

2022 - 2023

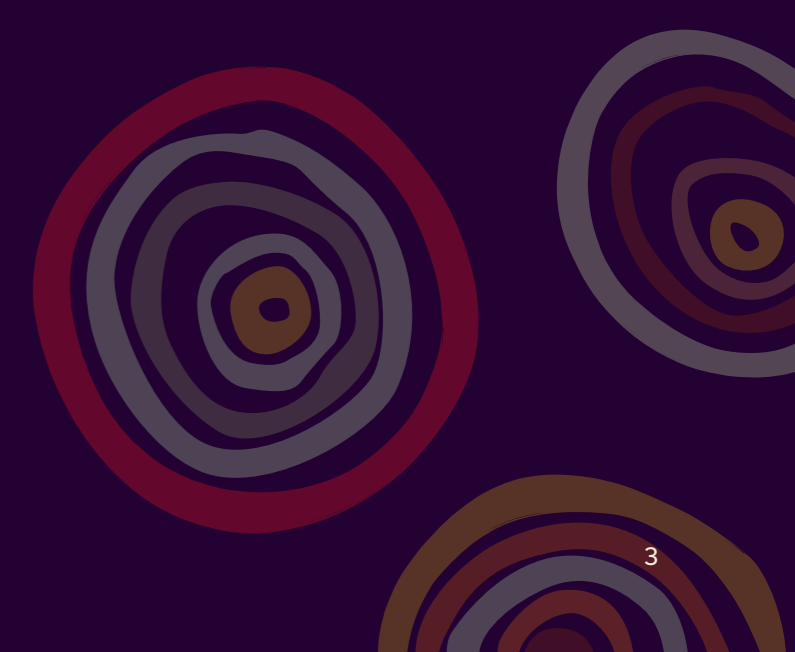
Annual Report





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Acknowledgement of Country

We wish to acknowledge the custodians of these lands, the Elders and community past, present and future.

We acknowledge and pay respect to the ancestors that walked and managed these lands for many generations before us. We acknowledge and pay respect to the fight and struggle our people dedicated towards our culture and the contribution they made and make to the life of this city and our regions. We acknowledge and recognise all Aboriginal people who have come from their own Country and who have now come to call this Country their home. We recognise and respect our cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important to our Aboriginal community living today. We acknowledge our Elders – the knowledge holders and teachers. We acknowledge our youth – our hope for a brighter and stronger future. We acknowledge and pay our respect to our community members who have gone before us and recognise their contribution.



