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<b>REPORT NO</b>	<b>11.7</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>FINANCIAL REPORTS</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	P. Pandeya, Manager Finance
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	M Tieleman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
<b>EMPLOYEE INTEREST</b>	Nil
<b>DATE OF REPORT</b>	13 February 2025
<b>FILE REFERENCE</b>	FD: Corporate Finance\ Monthly Financial Reporting\ 2024/2025
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	#1 Statement of Financial Activity – 30 November 2024 #2 Statement of Financial Activity – 31 December 2024 Statement of Financial Activity – 31 January 2025 (To be tabled at the meeting)

**CEO RECOMMENDATION/S:**

- 1. The statement of financial activity by nature of the Resource Recovery Group for the period ended 31 January 2025 be received.**
- 2. The statement of financial activity by nature of the Resource Recovery Group for the period ended 31 December 2024 be received.**
- 3. The statement of financial activity by nature of the Resource Recovery Group for the period ended 30 November 2024 be received.**

**VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple Majority

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To receive the financial statements for the period ended 31 January 2025
- 1.2 To receive the financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2024
- 1.3 To receive the financial statements for the period ended 30 November 2024

**NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:**

**Advocative**

Not applicable

**Executive**

The role of the Council is to have oversight over its financial affairs and receive the regional local government's monthly financial reports.

**Legislative**

- Regulation 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations* requires local governments to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under reg 22(1)(d).

- Regulation 34(5) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations*. The Council resolved at its meeting on 25 August 2023 to adopt an amount of \$20,000 as a value used to report any material variances between budget and actual line items in the monthly Statements of Financial Activity.
- Regulation 34(4)(a) of the *Local Government (Financial Management)*. The financial statements are to be presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement relates.

The financial statements are to be reported to Council as follows:

Periods Ended	Due for presentation within 2 months	Next Scheduled Ordinary Meeting
30 November 2024	31 January 2025	20 February 2025
31 December 2024	28 February 2025	20 February 2025
31 January 2025	31 March 2025	20 February 2025

**IMPLICATIONS TO CONSIDER:**

**Consultative:**

Not applicable

**Strategic relevance:**

Compliance requirement

**Policy related:**

Policy No 2.1 - Accounting Policies (Council approved 23/11/2023)

**Financial:**

Refer to report

**Legal and statutory:**

Not applicable

**Risk related:**

Risk No	Risk Description	Potential Consequences	Controls Are Currently In Place,	Overall Risk Rating
A03	Non-Compliance (Corporate)	Infringement by relevant authority	3- Compliance with legislation, 2- State Govt Legislative updates, 3- Annual Compliance Audit Return,	Low 6

## REPORT

### 1. Financial Statements for the period ended 31 January 2025

The January statement will be tabled separately at the meeting.

### 2. Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2024

The monthly financial report provides details of the current financial position in relation to the 2024-25 annual budget.

The operating results (before depreciation and reserve transfers) reports \$631K operational surplus against the budgeted operational deficits of \$276K. The surplus is the net effect of savings in expenses and revenue exceeding the budget.

	YTD BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE YTD Budget Vs YTD Actual
	31/12/2024	31/12/2024	
	(\$M)	(\$M)	(\$M)
OPERATING REVENUES	\$10.0	<b>\$10.7</b>	\$0.8
OPERATING EXPENSES (BEFORE DEPRECIATION)	-\$10.2	<b>-\$10.0</b>	\$0.2
OPERATING SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	-\$0.3	<b>\$0.7</b>	\$1.0
	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	LAST YEAR
	Jun-25	31/12/2024	Jun-24
	(\$M)	(\$M)	(\$M)
CASH IN BANK	\$6.42	<b>\$5.7</b>	\$9.6
OUTSTANDING LOANS	\$1.61	<b>\$1.7</b>	\$1.7
NET ASSETS	\$8.28	<b>\$10.2</b>	\$11.4

Notes:

- 1) Operating Revenue is \$757K higher than the YTD budget. This is due to higher sales income, additional FOGO contract revenue.
- 2) Operating Expenses are \$149K (excluding depreciation). We have savings in employee expenses and higher amount of material and contract and insurance. Higher material and contract is related to additional FOGO business which was not budgeted.
- 3) Capital expenditure is \$53K less than budgeted which is due to timing difference.

