

Audit and Risk Committee

AGENDA Tuesday 29 August 2023



NOTICE OF MEETING AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

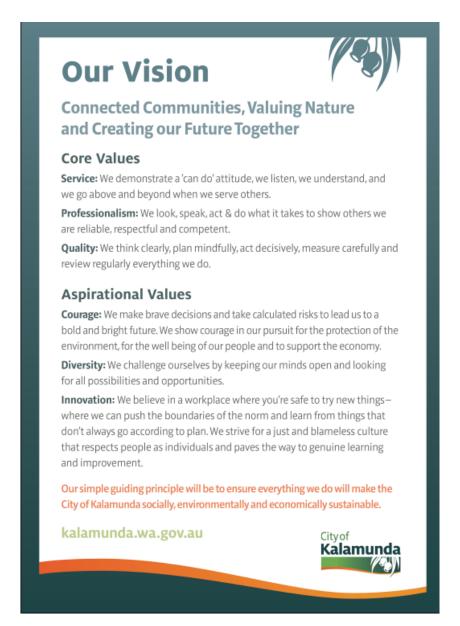
Dear Councillors

Notice is hereby given that the next meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee will be held in the Council Chambers, Administration Centre, 2 Railway Road, Kalamunda on **Tuesday 29 August 2023 at 6.30pm**.

Gary Ticehurst

A/Chief Executive Officer

24 August 2023



INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Welcome to this evening's meeting. The following information is provided on the meeting and matters which may affect members of the public.

If you have any queries related to procedural matters, please contact a member of staff.

Audit & Risk Committee Meeting Procedure

- 1. Audit & Risk Committee has a membership of all Councillors.
- 2. The Committee makes recommendations only to Full Council (held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm)
- 3. All other arrangements are in general accordance with Council's Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference February 2013.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Whadjuk Noongar people. We wish to acknowledge their Elders' past, present and future and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this City and this Region.

Emergency Procedures

Please view the position of the Exits, Fire Extinguishers and Outdoor Assembly Area as displayed on the wall of Council Chambers.

In case of an emergency follow the instructions given by City Personnel.

We ask that you do not move your vehicle as this could potentially block access for emergency services vehicles.

Please remain at the assembly point until advised it is safe to leave.

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- 1. Official Opening
- 2. Attendance, Apologies and Leave of Absence Previously Approved
- 3. Public Question Time
- 3.1. Questions Taken on Notice at Previous Meeting
- 3.2. Public Question Time

A period of not less than 15 minutes is provided to allow questions from the gallery on matters relating to the functions of Council. For the purposes of Minuting, these questions and answers will be summarised.

- 4. Petitions/Deputations
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meeting
- 6. Announcements by the Member Presiding Without Discussion
- 7. Matters for Which the Meeting may be Closed
- 7.1 External Audit Interim Findings for the year ending 30 June 2023

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety".

7.2 Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 – Outcome of Regulation 17 Review

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety"

7.3 Internal Audit Report August 2023

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety".

8. Disclosure of Interest

8.1. Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests

- a. Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matter to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.56 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.)
- b. Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Section 5.70 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.)

8.2. Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality

a. Members and staff must disclose their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee had given or will give advice.

9. Reports to Council

9.1. Development Services Reports

No Reports Presented.

9.2. Asset Services Reports

No Reports Presented.

9.3. Corporate Services Reports

9.3.1. External Audit - Interim Findings for the year ending 30 June 2023

Declaration of financial / conflict of interests to be recorded prior to dealing with each item.

Previous Items OCM 141/2020
Directorate Corporate Services
Business Unit Financial Services

File Reference

Applicant N/A Owner N/A

Attachments Nil

Confidential Attachments

- 1. City of Kalamunda Interim Audit Findings for the year ending 30 June 2023
- 2. City of Kalamunda Planning Summary 2023

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety".

