Manaaki Whenua
Landcare Research

ANNUAL REPORT PART 02

We present our Annual Report in two parts. Part 1 provides an overview of Manaaki Whenua, highlights of our science that show the contribution we are making towards creating value for Aotearoa New Zealand (AoNZ) through our research, people and partnerships, and an update on our strategic directions. In Part 2 we present our directors' report and financial statements.

PDF versions of both Part 1 and Part 2 are available for download from the Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research landcareresearch.co.nz/report

Landcare Research New Zealand Limited
(Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research)
Annual Report 2023

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to Section 44 of the Public Finance Act 1989.

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landcareresearch.co.nz

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Our Board

Colin Dawson (Chair)
Colin is a professional director with a background in veterinary clinical practice.
He holds numerous directorships including Deputy Chair of the NZ Institute of Plant & Food Research. He is a Chartered Fellow of the NZ Institute of Directors.

Dr Paul Reynolds QSO
Deputy Chair
Paul served as Chief Executive of the Ministry for the Environment from 2008 until 2015. He holds a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Otago and is Chair of AgResearch and Waka Kotahi NZTA.

Dr Andrea Byrom
Director
Andrea works as a consultant and professional director in Aotearoa's environmental sector. She is a director with the Environmental Protection Authority, Tāwhaki Joint Venture, and environmental restoration trusts.

Dr Warren Williams
Director
Warren is the Chief Executive of 202 Communications Trust and on a number of Māori and Technology boards and committees. He holds a PhD in Strategic Management from the University of Waikato. He has experience in technology, business and education sectors.

Justine Gilliland
Director
Justine is an independent director and strategy consultant. She is currently on the boards of ESR, AGMARDT, UniMed, Tui Ora, and Economic Development NZ, along with advisory board/panel roles in the food & fibre sector and energy sector. Her consultancy work is mainly with the emergent offshore wind energy industry for Aotearoa.

John Rodwell
Director
John is an experienced director with a background in corporate finance, investment banking, and investing in agri-businesses.

Prof. Caroline Saunders
Director
Caroline has 30 years' research expertise and over 300 publications specialising in sustainable economic development.

Marje Russ
Director
Marje is an environmental and resource management specialist. She served on the Board of Tonkin & Taylor Group and is the Chair of the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Our leadership team

James Stevenson-Wallace
CEO
James is an experienced regulator and policy advisor to Government with strong ties to the natural resources sector.

Dr Fiona Carswell
Chief Scientist
Fiona is passionate about good science making a positive difference for society and the environment.

Dr Peter Millard
GM Science
Developing new research collaborations and co-leading our science portfolios.

Graham Sevicke-Jones
GM Science and Knowledge Translation
Applying our science to environmental challenges.

Chris McDermott
CIO
Enabling high impact research through technology and communication.

Richard Eglinton
GM Corporate Services
Providing risk, financial, legal and operational support.

Kylie Hansen
GM People & Culture
Building a great culture with great people.

Holden Hohaia
GM Te Tiriti Strategy
Committed to implementing Manaaki Whenua’s Te Tiriti & Māori data governance Obligations.

Dr Nancy Garrity
GM Māori Partnerships
Building and implementing genuine, mutually valuable partnerships and growth with iwi, hapū Māori.

Summary of financial performance

Summary table of group financial performance indicators

	2021 Achieved	2022 Achieved	2023 Achieved
Revenue, $M	97.1	95.7	114.8
EBIT, $M	4.6	2.4	2.3
NPAT, $M	3.3	1.6	3.1
Total assets, $M	101.9	107.8	116.6
Return on equity	6.4%	2.9%	5.6%

Financial Performance

Total Revenue of $114.8m for the 2023 year was $19.1m (20%) higher than the previous year. This uplift on the prior year is driven by strong growth in Parent revenue from research programmes due to successful bidding on contestable projects, and a return to business as usual following the prior two years of Covid-19 disruption. Toitū revenue finished strongly with a $1.4m (8.7%) uplift on budget, driven by strong advisory revenue and carbon credit sales. Group Net Profit after tax at $3.1m indicates continued financial sustainability.

In 2023/24 Manaaki Whenua’s revenue is budgeted at $127.6 million. This reflects:

- increased revenue in key areas due to government and sector reforms, and alignment with key strategic values
- capability growth
- increased revenue from Toitū activity, reflecting market and regulatory conditions.

The BioHeritage National Science Challenge together with a number of MBIE Endeavour research investments come to an end in 2023/24 reflecting increased funding risk. This funding is likely to become more competitive and difficult to come by, placing increased reliance on Non-MBIE funding. The business is confident that there are several funding opportunities available.

The years 2023/24 and 2024/25 represent a period of continued reinvestment for Manaaki Whenua, utilising balance sheet reserves generated from past profits to maintain capability while we reposition and continue our emphasis on finding alternative investment. In addition, we will focus on reducing the deferred work balance which has built up due to capacity constraints and delays caused by the events of the past two years.

As a CRI we aim for maximum impact to Aotearoa New Zealand through our purpose. Our balance sheet and cashflows enable us to continue investing in this purpose. We do not seek to maximise profit beyond what is needed for financial resilience, which is agreed in advance with our shareholding Ministers.

Summary of non-financial performance

Non-financial performance indicators

Indicator	Measure	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
End-user collaboration	Revenue per FTE from commercial sources ($000s)[a, b]	>$60	$79.5
Research collaboration [a, b]	Percentage of papers co-authored (total)	75-90%	93%
	Co-authored with other AoNZ organisations	25–30%	34%
	Overseas co-authors	30-35%	39%
	Both AoNZ and overseas co-authors	20-25%	20%
Technology and knowledge transfer	Commercial reports per scientist FTE[a, f]	0.75-0.85	0.61
	Availability of data from our SSIF-funded databases, collections, and information systems (assessed by a variety of metrics appropriate to each; metrics online)	Increasing trends	Increasing trends
	Response rate for requests to our SSIF-funded biological collections and associated infrastructure (specimen transactions, identifications, visits)	>95%	98%
	New and improved products, processes, and services	>35	44
	Presentations to stakeholders and community groups	100	157
Science quality	Impact of scientific publications (mean citation score)[a, b]	3.5-4.5	4.6
Financial indicator	Revenue per FTE ($000s) [a]	>$240	$241.1

[a] Generic indicators required by MBIE across all CRIs are at the Manaaki Whenua Group level; the rest are at Parent level.
[b] Common with or related to SSIF Programmes Investment Contract key performance indicator(s).
[c] Based on an internally run stakeholder survey administered biennially.

Summary of non-financial performance continued

Indicator	Measure	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
Stakeholder engagement	Percentage of relevant end-users who have adopted knowledge and/or technology from Manaaki Whenua[b, d, e]	>65%	89%
	Percentage of relevant funding partners and other end-users that have a high level of satisfaction in our ability to set research priorities[b, d, e]	>60%	56%
	Percentage of stakeholders involved in a specific research team/partnership that have a high level of confidence in our ability to form the best team for the collaboration we are involved in[b, d, e]	>65%	69%
	Staff invited to participate in stakeholder meetings or workshops.	145	152
Vision Mātauranga	Number of positive strategic partnerships with iwi and Māori organisations in which we link science and mātauranga, and address Māori goals and aspirations[b]	>100	177
Commercialisation	Number of new and existing licensing deals involving Manaaki Whenua-derived IP (including technologies, products and services)	20-25	39
High performance culture	Staff engagement in survey evaluations	>80%	76%
	Staff retention rate	90%	90%

[b] Common with or related to SSIF Programmes Investment Contract key performance indicator(s).
[d] Does not include survey respondents who were unsure.
[e] Those who scored 8, 9, or 10 on a 0–10 scale.
[f] A decrease in demand for reports from Central Government agencies (2020=41%, 2023=27%) as well as an increase in science FTEs (+7%) is reducing the number of reports per FTE.

Report of the Directors

For the year ended 30 June 2023

The Directors of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited are pleased to report that the Company fulfilled its obligations under the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992 for the year ended 30 June 2023. The disclosures relate to Landcare Research New Zealand Limited and its subsidiaries (the 'Group').

The Company is a private company limited by shares and incorporated in accordance with the Companies Act 1993.

Principal activity

Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research's principal activity is to provide scientific research that fulfils our Core Purpose in accordance with the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992.

Operating results

Group revenue for the year increased to $114.8 million from $95.7 million in the previous year. The consolidated net surplus before taxation expense for the year was $3.7 million and the consolidated net surplus after tax attributable to shareholders was $3.1 million.

Remuneration of Directors

Directors' fees are set by the shareholding Ministers annually.

