



AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

29 JUNE 2026

MEETING MINUTES

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

08:00 – 10.30 AM MONDAY 29 JUNE 2026

FUNCTION ROOM (CIVIC CENTRE) AND VIA ZOOM

Audit and Risk Committee	
Andrew Dix	Independent Chair
Binda Gokhale	Independent Member
John Watson	Independent Member (online)
Deputy Mayor Councillor Elisha Lee	Audit and Risk Committee Member
Councillor Nicky Luo	Audit and Risk Committee Member (online)

Other Invitees	
Council	
Andi Diamond	Chief Executive Officer
Simone Wickes	Director Corporate Services
Jarrold Doake	Director City Services (online)
Imogen Kelly	Executive Manager Communications, Customer Experience and Facilities (left after item 5.3)
Vicki Blackman	Executive Manager People and Safety
Deep Sethi	Chief Financial Officer (arrived for item 1.5 and left after item 4.3)
Adil Khan	Chief Information Officer (left after item 1.6)
Kate Heissenbuttel	Manager Corporate Performance
Jessica Kelemen	Manager Workplace Relations and Safety (arrived for item 5.4 and left after item 6.2)
Amanda Sapolu	Manager Corporate Governance and Legal (arrived for item 5.4 and left after item 6.1)
Jackie Grieve	Acting Manager Active Monash (online, arrived for item 6.1 and left after item 6.4)
Margherita Barbante	Acting Director Community Services
Hirosha DeCosta	Accounting Services Lead (arrived for item 1.5 and left after item 4.3)
Fiona Fernandes	Coordinator Corporate Planning

Anna Constantinou	Corporate Reporting Officer
Daniel Ganeshan	Coordinator Insurance and Claims (arrived for item 5.4 and left after item 6.1)
Externals	
Mark Peters	External Auditors: Partner, HLB Mann Judd (online, left after item 4.3)
Tania Yueng	External Auditors: Manager Audit and Assurance, HLB Mann Judd (online, left after item 4.3)
Richard Wilson	Internal Auditors: Client Director, Aster Advisory
Zachary Sapoznikoff	Internal Auditors: Manager, Aster Advisory
Bryce Kendall	Internal Auditors: Manager IT Specialist, Aster Advisory (online, left after item 1.6)
Ian McKenzie	Digital and Technology Steering Committee Independent Member (online, left after item 1.6)
Paul O'Connor	Observer
Sally Bennett	Observer (online)

1 Opening of Meeting/Procedural

1.1 Apologies

Independent member, Mayor Stuart James.

The Chair introduced the pending newly appointed independent Committee members, Paul O'Connor (Chair) and Sally Bennett, who will commence in their roles from 1 July 2026. They attended this meeting as observers.

1.2 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes - (05/03) *

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting of 5 March 2026 be accepted.

Noted the minutes had been confirmed by email circular resolution by the Committee members.

1.4 Matters Arising *



The report was taken as read. All open actions are either completed in the current meeting or are scheduled for completion at future meetings.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

1.7 CEO briefing

Dr Andi Diamond, CEO, provided an update per the report.

Discussion occurred regarding:

- Commonwealth aged care reform/home support program and implications for Monash
- Fuel shortages and impact on all Council activities
- Spring Valley/Dandenong landfill matter
- Jobs Code and uncertainty/lack of understanding of impact to Council.

The Committee discussed other industry impacts for Monash, namely:

- the changes in planning/building controls (increased heights) and impact on demands for community infrastructure
- Work from Home Bill changes (noting an item later in the agenda)
- Release of KPMG's report on whistleblower policies and response mechanisms.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

1.5 Annual Cyber Security Update (procedural move from Section 2 Risk Management/Ethical Behaviour)

Chief Information Officer provided an update to the Committee in accordance with the report. Council's independent member on Council's Digital and Technology Steering Committee, Ian McKenzie, provided his perspective on Council's performance.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

1.6 Cyber Security Phase 1 Internal Audit (procedural move from Section 5 Internal Audit)

Aster Advisory outlined key highlights from the summary of recommendations arising from the audit.

The Chief Information Officer provided management feedback on the cyber security internal audit.

The Independent Member on Council's Digital and Technology Steering Committee (internal committee) provided insights, noting the effectiveness of the Digital and Technology team and the significant work undertaken by Council's operations to strengthen focus on people and processes.

The Chair thanked the team and expressed appreciation for the excellent work undertaken in relation to cyber security.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

[Action]: The date for completion of the recommendation in the internal audit report should be amended from February 2017 to February 2027.

[Officer]: Manager Corporate Performance.

