



AUDIT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

for the meeting

Friday 27 March 2020

in the Colonel Light Room,
Adelaide Town Hall



Present -

Presiding Member	Mr David Powell
Deputy Presiding Member	Mr Ross Haslam
Members	The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor [Sandy Verschoor] Ms Paula Davies Councillor Hyde (Deputy Lord Mayor)

Apologies –

Proxy Members	<i>Councillor Knoll [proxy for the Lord Mayor]</i> <i>Councillor Couros [proxy for Councillor Hyde].</i>
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In Attendance

Mr Mark Goldstone, Chief Executive Officer, City of Adelaide
 Ms Clare Mockler, Deputy CEO and Director Culture, City of Adelaide
 Mr Mark Booth, Director, BRM Advisory
 Ms Liz Packer, Manager Financial Accounting, City of Adelaide
 Ms Danielle Pedler, Corporate Accountant, City of Adelaide
 Mr Stuart Simpson, Manager – Audit and Assurance Services, Nexia Edwards Marshall
 Ms Vanessa Godden, Associate Director Customer & People, City of Adelaide
 Mr Matthew Hulmes, Manager Business Improvement, City of Adelaide
 Mr Alex Brown, Manager Financial Planning & Analysis, City of Adelaide

Acknowledgement of Country

The Presiding Member stated:

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

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.’

Discussion ensued

Confirmation of Minutes**1. Item 1 - Confirmation of Minutes – 7/2/2020 [AC]**

Moved by Mr Haslam,
 Seconded by the Lord Mayor –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 7 February 2020 be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

Presiding Member Reports

Nil

Workshops

2. Item 4.1 - Workshop – Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines [2020/00273] [AC]

Discussion facilitators:

Ms Liz Packer, Manager Financial Accounting, City of Adelaide

Ms Danielle Pedler, Corporate Accountant, City of Adelaide

Mr Stuart Simpson, Manager – Audit and Assurance Services, Nexia Edwards Marshall

Precis of topic:

Utilising the PowerPoint presentation within the Agenda, the Audit Committee was asked for feedback on the draft Fixed Asset Accounting Guidelines.

3. Item 4.2 - Workshop – Service Prioritisation [2017/03236] [AC]

Discussion facilitators:

Ms Vanessa Godden, Associate Director Customer & People, City of Adelaide

Mr Matthew Hulmes, Manager Business Improvement, City of Adelaide

Precis of topic:

Utilising the PowerPoint presentation within the Agenda, the Audit Committee was provided with an update on Service Prioritisation.

During the discussion:

- The Presiding Member, Mr David Powell left the Colonel Light Room at 9.25 am whereupon the Deputy Presiding Member, Mr Ross Haslam took the Chair.
- The Presiding Member, Mr David Powell re-entered the Colonel Light Room at 9.27 am and re-took the Chair.

CEO Update

4. Item 5.1 – Financial Impact COVID-19 [AC]

Discussion facilitator:

Mr Mark Goldstone, Chief Executive Officer, City of Adelaide

Precis of topic:

The Audit Committee was provided with a brief update in relation to COVID-19.

Mr Mark Goldstone, Chief Executive Officer, City of Adelaide requested that the CEO Update be continued in confidence.

Exclusion of the Public

5. Item 8.1 - Exclusion of the Public to Consider [2018/04291] [TC]:

For the following items seeking consideration in confidence:

5.1 CEO Update – Financial Impact COVID-19 [s 90(3) (b) & (e)]

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 5.1:

Moved by the Lord Mayor,

Seconded by Councillor Hyde (Deputy Lord Mayor) –

THAT THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in s 90(3) (b) & (e) and s 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Audit Committee dated 27/3/2020 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public for the consideration of Item 5.1 [Financial Impact COVID-19] listed on the Agenda.

Grounds and Basis

This item is commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on persons with whom the council is conducting business and prejudice the commercial position of the council. The item addresses matters affecting the security and safety of the council, members and employees of the council, and the safety of persons in our community.

The disclosure of information in this presentation could reasonably prejudice the commercial position of the Council as it identifies Council's risk exposure and forecasts the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It outlines safety and financial measures which have workforce and contractual implications, disclosure of which at this point in time may confer a commercial advantage on a third party, prejudice the ability for Council to undertake/participate in future discussions or negotiation and prejudice the Council's commercial position and opportunity to discuss or negotiate options yet to be determined by Council at this point in time.

Public Interest

The Audit Committee is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information will result in release of information prior to a determination of the Council in the matter of its medium and long-term response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The disclosure of scenarios related to Council's commercial position may severely prejudice Council's ability to discuss/participate or influence proposals for the benefit of the Council and the community. Disclosure of the safety and financial measures which have workforce and contractual implications may further cause unnecessary concern to members of the community and employees of the council.

2. Pursuant to s 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* this meeting of the Audit Committee dated 27/3/2020 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 5.1 [Financial Impact COVID-19] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in s 90(3) (b) & (e) of the Act.

Carried

There were no members of the public or Corporation staff present not directly involved with Item 5.1 to leave the Colonel Light Room at 9.44 am.

Confidential Item 5.1

CEO Update – Financial Impact COVID-19

Section 90 (3) (b) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA)

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The Colonel Light Room re-opened to the public at 10.55 am.

Confidentiality Order

Minute 6 - Item 5.1 – CEO Update – Financial Impact COVID-19 [AC]

Confidentiality Order

In accordance with Section 91(7) & (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* and on the grounds that Item 5.1 listed on the Agenda for the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 27 March 2020 was received, discussed and considered in confidence pursuant to Section 90(3)(b) & (e) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, this meeting of the Audit Committee, do order that:

1. The resolution, the report, the discussion and any other associated information submitted to this meeting and the Minutes of this meeting in relation to the matter remain confidential and not available for public inspection until 31 December 2027.
2. The confidentiality of the matter be reviewed in December 2021.
3. The Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to review and revoke all or part of the order herein and directed to present a report containing the Item for which the confidentiality order has been revoked.

Emerging Key Risks

Nil

Independent Member Discussion

Nil

Other Business

Nil

Closure

The meeting closed at 10.55 am.

Mr David Powell
Presiding Member
City of Adelaide Audit Committee