TYPE OF REPORT

Advocacy When Council is advocating on behalf of the community to

another level of government/body/agency

Executive When Council is undertaking its substantive role of direction

setting and oversight (eg accepting tenders, adopting plans

and budgets

Information For Council to note

Legislative

Includes adopting Local Laws, Town Planning Schemes and Policies. When Council determines a matter that directly impacts a person's rights and interests where the principles of natural justice apply. Examples include town planning applications, building licences, other permits or licences issued under other Legislation or matters that could be subject to appeal to the State Administrative Tribunal

STRATEGIC PLANNING ALIGNMENT

Kalamunda Advancing Strategic Community Plan to 2031

Priority 4: Kalamunda Leads

Objective 4.1 - To provide leadership through transparent governance. *Strategy 4.1.1* - Provide good governance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the findings of the Interim Audit undertaken by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) for the 2022/23 financial year (Confidential Attachment 1).
- 2. The Interim Audit for the financial year ending 30 June 2023 was undertaken by the Office of the Auditor General, in accordance with the planning summary (Confidential Attachment 2).
- 3. It is recommended Council accepts the 2022/23 Interim Audit Report. Confidential Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

- 4. On 28 October 2017, the Local Government Amendment (Auditing) Act 2017 was proclaimed, giving the Auditor General the mandate to audit Western Australia's 139 local governments and 9 regional councils.
- 5. The Act allowed the Auditor General to conduct performance audits of local government entities from 28 October 2017 either by themselves or by engaging external audit consultants. From the 2018/19 financial year onwards, the City's audit was performed directly by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG).

DETAILS AND ANALYSIS

- 6. The OAG prepared a planning summary, Confidential Attachment 2, for their approach to the audit of the annual financial report for the year ending 30 June 2023, and in summary, included the following:
 - (a) Introduction
 - (b) Audit Approach
 - (c) Significant Risks and Other Audit Issues
 - (d) Audit Emphasis and Significant Account Balances
 - (e) Internal Audit
 - (f) Management Representation Letter
 - (g) Related Entities
 - (h) Reporting Protocols
 - (i) Proposed Audit Schedule
 - (j) Specific Audit Requirements
 - (k) Audit Fee
 - (I) Audit Team
 - (m) Other Audit Work and Activities
- 7. In May 2023, the City met with the OAG, to discuss the audit plan. The interim audit fieldwork was carried out from 22 May 2023 to 9 June 2023, with Confidential Attachment 1 being the outcome of the interim audit.
- 8. The OAG identified three findings as part of the interim audit, two moderate and one minor risk rated as detailed in Confidential Attachment 1.
- 9. The final component of the fieldwork for the 2022/23 financial year's audit of the annual financial report will be conducted during October 2023, with the final results brought to an Audit and Risk Committee Meeting once available.

APPLICABLE LAW

- 10. Sections 6.4, 7.9, and 7.12A of the *Local Government Act 1995* and *Local Government Amendment (Auditing) Act 2017*.
- 11. Regulation 51 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* 1996.

APPLICABLE POLICY

12. There are no policy implications.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

13. The City worked closely with Auditors throughout the Audit process.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

14. The 2022/23 Budget included a provision for the cost of having the accounts and the Annual Financial Report audited by an externally appointed registered auditor.

SUSTAINABILITY

Social Implications

15. Nil.

Economic Implications

16. Nil.

Environmental Implications

17. Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT

18. **Risk**: Issues identified in the interim audit report are not rectified leading to the breakdown of controls.

Consequence	Likelihood	Rating
Significant	Unlikely	Medium

Action/Strategy

Employ suitably qualified and skilled staff.

Maintain controls and compliance with the policy.

Ensure an effective internal audit program.

Management oversight.

CONCLUSION

- 19. The interim audit fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the audit plan prepared by OAG in May 2023.
- 20. Three items were identified during the audit fieldwork. Two items with a moderate risk rating and one item with a minor risk rating. The City is progressively working to address these outcomes.

Voting Requirements: Absolute Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council ACCEPT the findings of the Interim Audit undertaken in May 2023 for the financial year ending 30 June 2023 as shown as Confidential Attachment 1.

9.3.2. Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 - Outcome of Regulation 17 Review

Declaration of financial / conflict of interests to be recorded prior to dealing with each item.

