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**Government
of South Australia**

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICE 2023-24 Annual Report

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICE

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2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT for the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

To:

Hon Dan Cregan MP

Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *(insert relevant acts and regulations)* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the SOUTH AUSTRALIAN METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICE
by:

Mr Jeff Swann

Chief Officer and Chief Executive

Date: 8 October 2024

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Swann', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

From the Chief Executive



It is my pleasure to present the 2023-24 Annual Report for the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS). Since stepping into this role in March 2024, I have been deeply inspired by the commitment and resilience of our personnel who dedicate themselves daily to safeguarding our community.

The MFS stands as the primary provider of urban firefighting services in South Australia, a responsibility we uphold with pride. Our mission encompasses not only firefighting but also prevention, education, preparedness, response, and recovery.

These core functions are essential as we navigate an increasingly complex landscape of emergencies.

This past year has seen significant advancements, particularly with the formal launch of our new five-year Strategic Plan in July 2023. Developed collaboratively with input from our workforce, community stakeholders, and partners, this plan positions us to meet the challenges ahead while enhancing our service delivery. The foundation from this plan will be instrumental as we strive to innovate and evolve in our efforts to protect life, property, environment and the economy.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the invaluable support we receive from our partner agencies, including the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS), the South Australian State Emergency Service (SES), the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM), South Australian Police (SAPOL) and South Australian Ambulance Service (SAAS). Their collaboration enriches our capacity to serve the community effectively. Additionally, I extend my gratitude to our Minister, the South Australian Government, and the public for their unwavering trust and support.

I want to express my appreciation to former Chief Officer Michael Morgan for his 38 years of service. His leadership has left a lasting impact, guiding us toward a future of operational excellence.

As we reflect on the challenges and achievements of the past year, I want to emphasise the importance of all our members of the MFS. Their dedication and professionalism are the backbone of the MFS, and I am immensely proud to work alongside such a talented team.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Swann', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Swann

Chief Officer and Chief Executive

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

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Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

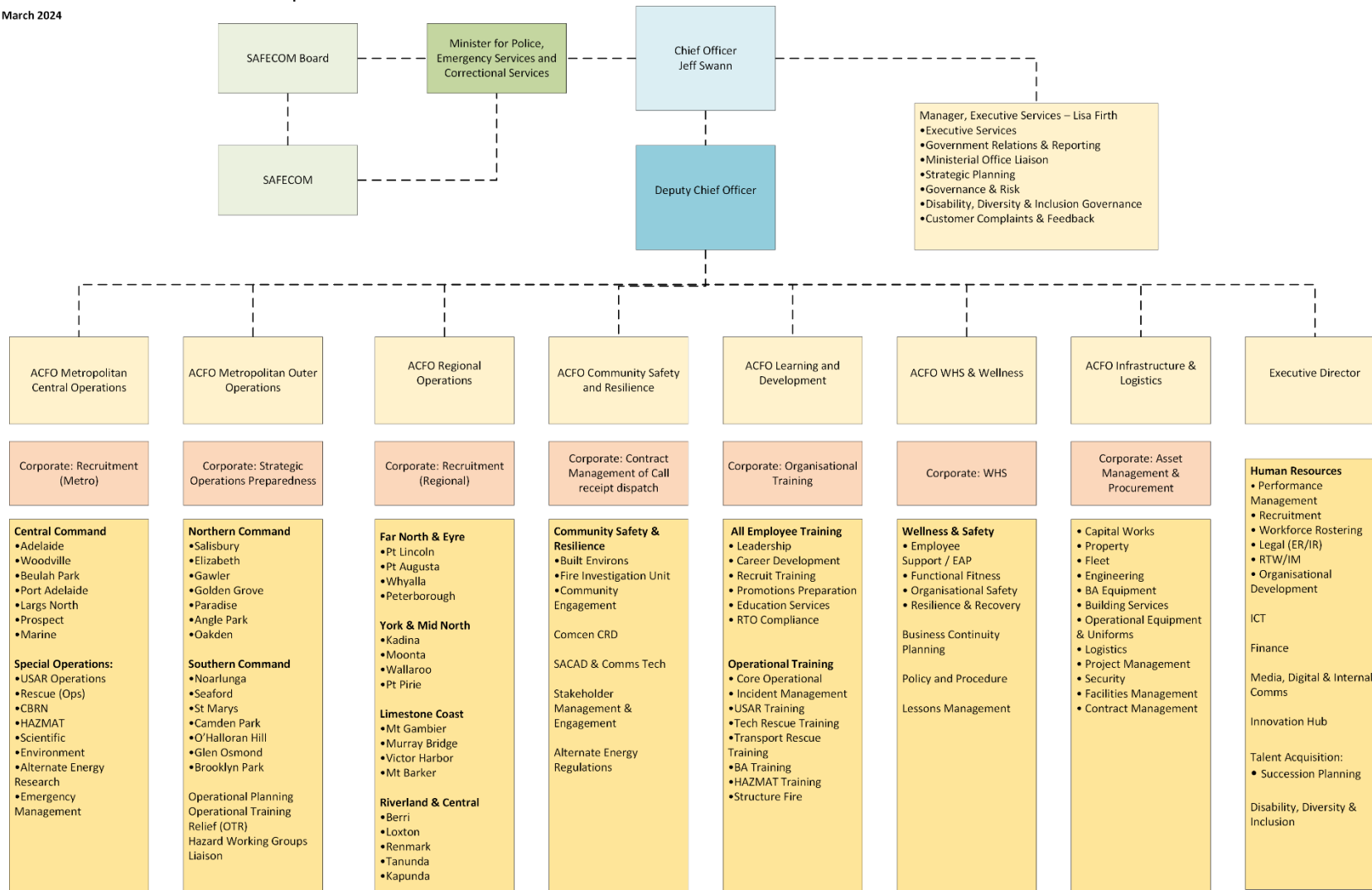
<p>Our Purpose</p>	<p>Trust - Trusted to safeguard the irreplaceable.</p> <p>Empower our Community - By providing education, training, and resources, we will prepare individuals and the community to be safer and more prepared to face anything.</p> <p>Empower our People - Fostering a sense of ownership, motivation and job satisfaction among our staff, leading to enhanced performance, innovation, and a higher level of fulfilment.</p> <p>Enrich our People - Fostering a supportive and inclusive environment, enabling personal and professional growth, and promoting work-life balance, we aim to enhance the overall wellbeing and satisfaction of our staff.</p> <p>Enrich our Community - Our proactive approach enables us to implement preventive measures, develop robust contingency plans, and offer targeted resources to support and enhance the resilience and wellbeing of our community.</p>
<p>Our Vision</p>	<p>Building a world-class fire and rescue service. We strive to be:</p> <p>Responsive - Arriving at incidents as quickly as possible, to keep our community safe and reduce public disruption.</p> <p>Collaborative - Our operating model provides a clear and collaborative organisational structure. We contribute to a unified emergency services sector. We are connected to our community, delivering impact through education partnerships and prevention awareness programs.</p> <p>Modern - Our infrastructure footprint meets the evolving needs of the community. We are seen as an employer of choice through inclusive and industry leading recruitment strategies.</p> <p>Agile - We are a nimble workforce which is deeply connected to all segments of our diverse community.</p> <p>Innovative - We utilise and consider emerging technology to enhance our capabilities. We deliver an industry best practice service and are seen as a sector innovator.</p> <p>Accountable - We have defined success measures which demonstrate to our community, stakeholders and corporate partners how we are delivering on public value and impact.</p>
<p>Our Values</p>	<p>Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence, Community</p>

<p>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</p>	<p>Our Objectives are:</p> <p>Community – Help make the South Australian community safer and more prosperous.</p> <p>Prevention – Minimise the frequency and effects of fires and other emergencies.</p> <p>Response – Reduce risk to life, property, environment and economy through operational excellence.</p> <p>Preparedness – Develop a sustainable community-focused organisation.</p> <p>Public value – Exceed expected standards of corporate governance and provide public value.</p> <p>To achieve our objectives, we have adopted the following strategic priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Focus2. Frontline Services – Prevention and response3. Frontline Support Services – preparedness4. Governance and Public Value – Organisational performance and value, people and culture
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Our organisational structure

Structure for the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

March 2024



Changes to the agency

During 2023-24 there were the following changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

- The position of Assistant Chief Fire Officer Corporate Services has been modified and duties reassigned.
- The position of Executive Director to lead corporate services matters within the agency.
- Portfolios have been reorganised among ACFO positions and Executive Director aligned to experiences and skills.



Our Minister (s)

The Hon Dan Cregan MP is the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services.

Our Executive team



Mr Jeff Swann

Chief Officer and Chief Executive

- Responsible for the strategic and executive management of business strategy across the MFS.
- Responsible for the ultimate oversight of the command and deployment of operational firefighting resources across the State.
- Drives the vision, discussion, development and delivery of integrated and complex strategy for the MFS.
- Exercises extensive legislative powers and responsibilities conferred by legislation and will determine the appropriate courses of action for the management of incidents consistent with the Chief Officer's role.
- Statutory member of the SAFECOM Board and is responsible for achieving outcomes as described within and in compliance with the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Act (2005).
- Membership of the Emergency Service Sector (ESS) Executive responsible to the SAFECOM Board for the collaborative management of the ESS.
- Statutory member of the State Emergency Management Committee.
- Accountable for operational outcomes as the State Controller (Fire Functional Service).

