



SHIRE OF WYNDHAM | EAST KIMBERLEY

# AGENDA AUDIT (FINANCE AND RISK) COMMITTEE

4 November 2019

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**SHIRE OF WYNDHAM EAST KIMBERLEY**  
**AGENDA OF THE AUDIT (FINANCE AND RISK)**  
**COMMITTEE**  
**KUNUNURRA COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 5:00 PM**

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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING**

**Election of the Chair**

The Chief Executive Officer will call for nominations for Committee Chair and declare the close of nominations.

All nominations must be in writing and can be given to the Chief Executive Officer either before the meeting or at this point in the meeting. Any Councillor can nominate another Councillor for a position. In this case, the person conducting the election must also receive confirmation, either written or verbal, from the nominated Councillor that they are willing to be nominated.

Election will take place by secret ballot.

The Chief Executive Officer is to declare the result of the election, the declaration is to include the names of the candidates and the name of the candidate declared elected. The Chair will assume responsibility for presiding over the remainder of the meeting.

**Election of the Deputy Chair**

The Chair will call for nominations for Deputy Committee Chair and declare the close of nominations.

All nominations must be in writing and can be given to the Chief Executive Officer either before the meeting or at this point in the meeting. Any Councillor can nominate another Councillor for a position. In this case, the person conducting the election must also receive confirmation, either written or verbal, from the nominated Councillor that they are willing to be nominated.

Election will take place by secret ballot.

The Chair is to declare the result of the election, the declaration is to include the names of the candidates and the name of the candidate declared elected.

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES**

**3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME / PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

#### **4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

- Financial Interest
- Impartiality Interest
- Proximity Interest

#### **5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**That the Minutes of the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee meeting of 12 August 2019 be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.**

Note: The Minutes of the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee are provided under separate cover via [www.swek.wa.gov.au](http://www.swek.wa.gov.au)

#### **6. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / SUBMISSIONS / NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

## 7. REPORTS

### 7.1. STANDING ITEM - RATES DEBTORS

<b>DATE:</b>	4 November 2019
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Rates Officer
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Vernon Lawrence, Director Corporate Services
<b>FILE NO:</b>	FM.11.1
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:</b>	NIL

#### **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple Majority

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee reports to Council that the actions being undertaken by the administration in regard to rates debtors, including rates debts in legal process, are sufficient and appropriate.**

#### **PURPOSE**

To review the status of rates debtors and those rates debts that are in legal process.

#### **NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER**

Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices

#### **BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE**

At the Ordinary Council Meeting, 16 October 2007, Council resolved the following:

***Minute No. 7936***

***That Council direct the CEO to provide a written report to Council under confidential cover each month in regard to all debts currently in legal process.***

***Carried Unanimously 5/0***

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 18 March 2008, Council resolved the following:

**Minute No: 8148**

**Moved: Cr J Parker    Seconded: Cr F Mills**

**That Council:**

- 1. note the confidential report provided to it in relation to debts owed to Council and under legal action.**
- 2. direct the Executive Manager Corporate Services to provide a written report to the Audit Committee under confidential cover at each Audit Committee meeting in regard to all debts currently in legal process.**
- 3. request the Audit Committee to make recommendations to Council as required and appropriate in relation to the report provided under confidential cover regarding debts currently in legal process.**
- 4. resolve that this requirement replaces the previous requirement on the CEO to report information to Council.**

**Carried Unanimously 8/0**

This requirement is now fulfilled by a combination of this report and item 7.2 Standing Item – Sundry Debtors.

The Outstanding Rates Debtors over three years report has also been incorporated into the confidential attachment to this item to give a complete picture of rates debtors.

### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

This item in a Council Meeting needs to be discussed behind closed doors in accordance with section 5.23. (2) (e) (iii) of the *Local Government Act 1995* because the item may disclose information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Council's Policy *CP/FIN-3212 Rates and Charges Debt Collection* is relevant

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal fees may be incurred to recover debts or revenue written off if debt recovery is considered not economically viable. Should debts become not recoverable it affects the cash position of the Shire. Provision is made for debts that are not recoverable at the end of each financial year.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

*Strategic Community Plan 2017-2027*

Focus Area 4: Civic Leadership

Goal 4.4: Sustainably maintain the Shire's financial viability

Strategy 4.4.4: Apply best practice financial management to ensure long term sustainability

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Risk:** Failure to comply with legislative requirements leading to damage of reputation and/or financial loss.

