



Audit Committee Agenda

2 March 2017

ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS FORMATS ON REQUEST

city@busselton.wa.gov.au

CITY OF BUSSELTON

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 2 MARCH 2017

TO: THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

NOTICE is given that a meeting of the Audit Committee will be held in the Meeting Room A, City Administration Site, Harris Road, Busselton on Thursday, 2 March 2017, commencing at 11:30am.

The attendance of Committee Members is respectfully requested.



MIKE ARCHER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

20 February 2017

CITY OF BUSSELTON

AGENDA FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 2 MARCH 2017

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1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

2. **ATTENDANCE**

Apologies

Approved Leave of Absence

Nil

3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 **Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 26 October 2016**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 26 October 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

6. REPORTS

6.1 COMPLIANCE AUDIT RETURN

SUBJECT INDEX:	Reporting and Compliance
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	Governance systems that deliver responsible, ethical and accountable decision-making.
BUSINESS UNIT:	Finance and Corporate Services
ACTIVITY UNIT:	Governance Services
REPORTING OFFICER:	Manager Financial Services - Kim Dolzadelli
AUTHORISING OFFICER:	Director, Finance and Corporate Services - Cliff Frewing
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Absolute Majority
ATTACHMENTS:	Attachment A Compliance Audit Return 2016 ↓

PRÉCIS

The Compliance Audit Return (CAR) relating to the activities of the City of Busselton during 2016 has been completed. The return is a statutory obligation and covers a range of requirements under the *Local Government Act 1995* and various Regulations.

The completed Compliance Audit Return is attached to this report for the consideration of the Council. The return is recommended for adoption, after which it will be forwarded to the Department of Local Government and Communities as required by the 31 March 2017.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Local Government and Communities (DLGC) has made available the 2016 Compliance Audit Return (CAR) for completion.

The Local Government Act 1995 Section 7.13 requires a Local Government to complete the Compliance Audit Return in the form specified by the DLGC and return by 31 March.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 Regulations 13, 14 and 15.

14. *Compliance audits by local governments*

- (1) *A local government is to carry out a compliance audit for the period 1 January to 31 December in each year.*
- (2) *After carrying out a compliance audit the local government is to prepare a compliance audit return in a form approved by the Minister.*
- (3A) *The local government's audit committee is to review the compliance audit return and is to report to the council the results of that review.*
- (3) *After the audit committee has reported to the council under sub regulation (3A), the compliance audit return is to be —*
 - (a) *presented to the council at a meeting of the council; and*
 - (b) *adopted by the council; and*

(c) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is adopted.

15. *Compliance audit return, certified copy of etc. to be given to Executive Director*

(1) *After the compliance audit return has been presented to the council in with regulation 14(3) a certified copy of the return together with —*

(a) a copy of the relevant section of the minutes referred to in regulation 14(3)(c); and

(b) any additional information explaining or qualifying the compliance audit, is to be submitted to the Executive Director by 31 March next following the period to which the return relates.

(2) *In this regulation — certified in relation to a compliance audit return means signed by —*

(a) the mayor or president; and

(b) the CEO.

RELEVANT PLANS AND POLICIES

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

Long-term Financial Plan Implications

Nil

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

The compliance assessment is one of the mechanisms that enables the organisation to ensure that it has governance systems that deliver responsible, ethical and accountable decision-making.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The whole process of the compliance assessment is about identifying risks to the organisation where non-compliant activities have potentially occurred.

CONSULTATION

The questions listed in the compliance return provided by the Department of Local Government and Communities have been responded to by designated council staff responsible for the actions required to comply with the appropriate legislation.

OFFICER COMMENT

The attached Compliance Audit Return demonstrates that the organisation has a good understanding of statutory requirements and has applied the correct interpretation to these requirements. The return covered the organisation's processes and records relating to:

Area of Compliance	# Questions
Commercial Enterprises by Local Governments	5
Delegation of Power / Duty	13
Disclosure of Interest	16
Disposal of Property	2
Elections	1
Finance	14
Local Government Employees	5
Official Conduct	6
Tenders for Providing Goods and Services	25
Total	87

The Authorising Officer notes 100% compliance with respect to the Compliance Audit Return 2016 which is similar to previous years where compliance returns have had a high degree of compliance.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Council adopt the return for submission to the Department of Local Government and Communities.

