

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

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Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Directors' Report 30 June 2026

The directors present their report on Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

1. General information

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

Names	Position
Gerard Mansour	Board Member
Hayley Hunter	Board Member
Kathryn Brown	Treasurer
Mark A Stokes	Board Member
Mary Downie	Board Member
Raymond Cummings	Board Member - Resigned: July 2025
Robert Caulfield	President
Tanya O'Connor	Vice President
Bianca Brijnath	Board Member - Appointed: October 2025
Sue Roff	Board Member - Appointed: October 2025

Ben Rogers remains in place as Company Secretary.

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were:

- Policy & Advocacy

- During 2025–26, our work was grounded in the lived experience of older people, engaging with more than 1,500 older Victorians to inform our ministerial and sector engagement, submissions, research, briefings, and recommendations to decision-makers. In doing so, we published 19 total publications and 11 total submissions. We advocated for ageing to be considered across government policy, contributing to government consultations, parliamentary inquiries, and advisory groups. We also produced research and resources to strengthen our understanding of older Victorians' diverse experiences and contributions.

- COTAWise

- Our COTA WISE — Welcome, Included, Supported, and Empowered — information service received approximately 2,104 calls and emails from older Victorians looking for assistance. Key topics of interest to COTA WISE users included the cost of living, concessions, COTA programs and services, health, and social isolation.

-Lived Experience of Ageing Program

- The Lived Experience of Ageing Program (LEAP) is our mechanism to support older Victorians to engage with various opportunities in which their experience can be utilised to effect change. LEAP is a training and support initiative that helps older Victorians share their lived experience and knowledge with industry, government, academia, and media. As part of the launch of our new pilot program, we have gathered a small, yet extremely diverse group of older Victorians who will be able to speak across a broad variety of topics.

Directors' Report

30 June 2026

1. General information

Principal activities

- Community education

- We're pleased to provide information and education sessions to the community through our Information Lifelong Learning program, funded by the Victorian Government.
This year, we provided 31 information sessions to approximately 1,560 older Victorians in their local communities, with a continued focus on reaching culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, and LGBTIQ+ older people.

- Volunteering

- Older Men: New Ideas (OM:NI) groups continue to thrive, as do Peer Educators who help us deliver important information sessions. We've also established a new Policy Working Group that is dependent on volunteers, as too is LEAP.
We thank our volunteers for their generous donation of both time and energy, and took the time to celebrate them and their work as part of our 75th anniversary celebrations, held on 11 June 2026 at the Melbourne Town Hall.

- Care Finder

- Unfortunately, our Care Finder services ceased operations as of 31 March 2026.
Our Care Finder team consistently exceeded targets and KPIs, and received overwhelmingly positive feedback as a result of their efforts.
Beyond delivering a vital service, our Care Finder team informed our understanding of the new aged care system and helped drive our response to it. Our Care Finders were a key part of our team and identity, and more importantly, incredible colleagues.

- Membership

- Our membership base continues to grow. We have welcomed 299 new members this year, with 2,024 total members at the time of writing this report.
If you're not a member of COTA Victoria and Seniors Rights Victoria, we encourage you to take advantage of our offer of free individual membership to those who wish to support and enhance our work.
Those who join us will have the opportunity to give back to the community, help inform our work, receive a subscription to our monthly COTA Connects email newsletter, gain access to exclusive events, and much more.

- Marketing and communications

- This year, we've continued our push to place COTA Victoria front-of-mind with local and national media organisations, with a dedication to protect the rights and interests of Victorians as they age.
We distributed 11 media releases in this time, also securing over 150 identified media mentions. Key topics included the national plan to end elder abuse, a decision to stop using physical bills and coins in Geelong City parking meters, financial elder abuse, tax reforms, our 2026 state election campaign platform, and COTA Victoria's 75th anniversary.

- Seniors Rights Victoria

- Seniors Rights Victoria (SRV) is a state-wide Community Legal Centre dedicated to advocating for the rights and wellbeing of older Victorians. SRV staff include specialist lawyers, advocates, and educators who provide information, legal, non-legal support, and resources to help older people, their friends, family, and professionals navigate challenges related to elder abuse. If you're in Victoria and experiencing elder abuse, you can call our confidential helpline on 1300 368 821.

