SHIRE OF HARVEY

Audit Committee Meeting
Minutes

Harvey Council Chambers

Tuesday, 14 April 2026

2pm

Minutes
Audit Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Audit Committee of the Harvey Shire Council, held in the Council Chamber, Young Street, Harvey, on Tuesday, 14 April 2026, commencing at 2pm.

Attendance

Presiding Member	Mrs.	M.	Campbell	*Shire President*
	Cr.	W.	Dickinson	
	Cr.	L.	Morley	
	Cr.	K.	McCarthy	
	Cr.	R.	Coleman	
	Cr.	J.	Bromham	

Staff

Chief Executive Officer	Ms.	A.	Riordan
Director Sustainable Development	Mr.	P.	Hughes
Director Corporate Services	Ms.	D.	Winters
Director Community and Lifestyle	Ms.	S.	Haslehurst
Director Infrastructure Services	Mr.	C.	Yardley
Manager Governance and Strategy	Mr.	K.	Williams
Manager Finance	Mr.	S.	Chopra
Council Planning and Reporting Officer	Mr.	T.	Stubbings
Manager Information Services	Mr.	A.	Ewing
Governance Officer	Ms.	C.	Peterson

There were 0 members of the public and 0 member of the press present.

Minutes

1. Official Opening

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 2pm.

Disclaimer

Members of the Public are advised that recommendations to Council contained within this Agenda can be subject to changes. Applicants and other interested parties should refrain from taking any action until written advice is received confirming Council's decision with respect to any particular issue.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Shire of Harvey acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities, their cultures, and to Elders past, present and emerging.

2. Record of Apologies and Leave of Absence

Nil.

3. Declarations of Members' and Officers' Personal Interest

Nil.

4. Response to Previous Questions Taken on Notice

Nil.

5. Public Question Time

Nil.

6. Petitions/Deputations/Presentations/Submissions

Nil.

7. Confirmation of Minutes

Audit Committee Meeting – Tuesday, 24 February 2026.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026, as attached, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Cr. McCarthy **Seconded: Cr. Morley**

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026, as attached, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried 6-0 **AC26/08**

Votes:

For: Cr. Bromham, Cr. Coleman, Cr. Dickinson, Cr. Hitchcock, Cr. McCarthy and President Campbell.

Against: Nil.

8. Officers Reports

Item No.:	**8.1.**
Subject:	**Audit Committee Terms of Reference Update**
Proponent:	**Shire of Harvey**
Location:	**Shire of Harvey**
Reporting Officer:	**Governance Officer**
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**
File No.:	**C082/00005**
Attachments:	1. Audit Committee Terms of Reference Version 2 Draft [**8.1.1** - 4 pages] 2. Current Audit Committee Terms of Reference Version 1 [**8.1.2** - 3 pages]

Summary

Under amended legislation, all local governments are required to transition to an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees (ARIC) framework by Tuesday, 30 June 2026. This report presents an updated draft Terms of Reference (***Attachment 1***) for the Committee's review and endorsement prior to recommendation for Council.

Updating the Terms of Reference (Terms) is a necessary step to ensure the Shire's governance framework remains compliant with legislative requirements, supports effective oversight by the Committee, and enables a smooth transition to the ARIC model within the required statutory timeframe.

The *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* and the Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations 2025 introduced significant reforms to the governance framework for audit committees across Western Australian Local Governments. Sections 86 to 90 of the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* and the amended Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 commenced on Thursday, 1 January 2026, requiring the replacement of existing audit committees with the ARIC.

In addition, the amended regulations introduce mandatory independence requirements, including the appointment of an independent presiding member and an independent deputy presiding member, who must not be Council members of the local government or any other local government.

Background

The Shire of Harvey's current Audit Committee Terms of Reference (***Attachment 2***), adopted in 2019 was developed under the previous legislative framework. As a result, they no longer fully reflect the committee's expanded statutory role, required composition, or revised reporting responsibilities under the amended Act and Regulations.

Comment

The updated Terms (***Attachment 1***) can be compared with the current Terms (***Attachment 2***) to understand the legislated requirements reflected in the draft Terms.

