

# MINUTES

# **Audit Committee Meeting**

Held in Shire of Koorda Council Chambers 10 Haig Street, Koorda WA 6475 Wednesday 28 June 2023 Commencing 4.00pm Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

# **NOTICE OF MEETING**

Dear Audit Committee Members,

The next Audit Committee Meeting of the Shire of Koorda will be held on Wednesday 28 June 2023 in the Shire of Koorda Council Chambers, 10 Haig Street, Koorda, commencing at 4.00pm.

Lana Foote Acting Chief Executive Officer 23 June 2023

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In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, and statement or intimation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Koorda during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Koorda.

The Shire of Koorda warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Koorda must obtain and should only rely on <u>written confirmation</u> of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Koorda in respect of the application.

To be read aloud if any member of the public is present.

Signed

Darren Simmons
Chief Executive Officer

# **Table of Contents**

1.	Declaration of Opening	4
2.	Record of Attendance, Apologies and Leave of Absence	4
3.	Public Question Time	4
4.	Disclosure of Interest	4
5.	Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meetings	4
5.1.	Audit Committee Meeting held on 17 May 2023	4
6.	Presentations	5
7.	Officer's Reports	
	Fourth Quarterly Reporting of Integrated Strategic Plan and Workforce Plan	
7.2. Cor	Review of Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal	7
8.	Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision	10
9.	Date of Next Meeting	10
10.	Closure	
APF	PENDIX I – Terms of Reference	11

# Shire of Koorda Audit Committee Meeting 4.00pm, Wednesday 28 June 2023



# 1. Declaration of Opening

The Chairperson welcomes those in attendance and declares the meeting open at 4.00pm.

2.	Record of Attendance, Apol	logies and Leave of Absence
Comm	ittee Members:	
	Cr JM Stratford	President & Chair
	Cr NJ Chandler	Member
	Cr LC Smith	Member
Staff:		
	Miss L Foote	Acting Chief Executive Officer
	Mrs K Harrap	Governance Officer
Visitor	rs:	
	Cr GW Greaves	Councillor
Apolog	gies:	
	Mr DJ Simmons	Chief Executive Officer
Appro	ved Leave of Absence:	
3.	Public Question Time	
Nil.		
4.	Disclosure of Interest	
Nil.		
5.	<b>Confirmation of Minutes fro</b>	m Previous Meetings
	Audit Committee Meeting held ere to view the previous minutes	on 17 May 2023
Voting	Requirements ⊠Simple Ma	ajority □Absolute Majority

# Officer Recommendation/Resolution

**Moved CR NJ Chandler** 

**Seconded CR LC Smith** 

That, in accordance with Sections 5.22(2) and 3.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 17 May 2023, as presented, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

**CARRIED 3/0** 

# 6. Presentations

Nil.

# 7. Officer's Reports

# 7.1. Fourth Quarterly Reporting of Integrated Strategic Plan and Workforce Plan

Governa	Koorda Divie in, stay awhile		
Date	20 June 2023		
Location	Not Applicable		
Responsible Officer	esponsible Officer Lana Foote, Acting Chief Executive Officer		
Author	As above		
Legislation	Local Government Act 1995; Local Gove Regulations 1996	ernment (Administration)	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil		
Purpose of Report	⊠Executive Decision ⊠Legislative Requ	uirement □Information	
Attachments Fourth Quarterly Scorcecard April to June 2023			

# **Background:**

This report is to inform the Committee and Council of its obligations in relation to the integrated planning and reporting (IPR) requirements under the Local Government Act 1995, the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996.

Following the Committee's recommendation of 28 September 2022, the quarterly scorecard reporting document approach was adopted by Council on 26 October 2022.

# **Comment:**

Council adopted its Integrated Strategic Plan and Workforce Plan at its meeting held on 20 April 2022.

To assist Council to meet its IPR requirements under the Local Government Act 1995, the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, Shire staff have prepared draft quarterly reporting documents (provided as confidential attachment) for the Committee to consider and, if appropriate, recommend to Council that the fourth quarterly scorecard be adopted and the Integrated Strategic Plan and Workforce Plan components be endorsed for publication.

# **Consultation:**

Nil.

