



**MINUTES OF THE WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2026 AT 10.00 AM
HELD AT WHYALLA CITY COUNCIL, 21 GRUNDEL STREET, WHYALLA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
AUTHORITY BOARDROOM, SUITE 1205, 147 PIRIE STREET, ADELAIDE.**

PRESENT: Mr L Kozlovic (*chair*), Mr R Bria, Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer (*Mr J Commons*)
General Manager Corporate Services (*Ms S King*)
General Manager City Growth (*Mrs J Perone*)
General Manager Infrastructure (*Mr P Day*)
Manager People and Culture (*Mrs E Papoulis*)
Finance Coordinator (*Mrs S Vigar*)
Executive Co-Ordinator – Corporate (*Ms L Symons*)
BRM Advisory (*Mr M Booth*) For Item 4.1

OBSERVERS: Deputy Mayor T Pond

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Barngarla, Gadigal and Kurna land and gave thanks for the use of this land.

1. STANDING ITEMS

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies – Mr R Bria, Mayor P Stone
Leave of Absence – Nil

1.2 Declaration of Members' Conflict of Interests

Nil

*The Chair sought leave of the meeting to alter the order of the Agenda and bring forward Item 4.1
Leave of the meeting was granted.*

4.1 Whyalla Early Learning Centre Business Unit Review – Confidential

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC641-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that all persons present, with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Elisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture, Mark Booth; BRM Advisory and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator – Corporate for Agenda Item 4.1 – *Whyalla Early Learning Centre Business Unit Review*.

The Council is satisfied that pursuant to Sections 90(3)(b) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item:

- a) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of Council; and
- b) contains information provided on a confidential basis provided by another public authority.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because on balance it would be contrary to the public interest as commercial information is to be discussed and disclosed.

Carried

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC642-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee

- 1.
2. Having considered Agenda Item 4.1 – *Whyalla Early Learning Centre Business Unit Review* in confidence, under Sections 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act, orders that the Report, Annexures and Minutes pertaining to this item be kept confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of five years from the date of this Audit and Risk Committee Meeting, or until a decision is made on the future of the centre, whichever occurs first, on the basis that it contains information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is proposing to conduct business or to prejudice the commercial position of the Council and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest. Notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

Mr M Booth left the meeting at 9.45am

Mrs J Perone left the meeting at 9.43am

1.3 Minutes of Previous Meeting – Friday 19 June 2026

Moved Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

AC643-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee confirm the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2026 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Carried

1.4 Business arising from Previous Meetings – as at 28 August 2026

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC644-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

Note the progress of actions taken to address items of business arising from previous meetings of the Audit and Risk Committee as well as external reviews.

Carried

1.5 Committee Members/Staff/Auditors Discussion (*if required*)

Nil

1.6 Verbal Update on Council Business and City Developments – Confidential

Moved Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

AC645-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that all persons present, with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Ellisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator – Corporate be excluded from the meeting as the Committee considers that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the Committee will receive and consider matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the Committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

Carried

Moved Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

AC646-2026

1.

2. In accordance with Section 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that this report *Item 4.3 - Verbal Update on Council Business and City Developments*, the Appendix to this report and the minutes pertaining to this item having been considered in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the Act be kept confidential and not available for public inspection to ensure that the committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty. This order is to remain in force for until February 2032 notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

2. ITEMS FOR DECISION**2.1 Entertainment and Hospitality Policy Review**

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC647-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee recommends the updated Entertainment and Hospitality Policy to Council for adoption.

Carried

2.2 Review Council Investments and Loans

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC648-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee note the Investment and Loan Performance Report for 2025/26

Carried

2.3 Review Performance Assessment Methodology

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC649-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee:

1. approves the survey questions to be used for their 2025/26 performance assessment; and
2. notes the process to be used for the development of their 2025/26 Annual Report

Carried

2.4 Set Annual Schedule of Meetings

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC650-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee:

1. Sets the 2027 schedule of ordinary meetings for the Audit and Risk Committee to be held at 9.00am at the Council's Civic Building, Grundel Street on:
 - Friday 12 February 2027
 - Friday 23 February 2027
 - Friday 21 May 2027
 - Friday 16 July 2027
 - Friday 22 October 2027 (to coincide with a joint workshop with Council to be confirmed)

Carried

2.5 October Meeting and Workshop

Moved Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC651-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee endorse the change of date of the October Audit and Risk Committee Meeting and Joint Workshop with Council to Thursday October 7 and/or Friday October 8, 2026.

Carried

3.0 ITEMS FOR NOTING

3.1 Quarterly Procurement Report

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC652-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee receive and note the Quarterly Report – Procurement for the period 1 April to 30 June 2026.

Carried

3.2 Receive and Consider Internal Audit Report on Council's Systems of Control on Ethical Standards

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC653-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee note the systems currently in place against ethics, integrity and culture.

Carried

3.3 Service Review Program

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC654-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee notes Council's engagement of Placegov to establish a structured Service Review Framework across the organisation.