The reforms are intended to strengthen local government governance, accountability, and transparency by enhancing oversight of risk management, legislative compliance, financial management, and continuous improvement of systems and procedures

The Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 have been substantially amended to now include:

- Replacing reference to Audit Committee with Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
- Appoint an Independent Presiding Chair and Deputy Chair before Tuesday, 30 June 2026

- Prescribe new and expanded statutory functions for the ARIC under regulation 16 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996

- Replace reference to appointing an auditor with the functions of the Auditor General

The Terms may be reviewed at any time following the appointment of the Independent Member by resolution of Council to ensure the Terms remain appropriate, effective, and aligned with legislative requirements. This provides flexibility for the Committee and Council to respond to future legislative amendments, changes or identified opportunities to strengthen oversight and accountability.

Statutory/Policy Environment

Local Government Act 1995

- Part 7, Division 1A – Committees of Council

- Sections 86 to 90 (as inserted by the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024*), which provide for the establishment and functions of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees and introduce independence requirements.

Local Government Amendment Act 2024

- Establishes Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees (ARICs) in place of audit committees.

- Introduces mandatory independence requirements for the presiding member and deputy presiding member.

- Provides transitional arrangements for existing audit committees.

Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2025

- Give effect to the ARIC reforms from Thursday, 1 January 2026.

- Amend multiple subsidiary regulations to align with the new ARIC framework.

Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 (as amended, effective Thursday, 1 January 2026)

- Regulation 14 – Compliance audits and the requirement for ARIC review and reporting to Council.

- Regulation 16 – Prescribed functions of an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

- Regulation 17 – CEO reviews of financial management, legislative compliance and risk management systems, and reporting requirements to the ARIC.

- Transitional provisions relating to the establishment of ARICs and compliance audits.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

- Former regulation 5(2)(c) review requirements now consolidated into regulation 17 of the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996, impacting how internal reviews are conducted and reported.

Shire of Harvey Audit Committee Terms of Reference

Council Policy – Risk Management

Strategic Framework

The Shire's Council Plan 2025–2035, states:

Pillar 5 Performance: – A representative leadership that is future thinking, transparent and accountable.
Objective 21: Continue to deliver proactive and responsible leadership and governance.

Community Engagement

Community Participation Goal

Inform: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.

This report will be published the Shire's website and form part of the Audit Committee's Agenda and Minutes for the April Audit Committee Meeting.

Promise to the Community

Inform: We will keep you informed.

This report will be published the Shire's website and form part of the Audit Committee's Agenda and Minutes for the April Audit Committee Meeting.

Risk Management

The Risk Theme Profile identified as part of this report is **Compliance**. The Consequence could be ***Compliance*** if the Audit Committee Terms of Reference is not updated and endorsed prior to the legislative requirement. The risk is considered ***Minor*** and the likelihood ***Unlikely***, resulting in a ***Low*** Risk being present due to this report is brought before the Audit Committee well within the legislated time.

Budget Implications

There are no budget implications for updating the Terms of Reference, however, there is an additional budget commitment to consider with the appointment of Independent Presiding and Deputy Presiding Member.

Authority/Discretion

Executive: The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer's Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives this report detailing the legislative changes arising from the *Local Government Amendment Act 2024* and the amended Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996.

2. Reviews and endorses the updated draft Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference (***Attachment 1***).

3. That the updated Terms of Reference be adopted to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and to support the transition to an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee by Tuesday, 30 June 2026.

4. Following adoption of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference (***Attachment 1***) and the appointment of the independent presiding member, any changes be brought back to the Audit Committee for review.

Moved: Cr. Coleman **Seconded: Cr. Bromham**

That Council:

1. **Receives this report detailing the legislative changes arising from the Local Government Amendment Act 2024 and the amended Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996.**

2. **Reviews and endorses the updated draft Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference (*Attachment 1*).**

3. **Recommends to Council that the updated Terms of Reference be adopted to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and to support the transition to an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee by Tuesday, 30 June 2026.**

4. **Following adoption of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference (*attachment 1*) and the appointment of the independent presiding member, the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to undertake any necessary administrative review and update of the Terms of Reference, with any changes reported to Council for noting.**

Carried 6-0 **AC26/09**

Votes:

For: Cr. Bromham, Cr. Coleman, Cr. Dickinson, Cr. Hitchcock, Cr. McCarthy and President Campbell

Against: Nil.