Directors' Report

30 June 2026

1. General information

Short term objectives

The Association's short term objectives are to:

- Amplify voices that are unheard, under-served and unorganised
- Build evidence and data to strengthen our ability to lead on issues
- Powerfully influence, with partners, key policy and systems
- Develop, maintain and grow services that enable us to lead and have impact
- Ensure our services are relevant and impactful for those we serve
- Incubate and develop viable direct-to-consumer services and products that fill market gaps
- Build an empowered member base that informs us of their lived experience
- Build public awareness through education and prevention campaigns
- Build B2B partnerships and opportunities utilising COTA Victoria expertise
- Sustain and broaden government funding
- Diversify revenues to B2B, B2C and philanthropy
- Build workforce capability and capacity to attract top talent
- Improve and streamline business system

Long term objectives

The Association's long term objectives are to:

The impact we're aiming for

- Older Victorians are empowered to make decisions, shape their own futures, and live with purpose at every stage of later life
- We envision a society that recognises the gifts of ageing — experience, wisdom, creativity, and care — and places older people at its heart
- Through our advocacy, services, partnerships, and campaigns, we unlock the potential of ageing to enrich lives, strengthen communities, and create intergenerational value

What we're focusing on

- We influence: We shape the systems, policies, and decisions that impact people as they age: from aged care and health to housing, digital inclusion, and economic security. Our influence is grounded in lived experience and geared towards long-term structural change
- We empower: We equip older Victorians with the information, support, and confidence to make decisions, assert their rights, and shape their own futures. We help people navigate complex systems and protect themselves from harm, while always recognising and reinforcing their strengths and autonomy. We champion the capabilities and contributions of older people, and celebrate the gifts of ageing
- We amplify: We ensure older people are heard — in government, media, and community conversations. We provide platforms that engage, listen to, and echo diverse views and experiences, with a strong focus on those whose voices are not heard

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Directors' Report

30 June 2026

1. General information

Long term objectives

To make this possible

- We partner with others: We work across sectors and with government and communities to co-design solutions, extend our reach, and build collective impact for all Victorians as they age
- We build a stronger COTA Victoria: We strengthen our capability, systems, people, and brand so we can grow our impact in a rapidly changing world.

Review of operations

The surplus of the Association amounted to \$ 438,113 (2025: \$377,958).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

President:

Robert Caulfield

Treasurer:

Kathryn Brown

Dated 15 October 2026

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 60-40 of the Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to the Directors of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026, there have been:

- a. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in section *60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- b. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Andrew Fisher FCA, Partner (auditor registration number 306364) on behalf of
BG Assurance Pty Ltd, Chartered Accountants
Authorised audit company registration number 294178 (ACN 115 749 598)

15 October 2026

Melbourne, Australia

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

		2026	2025
	Note	\$	\$
Grant income	3(a)	4,234,505	3,805,324
Program Fees		39,197	45,821
Donations		513	1,235
Other income	3(b)	143,649	139,808
Total income		4,417,864	3,992,188
Payroll expenses		(3,184,674)	(2,904,056)
Other employment expenses		(191,852)	(194,764)
Volunteering expenses		(1,853)	(2,782)
General and administration		(117,119)	(113,457)
Motor vehicle expenses		(23,120)	(15,680)
Advertising and promotions		(103,971)	(48,758)
Building		(217,475)	(190,643)
Information technology		(100,455)	(107,319)
Travel and accommodation		(29,344)	(19,027)
Depreciation		(1,888)	(2,748)
Other levy expenses		(8,000)	(14,996)
Total expenditure		(3,979,751)	(3,614,230)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		438,113	377,958
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		438,113	377,958

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 \$	2025 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,334,879	2,303,130
Trade and other receivables	5	564,219	40,598
Prepayments		308	308
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,899,406	2,344,036
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Other receivables	5	57,376	30,887
Property, plant and equipment	6	2,233	4,121
Right-of-use assets	7	562,552	703,815
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		622,161	738,823
TOTAL ASSETS		3,521,567	3,082,859
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	8	251,536	347,200
Lease liabilities	7	160,775	171,368
Employee benefits	9	307,852	294,017
Deferred income		605,677	345,426
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,325,840	1,158,011
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	7	427,039	587,597
Employee benefits	9	84,263	90,939
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		511,302	678,536
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,837,142	1,836,547
NET ASSETS		1,684,425	1,246,312
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		1,684,425	1,246,312
TOTAL EQUITY		1,684,425	1,246,312