- Responsible for ensuring compliance with the *Emergency Management Act (2004)* and the State Emergency Management Plan, in particular the role of State Controller (Fire).
- Leads and influences the identification and selection of new resources and infrastructure to accommodate demographic changes with the State.

Legislation administered by the agency

- Part 3 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

- South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM)
- South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS)
- South Australian State Emergency Service (SES)

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

- The MFS is responsible for protecting the South Australian community from the effects of fires, road crash, hazardous materials, rescues and other incidents and manages lasting impacts of emergencies daily. The MFS serves the South Australian community across 37 fire stations; 20 located throughout metropolitan Adelaide and 17 in regional centres.
- MFS metropolitan operations stands as a beacon of readiness and resilience, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Staffed by dedicated professionals across four meticulously coordinated shifts, our team is always prepared to respond to emergencies, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.
- MFS regional fire stations are organised into four key service areas: Yorke and Mid North, Far North and Eyre, Riverland and Central, and Limestone Coast. These stations are crucial for providing a reliable 24 hour emergency response to their communities. Strategically positioned for optimal coverage, each station is staffed by dedicated professionals who are always ready to serve their communities.
- During 2023-24, the MFS responded to a total of 23,293 incidents across South Australia. MFS Metropolitan operations responded to approximately 20,120 incidents, while MFS Regional Operations responded to 3,173 incidents.
- The MFS also supported high-profile public events, including the AFL Gather Round, Adelaide 500, Liv Golf and the New Year's Eve Celebrations, ensuring safety for large gatherings.
- On 10 March 2024, the MFS responded to a significant fire at a recycling and processing yard in Whyalla. An extensive emergency response included four aerial bombers and multiple ground units over a protracted period of time. Over 50 firefighters from both the MFS and CFS battled the fire that, threatening nearby infrastructure, including a 3,000-litre diesel tank. Despite challenging conditions, including extreme heat and heavy smoke that effected local air quality, responding firefighters saved surrounding buildings. One processing machine was lost, but the proactive measures taken ensured no injuries were reported. Emergency services remained on scene for a total of 21 days. This incident highlights the preparedness, resilience, and dedication of our firefighting teams, who continue to work tirelessly to safeguard the community while managing challenging environmental factors.

Agency specific objectives and performance

To achieve our objectives, we have adopted the following strategic priorities:

1. Community Focus

- Deliver first class emergency services that minimise social, economic and environmental loss.
- Actively engage with our community and authorising entities to identify risks and priorities.
- Ensure we provide the right services in the right places.
- Ensure the services we provide are effective, efficient and represent public value.
- Allocate our budget based on community risks and priorities and operate within it.

2. Frontline Services

PREVENTION

- Promote the adoption of cost-effective fire safety solutions that protect lives and property.
- Continue to identify innovative ways to deliver our successful Road Awareness and Juvenile Firelighter Intervention programs.
- Maintain our high rates of fire identification and elimination of products identified as the potential cause of fire from the marketplace.
- Continue prevention programs including fire cause investigation, safety inspections of public buildings, regulation, community support and education to help minimise the frequency and effects of fires and other emergencies.

RESPONSE

- Maintain 100% response rate to all emergencies.
- The MFS will increase the number of staff accredited to manage or serve in functional management roles at major national and state-level emergencies.
- Maintain our current standards of call receipt and dispatch for the SA emergency services sector.
- Maintain our current levels of direct support to our workforce and community during and after emergencies. This includes ensuring the sustainability of our successful employee wellness and mental health programs.

3. Frontline Support Services

PREPAREDNESS

- The recruitment training program will support, mentor and assist the development of personnel through the principles of Adult Learning and Assessment.

- Implement key findings from the review of the MFS Staff Development Framework.
- Develop and conduct promotion processes that employ holistic assessment strategies that assess the knowledge, skills, experience and responsive learning solutions.
- Continue to develop comprehensive organisational learning programs that ensure our personnel maintain high skill levels and behaviours across all key roles and responsibilities.
- Undertake additional appliance purchases to reduce pressure on fleet reserves and the age of the fleet.
- Ensure effective and efficient procurement, management and use of fit for purpose infrastructure, appliances and equipment.

4. Governance and Public Value

ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND VALUE

- Improve the integration and effectiveness of services provided by the emergency services sector to deliver public value.
- Develop a new strategic plan to establish direction and priorities for the next five financial years.
- Continue progress on a policy framework review project.
- Ensure the effective management of MFS functional support services.
- Meet expected standards of governance, risk management, compliance and value expected by our community and stakeholders.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

- Improve the physical, mental and emotional wellness of MFS personnel.
- Develop a professional culture that improves effectiveness, efficiency and delivers public value.
- Develop a sustainable, highly skilled workforce that is reflective of the community we serve.
- Employ effective Human Resources management systems consistent with the broader SA Public Sector.

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
<p>Frontline Services – Community</p>	<p>Foster behaviours that increase community preparedness. This includes a range of activities such as educational visits, consumer warnings, home fire safety presentations, teachers’ resources and information distribution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 129 home fire safety presentations, reaching a projected total of 23,464 participants. - 97% of participants in identified they would implement measures to reduce fire risks in their home. - 601 community and schools’ educational tours, visits and community events conducted by operations, reaching a projected total of 160,285 participants. - 95% of group organisers believe that participants will be more responsible regarding fire safety.
<p>Frontline Services – Prevention</p>	<p>Identify risks associated with fire and other emergencies.</p>	<p>The MFS investigated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 146 fires in MFS metropolitan area. - 13 fires in MFS regional area. - 60 fires in CFS area. <p>Fire cause was established in 80% of all fires examined.</p>
	<p>Foster behaviours that increase community preparedness. MFS provides the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road Awareness Program (RAP) - Juvenile Fire Lighters Intervention Program (JFLIP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 231 RAP presentations conducted, reaching a projected total of 17,038 participants. - 100% of participants indicated they would adopt safer behaviours after participating the RAP. - 20 participants were referred to the J-FLIP in metropolitan area. - 17 participants were referred to the J-FLIP from regional South Australia. - 0% of participants in the J-FLIP reoffended.

<p>Frontline Services – Prevention</p>	<p>Ensure South Australian environs are safe places to live and work.</p> <p>MFS Built Environs programs help to ensure the safety of the South Australian public buildings. This includes ensuring new developments have required fire safety systems and do not employ high risk products or construction methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 162 inspections and fire safety surveys conducted in education and health facilities. - 732 building development proposals assessed. - 88% of building development assessments were completed within 28 days. - 312 fire alarm connections completed. - 195 booster and hydrant commissioning tests conducted. - 11 hot smoke tests carried out. - 142 Building Fire Safety Committee meetings attended. - 324 inspections conducted in conjunction with Building Fire Safety Committees. - 1,741 deficiencies identified at all inspections and testing carried out by MFS. - 138 premises anomalies reported by operations and invested/assessed. <p>MFS Built Environment also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consulted with developers and building certifiers on several critical infrastructure projects including the Heysen Tunnels, Torrens 2 Darlington Tunnels, Women’s & Children’s Hospital, Hydrogen Jobs Plan Whyalla and the SA Shipbuilding Infrastructure project. - 97 emergency plans reviewed and assessed.
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	<p>Ensure comprehensive environmental assessments of all MFS sites using PFAS-containing firefighting foams are conducted by qualified service providers, in collaboration with the EPA, following national and state guidelines, with timely reporting of results and community awareness initiatives implemented to inform the public about PFAS impacts.</p>	<p>Investigations into PFAS environmental factors included testing and remediation at various stations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 stations complete - 13 stations in progress - 37 stations risk profiled
<p>Frontline Services – Response & Recovery</p>	<p>Ensure the development and delivery of effective emergency management systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 operational response plans developed. - 250 event notifications generated and disseminated. <p>The MFS provided comprehensive support to several high profile public events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AFL Gather Round - Australian HPV Super Series - 24hr Pedal Prix Murray Bridge - City to Bay Fun Run - LIV Golf Tournament - National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant - New Year's Eve Celebrations - Holdfast Bay - Royal Adelaide Show - Tour Down Under - VAILO Adelaide 500 - WOMADelaide

<p>Frontline Services – Response & Recovery</p>	<p>Ensure the MFS responds to all fires and other emergencies with timely and appropriate response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The total number of incidents generating a response from Metropolitan Operations was 20,120. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,757 fire alarms • 390 HAZMAT/dangerous goods • 1,566 other fires • 2,797 other responses • 5,151 rescues • 1,386 SAAS assist • 732 severe weather incidents • 925 structure fires • 416 vehicle fires - The total number of incidents generating a response from Regional Operations was 3,173. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 937 fire alarms • 73 HAZMAT/dangerous goods • 447 other fires • 531 other responses • 433 rescues • 387 SAAS assist • 150 severe weather incidents • 144 structure fires • 71 vehicle fires
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<p>Frontline Services – Response & Recovery</p>	<p>Ensure effective operational call receipt and dispatch.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call Receipt Dispatch is vital to public safety, expertly managing emergency calls to Triple Zero (000) for the MFS metropolitan and regional, CFS and SES. Our specially trained staff assess each situation rapidly and accurately, prioritising incidents based on urgency. They coordinate responses by dispatching fire crews and resources, ensuring timely support for those in need. - 30,175 Triple Zero (000) calls received. - 108,624 non-emergency calls. - The average answer time to answer Triple Zero (000) emergency calls was 5.6 seconds. - In 89.17% of Triple Zero (000) calls were answered on first attempt. <p>Distribution of total dispatches for each agency type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50.8% MFS Metropolitan - 8% MFS Regional - 24.3% CFS - 16.8% SES
	<p>Ensure effective HAZMAT response capabilities to safely manage hazardous materials incidents and protect public health and safety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80 HAZMAT training sessions conducted. - 921 personnel trained. - 9 exercises conducted. - 107 skills and maintenance sessions performed - 28 HAZMAT incident notifications.