**Control:** Annual Financial Audit. Review policies and procedures in accordance with review schedule.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley CP/GOV-3100 Community Engagement Policy has been considered in relation to this item.

No community engagement is required however regular communication is had with ratepayers.

## **COMMENTS**

### **Rates and Services Debtors Summary**

<b>Rates &amp; Services Levied 2019/20 (including arrears) at 03 October 2019</b>	<b>Overdue at 03 October 2019</b>
<b>\$ 13,945,539</b>	<b>\$ 2,270,464</b>

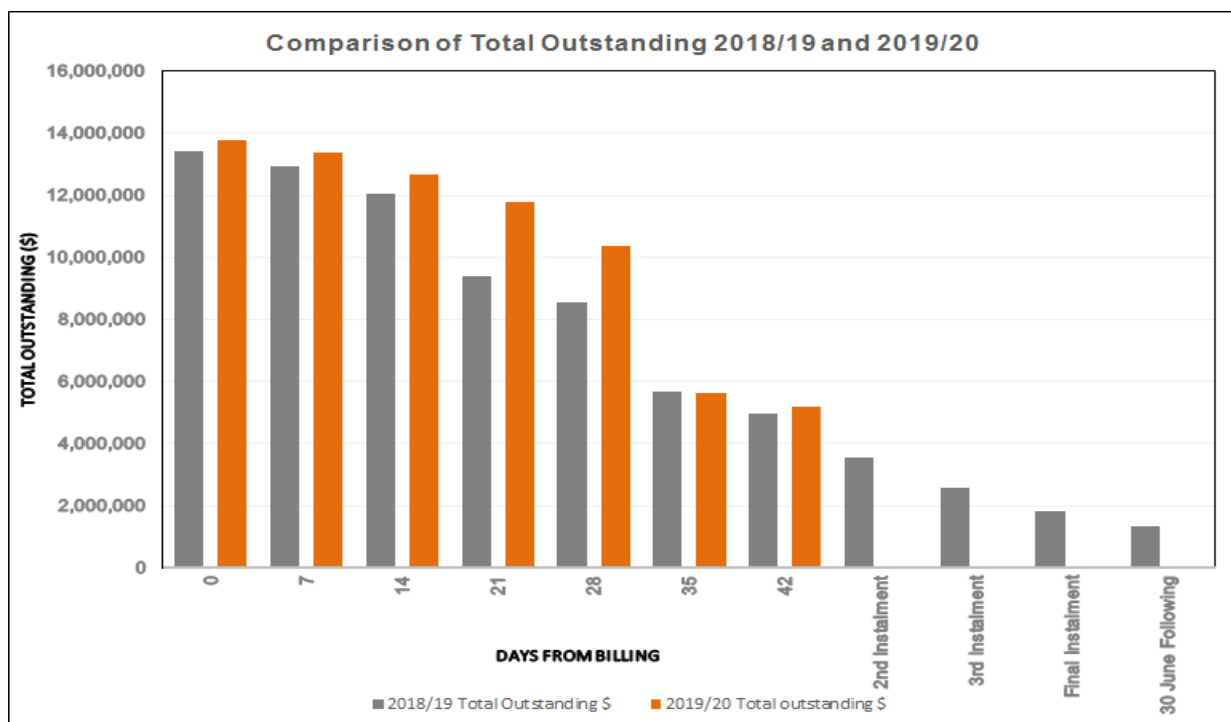
Rates for the financial year of 2019/20 were raised on 11 July 2019 and notices issued on the 19 July 2019. Interim rating occurs periodically throughout the year. The Overdue amount of \$2,270,464 is analysed in the Confidential Attachment.



## Comparison of rates received 2018/19 and 2019/20

*NB: It should be noted that the table below includes Rates, Waste Management Charges, Waste Receptacle Charges, Back Rates, ESL & Deferred Rates.*

		2018/19			2019/20		
Days from Billing		Total Outstanding	Received	% of Billing	Total outstanding	Received	% of Billing
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
0	Notices Issued	13,418,076			13,755,411		
7		12,910,025	508,051	3.79%	13,387,247	368,164	2.68%
14		12,042,246	867,779	6.47%	12,670,945	716,302	5.21%
21		9,409,788	2,632,457	19.62%	11,772,160	898,785	6.53%
28		8,558,338	851,450	6.35%	10,384,303	1,387,857	10.09%
35		5,654,622	2,903,716	21.64%	5,615,165	4,769,139	34.67%
42		4,957,835	696,786	5.19%	5,203,347	411,818	2.99%
2nd Instalment		3,564,154	1,393,681	10.39%	0	0	0.00%
3rd Instalment		2,570,784	993,370	7.40%	0	0	0.00%
Final Instalment		1,818,030	752,754	5.61%	0	0	0.00%
30 June Following		1,353,327	464,703	3.46%	0	0	0.00%
Total			12,064,749	89.92%	0	8,552,064	62.17%



