

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - CHAIR APPOINTMENT

Report Author: Manager Procurement, Risk & Governance
Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services
Ward(s) affected: (All Wards);

The author(s) of this report and the Responsible Officer consider that the report complies with the overarching governance principles and supporting principles set out in the Local Government Act 2020.

CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is to be considered at a Council meeting that is open to the public.

SUMMARY

This report recommends the appointment of Mr Steve Schinck as the Chair of Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee (the Committee) for a one-year period commencing 1 October 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- 1. Endorse the appointment of Mr Steve Schinck as the Chair of the Yarra Ranges Council Audit and Risk Management Committee for a one-year term commencing 1 October 2023.***
- 2. Endorse the remuneration for Mr Steve Schinck as the Independent Member Chair be \$1726 per meeting (based on five meetings per year).***

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

During its meeting of August 2020 Council approved the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter (the Charter).

DISCUSSION

Purpose and Background

Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to establish an Audit and Risk Management Committee (the Committee) as an Advisory Committee to

Council. The terms of reference of the Committee are outlined in the Charter which has been approved by Council and published on Council's website.

The Charter requires that the composition of the Committee include:

- Up to five members
- Minimum of three Independent members
- Minimum of Two Councillor Representatives.

Council is required to appoint a Chairperson for the Committee, the Chairperson being one of the Independent Members.

Mr Steve Schinck is a current member of the Committee and an experienced executive consultant, he is highly suitable to Chair the Committee. Steve has 16 years' experience as a senior executive in the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) and has held executive management roles in corporate planning and governance, human resource strategy, asset management and operations, organisational risk management, internal audit and financial management and planning.

Steve is also the current Chair of the Audit and Risk Committees (ARC) for Energy Safe Victoria and Safe Transport Victoria, and an independent member of the ARC's for the Victorian Labour Hire Authority and Murrindindi Shire Council.

RECOMMENDED OPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Mr Schinck was nominated by one of the current Independent Members of the Committee, and his nomination was unanimously supported.

It is recommended that Council endorse Mr Steve Schinck as the Audit Risk and Management Committee Chair for a one-year period commencing 1 October 2023.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

All financial implications associated with this recommendation are covered by existing operational budgets.

Section 12.5 of the Charter states that remuneration will be paid to each Independent Member and the Chair on a per meeting basis, with fees being indexed in alignment with the rate cap each 1 July. With the addition of a new independent member in June 2023, independent member fees were reviewed and standardised.

From 1 July 2023, the recommended Independent Member Chair remuneration is \$1726 per meeting (excluding GST and based on five meetings per year).

APPLICABLE PLANS AND POLICIES

This report contributes to the following strategic objective(s) in the Council Plan: The appointment of an Independent Chair to the Committee links to the Council's Key Strategic Objective – High Performing Organisation and meets Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RELEVANT LAW

It is a legislated requirement that Council establish an Audit and Risk Management Committee, appoint Independent Members and a Chair, adopt and maintain a Charter and provide a bi-annual report to Council.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement has been undertaken in preparing this recommendation.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Committee provides independent assurance to Council in respect of Council's management of risk, and as such the recommended appointment of a new Chair will ensure the continuation of a high performing Committee, therefore reducing Council's overall risk exposure.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officers and/or delegates acting on behalf of the Council through the Instrument of Delegation and involved in the preparation and/or authorisation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest as defined within the *Local Government Act 2020*.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE REPORT

1. Mr Steve Schinck Biography