<p>Frontline Support Services – Learning & Development</p>	<p>A highly skilled workforce that can safely undertake roles required of MFS personnel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 drills squads formed. - 58 new firefighting personnel were successfully recruited. - 48 weeks in total of training provided.
	<p>Establish and maintain effective career development systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,422 units of mandatory study completed by MFS personnel. - 439 personnel enrolled in nationally recognised training through the Staff Development Framework. - 733 personnel completed the First Aid Program. - 678 personnel completed Breathing Apparatus (BA) Training. - 18 workshops conducted for Station Officer Preparation Program (SOPP). - 51 participants attended workshops. - 81 days of face-to-face workshops over a five-month period. - 21 days of final practical simulation assessments conducted. - 101 participants took part in assessments. - 320 units of competency completed towards Certificate IV Public Safety (Firefighting Supervision).

	<p>Ensure the provision of efficient whole of life vehicle and equipment solutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current fleet in 2023-24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 108 general purpose pumps, rescues and hazmat appliances. • 11 aerial appliances. • 9 specialist appliances. • 12 support vehicles. • 50 light and commercial. - New fleet received in 2023-24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 general purpose pumps, rescues and hazmat appliances. • 1 aerial appliance. • 3 special appliances. • 0 support vehicles. • 19 light and commercial.
<p>Frontline Support Services – Governance & Public Value</p>	<p>Ensure all required organisational plans are developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submitted the following key plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFS Business Plan • MFS Workforce Plan • MFS Strategic Plan 2024-2028 • Recruitment Campaign Market Research

Corporate performance summary

- The MFS oversees statewide call receipt dispatch for the MFS, CFS, and SES. In the past financial year, approximately 30,175 emergency calls were handled, with an average response time of 5.6 seconds. Furthermore, 89.17% of Triple Zero (000) calls were answered on the first attempt.
- Metropolitan Operations responded to approximately 20,120 incidents during 2023-24, including 6,757 fire alarms, 390 HAZMAT/dangerous goods, 1,566 other fires, 2,797 other responses, 5,151 rescues, 1,386 SAAS assists, 732 severe weather incidents, 925 structure fires and 416 vehicle fires.
- Regional Operations attended around 3,173 incidents, comprising of 937 fire alarms, 73 HAZMAT/dangerous goods, 447 other fires, 531 other responses, 433 rescues, 387 SAAS assists, 150 severe weather incidents, 144 structure fires and 71 vehicle fires.

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- The MFS established 3 drill squads and successfully recruited 58 new firefighting personnel, providing a total of 48 weeks of training.
- The MFS Road Awareness Program (RAP) delivered 231 presentations, engaging a projected total of 17,038 participants. Feedback indicates a 100% intention to adopt safer behaviours among attendees.
- In 2023-24, the MFS Operations conducted 601 educational tours, visits and community events, engaging approximately 160,285 participants.
- Additionally, Community Engagement conducted 129 home fire safety presentations reached 23,464 individuals, contributing to a positive trend in reduced fires.
- The MFS investigated 219 fires across its areas of operation, including 146 in the metropolitan area, 13 in the regional area, and 60 in the CFS area. Fire cause was established in 80% of all fires examined.
- The demand for the MFS Built Environment team has progressively increased each year, with over 732 building development proposals assessed this year
- Throughout the year, the MFS Built Environment team actively participated in the combustible cladding audit process, supporting the partial removal of aluminium composite panels when operationally feasible. The MFS continues to collaborate with government and private building owners to enhance safety and mitigate risks associated with combustible materials.
- In 2023-24, the MFS received a new fleet consisting of 9 general purpose pumps, rescues, and hazmat appliances, 1 aerial appliance, 3 special appliances, and 19 light and commercial vehicles.
- The MFS has created a comprehensive training package on Li-ion batteries, covering construction, risks, and response protocols for portable devices. This mandatory course ensures all operational staff are updated on safety protocols.
- The MFS collaborated with Deakin University and AFAC to develop an online training program on hydrogen safety, supported by the South Australian government. It covers hydrogen properties, risks, and response strategies across seven sections.
- The MFS is involved in the Electric Vehicle Safety Training project, funded by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). Representatives will assess existing research and training to identify gaps and develop necessary training programs.
- The MFS conducted reviews of HR processes to ensure they are modern and adaptive, responding effectively to the needs of the organisation.
- The MFS completed a review of the promotions process as part of the Enterprise Agreement (EA).

- The MFS conducted a review of the Fire Investigation Section (FIS), as part of the EA.
- The MFS continue to meet obligations with regards to:
 - Contributing to the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment - State of the Sector Report.
 - Ensuring that all MFS personnel in prescribed positions have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC).

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

The South Australian Emergency Services Sector Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 supports the Inclusive SA: State Disability Inclusion Plan 2019-2023.

This plan outlines the actions that the MFS, as a member of the South Australian Emergency Services Sector (ESS), will take to improve access and inclusion for people living with a disability including our staff and the people that access our information and resources.

White Ribbon

The MFS continues to monitor and report on the operation and implementation of the plan annually to the Chief Executive of the Department of Human Services, and via liaison with our emergency service sector partners.

- The MFS remains an accredited White Ribbon organisation and continues to provide a safer workplace through this ongoing program.
- Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) Champions of Change Coalition.
- Continuing to implement the strategies developed by AFAC to enhance cultural change management processes.

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Recruitment campaign	Reviewed the recruitment process for 2024-2025 campaigns.
MFS Disability, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan 2024 - 2026	Provided training in diversity and inclusion for all personnel, incorporating ongoing training into Staff Development Framework programs.
Organisational structure	Reviewed the organisational structure for the MFS to ensure it appropriately accommodates current and future requirements.

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
Strategic Workforce Plan	Developed a new Strategic Workforce Plan that establishes key human resource priorities for the next three financial years, aligned to the new MFS Strategic Plan.
Review and development of operational staff	Focused on assessing the skills and knowledge of operational staff to enhance their effectiveness. Through regular evaluations and mandatory performance management discussions, personnel engage in informal yet effective post-incident reviews, as well as ongoing skills acquisition and reacquisition training. Lessons learned from previous operations emphasise the importance of adaptability and continuous education in addressing new challenges, ensuring that staff are well-equipped for the evolving demands in the field.

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
Employee Support Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An increasing number of personnel are seeking assistance in the short term as the MFS places priority on mental health awareness. - Continued involvement with SAFECOM to develop a sector Suicide Prevention Plan and Psychosocial Prevention Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 432 EAP consults (Cognition, Auspsych, Converge, Human Psychology - includes staff and family referrals, new and ongoing). • 8,134 ESC contacts (Phone calls, emails, face to face and station visits). • 300 SP129's submitted (capture individual exposure).

<p>MFS Functional Fitness</p>	<p>Health Education – Firefighter Health, delivered to 80% of metropolitan stations/shifts, receiving very positive feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 183 functional fitness station visits. - 879 personal training session participants - 22 rehabilitation consults - 123 health screens completed - 165 health education sessions conducted <p>Voluntary health screening continued to be offered to the operational workforce. The health check consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood Pressure • Resting Heart Rate • Total Cholesterol • Triglycerides • Body Composition (Body Fat % or Waist to Hip Ratio) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The aim of the health check is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify measures that are outside of the healthy range • trigger either a formal health check with a general practitioner or • lifestyle behavioural change
<p>Risk Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk Management – The MFS Work Health Safety and Injury Management (WHS&IM) system is aligned to AS/NZS 4801 (Occupational health and safety management systems – specification with guidelines for use). The system is underpinned by the philosophies and methods set out in AS/NZS/ISO 31 000, (Risk Management – Principles and guidelines) to ensure the MFS achieves its safety and injury management objectives. - The performance of the WHS&IM system is evaluated through internal and external audits, reviews and investigations of incidents, . This includes analysis of hazard, incident, near miss (GovSAfety) reports, and workers compensation (SIMS) data and additional surveys to ensure effectiveness and facilitate ongoing improvement.

