

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE COUNCILLORS OF
THE SHIRE OF COOLGARDIE**

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REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the Shire of Coolgardie (the Shire), which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2019, Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature or Type, Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and the Rate Setting Statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the Statement by Chief Executive Officer.

In our opinion, the financial report of the Shire of Coolgardie:

- a) is based on proper accounts and reports; and
- b) fairly represents, in all material respects, the results of the operations of the Shire for the year ended 30 June 2019 and its financial position at the end of that period in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Shire in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the "Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Preparation

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of preparation. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Shire's financial reporting responsibilities under the Act. Regulation 16 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulations), does not allow a local government to recognise some categories of land, including land under roads, as assets in the annual financial report. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer and Council for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Shire is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the annual financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Act, the Regulations and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, Australian Accounting Standards. The CEO is also responsible for such internal control as the CEO determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the CEO is responsible for assessing the Shire's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the State government has made decisions affecting the continued existence of the Shire.

The Council is responsible for overseeing the Shire's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCILLORS OF THE SHIRE OF COOLGARDIE (CONTINUED)

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives of the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Shire's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the CEO.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the CEO's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Shire's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report, as we cannot predict future events or conditions that may have an impact.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council and the CEO regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
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THE SHIRE OF COOLGARDIE (CONTINUED)**

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996, we also report that:

- a) In our opinion, there is a significant adverse trend in the financial position of the Shire as the operating surplus ratio has been below the DLGSCI standard for the past 3 years.
- b) All required information and explanations were obtained by us.
- c) All audit procedures were satisfactorily completed in conducting our audit.
- d) In our opinion, the asset consumption ratio and asset renewal funding ratio included in the annual financial report were supported by verifiable information and reasonable assumptions.

MATTERS RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

This auditor's report relates to the annual financial report of the Shire of Coolgardie for the year ended 30 June 2019 included on the Shire's website. The Shire's management is responsible for the integrity of the Shire's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Shire's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from this financial report. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial report.

MOORE STEPHENS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



WEN-SHIEN CHAI
PARTNER

Date: 6 December 2019
Perth, WA