

AGENDA

Finance and Governance Committee

Tuesday, 09 June 2026

Committee Meetings commence at 6.00pm and run consecutively

**Dragon Room
Georges River Civic Centre
Hurstville**



OATH OF OFFICE OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

All Georges River Councillors are reminded of their Oath of Office or Affirmation of Office made at the time of their swearing into the role of Councillor.

All Councillors are to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Georges River Council area and are to act faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgement.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

All Georges River Councillors are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflict of interest (perceived or otherwise) in a matter being considered by Council or at any meeting of Council.

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**ORDER OF BUSINESS****OPENING****ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Council acknowledges the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE**REQUEST TO JOIN VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK****NOTICE OF WEBCASTING****DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST****CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

FIN023-26	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2026 (Report by Executive Services Officer).....	4
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIN024-26	Investment Report as at 30 April 2026 (Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting).....	9
FIN025-26	Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - Minutes of Meetings held 5 March 2026 (Confirmed) and 28 May 2026 (Unconfirmed) (Report by Chief Audit Executive).....	23

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item: FIN023-26 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2026

Author: Executive Services Officer

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Previous Minutes

FIN023-26

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2026, be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2026

MINUTES

Finance and Governance Committee

Monday, 11 May 2026

Dragon Room
Georges River Civic Centre
Hurstville

UNCONFIRMED



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Mayor, Councillor Elise Borg, Councillor Christina Jamieson (Chair), Councillor Matthew Allison, Councillor Elaina Anzellotti, Councillor Oliver Dimoski, Councillor Thomas Gao, Councillor Gerard Hayes, Councillor Kathryn Landsberry, Councillor Nancy Liu, Councillor Peter Mahoney, Councillor Natalie Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos, and Councillor Ben Wang.

COUNCIL STAFF

General Manager – David Tuxford, Director Assets and Infrastructure – Bryce Spelta, Director Environment and Planning – Joseph Hill, Director Community and Culture – Kristie Dodd, Director Business and Corporate Services – Danielle Parker, Manager, Office of the General Chief Information Officer – Brendan Scott, Chief Finance Officer – Scott Henwood, Manager – Head of Strategic Property – Bernard Morabito, Vicki McKinley, Manager Strategic Planning – Luke Oste, Manager Development and Building – Kristy Griffiths, Chief Audit Officer – Steven Baker, Executive Services Officer – Marisa Severino, Executive Services Officer – Nickie Paras, Manager Community Impact – Estelle Marque, General Counsel - James Fan, Executive Manager City Futures – Kent Stroud, Technology Services Officer Brendan Thorpe.

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor Jamieson, opened the meeting at 6.21pm.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MOTION: Councillor Anzellotti Councillor Mahoney

That an apology and leave of absence be accepted for Councillor Arthur and Councillor Pun.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

Against the Motion: Councillor Mort

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was 12 votes For and 1 vote Against. The Motion was CARRIED.

REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

There were no requests to attend via Audio Visual Link.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

FIN017-26 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2026
(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney

That the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2026, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIN018-26 Investment Report as at 31 March 2026

(Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Gao left the Chambers at 06:25pm

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Liu

That the Investment Report as at 31 March 2026 be received and noted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

FIN019-26 Draft Georges River Council Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

(Report by Chief Information Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Liu, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That Council endorse the newly developed draft Georges River Council Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy for public consultation.
- (b) That the draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days to allow the community to provide feedback.
- (c) That Council receive a further report following the public exhibition period.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

FIN020-26 Quarterly Strategic Property Report for Period Ending 31 March 2026

(Report by Senior Property Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Allison, Councillor Landsberry

That Council receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Commercial

Property Portfolio, for the period ending 31 March 2026.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

FIN021-26 Quarterly Budget Review Report for Period Ending 31 March 2026
(Report by Head of Financial Planning and Analysis)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Gao returned to the Chambers at 06:31pm

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort

That this item be deferred for consideration at the 25 May 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 6:33pm.

Chairperson

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Item:** FIN024-26 Investment Report as at 30 April 2026**Author:** Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting**Directorate:** Business and Corporate Services**Matter Type:** Committee Reports**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Investment Report as at 30 April 2026 be received and noted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report outlines Council's investment portfolio performance as at 30 April 2026, including comparisons against key benchmarks, portfolio valuation, loan liabilities, and an update on ongoing legal matters.
2. Council's investment portfolio continues to perform strongly, achieving an annualised return of 4.85%, which is 1.06% above the benchmark. Year-to-date investment income totals \$11.29 million, exceeding the adopted budget by \$180,000.
3. The portfolio remains diversified, compliant with legislative and policy requirements, and aligned with Council's low-risk investment strategy, with all investments rated A or higher.
4. Overall, the results indicate performance in line with market benchmarks and continued adherence to Council's investment framework.

BACKGROUND

5. Council's investment activities are governed by the Local Government Act 1993, which permits investment of surplus funds in approved instruments.
6. Council's Investment Policy requires compliance with all relevant legislation, regulations, and guidelines, including:
 - Local Government Act 1993
 - Ministerial Investment Order (2011)
 - Trustee Amendment Act 1997
 - Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
 - State investment guidelines
7. The Responsible Accounting Officer must report monthly on the investment portfolio and confirm that all investments comply with these requirements.
8. Throughout this report, reference is made to credit ratings. In accordance with Council's Investment Policy, investments are limited to institutions rated A or higher.
9. Credit ratings indicate the financial strength of an institution. Council's advisor uses Standard & Poor's ratings, where:
 - AAA – highest quality, extremely strong capacity to meet obligations
 - AA – very strong and reliable
 - A – strong, but more exposed to changes in economic conditions

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

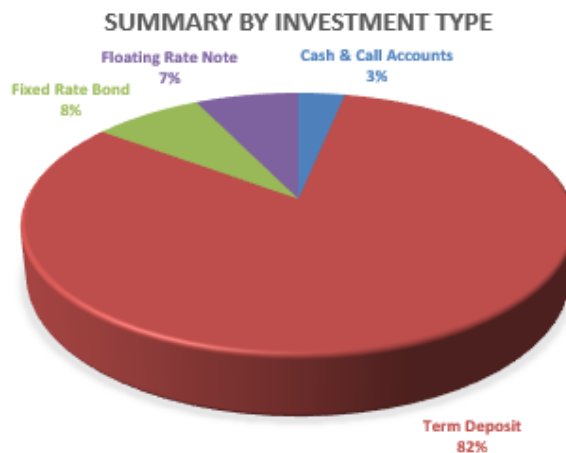
10. Council’s investment returns exceeded benchmark performance across all reporting periods for April 2026:

Period	Portfolio	Benchmark	Excess
Month	0.402%	0.342%	0.060%
3 Months	1.175%	0.946%	0.229%
12 Months	4.85%	3.79%	1.06%

Notes: Benchmark: Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index

PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

11. Total investments at 30 April 2026 were \$289.3 million, a decrease of \$11 million from March 2026, indicating normal cash flow movements.
12. The majority of Council’s investment portfolio is held in term deposits, which make up approximately 82% of total investments. Council’s investments include the following:
 - (a) Cash and Call Accounts – Money held with banks that can be accessed the same day or overnight.
 - (b) Floating Rate Notes (FRNs) – Investments with interest rates that change over time, usually every few months based on market rates. They can provide good returns and are easy to access.
 - (c) Term Deposits – Investments held for a set period with a fixed or variable interest rate.
 - (d) Fixed Rate Bonds – Investments that pay a fixed amount of interest over a set period.