Board of Directors



Abie Wright
Director



William (Edward) Smith
Chairperson



Craig Hammond
Director



Cheryl Smith
Director



Raymond Smith
Deputy Chairperson



Warwick (Wok) Wright
Treasurer

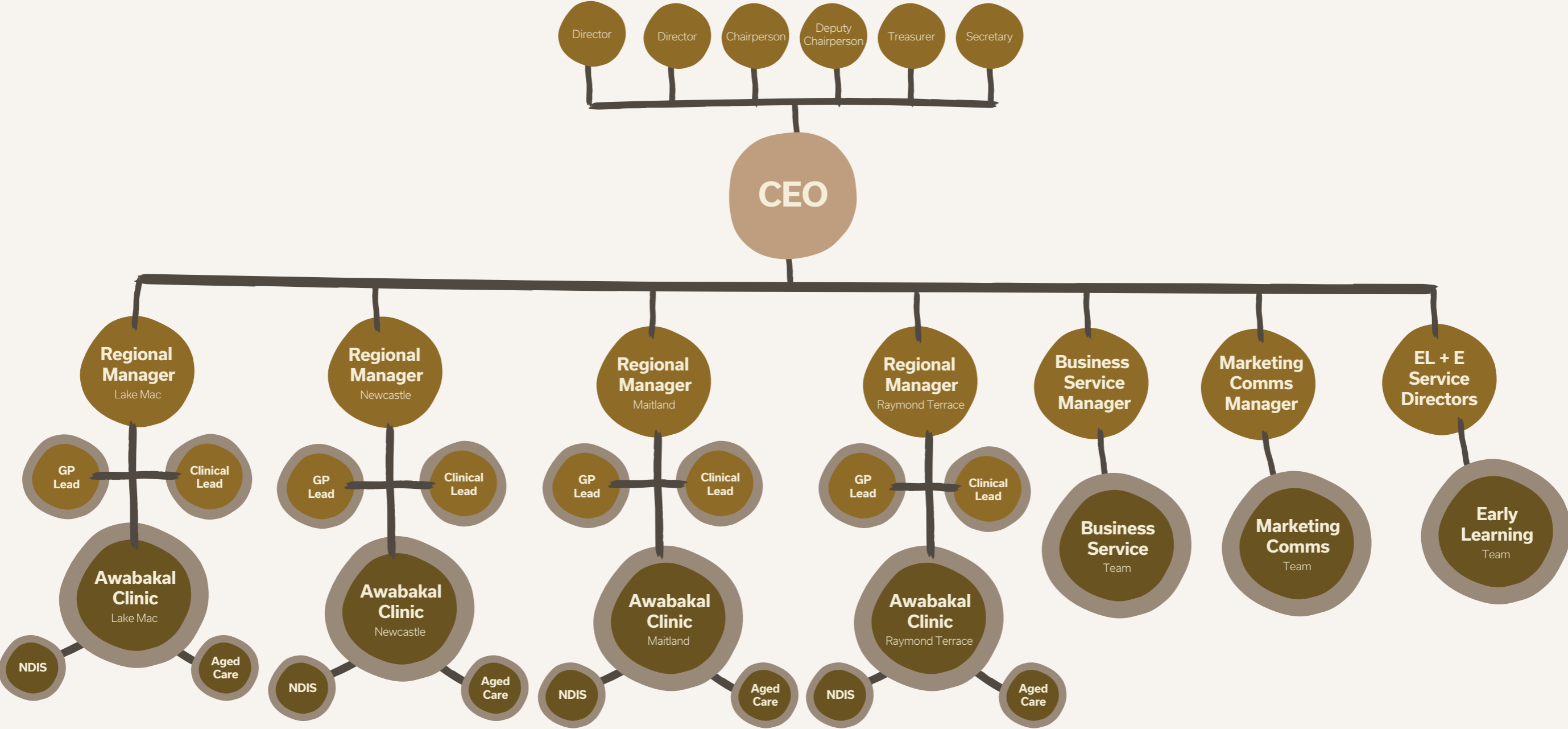


Julianne Rose
Secretary



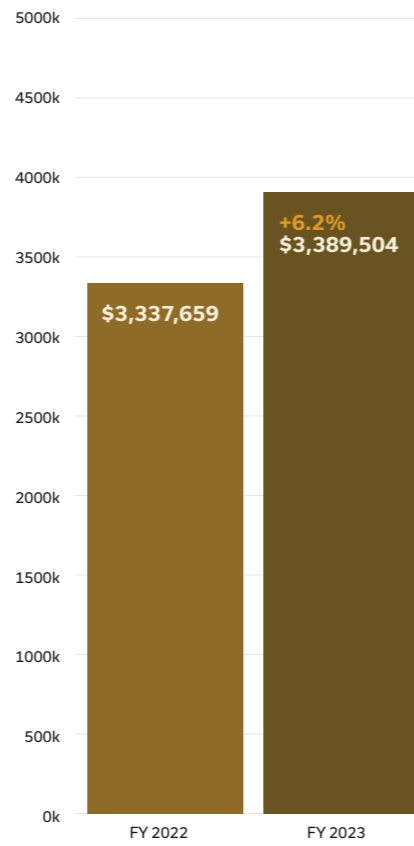
Awabakal structure

Board of Directors

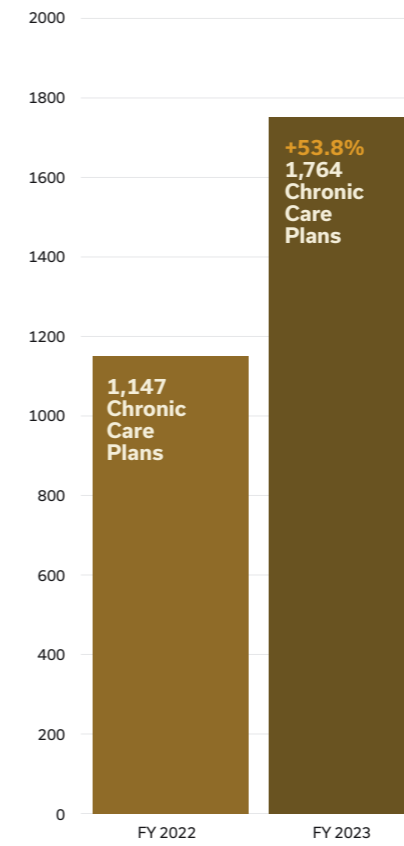


Business services

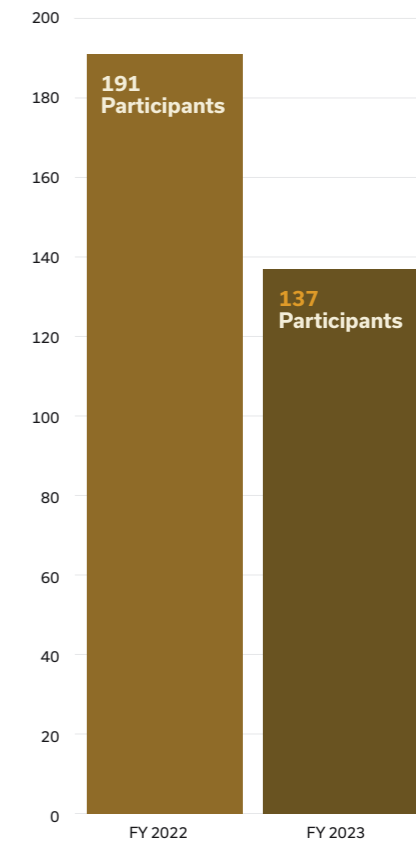
Medicare Revenue



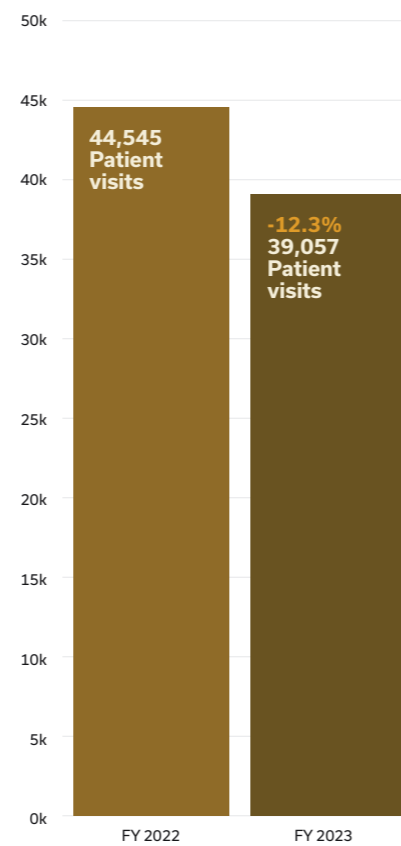
No. of Chronic Care Plans



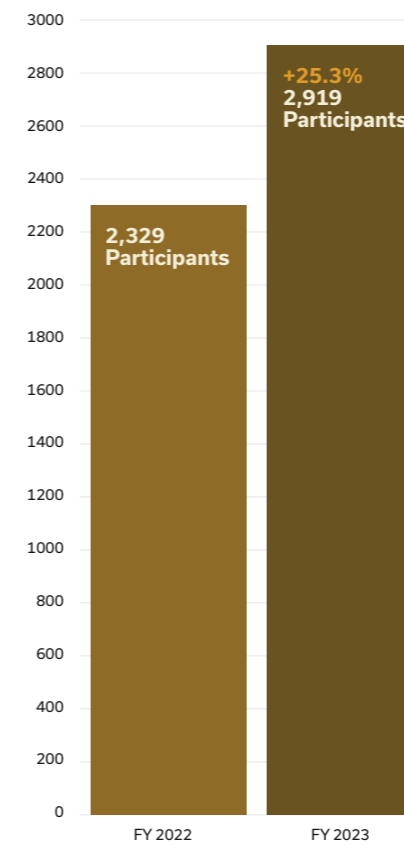
No. of NDIS Participants



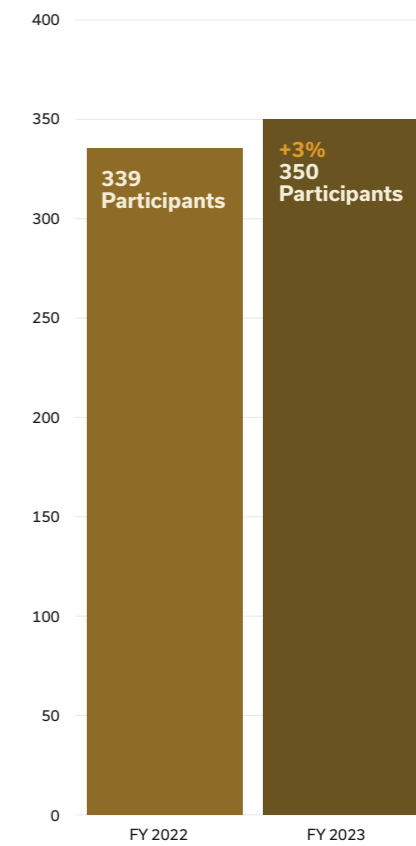
No. of Patient Visits



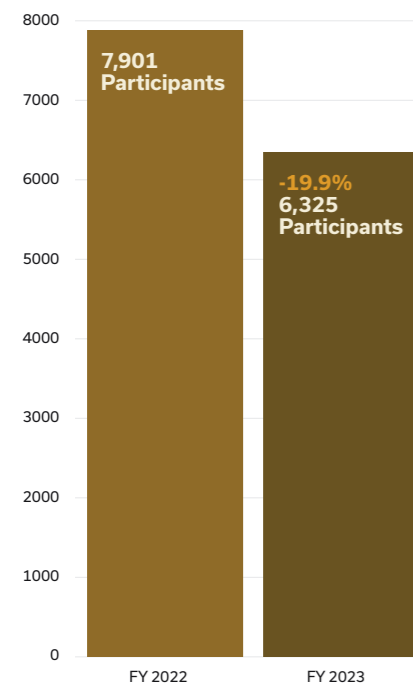
No. of 715s



No. of Aged Care Participants



ATSI Population Served



Newcastle



Medical

- Aboriginal Health Practitioner lead model of care with a focus on Care coordination, each AHP & Nurse is paired with GP for chronic care management. We are finding this outcome to be very positive as both our AHPs and GPs have more access to each other for the benefit of the patient and community.
- Health calendar (AHP training ongoing, monthly quality improvement lined up with these eg kidney month, women's health, Diabetes awareness month etc). Our AHPs are the connection between our GPS, Nurses, and the community. Keeping them up to date keeps us in a better place for both clinic and community.

Also, our AHP training – completed vax course and vaccinating, phlebotomy. With Covid, colds and flu's, it is diligent that we stay on top of this.

- Congratulations to our AHP, Lead Nurse & Lead GP completed a Presentation at the NAATSIHWP conference (Olivia, Una & Jim).
- Staffing changes in reception – (we have welcomed 6 new local community members into the reception team at Hamilton). Employee and training community has always been a goal of awabakals.

