

Finance, Risk and Audit Committee

1 Purpose

Oversee, review, and report to Council on the effectiveness of strategies, policies, systems, and processes for, and Greater Wellington's delivery in, the areas of financial management; risk management; internal and external audit and assurance; and legislative compliance.

2 Specific responsibilities

2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions:

- a **Pātuitanga | Relationships and Partnerships** – ensure decisions are based on shared knowledge, expertise and values maintained and sustained through active relationships and meaningful partnerships with mana whenua. These relationships and partnerships will contribute to Greater Wellington's core business services, functions, and systems to develop and deliver our shared aspirations across our Greater Wellington rohe;
- b **Kōwhiringa | Options** – actively partner with mana whenua to enable effective governance decision making that is informed by kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori analytical frameworks and knowledge systems in identifying feasible and meaningful options and solutions;
- c **Tino rangatiratanga | Self Determination** – position Greater Wellington to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and uphold the interests of mana whenua in exercising their tino rangatiratanga in planning and promoting quality services that enable self-determination for whānau and community;
- d **Whakamaru | Active protection** – assess how decisions work towards protecting mana Motuhake (rights and interests of mana whenua) through relevant mutually beneficial strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives; and
- e **Oritetanga | Equity** - uphold the principle of fairness in the design and distribution of Greater Wellington's resources and services through the Long Term Plan to meet the needs and aspirations of whānau within our Greater Wellington rohe.

2.2 Ensure that the Committee's decision making:

- a Considers climate change-related risks (mitigation and adaptation);
- b Is consistent with Council's plans and initiatives to give effect to Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 21 August 2019, including agreed emissions reduction targets; and

- c Considers Council's approved organisational risk appetites.
- 2.3 Oversee the development and implementation, and review the effectiveness of delivery, of Council's financial management strategies and policies (including the Financial Strategy, Revenue and Financing Policy, and Treasury Risk Management Policy) and recommend these, and any changes, to Council.
- 2.4 Review the robustness and effectiveness of Greater Wellington's financial management (including the control environment) and performance with a particular focus on the:
 - a Alignment of Greater Wellington's financial management policies, systems, and processes with Council's financial management strategies and policies; and
 - b Accounting policies and principles, andrecommend any changes to Council.
- 2.5 Oversee the development of, and review, organisational risk appetites and recommend these, and any changes, to Council to approve.
- 2.6 Review the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's:
 - a Risk management policies, systems, and processes;
 - b Management of significant organisational risks (particularly climate change, legal, and security governance), including whether the related actions align with Council's approved organisational risk appetite and mitigate these risks; and
 - c Governance arrangements for significant projects and programmes of workand recommend any changes to Council.
- 2.7 Review the appropriateness of Council's insurance and (annually) its insurance and recommend any changes to Council.
- 2.8 Review the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's systems and processes to:
 - a Manage legislative compliance (including statutory reporting and health, safety and wellbeing); and
 - b Be a good regulator.
- 2.9 For internal audit:
 - a Oversee the development of the triennial internal assurance plan;
 - b Review proposed terms of reference for internal audits and ensure these align with the internal assurance plan; and
 - c Review internal audit reports and the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's actions to address related audit recommendations.

2.10 For external audit:

- a Receive the annual audit plan, including the terms of engagement, nature and scope of the audit, and the timetable; and
- b Review any external audit reports and the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's actions to address related audit recommendations.

2.11 Agree annually the Committee's work programme after seeking Council's contributions.

2.12 After each meeting, provide a written report of the business conducted at that meeting to the next Council meeting.

2.13 For the draft Annual Report:

- a Review it and ensure it complies with statutory requirements and provides a sound basis for the public accountability of Council's and Greater Wellington's performance and position for each financial year;
- b Review any proposed formal announcements relating to Council's financial performance; and
- c Recommend to Council for adoption the draft Annual Report.

2.14 Complete, and implement the results of, an annual external review and/or self-assessment of the Committee's performance (to improve the maturity and effectiveness of the Committee and its members).

3 Delegation

The Committee has the authority to approve the internal assurance plan.

4 Members

4.1 Five Councillors.

4.2 One external member, appointed by Council, who has the necessary independence, expertise, and knowledge of local government relevant to the Committee's purpose and responsibilities.

4.3 The external member shall engage regularly with the Committee Chair, Chief Executive, and Group Manager Finance and Risk to keep informed on Greater Wellington's key activities.

5 Quorum

Three members.