OPTIONS

The option that would be available to the Council in order to comply with the requirement to lodge the return with the Department of Local Government and Communities by the end of March would be to query any of the responses provided and recommend a different response to the Department prior to adopting the return for submission.

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The certified return must be lodged with the Department of Local Government and Communities by 31 March 2017.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY DECISION OF COUNCIL REQUIRED

That the Audit Committee, having reviewed the 2016 Compliance Audit Return, noting 100% compliance, recommends to Council that it adopts the Compliance Audit Return 2016 and authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to sign the joint certificate.

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

Busselton - Compliance Audit Return 2016

Certified Copy of Return

Please submit a signed copy to the Director General of the Department of Local Government and Communities together with a copy of section of relevant minutes.

Commercial Enterprises by Local Governments					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,9	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major trading undertaking in 2016.	N/A		Lisa Haste
2	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major land transaction that was not exempt in 2016.	N/A		Lisa Haste
3	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan before entering into each land transaction that was preparatory to entry into a major land transaction in 2016.	N/A		Lisa Haste
4	s3.59(4)	Has the local government given Statewide public notice of each proposal to commence a major trading undertaking or enter into a major land transaction for 2016.	N/A		Lisa Haste
5	s3.59(5)	Did the Council, during 2016, resolve to proceed with each major land transaction or trading undertaking by absolute majority.	N/A		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

Delegation of Power / Duty					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees resolved by absolute majority.	N/A		Lisa Haste
2	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees in writing.	N/A		Lisa Haste
3	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees within the limits specified in section 5.17.	N/A		Lisa Haste
4	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees recorded in a register of delegations.	N/A		Lisa Haste
5	s5.18	Has Council reviewed delegations to its committees in the 2015/2016 financial year.	Yes	Delegations were reviewed in June 2016	Lisa Haste
6	s5.42(1), 5.43 Admin Reg 18G	Did the powers and duties of the Council delegated to the CEO exclude those as listed in section 5.43 of the Act.	Yes		Lisa Haste
7	s5.42(1)(2) Admin Reg 18G	Were all delegations to the CEO resolved by an absolute majority.	Yes		Lisa Haste
8	s5.42(1)(2) Admin Reg 18G	Were all delegations to the CEO in writing.	Yes		Lisa Haste
9	s5.44(2)	Were all delegations by the CEO to any employee in writing.	Yes		Lisa Haste
10	s5.45(1)(b)	Were all decisions by the Council to amend or revoke a delegation made by absolute majority.	Yes		Lisa Haste
11	s5.46(1)	Has the CEO kept a register of all delegations made under the Act to him and to other employees.	Yes		Lisa Haste
12	s5.46(2)	Were all delegations made under Division 4 of Part 5 of the Act reviewed by the delegator at least once during the 2015/2016 financial year.	Yes		Lisa Haste
13	s5.46(3) Admin Reg 19	Did all persons exercising a delegated power or duty under the Act keep, on all occasions, a written record as required.	Yes		Lisa Haste
Disclosure of Interest					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.67	If a member disclosed an interest, did he/she ensure that they did not remain present to participate in any discussion or decision-making procedure relating to the matter in which the interest was disclosed (not including participation approvals granted under s5.68).	Yes		Lisa Haste
2	s5.68(2)	Were all decisions made under section 5.68(1), and the extent of participation allowed, recorded in the minutes of Council and Committee meetings.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
3	s5.73	Were disclosures under section 5.65 or 5.70 recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the disclosure was made.	Yes		Lisa Haste
4	s5.75(1) Admin Reg 22 Form 2	Was a primary return lodged by all newly elected members within three months of their start day.	Yes	Last Primary return from the October 2015 elections was received before the 3 month expiry	Lisa Haste
5	s5.75(1) Admin Reg 22 Form 2	Was a primary return lodged by all newly designated employees within three months of their start day.	Yes		Lisa Haste
6	s5.76(1) Admin Reg 23 Form 3	Was an annual return lodged by all continuing elected members by 31 August 2016.	Yes		Lisa Haste
7	s5.76(1) Admin Reg 23 Form 3	Was an annual return lodged by all designated employees by 31 August 2016.	Yes		Lisa Haste
8	s5.77	On receipt of a primary or annual return, did the CEO, (or the Mayor/ President in the case of the CEO's return) on all occasions, give written acknowledgment of having received the return.	Yes		Lisa Haste
9	s5.88(1)(2) Admin Reg 28	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained the returns lodged under section 5.75 and 5.76	Yes		Lisa Haste
10	s5.88(1)(2) Admin Reg 28	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained a record of disclosures made under sections 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71, in the form prescribed in Administration Regulation 28.	Yes		Lisa Haste
11	s5.88 (3)	Has the CEO removed all returns from the register when a person ceased to be a person required to lodge a return under section 5.75 or 5.76.	Yes		Lisa Haste
12	s5.88(4)	Have all returns lodged under section 5.75 or 5.76 and removed from the register, been kept for a period of at least five years, after the person who lodged the return ceased to be a council member or designated employee.	Yes		Lisa Haste
13	s5.103 Admin Reg 34C & Rules of Conduct Reg 11	Where an elected member or an employee disclosed an interest in a matter discussed at a Council or committee meeting where there was a reasonable belief that the impartiality of the person having the interest would be adversely affected, was it recorded in the minutes.	Yes		Lisa Haste
14	s5.70(2)	Where an employee had an interest in any matter in respect of which the employee provided advice or a report directly to the Council or a Committee, did that person disclose the nature of that interest when giving the advice or report.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
15	s5.70(3)	Where an employee disclosed an interest under s5.70(2), did that person also disclose the extent of that interest when required to do so by the Council or a Committee.	Yes		Lisa Haste
16	s5.103(3) Admin Reg 34B	Has the CEO kept a register of all notifiable gifts received by Council members and employees.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Disposal of Property