### Instalment Status Report at 03 October 2019

Instalment Option	Number of Properties	% Total Properties*	Properties up to date	Properties Behind	Instalments Overdue \$	% of Properties Overdue
2 Instalments	217	7.80%	190	27	153	12.44%
4 Instalments	500	17.97%	434	66	631	13.20%
<b>All instalment Payers</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>25.77%</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>12.97%</b>

2782 \*excluding non-rateable properties

### ATTACHMENTS

*(Confidential Attachment provided under separate cover)*

Confidential Attachment 1 - Rates Debtors October 2019

## 7.2. STANDING ITEM - SUNDRY DEBTORS

<b>DATE:</b>	4 November 2019
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Senior Finance Officer
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Vernon Lawrence, Director Corporate Services
<b>FILE NO:</b>	FM.07.02
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:</b>	NIL

### **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple Majority

### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee reports to the Council that the actions being undertaken by the administration in regard to sundry debtors including sundry debts in legal process are sufficient and appropriate.**

### **PURPOSE**

To review the status of sundry debtors, including airport debtors, and sundry debts in legal process.

### **NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER**

Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices.

### **BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE**

The listing of 90+ day sundry debtors was provided at the Ordinary Council Meeting on a monthly basis until March 2009 when Council resolved that the 90+ days debtor list be removed from the Council Agenda as a standing item and be presented to the Audit Committee for consideration and to make recommended actions to Council as this falls within the scope of the committee's purpose.

In line with the more strategic focus of the new Committee the report in April 2012 only included debtor balances at 90+days and over \$500.

To further progress this strategic focus this item has been changed to provide summary information regarding all sundry debts including airport landing fees administered by Avdata on the Shire's behalf.

Further changes were recommended to the Committee at the February 2014 meeting to modify the report by removing the categories previously reported and to report sundry debtors as a whole, with airport debtors still being identified separately and that only debtors in excess of \$20,000 be provided with more detail. These changes were supported by the Committee and have been considered in the writing of this report.

### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

This item in a Council Meeting needs to be discussed behind closed doors under Section 5.23. (2) (e) (iii) of the *Local Government Act 1995* because the item may disclose information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person and because the item also contained legal advice to the Council.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Council Policy *CP/FIN-3214 Sundry Debt Collection* is relevant to this item.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal fees may be incurred to recover debts or revenue written off if debt recovery is considered not economically viable.

It should be noted however, that as outlined in section 9.1 of the *CP/FIN-3214 Sundry Debt Collection Policy*, when possible 'legal fees associated with the recovery of outstanding debts will be recovered from the sundry debtor to the extent allowable under legislation and will be assessed on a case by case basis'.

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

*Strategic Community Plan 2017-2027*

Focus Area 4: Civic Leadership

Goal 4.4: Sustainably maintain the Shire's financial viability

Strategy 4.4.4: Apply best practice financial management to ensure long term sustainability

### **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Risk:** Failure to comply with legislative requirements leading to damage of reputation and/or financial loss.

**Control:** Review policies and procedures in accordance with review schedule

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley CP/GOV-3100 Community Engagement Policy has been considered in relation to this item.

No community engagement is required however there is regular contact with debtors generally.

## **COMMENTS**

### **Sundry Debtors (General) Summary as at 22 October 2019**

Categories	90 Days		60 Days	30 Days	Current	Total
	<u>No</u>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Sundry Debtors</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>131,962</b>	<b>25,484</b>	<b>679,706</b>	<b>1,037,387</b>	<b>1,874,539</b>

Note: The information in the above table is from the Shire's Debtors System, the revenue is recognised when the debt is raised.