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	161	163	-1.22%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	63	32.50	+50%

*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment meeting the relevant threshold under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i>)	6	0	+100%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i>)	1	1	0%

Return to work costs**	Current year 2023-24	Past year 2022-23	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	8,632,39.36	8,883,641.99	-2.83%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	4,426,732.76	3,798,319.82	16.54%

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at [Annual Report Data - WHS and Return to Work - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/workplace-injury-claims)

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
EXEC0B	1
EXEC0D	1

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Executive Employment - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/annual-report-data-executive-employment)

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2023-2024 are attached to this report.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2023-24 Budget \$000s	2023-24 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2022-23 Actual \$000s
Total Income	188,561	212,338	23,777	205,721
Total Expenses	175,904	222,411	46,507	214,191
Net Result	12,657	(10,073)	(22,730)	(8,470)
Total Comprehensive Result	12,657	22,515	9,858	(8,470)

Statement of Financial Position	2023-24 Budget \$000s	2023-24 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2022-23 Actual \$000s
Current assets	18,270	4,489	(13,781)	5,186
Non-current assets	209,803	233,980	24,177	195,892
Total assets	228,073	238,469	10,396	201,078
Current liabilities	36,162	42,894	6,732	34,619
Non-current liabilities	65,673	84,930	19,257	78,329
Total liabilities	101,835	127,824	25,989	112,948
Net assets	126,238	110,645	(15,593)	88,130
Equity	126,238	110,645	(15,593)	88,130

Consultant Disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$7,550

Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
GHD PTY LTD	PFAS contamination testing	\$1,370,051.71
MUD ENVIRONMENTAL	PFAS site contamination testing	\$26,122.50
SYMMETRI	MFS Strategic Plan	\$218,872.00
	Total	\$1,615,046.21

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Consultants - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au)

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$66,642.00

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
BABCOCK PTY LTD	Vehicle maintenance management fee	\$797,895.64
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY	Risk Management system development	\$41,250.00
DIVERSIFY CONSULTING	Consultancy - Diversity and Inclusion Program	\$110,790.67
EMPLOYERS MUTUAL MANAGEMENT PL	Provision of Claims Management Services	\$35,400.00

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Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
HENDERSON HORROCKS RISK	Industrial Relations	\$14,560.05
NATION CREATIVE PTY LTD	ESS HQ Design Revisions	\$14,821.00
SAFESELECT	Psychological Testing	\$22,575.00
SULLIVAN CONSULTING	Chief Officer position recruitment	\$42,144.63
TCB ELECTRICAL SERVICES (SA)	Emergency solar panel callout fees	\$29,708.00
VENTIA AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Trade Based services and project services	\$16,240.01
INTUITO PTY LTD	Market Research Study	\$28,750.00
BABCOCK PTY LTD	Vehicle maintenance management fee	\$797,895.64
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY	Risk Management system development	\$41,250.00
DIVERSIFY CONSULTING	Consultancy - Diversity and Inclusion Program	\$110,790.67
	Total	\$1,154,135.00

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Contractors - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au)

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

Risk management

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Employee Conduct	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

SAFECOM maintains a governance structure and internal controls that are designed to prevent and minimise the impact of fraud including:

- Fraud, corruption, misconduct and maladministration policy, procedure and control plan in place.
- Financial and human resource policies and procedures.
- An Audit and Risk Committee that reports to the SAFECOM Board.
- Regular financial monitoring and reporting.

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Fraud - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au)

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

- Nil

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Fraud - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au)

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	4
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	1
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	2
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	1
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	1

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2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT for the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2023-24
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out-dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	2
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	3
		Total	14

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	14,821
Number of negative feedback comments	2
Total number of feedback comments	14,823
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100%

Data includes feedback gathered by the MFS Community Safety & Resilience Department which consisted of feedback from: General positive feedback (6), General negative feedback (2), Community engagement presentations (216), CASE Program (37), Road Awareness Program (14,027) and Direct email/telephone communications (535).

Data for previous years is available at: [Annual Report Data - Complaints - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au)

Compliance Statement

The South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
The South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency’s related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2023-24

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

**South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Certification of the Financial Statements**
For the year ended 30 June 2024

We certify that the:

- financial statements of the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service:
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service;
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
 - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service at the end of the financial year and the result of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.


Jeff Swann
Chief Officer
South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
13th September 2024


Avril Tajnikar
Business Manager
South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
13 September 2024

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Income			
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund	2.1	178 312	168 126
Appropriation	2.2	24 513	16 200
Fees and charges	2.3	6 512	5 876
Grants and contributions	2.4	1 526	1 449
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	2.5	176	12 067
Interest revenues		134	85
Net gain from disposal of non-current assets	2.6	15	-
Other income	2.7	1 150	1 918
Total income		212 338	205 721
Expenses			
Employee related expenses	3.3	187 122	182 635
Supplies and services	4.1	25 650	22 960
Depreciation and amortisation	5.1, 5.4	8 161	7 984
Grants and subsidies		97	73
Borrowing costs		40	23
Net loss from disposal of non-current assets	2.6	-	516
Other expenses		1 341	-
Total expenses		222 411	214 191
Net result		(10 073)	(8 470)
Other comprehensive income			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to net result</i>			
Changes to asset revaluation surplus		32 588	-
Total other comprehensive income		32 588	-
Total comprehensive result		22 515	(8 470)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2024**

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	2 430	3 069
Receivables	6.2	2 059	2 117
Total current assets		4 489	5 186
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5.1	216 332	184 343
Capital works in progress	5.5	17 567	11 384
Intangible assets	5.4	81	165
Total non-current assets		233 980	195 892
Total assets		238 469	201 078
Current liabilities			
Payables	7.1	3 755	3 418
Employee related liabilities	3.4	25 228	23 208
Provisions	7.3	13 527	7 705
Financial liabilities	7.2	384	288
Total current liabilities		42 894	34 619
Non-current liabilities			
Employee related liabilities	3.4	25 574	25 165
Provisions	7.3	58 314	52 290
Financial liabilities	7.2	1 042	874
Total non-current liabilities		84 930	78 329
Total liabilities		127 824	112 948
Net assets		110 645	88 130
Equity			
Asset revaluation surplus	8.1	177 337	146 072
Retained earnings	8.1	(66 692)	(57 942)
Total equity		110 645	88 130

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	Asset revaluation surplus \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022		147 003	(45 465)	101 538
Prior period adjustments	1.5	-	(4 938)	(4 938)
Prior period adjustments transfer between equity components		25	(25)	-
Restated Balance at 1 July 2022		147 028	(50 428)	96 600
Net result for 2022-23		-	(8 470)	(8 470)
Total comprehensive result for 2022-23		-	(8 470)	(8 470)
Transfer between equity components		(956)	956	-
Balance at 30 June 2023		146 072	(57 942)	88 130
Net result for 2023-24		-	(10 073)	(10 073)
Gain on revaluation of land during 2023-24	5.1	32 588	-	32 588
Total comprehensive result for 2023-24		32 588	(10 073)	22 515
Transfer between equity components		(1 323)	1 323	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	8.1	177 337	(66 692)	110 645

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2024

		2024	2023
		(Outflows)	(Outflows)
		Inflows	Inflows
	Note	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash inflows			
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund		178 312	168 126
Appropriation		24 513	16 200
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers		70	12 274
Receipts from fees and charges		7 428	5 620
Receipts from grants and contributions		1 634	1 557
Investment and interest received		134	85
GST recovered from the ATO		2 271	2 845
Other receipts		901	2 077
Cash generated from operations		215 263	208 784
Cash outflows			
Employee related payments		(172 734)	(171 864)
Payments for supplies and services		(28 652)	(25 188)
Interest paid		(40)	(23)
Payments of grants and subsidies		(97)	(73)
Cash used in operations		(201 523)	(197 148)
Net cash provided by operating activities	8.2	13 740	11 636
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash inflows			
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		118	36
Cash generated from investing activities		118	36
Cash outflows			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(14 115)	(15 109)
Cash used in investing activities		(14 115)	(15 109)
Net cash used in investing activities		(13 997)	(15 073)
Cash outflows			
Repayment of principal portion of lease liabilities		(382)	(330)
Cash used in financing activities		(382)	(330)
Net cash used in financing activities		(382)	(330)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(639)	(3 767)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		3 069	6 836
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	6.1	2 430	3 069

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

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5.4.	Intangible assets	25
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South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1. About the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service

Under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (the Act), the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) is a not-for-profit body corporate, an agency of the Crown and part of the consolidated emergency services sector.

The financial statements include all the controlled activities of the MFS.

1.1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in compliance with:

- section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12-month period and presented in Australian currency. All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000). The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured on a different basis.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Material accounting policy information is set out in the notes of the financial statements.

The MFS is liable for Payroll Tax, Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable; and
- receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is classified as part of operating cash flows.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.2. Objectives and programs

Objectives

The MFS is established under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (the Act) and is responsible under the Act for the following functions:

- to provide services with a view to preventing the outbreak of fires, or reducing the impact of fires, in any fire district
- to provide efficient and responsive services in any fire district for the purpose of fighting fires, dealing with other emergencies or undertaking any rescue
- to protect life, property and environmental assets from fires and other emergencies occurring in any fire district
- to develop and maintain plans to cope with the effects of fires or emergencies in any fire district
- to provide services or support to assist with recovery in the event of a fire or other emergency in a fire district
- to perform any other function assigned to the MFS by or under this or any other Act.

Funding of the MFS is primarily derived from the Community Emergency Services Fund (the Fund), in accordance with the *Emergency Services Funding Act 1998*.

Programs

In achieving its objectives, the MFS provides services within three general areas: frontline services, frontline services support and governance and public value. These services are classified under one program titled 'South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service'.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.3. Budget performance

The budget performance table compares the MFS outcomes against budget information presented to Parliament (2023-24 Budget Paper 4). The budget amounts have not been adjusted to reflect revised budgets or administrative restructures. The budget process is not subject to audit.

