

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Aldermen of Hobart City Council

Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Hobart City Council (Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016 and the statements of comprehensive income changes in equity and cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the General Manager's statement.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion Council's financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 30 June 2016 and financial performance, cash flows and changes in equity for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Australian Accounting Standards.

The Responsibility of the General Manager for the Financial Report

The General Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Section 84 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based upon my audit. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those

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risk assessments, I considered internal control relevant to the General Manager's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the General Manager, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.


My audit responsibility does not extend to the budget figures included in the statement of comprehensive income, the asset renewal funding ratio disclosed in note 46, nor the Significant Business Activities disclosed in note 48 to the financial report and accordingly, I express no opinion on them.

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian Auditing Standards and other relevant ethical requirements.

The *Audit Act 2008* promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

Tasmanian Audit Office



Rod Whitehead
Auditor-General

Hobart
29 September 2016