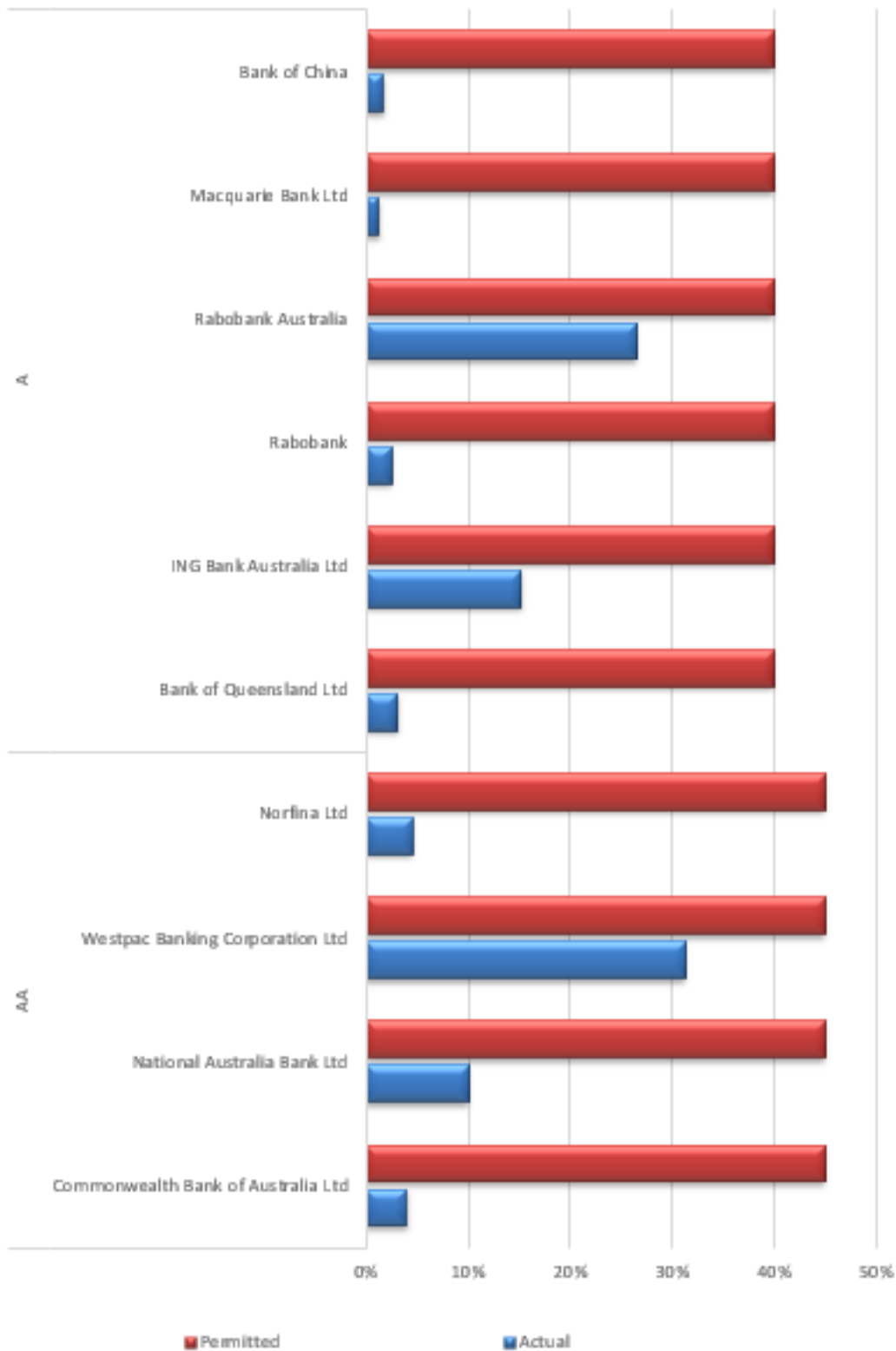
Investment Type	Value (\$m)	%
Term Deposits	236.8	81.84%
Fixed Rate Bonds	22.15	7.66%

Floating Rate Notes	20.96	7.24%
Cash / At Call	9.44	3.26%
Total	289.34	100%

POLICY COMPLIANCE

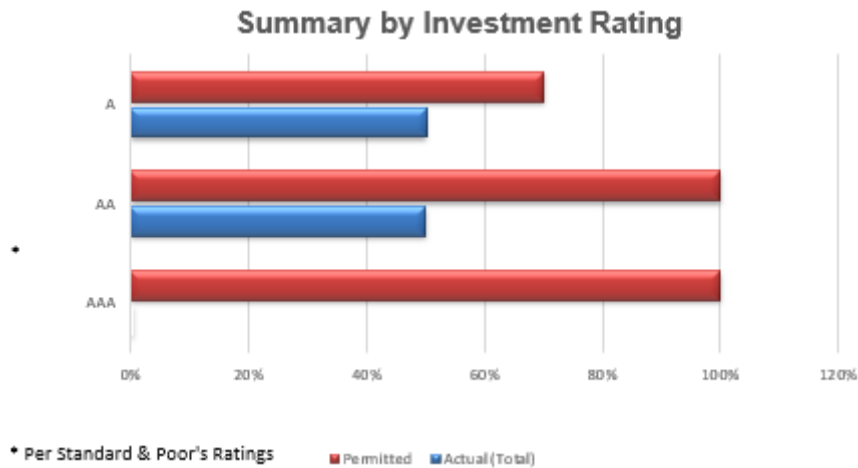
13. All investments comply with policy limits for credit quality, maturity, and diversification. Further details are provided in Attachment 1.
14. The graph below shows Council's investment holdings by institution, including the applicable rating and compliance with investment thresholds as at 30 April 2026.

Investment by Institution



FIN024-26

15. The graph below outlines Council’s investment rating limits and confirms that all investments are within policy requirements.



16. Council’s portfolio is moderately liquid, with 39% of assets maturing within 12 months. FRNs, At-Call Funds and Fixed Rate Bonds also provide additional liquidity in an emergency. The table below outlines Council’s current investment maturity profile:

Term	Value (\$m)	%	Policy Limit
< 1 year	113.85	39.35%	100%
1–3 years	100.15	34.61%	60%
3–5 years	75.34	26.04%	40%
Total	289,340	100%	

LEGAL MATTERS

- 17. Since January 2019, Georges River Council has been participating in a group class action against Fitch Ratings Inc and Fitch Ratings Ltd (collectively, Fitch) in relation to losses on certain investments purchased by Council. These include the Corsair (Cayman Islands) No. 4 Limited Series 6 (Kakadu) Collateralised Debt Obligation (CDO) notes and Zircon Finance Limited Series 2007 (Coolangatta and Merimbula). These products were rated AA by Fitch at the time, but are now considered to have been significantly lower quality (estimated closer to BB). As a result, Council suffered a capital loss of approximately \$215,000 (dating back to December 2006) and is seeking to recover this loss, including lost interest, through the proceedings.
- 18. As a group member, Council will not incur legal costs or be liable for any adverse cost orders. Banton Group Pty Ltd is acting on behalf of Council and continues to progress the matter, including working with expert advisors on potential issues with Fitch’s ratings methodology.
- 19. The proceedings are ongoing. Both parties have exchanged evidence, with further expert evidence to be completed in mid-2026. Mediation is expected by October 2026, with a court hearing scheduled to commence on 3 May 2027, for an estimated six-week duration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 20. Interest income from investments is \$11.29 million, which is \$180,000 above the year-to-date budget.
- 21. The majority of Council’s cash is set aside for specific purposes:

- 18% unrestricted – available for day-to-day operations, asset renewal and unexpected costs
 - 54% externally restricted – tied to legislation or agreements (e.g. developer contributions, waste, grants)
 - 28% internally restricted – set aside for governance, future planning and asset management
22. This highlights the need to carefully manage restricted funds to maintain Council's financial position.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

23. Financial sustainability is Council's key strategic risk. This relates to ensuring Council has the right financial strategies and controls in place to meet long-term obligations, deliver its plans, and respond to future pressures.
24. This risk is managed through:
- compliance with legislation, regulations and Council's Investment Policy
 - maintaining a conservative investment approach (A-rated or better)
 - spreading investments across multiple institutions (ADIs)
 - using the Federal Government deposit guarantee where applicable.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

25. No community consultation is required.

FILE REFERENCE

D26/123565

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 P10. Investment Portfolio as at 30 Apr 2026



INVESTMENT REPORT

As at 30 April 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Portfolio as at 30 April 2026
2. Portfolio Valuation by Categories as at 30 April 2026



Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

1. Portfolio Valuation As At 30 April 2026

	Fixed Interest Security	ISIN	Face Value Original	Market Value	% Total Value
Cash at Bank					
	CBA Consolidated operating 70 & 18		4,942,031.06	4,942,031.06	1.71%
			4,942,031.06	4,942,031.06	1.71%
At Call Account					
	CBA Cash deposit 167242		-	-	0.00%
	CBA Online saver 7676		4,492,929.25	4,492,929.25	1.55%
			4,492,929.25	4,492,929.25	1.55%
Fixed rate bond					
	NAB 4.95 25 Nov 2027 1826DAY Fixed	AU3CB0294502	7,400,000.00	7,556,014.20	2.61%
	Norfinna 4.80 14 Dec 2027 1826DAY Fixed	AU3CB0294957	5,200,000.00	5,295,695.60	1.83%
	Rabobank 5.71 21 Nov 2028 1827DAY Fixed	AU3CB0304525	6,750,000.00	7,058,448.00	2.44%
	Norfinna 4.75 19 Mar 2029 1826DAY Fixed	AU3CB0307809	1,200,000.00	1,224,570.00	0.42%
	ING 4.84 22 Mar 2027 1095DAY Fixed	AU3CB0307908	1,000,000.00	1,015,038.00	0.35%
			21,550,000.00	22,149,765.80	7.66%
Floating rate note					
	CBA 0.95 17 Aug 2028 FRN	AU3FN0080396	2,000,000.00	2,016,040.00	0.70%
	Norfinna 0.92 27 Sep 2029 FRN	AU3FN0091906	4,000,000.00	4,025,890.27	1.39%
	WBC 0.84 21 Jan 2030 FRN	AU3FN0094843	2,400,000.00	2,406,504.00	0.83%
	NAB 0.83 18 Mar 2030 FRN	AU3FN0096699	1,600,000.00	1,603,520.00	0.55%
	ING 0.95 13 Jun 2030 FRN	AU3FN0099321	2,800,000.00	2,803,528.00	0.97%
	MACQ 0.82 17 Jul 2030 FRN	AU3FN0100111	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	1.21%
	ING 0.78 15 Aug 2030 FRN	AU3FN0100806	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
	Norfinna 0.80 02 Dec 2030 FRN	AU3FN0105086	2,600,000.00	2,600,000.00	
			20,900,000.00	20,955,482.27	7.24%



Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

Term Deposit

WBC 4.67 30 Aug 2027 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 5.10 27 Sep 2027 1826DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 5.10 27 Sep 2027 1826DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 5.10 27 Sep 2027 1826DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 5.00 05 Oct 2027 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 4.76 05 Oct 2027 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 5.08 18 Oct 2027 1826DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 5.15 10 Nov 2027 1826DAY TD	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	3.46%
ING 4.65 14 Dec 2027 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 5.13 06 Mar 2028 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 4.85 14 Mar 2028 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 5.20 15 Jun 2028 1827DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 5.41 07 Jul 2026 1096DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
WBC 5.06 20 Jul 2026 1098DAY TD	2,200,000.00	2,200,000.00	0.76%
WBC 5.12 24 Jul 2026 1096DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
ING 5.01 24 Aug 2026 1096DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
ING 5.00 04 Sep 2026 1096DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 5.19 19 Feb 2029 1827DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
Rabo 5.15 26 Feb 2029 1827DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 5.06 5 Mar 2029 1827DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.83 11 Sep 2029 1825DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
Rabo 4.95 15 Oct 2029 1827DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
ING 5.05 18 Nov 2027 1095DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
Rabo 5.10 03 Dec 2029 1827DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
Rabo 4.95 17 Dec 2029 1827DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.96 07 Jan 2030 1827DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
ING 5.08 16 Jan 2030 1826DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
ING 5.02 21 Jan 2030 1826DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
Rabo 4.97 05 Feb 2030 1827DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
Rabo 5.07 19 Feb 2030 1827DAY TD	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.35%
Rabo 5.10 25 Feb 2030 1826DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
Rabo 5.02 05 Mar 2030 1825DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.94 18 Mar 2030 1826DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
Rabo 4.12 05 Jun 2026 365DAY TD	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	0.41%
Rabo 4.65 18 Jun 2030 1825DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
Rabo 4.17 19 Jun 2026 365DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
WBC 4.04 08 Jun 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 4.23 16 Jul 2026 365DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 4.15 22 Jul 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 4.17 29 Jul 2026 365DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
WBC 4.10 05 Aug 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
Rabo 4.58 12 Aug 2030 1826DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
Rabo 4.55 12 Aug 2030 1825DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
Rabo 4.58 19 Aug 2030 1825DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
NAB 4.10 21 Aug 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 4.05 25 Aug 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 4.06 27 Aug 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
WBC 4.10 04 Sep 2026 364DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
NAB 4.20 10 Sep 2026 365DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
NAB 4.15 21 Sep 2026 367DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
NAB 4.15 22 Sep 2026 365DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
NAB 4.30 29 Sep 2026 365DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.87 19 Nov 2030 1827DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.86 27 Nov 2030 1827DAY TD	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00	0.48%
Rabo 5.17 09 Dec 2030 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
BOC 4.50 09 Jun 2026 183DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
Rabo 5.29 11 Dec 2030 1827DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
ING 4.73 17 Dec 2027 730DAY TD	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.69%
WBC 4.64 22 Dec 2027 730DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.64 07 Jan 2027 365DAY TD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1.04%
Rabo 4.41 04 May 2026 91DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
BOQ 4.70 10 Aug 2026 182DAY TD	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1.73%
WBC 4.67 04 Aug 2026 154DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
Rabo 4.53 02 Jun 2026 91DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
BOQ 4.95 10 Sep 2026 184DAY TD	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	1.38%
	236,800,000.00	236,800,000.00	81.84%

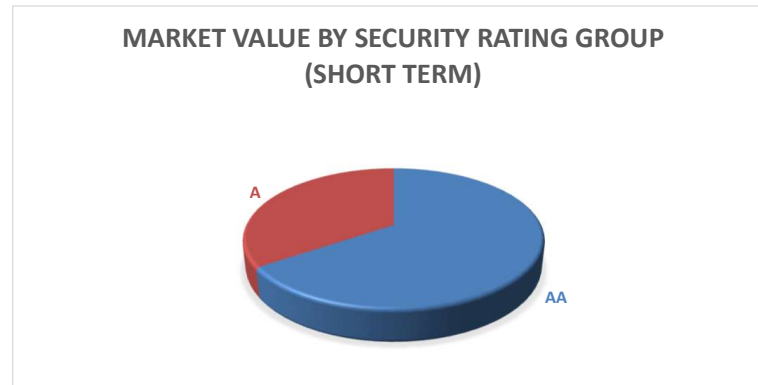
Portfolio Total **289,340,208.38** **100%**



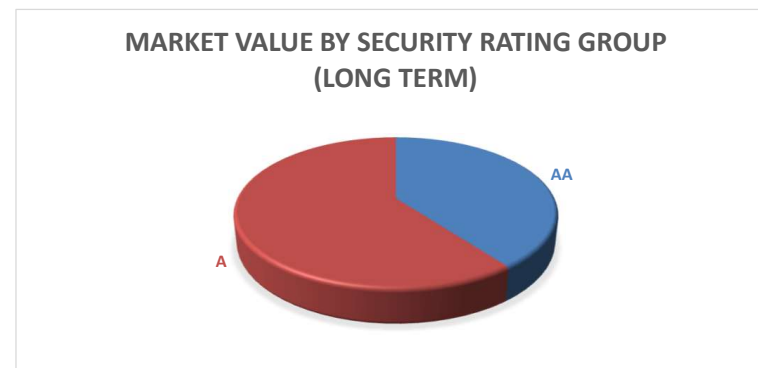
Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

2. Portfolio Valuation By Categories As At 30 April 2026

Short Term Issuer/Security Rating Group	Market Value	% Total Value
AA	74,634,960	25.79%
A	39,215,038	13.55%
Portfolio Total	113,849,998	39.35%