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s3.58(3)	Was local public notice given prior to disposal for any property not disposed of by public auction or tender (except where excluded by Section 3.58(5)).	Yes		Lisa Haste
2	s3.58(4)	Where the local government disposed of property under section 3.58(3), did it provide details, as prescribed by section 3.58(4), in the required local public notice for each disposal of property.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Elections

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	Elect Reg 30G (1)	Did the CEO establish and maintain an electoral gift register and ensure that all 'disclosure of gifts' forms completed by candidates and received by the CEO were placed on the electoral gift register at the time of receipt by the CEO and in a manner that clearly identifies and distinguishes the candidates.	N/A		Lisa Haste

Finance

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s7.1A	Has the local government established an audit committee and appointed members by absolute majority in accordance with section 7.1A of the Act.	Yes		Kim Dolzadelli
2	s7.1B	Where a local government determined to delegate to its audit committee any powers or duties under Part 7 of the Act, did it do so by absolute majority.	N/A	Power not delegated	Kim Dolzadelli
3	s7.3	Was the person(s) appointed by the local government to be its auditor, a registered company auditor.	Yes	AMD Chartered Accountants, Company Auditors Reg. No. 13485	Kim Dolzadelli
4	s7.3, 7.6(3)	Was the person or persons appointed by the local government to be its auditor, appointed by an absolute majority decision of Council.	Yes		Kim Dolzadelli

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
5	Audit Reg 10	Was the Auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 received by the local government within 30 days of completion of the audit.	Yes		Kim Dolzadelli
6	s7.9(1)	Was the Auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 received by the local government by 31 December 2016.	Yes	11 October 2016	Kim Dolzadelli
7	S7.12A(3)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act required action to be taken by the local government, was that action undertaken.	N/A	No action required	Kim Dolzadelli
8	S7.12A (4)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report (prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act) required action to be taken by the local government, was a report prepared on any actions undertaken.	N/A	No action required	Kim Dolzadelli
9	S7.12A (4)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report (prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act) required action to be taken by the local government, was a copy of the report forwarded to the Minister by the end of the financial year or 6 months after the last report prepared under s7.9 was received by the local government whichever was the latest in time.	N/A	No action required	Kim Dolzadelli
10	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the objectives of the audit.	Yes		Kim Dolzadelli
11	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the scope of the audit.	Yes	Agreement signed 4 November 2013 for period of 5 years commencing 1 July 2013 and ending 30 June 2018.	Kim Dolzadelli
12	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include a plan for the audit.	Yes	Agreement signed 4 November 2013 for period of 5 years commencing 1 July 2013 and ending 30 June 2018.	Kim Dolzadelli
13	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include details of the remuneration and expenses to be paid to the auditor.	Yes	Agreement signed 4 November 2013 for period of 5 years commencing 1 July 2013 and ending 30 June 2018.	Kim Dolzadelli
14	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the method to be used by the local government to communicate with, and supply information to, the auditor.	Yes	Agreement signed 4 November 2013 for period of 5 years commencing 1 July 2013 and ending 30 June 2018.	Kim Dolzadelli

