



Audit Committee

MINUTES

19th September 2017

Shire of Dundas**Audit Committee****Delegated Duties and Responsibilities**

The following duties and responsibilities are delegated to the Audit Committee by the Council at the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 21st October 2014:-

1. Provide guidance and assistance to the Council in carrying out the functions of the Shire in relation to audits which includes risk management, internal controls and legislative compliance.
2. Develop and recommend to the Council an appropriate process for the selection and appointment of a person as the Shires auditor.
3. Develop and recommend to the Council a written format for the proposal to tender for the Shires audit. The proposal is to include –
 - the objectives of the audit;
 - the scope of the audit;
 - a plan of the audit;
 - details of the remuneration and expenses to be paid; and
 - the method of communication to be used between the auditor and the Shire.
- 4 Recommend to the Council the person or persons to be appointed as auditor.
- 5 Liaise with the CEO to ensure that the Shire does everything in its power to:
 - assist the auditor to conduct the audit and carry out his or her other duties under the Local Government Act 1995; and
 - ensure that audits are conducted successfully and expeditiously.
- 6 Examine the reports of the auditor after receiving a report from the CEO on the matters and –
 - determine if any matters raised require action to be taken by the Shire; and
 - ensure that appropriate action is taken in respect of those matters.
- 7 Review the report prepared by the CEO on any actions taken in respect of any matters raised in the report of the auditor and present the report to the Council for adoption prior to the end of the next financial year or 6 months after the last report prepared by the auditor is received, whichever is the latest in time.
- 8 Review the relevant audit process annually to ensure that it is effective and meets the objectives of the Shires “Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy”.
- 9 Oversee the Shires Risk Management Plan and
 - support the implementation of the risk management and culture development program throughout the Shire;
 - make recommendation of the risk tolerance level for the Council to consider and adopt as appropriate;
 - bring to the attention of the Council the high to extreme identified risks and their recommended treatment;
 - establish the risk management plan which is aligned with the strategic planning process; and
 - actively promote risk management throughout the Shire.
- 10 To meet with the auditor at least once in every year in accordance with Section 7.12A(2) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Delegation reviewed and adopted without amendment at Ordinary Meeting of Council held 21ST October 2014

**Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on
the 19th September 2017 in the Council Chamber,
Shire of Dundas Administration Office, meeting
commenced at 5:11pm.**

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1 Declaration of Opening

The Chairperson welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 5:11pm.

2 Declarations of Financial, Proximity and Impartiality Interests

Nil

3 Records of Attendance / Officers / Apologies***Present:***

Cr J Best	Shire President
Cr LW Webb	Deputy Shire President
Cr JEP Hogan	
Cr R Patupis	
Cr L Bonza	
DC Stead	Chief Executive Officer
G Kohobange	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Sonya Ellison	Senior Administration Officer
Marius van der Merwe	Director, Butler Settineri

4 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**Recommendation**

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 21st February 2017 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved Cr Hogan
Seconded Cr Bonza

Resolution

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 21st February 2017 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried by: Simple Majority For: 5 Against: 0

5 Reports of Officers

Agenda Reference & Subject	
5.1 Acceptance of the Auditor's Report for 2016/17	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.AD
Author	Gihan Kohobange
Date of Report	7 th September 2017
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

For the Audit Committee to review the 2016/17 Audit Report together with the CEO's comments on the Audit Report and recommending to Council the actions identified as part of this review.

Background

On the inside cover sheet to this agenda is the list of duties and responsibilities that Council has delegated to the Audit Committee. In particular items 7 and 8 are relevant to this meeting.

Statutory Environment

Item 7 of the Delegated Duties and Responsibilities as well as Section 7.12A(2) of the Local Government Act 1995.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Strategic Implications

Nil

Consultation

Marius van der Merwe (Audit partner), CEO, Senior Administration Officer

Comment

The Shires auditor, Marius van der Merwe has presented his report on the 2016/17 financial year. The audit report is included in papers relating.

In accordance with delegation number 7 the Audit Committee is to review the Auditor's Report and the CEO's Report and present the report to Council prior to the end of the next financial year.

The CEO's comments on the Audit Report are as follows:

The Independent Audit Report again identifies that the Shire's financial affairs are in good order and do not indicate any significant adverse trends in the Shire's financial position. The Management Report did not reflect any items of non-conformity.

Voting Requirements

Simple majority

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee recommend to Council that the Auditor's Report for 2016/17 be accepted.

Moved Cr Patupis
Seconded Cr Hogan

Resolution

That the Audit Committee recommend to Council that the Auditor's Report for 2016/17 be accepted.

Carried by: Simple Majority For: 5 Against: 0

Marius van der Merwe left the Council Chambers at 5:13pm.

Agenda Reference & Subject	
5.2 Appointment of Auditor	
Location / Address	Shire of Dundas
File Reference	FM.AD
Author	Gihan Kohobange
Date of Report	8 th September 2017
Disclosure of Interest	Nil

Summary

That the Audit Committee make a recommendation to the council to extend current audit contract until the 2017-18 audit.

Background

On the inside of the cover sheet to this agenda is the list of duties and responsibilities that Council has delegated to the Audit Committee. In particular items 4 is relevant to this meeting.

The current audit contract with Butler Settineri (Audit) Pty Ltd expires with the completion of the 2016/17 financial year audit. In normal circumstances an Auditor is appointed for a period of time not exceeding five years. Generally the Local Government goes to the market and seeks quotations for the provision of such services.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996

Policy Implications

Purchasing Policy F3

Financial Implications

Allowance has been made in the 2017/18 budget

Strategic Implications

N/A

Consultation

Department of Local Government and Communities, CEO

Comment

In March 2016, local governments were advised that there was a proposal for the Auditors General to undertake financial and performance audits of local government sector.

It was proposed that the Auditor General and the Office of the Auditor General take responsibility for local government audits from the 1 July 2017. Local Governments were requested not to extend or renew audit contracts past the 2016/17.

The bill was introduced to the Parliament on the 25th of August 2016, however, the Bill did not pass before the dissolution of Parliament.

As per "Departmental Circular - 31-2016 - Local Government Amendment (Auditing) Bill 2016" given with papers relating, the Department of Local Government is now encouraging local governments to extend or renew audit contract until 2017/18 audit, with the option of annual extensions.

Given the Department's request it is considered prudent to extend the current audit contract a further year.

A proposal form Butler Settineri (Audit) Pty Ltd is given with the papers relating to extend the current audit contract under the existing terms and conditions for the 2017/18 period. The estimated increase in the audit fee is only \$ 130 compared with the audit fee for the 2016/17.

Voting Requirements

Simple majority

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee recommend to the Council that the current audit contract with Butler Settineri (Audit) Pty Ltd be extended until the 2017/18 audit.

Moved Cr Webb
Seconded Cr Hogan

Resolution

That the Audit Committee recommend to the Council that the current audit contract with Butler Settineri (Audit) Pty Ltd be extended until the 2017/18 audit.

Carried by: Simple Majority

For: 5

Against: 0

6 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be called as required.

7 Closure of Meeting

There being no further matters for discussion the Chairperson closed the meeting at 5:15pm.