- Jamaal Douglas – Jamaal has progressed into the role of Clinic coordinator. He has taken control and has a great repoor with Staff and community.
- Social & Emotional Wellbeing team (SEWB) – Providing holistic approach to supporting mental health support to community.
- Psychology services continue to provide support to the community.
- Dental partnership with HNEH continues – Awabakal has been supporting medical students to complete placement with the team.
- All staff from various roles have completed numerous amounts of training throughout 2023 from Mental Health First Aid to Professional Development and will continue to further assist staff in educating & upskilling throughout 2024.

Aged Care

- New geriatrician Professor Nair – (A geriatrician is an expert in caring for older people. Geriatricians can help manage a wide range of problems for healthy ageing).



Lake Macquarie

Medical

- Dr Joyce, Dr Chris and Dr Tom resigned from Awabakal
Dr Tegan Scholes is new Lead GP
Dr Ben Kostyrka started with Awabakal July 2023
Cardiff has a total of 7 part/time GPs.
- Breast Screen and Awabakal – Lake Mac partnered for the first time to provide a much needed service to the Lake Mac community.

Awabakal partnered with Dunghutti Dreaming to design a beautiful pair of earrings as our gift to the women that were due for their breast screen. Aunty Brenda Simon, Aunty Sandra Moran, Aunty Jackie Khan, Aunty Joy Reid and Aunty Yeena Thompson created our 2023 gift, five pairs of earrings were beautifully designed representing each woman's breast cancer. They named their individual collections and we are so excited to share this journey with them.

We set a new high for mammograms completed - 97 patients screened, 0 DNA.

A message from the breast screen team "we would like to thank Awabakal staff for being extremely welcoming and kind, it was one of the best coordinated visits we have had, not to mention the lunch, we cannot wait for next year!"

- Aunty Yeena Thompson's 'Giidhi ngay' (from the heart) collection was inspired by her breast cancer journey.

The black background represents Yeena's mum who was a staunch, beautiful black woman. She laid the foundation and her courage, fierceness and strength runs deep through Yeena, her two daughters and granddaughter.

The outer circles represent Yeena and her beautiful girls. The dots surrounding represent being supported by family and community through her journey.

- Yeena Thompson Gamilaraay

- "Teardrop" Aunty Sandra described her journey as an extremely emotional one. She said she shed a lot of tears throughout her treatment.

Aunty Sandra mentioned that breast cancer unfortunately ran in her family and she found strength from watching her mum go through the same thing. Aunty Sandra is celebrating 10yrs this year of surviving the biggest battle of her life.

Her designs represent both her and her mum wrapped closely to one another in the pink and purple as well as being surrounded by family.

- 'Aunty Brenda' Aunty Brenda Simon's, collection was inspired by her breast cancer journey.

Aunty Brenda's design represents the strength she got from her five beautiful daughters and her three brothers in the dreamtime watching over her.

The six arches represent her and her daughters and the three dots represents Aunty Brenda's brothers. The colours are the breast screen colours and the grey has been included to incorporate her mob and country.

- Tiddabell' collection. It was inspired by Jackie Khan's breast cancer journey and her overall personality.

Aunty Jacqui is a happy, bright positive amazing woman who brings love and light to everyone she meets. She wanted her Tiddabell collection to bring that same energy with bright bold colours and some glitter and rainbows.

We are hoping these will inspire others that despite the hard challenges there are always things to be thankful for.

- GALAH GIRL Aunty Joy Reid's collection was inspired by her breast cancer journey.

Aunty Joy described her journey like a river. Her path was free flowing at times but there were moments when she would hit debris. Aunty Joy talked about her journey being challenging and very emotional in many different ways. Pinks and purples represent the river of her path, the grey represents the colours of Galah and the debris.

- Go 4 Fun – partnered with HNEH after school program helping our patients get active and learn healthy eating habits, we have 6 families that had participated in the pilot program, programs run for 10 weeks during school terms, Awabakal staff are trained as cultural leaders to empower and educate patients/community and work alongside dietitians and paediatricians.
- Speech Pathologist, Katy started with Awabakal working 2 days per week, Katy has been extremely busy helping our little people with their speech. She has consulted with 100+ patients.

- Diabetes alliance clinics – Cardiff have begun working with Diabetes alliance, educating and empowering our community with lifestyle changes, healthy diet and regular physical activity, regular blood glucose self-monitoring, early diagnosis and medical management.
- Dr Sarah-Rebekah Clark passed her final exam recently and is awaiting fellowship, Dr Sarah-Rebekah has chosen to stay on with Awabakal going into 2024.
- Renovations have been completed, Cardiff have an additional 3 clinical rooms.
- Accreditation due for renewal in 2024.
- Cardiff staff Ben, Sophie, Bellah completed Cert III in Business medical administration.

Aged Care

- The women's group have been working on a large canvas with artwork contributed by all members representing where they are all from, bringing them together on Awabakal Country.
- Winanga-y Dreaming have been working with our Elders teaching language and art, visiting sacred cultural sites within the Newcastle region.
- Our Elders group attended the Elders Olympics in Nelsons Bay, Awabakal were strongly represented this year with two teams and are looking forward to the next Olympics that will held on the North Coast.