	2022/23 $	**2021/22 $**
Landcare Research New Zealand Limited		
Paul Reynolds[a]	69,930	80,405
Caroline Saunders	23,944	23,944
John Rodwell[b]	38,686	38,569
Justine Gilliland	23,944	23,944
Colin Dawson[c]	47,888	19,953
Marje Russ[d]	23,944	9,977
Warren Williams[d]	23,944	9,977
Ngarimu Blair[e]	16,606	23,944
Andrea Byrom[f]	1,995	-
Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited (trading as Toitū Envirocare)		
Kirsty Campbell	30,000	30,000
Paul J Munro	30,000	30,000

[a] Includes fees as Chair of Toitū Envirocare. Acting Chair for MWLR to 31 January 2022.
[b] Includes remuneration as MWLR member of the BioHeritage National Science Challenge Board.
[c] Chair of MWLR Board from 1 February 2022.
[d] Appointed to MWLR Board 1 February 2022.
[e] Resigned from MWLR Board 10 March 2023.
[f] Appointed to MWLR Board 1 June 2023.

Changes to Board composition

Ngarimu Blair resigned from the Board effective 10 March 2023.

Andrea Byrom was appointed to the Board on 1 June 2023.

Subsidiaries

The Directors of the two subsidiary companies are:

Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited trading as Toitū Envirocare

Paul H S Reynolds

Kirsty Campbell

Paul J Munro

Fiona E Carswell (to November 2022)

James Stevenson-Wallace (from November 2022)

Landcare Research US Limited

Richard F S Gordon (to February 2023)

James Stevenson-Wallace (from February 2023)

Richard Eglinton (from February 2023)

Directors' insurance

The Company has Directors' and Officers' insurance cover in respect of any act or omission in their capacity as a Director of the company. The Company has indemnified Directors and certain employees of the Company for costs and proceedings and for liabilities incurred by the employee in respect of any act or omission in his or her capacity as an employee of the Company. The indemnity for liabilities incurred does not extend to criminal liability or liability for breach of a fiduciary duty owed to the Company.

Dividends

No dividends have been declared or paid in respect of the 2023 financial year.

Directors' interests

Any business the Group has transacted with organisations in which a Director has an association has been carried out on a commercial 'arms-length' basis.

Compliance

The Directors confirm that the Company has operated in accordance with the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992 and the Companies Act 1993 during the year. The activities undertaken by the Company in the year are in accordance with the Landcare Research Statement of Core Purpose.

No Directors acquired or disposed of equity securities in the company during the year; and the Board has received no notices from Directors of the company requesting to use company information received in their capacity as Directors which would not otherwise have been available to them.

Donations

The Group made $3,595 of donations during the year (2022: $33,577). These donations largely relate to payments to charitable organisations in connection with the Rural Decision Makers Survey which is completed every second year.

Auditors

Anthony Smith of Deloitte Limited has been appointed as the audit service provider by the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the statutory auditor pursuant to section 14 of the Public Audit Act 2001 and section 21 of the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992. Their audit remuneration and fees are detailed in note 2 of the 'Notes to the financial statements'.

Events subsequent to balance date

No subsequent events.

Signed for and on behalf of the Board

Colin Dawson
Chair

29 September 2023

Paul Reynolds
Deputy Chair

29 September 2023

Remuneration and compensation

Executive Remuneration

Executive Remuneration will be managed within the terms and conditions of the Executive Remuneration policy summarised below. This policy sets out remuneration elements and design principles informing the remuneration arrangements for executive management. Remuneration practices throughout MWLR should be transparent in the way in which they are determined and administered and will always conform to sound corporate governance principles.

Governance

The People & Culture Committee, a committee of the MWLR Board, oversees the application and implementation of the Executive Remuneration policy.

Basic pay principles

Pay principles offer clarity and guide decisions around executive remuneration that ensure fair, competitive and appropriate pay for the markets in which MWLR operates.

- MWLR's executive pay principles aim to pay Executives at a level commensurate with their contribution to MWLR and appropriately based on skill, experience and performance achieved.
- The level of remuneration paid is considered appropriate for motivation and retention of the calibre of executive required to ensure the successful formation and delivery of MWLR's strategy and management of the environments in which it operates.
- Executive remuneration is set having regard to typical pay levels at companies of a similar size and role complexity.
- When reviewing remuneration, the Committee considers all relevant factors, including:
    - Prevailing market and economic conditions
    - Organisational performance and individual experience and contribution
    - Internal equity and pay parity
    - Accurate benchmark position and job size
    - Market benchmark survey results
    - Public Service Commission guidance.

Executive pay position and structure

MWLR participates in industry and profession-based market salary surveys using external remuneration consultants to understand what the market is paying for roles like ours.

Executive remuneration consists of base salary and benefits, which makes up Total Remuneration. In the 2017/18 and 2018/19 years remuneration included an At Risk component, but from the 2019/20 year there has not been an At Risk component to the Salary Package.

The base salary and Total Remuneration Position in Range of individual executives are reviewed against the All Organisations Base Salary Market Median Line and the All Organisations Total Remuneration Market Median Line.

MWLR aims to position executive remuneration at the appropriate Position in Range (PIR) of the relevant All Organisations Market Median Line. Experienced executives are positioned at a 90-120% PIR.

Base salary increases are capped at 120% PIR of the All Organisations Base Salary Market Median Line and one-off performance payments may be considered in this regard.

Total executive remuneration for the 2022/23 financial year excluding CEO and Acting CEO remuneration was $2,457,418 (FY2021/22: $2,564,798). This includes the remuneration of the 18 leadership team individuals, including the BioHeritage Director and the CEO of Toitū Envirocare.

The number of executive members increased to 18 executive members in 2022/23 from 11 last year (2021/22), due to 4 new appointments and 3 appointed in acting roles, offset by 3 resignations. These movements are reflected in the below employee remuneration banding table based on their remuneration received pro-rata for the portion of the year they were employed for.

FY2022/23 Chief Executive's Remuneration Structure

The Board elected, in the interest of transparency, to disclose the structure of the CEO's remuneration package over a three-year period. Fiona Carswell (Chief Scientist) was appointed Acting Chief Executive last year until the new Chief Executive started, and the remuneration received for the period from 1 July 2022 to 24 October 2022 was $144,837. A new Chief Executive, James Stevenson-Wallace, was appointed on 25 October 2022; for the period 25 October 2022 to 30 June 2023, and the remuneration received was $357,347 (8 months of annual salary) including $22,667 benefits relating to superannuation and accommodation.

No annual increment in the CEO's package has been made at the time of publishing this report, consistent with our practice for senior managers' remuneration in the current year.

Employee remuneration

In accordance with section 152(1)(c) of the Crown Entities Act 2004, the number of employees who received remuneration and other benefits totalling $100,000 or more, in $10,000 bands, is shown below. This relates to the MWLR Group including Toitū Envirocare and BioHeritage National Science Challenge.

	Number of Employees	
Total Cost to the Group	**2022/23**	**2021/22**
$470,000 - $479,999	-	1[a]
$350,000 - $359,999	1*	-
$330,000 - $339,999	1	1[b]
$290,000 - $299,999	-	1
$280,000 - $289,999	2	1
$260,000 - $269,999	1	1
$250,000 - $259,999	2	2
$230,000 - $239,999	-	2
$210,000 - $219,999	1	1
$200,000 - $209,999	1	-
$190,000 - $199,999	2	-
$180,000 - $189,999	3	2
$170,000 - $179,999	4	7
$160,000 - $169,999	12**	8
$150,000 - $159,999	9	15
$140,000 - $149,999	22	11
$130,000 - $139,999	20	17
$120,000 - $129,999	23	30
$110,000 - $119,999	52	17
$100,000 - $109,999	56	56
Total	**212**	**173**

*New Chief Executive of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited (Annual salary pro-rata from 25 October to 30 June 2023).
** New Chief Executive of Toitū Envirocare Limited (Annual salary pro-rata from 16 January 2023 to 30 June 2023).
[a] Chief Executive of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited.
[b] Chief Executive of Toitū Envirocare Limited.

This table includes nil redundancies and two termination payments to employees in 2022/23 (2021/22: nil redundancies, 2 terminations). Staff remuneration is measured on based on their remuneration received pro-rata for the portion of the year they were employed for.

