
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - meeting update

Responsible Officer: Group Manager People and Performance

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the attached minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 5 April 2024.

Background

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee ('Committee') met on 5 April 2024. A copy of the minutes of the meetings are attached ([Attachment 1](#)).

Key Messages

1. Financial Management

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

- The Quarterly Budget Review report furnished to Council's February 2024 meeting applicable for the quarter ending 31 December 2023; and
- The investment report furnished to Council's February 2024 meeting applicable for the month of 31 January 2024.

The Annual Engagement Plan issued by the Audit Office of NSW ('AO') for the year ending 30 June 2024 was presented to the Committee by Thomas Noble and Russell ('TNR') as agent for the AO.

2. Audit

The Committee received its regular update on staff progress implementing improvement recommendations arising from internal, external, and in-house service audits across the practice areas of ICT, safety, procurement, and emergency management.

During the period December – March 2024, five (5) ICT related recommendations, four (4) internal audit and one (1) external audit, were implemented and closed out by staff.

As at March 2024, 8 Internal Audit recommendations, 1 External Audit recommendation, and 5 In-house Audit recommendations (arising from the 2022 Floods Organisational Debrief) remain in progress.

3. Strategy Implementation

A copy of the council report on performance against delivery of actions under the Delivery Program/Operational Plan presented to the 21 February 2024 Council meeting was furnished to the Committee.

4. Risk and Compliance

The Committee were provided with an overview of the compliance monitoring processes and framework within Council and an update on the actions taken to implement phase one of the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) review, such as the development of an updated Risk Management policy to be presented for approval to the April 2024 Council meeting.

5. Other Matters

A copy of the Digital Transformation Program (NOVUS) Briefing Paper furnished to the December 2023 Council meeting was provided to the Committee together with a verbal status update.

The results of a gap analysis against the requirements under the new 'Guidelines for risk management and internal audit for local government in NSW' published by the Office of Local Government required to be complied with from 1 July 2024, were provided to the Committee.

The results indicated that, as at March 2024, Council complies with 78% of the new requirements and is on track to uplift the remaining partially compliant components by the new Financial Year.

Conclusion

This report provides a summary of the key messages from the 5 April 2024 Committee meeting.

Attachment

1. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting minutes 5 April 2024.