Care coordination

As we continue to work towards achieving our strategic objective of providing quality **Care Coordination** to all Awabakal clients – it was with great excitement that we were able to launch our new corporate directorate – Care Coordination. The Care Coordination portfolio roll-out has been planned as a three phase process, initially consuming our National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) services and working towards establishing sustainable relationships with state and national funding bodies to develop community specific primary and mental health programs. We are pleased to report that the roll-out is on schedule and has resulted in the following key priority outcomes:

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Awabakal's commitment to ensuring we provide **best in class NDIS services** to our community is reflected in the organisational strategic realignment during 2022-2023. Following extensive community consultation and a vision for long term sustainability, a pivot towards NDIS supports that align with our core business – Support Coordination and Therapies (Allied Health) has been implemented. Our primary focus throughout this process did not waiver – **access to sustainable, culturally safe NDIS supports** for our community of Participants and our staff.

- Establishment of working relationships with several local Aboriginal owned NDIS organisations to ensure a community led approach to offering a diverse range of NDIS supports.
- An increase in our Support Coordination workforce by doubling our staff in this team.
- Creation of an 'NDIS Coordination hub' at our Cardiff location to ensure a streamlined service provision and to support staff development.

- Doubling of Support Coordination hours spent working with the community, leading to a 100% increase in revenue from Support Coordination activities.
- Developing a relationship with the Local Area Coordinator (LAC) service, Uniting, who attend our clinic to support our people to gain access to the NDIS each fortnight.
- Employment of an Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officer (ADLO) to support our clients, staff and wider community to better understand and gain access to the NDIS.
- Recognition from the NDIS as a leading provider of culturally appropriate supports – leading to a story being published on their national platforms regarding one of our amazing participants and their journey with Awabakal.

Wiyala (Speak Together)

Wiyala is the meeting point and overarching name for our suite of Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) programs. These services are outlined below and involve our valued partners, including, Hunter New England Central Coast Primary Health Network (PHN), National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), nib foundation, and our local community, who are committed to help building resilience and access to targeted services for our people.

At Awabakal, our goal is to have a diverse range of programs and services available for the community to access and receive individualised, coordinated and holistic care.

Awabakal have developed Wiyala to bring together the key community supports of Suicide Prevention & Aftercare, Care Coordination and Peer Navigation across our regions.

The following services are included under our Wiyala portfolio:



Aftercare

Awabakal have partnered with NACCHO to develop a care coordination focused program to support those who have experienced a recent suicide attempt or suicidal crisis. The guiding principle of delivering a culturally appropriate service based on self-determination and community consultation will aim to reduce the prevalence of self-harm, suicide ideation and suicide in a way that meets the needs and priorities identified by our community.

Our Aftercare Care Coordinator's will support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals following a suicide attempt or suicidal crisis by building and maintaining strong referral pathways with health and social support stakeholders.

Suicide Prevention Plan

Awabakal will work towards establishing and coordinating a local, community-controlled suicide prevention network (CCSPN), which will be community-led and represent the needs of the community. This initiative will be a co-design between Awabakal and the community to ensure a region-specific suicide prevention plan is developed and readily accessible. The CCSPN will also bring together local services, to ensure connectedness between systems, services and supports, and decrease duplication, while ensuring they are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led.

Specifically, Awabakal have partnered with local community organisations and sporting clubs to help with the community consultation process and develop several elements of the Suicide Prevention Plan. These organisations will form a working group committee who will assist through a range of strategies including, advisory, promotions, community consultation and community programs.

Our Network Coordination Officer will establish the suicide prevention network, chair the working group and coordinate the co-design of the Suicide Prevention Plan.

As a collective, with our Wiyala programs we are aiming to:

- Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and suicide prevention outcomes.
- Build local evidence and understanding through working with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experts and those with lived experience.
- Support a culturally-appropriate mental health system workforce.
- Provide early intervention measures that contribute to improved social and emotional wellbeing outcomes.



Maitland

Meet Maitland's team, we currently have 3 x GP's: They work the following days:

- Lead GP: Dr Jacinta Willson: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.
- General Practitioner: Dr Michelle: Monday & Friday.
- General Practitioner: Dr Ching – Chun Angus Wang (Various days).

We have recently had Athlone Riches join the Maitland Clinic team as our Clinical Team Leader, she is also an experienced Registered Nurse that works with us Monday – Friday each week, she is also supporting Chloe Haywood our AHW that is currently in training to become a fully qualified AHP, Chole works within the Medical Centre Monday – Friday each week.

We have 2 x AHW's that work in the field with our Aged Care clients as support workers, they worked hard over the last 12 months to complete an AHW course and are now successfully qualified.

- Maitland clinic has relocated into a bigger building in May 2023, with hope that the Medical Service over the next 12 months can grow to provide more needed services to the Maitland community.
- Wiyiliin TA - now work onsite weekly to service Youth in psychology within the local community.



Dental

HNE Oral Health has a seasonal newsletter updating staff on what's going on around our many clinics, the winter edition featured the Awabakal Dental team

On Monday 3rd July, the Awabakal dental team celebrated NAIDOC Week at the Newcastle foreshore. Our aim was to connect with and educate our mob outside of a clinical setting. We provided goodie bags and pamphlets to adults and kids, had a yarn about oral health and the services we provide, and bonded together as a team. Despite the rain there was a great turnout and we love providing a quality service to our indigenous community. We were especially impressed by the speeches from our community elders and traditional dancers. Too deadly!

