



murchisonshire

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Minutes for the Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
on Thursday **25 June 2026**, commencing at 11:00am

Purpose To receive and consider a report on the Murchison Shire Compliance Audit Return for the 2025 calendar year.

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Cr Q Fowler Presiding Member opened the Meeting at 11.02pm

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillors

Cr Q Fowler – Presiding Member

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

Cr G Mead

In Attendance

Cr A Whitmarsh

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO

Bec Fogarty – Community Manager DCEO

Apologies

Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Audit Committee Meeting – 13 December 2025

Background

Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Audit Committee Members.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 13 December 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Committee Decision	
Moved: Cr G Mead	Seconded: Cr R Foulkes-Taylor
Carried	For 3 Against 0

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

5 REPORTS

5.1 Compliance Audit Return 2025

File:	4.18
Author:	Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date	21 June 2025
Attachments:	5.1.1 Murchison Compliance Audit Return 2025

Matter for Consideration

The Audit Committee is to review the Murchison Compliance Audit Return 2025 and report to Council.

Background

At the February 2026 Council Meeting I advised that the requirement to complete the Annual Compliance Return for 2025 and have it considered by the Audit Committee (now Audit and Risk Committee) and adopted by Council by 31 March was deferred by the Local Government Department until 30 September 2026 as there are new legislative requirements; with appointment of the Local Government Inspectorate also having a potential influence in limiting the statutory requirements included in the return. This review has now been completed and revised questions have now been provided.

Amongst other things one of the objectives of the Audit and Risk Committee is to receive and review the Annual Compliance Return as presented to the Committee for review. The Committee is to then report to the Council the results of that review. The Compliance Audit Return is to then be adopted by Council, and the certified copy is to be sent to the Director General of the Department of Local Government & Communities

Comment

The Compliance Audit Return has been completed in consultation and is attached for the Audit Committee's Review.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Audit Regulations 1996

14 Compliance audits

- (1) *A local government must carry out an audit (a compliance audit) of the local government's compliance with the statutory requirements prescribed by regulation 13 for the period beginning on 1 January and ending on 31 December in each year.*
- (1A) *Sub regulation (1) is subject to regulation 15A.*
- (2) *After a local government has carried out a compliance audit, the CEO must —*
 - (a) *prepare a compliance audit return in a form approved by the Inspector; and*
 - (b) *give a copy of the compliance audit return to the local government's audit, risk and improvement committee.*
- (3) *The audit, risk and improvement committee must —*
 - (a) *review the compliance audit return; and*
 - (b) *report to the council the results of that review.*
- (4) *When reporting to the council, the audit, risk and improvement committee must make any recommendations that the committee considers appropriate in relation to the compliance audit return.*
- (5) *The council must consider the compliance audit return and the results of the audit, risk and improvement committee's review (including any recommendations) at a meeting of the council.*
- (6) *The council must —*
 - (a) *determine if any matters raised by the audit, risk and improvement committee require action to be taken by the local government; and*

- (b) either —
- (i) adopt the compliance audit return; or
 - (ii) adopt the compliance audit return subject to amendments proposed by the council.
- 15 Signed compliance audit return and other information must be given to Inspector
- (1) After a compliance audit return has been adopted by the council under regulation 14(6)(b), the local government must give the following information to the Inspector —
 - (a) a copy of the compliance audit return (or amended compliance audit return, if applicable), signed by the mayor or president and by the CEO;
 - (b) any recommendations made under regulation 14(4) after the audit, risk and improvement committee has reviewed the compliance audit return;
 - (c) a copy of the relevant section of the minutes of the meeting at which the compliance audit return was adopted by the council;
 - (d) any additional information explaining or qualifying the compliance audit.
 - (2) The information must be given to the Inspector no later than 31 March next following the period to which the return relates
 - (3) The Inspector may extend the 31 March deadline

Strategic Implications

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Recommendation

That the Audit and Risk Committee

- 1 reports to the 25 June 2026 Ordinary Meeting of Council that the Compliance Audit Return 2025 has been completed and;
- 2 recommends that Council adopt the Compliance Audit Return 2025 as presented.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Committee Decision

Moved: Cr R Foulkes-Taylor **Seconded: Cr** G Mead

That the Audit and Risk Committee

- 1 reports to the 25 June 2026 Ordinary Meeting of Council that the Compliance Audit Return 2025 has been completed and;
- 2 recommends that Council adopt the Compliance Audit Return 2025 as reviewed by the Committee as attached.

Carried **For** 3 **Against** 0

6 URGENT BUSINESS

Next Audit Committee Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 30 June 2026 commencing at 12.30pm with permission from the Shire President to attend remotely for those committee members and staff that are unable to attend in person

7 MEETING CLOSURE

The Presiding Member closed the meeting at 11.15am

Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed at the Audit Committee Meeting held on 30 June 2026

Signed..... Committee Chair