# **Statutory Implications:**

Local Government Act 1995 and relevant subsidiary legislation.

# **Policy Implications:**

Nil

# Strategic Implications:

Shire of Koorda Integrated Strategic Plan 2022

Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

4.1.1 - Ensure the use of resources is effective, efficient and reported regularly. (e.g. Financial Management)

# **Financial Implications:**

Nil

# **Voting Requirements:**

⊠Simple Majority □Absolute Majority

# Officer Recommendation/Resolution

# **Moved CR NJ Chandler**

Seconded CR LC Smith

# That the Audit Committee recommends:

# **That Council:**

- 1. Adopts the fourth quarterly reporting documents (April to June 2023) as presented to the Audit Committee meeting held on 28 June 2023; and
- 2. Endorses the publication of the Integrated Strategic Plan and Workforce Plan components for community information.

**CARRIED 3/0** 

# 7.2. Review of Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls

Governar	KShire of KOOrda Drive in stray owhile			
Date	20 June 2023			
Location	Not Applicable			
Responsible Officer Darren Simmons Chief Executive Officer				
Author Lana Foote, Deputy Chief Executive Officer				
Legislation  Local Government Act 1995 Section 7.13 (i)  Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 – Reg 13, 14 and 15				
Disclosure of Interest	Nil			
Purpose of Report	☐Executive Decision ⊠Legislative Requ	uirement □Information		
Attachments FMR Action Plan - June 2023				

# **Background:**

The Review of Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls helps an organisation accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance.

At the May 2023 Audit Committee Meeting, the Review of Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls was presented for consideration with the below committee recommendation being resolved at the May 2023 Council Meeting.

Committee Recommendation RESOLUTION 050523

**Moved CR GW Greaves** 

**Seconded CR BG Cooper** 

#### That Council:

- 1. Receives Moore's Review of Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls report, dated April 2023 (Attachment A);
- 2. Directs the CEO to provide a report, on a quarterly basis, to the Audit Committee to enable the Committee to monitor the Shire's progress in addressing the recommendations, pursuant to Regulation 16 (d) of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996; and
- 3. Directs the CEO at the first quarterly review to provide proposed actions, including expected completion dates, to the recommendations identified in the report.

**CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6/0** 

# **Comment:**

As per resolution 050523, an initial draft report, as attached to this item, has been prepared for the Committee in relation to the actions that have taken place, and the draft proposed actions.

The action list is subject to review and consultation with the CEO.

Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

This report has been presented to the audit committee as the committee has a role in supporting Council in fulfilling its governance and oversight responsibilities and provide the audit committee with the opportunity to raise any issues that the document has identified or ask any other questions, they may have in relation to our risk management and compliance activities.

# **Consultation:**

Administration Staff

# **Statutory Implications:**

Regulation 16 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 prescribes the functions of an Audit Committee which includes;

- "16 (c) to review a report given to it by the CEO under regulation 17(3) and is to -
  - (i) Report to the council the results of that review; and
  - (ii) Give a copy of the CEO's report to the council."

"16 (d) to monitor and advise the CEO when the CEO is carrying out functions in relation to a review under –

- (i) Regulations 17 (1); and
- (ii) The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 regulation 5(2)(c)."

Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 reads as follows;

- "(1) The CEO is to review the appropriateness and effectiveness of a local government's systems and procedures in relation to
  - a) risk management; and
  - b) internal control; and
  - c) legislative compliance.
- (2) The review may relate to any or all of the matters referred to in subregulation (1)(a), (b) and (c), but each of those matters is to be the subject of a review not less than once in every 3 financial years.
- (3) The CEO is to report to the audit committee the results of that review."

Regulation 5 (2) (c) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 states that - "the CEO is to undertake reviews of the appropriateness and effectiveness of the financial management systems and procedures of the local government regularly (and not less than once in every 3 financial years) and report to the local government the results of those reviews."

# **Policy Implications:**

The review recommended some potential improvement opportunities to some of the Council's policy. These will be considered separately by the Policy Review Committee and Council at the completion of the review process. Comments made in the FM Review relating to specific Policies and Procedures will be taken on-board as part of the review process.