### 3. Financial Statements for the period ended 30 November 2024

The monthly financial report provides details of the current financial position in relation to the 2024-25 annual budget.

The operating results (before depreciation and reserve transfers) reports \$824K operational surplus against the budgeted operational deficits of \$230K. The surplus is from savings in expenses and revenue exceeding the budget.

	YTD BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	CHANGE YTD Budget Vs YTD Actual
	30/11/2024	30/11/2024	
	(\$M)	(\$M)	(\$M)
OPERATING REVENUES	\$8.3	<b>\$8.6</b>	\$0.3
OPERATING EXPENSES (BEFORE DEPRECIATION)	-\$8.5	<b>-\$7.8</b>	\$0.8
OPERATING SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	-\$0.2	<b>\$0.8</b>	\$1.1
	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	LAST YEAR
	Jun-25	30/11/2024	Jun-24
	(\$M)	(\$M)	(\$M)
CASH IN BANK	\$6.42	<b>\$5.9</b>	\$9.6
OUTSTANDING LOANS	\$1.61	<b>\$1.7</b>	\$1.7
NET ASSETS	\$8.28	<b>\$10.7</b>	\$11.4

Notes:

- 4) Operating Revenue is \$271K higher than the YTD budget.
- 5) Operating Expenses are \$740K (excluding depreciation) lower than the budget due to lower service delivery & wages.
- 6) Capital expenditure is \$32K less than budgeted.

**RESOURCE RECOVERY GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025**

	<b>AUDITED</b>	
	<b>30 June 2025</b>	<b>31 January 2025</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,705,332	1,428,479
Trade and other receivables	1,702,415	2,423,718
Other financial assets	5,983,672	5,117,608
Inventories	1,239,930	1,430,318
Other assets	805,391	1,784,511
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>13,436,740</b>	<b>12,184,634</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Other financial assets	1,612,200	1,612,200
Property, plant and equipment	12,034,623	10,898,468
Right-of-use assets	2,885,403	2,536,919
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>16,532,226</b>	<b>15,047,587</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>29,968,966</b>	<b>27,232,221</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	5,796,366	4,694,078
Lease liabilities	637,613	773,983
Borrowings	95,824	48,403
Employee related provisions	389,026	436,530
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,918,829</b>	<b>5,952,993</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Lease liabilities	4,331,334	3,846,845
Borrowings	1,612,200	1,612,200
Employee related provisions	75,383	101,658
Other provisions	5,614,260	5,632,447
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>11,633,177</b>	<b>11,193,150</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>18,552,006</b>	<b>17,146,143</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>11,416,960</b>	<b>10,086,078</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained surplus	(6,139,995)	(5,427,670)
Reserve accounts	9,085,223	7,042,016
Revaluation surplus	8,471,731	8,471,731
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>11,416,960</b>	<b>10,086,078</b>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**RESOURCE RECOVERY GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025**