2 Risk Management/Ethical Behaviour

2.1 Risk Update including Strategic Risk Report

Manager Corporate Performance presented the report and outlined to the Committee the overall changes to risk ratings for strategic risks and the additional controls and treatments added to the register.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

3 External Audit

3.1 HLB Interim Management Letter

HLB Mann Judd provided the Committee with an update on the Interim Management Letter. There were no new items and two remain in progress. The external auditor indicated the interim audit went well and will continue to provide further updates at the next meeting.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

4 Finance

4.1 Accounting Update (Asset Valuations)

Chief Financial Officer provided the Committee with an update on asset valuations. The Committee asked about climate related impacts on valuations and if considered - both Monash's valuers and asset conditions advisors have considered this.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

4.2 Adopted Budget *

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

4.3 Accounting Update (Critical items for 2025-26)

Chief Financial Officer provided the Committee with an update of critical items for 2025-26.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

5 Internal Audit

5.1 Status of delivery of annual plan *

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

5.2 Status of open recommendations *

The Committee noted the status update and the report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

5.3 Customer Experience Internal Audit

Aster Advisory presented the Customer Experience internal audit summary.

Executive Manager Communications, Customer Experience and Facilities provided their reflections and insights.

Discussion occurred on the pending Ombudsman's report on complaints management.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

5.4 Strategic Internal Audit Plan

Aster Advisory outlined the process behind the development of the Strategic Internal Audit Plan. Some changes to the internal audit plan included, realignment of timings for two audits.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

[Action]: Aster Advisory and Council officers to identify and highlight potential audits for future consideration. Recommendation to update text of follow up matters; these should be at the discretion of ARC, ELT and/or Management.

[Officer]: Manager Corporate Performance.

5.5 Review of internal auditors performance

Aster Advisory left the room, whilst the Committee and Council officers discussed the results of the internal audits' performance surveys.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

5.6 ARC meeting with Internal Auditors in the absence of management

Aster Advisory and the Committee met in absence of Council officers to provide feedback on the internal audit management contract and relationship. This occurred before the meeting.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

6 Integrity Body Reports

6.1 Victorian Ombudsman's Report - Outsourcing small claims handling *

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

6.2 Update on State Government's Work from Home Bill

Manager Workplace Relations and Safety provided the Committee with an update on the change to working from home rights and the potential compliance and risk implications for Council.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

6.3 VAGO 2024-25 Internal Audit Report Self Assessment *

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

6.4 Woolnough v Whittlesea City Council *

The report was taken as read.

Management and the Committee noted the potential misunderstanding relating to funding any required works to rectify and manage risks. Confirmation was given that Council would undertake and fund works, either through renewal budgets or through capital works variations.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

7 Governance

7.1 Appointment of independent committee members

The Chair welcomed the new independent members at item 1.1.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

7.2 Bi-annual report to CEO on activities of ARC

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

8 Meeting Schedule **

8.1 Confirmed Meeting Schedule for 2026

- 28th September 2026 9am-12pm
- 17th December 2026 8-10:30am

9 Other Business / Confidential Items **

9.1 Confidential Aged Care Quarterly Report Jan - March 2026 *

The report was taken as read.

Audit and Risk Committee Resolution

The Committee noted the report.

10 Meeting Close

The Deputy Mayor thanked the Chair, Andrew Dix, and Independent Member, John Watson, for their contributions and service to the Committee over their seven and six respective year terms.

In turn, the Chair and the Independent member complemented Council on their journey since they begun their roles.

The meeting was closed at 10:10am.

Confirmed by Chair (Mr Andrew Dix):

Date: _____

1. Recent Issues Brief March 2026 [**11.1.1** - 18 pages]
2. Risk Management Committee March 26 Minutes [**11.1.2** - 1 page]
3. Risk Management Committee May 26 Minutes [**11.1.3** - 2 pages]
4. Fraud and Corruption Prevention Steering Committee January 2026 Minutes and Fraud Scorecard [**11.1.4** - 4 pages]
5. Digital Technology Steering Committee Minutes June 2026 [**11.1.5** - 6 pages]
6. Gender Audit Feedback 2025 [**11.1.6** - 10 pages]
7. Q3 Financial and Capital Works Report [**11.1.7** - 37 pages]
8. Infrastructure Asset Valuations Methodology 2025-26 [**11.1.8** - 30 pages]
9. Land and Buildings Valuation Report 2025-26 [**11.1.9** - 20 pages]
10. LGPRF 2026-27 Changes ARC June 2026 [**11.1.10** - 2 pages]
11. Project Management Framework April 2026 [**11.1.11** - 58 pages]
12. Delegation Framework for Project Variations April 2026 [**11.1.12** - 17 pages]