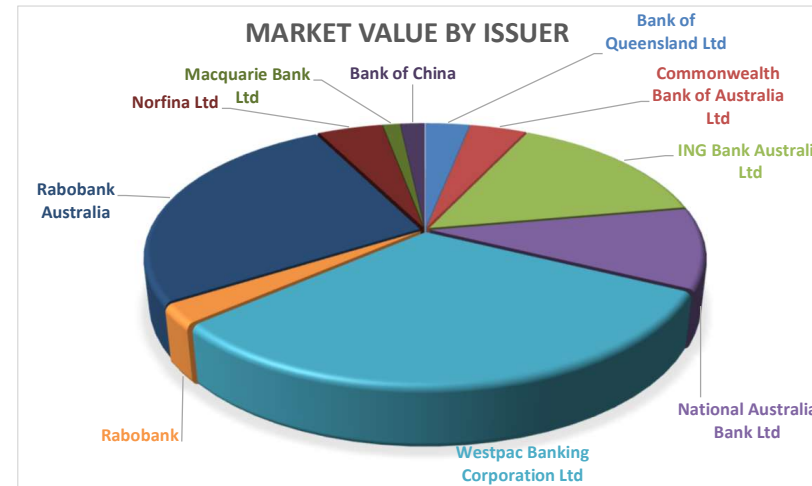
Long Term Issuer/Security Rating Group	Market Value	% Total Value
AA	69,728,234	24.10%
A	105,761,976	36.55%
Portfolio Total	175,490,210	60.65%





Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

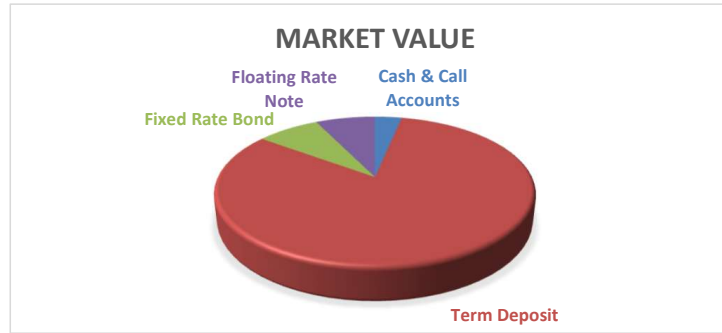
Issuer	Market Value	% Total Value
Bank of Queensland Ltd	9,000,000	3.11%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	11,451,000	3.96%
ING Bank Australia Ltd	43,818,566	15.14%
National Australia Bank Ltd	29,159,534	10.08%
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	90,606,504	31.31%
Rabobank	7,058,448	2.44%
Rabobank Australia	76,600,000	26.47%
Norfin Ltd	13,146,156	4.54%
Macquarie Bank Ltd	3,500,000	1.21%
Bank of China	5,000,000	1.73%
Portfolio Total	289,340,208	100.00%





Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

Security Type	Market Value	% Total Value
Cash & Call Accounts	9,434,960	3.26%
Term Deposit	236,800,000	81.84%
Fixed Rate Bond	22,149,766	7.66%
Floating Rate Note	20,955,482	7.24%
Portfolio Total	289,340,208	100.00%

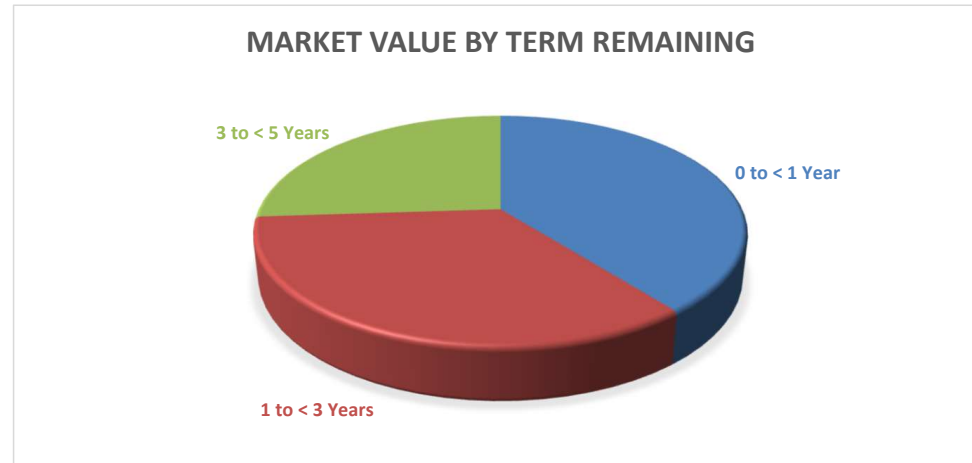




Investment Report
Georges River Council
as at 30 April 2026

Term Remaining	Market Value	% Total Value	Policy Limits %
0 to < 1 Year	113,849,998	39.35%	100%
1 to < 3 Years	100,150,768	34.61%	60%
3 to < 5 Years	75,339,442	26.04%	40%
Portfolio Total	289,340,208	100.0%	

Note: Term Remaining is calculated using a weighted average life date (WAL) where appropriate and available otherwise the interim (initial) maturity date is used.



Item: FIN025-26 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - Minutes of Meetings held 5 March 2026 (Confirmed) and 28 May 2026 (Unconfirmed)

Author: Chief Audit Executive

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the confirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 5 March 2026 be received and noted by Council.
- (b) That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 28 May 2026 be received and noted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Model Terms of Reference provide for the reporting of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Minutes to the Council, as per the assurance reporting requirements, section 5.
2. The Minutes of the ARIC meeting held on the 5 March 2026 were confirmed by the ARIC at its 28 May 2026 meeting and are now submitted for Council's information
3. The Minutes of the ARIC meeting held on the 28 May 2026 are unconfirmed. They will be confirmed at the next normal ARIC meeting to be held on 3 September 2026.

BACKGROUND

4. The attached minutes relate to the ARIC meetings held on 5 March 2026 and 28 May 2026 respectively.
5. The minutes are also available to Councillors on the ARIC HUB accessible via the Councillor HUB.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. No budget impact for this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

7. Strategic Risk 7: (Ineffective Governance) - Failure of Council's Governance and Compliance Frameworks to ensure compliance with relevant legislative, statutory, regulatory and policies and procedures and which are not being monitored across the organisation. In NSW, the Office of Local Government mandates all councils establish an ARIC and establish an internal audit function.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

8. Community engagement was not required for this report.

FILE REFERENCE

D26/152999

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment [↓](#)1 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Minutes 5 March 2026 (Confirmed)
- Attachment [↓](#)2 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Minutes 28 May 2026

(Unconfirmed)

MINUTES

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

Thursday, 05 March 2026

10:30 AM

First Floor, Georges River Council Civic Centre



PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cliff Haynes (Chairperson)

Barry Husking

Hamish McNulty

STAFF

David Tuxford General Manager

Steven Baker Chief Audit Executive (Minutes)

Danielle Parker Director, Business and Corporate Services

Bryce Spelta Director, Assets & Infrastructure

Kristie Dodd Director, Community and Culture

Joseph Hill Director Environment and Planning

Vicki McKinley Manager, Office of the General Manager (Minutes)

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Scott Henwood Chief Finance Officer

Renata Sala Head of Corporate Governance & Risk

Tom Heath Manager City Technical Services

Jo Dikkenberg Corporate Planning and Performance Specialist

Sharni Watts Chief People Officer

Kristy Griffiths Manager Development and Building

Greg Knight Executive Manager, City Presentation and Operational Services

Kent Stroud Executive Manager, City Futures

EXTERNAL ATTENDEES

Ricky Rajani Audit Office NSW

Joan Uyanguren Audit Office NSW (online)

Jan Michael Audit Office NSW (online)

Elise Borg Mayor

OPENING

The Chair, Cliff Haynes, opened the meeting at 10.31am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair, Cliff Haynes acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos was an apology for the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr Cliff Haynes submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

Mr Barry Husking submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

Mr Hamish McNulty submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

AUD001-26 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 27 November 2025
(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 27 November 2025, be confirmed.

DISCUSSION:

NIL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 27 November 2026, be confirmed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUD002-26 ARIC Actions Register Status Report
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the status of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Actions Register report be received and noted by Committee Members.

DISCUSSION:

NIL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Action Register report be received and noted by Committee Members.

GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

The General mentioned the new Code of Meeting Practice was in place and first meetings had been held with no issues.

AUD003-26 NSW Audit Office - Final Management Letter for 2024/25 and 2025/26 planning update (Report by Chief Financial Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) note that the Audit Office of NSW Annual Engagement Plan for 2025/26 is currently in draft form and will be presented at the next ARIC meeting scheduled for May 2026.
- (b) That the ARIC receives and notes the Audit Office of NSW Final Management Letter for 2024/25 (attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

Council's Audit Office NSW Audit Manager spoke the final Management Letter and raised some key issues they had found for the year ended 30 June 2025. It included asset registers as a high priority and the review they require (including classification of investment properties, community and operational land), balance sheet reconciliation items to be reviewed and the segregation involved with manual journals. An external valuer is being engaged via a request for quote process for investment properties. The CFO stated that the internal systems and policy in place with exception reporting and staff training will reduce the risk surrounding the manual journal issue in the context of independent review (due to existing staff resources which was acceptable to the Audit Office NSW Manager).