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

Local Government Employees					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	Admin Reg 18C	Did the local government approve the process to be used for the selection and appointment of the CEO before the position of CEO was advertised.	N/A		Lisa Haste
2	s5.36(4) s5.37(3), Admin Reg 18A	Were all vacancies for the position of CEO and other designated senior employees advertised and did the advertising comply with s.5.36(4), 5.37(3) and Admin Reg 18A.	N/A		Lisa Haste
3	Admin Reg 18F	Was the remuneration and other benefits paid to a CEO on appointment the same remuneration and benefits advertised for the position of CEO under section 5.36(4).	N/A		Lisa Haste
4	Admin Regs 18E	Did the local government ensure checks were carried out to confirm that the information in an application for employment was true (applicable to CEO only).	N/A		Lisa Haste
5	s5.37(2)	Did the CEO inform council of each proposal to employ or dismiss a designated senior employee.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Official Conduct					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.120	Where the CEO is not the complaints officer, has the local government designated a senior employee, as defined under s5.37, to be its complaints officer.	Yes		Lisa Haste
2	s5.121(1)	Has the complaints officer for the local government maintained a register of complaints which records all complaints that result in action under s5.110(6)(b) or (c).	Yes		Lisa Haste
3	s5.121(2)(a)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording of the name of the council member about whom the complaint is made.	Yes		Lisa Haste
4	s5.121(2)(b)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording the name of the person who makes the complaint.	Yes		Lisa Haste
5	s5.121(2)(c)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording a description of the minor breach that the standards panel finds has occurred.	N/A		Lisa Haste
6	s5.121(2)(d)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include the provision to record details of the action taken under s5.110(6)(b) or (c).	N/A		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

Tenders for Providing Goods and Services					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s3.57 F&G Reg 11	Did the local government invite tenders on all occasions (before entering into contracts for the supply of goods or services) where the consideration under the contract was, or was expected to be, worth more than the consideration stated in Regulation 11 (1) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations (Subject to Functions and General Regulation 11 (2)).	Yes		Lisa Haste
2	F&G Reg 12	Did the local government comply with F&G Reg 12 when deciding to enter into multiple contracts rather than inviting tenders for a single contract.	Yes		Lisa Haste
3	F&G Reg 14(1) & (3)	Did the local government invite tenders via Statewide public notice.	Yes		Lisa Haste
4	F&G Reg 14 & 15	Did the local government's advertising and tender documentation comply with F&G Regs 14, 15 & 16.	Yes		Lisa Haste
5	F&G Reg 14(5)	If the local government sought to vary the information supplied to tenderers, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought copies of the tender documents or each acceptable tenderer, notice of the variation.	Yes		Lisa Haste
6	F&G Reg 16	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening tenders comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 16.	Yes		Lisa Haste
7	F&G Reg 18(1)	Did the local government reject the tenders that were not submitted at the place, and within the time specified in the invitation to tender.	Yes		Lisa Haste
8	F&G Reg 18 (4)	In relation to the tenders that were not rejected, did the local government assess which tender to accept and which tender was most advantageous to the local government to accept, by means of written evaluation criteria.	Yes		Lisa Haste
9	F&G Reg 17	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 17.	Yes		Lisa Haste
10	F&G Reg 19	Was each tenderer sent written notice advising particulars of the successful tender or advising that no tender was accepted.	Yes		Lisa Haste
11	F&G Reg 21 & 22	Did the local governments's advertising and expression of interest documentation comply with the requirements of F&G Regs 21 and 22.	Yes		Lisa Haste
12	F&G Reg 23(1)	Did the local government reject the expressions of interest that were not submitted at the place and within the time specified in the notice.	Yes		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
13	F&G Reg 23(4)	After the local government considered expressions of interest, did the CEO list each person considered capable of satisfactorily supplying goods or services.	Yes		Lisa Haste
14	F&G Reg 24	Was each person who submitted an expression of interest, given a notice in writing in accordance with Functions & General Regulation 24.	Yes		Lisa Haste
15	F&G Reg 24AD(2)	Did the local government invite applicants for a panel of pre-qualified suppliers via Statewide public notice.	No		Lisa Haste
16	F&G Reg 24AD(4) & 24AE	Did the local government's advertising and panel documentation comply with F&G Regs 24AD(4) & 24AE.	N/A		Lisa Haste
17	F&G Reg 24AF	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 16 as if the reference in that regulation to a tender were a reference to a panel application.	N/A		Lisa Haste
18	F&G Reg 24AD(6)	If the local government sought to vary the information supplied to the panel, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought detailed information about the proposed panel or each person who submitted an application, notice of the variation.	N/A		Lisa Haste
19	F&G Reg 24AH(1)	Did the local government reject the applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers that were not submitted at the place, and within the time specified in the invitation for applications.	N/A		Lisa Haste
20	F&G Reg 24AH(3)	In relation to the applications that were not rejected, did the local government assess which application(s) to accept and which application(s) were most advantageous to the local government to accept, by means of written evaluation criteria.	N/A		Lisa Haste
21	F&G Reg 24AG	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register about panels of pre-qualified suppliers, comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24AG.	N/A		Lisa Haste
22	F&G Reg 24AI	Did the local government send each person who submitted an application, written notice advising if the person's application was accepted and they are to be part of a panel of pre-qualified suppliers, or, that the application was not accepted.	N/A		Lisa Haste

