



Budget and Statement of Review Policy July 2024

July 2024

Policy #	Adoption Date	Effective Date
1	16 August 2024	16 August 2024

Revision History

Version	Adoption Date	Authorised by	Approved by	Revision Date
1	16 August 2024	EO	Board	August 2025

Budget and Statement of Review Policy

1 Objective

The Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation's revenue and accounting policies are kept in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards Board. RAMJO abides by the:

- *Local Government Act (1993)*
- *Local Government (General Regulation 2005)*
- *Local Government Code of Accounting Practice & Financial Reporting*

2 Financial Contributions by Member Councils

Financial contributions by member Councils fall into two categories. Firstly, membership fees are levied from all member councils in order to perform the principal functions of delivering on strategic regional priorities, regional leadership and intergovernmental cooperation. The second category is for optional contributions from participating councils, for a program of other functions enhancing strategic capacity and direct service delivery. Strategic work by the Joint Organisation will determine the nature of such programs.

As outlined in its Charter, the Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (**RAMJO**) member councils must contribute financially based on the following methodology:

- a. The annual financial contribution required to be made by each Member Council is to consist of:
 - i. base fee of the same amount for each Member Council; and
 - ii. a capitation fee [based on the number population drawn from ABS census figures].
- b. Any board determined annual financial contribution required to be made by each Associate Member is to be based on a methodology adopted by the Board; and
- c. The amount of the base fee, capitation fee and financial contribution by Associate Members for a financial year is to be determined prior to the start of that year by Resolution of the Board.

Yearly contributions from member councils of the Joint Organisation are determined by the Board and are included in the operational budget annually.

3 Fees & Charges

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, RAMJO may charge and recover an approved fee for its services.

RAMJO must consider the following when establishing any board approved fees:

- The cost of provision of the service
- Recommended prices suggested by outside bodies
- The importance of the service
- Legislation that regulates certain fees
- Goods & Services Tax legislation.

END OF POLICY