Previous Items

Directorate Corporate Services
Business Unit Financial Services

File Reference

Applicant N/A Owner N/A

Attachments Nil

Confidential Attachments

 Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 – Regulation 17 Review.

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA)
Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety"

TYPE OF REPORT

Advocacy When Council is advocating on behalf of the community to

another level of government/body/agency

Executive When Council is undertaking its substantive role of direction

setting and oversight (eg accepting tenders, adopting plans

and budgets

Information For Council to note

Legislative Includes adopting Local Laws, Town Planning Schemes and

Policies. When Council determines a matter that directly impacts a person's rights and interests where the principles of

natural justice apply. Examples include town planning applications, building licences, other permits or licences issued under other Legislation or matters that could be subject to appeal to the State Administrative Tribunal

STRATEGIC PLANNING ALIGNMENT

Kalamunda Advancing Strategic Community Plan to 2031

Priority 4: Kalamunda Leads

Objective 4.1 - To provide leadership through transparent governance. **Strategy 4.1.1** - Provide good governance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the findings and recommendations arising out of the review undertaken according to Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 (Regulations).
- 2. The Regulations require the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to review the appropriateness and effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures in relation to risk management, internal control, and legislative compliance.
- 3. It is recommended Council receive the findings of the Regulation 17 Review.

BACKGROUND

- 4. Regulation 16 of the Regulations requires the Audit and Risk Committee to review a report given by the CEO with regard to Regulation 17.
- 5. Regulation 17 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* states the following:
 - 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
- 6. This review adds to, and compliments, the Internal Audit program which also conducts regular reviews of the appropriateness and effectiveness of systems and procedures.
- 7. The details of the reviews are reported to the Council through the Audit and Risk Committee.

8. The previous Regulation 17 review was undertaken in 2019/20.

DETAILS AND ANALYSIS

- 9. A review pursuant to Regulation 17 is required every 3 financial years and is due as part of the 2022/23 financial year.
- 10. To facilitate the overall review, the City of Kalamunda (City) has an extensive three-year Strategic Internal Audit Plan (SIAP), as approved by Council, to schedule ongoing assessments of risk management, internal controls, and legislative compliance to meet the requirements of Regulation 17. From May 2023 to June 2023 William Buck (Internal Auditor) performed the fieldwork related to the Regulation 17 review.
- 11. The risk management, internal control, and legislative compliance systems of the City were reviewed, and tested and a report of the findings and recommendations has been prepared for the Audit and Risk Committee on the appropriateness and effectiveness of the internal control environment (Attachment 1).

APPLICABLE LAW

12. Local Government Act 1995
Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996

APPLICABLE POLICY

13. Nil.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- 14. The review was discussed with relevant business unit managers and has been reviewed by the City's Executive Management Team.
- 15. No community consultation is required for this review.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

16. The cost of this review and the Internal Audit program is provisioned within the City's annual budget.

SUSTAINABILITY

Social Implications

17. Nil.

Economic Implications

18. Nil.

Environmental Implications

19. Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT

20. **Risk**: Failure to undertake the review as required by the legislation.

Likelihood	Rating
Moderate	Low
_	

Action/Strategy

Ensure that the Internal Audit Plan provides for ongoing assessments of

- (a) risk management; and
- (b) internal control; and
- (c) legislative compliance,

to facilitate the completion of the Regulation 17 review.

CONCLUSION

- 21. The *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* Regulation 17 review was completed following the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*, associated regulations, and the applicable policies and procedures.
- 22. The City is progressively working to implement the recommendations from the review.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council RECEIVE the outcomes of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* Regulation 17 Review presented at Confidential Attachment 1.

9.3.3. Internal Audit Report August 2023

Declaration of financial / conflict of interests to be recorded prior to dealing with each item.

