



Merredin – Compliance Audit Return

Commercial Enterprises by Local Governments				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s3.59(2)(a) F&G Regs 7,9,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major trading undertaking that was not exempt in 2022?	N/A	
2	s3.59(2)(b) F&G Regs 7,8A, 8, 10	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major land transaction that was not exempt in 2022?	N/A	
3	s3.59(2)(c) F&G Regs 7,8A, 8,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan before entering into each land transaction that was preparatory to entry into a major land transaction in 2022?	N/A	
4	s3.59(4)	Has the local government complied with public notice and publishing requirements for each proposal to commence a major trading undertaking or enter into a major land transaction or a land transaction that is preparatory to a major land transaction for 2022?	N/A	
5	s3.59(5)	During 2022, did the council resolve to proceed with each major land transaction or trading undertaking by absolute majority?	N/A	

Delegation of Power/Duty				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s5.16	Were all delegations to committees resolved by absolute majority?	N/A	
2	s5.16	Were all delegations to committees in writing?	N/A	
3	s5.17	Were all delegations to committees within the limits specified in section 5.17 of the Local Government Act 1995?	N/A	
4	s5.18	Were all delegations to committees recorded in a register of delegations?	N/A	
5	s5.18	Has council reviewed delegations to its committees in the 2021/2022 financial year?	N/A	The Shire of Merredin has not given any delegations to committees
6	s5.42(1) & s5.43 Admin Reg 18G	Did the powers and duties delegated to the CEO exclude those listed in section 5.43 of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	



7	s5.42(1)	Were all delegations to the CEO resolved by an absolute majority?	Yes	
8	s5.42(2)	Were all delegations to the CEO in writing?	Yes	
9	s5.44(2)	Were all delegations by the CEO to any employee in writing?	Yes	
10	s5.16(3)(b) & s5.45(1)(b)	Were all decisions by the Council to amend or revoke a delegation made by absolute majority?	Yes	
11	s5.46(1)	Has the CEO kept a register of all delegations made under Division 4 of the Act to the CEO and to employees?	Yes	Register is kept on the Attain system.
12	s5.46(2)	Were all delegations made under Division 4 of the Act reviewed by the delegator at least once during the 2021/2022 financial year?	Yes	
13	s5.46(3) Admin Reg 19	Did all persons exercising a delegated power or duty under the Act keep, on all occasions, a written record in accordance with Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, regulation 19?	Yes	Record of all exercised delegations kept using the Attain system.

Disclosure of Interest				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s5.67	Where a council member disclosed an interest in a matter and did not have participation approval under sections 5.68 or 5.69 of the Local Government Act 1995, did the council member ensure that they did not remain present to participate in discussion or decision making relating to the matter?	Yes	Confirming Councillors left the Chambers for items which did not have approval. CMRef: 82919 24/05/2022, CMRef: 82928, 82943 28/06/2022, CMRef: 83001 25/08/2022
2	s5.68(2) & s5.69(5) Admin Reg 21A	Were all decisions regarding participation approval, including the extent of participation allowed and, where relevant, the information required by the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 regulation 21A, recorded in the minutes of the relevant council or committee meeting?	Yes	
3	s5.73	Were disclosures under sections 5.65, 5.70 or 5.71A(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the disclosures were made?	Yes	
4	s5.75 Admin Reg 22, Form 2	Was a primary return in the prescribed form lodged by all relevant persons within three months of their start day?	No	One staff member who went into an Acting role completed a Primary Return, however this was completed 6 days late.
5	s5.76 Admin Reg 23, Form 3	Was an annual return in the prescribed form lodged by all relevant persons by 31 August 2022?	Yes	



6	s5.77	On receipt of a primary or annual return, did the CEO, or the mayor/president, give written acknowledgment of having received the return?	Yes	
7	s5.88(1) & (2)(a)	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained the returns lodged under sections 5.75 and 5.76 of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	
8	s5.88(1) & (2)(b) Admin Reg 28	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained a record of disclosures made under sections 5.65, 5.70, 5.71 and 5.71A of the Local Government Act 1995, in the form prescribed in the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, regulation 28?	Yes	
9	s5.88(3)	When a person ceased to be a person required to lodge a return under sections 5.75 and 5.76 of the Local Government Act 1995, did the CEO remove from the register all returns relating to that person?	Yes	
10	s5.88(4)	Have all returns removed from the register in accordance with section 5.88(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 been kept for a period of at least five years after the person who lodged the return(s) ceased to be a person required to lodge a return?	Yes	
11	s5.89A(1), (2) & (3) Admin Reg 28A	Did the CEO keep a register of gifts which contained a record of disclosures made under sections 5.87A and 5.87B of the Local Government Act 1995, in the form prescribed in the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, regulation 28A?	Yes	
12	s5.89A(5) & (5A)	Did the CEO publish an up-to-date version of the gift register on the local government's website?	Yes	
13	s5.89A(6)	When people cease to be a person who is required to make a disclosure under section 5.87A or 5.87B of the Local Government Act 1995, did the CEO remove from the register all records relating to those people?	Yes	
14	s5.89A(7)	Have copies of all records removed from the register under section 5.89A(6) Local Government Act 1995 been kept for a period of at least five years after the person ceases to be a person required to make a disclosure?	Yes	
15	s5.70(2) & (3)	Where an employee had an interest in any matter in respect of which the employee provided advice or a report directly to council or a committee, did that person disclose the nature and extent of that interest when giving the advice or report?	Yes	Confirming Employees disclosed interest and if needed left the Chambers. CMRef: 82856 & CMRef: 82860 25/01/2022, CMRef: 82885 29/03/2022, CMRef: 82947 28/06/2022, CMRef: 83081 20/12/2022