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2026

	Accumulated surplus \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2025	1,246,312	1,246,312
Total comprehensive income for the period	438,113	438,113
Balance at 30 June 2026	1,684,425	1,684,425

2025

	Accumulated surplus \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2024	868,354	868,354
Total comprehensive income for the period	377,958	377,958
Balance at 30 June 2025	1,246,312	1,246,312

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers and grants	3,764,894	4,143,095
Payments to suppliers and employees	(3,556,968)	(3,167,757)
Interest received	22,891	21,365
Net cash provided in operating activities	14 230,817	996,703
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	301	-
Net cash provided in investing activities	301	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Payment of lease liabilities	(199,369)	(175,629)
Net cash used in financing activities	(199,369)	(175,629)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held	31,749	821,074
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	2,303,130	1,482,056
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4 2,334,879	2,303,130

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

The financial report covers Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated as an individual entity. Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated is a not-for-profit Association, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Material accounting policy information relating to the preparation of these financial statements are presented below, and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(a) Revenue and other income

Specific revenue streams

Grant project services income

The Association earns revenue from grant funding provided to assist in the provision of professional services, incorporating legal and consulting advice. Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied. No such grant agreements existed for the current financial year.

Revenue recognition policy for contracts which are either not enforceable or do not have sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised using the not-for-profit specific standard: AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit entities. Amounts arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. Revenue recognition policy for enforceable contracts with sufficiently specific performance obligations is determined under AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers. Revenue is recognised as the entity satisfies each performance obligation, either over time or at a point in time, depending on the nature of the promised goods or services. The Association considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard. Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

(b) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(c) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for significantly less than fair value have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Depreciation rate
Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings	15% - 40%
Office Equipment	15% - 40%

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

(d) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Non-current employee benefit liabilities relate to long service leave entitlements, which are fully recognised (100%) for employees with tenure exceeding three years but less than six years, in accordance with the entity's provisioning policy.

The entity is registered with the Portable Long Service Benefits Authority under the Long Service Benefits Portability Act 2018 (Vic). Contributions are made quarterly based on employee hours worked and are expensed as incurred.

(e) Economic dependence

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated is dependent on the grant funding for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe the grant funding will not continue to support Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

3 Revenue and Other Income

Revenue from continuing operations

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Revenue from grants		
- Federal Government Funding	166,128	351,645
- State Government Funding	4,068,377	3,453,679
Total grant revenue	4,234,505	3,805,324
(a)		
- Program fees	14,001	16,267
- Trading income	25,196	29,554
- Donations	513	1,235
- Other income	143,649	139,808
Total non-grant revenue	183,359	186,864
Total Revenue	4,417,864	3,992,188

(a) Grant income by source

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Department of Education, Skills and Employment	166,128	162,393
Department of Families, Fairness and Housing	1,776,134	1,574,602
Department of Justice and Community Safety	250,000	-
Department of Social Services	-	189,252
Federation of Community Legal Centres	245,667	236,057
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner	171,700	93,389
Primary Health Network	543,600	499,656
Victoria Legal Aid	1,081,276	1,049,975
Total grant income	4,234,505	3,805,324

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

3 Revenue and Other Income

(b) Other Income breakup

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Other Income		
- Interest income	22,891	21,365
- Gain due to rent-free period	59,014	96,514
- State trustees	9,093	16,457
- Sundry income	52,651	5,472
Total other income	143,649	139,808

The \$59k gain arising from the rent-free period relates to the accounting treatment of the lease liability and the rent-free period provided by the landlord. This resulted in an adjustment to the lease-related balance sheet accounts, with the corresponding gain recognised in the profit and loss. The gain is non-cash in nature.

Sundry income relates to an agreement with the landlord in connection with the relocation from 424 St Kilda Road to 420 St Kilda Road. Under the agreement, the landlord agreed to contribute towards a portion of the relocation costs.