### **Sundry Debtors (Airport Landing Fees) Summary as at 22 October 2019**

Categories	90 Days		60 Days	30 Days	Current	Total
	<u>No</u>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Kununurra Airport	28	10,691	10,216	152,706	101	173,714
Wyndham Airport	1	59	270	1,658	0	1,987
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10,750</b>	<b>10,486</b>	<b>154,364</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>175,701</b>

Note: The information in the above table is provided by Avdata.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*(Confidential Attachment provided under separate cover)*

Confidential Attachment 1 - Sundry Debtors at 22 October 2019

### 7.3. STANDING ITEM - INSURANCE CLAIMS

<b>DATE:</b>	4 November 2019
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Coordinator Financial Operations
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Vernon Lawrence, Director Corporate Services
<b>FILE NO:</b>	RM.01.2
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:</b>	NIL

#### **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple Majority

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee recommends to Council that it notes the Insurance Claims Report and associated attachments.**

#### **PURPOSE**

To report to the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee (the Committee) the insurance claims that have been lodged for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years, the associated costs and the status of the claims.

#### **NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER**

Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices

#### **BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee has as one of its functions to facilitate the effective management of financial and other risks and the protection of Council assets. The Shire administration is currently allocating time and resources to risk management and it is appropriate that the Shire's risk performance is reported to the Committee as a standard report on a quarterly basis.

#### **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The following Shire documents are relevant to this report:

- Corporate Insurance Strategy

- CP GOV-3108 Risk and Opportunity Management Policy

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Insurance premiums have been considered in the 2019/20 budget process. The Shire has in terms of its insurance policy insurance excesses that it has to absorb as a “first loss” in the event of a claim. These excesses are set out in the detailed insurance schedules accompanying the insurance policies.

There are no other financial implications arising out of the preparation of this report.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

*Strategic Community Plan 2017-2027*

Focus Area 4: Civic Leadership

Goal 4.4: Sustainably maintain the Shire’s financial viability

Goal: 4.3: Ensure a strong and progressive organisation delivering customer focused services

Strategy 4.3.2: Create a culture that encourages innovation, collaboration, best practice and organisational discipline to improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity

Strategy 4.4.4: Apply best practice financial management to ensure long term sustainability

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Risk:** Inadequate insurance cover leading to damage of reputation and/or financial loss.

**Control:** Annual review of insurance cover.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley’s *CP/GOV-3100 Community Engagement Policy* has been considered in relation to this item.

No community engagement is required.

## **COMMENTS**

The Terms of Reference for the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee set out as one of the objectives to “facilitate the effective management of financial and other risks and the protection of Council assets”. Part of the *Local Government Operational Guidelines Number 09 - Audit in Local Government* identifies that “good audit committee practices in monitoring internal control and risk management programs typically include: assessing the adequacy of local government processes to manage insurable risks and ensure the adequacy of insurance cover, and if applicable, the level of self-insurance.”

The attachments detail the cost of claims across four categories where claims were made for the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20. These can be summarised as follows:

	2018/19 (Q1 - Q4)		2019/20 (Q1)	
	Estimated Costs	Number of Claims	Estimated Costs	Number of Claims
WorkCare	\$112,064	6	\$0	0
Property	\$10,380	6	\$0	0
Liability	\$0	1	\$0	0
Motor Vehicle	\$719	1	\$1,896	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$123,163</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$1,896</b>	<b>1</b>

Six WorkCare claims totalling \$112,064 were lodged during the 2018/19 year, all of which have been finalised. The amount of \$112,064 includes two amounts for which the insurers have estimated costs yet to be incurred totalling \$71,520. The net cost of claims for this category is therefore \$40,544 and consequently total claims are reduced to \$51,643. The total claims for the 2017/18 financial year were \$83,702. This is a significant reduction in claims and represents better management of our insurable risks. There have been no claims lodged to date for the 2019/20 year.

The Shire has recruited a Safety and Wellbeing Officer to assist in the development, implementation and management of the Shire's Workplace OSH processes, procedures, as well as coordinating health and wellbeing programs and initiatives. The Shire has also been working closely with its insurers, LGIS, to provide training to all staff on their responsibilities for maintaining a safe workplace. This may result in future periods of more instances of reporting but not change the number of claims made. The incident reporting will provide valuable data to enable the Shire to better manage its risk. This has positive implications for the cost of insurance.

There were six claims for property damage lodged during the 2018/19 year, one of which had no financial impact. One claim is related to vandalism at the Kununurra Airport, two are for lightning damage to Shire IT equipment, one is for a minor burglary, one for accidental damage and one for a minor lost property claim. There have been no claims lodged to date for the 2019/20 year.

There was one Liability claim made for the 2018/19 year. This was a claim in respect of water damage to hire vehicles parked at the airport. The Shire has made a without prejudice payment to settle this claim. There have been no claims lodged to date for the 2019/20 year.

One Motor Vehicle claim was made during the 2018/19 year and one claim has been made during the first quarter of the 2019/20 year.