Previous Items OCM289/2021
Directorate Corporate Services
Business Unit Corporate Services

File Reference 3.010758 Applicant N/A Owner N/A

Attachments Nil

Confidential Attachments 1. Internal Audit Report - Workforce Planning

2. Internal Audit Report – Payroll

3. Internal Audit Report – ICT

4. Internal Audit Report – CEO Credit Card Review

Reason for Confidentiality: Local Government Act 1995 (WA) Section 5.23 (2) (f) - "a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to - (i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; (ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or (iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety".

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STRATEGIC PLANNING ALIGNMENT

Kalamunda Advancing Strategic Community Plan to 2031

Priority 4: Kalamunda Leads

Objective 4.1 - To provide leadership through transparent governance. *Strategy 4.1.1* - Provide good governance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with details of the Internal Audit Reviews conducted during 2022/23.
- The internal audits were completed in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995*, associated regulations, *and Australian Accounting Standards*. The internal audits have identified several improvement opportunities that the City of Kalamunda (the City) is committed to implementing.
- 3. It is recommended that Council receive the details of the Internal Audit Reviews conducted during 2022/23.

BACKGROUND

- 4. The internal audit program is delivered in line with the City's three-year Strategic Internal Audit Plan (Plan) which contains a mix of compliance, financial, and performance / operational audits.
- 5. Since the commencement of this Plan 28 engagements from the internal audit plan were completed through the City's appointed internal auditor, Crowe, at the time. The City has since appointed William Buck as the internal auditor. Work undertaken by William Buck included:
 - a. Reviewing the recommendations from the previous internal audits
 - b. Providing input into the setting of the strategic internal audit plan;
 - c. Attendance and presentation of internal audit reports to the Audit & Risk Committee; and
 - d. Client liaison and engagement.

6. Internal Audit is a core element of the City's risk management and governance framework. The relationship between Internal Audit and the City can be summarised using the "Three Lines of Defence model illustrated below



- 7. Broadly, Internal Audit reviews are focused on:
 - a. <u>Compliance Audits</u>: Focused primarily on the entity's (or their suppliers') compliance with legislation, regulations, directions, policies, plans, and procedures.
 - b. <u>Financial Audits</u>: Focused primarily on practices and activities relating to the accounting and reporting of financial transactions including budget commitments, approvals, and the receipt and disbursement of funds, as well as the reliability and integrity of financial information and the safeguarding of the City assets.
 - c. <u>Performance (Operational) Audits</u>: Focused primarily on an audit of all or a part of an entity's activities to assess the economy, efficiency and effectiveness and focuses on:
 - i. the adequacy of an internal control structure or specific internal controls to ensure due regard for economy and effectiveness;
 - ii. the extent to which resources have been managed economically and efficiently; and
 - iii. the extent to which activities have been effective in achieving organisational objectives.

DETAILS AND ANALYSIS

- 8. The Internal Audit Reviews undertaken during the last half of 2022/2023 have been focused on:
 - a) Internal Audit Review of Work Force Planning
 - b) Internal Audit Review of Payroll
 - c) Internal Audit Review of IT controls
 - d) Internal Audit Review of CEO credit card transactions

9. Internal Audit Review of Work Force Planning

The objective of this internal audit review was to determine whether there are adequate and effective controls are in place to ensure the City's Workforce Planning processes are appropriately managed.

The scope of the audit was as follows:

The internal audit considered the key controls in the following areas;

- 1. Workforce planning
- 2. Joiners, leavers, higher duties and increments
- 3. Amendments to standing employee data
- 4. KPI alignment with business plans and the monitoring thereof
- 5. Training and induction
- 10. The results of the Internal Audit Review of the Workforce Planning Audit are detailed in Confidential Attachment 1.

11. Internal Audit Review of Payroll

The objective of this internal audit review was to determine whether controls were adequate and effective in ensuring the City's Payroll processes were appropriately managed.

12. The scope of the audit was as follows;

The internal audit considered the key controls in the following areas:

- 1. Employees on the payroll were bona fide employees.
- 2. Pay rates were applied following the relevant industrial awards or agreements, and
- 3. Pays were correctly calculated.
- 4. Payroll deductions were calculated correctly, properly authorised, and promptly made.
- 5. Leave was correctly calculated and properly authorised.
- 6. Employees, including casual employees, employees claiming overtime and employees working from home, were only paid for hours worked.
- 7. Payroll expenditure was authorised and accounted for correctly in the general ledger.
- 8. Appropriate security was in place in respect of payroll distribution.