4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	2,270,423	2,241,536
Short-term deposits	64,456	61,594
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,334,879	2,303,130

5 Trade and other receivables

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	533,652	10,029
LSL receivables	30,567	30,569
Total current trade and other receivables	564,219	40,598

The increase in trade receivables primarily relates to Housing Project funding invoiced on 30 June 2026 following confirmation of the funding, with the related party cash received after year end. In the prior, the funding was received before year end.

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
NON-CURRENT		
LSL receivables	57,376	30,887
Total non-current trade and other receivables	57,376	30,887

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

6 Property, plant and equipment

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Office equipment		
At cost	2,020	4,183
Accumulated depreciation	(2,020)	(3,784)
Total office equipment	-	399
Computer equipment		
At cost	15,624	15,624
Accumulated depreciation	(13,391)	(11,902)
Total computer equipment	2,233	3,722
Total property, plant and equipment	2,233	4,121

7 Leases

The Association continues to recognise leases in a manner consistent with AASB 16

Association as a lessee

The Association has leases over land and buildings for its current premises of operation, as well as a photocopier.

Terms and conditions of leases:

The Association leases land and buildings for their corporate office. The lease is for a period of 8 years. The corporate office lease contains an annual increase of 3.25% for the life of the lease.

The Association leases photocopier for a period of 5 years, with no annual increase.

The Association has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

7 Leases

Right-of-use assets

	Buildings \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2026		
Balance at beginning of year	703,815	703,815
Depreciation charge	(141,263)	(141,263)
Balance at end of year	562,552	562,552
	Buildings \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2025		
Balance at beginning of year	652,574	652,574
Depreciation charge	(143,570)	(143,570)
Additions to right-of-use assets	194,811	194,811
Balance at end of year	703,815	703,815

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year \$	1 - 5 years \$	> 5 years \$	Total undiscounted lease liabilities \$	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position \$
2026					
Lease liabilities	183,280	450,442	-	633,722	587,814
2025					
Lease liabilities	177,510	633,722	-	811,232	758,965

8 Trade and Other Payables

	2026 \$	2025 \$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	110,811	189,465
GST & PAYG payable	57,202	95,190
Accrued expense	84,330	29,702
Other payables	(807)	32,843
Total trade and other payables	251,536	347,200

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9 Employee Benefits

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Long service leave	68,088	59,422
Annual leave	239,764	234,595
Total current employee benefits	307,852	294,017

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	84,263	90,939

10 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated during the year is as follows.

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	176,054	172,857

11 Auditors' Remuneration

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor, BG Assurance Pty Ltd, for: - auditing or reviewing the financial statements	15,000	14,500

12 Contingencies

In the opinion of the directors, the Association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2026 (30 June 2025:None).

13 Related Parties

(a) The Association's main related parties are as follows:

The Association does not have an ultimate parent entity or any entities that control, jointly control or significantly influence the Association.

Key management personnel - refer to Note 10.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

14 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year	438,113	377,958
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in surplus:		
- depreciation	142,451	146,318
- gain on lease accounting	(59,014)	(96,514)
- lease liability financing interest	28,218	29,202
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(464,211)	(9,990)
- decrease in prepayments and other assets	-	7,024
- increase in trade and other payables	164,587	528,612
- (increase)/decrease in contract liabilities	-	-
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(19,327)	14,093
Cashflows from operations	230,817	996,703

The \$59k gain arising from the rent-free period relates to the accounting treatment of the lease liability and the rent-free period provided by the landlord.

15 Events Occurring After the Reporting Date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or could significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

16 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the association is:
Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated
Part Level 1, 420 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

ABN: 81 960 500 420

Responsible Persons' Report

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.

Responsible person



.....

Robert Caulfield

Responsible person



.....

Kathryn Brown

Dated 15 October 2026

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

Independent Audit Report to the members of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the responsible person's report.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.

Basis for Opinion

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

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

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

Independent Audit Report to the members of Council on the Ageing (VIC) Incorporated

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

BG Assurance Pty Ltd, Chartered Accountants
Authorised audit company number 294178 (ACN 115 749 598)

Andrew Fisher FCA, Partner
Registration number 306364

Melbourne, Australia
15 October 2026