16	s5.71A & s5.71B(5)	Where council applied to the Minister to allow the CEO to provide advice or a report to which a disclosure under section 5.71A(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 relates, did the application include details of the nature of the interest disclosed and any other information required by the Minister for the purposes of the application?	N/A	
17	s5.71B(6) & s5.71B(7)	Was any decision made by the Minister under section 5.71B(6) of the Local Government Act 1995, recorded in the minutes of the council meeting at which the decision was considered?	N/A	
18	s5.104(1)	Did the local government prepare and adopt, by absolute majority, a code of conduct to be observed by council members, committee members and candidates within 3 months of the prescribed model code of conduct coming into operation (3 February 2021)?	Yes	Adopted at April OCM - 20/04/2021, CMRef: 82721
19	s5.104(3) & (4)	Did the local government adopt additional requirements in addition to the model code of conduct? If yes, does it comply with section 5.104(3) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1995?	No	The prescribed model code of conduct was used to develop the Shire's code of conduct for Council members, committee members and candidates.
20	s5.104(7)	Has the CEO published an up-to-date version of the code of conduct for council members, committee members and candidates on the local government's website?	Yes	Published to Shire website 13/05/2021
21	s5.51A(1) & (3)	Has the CEO prepared and implemented a code of conduct to be observed by employee of the local government? If yes, has the CEO published an up-to-date version of the code of conduct for employees on the local government's website?	Yes	Adopted at December OCM - 20/12/2022, CMRef: 83073. Published to Shire website 22/12/2022

Disposal of Property

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s3.58(3)	Where the local government disposed of property other than by public auction or tender, did it dispose of the property in accordance with section 3.58(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 (unless section 3.58(5) applies)?	Yes	Met the requirements as per section 3.58(3). 25/08/2022 CMRef: 83000 (71 Mackenzie Crescent Merredin, 19 Maiolo Way Merredin)



2	s3.58(4)	Where the local government disposed of property under section 3.58(3) of the Local Government Act 1995, did it provide details, as prescribed by section 3.58(4) of the Act, in the required local public notice for each disposal of property?	Yes	Public notices published on 14/07/2022 on: Shire website, Public notice board, local newspaper
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Elections				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	Elect Regs 30G(1) & (2)	Did the CEO establish and maintain an electoral gift register and ensure that all disclosure of gifts forms completed by candidates and donors and received by the CEO were placed on the electoral gift register at the time of receipt by the CEO and in a manner that clearly identifies and distinguishes the forms relating to each candidate in accordance with regulations 30G(1) and 30G(2) of the Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997?	N/A	No disclosures
2	Elect Regs 30G(3) & (4)	Did the CEO remove any disclosure of gifts forms relating to an unsuccessful candidate, or a successful candidate that completed their term of office, from the electoral gift register, and retain those forms separately for a period of at least two years in accordance with regulation 30G(4) of the Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997?	N/A	No disclosures
3	Elect Regs 30G(5) & (6)	Did the CEO publish an up-to-date version of the electoral gift register on the local government's official website in accordance with regulation 30G(5) of the Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997?	N/A	No disclosures

Finance				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments



1	s7.1A	Has the local government established an audit committee and appointed members by absolute majority in accordance with section 7.1A of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	CMRef: 82983 25/08/2022
2	s7.1B	Where the council delegated to its audit committee any powers or duties under Part 7 of the Local Government Act 1995, did it do so by absolute majority?	N/A	
3	s7.9(1)	Was the auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 received by the local government by 31 December 2022?	Yes	CMRef: 83070 20/12/2022
4	s7.12A(3)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report prepared under section 7.9(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 required action to be taken, did the local government ensure that appropriate action was undertaken in respect of those matters?	Yes	
5	s7.12A(4)(a) & (4)(b)	Where matters identified as significant were reported in the auditor's report, did the local government prepare a report that stated what action the local government had taken or intended to take with respect to each of those matters? Was a copy of the report given to the Minister within three months of the audit report being received by the local government?	Yes	Letter with report emailed to Minister - 10/01/2023
6	s7.12A(5)	Within 14 days after the local government gave a report to the Minister under section 7.12A(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1995, did the CEO publish a copy of the report on the local government's official website?	Yes	Report was uploaded to the website - 10/01/2023
7	Audit Reg 10(1)	Was the auditor's report for the financial year ending 30 June 2022 received by the local government within 30 days of completion of the audit?	Yes	

