7.6. REPORT TO COUNCIL OF SPECIAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 12 OCTOBER 2026

REPORT AUTHOR	Governance and Information Officer
EXECUTIVE	Acting General Manager Corporate and Communities
DEPARTMENT	Corporate and Communities
TEAM	Governance
DATE	27 October 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on the Special Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 12 October 2026.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under Section 105 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council must establish an efficient and effective internal audit function. Council resolved to do that by establishing an Audit and Risk Committee (Committee).

A special Committee meeting was held on 12 October 2026. In accordance with Section 211(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, there is a requirement for the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to present a written report to Council about the matters reviewed at the Committee meeting and the recommendations made.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS / RESOLUTIONS

The last Committee report was presented to Council at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 July 2026.

A report from the most recent quarterly Committee meeting held on 17 September 2026 is to be presented to Council today.

This report is for the special Committee meeting held on 12 October 2026 which was convened to receive and endorse the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026.

REPORT / BACKGROUND

The role of the Committee is to provide independent assurance, oversight and advice to Council and senior management.

The core functions and responsibilities of the Committee include the review and monitoring of Councils:

- Financial statements
- Internal audit processes
- Effectiveness
- Engagement with external auditors
- Risk management
- Internal controls
- Legislative and policy compliance
- Governance

The Committee currently operates under a framework consisting of an Audit and Risk Committee Policy and Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference.

The Committee is required to meet at least twice each financial year and currently meets quarterly as per its annual work plan.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Robust risk and audit assurance underpins and sustains Council's financial goals.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Committee is a source of expertise in the management of risk and assurance of risk appetite, strategic risk management, and reasonable risk thresholds.

The report is required to be provided to Council to ensure compliance with Section 211(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Initiatives:

Theme 3 - Service Delivery
We deliver Council services effectively and efficiently to meet community expectations, focusing on the wellbeing of both the community and our employees.
3.7 - *Identify and manage risk.*

Operational Plan 2026-2027 Actions:

Legislative requirement.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- Audit and Risk Committee Policy
- Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation:

- Reports were prepared by the Financial Services Team, and the Acting Manager Financial Services and members of the Executive Leadership Team attended the Committee meeting.

External Consultation:

- Two (2) external members form part of the Committee
- Two (2) representatives attended from the Queensland Audit Office

CONCLUSION

In accordance with Section 211(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012,* the report of the Special Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2026 is presented to Council.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Report to Council of Special Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held 12 October 2026 [**7.6.1** - 1 page]

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Special Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – Monday 12 October 2026	
Committee Attendees:	Chair – Dr Martin Fahy External Member – Drong Vue Mayor Lisa Scomazzon Cr Michael Rees
Other Attendees:	Chief Executive Officer – Scott Osman General Manager Corporate & Communities – Arun Pratap Acting Manager Financial Services – Katie Wilkinson Governance and Information Officer – Rachel Dunn Queensland Audit Office – William Cunningham Queensland Audit Office – Cynthia Jani
Apologies:	Nil

In accordance with Council's Audit and Risk Committee Policy and s 211(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012,* the following is a summary of the matters reviewed at the Special Audit and Risk Committee (Committee) meeting held on 12 October 2026 via Teams and the recommendations made.

1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

The Acting Manager Financial Services tabled the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 for endorsement.

Officer's Recommendation
That the Committee:

1. Receive the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026.
2. Endorse the presentation of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 to the next available Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Committee Decision
The Committee resolved to accept the Officer's recommendation.

2. QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE CLOSING REPORT

The Acting Manager Financial Services tabled this report for noting.

Officer's Recommendation
That the Committee receive and note the Queensland Audit Office Closing Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Committee Decision
The Committee resolved to accept the Officer's recommendation.

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