



## Northen and Yorke LGA Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 held at  
Wakefield Regional Council and online via MS Teams

Meeting Opened at: 10.07 am by Stephen Rufus

### **I MEETING ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

#### **1.1 Attendance**

**Members:** Mayor Rodney Reid, Wakefield Regional Council, Mayor Stephen McCarthy, District Council of Mount Remarkable, Mr Stephen Rufus, Director Corporate and Community Services Port Pirie Council (Chairman), Mr Ian McDonald, Independent.

**Non-Members:** Bridget Ransome CEO N&YLGA, Andrew Wroniak, Executive Director LGA, Vanessa Miller, Manager Finance LGA

**Apology:** Nil

### **2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Bridget Ransome CEO provided the minutes from 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 with the agenda.

**Motion:** That the minutes of the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

**Moved:** Mayor Reid                      **Seconded:** Stephen Rufus   **CARRIED**

### **3 BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **3.1 Committee Membership Vacancy**

Bridget Ransome CEO provided a recommendation to seek another committee member for the Audit & Risk Committee. Discussion during the meeting recommended that an approach be made to secure an additional committee member preferably at a CEO level.

**Motion: That Audit & Risk Committee members provide CEO Bridget Ransome with suggested names and contact details to progress the appointment of a professionally qualified officer from staff of Councils to the Audit & Risk Committee and that she will progress this appointment**

**Moved:** Mayor Reid                      **Seconded:** Stephen Rufus                      **CARRIED**

### **3.2 Appointment of Auditor for N&YLGA**

Bridget Ransome CEO reported that ATA Audits has now been appointed to provide auditing services to the Northern & Yorke LGA. The CEO also advised that she has now met with the auditor on several occasions and work is being progressed to meet the requirements of the AGM on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

The members of the Audit & Risk Committee formally recommended that the details relating to the appointment of the new Auditor be progressed to the next N&YLGA Board Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025 for endorsement by the board.

**Moved:** Stephen Rufus                      **Seconded:** Mayor McCarthy                      **CARRIED**

## **4 FINANCIAL SERVICES**

It was noted that the committee members agreed to the LGA representatives Andrew Wroniak and Vanessa Miller remaining in the meeting to discuss the financial services agenda item.

Bridget Ransome CEO provided a Financial Services Update Report due to the recent resignation of the current Financial Services Provider, Colin Davies.

Mayor Reid advised that after a meeting with Stephen Rufus and Bridget Ransome to review the finances of the association a letter was sent to Colin Davies outlining the revised services that would be required of him going forward. As a result of receiving the letter Colin Davies chose to resign and offered one month's notice as per the requirements of his contract with the association.

Mayor Reid reported that as the situation arose, there was limited time to initiate a full N&YLGA Board Meeting, to transition as smoothly as possible in maintaining the financial operations of the association. At this time, he was made aware that the LGA were offering financial services to other local government associations, which led to a meeting and negotiation of next steps.

At present the LGA has agreed to provide financial services for the next 2 month as an interim step until a full contractual arrangement is made for a one-year term. The terms of the contract will be presented for endorsement at the N&YLGA Board Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Local Government Association spoke to two reports: a summary of the Financial Services they can provide to the Northern and Yorke Local Government Association and a copy of their contract for these services.

Both reports were noted by the committee.

**Moved:** Mayor Reid **Seconded:** Stephen Rufus **CARRIED**

**Motion:** The committee recommends to the N&YLGA Board the formal appointment of the Local Government Association SA in accordance with the agreement of finance shared services. For a 2 – month initial period; and then a one year (12 month\_ period) to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, to be reviewed at that time.

**Moved:** Stephen Rufus **Seconded:** Mayor McCarthy **CARRIED**

## **5 OTHER BUSINESS**

Stephen Rufus enquired as to an update of the *Annual Business Plan 2025-2026*.

Bridget Ransome advised that the Annual Business Plan document had been updated, and the figures were currently being prepared by LGA in relation to the provision of financial services.

Stephen Rufus recommended another meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee be called prior to the N&YLGA Board Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June, so that the committee could review the plan and determine its recommendation to the Board at that time.

Bridget Ransome advised that she will arrange these details and will circulate the information to all committee members.

## **6 NEXT MEETING**

A special meeting to review the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 is scheduled for Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 4.00 pm (online).

Meeting closed at 11.05 am.