Group Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2023

		GROUP		
		30 Jun 23	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Note	Actual $000s	Budget $000s	Actual $000s
Revenue from operations	1	113,181	114,855	95,257
Finance interest income	1	1,578	769	419
Total revenue		**114,759**	**115,624**	**95,676**
Finance costs	2	262	250	242
Operating expenses	2	110,846	115,654	92,887
Total expenses		**111,108**	**115,904**	**93,129**
Profit / (Loss) before tax		**3,651**	**(280)**	**2,547**
Income tax expense	23	517	(81)	994
Total comprehensive income		**3,134**	**(199)**	**1,553**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023

		GROUP		
		30 Jun 23	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
		Actual	Budget	Actual
	Note	$000s	$000s	$000s
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	3	10,396	8,443	8,255
Trade and other receivables	4	8,333	7,310	6,472
Inventories		254	500	575
Other financial assets	3	42,664	33,771	38,588
Contract assets	5	4,788	5,190	3,028
Finance lease receivable	6	64	53	58
Property held for sale		-	-	349
Total current assets		**66,499**	**55,267**	**57,325**
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	7	44,425	46,382	44,791
Right-of-use assets	8	4,244	4,891	4,493
Patents and intellectual property	9	491	537	486
Intangible assets	10	148	-	207
Deferred tax asset	23	624	437	262
Finance lease receivable	6	127	579	190
Total non-current assets		**50,059**	**52,826**	**50,429**
Total assets		**116,558**	**108,093**	**107,754**
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	12	13,819	11,341	11,049
Employee benefit liabilities	13	6,069	5,672	5,061
Contract liability (revenue in advance)	15	34,379	36,483	31,868
Lease liability	14	344	532	298
Tax payable		131	(1,169)	187
Total current liabilities		**54,742**	**52,859**	**48,463**
Non-current liabilities				
Employee benefit liabilities	13	624	1,219	987
Lease liability	14	4,134	4,703	4,380
Total non-current liabilities		**4,758**	**5,922**	**5,367**
Total liabilities		**59,500**	**58,781**	**53,830**
NET ASSETS		**57,058**	**49,312**	**53,924**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023 continued

		GROUP		
		30 Jun 23	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
		Actual	Budget	Actual
	Note	$000s	$000s	$000s
EQUITY				
Ordinary shares	16	10,515	10,515	10,515
Retained earnings	16	46,543	38,797	43,409
Total equity		**57,058**	**49,312**	**53,924**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Colin Dawson
Chair

29 September 2023

Paul Reynolds
Deputy Chair

29 September 2023

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2023

	GROUP		
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 23 Budget $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Balance at 1 July	**53,924**	**49,511**	**52,371**
Total comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June	3,134	(199)	1,553
Balance at 30 June	**57,058**	**49,312**	**53,924**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2023

	GROUP		
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	**30 Jun 23 Budget $000s**	**30 Jun 22 Actual $000s**
Cashflows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers	111,521	114,855	101,372
Interest received	1,323	769	338
Payments to suppliers and employees	(102,934)	(109,522)	(89,162)
Interest paid	(257)	(250)	(242)
Tax (paid)/refund	(841)	81	13
Net cash generated from / (used in) operating activities	**8,812**	**5,933**	**12,319**
Cashflows from investing activities			
Sale of property, plant and equipment	2,306	-	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(4,700)	(7,041)	(3,324)
Purchase and sale of short-term investments	(4,076)	-	(12,297)
Net cash generated from / (used in) investing activities	**(6,470)**	**(7,041)**	**(15,621)**
Cashflows from financing activities			
Repayment of lease liabilities	(201)	(532)	(692)
Net cash generated from / (used in) financing activities	**(201)**	**(532)**	**(692)**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	**2,141**	**(1,640)**	**(3,994)**
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at beginning of year	8,255	10,083	12,249
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at end of year	**10,396**	**8,443**	**8,255**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2023 continued

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	**30 Jun 22 Actual $000s**
Reconciliation of net profit after tax to net cash flow from operating activities		
Profit / (loss) after tax	3,134	1,553
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	5,142	5,001
Movement in non-current employee entitlements	(363)	49
Increase / (decrease) in deferred tax	(362)	559
Add / (less) items classified as investing or financing activities:		
Movement in financial assets	63	59
Gain on sale of assets	(1,955)	-
Add / (less) movements in working capital items:		
Inventory	670	(181)
Trade and other receivables	(3,372)	544
Interest receivable	(255)	(81)
Trade and other payables	2,591	(1,682)
Employee benefit liabilities	1,008	488
Revenue in advance	2,511	6,010
Net cash inflow from operating activities	**8,812**	**12,319**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Preparation disclosures

Reporting entity

Landcare Research New Zealand Limited, trading as Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research (MWLR) is a Crown Research Institute governed by the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992, Crown Entities Act 2004, Companies Act 1993 and the Public Finance Act 1989. The Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research Group ('the Group') consists of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited and its subsidiaries, Landcare Research US Limited (100% owned) and Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited (trading as Toitū Envirocare) (100% owned). Landcare Research New Zealand Limited and Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited are incorporated and domiciled in New Zealand; Landcare Research US Limited is incorporated and domiciled in the USA.

These audited financial statements of the Group are for the year ended 30 June 2023 and were authorised by the Board of MWLR on 29 September 2023.

Nature of Activities

The core purpose of the Group is to drive innovation in New Zealand's management of terrestrial biodiversity and land resources in order to both protect and enhance the terrestrial environment and grow New Zealand's prosperity.

Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements of the Group comply with NZ IFRS and other applicable financial reporting standards, including generally accepted accounting practice, as appropriate for Tier 1 for-profit entities. The financial statements also comply with IFRS.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, with the exception of derivative financial instruments that have been measured at fair value. The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, the functional currency of the Group, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars ($000).

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency, using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions are recognised in the profit or loss.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Subsidiaries

Where the Group has the capacity to control the financing and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities, all such entities are consolidated as subsidiaries within the Group financial statements. This power exists where the Group controls the majority voting power on the governing body, or where such policies have been irreversibly predetermined by the Group, or where the determination of such policies is unable to materially impact the level of potential ownership benefits that arise from the activities of the subsidiary.

The Group measures the cost of a business combination as the aggregate of the fair values, at the date of exchange, of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, in exchange for control of the subsidiary plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination. Any excess of the cost of the business combination over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities is recognised as goodwill. If the Group's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognised exceeds the cost of the business combination, the difference will be recognised immediately in the profit or loss.

Basis of consolidation

The purchase method is used to prepare the consolidated financial statements; this involves adding together like items of assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses on a line-by-line basis. All significant intragroup balances, transactions, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation.

MWLR's investment in its subsidiaries is carried at cost less impairment in its 'Parent entity' financial statements.

New accounting standards and interpretations

No new accounting standards or interpretations that became effective for the year ended 30 June 2023 had an impact on the Group.

Certain new accounting standards and amendments have been issued that are not mandatory for the year ended 30 June 2023 and have not been early adopted by the Group. The Group has assessed that these are not likely to have an effect on its financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

In preparing these financial statements the Group has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations or future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies

The Directors and Management have exercised the following critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2023:

1. *One performance obligation*

   NZ IFRS 15 introduced the concept of identifying and quantifying distinct performance obligations within contracts. The Group has concluded that for the majority of contracts it is difficult to identify distinct benefits that are not interrelated to other contracted deliverables. Therefore, the Group has made the judgement that each research contract represents one performance obligation.

2. *Input method*

   NZ IFRS 15 permits either output or input methods for revenue recognition over time. The Group has made the judgement that the input method (labour hours input plus operating costs) is a more accurate method of measuring progress toward satisfaction of a performance obligation.

3. *Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment*

   The Group assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, the Group estimates the asset's recoverable amount. When the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount.

Change in accounting policies

The accounting policies detailed above have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 and have been consistently applied throughout the year. There have been no changes in accounting policies in comparison with the prior year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

1 Revenue

Revenue from operations consisted of the following items:	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Accounted for under NZ IAS 20 government grant		
MBIE SSIF funding	27,126	26,926
Accounted for under NZ IFRS 15: Revenue		
MBIE Non-SSIF funding	39,275	33,473
Research contracts with other customers		
Crown Research Institutes	1,870	1,250
New Zealand Other	20,846	17,925
International	3,844	2,064
	26,560	**21,239**
Interest revenue		
Bank deposits	1,558	394
Finance leases	20	25
	1,578	**419**
Rental income	1,084	1,110
Subsidiary income (Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited)	17,008	11,943
Gain on sale/disposal of non-current assets	1,955	-
Other income	173	566
Total revenue	**114,759**	**95,676**
Total revenue (excluding finance interest income)	**113,181**	**95,257**

Strategic Funding

MWLR and the Crown are parties to a Strategic Science Investment Fund – Programmes Investment Contract (SSIF Contract) under which the Crown contracts MWLR to perform research activities that support MWLR's Statement of Core Purpose (SCP). Specific SCP outcomes, and their associated delivery programmes, are agreed annually with Shareholding Ministers and documented in MWLR's Statement of Corporate Intent. For financial reporting purposes this Strategic Funding is treated as a Government Grant in terms of NZ IAS 20 *Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance.*

MWLR and the Crown are parties to a National Science Challenge Strategic Science Investment Fund – Ngā Rākau Taketake Platform (NRT Contract) under which the Crown contracts MWLR to perform research activities that support the Ngā Rākau Taketake Platform. Specific outcomes, and their associated delivery programmes, are agreed over the term of the agreement with Shareholding Ministers. For financial reporting purposes this Strategic Funding is treated as Government Grant in terms of NZ IAS 20. NRT Contract projects are completed over the life of the contract based on milestones, and are recognised as revenue on a systematic basis over the periods in which MWLR recognises as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate.