Department of Local Government and Communities - Compliance Audit Return



Government of Western Australia
Department of Local Government and Communities

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
23	F&G Reg 24E	Where the local government gave a regional price preference in relation to a tender process, did the local government comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24E in relation to the preparation of a regional price preference policy (only if a policy had not been previously adopted by Council).	Yes		Lisa Haste
24	F&G Reg 24F	Did the local government comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24F in relation to an adopted regional price preference policy.	Yes		Lisa Haste
25	F&G Reg 11A	Does the local government have a current purchasing policy in relation to contracts for other persons to supply goods or services where the consideration under the contract is, or is expected to be, \$150,000 or less.	Yes		Lisa Haste

I certify this Compliance Audit return has been adopted by Council at its meeting on

Signed Mayor / President, Busselton

Signed CEO, Busselton

6.2 CONDUCT OF MEETING WITH AUDITOR

SUBJECT INDEX:	Compliance
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:	Governance systems that deliver responsible, ethical and accountable decision-making.
BUSINESS UNIT:	Finance and Corporate Services
ACTIVITY UNIT:	Financial Services
REPORTING OFFICER:	Manager Financial Services - Kim Dolzadelli
AUTHORISING OFFICER:	Director, Finance and Corporate Services - Cliff Frewing
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil

PRÉCIS

For the Audit Committee and Council's Auditor to meet.

BACKGROUND

The 2015/16 Annual Financial Statement, Auditors Report and Management Letter has been received from Council's appointed Auditor, Mr Tim Partridge from AMD Chartered Accountants, and was presented and considered by the Audit Committee at its meeting held 26 October 2016.

Pursuant to its Instrument of Appointment, the Audit Committee considered the 2015/16 Annual Financial Statement, Auditors Report and Management letter. Council's Auditor was unable to attend this meeting.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995 Section 7.12A(2)

(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), a local government is to meet with the auditor of the local government at least once in every year.

RELEVANT PLANS AND POLICIES

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

Long-term Financial Plan Implications

Nil

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

This matter principally aligns with Key Goal Area 6 – 'Open and Collaborative Leadership' and more specifically Community Objective 6.3 - 'An organisation that is managed effectively and achieves positive outcomes for the community'

RISK ASSESSMENT

N/A

CONSULTATION

The Annual Financial Report has been the subject of close examination by the appointed auditors, Mr Tim Partridge from AMD Chartered Accountants.

OFFICER COMMENT

An important function of the meeting is to discuss with the Auditor, the conduct of the audit, the audit findings, and the state of the Shire's financial affairs generally. This meeting provides the Audit Committee to undertake this important function as required by the Local Government Act 1995 Section 7.12A(2).

CONCLUSION

That the Audit Committee meets with Council's Auditor and report any findings to Council.

OPTIONS

The Audit Committee may determine to make specific recommendations in relation to the audit findings and the actions identified by management in addressing these.

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Immediate.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit Committee meets with Council's appointed Auditor, Mr Tim Partridge from AMD Chartered Accountants.

7. GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be advised.

9. CLOSURE