



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

***TO THE MEMBERS OF HEYFIELD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY
FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED***

SCOPE

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the directors' declaration for Heyfield & District Community Financial Services Limited, for the year ended 30 June 2005.

The directors of the company are responsible for preparing a financial report that gives a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the company, and that complies with Accounting Standards in Australia, in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the company. Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including compliance with Accounting Standards in Australia, and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant account estimates made by the directors.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

We performed procedures to assess whether the substance of business transactions was accurately reflected in the financial report. These and our other procedures did not include consideration or judgement of the appropriateness or reasonableness of the business plans or strategies adopted by the directors and management of the company.

INDEPENDENCE

We are independent of the company, and have met the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the financial report of Heyfield & District Community Financial Services Limited is in accordance with:

- (a) the Corporations Act 2001 including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2005 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

RICHMOND SINNOTT & DELAHUNTY

Chartered Accountants

**W. J. SINNOTT**

Partner
Bendigo

Date: 27 October 2005