland – 2019 Strategic Planning Workshop	Echuca
	discussions (phone)	

* - Attendance by digital means

2. Engagements

The CEO completed a tour of the Northern Basin on November 26 in Toowoomba, coinciding with site inspections for the 75th Jubilee National Conference.

Meetings were held in late November with Campaspe Shire Council (Region 2) and Murray River Council (Region 3) to provide an update on MDA matters.

Appointments with the mayors of Gannawarra Shire Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council on December 5 have provided the opportunity for the MDA to present to councillors from both municipalities, with the aim of promoting the benefits of resuming membership and rejuvenating Region 3.

A meeting with the Chief Executive Officers of three Region 6 councils on December 6 at Murray Bridge focused on the strategic direction and leadership of the region following the outcome of the recent South Australia local government elections.

This meeting coincided with two days of appointments with four Adelaide metropolitan councils – Campbelltown City Council, City of Mitcham, City of West Torrens and Mount Barker District -South Australia Minister for the Environment and Water, David Spiers and the South Australia Department of Environment and Water.

The CEO attended a meet and greet with Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council members and other key stakeholders in Melbourne on December 13. This coincided with the Ministerial Council meeting the next day.

3. Update on AGM Resolutions

The CEO and Mayor Brenton Lewis from the Rural City of Murray Bridge met with South Australia Minister for the Environment and Water, David Spiers in Adelaide on December 6 regarding Resolution 5.8 – River Murray weir infrastructure.

The CEO and Mayor Brenton Lewis from the Rural City of Murray Bridge met with South Australia Department of Environment and Water Group Director, Ben Bruce in Adelaide on December 7 regarding Resolution 5.5 – socioeconomic neutrality.

Correspondence has been received from the New South Wales Department of Industry – Water regarding Resolution 5.5 – socioeconomic neutrality, which is accessible on the <u>2018 AGM</u> <u>Resolutions tracker website</u>.

4. National Conference 2019

Following visits to potential venues on November 26, the following locations have been confirmed to host the 75th Jubilee National Conference:

- National Conference and AGM: <u>The Annex, Toowoomba</u>
- Gala Dinner: <u>Picnic Point, Toowoomba</u>
- Civic Reception: Empire Theatre, Toowoomba

The <u>landing page</u> promoting the date and location of the conference is online, featuring details regarding Toowoomba, its attractions, accommodation facilities and transport options.

Work with Cvent regarding developing the event and booking website are continuing, with the aim for this page to be operational from early 2019.

5. Administration

Membes – Planning regarding the design of the database and its capabilities to manage the relevant data needed for the organisation is continuing.

ICT – Efforts to improve the security of the MDA's website is progressing. SSL certification was purchased in November and has been added to our domain name. The MDA's website developers still need to add this certification to the website to enact the security certification, but a quality assurance audit of the website will need to be conducted. Discussions regarding this process are continuing.

Christmas period – Please note the MDA office will close at 4.30pm AEDST on Friday, December 21 and re-open at 8.30am AEDST on Monday, January 7.

Relocation of premises – The executive office of the MDA have been located at 463-465 High Street, Echuca since 2014. The MDA has been a sub-tenant of Parks Victoria.

In December 2017 Parks Victoria notified the MDA that PV would be relocating by the end of the year.

The MDA will now relocate to 250 Anstruther Street, Echuca commencing January 1, 2019.

Emma Bradbury Chief Executive Officer

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED December 2018

	Current	November	October	September	Older	Total
Receivables						
Coolamon Shire Council	-	-	-	-	1,313	1,313
Temora Shire Council	-	-	-	-	1,850	1,850
Wodonga City Council	-	-	-	-	6,968	6,968
Total Receivables	-	-	-	-	10,130	10,130
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED As at 30 November 2018

	30 Nov 2018	30 Nov 2017
ssets		
Bank		
ANZ Business Extra6893	87,870	88,555
ANZ Commercial Credit Card 359	1,480	(1,045)
ANZ MDF Gift #9052	1,686	1,561
ANZ MDF Ops #7503	4	4
Total Bank	91,040	89,074
Current Assets		
LGFA 01 Account	45,610	42,282
LGFA 01 Environmental Fund	-	2,497
Trade Debtors	10,130	86,288
Trade Debtors Original	-	75
Total Current Assets	55,740	131,142
Fixed Assets		
Art Work at Valuation	5,000	5,000
Computers	2,280	-
Computers Accumulated Depreciation	(1,934)	(203)
Low Value Pool	1,761	1,761
Low Value Pool Accumulated Depreciation	(1,367)	(1,131)
Motor Vehicles	34,718	34,718
Motor Vehicles Accumulated Depreciation	(23,518)	(19,785)
Office Equipment	4,798	4,798
Office Equipment Accumulated Depreciation	(2,460)	(2,178)
Software At Cost	23,300	16,550
Software at Cost Accumulated Depreciation	(6,896)	(1,106)
Total Fixed Assets	35,682	38,424
Non-current Assets		
High Security Water Shares MDA	156,025	115,100
High Security Water Shares MDF	70,200	54,000
Sundry Debtor	-	167
Total Non-current Assets	226,225	169,267
tal Assets	408,687	427,908

Liabilities

Current Liabilities		
GST	(1,595)	2,338
Rounding	115	-
Trade Creditors	5,128	-
Total Current Liabilities	3,648	2,338
Non-Current Liabilities		
Annual Leave Benefit	15,072	10,911