# Strategic Implications:

Shire of Koorda Integrated Strategic Plan 2022

- 4.1.1 Ensure the use of resources is effective, efficient and reported regularly. (e.g. Financial Management)
- 4.1.2 Identify business improvement opportunities to enhance operational effectiveness.

Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

# **Financial Implications:**

The 2022/23 Budget contained an allocation for the costs associated with undertaking the Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls review, provides at GL 2040250 OTH GOV - Consultancy - Strategic.

**Voting Requirements:** ⊠Simple Majority □Absolute Majority

Officer Recommendation/Resolution

**Moved CR LC Smith** 

**Seconded CR NJ Chandler** 

That the Audit Committee recommends;

That Council notes the Draft Report of the Deputy CEO on the completed and proposed actions to the identified improvements highlighted in the Financial Management, Risk Management, Legislative Compliance and Internal Controls review.

**CARRIED 3/0** 

<b>Audit Comn</b>	nittee Minutes			
Wednesday 28 June 2023				

# 8. Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision

Nil.

# 9. Date of Next Meeting

TBC

# 10. Closure

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4.06pm.

Signed:

Presiding Person at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed.

Date: 28 July 2023

# **APPENDIX I – Terms of Reference**

# Audit Committee Terms of Reference

#### 1. Establishment

The Audit Committee was re-established by the Council at the Special Meeting of Council on 23 March 2020 and this Terms of Reference sets out the membership, responsibilities, authority and operations of the Committee.

The Committee was created in recognition of the importance of, and legislative obligation for, the establishment and maintenance of an effective internal audit function, best practice governance systems, oversight of the risk management and governance frameworks and performance, and maintenance of strong financial management controls and processes.

# 2. Objective of the Audit Committee

The primary objective of the Audit Committee (the Committee) is to accept responsibility for the annual external audit, liaise with the Shire's external auditor and provide review and oversight of internal audit process, including performance and independence of internal auditor, so that Council can be satisfied with the performance of the Shire in managing its financial affairs.

Reports from the Committee will assist Council in discharging its legislative responsibilities of controlling the Shire's affairs, determining the Shire's policies and overseeing the allocation of the Shire's finances and resources. The Committee will ensure openness in the Shire's financial reporting and will liaise with the CEO to ensure the effective and efficient management of the Shire's financial accounting systems and compliance with legislation.

# The Committee is to facilitate:

- a) the enhancement of the credibility and objectivity of internal and external financial reporting;
- b) effective management of financial and other risks and the protection of Council assets;
- c) compliance with laws and regulations as well as use of best practice guidelines relative to audit, risk management, internal control and legislative compliance;
- d) the coordination of the internal audit function with the external audit;
- e) the provision of an effective means of communication between the external auditor, the CEO and the Council and
- f) the reduction of fraud, corruption and misconduct risk as a part of their oversight of financial reporting.

The Committee is to undertake its responsibilities cognisant of:

- a) requirements for meetings to fit in with requisites around the planning calendar and decisions at significant times in the Governance cycle (i.e. Compliance Audit Return, Interim Audit, End of year Audit and other reviews);
- b) obligations to have oversight of all matters that relate to the risk management framework of the Shire;
- c) obligations and good governance practices within the local government environment.

# 3. Powers of the Audit Committee

- a) The Audit committee is to report to Council and provide appropriate advice and recommendations on matters relevant to its term of reference. This is in order to facilitate informed decision-making by Council in relation to the legislative functions and duties of the local government that have not been delegated to the CEO.
- b) The committee is a formally appointed committee of council and is responsible to that body.
- c) The committee does not have executive powers or authority to implement actions in areas over which the CEO has legislative responsibility and does not have any delegated financial responsibility.

Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

d) The committee does not have any management functions and cannot involve itself in management processes or procedures.

# 4. Responsibilities of the Committee Chair

The Audit Committee Chair has the following responsibilities:

- Reports to the Council on the actions of the Committee;
- b) Encourages broad participation from members in discussion;
- c) Summarises decisions and assignments at the conclusion of each meeting; and
- d) Signs off on minutes of meetings after they have been received by the Committee.