In September Cody, Deb and Sandy were presenters for the HNE Oral health webinar, having a yarn about working with an AMS.

The new refurbished Dental Clinic has been up and running for 2 years now, we have 3 dentists, 2 oral health therapists and a dental therapist that occupy the 3 dental chairs throughout the week.

This year we have also had the privilege of 5 rotations of 3rd year Bachelor Oral Health students from Sydney University doing their practical rotations with us. Every new group has had a good Yarn with Aunty Deb and Rod on their first day which they thoroughly enjoyed.

"Thank you for the amazing experiences and opportunity to work with your community, it has been such a rewarding experience. We have learnt so much and have had fun, your team is beautiful, hardworking and knowledgeable, thank you so much B & G"

2024 has the BOH Students back again which is a great partnership for the university and our local AMS.



Oral Health Webinar - 18 September 2023 4:00 - 5:00pm
Providing Oral Health Care - Near, Far, Wherever You Are
Dentistry in different settings: Justice Health, in a Rural Setting and at Aboriginal Health Centres

When: 18th September 2023
 Where: MS Teams Live Webinar
 Pre-register - An email with the link will be sent to you shortly.
 Get involved: To ask questions or comment, please use the chat function on MS Teams.

Dr Heather Cameron, Clinical Director, Oral Health Service, Western NSW Local Health District
 Dr Heather has extensive experience in both metropolitan, Sydney and rural and regional NSW, having worked as Head of General Dental Practice in Western Sydney Local Health District before moving to Western NSW.

Dr Keith Hoop, Clinical Director, Oral Health Service, Justice Health
 Dr Keith Hoop has worked full time with Justice Health NSW for 25 years, including 12 years as Clinical Director Oral Health. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons and graduated from Sydney University with honours first class. He has formal qualifications in Dental Therapy and Dental Technology.

Sandra Sandell, Clinical Coordinator, Awabakal Dental Clinic, Hunter New England Local Health District
 Sandra started with HNE as a trainee Dental Assistant in 2006, during those 15 years, and has travelled to a lot of clinics, both regional and metro. Sandra is now working as Clinic Coordinator for the Awabakal Dental Clinic.

Dianne Poole, Dental Therapist, Hunter New England Local Health District
 Dianne has been working in the oral health for over 30 years as a dental therapist, treating and educating children aged 0-18 in clinics and schools throughout Newcastle and Hunter areas.

Cody Faulkner, Regional Services Manager, Hamilton
 Cody Faulkner is a proud Country man born and raised in Awabakal country, he has worked across the community in various health roles and is passionate about creating change for his community. Since recently, he has taken on a part with Awabakal Medical Service as the Regional Manager for the Newcastle site.



Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) team

A joint initiative between Awabakal and the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network to provide integrated Care Coordination, Peer Navigation and culturally centred group activities for our people requiring support to better manage their mental health and wellbeing. Each client will have access to the SEWB program for up to 12 months following acceptance of their referral.

Our Mental Health Care Coordinators are able to support clients with severe and complex mental illnesses who would benefit from assistance with self-management and coordination of their supports/services.

Our SEWB Workers work in a peer navigation and social prescribing capacity to support clients with understanding and navigating the mental health service process and engaging with appropriate social supports.



Early Learning

Awabakal Preschool has almost completed its transition to Awabakal Preschool Ltd. We will now be a subsidiary of Awabakal Ltd, however we will remain under the Awabakal banner.

Our preschool and Playgroups could not do what we do without the partnerships that we have formed over the past year and beyond. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the below partnerships.

- Firstchance for providing early intervention, education and support to the preschools and playgroup.
- Cages Foundation who kindly provided a grant for preschools to engage with Kowa collective to explore the next steps of strategic planning, governance and structure for the new subsidiary.
- (PAL) Parents and Learning program which encourages our families to engage with their children to promote literacy skills from home.
- Winanga-y Dreaming - Uncle Roo Faulkner leading the Awabakal language program within our services which has been an ongoing success.
- Hearing Australia The HAPEE Program (Hearing Assessment Program - Early Ears) tackling hearing loss and the long-term effects of ear disease in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
- StEPS Vision – for screening our children before they go off to big school.
- Plattsburg Public School – for allowing us to run our playgroups in a beautiful space on the school grounds 3 days a week
- Homes Start – for supporting our playgroup families in their home to improve social connections and community engagement.
- Northcott – Jess Lennox for supporting our families in the process of their NDIS journey.

Welcome to the Early Learning team

Jarcara Priestly – Wickham site director, Vanessa Urama, Chloe Dominick, Malayah Hurst, Naomi Park, Tylah Soarke, Myra Meeks, Chloe Dominick, Keith Baker.

Farewell

To our beautiful educators Chante Quinlin and Ena Illume.

And to Bella Gordon who has been a dedicated and passionate educator and director of our Wickham preschool for the last 10 years. We wish you every success in the future.

Thank you

Our leadership team would also like to say thanks to all our staff across Early Learning for your ongoing hard work.



Awabakal Enterprises

Awabakal Enterprises has a new office. We are located at 97 Main Road, Speers Point. You are always welcome!

Awabakal Enterprises has now got Facebook & Instagram and we have some exciting things coming up. Scan the QR Codes to follow us and keep up to date.