Item No.:	**8.2.**
Subject:	**Shortlist for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Independent Chair Applications**
Proponent:	**Shire of Harvey**
Location:	**Shire of Harvey**
Reporting Officer:	**Governance Officer**
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**
File No.:	**C082/00005**
Attachments:	**Nil**

Summary

Following Council endorsement of the Expression of Interest (EOI) process in January 2026, recruitment for the independent Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Chair has been undertaken. An ARIC Independent Presiding Member (Chair) Panel, consisting of the Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate Services, Manager Finance, and Manager Governance and Strategy, has assessed applications received and identified two suitable candidates.

This report provides an update on the recruitment process to date and seeks authorisation to progress to the next stage, being interviews with the shortlisted candidates and the Audit Committee. It is proposed that interviews be scheduled for late April or early May 2026.

A subsequent report will be presented directly to Council at the May Ordinary Council Meeting outlining the outcome of the interviews and recommending a preferred candidate for appointment. This timeframe enables the appointment of the independent Chair within the legislated transition period.

Background

The Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2025 require all local governments to establish an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), including the appointment of a Chair and Deputy Chair (Deputy) by Thursday, 30 June 2026.

In the January 2026 Audit Committee Agenda and Minutes, Officers submitted a report which sought approval for the advertising of an Expression of Interest Independent Chair and Deputy Chair (Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee). The Expression of Interest was endorsed by Council at the February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting and Officers published the Candidate pack thereafter.

Comment

The Expression of Interest was published on the Shire of Harvey's website following Council endorsement and the application period closed on Monday, 16 March 2026. The recruitment process for the Chair and Deputy of ARIC is progressing in accordance with the approved approach and legislative requirements.

Twelve responses were received, resulting in five formal applications. Each applicant submitted a résumé and cover letter, which were assessed by the panel.

The next stage of the process is to conduct interviews with the shortlisted candidates, with participation from the Audit Committee. It is proposed that interviews be scheduled for late April or early May 2026 to enable sufficient time for deliberation and reporting within the May Ordinary Council Meeting cycle.

This report does not include personal particulars of the shortlisted candidates. Candidate information, including resumes and cover letters, will be circulated to Audit Committee members in advance of the interviews. Following the interviews, this information will be included as a confidential attachment to the report presented to Council at the May Ordinary Council Meeting.

A further report will be brought before Council outlining the outcome of the interviews and recommending a preferred candidate for appointment as the Chair and Deputy for the ARIC. This approach supports transparency, appropriate confidentiality, and timely appointment ahead of the Thursday, 30 June 2026 legislative deadline.

Statutory/Policy Environment

This Report is informed by the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Local Government Regulations Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2025, the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 and the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996. These legislative instruments require the establishment of an ARIC before Thursday, 30 June 2026 and mandate the appointment of an independent Presiding Member.

While the Regulations do prescribe the need to have Independent Presiding Member, there is no requirement for the Audit Committee to have a Deputy Presiding Member, however, if the Shire of Harvey chooses to have a Deputy Presiding Member, they must also be Independent.

Strategic Framework

The Shire's Council Plan 2025–2035, states:

Pillar 5 – Performance:	A representative leadership that is future thinking, transparent and accountable.
Objective 21:	Continue to deliver proactive and responsible leadership and governance.

Community Engagement

Community Participation Goal

Inform: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.

This report will be published the Shire's website and form part of the Audit Committee's Agenda and Minutes for the April Audit Committee Meeting.

Promise to the Community

Inform: We will keep you informed.

This report will be published the Shire's website and form part of the Audit Committee's Agenda and Minutes for the April Audit Committee Meeting.

Risk Management

The Risk Theme Profile identified as part of this report is **Failure to fulfill Compliance Requirements**. The consequences could be **Compliance** if there was a failure to comply with legislative requirements. The Risk Consequence is considered ***Minor*** and the likelihood ***Unlikely*** resulting in a ***Low*** risk being present.

Budget Implications

Independent members of an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee may be paid a meeting attendance fee in accordance with section 5.100(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1995.*

The meeting attendance fee must be set within the prescribed range for independent ARIC members:

- Minimum: $105 per meeting
- Maximum: $1,215 per meeting.

Meeting attendance fees are inclusive of preparation time and meeting attendance and are exclusive of superannuation. Council must resolve that any fee adopted represents value for money, having regard to the skills and experience required for the role.

Independent ARIC members may also be reimbursed for reasonable travel and associated expenses incurred in attending meetings, in accordance with sections 5.100(4)– (6) of the Act.

