MINUTES

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 17 September 2025

Order Of Business

MINUTES OF BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL
AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MARKET STREET BALRANALD
ON WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 12.30PM

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting opened at 12.30pm

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the country now encompassed by Balranald Shire - the Mutthi, Mutthi, the Ngiyampaa and the Paakantji – and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

The Chair noted that she was currently sitting on Quandamooka country in the Redland City Council local government area.

PRESENT

Committee Members - Chair Person Kerry Phillips, Member Leanne Austin, Member Ross Earl, Cr Iain Lindsay-Field

Brett Hanger (NSW AGO contracted external auditor), Craig Richardson (National Audits Group, internal auditor) and Manuel Moncada (NSW AGO).

Staff - Peter Bascomb (Interim Chief Executive Officer) and Hodi Beauliv (Executive Manager: Community & Governance), Edna Mendes (Chief Financial Officer) and Laurie Knight (Finance Contractor).

3 APOLOGIES - Nil

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Chair advised the committee that the April meeting minutes have been distributed to Council. The Interim Chief Executive Officer advised that confirmation was not required at this special Financial Statements Meeting and could be carried forward to the next ARIC Meeting scheduled in October 2025.

6 REPORTS

6.1 FY25 ANNUAL STATEMENTS

The Chief Financial Officer provided an overview of the shell statements still several areas to be completed. No surprises have been uncovered since this version. Council were mainly interested

The Chair, as the newest member of the ARIC, took the opportunity to forensically step through a number of items for clarification and deeper understanding, matters covered included;

- Treatment of new accounting standard – proposed wording to be provided
- Aggregation of Functions
- Status of Land Valuations
- Accounting for Private Works Revenue
- Financial Assistance Grants Timing and Explanatory notes – Guidance was acknowledged by external audit as appropriate.
- Capitalisation of Labor and Materials
- Large Movement in Expenditure items.
- General Operating Fund deficit – Some benchmarking observations
- References to Administrator replaced by Council.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/1

Moved: Member Ross Earl
Seconded: Member Leanne Austin

That ARIC reviews the draft FY25 Annual Statements.

CARRIED

7 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

The Chair requested a closed session with the committee and external auditors which was conducted at the completion of the meeting.

8 ITEMS WITHOUT NOTICE

The Chair advised the committee that a premeeting was conducted with management and the newly appointed Internal Audit service provider – National Audits. During that meeting the previously developed Strategic Internal Audit Plan was briefly considered. It was determined that the plan remains robust and that National Audits can look to commence as planned. The Executive team will subsequently review the plan with a view to advising ARIC regarding any proposed amendments in view of the current risk environment and emerging issues. This will be further addressed at the October 2025 meeting.

9 NEXT MEETING

12:30pm Wednesday 15 October 2025.

Traditionally this be focussed on finances. At the Chair's request and by agreement with management this meeting will also include the Strategic Internal Audit Plan. The Chair has provided an example Annual Work Plan for review by management. This document will also b e reviewed and gaps identified in relation to meetings held over during the ARIC recruitment process.

10 CLOSE

The Meeting closed at 1.45pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting

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CHAIRPERSON