	Adopted Budget Estimates \$	YTD Budget Estimates \$	YTD Actual \$	Variance* \$	Variance* %	Var.
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>						
<b>Revenue from operating activities</b>						
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2,430,482	1,417,781	<b>1,495,889</b>	78,108	5.51%	▲
Fees and charges	15,382,365	8,973,046	<b>9,987,840</b>	1,014,794	11.31%	▲
Interest revenue	216,585	126,341	<b>137,168</b>	10,827	8.57%	▲
Other revenue	1,902,063	1,109,537	<b>853,996</b>	(255,541)	(23.03%)	▼
	<b>19,931,495</b>	<b>11,626,705</b>	<b>12,475,893</b>	849,188	7.30%	
<b>Expenditure from operating activities</b>						
Employee costs	(6,026,605)	(3,499,726)	<b>(2,942,870)</b>	556,856	15.91%	▲
Materials and contracts	(11,242,372)	(6,567,553)	<b>(6,850,781)</b>	(283,228)	(4.31%)	▼
Utility charges	(734,486)	(428,450)	<b>(435,930)</b>	(7,480)	(1.75%)	▼
Depreciation	(3,134,188)	(1,828,276)	<b>(2,032,923)</b>	(204,647)	(11.19%)	▼
Finance costs	(298,007)	(173,837)	<b>(154,175)</b>	19,662	11.31%	▲
Insurance	(2,192,703)	(1,279,077)	<b>(1,375,244)</b>	(96,167)	(7.52%)	▼
	<b>(23,628,361)</b>	<b>(13,776,919)</b>	<b>(13,806,775)</b>	(29,856)	(0.22%)	
Non-cash amounts excluded from operating activities	3,193,503	1,862,876	<b>2,091,237</b>	228,361	12.26%	▲
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(503,363)</b>	<b>(287,338)</b>	<b>760,355</b>	1,047,693	364.62%	
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>						
<b>Inflows from investing activities</b>						
Proceeds from financial assets at amortised cost	95,824	47,421	<b>47,421</b>	0	0.00%	
	<b>95,824</b>	<b>47,421</b>	<b>47,421</b>	0	0.00%	
<b>Outflows from investing activities</b>						
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(955,520)	(557,387)	<b>(548,287)</b>	9,100	1.63%	▲
Pament to past members	(1,494,950)	(1,494,950)	<b>(1,494,920)</b>	30	0.00%	▲
	<b>(2,450,470)</b>	<b>(2,052,337)</b>	<b>(2,043,207)</b>	9,130	0.44%	
<b>Amount attributable to investing activities</b>	<b>(2,354,646)</b>	<b>(2,004,916)</b>	<b>(1,995,786)</b>	9,130	0.46%	
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>						
<b>Inflows from financing activities</b>						
Transfer from reserves	2,450,470	2,052,337	<b>2,043,207</b>	(9,130)	(0.44%)	▼
	<b>2,450,470</b>	<b>2,052,337</b>	<b>2,043,207</b>	(9,130)	(0.44%)	
<b>Outflows from financing activities</b>						
Repayment of borrowings	(95,824)	(47,421)	<b>(47,421)</b>	0	0.00%	
Payments for principal portion of lease liabilities	(637,613)	(348,120)	<b>(348,120)</b>	0	0.00%	
	<b>(733,437)</b>	<b>(395,541)</b>	<b>(395,541)</b>	0	0.00%	
<b>Amount attributable to financing activities</b>	<b>1,717,033</b>	<b>1,656,795</b>	<b>1,647,665</b>	(9,130)	(0.55%)	
<b>MOVEMENT IN SURPLUS OR DEFICIT</b>						
<b>Surplus or deficit at the start of the financial year</b>	1,140,976	1,140,976	<b>1,212,735</b>	71,759	6.29%	▲
Amount attributable to operating activities	(503,363)	(287,338)	<b>760,355</b>	1,047,693	364.62%	▲
Amount attributable to investing activities	(2,354,646)	(2,004,916)	<b>(1,995,786)</b>	9,130	0.46%	▲
Amount attributable to financing activities	1,717,033	1,656,795	<b>1,647,665</b>	(9,130)	(0.55%)	▼
<b>Surplus or deficit after imposition of general rates</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>505,518</b>	<b>1,624,970</b>	1,119,452	221.45%	▲

**KEY INFORMATION**

▲▼ Indicates a variance between Year to Date (YTD) Budget and YTD Actual data as per the adopted materiality threshold.

\* Refer to Note 3 for an explanation of the reasons for the variance.

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying Financial Statements and Notes.

**RESOURCE RECOVERY GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025**

**3 EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL VARIANCES**

The material variance thresholds are adopted annually by Council as an indicator of whether the actual expenditure or revenue varies from the year to date actual materially.

The material variance adopted by Council for the 2024-25 year is \$20,000.