	Note	Original budget 2024 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance \$'000
Statement of Comprehensive Income				
Income				
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund				
		178 087	178 312	225
Appropriation	a	3 513	24 513	21 000
Fees and charges		5 383	6 512	1 129
Grants and contributions		1 322	1 526	204
SA government grants, subsidies and transfers		-	176	176
Interest revenue		61	134	73
Net gain from disposal of non-current assets		-	15	15
Other income		195	1 150	955
Total income		188 561	212 338	23 777
Expenses				
Employee related expenses	b	150 466	187 122	36 656
Supplies and services	c	14 575	25 650	11 075
Grants and subsidies		-	97	97
Borrowing costs		22	40	18
Depreciation and amortisation		8 753	8 161	(592)
Other expenses		2 088	1 341	(747)
Total expenses		175 904	222 411	46 507
Net result		12 657	(10 073)	(22 730)
Other comprehensive income				
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to net result</i>				
Changes to asset revaluation surplus		-	32 588	32 588
Total other comprehensive income		-	32 588	32 588
Total comprehensive result		12 657	22 515	9 858

Explanations are provided for variances where the variance exceeds the greater of 10% of the original budgeted amount and 5% of original budgeted total expenses.

- a) Variance mainly attributable to Governor's Appropriation Funding received from the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) to address 2023-24 funding shortfalls.
- b) Primarily due to additional overtime to cover leave and other backfill requirements, costs of recruit squads and an increase in workers compensation.
- c) Primarily due to higher costs of repairs and maintenance, personal protective equipment, per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) investigation and information technology.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.3. Budget performance (continued)

	Note	Original budget	Actual	Variance
		2024 \$'000	2024 \$'000	\$'000
Investing expenditure summary				
Total existing projects	d	6 231	11 812	5 581
Total Annual Programs	e	8 644	2 681	(5 963)
Total Leases		317	396	79
Total investing expenditure		15 192	14 889	(303)

Explanations are provided for variances where the variance exceeds the greater of 10% of the original budgeted amount and 5% of original budgeted total expenses.

- d) Due to carried forward funding from previous years and reallocation from Annual Programs
- e) Due to reallocation to existing projects

1.4. Significant transactions with government entities

Significant transactions with government related entities

Significant transactions with the SA Government are identifiable throughout this financial report. In addition:

- Contributions received from the Fund of \$178.3 million (refer note 2.1).
- Payment to the Attorney-General's Department for the government radio network of \$2.6 million (refer note 4.1).

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.5. Prior period adjustments

Asset Accounting Policies

In 2023-24 MFS voluntarily changed two accounting policies that are applicable when recognising property, plant and equipment:

1. Increasing the individual asset capitalisation value threshold from \$10 000 to \$15 000.
2. Removing the option to capitalise group assets that are individually less than the ESS capitalisation threshold. For example, group radios are individually less than the \$15 000 capitalisation threshold, but as a collective group exceed this threshold. The previous accounting policy allowed for these same assets to be grouped and capitalised.

These changes were initiated as a result of MFS review of the Fixed Asset Accounting Policy to ensure the policy was relevant and contemporary with accounting standards and government accounting frameworks. These changes have been adjusted retrospectively.

The financial reporting impact of these adjustments is detailed below:

	Note	Original opening balance 2023 \$'000	Restated opening balance 2023 \$'000	Change \$'000
Statement of Financial Position				
Property, plant and equipment	5.1			
<i>Land</i>		61 801	61 796	(5)
<i>Buildings</i>		68 909	68 812	(97)
<i>Vehicles</i>		41 961	41 904	(57)
<i>Plant and Equipment</i>		6 634	2 124	(4 510)
<i>ROU land</i>		-	-	-
Capital works in progress	5.5	15 314	15 075	(239)
Asset revaluation surplus	8.1	147 003	146 723	(280)
Retained earnings	8.1	45 465	50 428	4 963
	Note	Original balance 2023 \$'000	Restated balance 2023 \$'000	Change \$'000
Statement of Comprehensive Income				
Supplies and services	4.1	22 737	22 960	223
Depreciation and amortisation	5.1, 5.4	8 676	7 984	(692)

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

1.5. Prior period adjustments (continued)

Adjustments relating to periods prior to 2023 have been reflected in retained earnings opening balances as detailed below:

	Retained earnings \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2022	(45 465)
Prior period adjustments relating to 2021-22 depreciation	(83)
Prior period adjustments relating to asset accounting policy changes	(4 855)
Total prior period adjustments	(4 938)
Restated balance at 1 July 2022	(50 403)

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2. Income

2.1. Contributions from the Community Emergency Service Fund

Contributions from the Fund are recognised as revenues when the MFS obtains control over the funding. Control over contributions is normally obtained upon receipt. Total contributions for the year were \$178.312 million (2023: \$168.126 million).

2.2. Appropriation

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Appropriation from Consolidated Account pursuant to the <i>Appropriation Act</i>	3 513	3 750
Appropriation from Governor's Appropriation Fund	21 000	12 450
Total appropriation	24 513	16 200

Appropriation is recognised on receipt. Appropriation consists of \$21.5 million (2023: \$13.2 million) for operational funding and \$3.0 million (2023: \$3.0 million) for capital projects.

2.3. Fees and charges

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Fire alarm attendance fees	3 188	2 750
Fire alarm monitoring fees	2 914	2 727
Fire safety fees	410	399
Total fees and charges	6 512	5 876

All revenue from fees and charges is recognised from contracts with customers except for recoveries.

Fees and charges revenue are recognised at a point in time when the MFS satisfies performance obligations by transferring the promised goods or services to its customers.

The MFS recognises revenue from contracts with customers from the following major sources:

Fire alarm attendance and fire safety fees

The MFS provides a range of fire alarm attendance and fire safety services to customers and charge prescribed fees for these services as regulated under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*. The MFS recognises revenue for these services in arrears once the relevant deliverables have been provided to the customer in line with the MFS' legislated responsibilities and internal policies.

The MFS is a referral agency under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Regulations 2017* and receives revenue from customers for undertaking development assessments under the Planning and Design Code.

Payments for development assessments are received in advance upon referral of the development application to the MFS from the Attorney-General's Department or direct from the customer. The MFS is required to undertake an assessment of the development and provide statutory advice to the relevant parties. Revenue is recognised in arrears once statutory advice has been provided.

Fire alarm monitoring fees

The MFS undertakes fire alarm monitoring services for customers and charges prescribed fees for these services as regulated under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*. Customers are charged an annual fee for this service and generally pay upfront in the first quarter of the financial year. The MFS recognises revenue for monitoring services over the time services are provided, with all services delivered by 30 June.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2.3. Fees and charges (continued)

Incident recoveries

The MFS provides support to interstate jurisdictions that request it when an emergency incident occurs. The terms of deployment are managed under the Arrangement for Interstate Assistance Framework by the National Resource Sharing Centre under the Australian and New Zealand National Council for Fire and Emergency Services (AFAC).

The inputs of the request are outlined in an operating plan and may include personnel, firefighting equipment and supplies, and consumables. Payment is made by the jurisdiction who received the assistance in arrears once performance obligations have been met and total costs of assistance have been assessed. Revenue is recognised in arrears once the emergency event has concluded and all assistance outlined in the operating plan has been ceased.

2.4. Grants and contributions

Commonwealth sourced grants \$1.526 million (2023: \$1.449 million) are recognised as an asset and income when the MFS obtains control of the contributions or obtains the right to receive the contributions and the income recognition criteria are met, this is generally on receipt.

Commonwealth grant funding for the MFS relates to the cost of providing fire and emergency services to Commonwealth properties under the Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Fire Services. All grants received from the Commonwealth are grants with unconditional stipulations.

2.5. SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Contingency funding provided by the Department of Treasury and Finance	9	11 777
Intra government transfer	167	290
Total SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers	176	12 067

SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers are recognised as income on receipt. Cash injections from DTF address MFS cost pressures and cash shortfalls.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

2.6. Net gain / (loss) from disposal of non-current assets	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Land and buildings		
Proceeds from disposal	110	-
Less net book value of assets disposed	(103)	-
Net gain / (loss) from disposal of land and buildings	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>
Vehicles		
Net proceeds from disposal	-	30
Less net book value of assets disposed	-	(550)
Net gain / (loss) from disposal of vehicles	<u>-</u>	<u>(520)</u>
Plant and equipment		
Net proceeds from disposal	8	6
Less net book value of assets disposed	-	(2)
Net gain / (loss) from disposal of plant and equipment	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>
Total assets:		
Net proceeds from disposal	118	36
Less net book value of assets disposed	(103)	(552)
Net gain / (loss) from disposal of owned assets	<u>15</u>	<u>(516)</u>
Total net gain/ (loss) from disposal of non-current assets	<u>15</u>	<u>(516)</u>

2.7. Other income	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Insurance recoveries	-	5
Donations	3	-
Property income	647	436
Salary recoveries	448	853
Sundry revenues	32	553
Recoveries from legal cases	5	17
Other recoveries	-	21
Other	15	33
Total other income	<u>1 150</u>	<u>1 918</u>

Other income is recognised upon receipt, except for Rent of premises.

