



Additional information

Audit and Risk Management Committee

Wednesday, 17 February 2021, 5.30 pm

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2020 Compliance Audit Return Assessment and Risk summary

22 January 2021

Summary Report

Prepared for: City of Fremantle

By: David Baker, local government compliance consultant

1. Introduction

On 15 January 2021 I conducted the City of Fremantle's (the City) Compliance Audit Return (CAR). Western Australian local governments are required to complete a CAR in accordance with section 7.13(1)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) and regulations 13,14,15 and 16 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

The audit examined documents and other records to assess the City's compliance with the questions posed in the CAR. Each question has been addressed either wholly or by sample, depending on the volume of activity and assessed risk factors. Where a sample has been examined, the audit findings are based only on that sample.

The purpose of this review is to provide the City with an independent assessment of its compliance with the questions contained in the CAR, and where it is considered appropriate, suggesting opportunities for improvement.

2. Detail

The City has achieved a **100%** compliance rating for the period covered by the 2020 CAR which is commendable. This compares with 99% compliance in 2019 and 99% in 2018.

Table 1 – non-compliance responses

Areas of Compliance 2019/2020 CAR	Noncompliances Reported		Comments
	2019	2020	
Commercial Enterprises by Local Governments	Nil	Nil	
Delegation of Power / Duty	Nil	Nil	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	Nil	
Disposal of Property	Nil	Nil	
Elections	Nil	Nil	
Finance	Nil	Nil	
Integrated Planning and Reporting	1	Nil	
Local Government Employees	Nil	Nil	
Official Conduct	Nil	Nil	
Tenders for Providing Goods and Services	Nil	Nil	

The CAR is a checklist of a local government's compliance with the requirements of the Act and associated Regulations as approved by the Minister. The content of the CAR and wording of the questions was again altered for the 2020 reporting year with some reversions in respect of Integrated Planning and Reporting and new requirements to account for recent amendments to the

Act and Regulations. In all, there are 102 questions with 10 of those being optional. The following areas of activity are required to be answered:

1. Commercial Enterprises by Local Governments (5 questions);
2. Delegation of Power / Duty (13 questions);
3. Disclosure of Interest (21 questions);
4. Disposal of Property (2 questions);
5. Elections (Gift Register) (3 questions);
6. Finance (11 questions);
7. Integrated Planning and Reporting (3 questions);
8. Local Government Employees (6 questions);
9. Official Conduct (4 questions);
10. Tenders for providing Goods and Services (24 questions).
11. Optional Questions (10 questions) *

**Not included in calculating compliance percentage*

The review of the City's 2020 CAR has recorded **100%** compliance with 92 questions. This compares with 99% compliance in 2019, and 99% in 2018. The City has demonstrated continuous improvement over three reporting years. The City's efforts in this respect are to be commended.



David Baker
22 January 2021