Specific fee levels will be presented to Audit Committee and Council for consideration in a separate report, where the appointment of the Chair and Deputy Chair is resolved.

The 2025 —2026 Budget contains provisions for $9,400 which is sufficient given the average number of meetings for the Committee. It is recommended that the budget be similar for the next financial year and aligned with any increases required by the State Administrative Tribunal.

Authority/Discretion

Legislative: Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies. It is also when Council reviews decisions made by Officers.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer's Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes this report on the recruitment process for the Independent Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

2. Authorises interviews to be scheduled with the shortlisted candidates before the May 2026 Ordinary Council reporting cycle and approves the circulation of candidate information to the Audit Committee members prior to the interviews.

3. Requests that an outcome report be presented to Council at the May Ordinary Council Meeting outlining a summary of the interviews and recommending the preferred candidate for appointment.

Moved: Cr. Coleman **Seconded: Cr. Dickinson**

That Council:

1. **Notes this report on the recruitment process for the Independent Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.**

2. **Authorises interviews to be scheduled with the shortlisted candidates before the May 2026 Ordinary Council reporting cycle and approves the circulation of candidate information to the Audit Committee members prior to the interviews.**

3. **Requests that an outcome report be presented to Council at the May Ordinary Council Meeting outlining a summary of the interviews and recommending the preferred candidate for appointment.**

Carried 6-0 AC26/10

Votes:

For: Cr. Bromham, Cr. Coleman, Cr. Dickinson, Cr. Hitchcock, Cr. McCarthy and President Campbell

Against: Nil.

Item No.:	**8.3.**
Subject:	**Work Health and Safety Report Quarter Three**
Proponent:	**Shire of Harvey**
Location:	**Shire of Harvey**
Reporting Officer:	**Council Planning and Reporting Officer**
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**
File No.:	**F/27/00001**
Attachments:	1. Shire of Harvey WHS Report Quarter 3 2025–2026 [**8.3.1 -** 14 pages]

Summary

The Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) Governance Report is provided quarterly to support Council and the Audit in fulfilling their governance oversight responsibilities under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WA).

The report provides a high-level summary of system performance, compliance indicators and assurance ratings across key WHS functional areas. This Quarterly Report captures the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026 (Quarter Three). The Workplace Health and Safety Report Quarter Three 2025–2026 (refer ***Attachment 1***) is presented to Council to be received.

Background

The Shire of Harvey, as a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU), holds the primary duty of care for work health and safety under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WA). Officers of the PCBU are required to exercise due diligence to ensure appropriate systems, resources and processes are in place to manage health and safety risks.

Council's role is one of governance oversight, ensuring that strategic direction, resourcing and monitoring arrangements provide assurance that WHS obligations are being met.

The WHS Governance Report provides structured visibility of key assurance areas to support transparency, accountability and continuous improvement.

Comment

The Quarter Three Report provides assurance ratings across seven key performance areas. These ratings reflect the effectiveness of current controls and highlight areas requiring continued focus.

No assurance areas were assessed as "Unacceptable".

Incident and Hazard Reporting has been identified as requiring corrective action to strengthen reporting consistency, investigation processes and corrective action monitoring.

Areas assessed as "Optimal" demonstrate effective control environments and compliance with legislative requirements. Areas assessed as "Partial" indicate functioning controls with identified opportunities for system strengthening and improvement.

The overall assurance position indicates that WHS systems are operating, with targeted improvement actions underway to enhance reporting consistency, consultation mechanisms and governance alignment.

Quarter Three Assurance Summary:

Key Performance Area	Assurance Status
Governance and Advisory Services	Partial
Incident and Hazard Reporting	Partial
Injury Management and Workers' Compensation	Partial
Health, Wellbeing and Support Programs	Partial
Drug and Alcohol Management	Partial
Training and Education	Optimal
Consultation and Worker Engagement	Partial

Statutory/Policy Environment

- *Work Health and Safety Act 2020 (WA)*
- Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022 (WA)

Strategic Framework

The Shire's Council Plan 2025–2035, states:

Pillar 5 – Performance:	A representative leadership that is future thinking, transparent and accountable.
Objective 21:	Continue to deliver proactive and responsible leadership and governance.

Community Engagement

Community Participation Goal

Inform: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.

This report provides balanced and objective information to assist Council and the community in understanding organisational WHS performance and assurance status.