Rendering of services – Research contracts with other customers

MBIE Non-SSIF and "Research contracts with other customers" is revenue that relates to scientific research contracts with government departments, local government within New Zealand and overseas, and commercial customers. These scientific research contracts are characterised by interrelated scientific research obligations that work towards an overarching scientific objective. MWLR's performance obligation to these clients is to carry out ongoing research towards the overarching scientific objective. Each contract is viewed as one performance obligation. The transaction price allocated to the performance obligation is determined based on the fixed consideration outlined in the contract billing schedule. Research hours input incurred, plus operating costs incurred (input method) are used as the basis for over time revenue recognition and are a faithful depiction of scientist progression towards research conclusions.

Contract liability

Payment terms for research contracts are established via the expressed terms of the contract and payment is made on this predetermined periodic basis. Payment terms are intended to compensate for the fulfilment of performance obligations over a 12-month or shorter period. As revenue is recognised over time, there may be some short-term timing differences between payment and revenue recognition. Upfront payments will result in a contract liability (revenue in advance) while performance obligation progression in advance of payment will result in an accrual of revenue or a contract asset.

Commercialisation revenue

Commercialisation revenue relates to our work around identifying and developing opportunities to commercialise research outputs which may provide benefit to other entities.

Rental income relates to property rental income from our shared sites around New Zealand.

In financial year 2023 the subsidiary company received $4,633,317 (2022: $3,080,891) revenue for sale of carbon credits. It has been determined that control is not transferred to the customer overtime and therefore point in time revenue recognition is more appropriate. Therefore, revenue is recognised upon invoicing when a present right to payment is evident.

Gain on disposal of assets

The gain or loss on disposal is the difference between net consideration received and the carrying amount of the portion disposed within the fixed asset register.

2 Total expenses

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Profit before income tax has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:		
Finance costs		
Interest on leases	249	242
Interest - other	13	-
Employee remuneration	50,423	43,798
Superannuation contributions	1,778	1,607
Employee entitlements increase/(decrease)	442	537
Net bad and doubtful debts/(debt recovered)	-	(13)
Auditor's remuneration		
Deloitte Limited - audit services	182	-
Audit New Zealand - audit services	-	164
Directors' fees	316	276
Depreciation and amortisation of property, plant, equipment and intangibles	5,142	5,001
Impairment of plant, equipment and intangibles	9	12
Loss on sale/disposal of non-current assets	7	2
Site and property expenses	113	107
Cost of sales	4,279	2,846
Subcontracting costs	32,996	26,051
Other expenses	15,159	12,499
Total expenses	**111,108**	**93,129**

Provisions

The Group recognises a provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive), as a result of a past event, that probable expenditures will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation, using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as an interest expense.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset (i.e. an asset that necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale) are capitalised as part of the cost of that asset in accordance with NZ IAS 23 Borrowing Costs. All other borrowing costs are expensed in the period they occur.

Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

3 Cash and cash equivalents

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank and in hand	8,016	5,925
Short-term deposits (maturity dates <3 months from date of acquisition)	2,380	2,330
Total cash and cash equivalents	**10,396**	**8,255**
Other financial assets		
Short-term deposits	42,664	38,588

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position.

The carrying value of short-term deposits with maturity dates of three months or less approximates their fair value.

Cash at bank and short-term deposits includes research contracts where funding is received in advance that is unspent and subject to performance obligations have yet to be carried out. The balance of unspent revenue is outlined in Note 15 Contract liability.

4 Trade and other receivables

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
Trade debtors	5,810	4,371
Sundry debtors	-	850
Bank deposit accrued interest	410	155
Prepayments	2,142	1,125
	8,362	6,501
Less provision for impairment of receivables	(29)	(29)
Total trade and other receivables	8,333	6,472
Movements in the provision for impairment of receivables are as follows:		
As at 1 July	29	42
Movement in provision	-	(13)
As at 30 June	29	29
Age of trade debtors:		
Current (30 days or less)	3,117	4,178
Outstanding (greater than 30 days)	2,693	193
Total trade debtors	**5,810**	**4,371**

Trade and other receivables are initially measured at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment.

Loans are initially recognised at the present value of their expected future cash flows, discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar asset/investment. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The difference between the face value and the present value of expected future cash flows of the loan is recognised as a grant expense.

The Group applies the NZ IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses to determine any provision for impairment of receivables. A provision of $29,000 has been made for the Group (2022: $29,000).

The carrying value of trade and other receivables approximates their fair value. The carrying value of loans to related parties approximates their fair value.

Apart from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, which is Government owned, there is no concentration of credit risk to receivables outside the Group, as the Group has a large number of customers.

5 Contract assets

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
Contract assets	4,788	3,028

The contract asset balance represents where MWLR has satisfied a performance obligation but cannot recognise a receivable until other obligations are satisfied. The majority of the 2023 contract asset liability balance is expected to be released in financial years 2024 and 2025.

6 Finance lease receivable

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
Analysis of finance lease receivable		
Total minimum lease payments are receivable:		
Not later than one year	78	78
Later than one year and not later than five years	138	216
Total minimum lease payments are receivable:	216	294
Future finance charges	(25)	(46)
Total present value of minimum lease payments	**191**	**248**
Present value of minimum lease payments are receivable:		
Not later than one year	64	58
Later than one year and not later than five years	127	190
Total	**191**	**248**
Current	64	58
Non-current	127	190
Total	**191**	**248**

A finance lease is a lease that substantially transfers to the lessee all risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, whether or not title is eventually transferred.

At the commencement of the lease term, the Group recognises finance lease assets held under a finance lease in the Statement of Financial Position and presents them as a receivable at an amount equal to the net investment in the lease. The amount recognised as finance income is based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the lessor's net investment in the finance lease.

Finance lease receivable relates to the animal house facility. The building transferred to Lincoln University for nil in 2016. MWLR has the right to continue occupying the building for a further three years to 2026 at a rent of $1.00 per annum.

Note 8 provides additional information on accounting policies relating to leases.

7 Property, plant and equipment

	GROUP					
	Land	**Buildings**	**Plant & equipment**	**Library assets**	**Capital work-in-progress**	**Total**
	$000s	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**
2022						
Cost at 1 July 2021	1,919	25,711	56,513	8,924	15,776	108,843
Accumulated depreciation and impairment charges	-	(10,404)	(44,292)	(8,325)	-	(63,021)
Net book value at the beginning of the year	**1,919**	**15,307**	**12,221**	**599**	**15,776**	**45,822**
Year ended 30 June 2022						
Net book value at the beginning of the year	1,919	15,307	12,221	599	15,776	45,822
Additions	-	684	2,796	-	273	3,753
Disposals	-	(895)	(7,752)	-	-	(8,647)
Transfers	-	13,950	1,826	-	(15,767)	9
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	-	895	7,752	-	-	8,647
Fair value impairment	-	(8)	-	-	-	(8)
Reclassified as "assets held for sale"	(349)	-	-	-	-	(349)
Current year depreciation	-	(611)	(3,816)	(9)	-	(4,436)
Net book value at the end of the year	**1,570**	**29,322**	**13,027**	**590**	**282**	**44,791**
At 30 June 2022						
Cost	1,570	39,442	53,383	8,924	282	103,601
Accumulated depreciation	-	(10,120)	(40,356)	(8,334)	-	(58,810)
Net book value at the end of the year	**1,570**	**29,322**	**13,027**	**590**	**282**	**44,791**

7 Property, plant and equipment continued

	GROUP					
	Land	**Buildings**	**Plant & equipment**	**Library assets**	**Capital work-in-progress**	**Total**
	$000s	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**
2023						
Cost at 1 July 2022	1,570	39,442	53,383	8,924	282	103,601
Accumulated depreciation and impairment charges	-	(10,120)	(40,356)	(8,334)	-	(58,810)
Net book value at the beginning of the year	**1,570**	**29,322**	**13,027**	**590**	**282**	**44,791**
Year ended 30 June 2023						
Net book value at the beginning of the year	1,570	29,322	13,027	590	282	44,791
Additions	-	81	3,832	-	214	4,127
Disposals	-	(229)	(9,502)	-	-	(9,731)
Transfers	(6)	(1,601)	1,853	-	(246)	-
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	-	227	9,611	-	-	9,838
Current year depreciation	-	(690)	(3,904)	(6)	-	(4,600)
Net book value at the end of the year	**1,564**	**27,110**	**14,917**	**584**	**250**	**44,425**
At 30 June 2023						
Cost	1,564	37,693	49,566	8,924	250	97,997
Accumulated depreciation	-	(10,583)	(34,649)	(8,340)	-	(53,572)
Net book value at the end of the year	**1,564**	**27,110**	**14,917**	**584**	**250**	**44,425**

Property, plant and equipment consists of:

- *Operational assets* – these include land, buildings, library books, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles.
- *Restricted assets* – these are collections and databases, held by the Group, that provide a benefit or service to the community and cannot be disposed of because of legal or other restrictions.