Local Government Employees

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s5.36(4) & s5.37(3) Admin Reg 18A	Were all CEO and/or senior employee vacancies advertised in accordance with Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, regulation 18A?	Yes	The position of Executive Manager Corporate Services was advertised. Advertised in The West Australian with all required details, the Shire website, LinkedIn, Local Government Professionals website, and The Australian Local Government Job Directory.



2	Admin Reg 18E	Was all information provided in applications for the position of CEO true and accurate?	N/A	No advertisement for CEO in 2022.
3	Admin Reg 18F	Was the remuneration and other benefits paid to a CEO on appointment the same remuneration and benefits advertised for the position under section 5.36(4) of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	CEO paid within SAT band for band 3 LGA.
4	s5.37(2)	Did the CEO inform council of each proposal to employ or dismiss senior employee?	Yes	
5	s5.37(2)	Where council rejected a CEO's recommendation to employ or dismiss a senior employee, did it inform the CEO of the reasons for doing so?	N/A	No recommendations to employ or dismiss were rejected by Council.

Official Conduct

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	s5.120	Has the local government designated an employee to be its complaints officer?	Yes	The CEO and DCEO have been designated to be the complaints officers.
2	s5.121(1) & (2)	Has the complaints officer for the local government maintained a register of complaints which records all complaints that resulted in a finding under section 5.110(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	Currently no complaints
3	s5.121(2)	Does the complaints register include all information required by section 5.121(2) of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	Currently no complaints
4	s5.121(3)	Has the CEO published an up-to-date version of the register of the complaints on the local government's official website?	Yes	Currently no complaints to display

Tenders for Providing Goods and Services

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	F&G Reg 11A(1) & (3)	Did the local government comply with its current purchasing policy, adopted under the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, regulations 11A(1) and (3) in relation to the supply of goods or services where the consideration under the contract was, or was expected to be, \$250,000 or less or worth \$250,000 or less?	Yes	



2	s3.57 F&G Reg 11	Subject to Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, regulation 11(2), did the local government invite tenders for all contracts for the supply of goods or services where the consideration under the contract was, or was expected to be, worth more than the consideration stated in regulation 11(1) of the Regulations?	Yes	
3	F&G Regs 11(1), 12(2), 13, & 14(1), (3), and (4)	When regulations 11(1), 12(2) or 13 of the Local Government Functions and General) Regulations 1996, required tenders to be publicly invited, did the local government invite tenders via Statewide public notice in accordance with Regulation 14(3) and (4)?	Yes	The Shire advertised all Tenders in The West Australian
4	F&G Reg 12	Did the local government comply with Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 12 when deciding to enter into multiple contracts rather than a single contract?	N/A	
5	F&G Reg 14(5)	If the local government sought to vary the information supplied to tenderers, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought copies of the tender documents, or each acceptable tenderer notice of the variation?	Yes	Through the Shire's TenderLink portal all Tenderers were notified and provided with variation documents.
6	F&G Regs 15 & 16	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening tenders comply with the requirements of Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 15 and 16?	Yes	
7	F&G Reg 17	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register comply with the requirements of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 17 and did the CEO make the tenders register available for public inspection and publish it on the local government's official website?	Yes	
8	F&G Reg 18(1)	Did the local government reject any tenders that were not submitted at the place, and within the time, specified in the invitation to tender?	N/A	All tenders were submitted at the place, and within the time, specified in the invitation to tender.
9	F&G Reg 18(4)	Were all tenders that were not rejected assessed by the local government via a written evaluation of the extent to which each tender satisfies the criteria for deciding which tender to accept?	Yes	
10	F&G Reg 19	Did the CEO give each tenderer written notice containing particulars of the successful tender or advising that no tender was accepted?	Yes	