# 5. Responsibilities of Audit and Governance Committee Members

Individual Committee members have the following responsibilities:

- a) to execute the role, scope, and responsibilities of the Committee;
- b) to act on opportunities to communicate positively about the Shire's activities;
- to actively participate in meetings through attendance, discussion, and review of minutes, papers and Governance documents;
- d) to participate in professional development opportunities;
- e) To support open discussion and debate and encourage fellow Committee members to voice their insights.

# 6. Membership

The Committee will consist of three elected members, with a fourth elected member acting as a deputy.

All full members shall have full voting rights.

The CEO and employees are not members of the committee. The CEO or his/her nominee is to be available to attend meetings to provide advice and guidance to the Committee. The Shire shall provide secretarial and administrative support to the Committee.

# 7. Quorum

A quorum of two Committee members must be present at a Committee meeting to constitute a meeting.

## 8. Frequency of Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least twice once per calendar year. Additional meetings shall be convened at the discretion of the presiding person.

# 9. Reporting

Reports and recommendations of each Committee meeting shall be presented to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

# 10. Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the committee will be to:

- a) provide guidance and assistance to Council as to the carrying out the functions of the Shire in relation to audits;
- b) meet with the external auditor once in each year and provide a report to Council on the matters discussed and outcome of those discussions;
- c) 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 associated Regulations; and
  - ensure that audits are conducted successfully and expeditiously;
- d) examine the reports of the auditor after receiving a report from the CEO on the matters to:
  - determine if any matters raised require action to be taken by the Shire; and

Audit Committee Minutes Wednesday 28 June 2023

- ensure that appropriate action is taken in respect of those matters;
- e) review the report prepared by the CEO on any actions taken in respect of any matters raised in the report of the auditor and presenting the report to 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:
- f) review the Shire's draft annual financial report, focusing on:
  - accounting policies and practices;
  - changes to accounting policies and practices;
  - the process used in making significant accounting estimates; iv. significant adjustments to the financial report (if any) arising from the audit process;
  - compliance with accounting standards and other reporting requirements; and
  - significant variances from prior years.
- g) address issues brought to the attention of the Committee, including responding to requests from Council for advice that are within the parameters of the committee's terms of reference;
- h) seek information or obtain expert advice through the CEO on matters of concern within the scope of the committee's terms of reference following authorisation from the Council;
- i) Review the annual Compliance Audit Return and report to the council the results of that review,
- j) Monitor the progress of the internal audit plan, review findings from internal and external audits, monitor the implementation of the recommendations; and
- k) Consider the CEO's triennial reviews of the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Shire's systems and procedures in regard to risk management, internal control and legislative compliance, required to be provided to the Committee, and report to the council the results of those reviews.

# 11. Agendas, Minutes and Decision Papers

The responsibility for ensuring that Agendas and supporting materials are delivered to members in advance of meetings rests with the Chief Executive Officer. The agenda and associated attachments will be sent to Committee members and attendees at least 72 hours in advance of a Committee meeting.

# 12. Conflicts of Interest

Committee Members and invited attendees at each meeting must:

- a) Declare any conflict of interest, potential conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest in matters that might potentially be considered or, are proposed to be considered by the Committee;
- b) Provide a further declaration should any conflict of interest, potential conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest arise after making a declaration; and
- c) Maintain confidential, all information provided to them in their role as a member or attendee. This includes all matters discussed, formally presented or tabled at meetings of the Committee or such matters associated with dealings of the Committee in carrying out its responsibilities.

# 13. Review

The Terms of Reference shall be reviewed every two years when Council considers the re-establishment of the Committee to coincide with Local Government elections and any amendment to it require approval of Council.

#### **Version Control**

Version	Version Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Council Resolution No.
No.				and Date
1	09/09/2021	Lana Foote	Darren Simmons	RES: 060921
				Date:15/09/2021

# PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023 FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

	Index of findings	Potential impact on audit opinion	Rating		Prior year finding	
			Significant	Moderate	Minor	
1.	Changes to supplier master files	No	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>
2.	Risk management policies and risk register	No		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>
3.	Asset management policy	No		✓		<b>√</b>
4.	Employee exit checklist sign offs	No		✓		
5.	Difference between payments presented to the Council and finance system	No		√		
6.	Monthly statement of financial activity - recognition of grant income	No		✓		
7.	Approval of EFT payment - payroll	No		<b>√</b>		

# **Key to ratings**

The Ratings in this management letter are based on the audit team's assessment of risks and concerns with respect to the probability and/or consequence of adverse outcomes if action is not taken. We give consideration to these potential adverse outcomes in the context of both quantitative impact (for example financial loss) and qualitative impact (for example inefficiency, non-compliance, poor service to the public or loss of public confidence).

