

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA



Meeting of Council

To be held on

Monday 30 November 2020 at 7:00 pm

Note: Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Civic Centre is closed to the public and there will be no access to the public gallery for this meeting.

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020, this meeting will be streamed live on the internet and recorded. The live stream and recording can be accessed via Council's website at www.knox.vic.gov.au/meetings

13 Supplementary Items

13.1 Audit and Risk Committee - Independent Member Appointment

SUMMARY: Manager Governance, Phil McQue

This report considers the outcome of the recruitment process for an Independent Member to the Audit and Risk Committee, and recommends the appointment of the preferred candidate in accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee's Charter.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- **Appoint the preferred candidate as provided in Confidential Attachment 1 as the Independent Member for the period 1 December 2020 to 1 December 2023, in accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter; and**
- **Resolve to make an ex gratia payment of \$1,500 to Ms Lisa Tripodi, Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee, for her service assisting with the recruitment process.**

1. INTRODUCTION

Knox Council's Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) is an independent Advisory Committee, established under section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).

Council adopted the Committee's Charter in August 2020, amending its membership as required by the Act to comprise five members appointed by Council as follows:

- Three Independent Members; and
- Two Councillors.

Council at its August 2020 Meeting also resolved to appoint Ms Lisa Tripodi and Mr Homi Burjorjee to the Committee as Independent Members, with their terms concluding 31 May 2023 and 30 June 2022 respectively.

Council also noted that an Expression of Interest for the third Independent Member was in progress with a report to be submitted to Council in November 2020.

The Committee's Charter provides that Independent Members shall be appointed for three year terms. At the conclusion of their first term, independent members may be reappointed for one additional three-year term subject to satisfactory performance, to a maximum of six years' service in total.

A 'Recruitment and Selection Panel', comprising Mayor Cooper, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chairperson Audit and Risk Committee and the Director City Development – Interim Governance, was established to undertake the recruitment of the Independent Member.

2. DISCUSSION

An advertisement was placed in *The Age*, the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Council's LinkedIn and e-recruitment page seeking applications for an Independent Member.

Applications were required to address the selection criteria below as provided in the Committee's Charter:

- Level and breadth of senior business, management, finance and accounting and/or audit experience and qualifications;
- Level of familiarity with Government operations, including financial reporting, auditing requirements, risk management, business ethics and corporate governance; and
- Previous Audit and/or Risk Committee experience.

A total of 41 applications were received, the majority of which were of very high quality, calibre and capability. Four applicants were shortlisted for interview on 23 November 2020 with the Recruitment and Selection Panel.

Following the interview and evaluation process, the Recruitment and Selection Panel unanimously identified a preferred candidate for appointment as the Independent Member, with the application and their curriculum vitae shown at confidential attachment 1 and 2.

The preferred candidate is very highly qualified and has had extensive senior level management, finance, risk management and audit experience in both public and private practice. The preferred candidate is an Independent Member (and Chairperson) of Audit Committees at over ten Victorian councils and statutory bodies.

3. CONSULTATION

Nil.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL/AMENITY ISSUES

Nil.

5. FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Independent Members of Council's Audit and Risk Committee receive an annual remuneration of \$7,549.66, indexed annually by the Consumer Price Index.

The Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee committed several hours to the recruitment process and it is recommended that this be recognised by an ex gratia payment of \$1,500.

6. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

7. RELEVANCE TO KNOX COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021

Goal 8 - We have confidence in decision making

Strategy 8.1 - Build, strengthen and promote good governance practices across government and community organisations

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The officers contributing to and responsible for this report have no conflicts of interest requiring disclosure under Chapter 5 of the Governance Rules of Knox City Council.

9. CONCLUSION

The preferred candidate has extensive corporate and public sector experience at a senior management level and considerable experience participating as an Independent Member in Council Audit Committees, with the expertise and experience required to provide Council with high level professional advice on matters that will be considered by the Audit and Risk Committee.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

Attachment 1 and 2 is included in the confidential agenda, having been declared confidential information pursuant to Section 77(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as the information relates to personal information, including names, addresses, information that reveals a person's identity that would be unreasonable to disclose in a public report and being the names and details of a prospective committee member which would be unreasonable to disclose publicly, or to disclosure before they are appointed.

Report Prepared By: Manager Governance, Phil McQue

Report Authorised By: Director City Development - Interim Governance, Matt Kelleher

Attachments

Confidential attachments 1 and 2 have been circulated under separate cover.