NSW Health invited all Awabakal tenants to participate in the Housing for Health program. Housing for Health is a repairs and maintenance program with a health and safety focus. The program included checks and repairs to plumbing and electrical installations, including hot water systems, ovens, etc.

16 community members were employed to conduct the survey's throughout the houses that indicated what upgrades where needed.

Nearly all Awabakal & AHO houses where touched by this program and currently final works are being completed.

Local trades and companies were hired to conduct the works in our homes.



Facebook



Instagram



Stevie completed her Class 2 Real Estate License and is looking forward to now completing her Class 1 and taking over the licensee role.

Stepping up into a senior management roll and overseeing the day-to-day operational activities and mentoring Shardannae through her traineeship in property management providing guidance and support as needed.

Stevie has started learning the role as a project manager working along side Lynne Hamilton with the Biraban LALC refurbishment, Cardiff Medical clinic upgrades and the Belmont construction project.

Stevie is enjoying her new role and learning along the way.



Culture

Aunty Deb

This year we said goodbye to Aunty Deb Swan. Debbie was proactive for the structure and inhouse building of culture to staff within Awabakal.

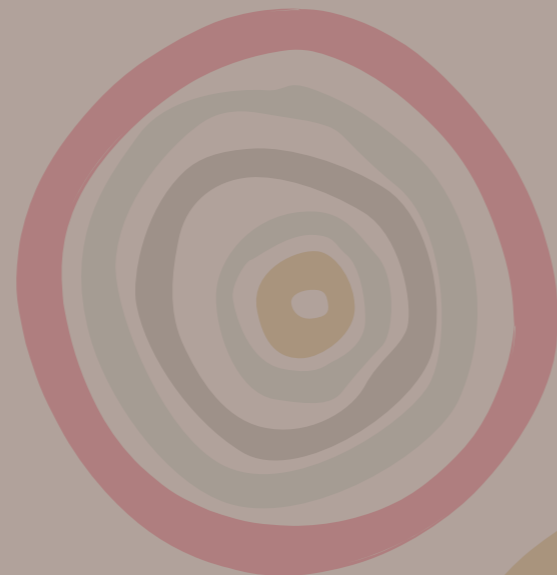
Aunt Deb could break down simple cultural discussions for our young people or discuss cultural issues at a high meaningful political educated level.

Aunt Deb's wisdom and knowledge around culture was quite amazing in how she could help, support and make people understand better, about our ways and our methods.

Debbie's connection, perceptive translation, and teaching around Djirree opened the eyes of young and old, black, and white.

Debbie will be sorely missed as her life experience conversations, which could easily take up half a day, stretched beyond the culture of clap sticks and spears and she would have you laughing and crying at the same time.

Thank you for all you've given, Aunt Deb.



Awabakal Communications Team

Another year down and what a year it was. Covid affected so many events and programs over that period, things did get a little crazy and pressurised at times with what seemed like flood gates bursting open from the buildup off covid.

Ngarrama, Baby Ceremony, NAIDOC, Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS), nib, Socials, Breast Screen, camps, Staff and Preschools Christmas functions and Elders hampers, are the major happenings throughout the year.

Ngarrama (Sit and listen)

Wollotuka Institute

Connecting with surrounding Indigenous organisations is always a goal of ours. Partnering with the Wollotuka Institute (University of Newcastle) to deliver 'Ngarrama' on the eve of Australia Day has been one of those joint ventures that has achieved outcomes above and beyond.

The second annual Ngarrama event held on January 25th 2023 King Edward Park, exceeded the 2022 crowd of around 3,000 people to an easy 5,000 plus.

Its purpose is to educate and teach non-aboriginal and Aboriginal community about our ways in a positive light. Celebrating our lives and culture through our community stories, voices, dancing, singing, knowledge, and wisdom. We look forward to 2024 25th January. Keep your ears and eyes out for this one.





nib Partnership

Another successful community sponsorship partnership year with nib and Awabakal. More individual and team sponsorships, more programs and event partnership. nib is becoming a major Allie in supporting outcomes for Awabakal and our community.

Cultural camps, sport, education, Naidoc and even our Baby ceremony. Big thanks to Benita Power and her team from nib, not only for our partnership but for being sincere and open.



Community Sponsorship Program

nib has invested \$30,000 dollars into our people for community sponsorship. With so many of our people achieving and representing more and more goals each year, the demand to keep up is hard. But with nib in partnership, we can help and support many more.



Youth Leadership and Cultural Camps

Two camps were run over the past financial year. One based more towards leadership and the other around culture.

Simone Jordan led and delivered a strong meaningful Educational Leadership camp with future young school student leaders based from around Newcastle schools. Our second camp was lead by the Winangay Dreaming, Kristy and Richard Faulkner. Both these camps empowered and built strong connections not only with the mentors but more importantly with each other, building long lasting future community relationships.



Awabakal Baby Welcoming Ceremony

This was the biggest baby ceremony event ever. With the effect of Covid postponing the ceremony for three years, 2019, 2020 and 2021. With so many babies, this created a lot more thinking outside the normality of one venue and one day. This turned into three different days and three different locations to meet the need and make it easier and more accessible for parents, bubs and family. A huge thank you goes out to young Jannali McGrady who worked above and beyond.