The CFO stated Council had accepted the issues identified and plans have been put in place for everything highlighted and can provide an update at next ARIC as required.

There was a query about the asset system from the risk identified in the report and that investigations, review of the use of the TechOne product. CFO indicated that there was an intention review data to ensure data correct. The use of the TechOne application or alternative will be looked at as part of the revised Assets and Infrastructure structure.

There was discussion around the leave entitlements for exiting employees which the CFO explained has a process for leave paid out prepared by the payroll team is scrutinised by Finance monthly with controls put in place and followed up with Payroll. It was taken on notice for manual cross checking for high value amounts on leaving the organisation will be reviewed.

There was a query from the ARIC on the extent of the review of capital expenditure against the budget by Audit Office. Response indicated that projects over \$30M are checked (existing trigger) and their current focus was on expenditure is approved and classified appropriate. The Audit Office of NSW said they would take it on notice and review internally.

Audit Office introductions and background for the new audit manager were made. It was indicated that the draft engagement plan for 2026 has been developed and will be presented to next ARIC meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) note that the Audit Office of NSW Annual Engagement Plan for 2025/26 is currently in draft form and will be presented at the next ARIC meeting scheduled for May 2026.

- (b) That the ARIC receives and notes the Audit Office of NSW Final Management Letter for 2024/25 (attachment 1).
- (c) That the Carss Park Business Case submitted to the State Government be uploaded to the ARIC Hub for Members information.
- (d) That the draft 2026 Audit Engagement Plan be tabled at the May 2026 ARIC meeting.

AUD004-26 Quarterly Budget Review Report for Period Ending 31 December 2025
(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 31 December 2025.

DISCUSSION:

The CFO presented highlights including the operating surplus of \$5.1M, explaining expenditure and income impacts from Q2 on the positive result, and that YTD capital expenditure was \$7.5M or 6% of total program as at the end of the quarter.

There was a query in relation to the \$1M variation for legal costs basis and expectation of recovery. CFO noted that it is mainly due to additional DA cases going through to court and outcomes would impact any recovery. It was also noted that budget adjustments are occurring after discussions at the Executive. The Director Business and Corporate Services commented that the General Counsel is preparing a report to the Executive with likely income streams.

ARIC noted in the report that there was a 30% increase on insurance premium and that workers compensation was impacted by claims. It was also noted that the 25/26 and 26/27 has allowed for the increase.

The Chair noted that the quarterly budget figures are not shown. CFO commented that the year to date actuals are not year to date budget. CFO also advised the information is included in the body of the report, further detailing income and expenditure. A sample will be provided to ARIC prior to the next meeting of an adjusted format for suitability.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 31 December 2025.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive a further update report on Carss Park at the May 2026 meeting.

AUD005-26 Q2 Capital Works Program Status Report (2025/26)
(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

Note: Mayor joined the meeting in person at 10.59am.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Capital Works Program.

DISCUSSION:

The CFO discussed the overall 4-year revised program position was now \$166M, \$48.3M in the 25/26 FY and the attachment contained a list of projects and this ARIC included a table for developer contributions.

The Committee noted that the YTD spend at 16% is lower than anticipated and queried what the level of confidence to spend the full amount by end of year was. The Manager CTS commented on initial budget adjustments from the adopted budget and noted additional comments were provided for on and off track projects for their part of the capital program. It was noted that there were less major spends in Q1 and Q2 due to phasing and the bulk of the program is spent in the second half of the FY. The projects identified off track were largely multi-year projects and will be rephased.

It was noted at the last meeting ARIC requested forecasts which need to be included in future reports for the whole program. For context the ARIC need to have forecast for expenditure across whole program.

There was a request for a brief update on Carss Park funding and works program. From project delivery point of view, the Director Assets and Infrastructure noted the recommendation made to release design documents to market. The OLG have accepted business case and concept design renders have been released to Council and the public. It was noted by the Director Business and Corporate Services, that of the estimated approximately \$71M expenditure (including land remediation and demolition), \$15M in Council contribution to construction of facility (\$10M) including the learn to swim pool (\$5M). Council's responsibility for the enclosure of learn to swim pool would fall into Council's responsibility and once a figure is known, the OLG will need to be informed. The submission to OLG was offered to be uploaded to the ARIC Hub for Member information, being such a large project. Timing for delivery by the State Government was still planned for the summer of 2027.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Capital Works Program.

AUD006-26 Compliance Update - Q2 2025/26 (Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Compliance report for Quarter 2 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

It was noted that with additional resourcing the outstanding disclosures would be addressed in the near future. ARIC noted the one Child Protection incident from the report, which was investigated by the Office of the Children's Guardian and the matter closed. No specific provide details could be provided by staff due to confidentiality other than matter has been investigated and closed.

There was a query about names and addresses and it was noted that Council is reviewing how addresses are updated as there is a lot of manually entered data and other departments can make changes (the security profile set up is a limiting factor). It would also look at automation of the process (to address risks at a holistic approach). ARIC noted that changes should stay in one place (which it is currently), and raises the issue of cleansing data and system set up moving to new system.

The calendar of compliance in terms of the ALGA reporting requirements was raised and internally the Assets team and externally the OLG have been queried to determine whether this is still a compulsory requirement (will be updated in the next ARIC report).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Compliance report for Quarter 2 2025/26.
- (b) That Management looks at the process for managing changes to addresses with respect to data cleansing when moving to any new system.

AUD007-26 Enterprise Risk Management - Q2 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Risks Outside of Appetite for Q2 2025/26 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

Noted that the annual risk review was being realigned (to Q4) with other quarterly reporting across the organisation to streamline requirements. There has been a review on controls and a refocused attention on risks.

The ARIC queried whether there have been any changes in the number of risks outside appetite and it was noted that not during quarterly reviews however they can change during the annual review where assistance was provided.

There were discussions around what risks if any will never change outside of appetite it was suggested that in the absence of a system for those risks, that more commentary could be provided.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Risks Outside of Appetite for Q2 2025/26 (Attachment 1).
- (b) That future reports identify risks that are likely to be brought within appetite.

AUD008-26 Fraud and Corruption Control - Q2 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Fraud and Corruption Control report for Quarter 2 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

The draft Fraud and Corruption Action Plan was attached to the report but noted that it still requires consultation with relevant staff and requires more work prior to adoption.

The number of staff attending code of conduct training was confirmed to be only the result for the quarter. The % of staff who completed training has increased across the organisation but it was noted that have 100% compliance is difficult due to staff turnover. Future reporting could look at including explanation across how this is measured.

The ARIC noted the action plan was good and queried who determined the maturity levels and officers noted the intention is for internal review that is benchmarked.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Fraud and Corruption Control report for Quarter 2 2025/26.

- (b) That a Maturity Assessment Checklist be developed with Committee review to ensure independence.

AUD009-26 Governance Update - Q2 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Governance report for Quarter 2 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

The ARIC queried that number of conflicts of interest recorded and this was stated to be the requirement to submit (usually procurement or DA related) rather than indicating they have an interest. It was noted this could be included in future reporting.

It was noted by the ARIC that there are a number of outstanding delegations that have not been acknowledged. It was noted that training sessions had been run which has prompted staff to acknowledge and further the team will be more proactive in speaking with specific staff to facilitate the requirements.

The number of GIPA Applications was noted by the ARIC as high but officers stated it was consistent with other Councils. There was an attempt to put in place practices for information release of documents over formal GIPAs to reduce numbers.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Governance report for Quarter 2 2025/26.

AUD010-26 Service Review Program
(Report by Corporate Planning and Performance Specialist)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the report, particularly:

- (i) Progress of the 2024/25 service review recommendations implementation
- (ii) Progress of the 2025/26 service review program

DISCUSSION:

Committee queried whether the Records Management review will include compliance. The Director Business and Corporate Services noted that's more of a structural change due to not having an improvement officer within the Division and a strategy to clean out data (physical and digital) involved in archiving and capturing metrics in the process.