## **ATTACHMENTS**

*(Confidential Attachments provided under separate cover)*

Confidential Attachment 1 - Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley - LGIS WorkCare

Confidential Attachment 2 - Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley - LGIS Property Claims

Confidential Attachment 3 - Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley - LGIS Liability Claims

Confidential Attachment 4 - Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley - Motor Vehicle Claims

## 7.4. STANDING ITEM - LEASES

<b>DATE:</b>	4 November 2019
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Senior Finance Officer
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Vernon Lawrence, Director Corporate Services
<b>FILE NO:</b>	CP.07 and CP.16
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:</b>	NIL

### **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple Majority

### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Committee recommends to the Council that it notes the Confidential Lease Schedule and the New and Renewal Lease Schedule attached.**

### **PURPOSE**

To consider the attached Confidential Lease Report as at 1 November 2019.

### **NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER**

Provider - provide physical infrastructure and essential services.

### **BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley administers over thirty five leases ranging from airport leases, community and commercial leases.

In December 2007 the Audit (Risk and Finance) Committee resolved:

***Minute No. A066***

***Moved: Cr Keith Wright***

***Seconded Cr Frederic Mills***

- 1. That the Audit Committee note that the responsibility for the management of leases and periodical contracts is that of the Executive Manager Corporate Services.***
- 2. That the Audit Committee note that the Executive Manager Corporate Services monitors the leases and coordinates the lease database and reporting to Executive Managers, the Audit Committee and Council.***

- 3. That the Audit Committee request staff to present an updated Lease Spreadsheet certified by Executive Manager Corporate Services to each Audit Committee meeting as a standing item.**

**Carried Unanimously 4/0**

## **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Local Government Act 1995**

#### **Part 5, Division 2**

#### **5.23. Meetings generally open to public**

- (2) *If a meeting is being held by a council or by a committee referred to in subsection (1)(b), the council or committee may close to members of the public the meeting, or part of the meeting, if the meeting or the part of the meeting deals with any of the following —*
- (a) *a matter affecting an employee or employees; and*
  - (b) *the personal affairs of any person; and*
  - (c) *a contract entered into, or which may be entered into, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and*
  - (d) *legal advice obtained, or which may be obtained, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and*
  - (e) *a matter that if disclosed, would reveal —*
    - (i) *a trade secret; or*
    - (ii) *information that has a commercial value to a person; or*
    - (iii) *information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the trade secret or information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government; and*
  - (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; or*
    - (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; and*
  - (g) *information which is the subject of a direction given under section 23(1a) of the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971; and*
  - (h) *such other matters as may be prescribed.*
- (3) *A decision to close a meeting or part of a meeting and the reason for the decision are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.*

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

CP/PMG-3780 Leasing of Council Managed Reserve Land – Community is relevant.

CP/PMG-3781 Leasing of Council Managed/Owned Land – Commercial is relevant.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications from the preparation of this report.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

*Strategic Community Plan 2017-2027*

Focus Area 4: Civic Leadership

Goal 4.4: Sustainably maintain the Shire's financial viability

Goal: 4.3: Ensure a strong and progressive organisation delivering customer focused services.

Strategy 4.3.2: Create a culture that encourages innovation, collaboration, best practice and organisational discipline to improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity

Strategy 4.4.4: Apply best practice financial management to ensure long term sustainability

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Risk:** Loss of corporate knowledge with staff turnover.

**Control:** Documentation of service procedures.

**Risk:** Failure to comply with legislative requirements leading to damage of reputation and/or financial loss.

**Control:** Review policies and procedures in accordance with review schedule.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley CP/GOV-3100 Community Engagement Policy has been considered in relation to this item. No community engagement is required.

## **COMMENTS**

The Shire has finalised numerous outstanding leases over the past 24 months. Shire officers are following up on renewal of four existing leases. While the Shire is making every attempt to finalise the remaining leases as soon as possible, control over the timeline in progressing the leases is not vested entirely in the Shire. Details of outstanding leases are contained in Attachment 2.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*(Confidential Attachment provided under separate cover)*

Confidential Attachment 1 - Lease Schedule

Confidential Attachment 2 - New and Renewal Lease Schedule

## 7.5. PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR THE AUDIT (FINANCE AND RISK) COMMITTEE FOR 2020

<b>DATE:</b>	4 November 2019.
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Director Corporate Services.
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Vernon Lawrence, Director Corporate Services
<b>FILE NO:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:</b>	NIL

### VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

**That the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee recommends to the Council:**

- 1. That the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee meetings for 2020 are held in accordance with the following dates, times and place:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
<b>Monday, 10 February 2020</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Council Chambers, Kununurra</b>
<b>Monday, 11 May 2020</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Council Chambers, Kununurra</b>
<b>Monday, 10 August 2020</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Council Chambers, Kununurra</b>
<b>Monday, 9 November 2020</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Council Chambers, Kununurra</b>

- 2. That local public notice of the meetings outlined in recommendation (1) above is provided in accordance with Regulation 12 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.**

### PURPOSE

To consider the proposed dates, times and place for the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee meetings to be held for 2020 in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 and recommend to the Council that it endorse the proposal of the Committee.

## **NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER**

Leader - plan and provide direction through policy and practices

## **BACKGROUND/PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS BY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE**

At the November 2017 Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee meeting, the Committee recommended to the Council the meeting dates, times and place for the 2018 meetings to be held.

Pursuant to section 7.12A of the Local Government Act 1995, the Council provided delegated authority to the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee to meet annually with the Council's auditor(s) at the 30 August 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting, the delegation for which is reflected in Item 33 of the Sub Delegations Register 2019/20.

## **STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

### **Local Government Act 1995**

#### **Part 5, Division 2**

##### 5.23. Meetings generally open to public

*(1) Subject to subsection (2), the following are to be open to members of the public*

—

*(a) all council meetings; and*

*(b) all meetings of any committee to which a local government power or duty has been delegated.*

### **Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996**

#### **Part 2**

##### 12. Meetings, public notice of (Act s. 5.25(1)(g))

*(1) At least once each year a local government is to give local public notice of the dates on which and the time and place at which —*

*(a) the ordinary council meetings; and*

*(b) the committee meetings that are required under the Act to be open to members of the public or that are proposed to be open to members of the public,*

*are to be held in the next 12 months.*

*(2) A local government is to give local public notice of any change to the date, time or place of a meeting referred to in subregulation (1).*

*(3) Subject to subregulation (4), if a special meeting of a council is to be open to members of the public then the local government is to give local public notice of the date, time, place and purpose of the special meeting.*

*(4) If a special meeting of a council is to be open to members of the public but, in the CEO's opinion, it is not practicable to give local public notice of the matters referred to in subregulation (3), then the local government is to give public notice of the date, time, place and purpose of the special meeting in the manner and to the extent that, in the CEO's opinion, is practicable.*

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct policy implications associated with this item.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Minor expenditure will be incurred to ensure the appropriate advertising occurs for the proposed meetings. Funds are provided for this within the 2019/20 Annual Budget.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

*Strategic Community Plan 2017-2027*

Focus Area 4: Civic Leadership

Goal 4.4: Sustainably maintain the Shire's financial viability

Goal: 4.3: Ensure a strong and progressive organisation delivering customer focused services.

Strategy 4.3.2: Create a culture that encourages innovation, collaboration, best practice and organisational discipline to improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity

Strategy 4.4.4: Apply best practice financial management to ensure long term sustainability

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Risk:** Failure to comply with legislative requirements leading to damage of reputation and/or financial loss.

**Control:** Review policies and procedures in accordance with review schedule.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley's CP/GOV-3100 Community Engagement Policy has been considered in relation to this item.

Engagement will take place in accordance with the Shires Community Engagement Guidelines and will include local public notice of the proposed meeting dates, times and place in accordance with the legislative requirements.

## **COMMENTS**

The proposed schedule has taken into account the proposed dates of the Ordinary Council Meetings for the 2020 calendar year, Council Briefing sessions and the past convention of having one meeting per quarter.

Consideration was also made to ensure that the meetings could remain at a time and location that would be beneficial to the majority of the community in order to retain an open and transparent meeting process.

It is advantageous to meet on the day before a Council briefing session (generally the 2nd Tuesday of each month). This provides the opportunity to discuss any matters arising from the Audit (Finance and Risk) Committee at the briefing session and leave sufficient time to prepare reports for the next Ordinary Council Meeting which generally occur on the 4th Tuesday of each Month.

It is therefore proposed that the Committee meetings take place at 5:00 pm on the day before the Ordinary Council Meetings to be held in the Council Chambers in Kununurra on:

- Monday, 10 February 2020
- Monday, 11 May 2020
- Monday, 10 August 2020
- Monday, 9 November 2020.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

NIL



## **8. MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

## **9. CLOSURE**