Awabakal Newcastle NAIDOC 2022

We felt more pressure with this NAIDOC as another event effected and postponed over a two year period by Covid. With a big event well organised and planned, the heavens opened, and we had to delay to a week later. With disruption to the first Monday of NAIDOC that is usually planned by so many to have off to attend the Awabakal Newcastle NAIDOC, the numbers were smaller but the energy was still fantastic. With so much more cultural performances and hands on activities, finished off with star-studded Mitch Tambo, closed the event on a high. Big thank you to the committee, Sally Hill (Canvas Events), for putting on another successful day.



Breast Screen NSW

Another great outcome with Breast Screen NSW and Awabakal. Even with Breast Screen NSW and Awabakal making this experience as welcoming and calming as possible, fear can deter our mob from attending. So a big shout out goes to our Aboriginal community women who showed up in numbers over the period of that week.



Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS)

The Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program has been active across Australia for more than 10 years. It aims to reduce smoking rates among First Nations Australians. As a leading Aboriginal Medical Service, Awabakal play a critical role in the smoking cessation narrative in our region, and also provide direct clinical support in this space.

As part of our Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program, we developed a Public Health message campaign about smoking cessation, with the objective to reach as many people as possible in our service regions.

Outdoor billboards and bus stop advertising were utilised to reach our people. The campaign highlights the motivating reasons a number of different individuals have for quitting smoking. Each execution has a unique typographic treatment to enhance the sense of an individual story.

Financials

For the year ended 30 June 2023



Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Other Comprehensive Income

		2023	2022
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	2	19,324,304	17,807,683
Other income from ordinary activities	2	1,244,348	1,370,489
Administration expenses		(3,437,533)	(3,309,916)
Bad debts		-	(13,558)
Depreciation and amortisation		(437,709)	(509,988)
Direct grant expenditure		(4,012,235)	(2,851,583)
Employee benefits expense		(13,829,409)	(11,938,312)
Occupancy expense		(1,799,452)	(1,833,890)
Loss on sale of assets		(44,061)	-
Finance costs		(147,641)	(42,824)
Operating surplus / (deficit)		(3,139,388)	(1,321,899)
Revaluation of investment properties	8	(360,000)	4,875,000
Unrealised gain or (loss) on financial asset investments		(68,709)	5,323
Surplus / (deficit) before income tax		(3,568,097)	3,558,424
Income tax expense	1(g)	-	-
Surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities after related income tax		(3,568,097)	3,558,424
Surplus / (deficit) after income tax		(3,568,097)	3,558,424
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income		(3,568,097)	3,558,424

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	\$	\$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,655,543	3,234,144
Trade and other receivables	5	796,425	891,089
Prepayments		134,849	547,684
Other financial assets		2,017,005	2,085,715
Assets held for sale	6	-	2,538,669
Total current assets		4,603,822	9,297,301
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7	14,040,235	11,590,357
Investment properties	8	22,700,000	23,060,000
Intangible assets	9	37,389	48,188
Right of use assets	10	845,874	60,751
Total non-current assets		37,623,498	34,759,296
Total assets		42,227,320	44,056,597
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	1,529,704	1,577,319
Borrowings	12	1,750,000	2,975,178
Short-term provisions	14	602,135	630,039
Other liabilities	15	1,888,748	2,594,164
Lease liabilities		98,903	58,461
Total current liabilities		5,869,490	7,835,161
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	12	825,000	-
Long-term provisions	14	186,494	167,112
Capital grant liability	15	341,667	391,667
Lease liabilities		819,018	3,895
Total non-current liabilities		2,172,179	562,674
Total liabilities		8,041,669	8,397,835
Net assets		34,185,651	35,658,762
Funds			
Accumulated surplus		29,195,209	32,763,306
Reserves		4,990,442	2,895,456
Total funds		34,185,651	35,658,762

Directors' Declaration


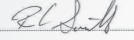
Awabakal Limited
ABN 93 865 911 384

Directors' Declaration

The Directors of the Group declare that:

- The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 10 to 35, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
 - comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; and
 - give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Group.
- In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Group will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made pursuant to subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director  Director 

Dated 26 October 2023

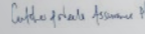
Auditor's sign off


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Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Awabakal Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023 there have been no contraventions of:

- the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.


Cutcher & Neale Assurance Pty Limited
(An authorised audit company)


M.J. O'Connor CA
Director

NEWCASTLE

19 October 2023

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Awabakal Limited
ABN 93 865 911 384

Independent Audit Report to the members of Awabakal Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Awabakal Limited (the Company) and its controlled entities (the Group), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' Declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Group is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards - AASB 1060: General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, which has been given to the Directors of the Group, would be in the same terms if given to the Directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Note 1(c) to the financial statements, the Group has incurred operating deficits in 2022 and 2023 and has a net working capital deficiency. Note 1(c) discusses the Board and Management's assessment of the Group as a going concern.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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Independent Audit Report to the members of Awabakal Limited

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report was limited to the Directors' Report.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of the Group are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - AASB 1060: General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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Independent Audit Report to the members of Awabakal Limited

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.


Cutcher & Neale Assurance Pty Limited
(An authorised audit company)


M.J. O'Connor
Director

NEWCASTLE

27 October 2023

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