Certain buildings are on leased land with various restrictions on sale of the buildings.

Property, plant and equipment are shown at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Assets are not reported with a financial value in cases where they are not realistically able to be reproduced or replaced, and when they do not generate cash flows and where no market exists to provide a valuation.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Disposals

Gains and losses are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposals are included in profit or loss.

Subsequent costs

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Impairment of property, plant and equipment

The Group assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, the Group estimates the asset's recoverable amount. When the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on the Group's property, plant and equipment, other than land, at rates that will write off the cost of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. All depreciable assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis. The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year end.

Depreciation rates

Buildings	12.5 – 60 years	1.67 - 8%
Plant and equipment	1.5 – 30 years	3.33 - 67%
IT equipment	4 years	25%
Motor vehicles	4 – 7.4 years	13.48 - 25%
Furniture and fittings	5 – 60 years	1.67- 20%
Office equipment	1.4 - 16.3 years	6.15 - 71%
Rare books collection	100 years	1%

Heritage assets

Heritage collection assets are those assets held for the duration of their physical lives because of their unique scientific importance. The Crown, when establishing Crown Research Institutes in 1992, transferred various national databases and reference collections to individual Institutes at nil value. Many of these databases and collections were specifically identified by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology as being of significant national importance, and they have covenants attached to them restricting an Institute's ability to deal with them.

MWLR has the following nationally significant collections and databases that have been defined as heritage assets:

- The New Zealand Arthropod Collection (NZAC), including the New Zealand National Nematode Collection (NZNNC) and associated database NZACbugs, BUGS bibliography and Pacific database.
- The New Zealand Fungal & Plant Disease Herbarium (PDD).
- The International Collection of Micro-Organisms from Plants (ICMP) and associated NZ Fungi Database.
- The Allan Herbarium.
- The National Vegetation Survey Databank (NVS).
- The 'Ngā Tipu Whakaoranga' Ethnobotany Database and New Zealand Flax and Living Plant collections.

The nature of these heritage assets and their significance to the science and research that MWLR undertakes make it necessary to disclose them.

No reliable valuation is able to be obtained for these assets, and so they remain at nil value.

A rare books collection, previously considered to be part of the reference collections, was introduced in financial year 2003 on a market value basis. This value has been accepted as deemed cost, and no impairment has been identified. Refer to Note 22 for Group policy on impairment assessment of these assets.

8 Right-of-use assets

	GROUP			
2022	**Land $000s**	**Buildings $000s**	**Plant & Equipment $000s**	**Total $000s**
Gross carrying amounts				
Balance at 1 July 2021	4,180	1,729	334	6,243
Additions and modifications	(82)	(618)	(52)	(752)
Balance at 30 June 2022	**4,098**	**1,111**	**282**	**5,491**
Depreciation and impairment				
Balance at 1 July 2021	243	596	229	1,068
Depreciation on modification	(76)	(50)	(132)	(258)
Depreciation	121	38	29	188
Balance at 30 June 2022	**288**	**584**	**126**	**998**
Carrying amount at 30 June 2022	**3,810**	**527**	**156**	**4,493**

	GROUP			
2023	**Land $000s**	**Buildings $000s**	**Plant & Equipment $000s**	**Total $000s**
Gross carrying amounts				
Balance at 1 July 2022	4,098	1,111	282	5,491
Modifications	-	186	39	225
Disposals	-	(20)	(10)	(30)
Balance at 30 June 2023	**4,098**	**1,277**	**311**	**5,686**
Depreciation and impairment				
Balance at 1 July 2022	288	584	126	998
Depreciation on disposal	-	(20)	(10)	(30)
Depreciation	121	263	90	474
Balance at 30 June 2023	**409**	**827**	**206**	**1,442**
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	**3,689**	**450**	**105**	**4,244**

The Group as a lessee

For any new contracts entered into, the Group assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease. A lease is defined as 'a contract or part of a contract, that conveys the right-to-use an asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration'. To apply this definition the Group assesses whether the contract meets three key evaluations which are whether:

- The contract contains an identified asset, which is either explicitly identified in the contract or implicitly specified by being identified at the time the asset is made available to the group.
- The Group has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the identified asset throughout the period of use, considering its rights within the defined scope of the contract.
- The Group has the right to direct the use of the identified asset throughout the period of use.

The Group assesses whether it has the right to direct 'how and for what purpose' the asset is used throughout the period of use.

Measurement and recognition of leases as a lessee

At lease commencement date, the Group recognises a Right-of-Use asset and a Lease Liability on the balance sheet. The Right-of-Use asset is measured at cost, which is made up of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any initial direct costs incurred by the Group, an estimate of any costs to dismantle and remove the asset at the end of the lease term, and any lease payments made in advance of the lease commencement date.

The Group depreciates the Right-of-Use assets on a straight-line basis from the leases' commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The Group also assesses the right-of-use asset for impairment when such indicators exist.

At the commencement date, the Group measures the lease liability at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at that date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily available or the Group's incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of lease liability are made up of fixed payments and payments arising from options reasonably certain to be exercised.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any re-assessment or modification.

When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset, or profit or loss if the right-of-use asset is already reduced to zero.

The Group has elected to account for short-term leases using the practical expedients. Instead of recognising a right of use asset and lease liability, the payments in relation to these are recognised as an expense in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

In the statement of financial position, Right-Of-Use assets have been disclosed separately and the liability from leases is classified as Lease Liabilities.

The Group as a lessor

As a lessor the Group classifies its leases as either operating or finance leases.

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the underlying asset and classified as an operating lease if it does not.

The Group has leases for land and buildings and related facilities, IT equipment and some vehicles. With the exception of short-term leases each lease is reflected on the balance sheet as a Right-of-Use asset and a Lease Liability. The Group classifies its Right-of-Use assets in a consistent manner to its Property, Plant and Equipment (see note 8).

Leases of vehicles are generally limited to a term of 1 year. Leases of land and buildings generally have a lease term ranging from 1 to 7 years. Ground leases have remaining lease terms ranging between 22 years and 74 years. Office equipment generally has a lease term ranging from 1 to 4 years.

Each lease generally imposes a restriction that unless there is a contractual right for the Group to sublet the asset to another party, the Right-Of-Use asset can only be used by the Group. Leases are non-cancellable. For leases of buildings the Group must keep those properties in a good state of repair and return the properties in their original condition at the end of the lease.

The following table describes the nature of the Group's leasing activities by type of Right-of-Use asset recognised on the balance sheet.

Right-of-use asset	Number of right-of-use assets leased	Range of remaining lease term (years)	Average remaining lease term (years)	Number of leases with extension options	Number of leases with termination options
Land	3	22 - 74	46	3	2
Buildings	3	2 – 3	2	1	1
Motor vehicles	8	1	1	8	7
Plant and equipment	1	4	4	-	1

The use of extension and termination options gives the Group added flexibility in the event it has identified more suitable premises in terms of costs and/or location. The Group includes the extension or termination options where it is reasonability certain to be exercised. The Group subsequently reviews this if there is a significant event or change in circumstances beyond its control.

9 Patents and intellectual property

	GROUP
	Actual
	$000s
As at 1 July 2021	
Cost	655
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(148)
Net book amount	**507**
Year ended 30 June 2022	
Opening net book amount	507
Additions	19
Disposals / transfers	(83)
Amortisation on disposals / transfers	81
Amortisation and impairment charge	(38)
Closing net book amount	**486**
As at 1 July 2022	
Cost	591
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(105)
Net book amount	**486**
Year ended 30 June 2023	
Opening net book amount	486
Additions	15
Amortisation and impairment charge	(10)
Closing net book amount	**491**
As at 30 June 2023	
Cost	605
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(114)
Net book amount	**491**

Patents and intellectual property are capitalised on the basis of costs incurred. The useful life of trademarks is assessed as being indefinite as the trademark is renewed every ten years by paying the applicable fee, and continues in use.

The Group has patents and trademarks amounting to $491,000 (2022: $486,000) which are carried at cost in the financial statements but are reviewed annually for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset’s carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Amortisation of patents begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the profit or loss. Patents are depreciated at a rate of 5% per annum.

The Group conducted a comprehensive impairment review on 30 June 2023. This resulted in nil impairment in the Parent Company relating to trademarks.