As part of the Tree Management review, it was queried whether information of costs will be analysed. It was noted that detailed costs will be provided and benchmarking across other councils. It was noted that this review will be undertaken by an external consultant to ensure an independent review of the process and final report. The Chief Audit Executive (CAE) is also part of the independent review of the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the report, particularly:

- (i) Progress of the 2024/25 service review recommendations implementation
- (ii) Progress of the 2025/26 service review program

AUD011-26 Councillor Expenses July 2025 to December 2025
(Report by Executive Assistant to General Manager)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the record of claims (Attachment 1) made pursuant to the *Mayor and Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy* for the period of 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025, be noted.
- (b) That following consideration of this report by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, details of reimbursements contained in Attachment 1 will be made publicly available on Council's website.

DISCUSSION:

Some Local Planning Panel expense items identified were requested to be verified and ARIC notified out of session.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the record of claims (Attachment 1) made pursuant to the *Mayor and Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy* for the period of 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025, be noted.
- (b) That following consideration of this report by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, details of reimbursements contained in Attachment 1 will be made publicly available on Council's website.
- (c) That the nominated expenses in the meeting be verified and ARIC Members advised out of session.

AUD012-26 People and Culture Metrics Report - Q2 2025/26
(Report by Chief People Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the People and Culture Metrics Report Q2 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

CPO noted 13 WHS claims (an increase) and the premium has gone up significantly. The vacancy rate is steady and turnover is healthy. CPO is looking at a new starter survey to be completed within the first 12 weeks due to resignations within the first 12 months. The sick leave rate is below sector averages of 4.49% (ARIC suggested a rolling average would be more informative). The annual leave liability has been reduced with proactive management.

The ARIC asked whether there were any trends as to why staff are leaving. The CPO responded that through exit surveys the indication of more flexibility and money etc. are key reasons. The Director Business and Corporate Services note that Council had gone to the market for Workplace Strategy to inform Policy etc.

The Chair asked what does the flexible workplace look like at GRC. The CPO noted the organisation has different options available (work from home and flexible work system) and

looking further at options for staff, but needs to consider financial impact.

The ARIC noted that the top five positions advertised were in the report and noted it would be good to see bottom five to show where the Council is struggling to attract staff.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the People and Culture Metrics Report Q2 2025/26.

AUD019-26 Development and Building Metrics - Q2 (FY2025/26)
(Report by Manager Development and Building)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee note the Quarterly Development and Building Team Functions and Services Metrics Report for the period October to December 2025

DISCUSSION:

The Manager Development and Building presented Q2 data, noting an 8% improvement in average determination time for DA's and a reduction of DA's applied for. The introduction of the Development Acceleration Panel (DAP) and the changes to correspondence processes was noted as assisted in decision making. Recruitment had been more positive, as well as a more positive environment, and still an ongoing important aspect to the plan. The Q3 predictions were also discussed as a positive improvement continuing.

It was noted that the Department of Planning's Action Plan has been endorsed by Council and the State has not yet responded to the submission.

It was also discussed that deficient DA's submitted were reviewed at lodgement to save time later on decisions to pick up issues earlier and go back to the applicant.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Committee note the Quarterly Development and Building Team Functions and Services Metrics Report for the period October to December 2025.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) note the improvement since the action plan commenced and acknowledge the efforts of staff.

AUD013-26 Internal Audit Plan 2024-2028 Status Update
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-2028 report.

DISCUSSION:

Information was presented on the status of the externally sourced consultant for internal audit program items had been engaged with the procurement – capital program audit in progress, and the budget and WHS audits were to follow, with expected practical completion by 30 June.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-2028 report.

AUD014-26 Status of Overdue Internal Audit Recommendations

(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the report on the status of internal audit recommendations.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge the nominated extensions by management to audit recommendation Due Dates contained in the report.
- (c) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive an update report on the adopted Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) Policy at the May 2026 ARIC meeting that addresses the ICAC Operation Galley recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

Overview of report provided with the Director approved adjustments to recommendation due dates contained in the report noted. The ICAC Operation Galley VPA recommendations due 31 December 2025, were noted as impractical to adjust given the pending completion of the VPA Policy process, which will be provided at the next ARIC meeting discussing the implementation of the recommendations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the report on the status of internal audit recommendations.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge the nominated extensions by management to audit recommendation Due Dates contained in the report.
- (c) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive an update report on the adopted Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) Policy at the May 2026 ARIC meeting that addresses the ICAC Operation Galley recommendations.

AUD015-26 Internal Audit - Asset Management Maturity Assessment Update

(Report by Director Assets and Infrastructure)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update report on the Asset Management Maturity Assessment review.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive a further update report at the May 2026 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

The Director informed the ARIC that a new manager assets and traffic had been recruited and a structural change is being presented to staff through consultation at the time of the meeting. The Grant Thornton report and recommendations will reviewed with new responsible officers allocated, revised timeframes and endorsed by the Executive prior to being tabled for ARIC review and endorsement.

It was noted that the proposed structure has an asset systems and data specialist that will look at existing systems, working with Finance, on asset register data as a priority for Council.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the updated report on the Asset Management Maturity Assessment review.

- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive a further update report at the May 2026 meeting.

AUD016-26 Fleet Function Review Update Report

(Report by Executive Manager City Presentation & Operational Services)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update report on the Fleet Function Review.
- (b) That a further update report be prepared for the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) and tabled at the September meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Manager noted that the Fleet Policy was in the process of being updated which is before the Executive and will resolve a lot of the actions.

It was noted by the ARIC that there is no comparison of leaseback vehicles to allowances provided. The Chair also noted other Council's moving to novated leases offered as a staff benefit, reducing the amount of assets and maintenance. Novated leases are currently offered to all staff and the report to ET takes a range of perspectives into consideration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update report on the Fleet Function Review.
- (b) That a further update report be prepared for the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) and tabled at the September 2026 meeting.

AUD017-26 Hurstville Civic Precinct Project

(Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update report on the Hurstville Civic Precinct Project.

DISCUSSION:

Executive Manager of City Futures provided an overview of the report, noting Council is in the process of data collection to assist with future strategy and decision making.

The Chair asked about timeframes for project commencement and Council will need to work through options, strategic commercial property review and workplace strategy.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update report on the Hurstville Civic Precinct Project.
- (b) That an further update report be prepared for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), within 12 months, at a future meeting to be determined.

AUD018-26 NSW Auditor-General - Local Government 2025 Financial Audit Report

(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the findings of the NSW Auditor-General's sector-wide report on local government financial audits for the

year ended 30 June 2025.

- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge a proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy, to be considered by the Executive, and tabled at a future ARIC meeting once adopted by Council.

DISCUSSION:

Suggested that future Audit Office NSW reports be tabled straight after agenda item 3.1 so any questions can be directed to the Audit Office NSW Manager. This was noted by the CAE.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the findings of the NSW Auditor-General's sector-wide report on local government financial audits for the year ended 30 June 2025.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge a proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy, to be considered by the Executive, and tabled at a future ARIC meeting once adopted by Council.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 12.56pm.

Chairperson

MINUTES

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

Thursday, 28 May 2026

10:30 AM

First Floor, Georges River Council Civic Centre

UNCONFIRMED



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cliff Haynes (Chairperson)
Barry Husking
Hamish McNulty
Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos (non-voting member)

STAFF

David Tuxford	General Manager
Steven Baker	Chief Audit Executive
Bryce Spelta	Director, Assets & Infrastructure
Kristie Dodd	Director, Community and Culture
Joseph Hill	Director Environment and Planning
Vicki McKinley	Manager Office of the General Manager (Minutes)

SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Renata Sala	Head of Corporate Governance & Risk
Scott Henwood	Chief Finance Officer
Tom Heath	Manager City Technical Services
Luke Oste	Manager Strategic Planning
Brendan Scott	Chief Information Officer
Jo Dikkenberg	Corporate Planning and Performance Specialist
Sam Lindsay	Manager Assets & Traffic
Garuthman De Silva	Head of Technology

EXTERNAL ATTENDEES

Joan Uyanguren (JR)	Audit Office NSW
Jan - Michael Perez	Audit Office NSW

OPENING

The Chair, Cliff Haynes, opened the meeting at 10:34

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair, Cliff Haynes acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Director, Business and Corporate Services, Danielle Parker

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr Cliff Haynes submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

Mr Barry Husking submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

Mr Hamish McNulty submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos submitted a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

AUD020-26 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2026
(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2026, be confirmed.

