

# MINUTES

of the

## **Audit Committee Meeting**



Held, pursuant to the provisions of the  
*Local Government Act 1999*, in the

**Council Chamber  
Redbanks Road  
Mallala**

on

**Monday 3 April 2023 at 4.30pm**

The Chairperson formally declared the meeting open at 4.30pm.

## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council acknowledges that we meet on the traditional country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and we acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

## 2 ATTENDANCE RECORD

### 2.1 Present

Mr Alan Rushbrook (Chairperson)

Mr Peter Fairlie-Jones (Independent Member)

Mayor Mark Wasley

Deputy Mayor Marcus Strudwicke

Councillor Margherita Panella (*by electronic means*)

### Also in Attendance

Acting Chief Executive Officer

Director, Corporate Services

Director, Infrastructure and Environment

Group Manager, Development and Community

Accountant

Senior Information Technology Officer

Governance Administration Officer/Minute Taker

Team Leader Customer Service and Administration Officer

Mr Rajith Udugampola

Ms Sheree Schenk

Mr Thomas Jones

Mr Michael Ravno

Ms Carmel Vandermolen

Mr Thomas Harris-Howson

Ms Stacie Shrubsole

Ms Abbey Cook



**3 MINUTES****3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING – 13 FEBRUARY 2023****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/018****Moved: Deputy Mayor Strudwicke****Seconded: Mayor Wasley**

**“that the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 February 2023 (MB Folios 244 to 251, inclusive), be accepted as read and confirmed.”**

**CARRIED****4 BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

**5 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS’ INTEREST**

Nil

**6 REPORTS FOR DECISION****6.1 2023/2024 DRAFT ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN, BUDGET AND REVISED LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024-2033****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/019****Moved: Mayor Wasley****Seconded: Councillor Panella**

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 6.1 – *2023/2024 Draft Annual Business Plan, Budget and Revised Long Term Financial Plan 2024-2033*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report and in doing so acknowledges that the draft operating deficit of \$1.923m as presented in this report is higher than anticipated in the current Long-Term Financial Plan due to the following:**

- 1. Increase in operating costs as a result of high inflation;**
- 2. Additional depreciation associated with growth (donated assets) and high inflation;**
- 3. Increase in interest expenses as a result of higher interest rates; and**
- 4. Conscious decisions taken by the Council to invest in growth-related initiatives which have been funded by short-term borrowings.”**

**CARRIED**

The Chairperson sought leave of the meeting to suspend meeting procedures pursuant to Regulation 20(1) of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013* for a period of up to ten (10) minutes to facilitate informal discussions regarding the wording of a draft motion in relation to Item 6.1 – *2023/2024 Draft Annual Business Plan, Budget and Revised Long Term Financial Plan 2024-2033*.

Leave was granted.

The meeting was suspended at 5.43pm.

The meeting resumed at 5.51pm.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/020**

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor Strudwicke

**Seconded:** Mr Fairlie-Jones

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 6.1 – 2023/2024 Draft Annual Business Plan, Budget and Revised Long Term Financial Plan 2024-2033, dated 3 April 2023, recommends to the Council that consideration is given to the following items in future drafts of the 2023/2024 Annual Business Plan and Budget:-**

- Allocation of funding based on the timing of the employment of new staff;
- Reviewing increase of CWMS charges;
- Apply rates income received through property growth to reduce deficit;
- Flexible application of rating principles to achieve a more consistent rate increase across differentials ;
- Increasing fixed-charge;
- Identifying additional savings; and
- Review of the wage increase for staff costs following the March quarter CPI figure.”

**CARRIED**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/021**

**Moved:** Mayor Wasley

**Seconded:** Mr Fairlie-Jones

Councillor Panella disconnected from the meeting at 6.12pm.

Councillor Panella reconnected to the meeting at 6.20pm.

