



**Ordinary Council Meeting** 

# **Minutes**

Wednesday 29 November 2023 – 4:30pm



# **MINUTES**

Minutes of a meeting of the Busselton City Council held in the Council Chambers, Administration Building, Southern Drive, Busselton, on Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 4:30pm.

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## 1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The meeting opened at 4:32pm.

The Presiding Member welcomed Councillors, staff, guests and members of the public to the Special Council Meeting of 29 November 2023.

The Presiding Member acknowledged the Wadandi and Bibbulmun people as the traditional custodians of this region and paid respects to Elders past and present.

This meeting was audio recorded for minute taking purposes.

## 2. PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the meeting is for the consideration of committee appointments.

## 3. ATTENDANCE

PRESIDING MEMBER	MEMBERS
Mayor Phill Cronin	Cr Anne Ryan
	Cr Jarrod Kennedy
	Cr Jodie Richards
	Cr Kate Cox
	Cr Val Kaigg
	Cr Mikayla Love

OFFICERS				
Mr Tony Nottle	Chief Executive Officer			
Mr Oliver Darby	Director Infrastructure and Environment			
Ms Sarah Pierson	Director Corporate Strategy and Performance			
Ms Maxine Palmer	Director Economic and Business Development			
Mr Dave Goodwin	Acting Director Community Planning			
Mr Ben Whitehill	Manager Legal and Governance			
Ms Tegan Robertson	Governance and Risk Coordinator			
Ms Jo Barrett-Lennard	Governance Officer			

APOLOGIES	
Cr Andrew Macnish	
Cr Sue Riccelli	



LEAVE OF ABSENCE	
Nil	
APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	
Nil	
MEDIA	
Nil	
PUBLIC	
Nil	

## 4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

**DISCLOSURES OF FINANCIAL INTEREST** 

Nil

# **DISCLOSURES OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST**

Cr Mikayla Love disclosed an impartiality interest in item 7.2 'Committee and Working Group Appointments – Valerie Kaigg'

The Presiding Member advised that, in accordance with regulation 22(2)(b) of the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Regulations 2021*, this disclosure would be read out immediately before this item was discussed.

## **5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**QUESTION TIME FOR PUBLIC** 

Nil

## **6. PRESENTATIONS BY PARTIES WITH AN INTEREST**

Nil



#### 7. CORPORATE STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS

# 7.2. Committee and Working Group Appointments - Valerie Kaigg

**Strategic Theme:** Key Theme 4: Leadership

4.2 Deliver governance systems that facilitate open, ethical and

transparent decision making.

**Directorate:** Corporate Strategy and Performance

**Reporting Officer:** Manager Legal and Governance - Ben Whitehill

Authorised By:Director of Corporate Strategy and Performance - Sarah PiersonNature of Decision:Executive: Substantial direction setting, including adopting budgets,

strategies, plans and policies (excluding local planning policies); funding, donations and sponsorships; reviewing committee recommendations.

**Voting Requirements:** Absolute Majority

**Disclosures of Interest:** No officers preparing this item have an interest to declare.

Attachments: Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST				
Date	29 November 2023			
Meeting	Special Council Meeting			
Name/ Position	Cr Mikayla Love			
Item No./ Subject	7.2 'Committee and Working Group Appointments – Valerie Kaigg'			
Type of Interest	Impartiality Interest			
Nature of Interest	I have a familial relationship with Cr Kaigg through my partner.			

In accordance with clause 5.2(2) of the City of Busselton *Standing Orders Local Law 2018*, the Presiding Member brought forward item 7.2, to be considered ahead of item 7.1.

The officer recommendation was moved and carried.

# **COUNCIL DECISION**

C2311/186 Moved Cr Jodie Richards, seconded Cr Mikayla Love

## That the Council:

- 1. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg to the following committees pursuant to section 5.8 and 5.11A of the *Local Government Act 1995*:
  - a. Audit and Risk Committee:
  - b. Behaviour Complaints Committee;
  - c. Finance Committee (fourth deputy); and
  - d. Policy and Legislation Committee (second deputy)



- 2. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg to the Business Development and Events Marketing Group.
- 3. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg as deputy member to the Busselton and Sugito Cities Association.