- Significant Those findings where there is potentially a significant risk to the entity should the finding not be addressed by the entity promptly. A significant rating could indicate the need for a modified audit opinion in the current year, or in a subsequent reporting period if not addressed. However even if the issue is not likely to impact the audit opinion, it should be addressed promptly.
- **Moderate -** Those findings which are of sufficient concern to warrant action being taken by the entity as soon as practicable.
- **Minor -** Those findings that are not of primary concern but still warrant action being taken.

# PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

## FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 1. Changes to supplier master files

From our sample testing of 8 changes to supplier master files, we noted the following:

- a. In 3 instances, the supplier forms could not be provided for changes made to existing suppliers details.
- b. In 6 instances, there was no written documentation to evidence that the changes to supplier details were confirmed with the suppliers before the changes were made in the system.
- c. The Audit Trail Reports for changes made to supplier master files were not reviewed by an appropriate senior officer.

This finding was first raised in 2021-22 when we noted 8 instances where the supplier forms were not reviewed by a senior employee in a timely manner.

# Rating: Significant (2022: Significant)

# **Implication**

There is a risk of financial loss to the Shire when unauthorised or inaccurate supplier information are processed into the supplier master file, which could result in unauthorised or fraudulent payments being made.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that management ensure:

- a. all supplier forms are completed, reviewed as evidenced by sign-off by the appropriate officer, and retained to support the changes made to supplier master files
- b. written documentation is retained to show that changes to supplier details have been confirmed with the suppliers before the changes are made in the system
- c. Audit Trail Reports on changes made to supplier master files are reviewed regularly and evidence of review retained.

# Management comment

Following the interim audit and clarification sought with Auditors, Creditor Master File procedures were updated and amended to include the above recommendations.

**Responsible person:** Deputy CEO and Finance Officers

Completion date: 1 May 2023

PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023
FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 2. Risk management policies and risk register

We noted that the Shire does not have comprehensive risk management policies documented in writing. We also noted that the risk register has not been reviewed since 2018.

The finding was first raised in 2020-21. Management is currently undertaking action to resolve the issue including engaging consultants as part of the process.

Rating: Moderate (2022: Significant)

# Implication:

Without written comprehensive risk management policies and an up-to-date risk register, there is a risk that the Shire is not managing the risks inherent in its day-to-day operations effectively.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that management develop suitable and comprehensive risk management policies, and ensure the risk register is kept up to date, reflecting the material risks relevant to the Shire's activities and functions.

# Management comment

The Shire of Koorda is currently undertaking a full Policy Manual Update and Review. An updated Risk Management Policy was endorsed by Council at their June Council Meeting held on 28/06/2023 and an updated version is available on the Shire website. In regard to the Risk Register, the Shire have engaged a contractor to facilitate a workshop to identify and produce a risk register, unfortunately due to some scheduling issues, the risk register workshop is still to be completed, but is a priority of the Council and Executive Management Team.

**Responsible person:** CEO and Deputy CEO

Completion date: 28 June 2023 (Policy), August/September 2023 (Risk Register)

# PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

#### FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 3. Asset management policy

We noted that the Shire does not have a comprehensive asset management policy in place to manage its assets.

The finding was first raised in 2020-21. Management is currently undertaking actions to resolve the issue.

Rating: Moderate (2022: Moderate)

# **Implication**

Good policies and procedures provide essential guidance for staff to manage the Shire's assets in accordance with management's expectations. Lack of formal and comprehensive policies and procedures that are readily available to staff increases the risk of mismanagement and recording of assets.

## Recommendation

We recommend that management develop a comprehensive policy to manage the Shire's assets, which includes acquisition, assignment of useful life, recording, identification, tracking (e.g., stocktake), disposal and response to theft, damage or loss. The policy should also cover the management of portable and attractive assets.