10 Intangible assets

	GROUP		
	Software Actual $000s	Work in progress Actual $000s	Total Actual $000s
As at 1 July 2021			
Cost	3,069	28	3,097
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,958)	-	(2,958)
Net book amount	**111**	**28**	**139**
Year ended 30 June 2022			
Opening net book amount	111	28	139
Additions	180	-	180
Disposals / transfers	(1,026)	(28)	(1,054)
Amortisation on disposals / transfers	1,016	-	1,016
Amortisation and impairment charge	(74)	-	(74)
Closing net book amount	**207**	**-**	**207**
As at 1 July 2022			
Cost	2,223	-	2,223
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,016)	-	(2,016)
Net book amount	**207**	**-**	**207**
Year ended 30 June 2023			
Opening net book amount	207	-	207
Additions	7	-	7
Disposals / transfers	(43)	-	(43)
Amortisation on disposals / transfers	42	-	42
Amortisation and impairment charge	(65)	-	(65)
Closing net book amount	**148**	**-**	**148**
As at 30 June 2023			
Cost	2,187	-	2,187
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,039)	-	(2,039)
Net book amount	**148**	**-**	**148**

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) arrangements

SaaS arrangements are service contracts providing MWLR with the right to access the cloud provider's application software over the contract period. Costs incurred to configure or customise, and the ongoing fees to obtain access to the cloud provider's application software, are recognised as operating expenses when the services are received.

Software acquisition and website development costs

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. Costs associated with maintaining computer software and websites are recognised as an expense when incurred. Costs that are directly associated with the development of software and websites for internal use by the Group are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct costs include the software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised.

The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in profit or loss. The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of major classes of intangible assets have been estimated as follows:

Computer software	4 years	25%
Intellectual property	3-20 years	5-35%

11 Investments

MWLR has 100% interest in Landcare Research US Limited and Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited trading as Toitū Envirocare.

The subsidiaries and associate company are unlisted companies, and accordingly, there are no published price quotations to determine the fair value of these investments; therefore, they are accounted at cost less impairment.

MWLR has a 49% share in Staron LLC. This Company is non-trading.

12 Trade and other payables

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	**30 Jun 22**
	Actual $000s	**Actual $000s**
Trade payables	11,141	6,727
GST & PAYE	748	1,149
Sundry creditors and accruals	1,930	3,173
Total trade and other payables	**13,819**	**11,049**

The carrying value of trade and other payables approximates their fair value.

Goods and Service Tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are stated exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST-inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax then it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position. The net GST paid to or received from the IRD, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cash flow in the Statement of Cash Flows.

13 Employee benefit liabilities

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
Accrued pay	1,436	995
Annual leave	3,604	3,104
Long service leave	1,278	1,589
Time in lieu	58	46
Sick leave	23	32
Reward and recognition payments	237	225
Holiday pay due to ex-employees	57	57
Total employee benefit liabilities	**6,693**	**6,048**
Comprising:		
Current	6,069	5,061
Non-current	624	987
Total	**6,693**	**6,048**

Holiday pay due to ex-employees of $57k (2022: $57k) has been provided for due to the payroll system incorrectly calculating annual leave payment rates in prior years. The provision is the maximum amount that is required to be paid out.

Entitlements that are payable beyond 12 months, such as long service leave and retirement leave, have been calculated on an actuarial basis by Eriksen and Associates Limited as at 30 June 2023. The calculations are based on:

- Likely future entitlements accruing to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, likelihood staff will reach the point of entitlement and contractual entitlements information; and
- Present value of estimated future cash flows using the following key assumptions:
  - Discount rates of 4.62%-4.67% based on the risk-free rates as calculated from the yields on New Zealand Government Bonds
  - Inflation factor of 2.5% was based on the expected long-term increase in remuneration of employees.

Short-term benefits

Employee benefits that the Group expects to be settled within 12 months of balance date are measured at nominal values based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to but not yet taken at balance date, retirement and long-service leave entitlements expected to be settled within 12 months, and sick leave.

The Group recognises a liability for sick leave to the extent that absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earned in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date; to the extent that the Group anticipates leave entitlements will be used by staff to cover those future absences. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable.

The Group recognises a liability and an expense for bonuses where contractually obliged or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

All actuarial gains and losses that arise subsequent to the transition date in calculating the Group's obligation with respect to long service leave, retirement gratuities and sick leave are recognised as an expense in the profit or loss.

Superannuation schemes

- *Defined contribution schemes*: obligations for contributions to defined-contribution superannuation schemes are recognised as an expense in the profit or loss as incurred.
- *Defined benefit schemes*: the Group makes contributions to the Government Superannuation Fund, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. Insufficient information is available to use defined benefit accounting, as it is not possible to determine from the terms of the scheme the extent to which the profit or loss will affect future contributions by individual employers, as there is no prescribed basis for allocation. The scheme is therefore accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Long service leave, retirement leave and sick leave

Entitlements that are payable beyond 12 months, such as long service leave, retirement leave and sick leave, have been calculated on an actuarial basis. The calculations are based on likely future entitlements accruing to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, payment history, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlements information.

MWLR removed the long service leave benefit with effect from 10 November 2022. Existing entitlements received by staff remain in place, and staff received a pro-rata long service leave provision to their next decadal anniversary.

MWLR adopted unlimited sick leave during the financial year for employees who have been employed for more than 12 months. Employees who have been employed for less than 12 months have 10 days sick leave.

14 Lease liability

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual	Actual
Amounts payable under leases	$000s	$000s
Within one year	344	298
Between one and two years	296	291
Between two and five years	289	464
Greater than five years	3,549	3,625
Total	**4,478**	**4,678**

Lease payments not recognised as a liability

The Group has elected not to recognise a lease liability for short-term leases (leases of expected term of 12 months or less). Payments associated with short-term leases of low-value assets are recognised as an expense in the statement of comprehensive income.

Additional profit and loss and cash flow information:

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual	Actual
	$000s	$000s
Income from subleasing office	1,027	984
Total cash outflow in respect of leases in the year	759	599

For interest expense in relation to leasing liabilities, refer to total expenses (Note 2).

15 Contract liability (revenue in advance)

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
MBIE Science and Commercial Contracts	34,379	31,868
Total contract liability	**34,379**	**31,868**

The contract liability balance represents where payment has been received but the corresponding performance has not been carried out within the financial year. This is usually associated with upfront payments. The majority of the 2023 contract liability balance is expected to be released in financial years 2024 and 2025 as work is completed and revenue is realised.

16 Equity

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23	30 Jun 22
	Actual $000s	Actual $000s
Equity		
Retained earnings		
As at 1 July	43,409	41,856
Profit / (loss) for the year	3,134	1,553
As at 30 June	**46,543**	**43,409**
Share capital		
As at 1 July	10,515	10,515
As at 30 June	**10,515**	**10,515**

The issued capital of MWLR is $10,515,000, fully paid up, and equally ranking shares.

The shares have no par value.

No dividends were paid during the year ended 30 June 2023 (2022: $Nil).

17 Capital management

The Group's capital is its equity, which comprises retained earnings and other reserves. Equity is represented by net assets.

The Group is subject to the financial management and accountability provisions of the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992, which imposes certain restrictions in relation to borrowings, acquisition of securities, issuing guarantees and indemnities and the use of derivatives.

The Group manages its equity as a by-product of prudently managing revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments, and general financial dealings to ensure the Group effectively achieves its objectives and purpose, while remaining a going concern.

18 Capital commitments and operation leases

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Capital commitments		
Estimated capital expenditure contracted for at balance date but not paid for or provided for	207	1,129
Operating lease commitments - Lessor		
Lease commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:		
Within one year	732	892
Later than one year and not later than two years	103	677
Later than two years and not later than five years	103	51

Group as a lessor

Leases in which the Group does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases.

19 Contingencies

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST. The Group is not aware of any contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at balance date (2022: nil).

20 Related party transactions

MWLR is the ultimate parent of the Group and controls three entities, being Landcare Research US Limited, Enviro-Mark Solutions Ltd (trading as Toitū Envirocare) and Manaaki Whenua Research Trust (MWRT).

MWRT is incorporated under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 and is registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005. The Trust is controlled by MWLR and was formed on 9 February 2016.

MWRT audit fees to Deloitte of $2,225 (GST exclusive) (2022: $2,065) have been paid by the Controlling Entity, MWLR.

MWRT Trustees Liability insurance of $3,050 (GST exclusive) (2022: $3,050) has been paid by the Controlling Entity, MWLR.

MWRT's Controlling Entity, MWLR, has provided accounting services to the Trust at no cost.

Intercompany transactions are between MWLR and its subsidiaries and Controlled Trust. No transaction between companies within the Group took place at nil or nominal value during the year, apart from the provision of accounting services to the Trust as stated previously.