CARRIED 7 / 0

FOR: Mayor Phill Cronin, Cr Anne Ryan, Cr Jodie Richards, Cr Val Kaigg, Cr Mikayla Love, Cr Kate Cox and Cr Jarrod Kennedy

**AGAINST: Nil** 

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council:

- 1. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg to the following committees pursuant to section 5.8 and 5.11A of the *Local Government Act 1995*:
  - a. Audit and Risk Committee;
  - b. Behaviour Complaints Committee;
  - c. Finance Committee (fourth deputy); and
  - d. Policy and Legislation Committee (second deputy).
- 2. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg to the Business Development and Events Marketing Group.
- 3. Appoint Councillor Valerie Kaigg as deputy member to the Busselton and Sugito Cities Association.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The resignation of Councillor Cherise Woodhams has created vacancies on various committees and working groups. This report recommends that her replacement Councillor elect Valerie Kaigg be appointed to the vacant positions.

# STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The appointment of elected members to committees and working groups supports the good governance of the district.

## **BACKGROUND**

Councillor Cherise Woodhams was elected as a councillor on 21 October 2023 for a 2-year term ending on 18 October 2025. At a special meeting on 25 October 2023 Cr Woodhams was appointed as a member of the Audit and Risk Committee, Behaviour Complaints Committee and Business Development and Events Marketing Group. Councillor Woodhams was also appointed as fourth deputy to the Finance Committee, second deputy to the Policy and Legislation Committee and deputy member to the Busselton and Sugito Cities Association.



On 22 November 2023, Cr Woodhams notified the CEO of her resignation as a councillor due to health reasons. Reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (WA) (**Act**) mean that if a vacancy occurs within a 12-month period after an ordinary election then that vacancy may be filled by the first and second unelected candidates under Schedule 4.1A of the Act, in lieu of holding an extraordinary election. At the 21 October 2023 election Valerie Kaigg was the first unelected candidate.

After Cr Woodhams resignation the CEO notified Valerie Kaigg as the first unelected candidate of the vacancy. Valerie Kaigg has via a Statutory Declaration advised the CEO that she wants to fill the vacancy and that she is qualified to be elected to the Council under section 2.19 of the Act. She will be sworn in by completing the declaration under section 2.29 of the Act prior to the special meeting where this report will be considered.

By virtue of Councillor Woodhams' resignation as a councillor her term of membership of the Audit and Risk Committee, Behaviour Complaints Committee, Finance Committee (as fourth deputy) and Policy and Legislation Committee (as second deputy) has ended pursuant to s 5.11(2)(b) of the Act. Similarly, her appointments to the Business Development and Events Marketing Group and Busselton and Sugito Cities Association (as deputy) have also ended.

#### **OFFICER COMMENT**

The CEO has approached Councillor elect Kaigg on appointments to committees and working groups. Councillor elect Kaigg has indicated that she is agreeable with nominating for the Council committees and working groups left vacant by Councillor Woodhams. This will ensure a smooth transition and will not require the Council to reconstitute all the committees and working groups.

Based on the positions left vacant by Cr Woodhams it is recommended that the Council accept the nominations of Councillor elect Kaigg and that she be appointed as a member of the Audit and Risk Committee, Behaviour Complaints Committee and Business Development and Events Marketing Group. It is also recommended that Councillor elect Kaigg be appointed as fourth deputy to the Finance Committee, second deputy to the Policy and Legislation Committee and deputy to the Busselton and Sugito Cities Association.

It is noted that a separate report will be considered at the special council meeting with a recommendation to remove all members from the Behaviour Complaints Committee pending a further review of the Committee, however as Council has not yet made a decision in relation to that, it is recommended that Councillor elect Kaigg be appointed to the Behaviour Complaints Committee, and that that appointment then be subject to that decision. It is therefore recommended that the Presiding Member consider this item first in the order of business for the special council meeting.

## **Statutory Environment**

Section 5.10 of the Act deals with the appointment of committee members. Section 5.11A of the Act deals with the appointment of deputy committee members. Section 5.11 of the Act deals with the tenure of committee membership.



# **Relevant Plans and Policies**

The offic	er recommend	dation align	s to the	following	adopted <sub>I</sub>	plan or	policy:
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Plan:

Not applicable.

Policy:

Not applicable.