Promise to the Community

Inform: We will keep you informed.

The Shire will keep the community informed through regular governance reporting and transparent disclosure of system performance.

Risk Management

Work Health and Safety remains a defined strategic risk theme within the Shire's Risk Management Framework. Quarterly reporting supports ongoing monitoring of control effectiveness and identification of emerging risks.

Budget Implications

Nil.

Authority/Discretion

Information Purposes: Includes items provided to Council for information purposes only, that do not require a decision of Council (i.e. - for 'noting').

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Workplace Health and Safety Governance Report – Quarter Three 2025–2026 as attached as ***Attachment 1***.

Moved: Cr. Morley **Seconded: Cr. Bromham**

That Council receives the Workplace Health and Safety Governance Report – Quarter Three 2025–2026 as attached as *Attachment 1*.

Carried 6-0 **AC26/11**

Votes:

For: Cr. Bromham, Cr. Coleman, Cr. Dickinson, Cr. Hitchcock, Cr. McCarthy and President Campbell

Against: Nil.

Item No.:	**8.4.**
Subject:	**Strategic Risk Register 2025 2026 Quarterly Report Quarter Three**
Proponent:	**Shire of Harvey**
Location:	**Shire of Harvey**
Reporting Officer:	**Governance Officer**
Authorising Officer:	**Chief Executive Officer**
File No.:	**F/27/00017**
Attachments:	1. Strategic Risk Register 2025 2026 Quarterly Report Quarter Three [**8.4.1** - 90 pages]

Summary

The Risk Management Framework refers to a quarterly reporting process to measure the progress of risk treatments for strategic risks. The Strategic Risk Register Quarterly Report assists the Audit Committee and Council to monitor the effectiveness of risk treatment actions undertaken. This Quarterly Report captures the period of 1 January to 31 March 2026 (Quarter Three).

The Strategic Risk Register 2025–2026 Quarterly Report, Quarter Three (refer ***Attachment 1***) is presented to the Audit Committee to be received.

Background

Risk management is a key tool in the successful operation of modern-day organisations. The Shire of Harvey (the Shire) aims to implement an effective risk management system that identifies risks relating to its strategic and operational plans, mitigates risk through internal controls and ensures that legislative compliance requirements are continually met. Risk management should create value for the Shire and community and effectively manage business systems and processes to achieve an appropriate balance between realising opportunities for gain while minimising adverse impacts.

Integral to risk management is the Risk Management Framework which provides an overview and approach for the Shire in the design, identification, implementation, assessment, reporting and monitoring of risks for the continual improvement of risk management processes and procedures. A key component of the Risk Management Framework is the Risk Register which categorises risks as either strategic, operational or project.

Risk Summary – How the Risk Report Works

The Shire's Strategic Risk Report provides a consolidated view of the key risks that may impact the delivery of the Council Plan 2025–2035. The report aligns the Shire's strategic risks and themes with the five Council Plan Pillars; People, Planet, Place, Prosperity, and Performance, ensuring that risk management is embedded within strategic planning, service delivery, and performance monitoring. The Strategic Risk Report is produced quarterly to inform Council and the Executive of the current risk profile and progress against treatment.

Integration of Strategic Risks and Themes

Risk Themes are defined in accordance with the Shire's Risk Management Framework and the principles of AS ISO 31000:2018. Risk Themes represent the Shire's highest-level exposures, such as Business Continuity, Compliance, Work Health and Safety, and are directly mapped to the 23 key objectives of the Council Plan.

Each objective in the report is supported by these themes and provide a consistent structure for assessing and monitoring risks across all areas of the organisation, ensuring integration between strategic objectives and service delivery.

This approach ensures that risk management remains embedded within corporate planning, supports informed decision-making, and enables transparent reporting to Council on the effectiveness of current controls and treatments. Within the Risk Report an integrated report comment provides detailed information on the management of the Council Risk:

- Strategic Risk Scenario and Risk Theme: Identifying which risk themes relate to the Strategic Risk Theme.

- Mitigating Services: The Shire’s service areas responsible for implementing controls and treatments to manage risk.

- Mitigating Service Outputs: Actions or deliverables undertaken to reduce likelihood or consequence.

- Quarterly Comment summarising performance, changes to risk levels, and recommendations for improvement (if any).

- Risk Ratings and Controls.