DISCUSSION:

NIL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2026, be confirmed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUD021-26 ARIC Actions Register Status Report
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the status of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Actions Register report be received and noted by Committee Members.

DISCUSSION:

CAE summarised the key results and BH requested an update on the expected date for the last action in the register (relating to fraud). CAE to update register with date.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the status of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Actions Register report be received and noted by Committee Members.

AUD022-26 Verbal Update from the General Manager (standing item)
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the verbal update from the General Manager.

DISCUSSION:

GM noted the 26/27 budget came off exhibition the day prior to the meeting and officers will review submissions in preparation for the consideration and adoption in the June Council meeting.

GM noted that Councillor Anzellotti had been selected to run for the seat of Oatley at the 2027 State election.

GM noted the State had passed a disallowance motion repelling the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice and Council were awaiting the response from the OLG before possibly removing the new Code and moving back to the 2021 Code.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the verbal update from the General Manager.

AUD023-26 NSW Audit Office - Annual Engagement Plan for 2025/26 and status update on the Management Letter issues for 2024/25.
(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the status update on the issues identified in the Final Management Letter for 2024/25.
- (b) That the ARIC receives and notes the Audit Office of NSW Annual Engagement Plan for 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

Audit Office Manager (AO) noted the draft plan sets out key areas of focus for audit and the timetable for delivery. Interim management letter has been circulated to management. CFO stated they are working through the recommendations.

BH: Query on the Audit Plan in relation to the completion of the capital program. Audit response doesn't include a review as it's beyond the remit of the AO. Point 18 of report noted asset classification of land parcels, operational land vs community land being under review. CFO are working with property team and GIS to review records to validate any financial implications.

CH: also raised the issue around LTFP question to Audit Office and whether they review as part of the annual audit, which is included under the broader AO performance audit to be completed.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the status update on the issues identified in the Final Management Letter for 2024/25.
- (b) That the ARIC receives and notes the Audit Office of NSW Annual Engagement Plan for 2025/26.

AUD024-26 NSW Auditor-General's Report - Capital Projects 2025
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the NSW Auditor-General's Report on Capital Projects for 2025 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

AO Manager noted the report was large scale state based projects and pleased to see LG taking note of findings

BH: how does the organisation look at this. What is the process for review?

Chair: has anyone checked how this relates to GRC? CAE noted they are informative, lessons learned and impact for any future audits and they can be considered in future audits.

Chair: impact on multi agency projects? CAE: take on notice for future reports.

DofC&C: reviewed project review framework on how we select capital projects. We now have a flowchart which was endorsed by the Executive with report due back in July.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the NSW Auditor-General's Report on Capital Projects for 2025 (Attachment 1).

AUD025-26 Quarterly Budget Review Report for Period Ending 31 March 2026
(Report by Head of Financial Planning and Analysis)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) for the period ending 31 March 2026.

DISCUSSION:

CFO noted a 4.8% surplus for Q3 – significant spend in materials and services towards end of FY should align with forecast (taking on feedback from last ARIC and updated report).

BH: noted that Table 8: Q3 is not in the table, any reason. Would like to know the projection as at March. Variations in relation to parking fines, how does change in legislation relate? Noted relation to ticketless parking which results in lower revenue due to changes in Council endorsed practices, vacancies and State based changes have impacted Council's operational ability to issue fines.

BH: \$1.5M deficit? Table with overall budget position would be beneficial with a reconciliation and a table with the overall funding position – CFO pointed to Table 1 in the report.

Cr Stratikopoulos: queried rephased and carryover projects. \$13.2M has been moved from this program into 26//27 up to this point. To be discussed during Q3 Capital Works Program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) for the period ending 31 March 2026.

AUD026-26 Q3 Capital Works Program Status Report (2025/26)
(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Capital Works Program.

DISCUSSION:

Cr Mbr: Queried Q3 rephased and carryover projects, totalling \$13.2M that has been moved from this program into 26/27 up to this point.

TH: explained phasing of some of projects have changed due to delays in some portion of the program. \$6.6M carryover into next financial year . CFO confirmed each quarter projects are reviewed for rephasing. Flagged earlier throughout the year.

HM: queried why forecast expenditure for end of year was still not included in the papers. SH: acknowledged it would be provided for next financial year, as stated in the previous meeting to Members. It was also noted that a significant proportion of program taken out of budget, what confidence is there that the budget will be expended in the following years.

Chair: Queried the level of accruals if invoice timing was an impact on costings in the last quarter.

HM: noted that cashflow forecasting will need to be done accurately for ARIC to consider.

DofA&I: Noted that resourcing within the team will be reviewed and it is planned to adopt a program at next Council meeting with minimal changes after 1 July.

Chair: noted that accuracy of budgeting, improved reporting is what ARIC require in the future.

BH: commented on reporting suggesting report needs to be fleshed out and whether the \$58M programmed for the 26/27 year – was it that achievable? High level breakdown of different types of capital expenditure to be included in report (civil works, plant and equipment etc.). A summary is included in body of report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Capital Works Program.

AUD027-26 Compliance Update - Q3 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the Compliance report for Quarter 3 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

CG&RO summarised key results and noted that additional reporting requested by ARIC was included. The conflicts of interest uplift project is underway. All declarations where a conflict was made all had an approved management plan in place.

ARIC queried the WHS notifiable incidents and where statistics are presented (compliance breach related), ARIC would like to know causes and remedies associated with any incidents. *Taken on notice and will be answered out of session via the CAE emailing Members.*

ARIC noted the improvements made in the area of delegations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the Compliance report for Quarter 3 2025/26.

AUD028-26 Enterprise Risk Management - Q3 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Q3 Enterprise Risk Management update, including Risks Outside of Appetite for Q3 2025/26 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

CG&RO noted key activity, particularly the annual risk review undertaken with increased maturity, changes to ratings, emerging risks and results to be included in the next ARIC report.

BH: CIO security commentary noted an unsuccessful budget bid 25/26 for disruption to IT services, was it included for 26/27? *Taken on notice and will be answered out of session via the CAE emailing Members.*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Q3 Enterprise Risk Management update, including Risks Outside of Appetite for Q3 2025/26 (Attachment 1).

AUD029-26 Fraud and Corruption Control - Q3 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Fraud and Corruption Control report for Quarter 2 2025/26.
- (b) That the ARIC note the Terms of Reference for Corruption Prevention Working Group.

DISCUSSION:

CG&RO discussed the fraud working group and the attached terms of reference, for the information of ARIC. Also noted was to leverage off the action plan through the working group to make more structured approach to reporting. Members requested some adjustments to make a clearer link to the action plan.

Chair: noted the fraud instances of 2 recorded year to date which was noted as a miscalculation of last year's information. Processes and practices for reporting are to be worked through the working group to suggest corrective action.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Fraud and Corruption Control report for Quarter 2 2025/26.
- (b) That the ARIC note the Terms of Reference for Corruption Prevention Working Group.

AUD030-26 Governance Update - Q3 2025/26
(Report by Chief Governance and Risk Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the Governance report for Quarter 3 2025/26.

DISCUSSION:

Chair queried the CCTV Operations Policy that was out on public exhibition and would it come to ARIC and will be tabled at a future ARIC meeting post endorsement.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the Governance report for Quarter 3 2025/26.

AUD031-26 Service Review Program Update

(Report by Corporate Planning and Performance Specialist)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note:

- (a) Progress of the 2024/25 service review recommendations implementation.
- (b) Progress of the 2025/26 service review program.

DISCUSSION:

Tree management service review have presented to the Executive by the external consultants. Complex analytics have been completed as part of the review. Action plan to be prepared.

Grants and financial assistance review report is in draft.

There was a query on Venues and Facilities management review actions on due dates which was clarified.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note:

- (a) Progress of the 2024/25 service review recommendations implementation.
- (b) Progress of the 2025/26 service review program.

AUD032-26 Half Year Progress Report - July-December 2025

(Report by Corporate Planning and Performance Specialist)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the 2025/26 Delivery Program and Operational Plan Half Year Progress Report July – December 2025.