- 9. Termination processes, including the calculation of termination payments, were robust.
- 10. Appropriate reconciliations exist between the rostering system payroll Masterfile and other systems.
- 13. The results of the Internal Audit Review of the Payroll Audit are detailed in Confidential Attachment 2.

14. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) General Controls Review

The objective of this engagement was to review ICT General Controls including Cyber Security.

15. The scope of the audit was as follows;

The internal audit considered the key controls in the following areas:

- 1. IT strategy and alignment to the City's strategy.
- 2. Policies and processes.
- 3. Key controls in place relating to logical access to the network.
- 4. Logical access to the network.
- 5. Data security controls to avoid hacking, cracking, and cyber attacks.
- 6. Restrictions on transfer of changes to the operational environment.
- 7. User involvement in testing and authorising changes.
- 8. Physical security controls relating to access to critical IT equipment, and the existence of environmental hazard controls in a server room.
- 9. IT recovery and testing processes
- 16. The results of the Internal Audit Review of the ICT General Controls Audit are detailed in Confidential Attachment 3.

17. **CEO's Corporate Credit Card Review**

The objective of this internal audit review was to determine whether there are adequate controls in place with respect to the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) corporate credit card and whether there is compliance with the City's Corporate Credit Card policy and procedures.

18. The scope of the audit was as follows;

The internal audit considered the key controls in the following areas:

- 1. Processes for the usage of the CEO's corporate credit card comply with the City's Corporate Credit Card policy;
- 2. Credit card transactions have been initiated in line with the Purchasing Policy;
- 3. Credit card transactions are appropriate and follow internal guidelines regarding appropriate business expenses; and
- 4. Credit card transactions are appropriately scrutinised, and authorised and appropriate documentation exists.

19. The results of the Internal Audit Review of the CEO Corporate Credit card review Audit are detailed in Confidential Attachment 4.

APPLICABLE LAW

20. Local Government Act 1995
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

APPLICABLE POLICY

21. Nil.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

22. Internal Audit findings were discussed with relevant business unit managers and have been reviewed by the City's Executive Management Team.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

23. The cost of the Internal Audit program is provisioned within the City's annual budget. Further, monitoring and review of internal controls within the Internal Audit program will reduce the risk and likely exposure of potential loss to the City.

SUSTAINABILITY

Social Implications

24. Nil.

Economic Implications

25. Nil.

Environmental Implications

26. Nil.

RISK MANAGEMENT

27. **Risk**: Internal Audit fails to identify material non-compliance or control deficiencies.

Consequence	Likelihood	Rating
Moderate	Unlikely	Low

Action/Strategy

Internal Audit Plan developed and reviewed annually.
Internal Audit working papers reviewed by External Auditors.
Key controls are evaluated for the identified processes.

28. **Risk**: Audit recommendations are not implemented in a timely fashion.

Consequence	Likelihood	Rating
Moderate	Unlikely	Low

Action/Strategy

Internal Audit Plan developed and reviewed annually. Monitoring and review of the implementation of audit recommendations and reporting to the Council.

CONCLUSION

29. The City monitors the status of Internal Audit recommendations arising from each Internal Audit Review. Recommendations are monitored and the majority of recommendations are completed within the agreed timelines and the remaining in progress.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council RECEIVE the details of the Internal Audit Reviews conducted during 2022/23 presented in Confidential Attachments 1,2,3,&4.

15.

Closure

9.4.	Office of the CEO Reports
	No Reports Presented.
9.5.	Chief Executive Officer Reports
	No Reports Presented.
10.	Motions of Which Previous Notice has been Given
11.	Questions by Members Without Notice
12.	Questions by Members of Which Due Notice has been Given
13.	Urgent Business Approved by the Presiding Member or by Decision
14.	Meeting Closed to the Public
14.1.	Corporate Services Reports