## **Financial Implications**

Not Applicable

# **External Stakeholder Consultation**

Not Applicable

# **Risk Assessment**

An assessment of the potential implications of implementing the officer recommendation has been undertaken using the City's risk management framework, with risks assessed taking into account any controls already in place. No risks of a medium or greater level have been identified.

## **Options**

As an alternative to the proposed recommendation the Council could otherwise decide the committee and working group appointments.

## **CONCLUSION**

The appointment of Councillor elect Kaigg to the positions made vacant by the resignation of Cr Woodhams will resolve the membership of committees and working groups and will support the good governance of the district.

# TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The officer recommendation will be implemented in full, or in stages as per the following table:

Milestone	Completion Date
Committee and working group appointments updated	November 2023



# 7.1. Committee Appointments

**Strategic Theme:** Key Theme 4: Leadership

4.2 Deliver governance systems that facilitate open, ethical and

transparent decision making.

**Directorate:** Corporate Strategy and Performance

**Reporting Officer:** Manager Legal and Governance - Ben Whitehill

Authorised By: Director of Corporate Strategy and Performance - Sarah Pierson

Nature of Decision: Executive: Substantial direction setting, including adopting budgets,

strategies, plans and policies (excluding local planning policies); funding, donations and sponsorships; reviewing committee recommendations.

**Voting Requirements:** Absolute Majority

**Disclosures of Interest:** No officers preparing this item have an interest to declare.

Attachments: 1. Legal Advice: Appointment of Council members to committees

[**7.2.1** - 11 pages]

Prior to the meeting, officers foreshadowed an alternative to the officer recommendation. The alternative was moved first and carried.

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

C2311/187 Moved Cr Anne Ryan, seconded Cr Mikayla Love

That the Council remove all appointed members from the Behaviour Complaints Committee pending a further review of the Behaviour Complaints Committee.

CARRIED 7 / 0

FOR: Mayor Phill Cronin, Cr Anne Ryan, Cr Jodie Richards, Cr Val Kaigg, Cr Mikayla Love, Cr Kate Cox and Cr Jarrod Kennedy

**AGAINST: Nil** 

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council:

 In addition to the elected members appointed at the special meeting on 25 October 2023, appoint Cr Ryan to the Audit and Risk Committee and the following nominating elected members:

Enter names

2. Remove all appointed members from the Behaviour Complaints Committee pending a further review of the Behaviour Complaints Committee.



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to consider matters associated with committee appointments that officers believe have not been sufficiently resolved; specifically the appointment of Councillor (Cr) Anne Ryan to a committee of Council specified in section 5.9(2)(a) or (b)., and the appointment / resignation of Crs Macnish and Ryan from the Behaviour Complaints Committee.

The report recommends the Council considers the appointment of Cr Ryan, to the Audit and Risk Committee plus (through the re-opening of nominations) any additional nominating elected members it considers appropriate. The report also recommends that the Council formally resolve matters in relation to appointments to the Behaviour Complaints Committee.

## STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The finalisation of appointment of members to committees supports the good governance of the district.

## **BACKGROUND**

At a special meeting on 25 October 2023 the Council appointed elected members to its established committees, after having considered nominations from elected members and undertaking a process of allocating members to committees, including conducting a secret ballot where there were more nominations than committee positions.

The endorsed Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference (endorsed by the council in July 2023) states that the Council will appoint four elected members to the committee.

The endorsed Behaviour Complaints Committee Terms of Reference (endorsed by the council in October 2023) states that the Council will appoint all elected members to the committee.

Councillors Macnish, Ryan and Woodhams only nominated to be on the Audit and Risk Committee (out of all the s 5.9(2)(a) and (b) committees – discussed further below), with Cr Macnish and Cr Woodhams appointed as members to the Committee (along with Mayor Cronin and Cr Riccelli) following a secret ballot. Cr Ryan was not appointed as a member but was appointed as second deputy, with Cr Love as first deputy member.

No councillors were required to formally nominate for the Behaviour Complaints Committee (given the Council's Terms of Reference for that Committee) and Cr Macnish and Ryan expressed concerns about being appointed to a committee they had not nominated for, and in Cr Ryan's case, concerns about not being appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee.

The Council resolved 7-2 (with Councillors Macnish and Ryan voting against) to make the committee appointments, which included the Audit and Risk Committee appointments outlined above as well as appointing all elected members to the Behaviour Complaints Committee, as per its terms of reference.