The MFS receives revenue from long term lease agreements with tenants for land controlled by the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services (the Minister). Payment is made by the tenant on a monthly basis in advance. The MFS recognise this revenue on a time proportionate basis over the lease period.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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3. Board, committees and employees

3.1. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the MFS include the Minister, the Chief Officer and the Deputy Chief Officer of the MFS who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the agency.

The compensation detailed below excludes the salary and other benefits of the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account (via DTF) under section 6 the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Compensation		
Salaries and other short term employee benefits	576	543
Post-employment benefits	72	65
Other long-term employment benefits	285	-
Total compensation	933	608

Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties

The MFS did not enter into any transactions with key management personnel or their close family during the reporting period that were not consistent with normal procurement arrangements.

3.2. Remuneration of board and committee members

Members of boards and committees during 2024 were:

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service Disciplinary Committee

L D P Holland
 S J Smithson*
 G S Uren*
 A J Caire*

* In accordance with the Premier and Cabinet's Circular Number 016, government employees did not receive any remuneration for board/committee duties during the financial year.

Board and committee remuneration

The number of members whose remuneration received/receivable falls within the following bands:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
\$0 - \$19 999	4	4
Total number of members	4	4

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$8 000 (2023: \$3 000). Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing board/committee member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax paid.

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3.3. Employee related expenses

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Salaries and wages	121 838	120 165
Workers compensation	8 413	13 906
Employment on-costs - superannuation	18 344	18 471
Annual leave	14 275	14 384
Long service leave	6 041	3 994
Payroll tax	7 971	7 820
Skills and experience retention leave	1 223	1 295
Additional compensation	8 220	2 198
Board fees	7	3
Other employment related expenses	790	399
Total employee related expenses	187 122	182 635

The MFS's staff are employed under Part 3 of the *South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*.

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents the MFS's contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current employees. There are no liabilities for payments to beneficiaries recognised by the MFS as DTF centrally recognises the superannuation liability in the whole-of-government financial statements.

Employee Remuneration

The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	Employees	
	2024	2023
	No.	No.
\$160 001 to \$166 000 *	n/a	42
\$166 001 to \$186 000	107	134
\$186 001 to \$206 000	82	102
\$206 001 to \$226 000	52	50
\$226 001 to \$246 000	27	11
\$246 001 to \$266 000	2	2
\$266 001 to \$286 000	2	1
\$326 001 to \$346 000	-	1
\$346 001 to \$366 000	1	-
\$446,001 to \$466,000	1	-
Total	274	343

*This band has been included for the purposes of reporting comparative figures based on the executive base level remuneration for 2022-23.

The table includes all employees who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and any related fringe benefits tax paid. The total remuneration received by these employees for the year was \$54.152 million (2023: \$64.683 million).

The number of employees included in the banding for 2024 has decreased from 2023 predominantly due to backpay received in 2023 from the introduction of the new enterprise bargaining agreement.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2024

3.4. Employee related liabilities

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Accrued salaries and wages	674	-
Annual leave	13 508	13 223
Long service leave	3 936	3 160
Skills and experience retention leave	2 259	2 150
Employment on-costs	4 851	4 675
Total current employee related liabilities	25 228	23 208
Non-current		
Long service leave	21 537	21 111
Employment on-costs	4 037	4 054
Total non-current employee related liabilities	25 574	25 165
Total employee related liabilities	50 802	48 373

Employee benefits accrue as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Non-current employee benefits are measured at present value and current employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Salaries and wages, annual leave skills and experience retention leave (SERL) and sick leave

The liability for salary and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at reporting date.

The annual leave liability and the SERL liability in full is expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid. The salary inflation rate applied to the annual leave and SERL liabilities increased to 2.4% in 2024 from 2% in 2023.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement of sick leave.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the project unit credit methods.

AASB 119 *Employee Benefits* contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability.

The expected timing and amount of long service leave payments is determined through whole-of-government actuarial calculations, which are based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over the police and emergency services sector.

The discount rate used in measuring the liability is reflective of the yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds as the discount rate in the measurement of the long service leave liability. The yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds has increased from 4% in 2023 to 4.25% in 2024. This increase in the bond yield, which is used as the rate to discount future long service leave cash flows, results in an overall decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The net financial effect of the changes to actuarial assumptions in the current financial year is an increase in both the long service leave liability and employee benefits expense of \$1.406 million. The impact on future periods is impracticable to estimate as the long service leave liability is calculated using a number of demographical and financial assumptions – including the long-term discount rate.

The actuarial assessment performed by DTF has increased the salary inflation rate to 3.5% (2023: 2.5%) for long service leave liability. As a result, there is an increase in net financial effect resulting from changes in the salary inflation rate.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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3.4. Employee related liabilities (continued)

Current long service leave reflects the portion of leave expected to be settled within the next 12 months, based on the average proportion of long service leave taken or paid over the last 3 years.

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs include payroll tax, ReturntoWorkSA levies and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to are discharged. These on-costs primarily relate to the balance of leave owing to employees. Estimates as to the proportion of long service leave estimated to be taken as leave, rather than paid on termination, affects whether certain on-costs are recognised as a consequence of long service leave liabilities.

The MFS makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the superannuation schemes.

The proportion of long service leave taken has decreased to 84.17% from 89.28% in 2023, calculated as the actual percentage of leave taken during the last three years. The average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation on-costs has changed to 15.5% from 15.1% in 2023. These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is not material. The estimated impact on future periods is not expected to be materially different to the effect on the current period as shown above.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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4. Expenses

4.1. Supplies and services

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Property costs	3 399	4 303
Vehicles	3 522	3 009
Government radio network	2 639	2 570
Consultancy, contractors and legal fees	4 514	3 460
Computing costs	1 777	1 466
Operational costs	1 971	2 489
Uniforms and protective clothing	3 072	1 310
Travel and training	971	725
Communications	872	967
Insurance premiums	446	497
Low-value leases	257	304
Accommodation	279	289
Other expenses	1 931	1 571
Total supplies and services	25 650	22 960

Accommodation

A part of the MFS's accommodation is provided by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) under Memoranda of Administrative Arrangements (MoAA) issued in accordance with Government wide accommodation policies. These arrangements do not meet the definition of a lease and accordingly are expensed (disclosed within 'Accommodation' above).

Other

Includes audit fees paid/payable to the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* of \$61 400 (2023: \$60 000). No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

Leases

The MFS recognises lease payments associated with low value leases (less than \$15 000) as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Lease commitments for short-term leases is similar to short term lease expenses disclosed.

Consultants

The number of consultancies and dollar amount paid/payable (included in supplies and services expenses) to consultants fell within the following bands:

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	No.	\$'000	No.	\$'000
Below \$10 000	1	8	5	15
\$10 000 or above	3	1 615	3	742
Total paid / payable to the consultants engaged	4	1 623	8	757

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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4.1. Supplies and services (continued)

Expenditure – SA business and Non-SA business

The following table includes all expenditure in relation to contracts above \$55,000 (GST inclusive) resulting from a procurement as defined in Treasurer's Instructions 18 – Procurement. Arrangements between public authorities and arrangements with other governments are not included.

Expenditure is inclusive of non-recoverable GST.

	2024	Proportion of SA and non-SA businesses
	\$'000	%
Total expenditure with South Australian businesses	8 943	74.92%
Total expenditure with non-South Australian businesses	2 994	25.08%
	11 937	100%

Classification as SA business or non-SA business is generally based on circumstances as at the time of entering into a contract. For contracts entered into before 20 February 2023, where sufficient evidence of an assessment made under previous procurement requirements is known to MFS, this was used to determine classification. For contracts where such evidence of prior assessment is not available and for all other contracts, classification is based on the definition of an SA business provided in TI 18.

TI 18 defines a business as being South Australian where it operates in South Australia and more than 50% of the workforce delivering the contract resulting from the procurement on behalf of the business are South Australian residents.

The disclosure for expenditure with SA businesses reflects the total spent on contracts within the TI 18 definition and in some instances includes the cost of goods sourced from outside South Australia.

In many cases, the determination has been made on the basis of representations made by suppliers at a point in time which has not been subject to independent verification.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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5. Non-financial assets

5.1. Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment comprises owned and right-of-use leased (ROU) tangible assets that do not meet the definition of investment property.

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment during 2023-24

	Land	Buildings	Vehicles	Plant & equipment	ROU Buildings	ROU Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	61 796	75 982	43 039	2 403	764	359	184 343
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	396	396
Transfers from capital WIP ⁽¹⁾	-	566	7 670	40	-	-	8 276
Disposals	(103)	-	-	-	-	-	(103)
Revaluation increment	32 588	-	-	-	-	-	32 588
Derecognition of assets	-	(609)	(692)	(7)	-	-	(1 308)
Remeasurement	-	-	-	-	250	-	250
Subtotal:	94 281	75 939	50 017	2 436	1 014	755	224 442
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:							
Depreciation	-	(3 385)	(3 960)	(359)	(122)	(284)	(8 110)
Subtotal:	-	(3 385)	(3 960)	(359)	(122)	(284)	(8 110)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	94 281	72 554	46 057	2 077	892	471	216 332
Gross carrying amount							
Gross carrying amount	94 281	87 662	63 362	3 607	1 384	823	251 119
Accumulated depreciation	-	(15 108)	(17 305)	(1 530)	(492)	(352)	(34 787)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	94 281	72 554	46 057	2 077	892	471	216 332

*All property, plant and equipment are classified in the level 3 fair value hierarchy. Refer to note 7.2 for details about the lease liability for right-of-use assets.

