
Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - meeting update

Responsible Officer: Group Manager People and Performance (Helen McNeil)

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receive and note the attached minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 26 April 2022; and
2. Approve the attached Internal Audit Plan 2022-25.

Background

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee ('Committee') met on 26 April 2022. A copy of the meeting minutes is attached ([Attachment 1](#)).

Key messages

1. Finance

The Committee received and noted the information presented in the Financial Management Report – April 2022 regarding:

- Annual Engagement Plan issued by the Audit Office of NSW for year ending 30 June 2022.
- Revaluations of water network infrastructure.
- The Quarterly Budget Review report furnished to Council's February 2022 meeting applicable for the quarter ending 31 December 2021.
- The Investment report furnished to Council's February 2022 meeting applicable for the month of 31 January 2022.

2. Internal Audit Plan 2022-25

The Committee were presented with and has endorsed a new Internal Audit Plan 2022-25 ([Attachment 2](#)) which sets out the areas recommended for audit based on a high-level assessment of the risks involved in Council's key strategic and operational activities planned for the 2022/2025 period.

The new Internal Audit Plan 2022/25 will also significantly inform and guide the Committee's workplan over this period and has therefore been referred to Council for adoption.

The new Internal Audit Plan 2022/25 was prepared by InConsult, Council's external consultant, and was informed by feedback from Committee members and Council management.

Finance comment

A recurring annual budget allocation exists for the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan. This includes funds for the audit program and Audit Risk and Improvement Committee member sitting fees and expenses. The budget for the 2022/23 financial year is \$32,800 and is considered appropriate at this stage.

3. Adjusted meeting schedule

The Committee meeting scheduled for 28 March 2022 was postponed in response to the first major flood event in February/March 2022.

As a result of the second major flood event in late March 2022, the postponed Committee meeting held on 26 April 2022 proceeded with a limited business agenda.

At this time, the Committee chose to adopt a new meeting schedule for the remainder of the year. This included the cancellation of the May 2022 meeting and the expansion of the October 2022 meeting to include ordinary business in addition to consideration of the Financial Statements.

4. General Manager's verbal update – Floods 2022

The General Manager provided the Committee with a verbal overview of conditions experienced by the organisation during the flood events and the damage identified and activities undertaken following the events. This update is summarised in the Committee meeting minutes ([Attachment 1](#)).

The purpose of this update was to provide the Committee with an understanding of the challenges now being faced by Council, appreciation for any necessary changes to organisational priorities in the future, and any policy or process deviations that had occurred in responding to the flood events, particularly within a procurement context.

Consultation

This report was prepared in consultation with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Chairperson.

Conclusion

This report provides a summary of the key messages from the 26 April 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting and other associated matters.

Attachment

1. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting minutes 26 April 2022
2. Proposed Internal Audit Plan 2022/25 ([D22/8832](#))