Since the 25 October 2023 special meeting, Cr Ryan has sought to resign from the Behaviour Complaints Committee, giving notice to the CEO on Friday 3 November 2023. Cr Macnish has also sought to resign from the Behaviour Complaints Committee, giving notice to the CEO on 6 November 2023.



Assuming Cr Ryan's resignation from the Behaviour Complaints Committee is valid (or if her appointment to the Behavioural Complaints Committee was invalid – see legal opinion attached and discussed in officer comment below) she is no longer a member of a committee comprised of council members only or council members and employees.

Cr Ryan is seeking that she be appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee in accordance with an entitlement under s 5.10(2) of the Act. Section 5.10(2) of the Act states:

At any given time each council member is entitled to be a member of at least one committee referred to in section 5.9(2)(a) or (b) and if a council member nominates himself or herself to be a member of such a committee or committees, the local government is to include that council member in the persons appointed under subsection (1)(a) to at least one of those committees as the local government decides.

The types of committees in s 5.9(2)(a) or (b) of the Act are those that comprise council members only or those that comprise council members and employees. Both the Audit and Risk Committee and Behaviour Complaints Committee are currently committees that comprise council members only.

Officers presented a report to Council at its November Ordinary meeting recommending the following:

## That the Council:

1. In addition to the elected members appointed at the special meeting on 25 October 2023 appoint the following additional elected members to the Audit and Risk Committee:

## enter names

- 2. Appoint one independent position to the Audit and Risk Committee and request the CEO to undertake an expression of interest for a suitably qualified and experienced independent member and recommend an appointment to the Council.
- 3. Request the CEO to provide a further report on the relevance of the Behaviour Complaints Committee.

The Council considered two alternative motions, the first of which lost 3 / 4 (for / against) and the second of which was put and voted on 4 / 3 (for / against). That motion was in three parts as outlined below:

## That the council:

- 1. Note the sought legal opinion and in particular its 'Narrow' view of the application of LGA s5.10(2).
- 2. Accordingly, and noting Cr Ryan's previous and still current nomination to the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), appoint Cr Ryan to the ARC.
- 3. Request the CEO to provide a further report on recommendations to the Council with the following elements;
  - i) the relevance of retaining/replacing the BCC;



- ii) the implications of and brief for the attracting and appointment of an independent person to be an additional member of the ARC;
- iii) the relevance and implications for the ARC's Terms of Reference to be recast based on the Local Government Department's Audit Guidelines\* and its appended model terms of reference; <a href="https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/local-government/operational-guidelines/operational-guideline-9-the-appointment-function-and-responsibilities-of-audit-committess.pdf?sfvrsn=77bf5a06">https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/local-government/operational-guidelines/operational-guideline-9-the-appointment-function-and-responsibilities-of-audit-committess.pdf?sfvrsn=77bf5a06">https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/local-government/operational-guidelines/operational-guideline-9-the-appointment-function-and-responsibilities-of-audit-committess.pdf?sfvrsn=77bf5a06">https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/local-government/operational-guidelines/operational-guideline-9-the-appointment-function-and-responsibilities-of-audit-committess.pdf?sfvrsn=77bf5a06">https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/docs/default-source/local-government/operational-guidelines/operational-guideline-government-guideline-government-
- iv) what model options are available to the ARC to assess Risk in the local government governance context;
- v) the Terms of Reference number of positions of the ARC pursuant to the above.

Parts one and three of the motion required a simple majority – which was achieved. Part two of the motion required an absolute majority – which was not achieved. Part two was therefore put to the Council separately and was again voted 4/3, thereby not achieving the absolute majority requirement.

#### **OFFICER COMMENT**

The outcomes of the 25 October 2023 special meeting and the 15 November ordinary meeting have given rise to several complex matters concerning committee appointments.

## Interpretation of s 5.10 of the Local Government Act 1995

The City has sought external legal advice on the proper interpretation of section 5.10 of the Act as it relates to committee appointments. In particular the City has sought advice on, if an elected member nominates to be on such a committee or committees, and the elected member specifies only one particular committee, is the local government required to appoint the elected member to the particular committee. That advice is attached confidentially at Attachment 1.

At issue is what is meant by the Council's obligation to 'appoint a council member to at least one of those committees as the [Council] decides'.