MWLR has capitalised Landcare Research US Limited for a sum of USD 50,000, but the amount has been held by the Parent company pending requirement, and will be paid out on request.

	GROUP	
	2023 Actual $000s	2022 Actual $000s
Key management personnel compensation		
Salaries and other short-term employee benefits	4,295	4,362

Key management personnel includes Directors, Chief Executive Officer and other senior management personnel.

During the year transactions took place with the following organisations over which certain key management personnel and Directors have significant influence:

	GROUP					
	2023 Services received from $000s	2022 Services received from $000s	2023 Services provided to $000s	2022 Services provided to $000s	2023 Amounts (Payable to)/ Receivable $000s	2022 Amounts (Payable to)/ Receivable $000s
Science New Zealand	100	89	41	19	(11)	(2)
AgResearch Limited	1,179	1,029	3,761	856	383	(14)
Kiwi Network Innovation Limited	-	3	-	101	-	9
Institute of Environmental Science Research	110	-	64	-	(8)	-
Plant and Food Research	4,443	-	170	-	(1,549)	-
Research and Education Advanced Network New Zealand Limited	341	-	-	-	(66)	-
Environmental Protection Authority	28	-	30	-	-	-
Ministry for the Environment	-	-	2,167	-	721	-
Waka Kotahi	-	-	20	-	-	-

MWLR also supplies to, and purchases goods and services from, entities controlled, significantly influenced or jointly controlled by the Crown. Sales to and purchases from these entities during the year ended 30 June 2023 were:

	GROUP					
	2023 Services received from $000s	2022 Services received from $000s	2023 Services provided to $000s	2022 Services provided to $000s	2023 Amounts (Payable to)/ Receivable $000s	2022 Amounts (Payable to)/ Receivable $000s
Crown entities, SOEs and government departments	10,565	10,507	84,014	77,969	1,678	2,403

21 Financial Instruments

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Financial assets		
Financial assets subsequently measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	10,396	8,255
Trade and other receivables	5,810	4,371
Contract assets	4,788	3,028
Bank deposit accrued interest	410	155
Other financial assets	42,664	38,588
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Trade and other payables	11,141	6,727
Sundry credit	1,930	3,173

The Group classifies its financial assets into the following three categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, financial assets subsequently measured at amortised cost, and financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at every reporting date.

Financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, unless they are carried at fair value through profit or loss in which case the transaction costs are recognised in profit or loss, or if they are trade receivables which are measured at the transaction price.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. The quoted market price used is the current bid price. The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. The Group uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long-term debt instruments held. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments.

The two categories of financial assets are:

- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

  This category has two sub-categories: financial assets held for trading, and those designated at fair value through profit or loss at inception. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term, or if designated as so by management. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading or are expected to be realised within 12 months of the balance sheet date. After initial recognition they are measured at their fair values. Gains or losses on remeasurement are recognised in profit or loss. Financial assets in this category include foreign currency forward contracts.

- Financial assets subsequently measured at amortised cost

  These are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains and losses when the asset is impaired or derecognised are recognised in profit or loss.

The two categories of financial liabilities are:

- Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

  Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are those that are designated as fair value through profit or loss. After initial recognition, these liabilities are measured at their fair value. Gains and losses are recognised directly in profit or loss.

- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

  After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Impairment of financial assets

At each balance sheet date the Group assesses whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. Any impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss.

22 Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicated that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Value in use is depreciated replacement cost for an asset where the future economic benefits or service potential of the asset are not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits or service potential. The value in use for cash-generating assets is the present value of expected future cash flows.

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount the asset is impaired and the carrying amount is written down to the recoverable amount. The total impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

23 Income Tax

	GROUP	
	30 Jun 23 Actual $000s	30 Jun 22 Actual $000s
Components of tax expense		
Current tax	728	869
Adjustments to current tax in prior years	151	30
Deferred tax expense	(241)	(428)
Adjustments to deferred tax in prior years	(121)	523
Income tax expense	**517**	**994**
Relationship between tax expense and accounting profit		
Profit / (loss) before tax	3,656	2,546
Tax at 28%	1,024	712
Non-deductible expenditure	9	(3)
Income not subject to tax	(537)	(153)
Prior-year adjustments	30	(100)
Other items	(9)	-
Reinstatement of tax depreciation on buildings	-	538
Total income tax expense	**517**	**994**

Enviro-Mark Solutions has imputation credits of $0.8 million as at 30 June 2023 (2022: $0.5 million). MWLR is not required to maintain an Imputation Credit Account pursuant to section OB1(2)(d) of the Income Tax Act 2007.

	GROUP				
Deferred tax assets/liabilities	**Property, plant and equipment**	**Employee entitlements**	**Other provisions**	**IFRS 16**	**Total**
Balance at 1 July 2021	**(1,627)**	**1,180**	**633**	**56**	**242**
Charged to profit/(loss)	(158)	15	166	(3)	20
Balance at 1 July 2022	**(1,785)**	**1,195**	**799**	**53**	**262**
Charged to profit/(loss)	241	29	80	13	362
Balance at 30 June 2023	**(1,544)**	**1,224**	**879**	**66**	**624**

Income tax expense in relation to the profit or loss for the period comprises current tax and deferred tax.

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable based on the taxable profit for the current year, plus any adjustments to income tax payable in respect of prior years. Current tax is calculated using rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by balance date.

Deferred tax is the amount of income tax payable or recoverable in future periods in respect of temporary differences and unused tax losses. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences or tax losses can be utilised. Deferred tax is not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of goodwill, or from the initial recognition of an asset and liability in a transaction that is not a business combination, and at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit. Deferred tax is recognised on taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries and associates, and interests in joint ventures, except where the Company can control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised, using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by balance date.

Current tax and deferred tax are recognised against profit and loss, except to the extent that they relate to a business combination, or directly in equity.

24 Financial instrument risks

The Group has a series of policies to manage the risks associated with financial instruments. The Group is risk averse and seeks to minimise exposure from its treasury activities. Treasury and cash management policies approved by the Board do not allow any transactions that are speculative in nature to be entered into.

Market Risk

Price risk

Group price risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. During the year the Group was not exposed to price risk as it did not hold financial assets held at fair value through profit and loss.

Currency risk

Group currency risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. The Group operates internationally and is exposed to foreign exchange risk arising from various contract exposures, primarily with respect to the US dollar, Australian dollar, Euro and UK pound. Currency risk arises when future commercial transactions, recognised assets and recognised liabilities are denominated in a currency that is not the entity's functional currency.

The below table reflects the impact on profit after tax if foreign currencies had weakened/strengthened by 10% against the New Zealand dollar with all other variables held constant. It considers foreign exchange gains/losses on translation of foreign currencies denominated trade payables and receivables, and the foreign currencies bank accounts. The Group foreign exchange management policy is to cover the risk on any foreign currency transactions greater than $250,000.

	GROUP			
	2023	**2023**	**2022**	**2022**
	$000s	**$000s**	**$000s**	**$000s**
Appreciation/depreciation of foreign currencies	**+10%**	**-10%**	**+10%**	**-10%**
Impact on profit after tax				
US dollar	(7)	7	(8)	8
Australian dollar	(22)	22	(29)	29
UK pound	(8)	8	-	-
Euro	(29)	29	(3)	3

Interest rate risk

Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the cash flows from a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Short term bank deposits which receive variable interest rates expose the Group to cash flow interest rate risk.

Contractual maturity analysis of financial liabilities, excluding derivatives

The table below analyses the Group's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at balance date to the contractual maturity date. Future interest payments on floating rate debt are based on the floating rate on the instrument at balance date. The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows and include interest payments.

	GROUP					
	Carrying amount $000s	**Contractual cashflows $000s**	**Less than 1 year $000s**	**1-2 years $000s**	**2-5 years $000s**	**More than 5 years $000s**
2022						
Creditors & other payables	11,049	11,049	11,049	-	-	-
Total	**11,049**	**11,049**	**11,049**	**-**	**-**	**-**
2023						
Creditors & other payables	13,819	13,819	13,819	-	-	-
Total	**13,819**	**13,819**	**13,819**	**-**	**-**	**-**

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to MWLR, causing MWLR to incur a loss. MWLR has a significant concentration of credit risk with the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment; however, the risk is mitigated as this entity is also Government owned. The Group's maximum exposure to credit risk is the amount of Receivables.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will encounter difficulty raising liquid funds to meet commitments as they fall due. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities. The Group aims to maintain flexibility in funding by keeping committed credit lines available.

25 Budget figures

The budget figures are those in the Statement of Corporate Intent approved by the shareholding Ministers at the beginning of the year. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by the Group for the preparation of the financial statements.