11	F&G Regs 21 & 22	Did the local government's advertising and expression of interest processes comply with the requirements of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulations 21 and 22?	Yes	
12	F&G Reg 23(1) & (2)	Did the local government reject any expressions of interest that were not submitted at the place, and within the time, specified in the notice or that failed to comply with any other requirement specified in the notice?	N/A	All expressions of interest were submitted at the place, and within the time, specified in the notice.
13	F&G Reg 23(3) & (4)	Were all expressions of interest that were not rejected under the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 23(1) & (2) assessed by the local government? Did the CEO list each person as an acceptable tenderer?	Yes	
14	F&G Reg 24	Did the CEO give each person who submitted an expression of interest a notice in writing of the outcome in accordance with Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 24?	Yes	
15	F&G Regs 24AD(2) & (4) and 24AE	Did the local government invite applicants for a panel of pre-qualified suppliers via Statewide public notice in accordance with Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations 1996 regulations 24AD(4) and 24AE?	N/A	
16	F&G Reg 24AD(6)	If the local government sought to vary the information supplied to the panel, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought detailed information about the proposed panel or each person who submitted an application notice of the variation?	N/A	
17	F&G Reg 24AF	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers comply with the requirements of Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 16, as if the reference in that regulation to a tender were a reference to a pre-qualified supplier panel application?	N/A	
18	F&G Reg 24AG	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register about panels of pre-qualified suppliers comply with the requirements of Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 24AG?	N/A	
19	F&G Reg 24AH(1)	Did the local government reject any applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers that were not submitted at the place, and within the time, specified in the invitation for applications?	N/A	



20	F&G Reg 24AH(3)	Were all applications that were not rejected assessed by the local government via a written evaluation of the extent to which each application satisfies the criteria for deciding which application to accept?	N/A	
21	F&G Reg 24AI	Did the CEO send each applicant written notice advising them of the outcome of their application?	N/A	
22	F&G Regs 24E & 24F	Where the local government gave regional price preference, did the local government comply with the requirements of Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996, Regulation 24E and 24F?	Yes	

Integrated Planning and Reporting

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
1	Admin Reg 19C	Has the local government adopted by absolute majority a strategic community plan? If Yes, please provide the adoption date or the date of the most recent review in the Comments section?	Yes	20/04/2021 CMRef: 82725 20/04/2021
2	Admin Reg 19DA(1) & (4)	Has the local government adopted by absolute majority a corporate business plan? If Yes, please provide the adoption date or the date of the most recent review in the Comments section?	Yes	17/12/2019 The Shire's previous Corporate Business Plan 2018-2022 was last reviewed 17/12/2019 CMRef: 82488. The new Corporate Business Plan is currently in the process of being created/reviewed.
3	Admin Reg 19DA(2) & (3)	Does the corporate business plan comply with the requirements of Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 19DA(2) & (3)?	Yes	The new Corporate Business Plan is in the process of being created/reviewed.

Optional Questions

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments
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1	Financial Management Reg 5(2)(c)	Did the CEO review the appropriateness and effectiveness of the local government's financial management systems and procedures in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 regulations 5(2)(c) within the three financial years prior to 31 December 2022? If yes, please provide the date of council's resolution to accept the report.	Yes	31/07/2020 The review was completed by Moore on 31/07/2020 however due to staff changeover it is unknown if the review was considered by the Audit Committee or at a briefing session.
2	Audit Reg 17	Did the CEO review the appropriateness and effectiveness of the local government's systems and procedures in relation to risk management, internal control and legislative compliance in accordance with Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 regulation 17 within the three financial years prior to 31 December 2022? If yes, please provide date of council's resolution to accept the report.	Yes	20/12/2022 The review was completed at the December Ordinary 20/12/22 CMRef: 83070
3	s5.87C	Where a disclosure was made under sections 5.87A or 5.87B of the Local Government Act 1995, were the disclosures made within 10 days after receipt of the gift? Did the disclosure include the information required by section 5.87C of the Act?	Yes	
4	s5.90A(2) & (5)	Did the local government prepare, adopt by absolute majority and publish an up-to-date version on the local government's website, a policy dealing with the attendance of council members and the CEO at events?	Yes	Policy was adopted at the December OCM: CMRef: 83072 20/12/2022 and was placed on the Shire's website on 22/12/2022
5	s5.96A(1), (2), (3) & (4)	Did the CEO publish information on the local government's website in accordance with sections 5.96A(1), (2), (3), and (4) of the Local Government Act 1995?	Yes	
6	s5.128(1)	Did the local government prepare and adopt (by absolute majority) a policy in relation to the continuing professional development of council members?	Yes	Policy was adopted at the December OCM: CMRef: 83072 20/12/2022 and was placed on the Shire's website on 22/12/2022
7	s5.127	Did the local government prepare a report on the training completed by council members in the 2021/2022 financial year and publish it on the local government's official website by 31 July 2022?	Yes	
8	s6.4(3)	By 30 September 2022, did the local government submit to its auditor the balanced accounts and annual financial report for the year ending 30 June 2022?	Yes	



Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**

9	s.6.2(3)	When adopting the annual budget, did the local government take into account all its expenditure, revenue and income?	Yes	
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Chief Executive Officer

Date

Mayor/President

Date