In particular, is the reference to 'one of those committees' intended to mean:

- 1. a 'committee referred to in section 5.9(2)(a) or (b)' as referred to in the first limb of section 5.10(2) (Wider Interpretation); or
- 2. 'a committee or committees' to which the Council member nominates himself or herself to be a member (as referred to in the second limb of section 5.10(2)) (Narrower Interpretation)?

The external legal advice acknowledges that the terms of s 5.10(2) of the Act are ambiguous and open to both interpretations. However, the advice concludes that the more prudent approach may be to adopt the Narrow Interpretation.

It is somewhat unclear from the Council's decision on 15 November which interpretation of the advice Council has accepted. The decision, and specifically not appointing Cr Ryan to the Audit and Risk Committee (through non-achievement of the absolute majority requirement), aligns with the Wider Interpretation, although Council has noted the legal advice and it's 'Narrow' view at part one of the decision. At part three of the decision Council has also resolved to request the CEO to provide



a further report to the Council including on the relevance of retaining / replacing the Behaviour Complaints Committee. It is not clear however whether Council is of the view that the previous appointments to the Behaviour Complaints Committee are valid, and if so, Cr Ryan and Macnish's resignations must be considered.

The officer report to the 15 November Council meeting leaned, for pragmatic reasons, to adoption of the Narrow Interpretation, and therefore recommended the appointment of Cr Ryan to the Audit and Risk Committee. In leaning to the Narrow Interpretation, officers also took the view that the previous appointments to the Behaviour Complaints Committee were potentially invalid, and therefore did not specifically deal with the matter of Cr Macnish and Ryan's resignations. If Council were to take the Wider Interpretation, that is, that the Council can appoint a member to any one of the committees specified at 5.9(2) (a) or (b), it would also need to consider (as per the legal advice) Cr Macnish and Ryan's request to be removed from the Behaviour Complaints Committee.

As noted above, while acknowledging both interpretations remain open, officers believe there remains uncertainty around the validity of Cr Macnish and Cr Ryan's appointment to the Behaviour Complaints Committee, and whether Cr Ryan is currently appointed to a committee. To resolve the uncertainty, and in the interests of good governance, officers recommend that the Council appoint Cr Ryan to the Audit and Risk Committee.

As it is the Council's role to determine the composition of its committees, officers also recommend that nominations are reopened for the Audit and Risk Committee, and that the Council determine which Council members, beyond Cr Ryan and those Council members already appointed, are to be appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee. Officers believe it is appropriate to offer all Councillors the opportunity to renominate for ARC, noting it was a committee subject to a ballot. With knowledge of the Narrow Interpretation of the legal advice, other Councillors who were unsuccessful in the ballot process may also have sought to nominate for only the ARC.

## Inclusion of an independent member to the Audit and Risk Committee

Officers recommended in the November council report that the Council include an independent member position on the committee. The inclusion of an independent member on the Audit and Risk Committee is consistent with:

- The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries guidelines which
  recommend that one or more persons, with requisite knowledge and skills, other than
  elected members be appointed to the audit committee (see pp 5-6 of Local Government
  Operational Guideline Number 09: Audit in Local Government The appointment, function
  and responsibilities of Audit Committees);
- 2. The Western Australian Public Sector Audit Committees Better Practice Guide which states that for local governments (see pp 11-12):

"having at least 1 appropriately skilled audit committee member who is completely independent of the board or council can bring fresh insight or bridge gaps in the experience needed by the audit committee to perform their duties"

- 3. The adopted practice of other Western Australian local governments.
- 4. The State Government's local government reform agenda which originally proposed that audit committees comprise a majority of independent members and an independent chair.



Although the State Government's original proposal is unlikely to be implemented it is highly likely there will be requirements for independent representation on audit committees.

The Council has requested the CEO to provide a further report on the implications of, and brief for the attracting and appointment of an independent member. It remains however open to the Council to determine to appoint an independent member position now to the Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference. This is provided as an option in the options section of this report, noting that it would result in the Audit and Risk Committee no longer being a committee of a type referred to in 5.9(2) (a) or (b), which does have other consequences in terms of the right afforded to Cr Ryan in the Narrow Interpretation.