⁽¹⁾ Refer to note 5.5.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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5.1 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment during 2022-23

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Plant & equipment \$'000	ROU Buildings \$'000	ROU Vehicles \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	61 801	68 909	41 961	6 634	860	377	180 542
Prior period adjustments	(5)	(97)	(57)	(4 510)	-	-	(4 669)
Restated carrying amount at the beginning of period	61 796	68 812	41 904	2 124	860	377	175 873
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	229	229
Transfers from capital WIP ⁽¹⁾	-	10 442	5 603	658	-	-	16 703
Disposals	-	-	(550)	(2)	-	-	(552)
Subtotal:	61 796	79 254	46 957	2 780	860	606	192 253
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:							
Depreciation	-	(3 272)	(3 918)	(377)	(96)	(247)	(7 910)
Subtotal:	-	(3 272)	(3 918)	(377)	(96)	(247)	(7 910)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	61 796	75 982	43 039	2 403	764	359	184 343
Gross carrying amount							
Gross carrying amount	61 796	87 844	56 606	3 584	1 134	771	211 735
Accumulated depreciation	-	(11 862)	(13 567)	(1 181)	(370)	(412)	(27 392)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	61 796	75 982	43 039	2 403	764	359	184 343

*All property, plant and equipment are classified in the level 3 fair value hierarchy. Refer to note 7.2 for details about the lease liability for right-of-use assets.

⁽¹⁾ Refer to note 5.5

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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5.1 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Depreciation expense

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

Useful life

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis. Property, plant and equipment depreciation is calculated over the estimated useful life as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Buildings	1-60
Vehicles	1-23
Plant and equipment	1-20
ROU Buildings	12
ROU Vehicles	3-5
ROU Land	11

Review of Accounting Estimates

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate.

The MFS revalued its vehicles and buildings as at 1 November 2019.

5.2. Property, plant and equipment owned by MFS

Property, plant and equipment owned by the MFS with a value equal to or in excess of \$15 000 is capitalised.

Property, plant and equipment owned by the MFS is recorded at fair value. Detail about the MFS's approach to fair value is set out in note 10.1.

Impairment

Property, plant and equipment have not been assessed for impairment as they are non-cash generating assets, that are specialised in nature and held for continual use of their service capacity and are subject to regular revaluation.

Revaluation of property, plant and equipment is undertaken on a regular cycle as detailed in Note 10.1. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

The previous Christies Beach MFS station was decommissioned in January 2023 when operations were moved to new premises in Noarlunga. The site at Christies Beach has subsequently remained vacant while the impact of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination issues are being investigated with the consequence that the property has incurred some damage due to vandalism. At 30 June 2024, the impact on fair value from PFAS contamination and other damage could not be reliably measured, therefore the fair value of this property has remained unchanged.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
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5.3. Property, plant and equipment leased by the MFS

Right-of-use property, plant and equipment leased by the MFS is measured at cost and there were no indications of impairment of right-of-use assets.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low value leases where the underlying asset value is less than \$15 000 are not recognised as right-of-use assets. The associated lease payments are recognised as an expense and are disclosed in note 4.1.

The MFS has a limited number of lease arrangements:

- 48 motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60,000km) up to 5 years (100,000km). No contingent rental provisions exist within the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.
- the MFS has one commercial lease for a building used for the purpose of operating a regional fire station at Mount Barker.

The lease liabilities and interest expense related to the ROU assets are disclosed in note 7.2. The MFS's maturity analysis of lease liabilities is disclosed in note 7.2. Cash outflows related to leases are disclosed in note 8.2. The MFS has not committed to any lease arrangements that have not commenced from 1 July.

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5.4. Intangible assets

Reconciliation of intangible assets	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	165	86
Prior period adjustments	-	(31)
Restated carrying amount at the beginning of the period	165	55
Transfers from capital WIP ⁽¹⁾	-	184
Derecognition of assets	(33)	-
Subtotal:	132	239
Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:		
Amortisation	(51)	(74)
Subtotal:	(51)	(74)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	81	165
Gross carrying amount		
Gross carrying amount	448	528
Accumulated depreciation	(367)	(363)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	81	165

⁽¹⁾ Refer to note 5.5.

Intangible assets are initially measured at cost and are tested for indications of impairment at each reporting date. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation of computer software is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of 5 years.

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for intangible assets is reviewed on an annual basis.

The acquisition of or internal development of software is capitalised only when the expenditure meets the definition and recognition criteria and when the amount of expenditure is greater than or equal to \$15 000.

All research and development costs that do not meet the capitalisation criteria outlined in AASB 138 *Intangible Assets* are expensed.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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5.5. Capital works in progress

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	11 384	15 314
Prior period adjustments	-	(239)
Restated carrying amount at the beginning of the period	11 384	15 075
Acquisitions	14 493	13 217
Transfers to property, plant and equipment	(8 276)	(16 703)
Transfers to intangible assets	-	(184)
CWIP write off	(34)	(21)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	17 567	11 384

Capital works in progress are recognised as the cumulative costs of capital projects to balance date. Projects completed during the year have been recognised as property, plant and equipment (refer note 5.1) or intangible assets (refer note 5.4) and are valued at cost.

6. Financial assets

6.1. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	2 424	3 063
Cash on hand	6	6
Total cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position	2 430	3 069
Total cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Cash Flows	2 430	3 069

Cash is measured at nominal amounts.

Deposits with the Treasurer

Special deposit accounts are established under section 8 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. Special deposit accounts must be used in accordance with their approved purpose. One operating account is held with the Treasurer. This account is interest bearing.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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6.2. Receivables

	2024	2023
Current	\$'000	\$'000
Receivables	1 210	988
Less impairment loss on receivables	(5)	(6)
Prepayments	289	142
Accrued revenues	55	527
GST input tax recoverable	510	466
Total current receivables	2 059	2 117
Total receivables	2 059	2 117

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

Other than as recognised in the allowance for impairment loss on contractual receivables, it is not anticipated that counterparties will fail to discharge their obligations. The carrying amount of receivables approximates net fair value due to being receivable on demand. There is no concentration of credit risk.

Refer to note 10.2 for further information on risk management.

The MFS has adopted the simplified impairment approach under AASB 9 and measured lifetime expected credit losses on all contractual receivables using an allowance matrix as a practical expedient to measure the impairment allowance.

Allowance for impairment loss on contractual receivables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	6	9
Increase/(decrease) in the allowance	(1)	(3)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	5	6

Impairment losses relate to receivables arising from contracts with customers that are external to the SA Government. Refer to note 10.2 for details regarding credit risk and the methodology for determining impairment.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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7. Liabilities

7.1. Payables

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Creditors	1 188	1 232
Accrued expenses	2 559	2 185
Paid Parental Leave Scheme payable	8	1
Total current payables	3 755	3 418
Total payables	3 755	3 418

Payables and accrued expenses recognised for all amounts owing but unpaid. Contractual payables are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short-term nature.

7.2. Financial liabilities

The MFS measures lease liabilities at discounted future lease payments using either the interest rate implicit in the lease or the DTF's incremental borrowing rate. There were no defaults or breaches throughout the year.

Interest expense paid on lease liabilities during 2023-24 was \$40 000 (2023: \$23 000). The MFS does not capitalise borrowing costs.

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on undiscounted gross cash flows is reported in the table below:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Lease liabilities		
within 1 year	414	312
1 to 5 years	816	606
More than 5 years	286	325
Total lease liabilities (undiscounted)	1 516	1 243

All material cash outflows are reflected in the lease liabilities disclosed above.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
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7.3. Provisions

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Provision for workers compensation	11 811	5 954
Additional compensation	1 716	1 751
Total current provisions	13 527	7 705
Non-current		
Provision for workers compensation	30 451	32 682
Additional compensation	27 863	19 608
Total non-current provisions	58 314	52 290
Total provisions	71 841	59 995
Movement in workers compensation provisions	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Workers compensation		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	38 636	34 470
Reductions arising from payments	(4 748)	(4 366)
Changes from remeasurement	(2 779)	1 738
New accident liability	11 153	6 794
Carrying amount at the end of the period	42 262	38 636
Additional compensation		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	21 359	19 162
Reductions arising from payments	(1 873)	(1 686)
Changes from remeasurement	7 185	1 494
New accident liability	2 908	2 389
Carrying amount at the end of the period	29 579	21 359

Workers Compensation provision (statutory and additional compensation schemes)

The MFS is an exempt employer under the *Return to Work Act 2014*. Under a scheme arrangement, the MFS is responsible for the management of workers rehabilitation and compensation and is directly responsible for meeting the cost of workers' compensation claims and the implementation and funding of preventive programs.

Accordingly, a liability has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims (statutory and additional compensation schemes).

The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment of the outstanding liability as at 30 June 2024 provided by a consulting actuary engaged through the Office of the Commissioner of Public Sector Employment.

The additional compensation scheme provides continuing benefits to workers who have suffered eligible work-related injuries and whose entitlements have ceased under the statutory workers compensation scheme. Eligible injuries are non-serious injuries sustained in circumstances which involved, or appeared to involve, the commission of a criminal offence, or which arose from a dangerous situation.