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 6.1 – 2023/2024 Draft Annual Business Plan, Budget and Revised Long Term Financial Plan 2024-2033, dated 3 April 2023, and specifically, the Long-Term Financial Plan projections updated for the period 2024-2033, notes the significant deficits forecast over the 10-year period and recommends to Council the development of strategies to eliminate the deficit within four (4) years.”**

**CARRIED**



**6.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVICE – ESSENTIAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/022****Moved: Deputy Mayor Strudwicke****Seconded: Mayor Wasley**

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 6.2 – *Local Government Advice – Essential Services Commission of South Australia*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report and in doing so recommends to Council that it adopt the response outlined within Attachment 3 to this report as the Council’s response to the ESCOSA Local Government Advice – February 2023.”**

**CARRIED****6.3 UPDATE ON AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM 2022/2023****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/023****Moved: Mr Fairlie-Jones****Seconded: Deputy Mayor Strudwicke**

**“that Council, having considered Item 6.3 – *Update on Audit Committee Annual Work Program 2022/2023*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report and in doing so recommends to Council that Council acknowledge the progress made to complete the activities identified for the Audit Committee during the 2022/2023 Financial Year.”**

**CARRIED****7 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION****7.1 COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/024****Moved: Mr Fairlie-Jones****Seconded: Deputy Mayor Strudwicke**

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 7.1 – *Committee Resolutions*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report.”**

**CARRIED****7.2 ACCOUNTING TREATMENT OF THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE TWO WELLS LEVEE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/025****Moved: Mayor Wasley****Seconded: Mr Fairlie-Jones**

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 7.2 – *Accounting Treatment of the Income and Expenditure for the Two Wells Levee*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report.”**

**CARRIED**

**8 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil

**9 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil

**10 URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS****11.1 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/026****Moved:** Deputy Mayor Strudwicke**Seconded:** Mr Fairlie-Jones**"that:**

1. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit Committee orders that all members of the public, except the Acting Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate Services, Director Infrastructure and Environment, Group Manager – Development and Community, Accountant, Senior Information Technology Officer, Governance Administration Officer/Minute Taker and Team Leader Customer Service and Administration Officer be excluded from attendance at the meeting of Audit Committee for Agenda Item 11.1 – *Information Technology Update*;
2. The Audit Committee is satisfied that pursuant to section 90(3)(e) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Item 11.1 – *Information Technology Update* concerns matters affecting the security of the council, members or employees of the council, or council property, or the safety of any person, being a report in relation to information technology of the Council; and
3. The Audit Committee is satisfied that the principle that Committee meetings should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep the information, matter and discussion confidential."

**CARRIED**

Councillor Panella disconnected from the meeting at 6.51 pm.

Councillor Panella reconnected to the meeting at 6.54pm.



**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/027****Moved: Mayor Wasley****Seconded: Mr Fairlie-Jones**

**“that Council, having considered Item 11.1 – *Information Technology Update*, dated 3 April 2023, receives and notes the report.”**

**CARRIED****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023/028****Moved: Deputy Mayor Strudwicke****Seconded: Councillor Panella**

**“that the Audit Committee, having considered Item 11.1 – *Information Technology Update*, dated 3 April 2023 in confidence under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(e) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, resolves that:**

- 1. The report, Attachment 1, Attachment 2 and Attachment 3 pertaining to Item 11.1 – *Information Technology Update* remain confidential and not available for public inspection until further order of the Council except such disclosure as the Chief Executive Officer determines necessary or appropriate for the purpose of furthering the discussions or actions contemplated;**
- 2. Pursuant to section 91(9)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the confidentiality of the matter will be reviewed every 12 months; and**
- 3. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Committee delegates the power to revoke this confidentiality order to the Chief Executive Officer.”**

**CARRIED****12 NEXT MEETING**

To be advised.

**13 CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 7.00pm.

Confirmed as a true record.

Chairperson:.....

Date: 03 / 07 / 2023