#### The Behaviour Complaints Committee

As outlined above, if the Narrow Interpretation of s 5.10(2) is favoured, supported by s 52 of the *Interpretation Act 1984* (as set out in the external legal advice) then the Council may not have the power to appoint a Council member to be a member of a committee unless the Council member had nominated himself or herself, or accepted a nomination, to be a member of that committee.

Given that no Council member formally nominated to be on the Behaviour Complaints Committee it is possible that the appointment of all Council members to the Behaviour Complaints Committee made at the 25 October 2023 special meeting was invalid.

To provide some clarity with respect to this, officers recommend that the Council, in noting the possibility that the appointments made at the 25 October 2023 special Council meeting are invalid, resolve to remove all members from the committee. In the interim, if a behaviour complaint is received, officers will necessarily bring the complaint to the Council to determine.

## **Statutory Environment**

Part 5 Division 2 Sub-division 2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (WA) deals with committees and their meetings.

Section 5.8 deals with establishment of committees:

A local government may establish\* committees of 3 or more persons to assist the council and to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the local government that can be delegated to committees.

\* by absolute majority

Section 5.9 deals with the types of committees:

- (1) In this section other person means a person who is not a council member or an employee.
- (2) A committee is to comprise
  - (a) council members only; or
  - (b) council members and employees; or
  - (c) council members, employees and other persons; or
  - (d) council members and other persons; or
  - (e) employees and other persons; or



(f) other persons only.

Section 5.10 of the Act deals with the appointment of committee members.

- (1) A committee is to have as its members
  - (a) persons appointed\* by the local government to be members of the committee (other than those referred to in paragraph (b)); and
  - (b) persons who are appointed to be members of the committee under subsection (4) or (5).
  - \* by absolute majority
- (2) At any given time each council member is entitled to be a member of at least one committee referred to in section 5.9(2)(a) or (b) and if a council member nominates himself or herself to be a member of such a committee or committees, the local government is to include that council member in the persons appointed under subsection (1)(a) to at least one of those committees as the local government decides.

## **Relevant Plans and Policies**

The officer	recommendation	aligns to	the fo	ollowing	adonted i	nlan or	nolicy:
THE OTHER	1 CCOIIIII CII GGCIOII	ungilo to	CIIC I		uuopicu j	Diali Oi	poncy.

Plan:

Not applicable.

Policy:

Meetings, Information Sessions and Decision Making Processes

## **Financial Implications**

Not Applicable

# **External Stakeholder Consultation**

Not Applicable

## **Risk Assessment**

An assessment of the potential implications of implementing the officer recommendation has been undertaken using the City's risk management framework, with risks assessed taking into account any controls already in place. No risks of a medium or greater level have been identified.

## **Options**

As an alternative to the proposed recommendation the Council could choose to:

1. formally resolve to take the Wider Interpretation and appoint Cr Ryan to one of the committees referenced as 5.9(2)(a) and (b) or consider her to be appointed to the Behaviour Complaints Committee. Further, consider Cr Ryan and Cr Macnish's resignations from the Behaviour Complaints Committee and determine whether to remove them from that committee; noting that in doing so Cr Ryan will need to be appointed to another committee.



2. appoint an independent member position to the Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference, with that committee then becoming a committee referenced at 5.9(2)(d), not 5.9(2)(a) or (b). As a consequence, the Audit and Risk Committee would become a committee to which s 5.10(2) of the Act would no longer apply (s 5.10(2) only applies to committees that comprise council members only or those that comprise council members and employees). This means that the entitlement provided to Cr Ryan under the Narrow Interpretation would cease to exist for the Audit and Risk Committee. If Councillors were of a mind to choose this alternative, officers would recommend that the Council also separately resolve on the make-up of the Behaviour Complaints Committee by either removing all members or by removing at their request Cr Ryan and Cr Macnish.

## **CONCLUSION**

The officer recommendation is consistent with the external legal advice received and will ensure the good governance of the district.

## TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The officer recommendation will be implemented in full, or in stages as per the following table:

Milestone	Completion Date
Appointment of new Council members to Audit and Risk Committee	30 November 2023
Report on the Behaviour Complaints Committee	28 February 2023



		ITIAL	

Nil

# 9. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed at 4:38pm.

The minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 29 November 2023 were confirmed as a true and correct record on 13 December 2023.

Date:

**Presiding Member:**