Balance Sheet

	30 Nov 2018	30 Nov 2017
Debenture Loan	1,500	1,500
Hire Purchase Liability	30	4,331
Hire Purchase Unexpired Charges	-	(139)
Month-end accruals	3,000	-
PAYG Withholding Payable	4,092	8,728
Superannuation Fund #3	-	495
Superannuation payable	8,935	5,747
Total Non-Current Liabilities	32,628	31,573
Total Liabilities	36,276	33,911
Net Assets	372,410	393,997
Equity		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	82,175	25,050
Current Year Earnings	121,263	175,348
Retained Earnings	168,972	193,599
Total Equity	372,410	393,997

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED 1 Nov 2018 to 30 Nov 2018

	Actual	Budget	Var AUD	Var %	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Var AUD	Var %
Income								
Conference Income	-	-	-	0.0%	95,739	75,000	20,739	27.7%
Donation/Gift Income	10	5	5📥	100.0%	130	25	105	420.0%
Income - Memberships	(2,248)	-	(2,248) ▼ 1	0.0%	213,919	249,900	(35,981)	-14.4%▼
Income - Projects	-	-	-	0.0%	750	-	750	0.0%
Interest Income	-	-	-	0.0%	(170)	800	(970)🕶	-121.3%▼
Total Income	(2,238)	5	(2,243)	-44860.0%	310,368	325,725	(15,357)	-4.7%
Gross Profit	(2,238)	5	(2,243)	-44860.0%	310,368	325,725	(15,357)	-5.0%
Less Operating Expenses								
Accounting/Bookeeping Fees	-	35	(35)▼	-100.0%▼	-	175	(175)▼	-100.0%▼
Advertising & Marketing	-	-	-	0.0%	10,013	4,500	5,513📥	122.5%
Bank Fees	67	50	17 ^	33.9%	606	250	356	142.4%
Business Insurance	-	-	-	0.0%	976	408	568	139.3%
Computer Expenses	288	100	188 ^	188.2%	533	500	33📥	6.5%
Conference Expenses	-	2,000	(2,000)	-100.0%▼	34,122	24,000	10,122	42.2%
Depreciation - Computer	291	-	291📥	0.0%	1,374	-	1,374	0.0%
Depreciation - Low Value Pool	14	-	14 ^	0.0%	73	-	73	0.0%
Depreciation - Motor Vehicle	257	-	257	0.0%	1,311	-	1,311📥	0.0%
Depreciation - Office Equipment	20	-	20	0.0%	103	-	103 ^	0.0%
Depreciation - Software	381	-	381	0.0%	1,945	-	1,945 ^	0.0%

Profit and Loss

	Actual	Budget	Var AUD	Var %	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Var AUD	Var %
Engagement and Communications	-	300	(300)-	-100.0%▼	3,500	1,500	2,000	133.3%
Fuel Expenses	-	-	-	0.0%	167	-	167📥	0.0%
General Repairs & Maintenance	-	50	(50)-	-100.0%▼	209	250	(41) 🕶	-16.4%▼
Licences and Subscriptions	170	100	70	70.0%	2,600	500	2,100	419.9%
Motor Vehicle Fuel/Oil	190	320	(130) ▼	-40.7%▼	1,227	1,600	(373) ▼	-23.3%▼
Motor Vehicle Insurance	-	-	-	0.0%	743	-	743	0.0%
Motor Vehicle Interest Expense	39	39		0.2%	195	195		0.2%
Motor Vehicle Maintenance	-	-	-	0.0%	796	380	416	109.5%
Motor Vehicle Registration	-	690	(690)-	-100.0%▼	700	690	10 ^	1.4%
Other Expense	-	-	-	0.0%	500	-	500	0.0%
Parking/Tolls Expenses	6	-	6 4	0.0%	248	-	248	0.0%
Postage	-	120	(120)-	-100.0%▼	1,045	600	445	74.2%
Premises Rent - Echuca	1,250	1,000	250	25.0%	6,250	5,000	1,250	25.0%
Printing	-	150	(150)🕶	-100.0%▼	53	750	(697)-	-93.0%▼
Pro Indemnity Insurance	-	-	-	0.0%	-	811	(811)▼	-100.0%▼
Professional Fees	-	-	-	0.0%	6,832	5,500	1,332📥	24.2%
Public Liability Insurance	-	-	-	0.0%	1,555	650	905	139.2%
Staff Amenities	-	50	(50)-	-100.0%▼	90	250	(160)-	-64.0%▼
Staff Training Expenses	(738)	-	(738) ▼	0.0%	99	-	99📥	0.0%
Stationery	11	75	(64)-	-85.6%▼	469	375	94📥	25.2%
Superannuation	1,518	1,579	(61)-	-3.9%▼	8,384	8,684	(300)-	-3.5%▼
Telephone Expenses	653	450	203	45.1%	2,645	2,250	395📥	17.6%
Travel & Accom. Expenses	1,618	670	948	141.5%	3,061	3,350	(289)	-8.6%▼
Wages & Salaries Expenses	15,976	24,930	(8,954)	-35.9%▼	95,251	99,720	(4,469)	-4.5%
Water Expenses	27	-	27▲	0.0%	775	600	175 ^	29.2%

Profit and Loss

	Actual	Budget	Var AUD	Var %	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Var AUD	Var %
Work Cover Premiums	327	-	327	0.0%	654	2,500	(1,846)	-73.8%▼
Total Operating Expenses	22,365	32,708	(10,343)	-31.6%	189,105	165,988	23,117	13.9%
Net Profit	(24,603)	(32,703)	8,100	25.0%	121,263	159,737	(38,474)	-24.0%

Notes

1

Adjustment for bad and doubtful debts