DISCUSSION:

Noted that 96% of actions are on track or complete. Endorsed at the April Council Meeting.

BH: food inspections KPIs off track but there was confidence that the KPI will be met by end of year. GIPA completions also off track, the CG&RO stated it relates to informal GIPAs which is transferring under Governance team.

BH: noted the roads renewal was on track and worth having a look at the accuracy of the statement.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the 2025/26 Delivery Program and Operational Plan Half Year Progress Report July – December 2025.

AUD033-26 Development and Building Metrics

(Report by Personal Assistant to the Manager, Development and Building)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee note the Quarterly Development and Building Team Functions and Services Metrics Report for the period January to March 2026.

DISCUSSION:

Manager presented key results to Members, with a decrease in the average determination time for DA's. The volume of greater than 180 days has also decreased. The action plan in place under the Ministers directive was noted as achievable, with the development acceleration panel, correspondence project and recruitment initiatives having a positive impact.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee note the Quarterly Development and Building Team Functions and Services Metrics Report for the period January to March 2026.

AUD034-26 Internal Audit Plan 2024-2028 Status Update
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-2028 report.

DISCUSSION:

CAE noted that the externally delivered component of the internal audit program, being the Capital Program – Procurement, Budget Management Framework and WHS audits have been practically completed. The draft reports are with staff and are scheduled to be tabled at June Executive meetings prior to being presented by consultants at the September ARIC meeting. The remaining years of the 24-28 audit plan will be circulated to Members prior to the next meeting which may need to be reviewed if anything changes are required from current enquiries.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024-2028 report.

AUD035-26 Status of Overdue Internal Audit Recommendations
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the report on the status of internal audit recommendations.
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge the nominated extensions by management to audit recommendation Due Dates contained in the report.

DISCUSSION:

CAE noted key statistics from the report and the 4 audit areas that had been approved by Directors for Members information. Members queried that due consideration should be given to the practical implementation dates.

BH: queried action 4.1 AFSS register and the 31 October due date, additional fire officer staff resource and would it be achieved. DofE&P noted the October due date still relevant and the unit was in the process of preparing information required to be endorsed by the Executive and then recruitment could proceed. This did not impact efforts already in place to address outstanding actions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receives and notes the report on the status of internal audit recommendations.

- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) acknowledge the nominated extensions by management to audit recommendation Due Dates contained in the report.

AUD036-26 Employee Leave Entitlements - Internal Audit
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the internal review report on employee leave entitlements (ELE).
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) endorse the recommendations from the report.
- (c) That a report be tabled at the September ARIC meeting with the finalised implementation plan and due dates for recommendations after endorsement by the Executive.

DISCUSSION:

CAE noted the audit concluded that while there were some good practices in place there were improvement opportunities particularly in systems, data and cross unit communications. There was a query if there was any connection to the management letter issue which it a separate requirement and due date. Proposed due dates and accountabilities will be brought back to ARIC in September once impacts and supporting implementation resources have been endorsed by the Executive.

Chair: query on what sort of risk with payroll issues? CAE cited that the errors were isolated to casuals changing to permanent, different types of leave and changes in employment type. The actions from the presentation to the Executive was a further briefing on the scale and volume of issues and a communications plan for affected staff.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the internal review report on employee leave entitlements (ELE).
- (b) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) endorse the recommendations from the report.
- (c) That a report be tabled at the September ARIC meeting with the finalised implementation plan and due dates for recommendations after endorsement by the Executive.

AUD037-26 Asset Management Maturity Update
(Report by Director Assets and Infrastructure)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update for the Asset Management Maturity Assessment.

DISCUSSION:

DofA&I summarised changes to structure and recruitment underway to resource the uplift and the implementation plan had been endorsed by the Executive.

BH: query on the attachment – 2-3 years away for asset management system and asset LTFP shortfalls (seen as a long time to wait). The Director noted that there should be some improvements prior to then (data and the existing TechOne system). The assets systems and data arm has been created under the structure to consider the planned changes.

HM: expectations for future update reports about the status of work and improvements was set at 6 monthly. Director also noted that 3rd party providers will be engaged to review data for asset management plan purposes over the next few years.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update for the Asset Management Maturity Assessment.

AUD038-26 Internal Audit Actions - Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) Policy including ICAC Operation Galley Recommendations Report (Report by Executive Strategic Planner)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the information in this report be received and noted.
- (b) That the status of ICAC Operation Galley Report recommendations relating to planning agreements be received and noted, and that the actions of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure continue to be monitored and implemented as necessary by Council.

DISCUSSION:

MgrSP noted key elements and the conclusion of the ICAC Galley report recommendations the Council considered in connection with those the Department of Planning are required to implement.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the information in this report be received and noted.
- (b) That the status of ICAC Operation Galley Report recommendations relating to planning agreements be received and noted, and that the actions of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure continue to be monitored and implemented as necessary by Council.

AUD039-26 Independent Information Security Audit 2025/26 – Social Engineering Assessment (Report by Head Of Technology)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the findings/recommendations from the Independent Audit Report on Social Engineering – Phishing Testing.
- (b) That the ARIC, note the recommendations be incorporated into Council's corporate reporting system (Pulse) to enable monitoring through to completion.

DISCUSSION:

The CIO presented the key results and statistics from the social engineering audit (external provider) testing human behaviour (risk) rather than a pure controls test. Key insight was the resilience of staff when instances may occur and the effect of training and awareness. Uplift on high risk users was noted and there were an amount of repeat offenders from previous audits.

HM: queried was there any way a phishing email can get through the controls (outside testing)? CIO commented that layers of security should prevent access, primarily MFA controls.

Chair: queried the frequency of testing and training and CIO discussed mandatory training and the external audit ran every 2 years but also planning internal testing at other times.

BH: are results being communicated to staff? CIO noted that the move to improvement sessions held are the first step for broader staff information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the findings/recommendations from the Independent Audit Report on Social Engineering – Phishing Testing.
- (b) That the ARIC, note the recommendations be incorporated into Council's corporate reporting system (Pulse) to enable monitoring through to completion.

AUD040-26 Digital Strategy Update - Enterprise System Review
(Report by Chief Information Officer)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Draft Digital Strategy (Attachment 1) update which includes the Enterprise System Review update (or known as Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems) and the progression of the Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy (Attachment 2).

DISCUSSION:

CIO presented a recap of status of the review (stage 1 completed and moving to stage 2). The tabling of the strategy and AI policy to Council, with the next steps to interview other Councils for experience, feedback and information to inform future scoping, resourcing and planning was discussed. Talked about the importance of getting it right before going to market (not rushing) and adhering to good governance. Scoping and costing is in the next phase. System mapping is under review to inform the scoping of future ERP options.

BH: queried what will the LTFP impact be (costings)? CIO: broad costings have been done. Unknown currently as what we need is still being scoped/formalised. Budget is in place for current consultancy and work in preparation to go expression of interest in the future.

BH: queried the AI risk and how does Council control the risk? CIO: CoPilot license is secured through Microsoft 365 and Council's environment. Training staff to utilise that as their one source is ongoing.

HM: queried can you stop staff using other AI products? CIO: yes it can be done and training provided.

Chair: queried if TechOne are we moving to upgrade? CIO: Cloud migration has been completed and hoping to understanding other Council's experiences through the meetings to come.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the Draft Digital Strategy (Attachment 1) update which includes the Enterprise System Review update (or known as Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems) and the progression of the Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy (Attachment 2).
- (b) That ARIC receive progress report on a 6 monthly basis (every second ARIC Meeting).

AUD041-26 Carss Park Pool Project Update
(Report by Director Assets and Infrastructure)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status update for the Carss Park Pool Project.

DISCUSSION:

BH: operating costs included? Business case approved by Office of Local Government.

CH: expressions of interest internally – council run facility.

BH: \$7.2M already incurred. Council's commitment has been included, borrowed from Property Reserve.

CH: can develop contributions be used?

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the status update for the Carss Park Pool Project.

AUD042-26 Verbal Update - ARIC Hub Replacement
(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the update on the replacement ARIC Hub application and access post May 2026 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

NIL – practical demonstration straight after the completion of the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

NIL

CONCLUSION

The Chair closed the meeting at 12.54pm.

Chairperson