Each risk is assessed using a consistent methodology based on consequence and likelihood, producing a Base Risk Rating (before treatment) and a Residual Risk Rating (after treatment):

- **Low** and **Moderate** risks are acceptable with adequate controls and are managed through routine or specific procedures.

- **High** risks are acceptable with excellent controls and are managed by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

- **Extreme** risks are only acceptable with all treatments fully implemented and subject to continuous monitoring.

Control effectiveness is classified as:

- Excellent: exceeding what would reasonably be expected.

- Adequate: doing what would reasonably be expected.

- Inadequate: doing less than would reasonably be expected.

The Audit Committee is presented with a quarterly report on all strategic risks to ensure transparency, consistency, and accountability in the Shire’s risk oversight process.

Comment

The Strategic Risk Register Quarterly Report is designed to provide information on the strategic risks and the progress towards completing risk treatments, ultimately aiming to achieve a residual risk that Council is willing to accept.

Each strategic risk is presented with a risk rating and commentary on progress of risk treatments for the quarter. Any matters requiring Council decision will be identified in this commentary section.

Quarter Three Summary

Risk Rating	Description	Number	Percentage
Low	Risk is acceptable with adequate controls, managed by routine procedures.	9	39%
Moderate	Risk is acceptable with adequate controls, managed by specific procedures.	13	57%
High	Risk is acceptable with excellent controls, managed by Executive Leadership Team.	1	4%
Extreme	Risk is only acceptable with excellent controls and all treatment plans implemented.	0	0%
Total		**23**	**100%**

Of the 23 strategic risks:

- Nine have a Risk Rating of 'Low'.
- 13 have a Risk Rating of 'Medium'.
- One has a Risk Rating of 'High'.
- There are no Risk Ratings of 'Extreme'.

As at Quarter Three 2025–2026, 22 strategic risks were assessed as having Adequate controls and are operating within the Shire's acceptable risk tolerance, indicating effective management in accordance with the Risk Management Framework and governance standards.

One risk is currently assessed as Inadequate:

- Scenario 15 – Failure to ensure Shire facilities, buildings, gardens and grounds are fit for purpose and well maintained.

Statutory/Policy Environment

Council Policy 2.1.3 – Risk Management:

- This Policy documents the commitment and objectives regarding uncertainty that may impact the Shire's strategies, goals and objectives. It is the Shire's Policy to achieve best practice (aligned with AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management – Guidelines) in the management of all risks that may affect the Shire in meeting its objectives.

Strategic Framework

The Shire's Council Plan 2025–2035, states:

Pillar 5 – Performance:	A representative leadership that is future thinking, transparent and accountable.
Objective 21:	Continue to deliver proactive and responsible leadership and governance.

Community Engagement

Community Participation Goal

Inform: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.

This report is included in the Audit Committee Agenda document which is uploaded to the Shire's website for public viewing.

Promise to the Community

Inform: We will keep you informed.

The Audit Committee resolution will be included in the Audit Committee Meeting Minutes, and the Council resolution will be included in the Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes, which are uploaded to the Shire's website for public viewing.

Risk Management

The Strategic Risk Register as at ***Attachment 1*** identifies 23 strategic risks which have been rated in accordance with the Shire's Risk Management Policy and Framework. Varying risk treatments have been developed to manage strategic risk and those treatments integrated with the Shire's strategic planning framework.

Budget Implications

Nil.

Authority/Discretion

Information Purposes: Includes items provided to Council for information purposes only, that do not require a decision of Council (i.e. - for 'noting').

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Officer's Recommendation

That Council receives the Strategic Risk Register 2025–2026 – Quarterly Report, Quarter Three as attached as ***Attachment 1***.

Moved: Cr. Morley **Seconded: Cr. McCarthy**

That Council receives the Strategic Risk Register 2025–2026 – Quarterly Report, Quarter Three as attached as *Attachment 1*.

Carried 6-0 **AC26/12**

Votes:

For: Cr. Bromham, Cr. Coleman, Cr. Dickinson, Cr. Hitchcock, Cr. McCarthy and President Campbell

Against: Nil.

9. Matters Behind Closed Doors

Nil.

10. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was declared closed at 2.28pm.

I, Ms. Michelle Campbell, certify that the aforesaid Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 April 2026 are a true and correct record of that meeting on Tuesday, 14 April 2026.

MECampbell

Ms. Michelle Campbell
Shire President