There is a significant degree of uncertainty associated with estimating future claim and expense payments and also around the timing of future payments due to the variety of factors involved. The liability is impacted by agency claim experience relative to other agencies, average claim sizes and other economic and actuarial assumptions.

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In addition to these uncertainties, the additional compensation scheme is impacted by the limited claims history and the evolving nature of the interpretation of, and evidence required to meeting, eligibility criteria. Given these uncertainties, the actual cost of additional compensation claims may differ materially from the estimate.

8. Other disclosures

8.1. Equity

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements in the fair value of property and plant and equipment to the extent that they offset one another. Relevant amounts are transferred to retained earnings when an asset is derecognised.

8.2. Cash flow reconciliation

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to net cost of providing services		
Net cash provided by operating activities	13 740	11 636
Add / (less) non-cash items		
Depreciation and amortisation	(8 161)	(7 984)
Net gain/(loss) from disposal of non-current assets	15	(516)
CWIP write off	(34)	(21)
Derecognition of non-current assets	(1 341)	-
Capital accruals	378	(1 893)
Movement in assets and liabilities		
Increase/(decrease) in receivables	(58)	(1 129)
(Increase)/decrease in payables	(337)	(628)
(Increase)/decrease in employee benefits	(2 429)	(1 572)
(Increase)/decrease in provisions	(11 846)	(6 363)
Net result	(10 073)	(8 470)

Total cash outflows for leases for the MFS was \$679 000 (2022-23: \$657 000).

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9. Outlook

9.1. Unrecognised contractual commitments

Commitments include operating, capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contractual commitments to acquire property, plant and equipment

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	3 455	7 208
Total contractual commitments to acquire property, plant and equipment	3 455	7 208

These contractual commitments to acquire property, plant and equipment are related to the Noarlunga Command Station and vehicle equipment.

Other contractual commitments

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	2 505	3 181
Later than one year but not later than five years	1 543	1 656
Later than five years	2 281	2 566
Total other contractual commitments	6 329	7 403

MFS's other contractual commitments are for accommodation, agreements relating to asset maintenance, information technology, protective firefighting equipment and equipment.

9.2. Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

The SAMFS is not aware of any contingent assets at the reporting date.

The SAMFS recognises a contingent liability relating to the historical use of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) firefighting foams across site in South Australia.

PFAS contamination has been identified at seven SAMFS sites, which are now subject to s83a Notices of Site Contamination under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. It is expected that further sites may be identified as PFAS contaminated in the future.

The SAMFS is continuing to work through the cost implications of PFAS contamination which is expected to include costs to remediate contaminated land and dispose of contaminated materials.

9.3. Impact of standards not yet implemented

The MFS assessed *Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations* that first applied in 2023-24 and determined that they did not have a material impact on its financial statements. No new *Australian Accounting Standards or Interpretations* have been early adopted.

9.4. Events after the reporting period

All events occurring after financial statement balance date, and for which the financial reporting framework requires adjustment or disclosure, have been adjusted or disclosed.

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10. Measurement and risk

10.1. Fair value

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

Initial Recognition

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition.

Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

Revaluation

Property, plant and equipment, other than right of use assets, are subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

Non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or a group of assets is only performed when the fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Revaluation is undertaken on a regular cycle as detailed below. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the net amounts are restated to the revalued amounts of the asset.

Fair value hierarchy

The MFS classifies the value measurement using the following fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements, based on the data and assumptions used in the most recent revaluation:

Level 1: traded in active markets and is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.

Level 2: not traded in active market and are derived from inputs (inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1) that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: not traded in active market and are derived from unobservable inputs.

The MFS's policy is to recognise transfers into and out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

During 2023 and 2024, the MFS had no valuations categorised into level 1; there were no transfers of assets between level 1 and 2 fair value hierarchy levels and there were no changes in valuation technique.

Land, buildings and vehicles

MFS undertook an internal exercise to determine whether the carrying amounts of land and buildings assets recognised under the revaluation model, were materially different from their fair values. This 2023-24 exercise was jointly undertaken by SAFECOM Finance, Shared Services South Australia (SSSA) and operational staff.

After undertaking this review, MFS elected to process a revaluation increment for its land assets effective as of 30 June 2024. The increment was based on the average increase in land values within the state since the last independent valuation.

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10.1. Fair value (continued)

Land, buildings and vehicles (continued)

An independent valuation of land, vehicles and buildings was last performed by Liquid Pacific Pty Ltd (Certified Practising Valuer) in 2019. The buildings values at revaluation were considered relevant for 30 June 2024.

Fair value of land at that time was determined using the market approach. The valuation was based on recent market transactions for similar land in the area and includes adjustment for factors specific to the land such as size and location. For land classified as restricted in use, fair value was determined by applying an adjustment to reflect the restriction.

The fair value of buildings was determined using current replacement cost, due to there not being an active market. The current replacement cost considered the need for ongoing provision of government services, specialised nature and restricted use of the assets, their size, condition and location.

The next independent valuation of land, vehicles and buildings will occur in 2024-25.

Plant and equipment

All items of plant and equipment that had a fair value at the time of acquisition less than \$1.5 million and had an estimated useful life that less than three years have not been revalued. The carrying value of these items is deemed to approximate fair value.

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10.2. Financial instruments

Financial risk management

Risk management is managed by the MFS corporate services section and the MFS risk management policies are in accordance with the *Risk Management Guide* issued by the Premier and Treasurer and the principles established in the Australian Standard *Risk Management Principles and Guidelines*.

The exposure of the MFS to financial risk (liquidity risk, credit risk and market risk) is low due to the nature of the financial instruments held. There have been no changes in risk exposure since the last reporting period.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the MFS is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The MFS is funded principally from the Fund. The MFS works with the Fund to determine the cash flows associated with its government-approved program of work to ensure funding meets the expected cash flows.

Refer to note 7.1 and 7.2 for further information.

Credit risk

The MFS has minimal concentration of credit risk. The MFS has policies and procedures in place to ensure that transactions occur with customers with appropriate credit history. The MFS does not engage in high risk hedging for its financial assets. No collateral is held as security and no credit enhancements relate to financial assets held by the MFS.

Impairment of financial assets

Loss allowances for receivables are measured at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit loss using the simplified approach in AASB 9. The MFS uses an allowance matrix to measure the expected credit loss of receivables from non-government debtors which comprise a large number of small balances.

To measure the expected credit losses, receivables are grouped based on shared risks characteristics and the days past due. When estimating expected credit loss, the MFS considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the MFS's historical experience and informed credit assessment, including forward-looking information.

The maximum period considered when estimating expected credit losses is the maximum contractual period over which the MFS is exposed to credit risk.

The expected credit loss of government debtors is considered to be nil based on the external credit ratings and nature of the counterparties.

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10.2. Financial instruments (continued)

Impairment of financial assets (continued)

Loss rates are calculated based on the probability of a receivable progressing through stages to write off based on the common risk characteristics of the transaction and debtor.

The following table provides information about the exposure to credit risk and ECL for non-government debtors.

	Debtor gross carrying amount \$'000	Loss %	Lifetime expected losses \$'000
2024			
Current (not past due)	218	0.11	-
1 - 30 days past due	78	0.19	-
31 - 60 days past due	31	0.51	-
61 - 90 days past due	15	1.01	-
More than 90 days past due	214	1.93	5
Loss allowance	556		5

Loss rates are based on actual history of credit loss, these rates have been adjusted to reflect differences between previous economic conditions, current conditions and the MFS's view of the forecast economic conditions over the expected life of the receivables.

Impairment losses are presented as net impairment losses within net result, subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the same line item.

Receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable expectation of recovery include the failure of a debtor to enter into a payment plan with the MFS and a failure to make contractual payments for a period of greater than 180 days past due.

The allowance was recognised when there was objective evidence that a receivable was impaired. The allowance for impairment was recognised in other expenses for specific debtors and debtors assessed on a collective basis for which such evidence existed.

Cash and debt instruments

The MFS considers that its cash and cash equivalents have low credit risk based on the external credit ratings of the counterparties and therefore the expected credit loss is nil.

All of the MFS's debt investments at amortised cost are considered to have low credit risk and the consideration of expected credit loss was limited to 12 months expected losses. The expected credit loss is nil.

Market risk

The MFS does not trade in foreign currency, nor enter into transactions for speculative purposes, nor for hedging. The agency does not undertake any hedging in relation to interest or foreign currency risk and manages its risk as per the government's risk management strategy articulated in TI 23 *Management of Foreign Currency Exposures*.

Exposure to interest rate risk may arise through its interest-bearing liabilities, including borrowings. The MFS's interest bearing liabilities are managed through SAFA and any movement in interest rates are monitored on a daily basis. There is no exposure to foreign currency or other price risks.

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10.2. Financial instruments (continued)

Categorisation of financial instruments

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in the respective financial asset/financial liability note.

Classification of financial assets and liabilities

The MFS measures all financial instruments at amortised cost other than lease liabilities which are measured at the present value of expected future cash payments. All financial assets and liabilities carrying amount equals their fair value as at 30 June 2024 and are expected to be settled within one year excluding financial liabilities. Maturity analysis for financial liabilities is presented in note 7.2.