Carried

3.4 Information or Annual Report on Council Insurance Claims

The General Manager Corporate introduced this item advising that the escalation in claims is mainly due to the break-in of the Civic Building around 12 months ago, several car windscreens and two lengthy Workcover claims – one of which was accepted and backdated 2 years, and the other which was rejected.

The Committee was assured that extensive work has occurred regarding psychosocial injuries and this will continue to roll out. Similarly, a lot of work has been done around organisational culture so this will also help mitigate the risk of further claims of this nature. Access to the EAP is also provided to all staff.

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC655-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee note the Annual Report on Council Insurance Claims 2025/26 Report.

Carried

3.5 Internal Audit HR Planning and Management

The Manager People and Culture introduced this item advising that following the June Audit and Risk Committee meeting, a further review has been undertaken based on their feedback. Comparisons were made between BDO's rating methodology against Council's own Risk Framework. While Strategic Workforce Planning was rated as 'high', Council has been able to demonstrate sufficient controls in this area and no critical failures, moving the risk to 'moderate'. Other findings included acceptance of a moderate risk on the basis of council acknowledged improvements are required and they cannot be meeting the threshold of low or high because there's no evidence to support that. There is no current organisational exposure or significance.

BDO have recommended that moderate risks should be closed out between 6-9 months however a different timeframe has been set in line with current capacity. August due items around the PDP Policy and Procedure Guidelines are completed and the Health and Wellbeing Framework is well on track for November.

Moved Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

AC656-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee note the final BDO Report.

Carried

3.6 Airport Update

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC657-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee notes the following updates:

1. Airport Water Mains Upgrade
2. Distribution Board Upgrade Project
3. Installation of New Airside Fenceline

Carried

3.7 2027 Local Government Elections Schedule

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC658-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee

1. notes the legislative changes to the Local Government Election timetable.
2. notes the key election milestones and governance considerations associated with the 2027 Local Government Elections.
3. notes the risks and operational implications for Council during the caretaker period.

Carried

4. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**4.2 Cyber Security Review Report – Confidential**

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC659-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and 3(e) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Ellisha Papoulis; Manager People & Culture, Sandra Vigar; Finance Coordinator and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator – Corporate for Agenda Item 4.2 – *2026 Cyber Security Assessment*.

The Audit and Risk Committee considers that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the Committee will receive and consider a report containing matters affecting the security of the council, members or employees of the council, or council property, or the safety of any person.

Carried

Moved Mr D Powell, Cr P Klobucar

AC660-2026

The Audit and Risk Committee:

- 1.
2. having considered Agenda Item 4.2 – *2026 Cyber Security Assessment* in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(e) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act orders that this Report be kept confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of five (5) years, on the basis that it contains matters affecting the security of the council, notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

4.3 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Considerations - Confidential

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC661-2026

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and 3(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that the public be excluded from the meeting with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Elisha Papoulis; Acting Manager People and Culture and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator – Corporate for Agenda Item 4.3 – *Enterprise Resource Planning Considerations*.

The Audit and Risk Committee considers that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the Committee will receive and consider a report containing information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Carried

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC662-2026

1.

2. having considered Agenda Item 4.3 – *Enterprise Resource Planning Considerations* in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Audit and Risk Committee pursuant to Section 91(7) of the Act orders that this Report, the Annexures and Minutes be kept confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of two (2) years, on the basis that it contains information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is proposing to conduct business.

Carried

4.4 Verbal Update on Confidential Council Business – Confidential

This item was covered in Item 1.6

4.5 Update from Council Representative – Confidential

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC663-2026

That Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that all persons present, with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Ellisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture, Sandra Vigar; Finance Coordinator and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator - Corporate be excluded from the meeting as the committee considers that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the committee will receive and consider matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

Carried

Moved C P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC664-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

- 1.
2. In accordance with Section 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Council orders that this report *Item 4.4 - Update from Council Representative*, the Appendix to this report and the minutes pertaining to this item having been considered in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the Act be kept confidential and not available for public inspection to ensure that the committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty. This order is to remain in force for until February 2032 notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

4.6 Meeting Review – Reflections and Comments – Confidential

Moved Mr D Powell, seconded Cr P Klobucar

AC665-2026

That Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that all persons present, with the exception of Justin Commons; Chief Executive Officer, Sue King; General Manager Corporate Services, Jodie Perone; General Manager City Growth, Paul Day; General Manager Infrastructure, Elisha Papoulis; Manager People and Culture, Sandra Vigar; Finance Coordinator and Lisette Symons; Executive Coordinator - Corporate be excluded from the meeting as the committee considers that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in circumstances where the committee will receive and consider matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

Carried

Moved Cr P Klobucar, seconded Mr D Powell

AC666-2026

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

- 1.
2. In accordance with Section 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Audit and Risk Committee orders that this report *Item 4.5 - Meeting Review*, the Appendix to this report and the minutes pertaining to this item having been considered in confidence under Section 90(2) and (3)(g) of the Act be kept confidential and not available for public inspection to ensure that the committee does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty. This order is to remain in force for until February 2032 notwithstanding that it will be reviewed annually in February of each year.

Carried

5. MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

6. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 8/9 October 2026**8. CLOSE – Meeting closed at 11.02am**

Confirmed:
Presiding Member – October 2026