26 Explanation of significant variances against budget and between years

There were the following significant variances:

- Statement of Comprehensive Income

  Total Revenue of $114.8m for the 2023 year was $19.1m (20%) higher than the previous year. This uplift on the prior year is driven by strong growth in Parent revenue from research programmes due to successful bidding on Contestable projects, and a return to business as usual following the prior two years of Covid-19 disruption. Toitū revenue finished strongly with a $1.4m (8.7%) uplift on budget, driven by strong advisory revenue and carbon credit sales.

  Total expenses of $111.1m increased by $18.0m from last year. The key drivers of this uplift were an increase in staff numbers, sub-contracting and other project delivery costs in line with our revenue growth. Toitu cost of sales increased by $1.4m in line with their revenue growth. Total expenses against budget are $4.8m lower than budget due to deferral of strategic projects and delivery of more work in-house than sub-contracted.

  Group Net Profit after tax at $3.1m indicates continued financial sustainability.

- Statement of Financial Position

  Cash and short-term investments have increased by $6.2m compared with the prior year due to operating activity with large revenue growth and increased efficiencies. There have been corresponding increases to current assets and liabilities due to this growth.

  Comparing actual to budget highlights the following variances: Delayed major capital investment, and a large gain on sale of land during the year show a favourable variance to cash and other financial assets to budget. Income tax payable has increased compared to budget due to net profit finishing at $3.3m compared with a budgeted small loss. Trade payables finished $2.5m above budget due to the timing of subcontract payments. Lastly, contract liabilities is below the budget expectation of $2.1m due to an over conservative budget assumption.

27 Events after the balance date

No subsequent events.

Statement of responsibility

The Directors are responsible for presenting financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the financial position of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited (the Company) and its subsidiaries (the Group) and of the financial performance and cash flows for that period.

The Directors consider the financial statements of the Group and the Company have been prepared using appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable judgements and estimates, and that all relevant financial reporting and accounting standards have been followed.

The Directors are responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurances as to the integrity and reliability of the financial reporting.

The Directors believe that proper accounting records have been kept, which enable, with reasonable accuracy, the determination of the financial position of the Group and facilitate compliance of the financial statements with the Companies Act 1993.

The Directors believe that they have taken adequate steps to safeguard the assets of the Group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Board of Directors of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited approved and authorised the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 for issue on 29 September 2023.

Colin Dawson	Paul Reynolds
Chair	Deputy Chair
29 September 2023	29 September 2023

Independent auditor's report

To the readers of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited's Group financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Landcare Research New Zealand Limited Group (the Group). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Anthony Smith, using the staff and resources of Deloitte Limited, to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the Group on his behalf.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Group on pages 15 to 50, that comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Group:

- present fairly, in all material respects:
  - its financial position as at 30 June 2023; and
  - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards.

Our audit was completed on 29 September 2023. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Board of Directors and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

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

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the financial statements

The Board of Directors is responsible on behalf of the Group for preparing financial statements that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Board of Directors is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible on behalf of the Group for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board of Directors is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Board of Directors has to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors' responsibilities arise from the Crown Research Institutes Act 1992.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Group's statement of corporate intent.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Board of Directors and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial statements of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 1-14, 51, and 55-58, but does not include the financial statements, and our auditor's report thereon.

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Group.

Anthony Smith
Partner
for Deloitte Limited
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Christchurch, New Zealand

29 September 2023

Non-financial indicators for our Collections and Databases

The following table shows our progress in 2022/23 against key performance indicators outlined in Appendix 2, page 26-27, of our Statement of Corporate Intent 2022-2027. These indicators are reported to MBIE. More information about our Collections and Databases can be found in Part 1.

Collections

All Collections	
Page views and visitor numbers for the Systematics Collections Data portal are maintained or increase	Achieved.
New Zealand Flax Collection	
2-week turnaround for 100% of weaving material orders	17 orders of 180 plants in total, 100% achieved.
Weaving resource Facebook page numbers increase	Achieved.
Allan Herbarium (CHR)	
2-week response time for 90% of loan requests	Achieved.
>6000 new specimens accessioned	Achieved: 6,782 specimens accessioned.
New Zealand Arthropod Collection (NZAC)	
2-week response time for 90% of loan requests	84%: not achieved.
>7000 specimens accessioned per year	4,980 specimens accessioned: not achieved.
CHR and NZAC	
The NZ Threat Classification System uses new taxonomic information	Achieved: ongoing.
New Zealand Fungarium (PDD)	
2-week response time for 90% of loan requests	No longer a KPI under the new MBIE contract.
>500 new specimens accessioned	Achieved: 979 new specimens were accessioned.
International Collection of Microorganisms from Plants (ICMP)	
2-week response time for 90% of orders	165 orders, 100% achieved.
>300 new cultures accessioned	Achieved: 486 cultures were accessioned.
PDD and ICMP	
Google Scholar and GenBank citation numbers are maintained or increase	Achieved. 197 research publications used ICMP cultures in their work and 55 used PDD specimens in their work. The number of publicly available sequences in GenBank increased by 668 over both PDD and ICMP.

Databases

Land Resource Information Systems (LRIS)	
Service availability uptime is 90% or more	Achieved.
Number of datasets provided online to users is maintained or increased	Achieved: ongoing (186 more data layers provided)
User numbers (direct or indirect) are maintained or increase	Achieved: Total number of visits/sessions in 2022/23 was 45,040, up 2% from the previous year. Total number of users 169,436, up 13% from 2022/23. Number of new users of the service in 2022/23: 1,822.
Data support environmental reporting and resource management instruments, and their implementation, at the regional level	Achieved: As in 2021/22, 7% of active registered users making data downloads in 2022/23 were from govt.nz domains.
User confidence is maintained or increases	Maintained (>90% rate LRIS as a trusted source of data).
National Soils Data Repository (NSDR)	
More services added, and new datasets uploaded	Achieved: 3,133 sites added.
Develop new routes to our data building on test APIs and visualisation created last year	Achieved as part of LRIS above.
Land Cover Database (LCDB)	
Service availability uptime is 90% or more	Achieved as part of LRIS above.
Number of datasets provided online to users is maintained or increased	Achieved. Number of downloads of LCDB v.5.0 was up 28% in 2022/23.
S-map Online	
Service availability uptime is 90% or more	Achieved.
Number of datasets provided online to users is maintained or increased	Ongoing (39% of New Zealand now mapped).
The breadth of soil material for users is extended	Achieved.
New tools added to aid users and maximise value of data	Achieved.
National Vegetation Survey (NVS) Databank	
Requests for public domain data are met immediately (simple) or within 2 weeks (complex)	Achieved.
>20 new electronic datasets added annually	Achieved: 48 datasets were added.
Registered NVS user numbers are maintained or increase	Achieved: 81 new users registered. Total number of registered users 819.
NVS data underpins national-scale plant biodiversity trend reporting	Achieved.
Ngā Rauropi Whakoranga Database	
Visitor numbers are maintained or increase	Not achieved. Reporting via Google Analytics changed during this financial year. We have moved away from page visit sessions to report on search and download statistics. The search total for Ngā Rauropi was 15,789 for 2022/23.
100% of weaving cultivars are represented online	Achieved.

Financial indicators (MBIE)

Financial key performance indicators as required by MBIE (not part of the Audited Financial Statements)

Summary table of financial performance indicators Consolidated ($m)

For year ending 30 June	FY Actual 2023	FY Business Plan 2023
Efficiency:		
Operating margin	6.5%	4.6%
Operating margin per FTE	$14,880	$11,063
Risk:		
Quick ratio	3.15	3.22
Interest coverage	28.5	21.4
Operating margin volatility	11.2%	5.9%
Forecasting risk	6.1%	1.8%
Tailored rate of return		
Return on equity (ROE) (based on NPAT)	5.6%	(0.4%)
Growth/investment		
Revenue growth	19.9%	13.3%
Capital renewal	0.93	1.15

Operating margin:

EBITDAF ÷ Revenue, expressed as a percentage. (EBITDAF is EBIT before depreciation, amortisation and fair value adjustments.)

Quick ratio:

(Current assets – Inventory - Prepayments) ÷ (Current liabilities – Revenue in advance).

Interest coverage:

Interest is the cost of debt and financial leases. Interest cover = EBITDAF ÷ interest. (EBITDAF is EBIT before depreciation, amortisation and fair value adjustments.)

Operating margin volatility:

The standard deviation of EBITDA as a percentage of average EBITDA over the past 5 years

Forecasting risk:

5-year average of return on equity less forecast return on equity.

Return on equity:

NPAT ÷ Average shareholders' funds, expressed as a percentage. (NPAT: net profit after tax.)

Shareholders' funds:

Includes share capital and retained earnings.

Capital renewal:

Capital expenditure / Depreciation expense plus amortisation expense.

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Kaihautū Ngātahi, NZ Biological Heritage National Science Challenge

*to 10 March 2023.
**to 31 August 2023.

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