

## **Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee**

### **1 Purpose**

Oversee, review, and report on Greater Wellington's discharge of its responsibilities in the areas of financial management; risk management; statutory reporting; internal and external audit and assurance; and monitoring of compliance with laws and regulations (including health and safety).

### **2 Specific responsibilities**

- 2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions.
- 2.2 Review and monitor performance under Council's Financial Strategy (adopted under section 101A of the Local Government Act 2002).
- 2.3 Review the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's financial management and performance, including proposed changes, with a particular focus on the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's:
  - a Financial management policies and frameworks for, and the robustness of, the organisation's financial performance
  - b Accounting policies and principles.
- 2.4 Review the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's risk management process, including overseeing changes to the risk management policy and approach, with a particular focus on:
  - a Providing guidance to Council on the appetite for risk
  - b Whether Greater Wellington is taking effective action to mitigate significant risks, including cyber security and climate change.
- 2.5 Review Greater Wellington's systems to manage legislative compliance (including health and safety), significant projects, and work programmes.
- 2.6 Review and monitor Greater Wellington's compliance with regulatory requirements.
- 2.7 Review Greater Wellington's health, safety and wellbeing management system to obtain assurance that the organisation is identifying and managing risks in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.
- 2.8 Approve the internal assurance programme, review the results of internal assurance work, and review the effectiveness of actions to address audit recommendations from Greater Wellington's internal auditors.
- 2.9 Receive, at the start of each external audit, the terms of engagement with the external auditor, including the nature and scope of the audit, timetable and fees.
- 2.10 Review any external audit reports and Greater Wellington's actions on significant issues and audit recommendations raised in these reports.
- 2.11 Review annually the appropriateness of Council's insurance.

2.12 Recommend to Council changes to improve the effectiveness of Greater Wellington's policies and frameworks for financial management, assurance, and risk management.

2.13 Review:

- a The draft Annual Report to ensure it complies with statutory requirements and provides a sound basis for the public accountability of Council's and Greater Wellington's performance and position for each financial year
- b Any proposed formal announcements relating to Council's financial performance.

2.14 Recommend the Annual Report for adoption by Council.

### **3 Delegations**

The Committee has the authority to approve:

- a The internal assurance programme; in particular, whether Greater Wellington's approach to maintaining an effective internal control framework is sound and effective
- b Submissions to external organisations on matters pertaining directly to the Committee's purpose.

### **4 Members and Chair**

4.1 Six Councillors.

4.2 One external member, appointed by Council, who has the necessary independence, expertise, and knowledge of local government relevant to the Committee's purpose and responsibilities.

4.3 Where Council appoints the external member under section 4.2, Council shall also appoint that member as the Chair.

### **5 Quorum**

Three Committee members.