

# SHIRE OF EAST PILBARA

# **AGENDA**

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Audit Committee Meeting of the Council will be held, in the Meeting Room, Newman 8:00 am, Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016

Allen Cooper CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



# **DISCLAIMER**

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of East Pilbara for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee Meetings. The Shire of East Pilbara disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee Meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or Committee Meeting does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating any planning application or application of a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by any member or Officer of the Shire of East Pilbara during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of East Pilbara.

The Shire of East Pilbara warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of East Pilbara must obtain and should only rely on

# WRITTEN CONFIRMATION

of the outcome of the application and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of East Pilbara in respect of the application.

Signed:	
Allen Cooper	
Chief Executive Officer	

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

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- 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS
- 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCES/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 2.1 ATTENDANCES

# **Councillors**

Anita Grace John Jakobson Gerry Parsons

# **Officers**

Sian Appleton

#### 2.2 APOLOGIES

# Councillors

Craig Hoyer Shane Carter Jeton (Jay) Ahmedi

- 2.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- 3 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE
- 4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
- 5 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS
- 6 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING
- 7.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

# OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

# Minutes 24th November 2016

THAT the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held at Newman on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

- 8 MEMBERS' REPORTS
- 8.1 ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION'

# 9 OFFICERS' REPORTS

#### 9.1.1 COMPLIANCE AUDIT RETURN 2016

File Ref: LEG-1-11

Attachments: Compliance Audit Return Completed.pdf

Compliance Audit Return Report 23 January

2016

Responsible Officer's Sian Appleton

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer** 

Author: Sian Appleton

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer** 

Location/Address: N/A
Name of Applicant: N/A
Author Disclosure of Interest: Nil

#### REPORT PURPOSE

To seek Council's comment on and receivable of the Local Government Compliance Audit Return ("CAR") for the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Over previous years this Council has produced the report by using either an independent consultant or doing the report in house. On this occasion the Compliance Audit has been completed by an external consultant, Mr Andrew Burchfield.

Council must complete an annual audit of compliance with statutory requirements

The Compliance Audit Return is a checklist of compliance with statutory obligations relating to the provision of services by, and the management of, a local government.

The Local Government Act 1995 requires that each local government is to carry out a compliance audit for the period 1 January to 31 December each year, against the requirements included in the CAR for the year.

After the completion of the CAR the following should occur:

- (a) the Audit Committee is to review the CAR;
- (b) the CAR is to then be presented to a subsequent meeting of Council;
- (c) The CAR is to be adopted by the Council before 31 March;
- (d) the adoption is to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is adopted; and
- (e) a certified copy of the return, along with the relevant section of the minutes and any additional information explaining or qualifying the compliance audit, is to be submitted to the Department of Local Government by 31 March.

# **COMMENTS/OPTIONS/DISCUSSIONS**

The structure of the CAR was revised in 2011 when the Department decided to include only the areas of compliance that they consider to be of high risk.

This format has been implemented since then and the CAR now has nine sections making a total of eighty seven questions to be answered.

	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Total
2016 CAR Section Name	Answers	Answers	Answers	Answers
Commercial Enterprises by	0	0	5	5
Local Governments				
Delegation of Power/Duty	8	0	5	13
Disclosure of Interest	14	0	2	16
Disposal of Property	0	0	2	2
Elections	0	0	1	1
Finance	10	0	4	14
Local Government Employees	0	0	5	5
Official Conduct	5	0	1	6
Tenders for providing Goods	13	0	12	25
and Services				
Total	50	0	37	87

The 87 questions in the 2016 CAR are identical to the questions in the 2015 CAR. A comparison of the "No" answers in these CARs are as follows:

CAR Section Name	2015 "No" Answers	2016 "No" Answers	Increase or (Reduction) in 2016
Commercial Enterprises by Local	0	0	0
Governments			
Delegation of Power/Duty	0	0	0
Disclosure of Interest	0	0	0
Disposal of Property	0	0	0
Elections	0	0	0
Finance	1	0	(1)
Local Government Employees	0	0	0
Official Conduct	0	0	0
Tenders for providing Goods and	0	0	0
Services			
Total	1	0	(1)

The review identified no instances of non-compliance with the 87 individual requirements of the 2016 CAR.

# STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

Part 7 - Audit (Division 4 - General) 7.13. Regulations as to audits (pg. 274)

1 Regulations may make provision –

(i) Requiring local governments to carry out...an audit of compliance as prescribed.

**Regulation 13** of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* prescribes the item to be subject to an audit.

**Regulation 14** of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* states that a compliance audit shall be prepared and lays out the form and manner of its preparation

**Regulation 15** of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations* deals with the return of the compliance audit to the Department of Local Government after its presentation to the Audit Committee and Council.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

# **Goal 1 – Civic Leadership – Planned Actions**

The Shire of East Pilbara seeks to deliver high quality corporate governance and demonstrate accountability to its constituents. All decisions are informed by community engagement – leading to the effective allocation of the Shire's resources – that deliver optimum benefits to the community.

- 1.1 Efficient and effective local government
- 1.1.1 Ethical, accountable and transparent decision-making
   Responsible officer: DCEO
   Timing: As appropriate

# **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

The Compliance Audit Return focusses on the areas that the Department Of Local Government consider to be High Risk.

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial resource impact.

# **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple.

# **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council adopt the Compliance Audit Return for the Calendar year 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016.

#### 9.1.2 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 2017

Attachments:

Responsible Officer: Ms Sian Appleton

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer** 

Author: Ms Sian Appleton

**Deputy Chief Executive Officer** 

Proposed Meeting Date: 23 February 2017

Location/Address: N/A
Name of Applicant: N/A
Author Disclosure of Interest: Nil

#### REPORT PURPOSE

To provide the Audit Committee with a monthly financial statement on the operations of Council.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The attached thirteen page report details the financial activities of the Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 of the 2016/2017 financial year.

There are 4 sections of the monthly report:

- 1. An operating statement comparing income and expenditure to the adopted budget for each function of Council.
- 2. A more detailed schedule which breaks the operating statement down into the various operational sections and departments of Council.
- 3. A schedule detailing all expenditure for the year to date for individual capital items.
- 4. A statement of cash flows.

#### COMMENTS/OPTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer will provide an overview and explanation as required of how to interpret the financial statements at the meeting.

# STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

Part 6 - Financial Management (Division 3 - Reporting on activities and finance) 6.4. Financial report (pg 211)

Regulation 34(1) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations states that:

"A local Government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d), for that month in the following detail —

- a) annual budget estimates ...."
- b) budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
- c) actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
- d) material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (a) and (c); and
- e) the net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Complies with Council's Accounting Policies as per the current Policy Manual.

#### STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

# Goal 1 - Civic Leadership - Planned Actions

The Shire of East Pilbara seeks to deliver high quality corporate governance and demonstrate accountability to its constituents. All decisions are informed by community engagement – leading to the effective allocation of the Shire's resources – that deliver optimum benefits to the community.

- 1.1 Efficient and effective local government
- 1.1.2 Continued strong financial management Responsible officer: DCEO Timing: 1 year

# **RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

The submission of monthly financial statements is a legislative requirement under the Local Government Act 1995. No compliance would result in a breach of Council's legislative responsibility.

# FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial resource impact.

#### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Absolute.

#### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Audit Committee recommends to Council the adoption of the January financial statements.

- 10 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN
- 11 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF COMMITTEE
- 12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
- 13 GENERAL BUSINESS
- 14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

15 CLOSURE