# **Management comment**

The Shire of Koorda is currently undertaking a full Policy Manual Update and Review and a comprehensive Asset Management policy will be drafted, with the above recommendations being considered, and tabled at Council for adoption as part of this process.

**Responsible person:** CEO and Deputy CEO **Completion date:** August/September 2023

PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 4. Employee exit checklist sign offs

From our employee termination testing, we noted that for all 5 sampled employees, the Employee Exit Checklists were not signed off by the employee and manager to evidence that all termination related matters and tasks have been addressed. The exit checklist also did not have a section for the employee and manager's signatures.

# **Rating: Moderate**

# **Implication**

Without appropriate sign offs on the Employee Exit Checklists, there is no evidence to show that all termination related matters and tasks have been addressed prior to the employee departing the Shire, which could result in a risk of security or loss of assets.

## Recommendation

We recommend that management:

- a. review and update the Employee Exit Checklist to include a section for employee and manager sign offs
- b. ensure all Employee Exit Checklists are signed off by both the employee and manager performing the exit procedures with the employee.

# Management comment

Recommendations noted and employee exit checklist forms and procedures have been updated accordingly.

**Responsible person:** CEO, Deputy CEO and Payroll

Completion date: 1 June 2023

PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 5. Difference between payments presented to the Council and finance system

We noted a difference of \$20,874 between the payments presented to the Council from July to February 2023 as noted from the Council minutes, and the payments listing as extracted from the finance system. The difference was due to the omission of a few payment transactions from the Lists of Accounts Paid that were presented to the Council.

# **Rating: Moderate**

# **Implication**

There is a risk of non-compliance with Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* when the List of Accounts Paid, under delegation by the CEO, presented to the Council is incomplete.

# Recommendation

We recommend that management ensure measures are in place to ensure the List of Accounts Paid, which is presented to the Council every month, is complete and accurate.

# Management comment

Recommendation noted and procedures implemented with end of months procedures to reconcile payments made and payment listing to Council.

Responsible person: CEO

Completion date: 1 July 2023

# PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

## FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 6. Monthly statement of financial activity – recognition of grant income

We noted that the Shire has recognised all its capital grants as income on receipt in the statement of financial activity, which is presented to the Council every month. This has resulted in overstatement of revenue in the monthly statement of financial activity, as income is only to be recognised when (or as) the Shire satisfies its obligations under the grant agreements (AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, paragraph 16)

As at 31 March 2023, we identified that revenue in the statement of financial activity was overstated by \$624K related to the unspent grant liabilities for Roads to Recovery and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) programs.

Management informed us that in terms of financial reporting, year-end journals will be processed in the finance system to ensure that unspent grant liabilities and grant income are correctly reflected in the financial report at the end of the reporting period.

# **Rating: Moderate**

# **Implication**

When grant income is not recognised in line with the requirements of the revenue accounting standards, there is a risk that the information on grant income and unspent grant liabilities, which are presented in the monthly statement of financial activity to the Council, may not be accurate.

#### Recommendation

For the monthly statement of financial activity that is presented to the Council, we recommend that management ensure grant income and unspent grant liabilities are presented appropriately and in line with the requirements of the revenue accounting standards.

# Management comment

Recommendation noted and grant income recognition for LRCI is correct for period ending 30 June 2023. Management will monitor income received vs expenditure to ensure revenue recognition is correct.

**Responsible person:** Deputy CEO **Completion date:** 1 June 2023

PERIOD OF AUDIT: YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

# FINDINGS IDENTIFIED DURING THE INTERIM AUDIT

# 7. Approval of EFT payment - payroll

We noted that the Deputy CEO was the first approver for the payroll EFT payment and the second approver was the finance officer.

# **Rating: Moderate**

# **Implication**

There is a risk that inappropriate or erroneous payments may not be flagged or detected due to the seniority of the Deputy CEO over the finance officer.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that the second approver of the payroll EFT payment to be an officer with higher authority than the first approver.

# **Management comment**

Noted. To consider a change to procedures with Payroll Officer completing first approval, and another office acting as a second approver.

**Responsible person:** Deputy CEO **Completion date:** Deputy CEO September 2023