

1. Policy intent

This policy has been formulated to meet the requirements of s.105 of the *Local Government Act 2009* regarding the establishment of an audit committee.

2. Scope

This policy shall apply to Council, its Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, its contract Internal Auditor and staff subject to or responsible for the various functions of Council's corporate governance activities.

3. Background/supporting information

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is established in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, section 105. It has no line (delegated) authority in itself and does not replace the responsibilities of Executive Management, but acts as a source of independent advice to the Council and to the Chief Executive Officer on governance, risk management, accountability, business improvement and audit-related matters.

4. Policy statement

- 4.1 Under s.105 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council will establish an audit committee to contribute to the improved performance of the organisation by enhancing the quality of governance.
- 4.2 The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee provides an independent forum where representatives of the Council and management work together to fulfil specific governance responsibilities as set out in the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference.

5. Associated documents

- 5.1 Internal Audit Policy
- 5.2 Internal Audit Office Charter
- 5.3 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference

6. Responsibility

Council is responsible for the adoption, amendment and repeal of the Policy and the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the development and amendment of any associated procedures and guidelines relevant to the Policy.

7. Review

It is the responsibility of the Coordinator Legal & Governance to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed every three years or as required by Council, or recommended by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise amended/repealed by resolution of Council.

This Policy repeals the former Tablelands Regional Council Policy titled "Audit Committee Policy" adopted 27 June 2019.