Description	Var. \$	Var. %	
	\$	%	
<b>Revenue from operating activities</b>			
<b>Grants, subsidies and contributions</b>	78,108	5.51%	▲
Increased overhead contribution due to increase in tonnes			
<b>Fees and charges</b>	1,014,794	11.31%	▲
Better sales price of products(MRF), additional coustomer contract (FOGO)			
<b>Interest revenue</b>	10,827	8.57%	▲
<b>Other revenue</b>	(255,541)	(23.03%)	▼
Timing difference in CDS income			
<b>Expenditure from operating activities</b>			
<b>Employee costs</b>	556,856	15.91%	▲
Employee efficiency, costs savings			
<b>Materials and contracts</b>	(283,228)	(4.31%)	▼
Expenses relating to extra business not budgeted (refer fees and charges income)			
<b>Utility charges</b>	(7,480)	(1.75%)	▼
<b>Finance costs</b>	19,662	11.31%	▲



NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

This prescribed financial report has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and accompanying regulations.

**Local Government Act 1995 requirements**

Section 6.4(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* read with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, prescribe that the financial report be prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the Act, the Australian Accounting Standards. The Australian Accounting Standards (as they apply to local governments and not-for-profit entities) and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board were applied where no inconsistencies exist.

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* specify that vested land is a right-of-use asset to be measured at cost, and is considered a zero cost concessionary lease. All right-of-use assets under zero cost concessionary leases are measured at zero cost rather than at fair value, except for vested improvements on concessionary land leases such as roads, buildings or other infrastructure which continue to be reported at fair value, as opposed to the vested land which is measured at zero cost. The measurement of vested improvements at fair value is a departure from AASB 16 which would have required the Reso to measure any vested improvements at zero cost.

*Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, regulation 34 prescribes contents of the financial report. Supporting information does not form part of the financial report.

Accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. Except for cash flow and rate setting information, the financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and liabilities.

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY**

All funds through which the Reso controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

All monies held in the Trust Fund are excluded from the financial statements.

**Judgements and estimates**

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that effect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances; the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The balances, transactions and disclosures impacted by accounting estimates are as follows:

- estimated fair value of certain financial assets
- impairment of financial assets
- estimation of fair values of land and buildings, infrastructure and investment property
- estimation uncertainties made in relation to lease accounting
- estimated useful life of intangible assets

**SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Significant accounting policies utilised in the preparation of these statements are as described within the 2023-24 Annual Budget. Please refer to the adopted budget document for details of these policies.

**PREPARATION TIMING AND REVIEW**

Date prepared: All known transactions up to 17 February 2025

REPORT NO	13.1
SUBJECT	MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC)
AUTHOR	A Johnson, Executive Manager Governance & Culture
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	M Tieleman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
EMPLOYEE INTEREST	Nil
DATE OF REPORT	17 February 2024
FILE REFERENCE	FD: Corporate Governance/Council Liaison
ATTACHMENTS	Nil

#### CEO RECOMMENDATIONS

That \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the RRG Deputy representative to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for a term expiring November 2025 in place of Mayor H Fitzhardinge

#### VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The Regional Council to consider and appoint a new deputy member to the MWAC Committee.

#### NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:

##### Advocative

Not applicable

##### Executive

The role of the council is to adopt members on committees.

##### Legislative

*The Local Government Act 1995*

*Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*

#### IMPLICATIONS TO CONSIDER:

##### Consultative:

Not Applicable

##### Strategic relevance:

Compliance requirement

##### Policy related:

##### Financial:

Payment to Committee members who are Regional Councillors are incorporated into the annual allowance for Members Fees and Allowances Policy (no.1.8).

##### Legal and statutory:

As noted above.

##### Risk related:

Risk No	Risk Description	Potential Consequences	Controls Are Currently In Place,	Overall Risk Rating
A03	Non-Compliance (Corporate)	1. Infringement by relevant authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compliance Calendar/Register</li> <li>State Government Legislative Updates Annual Compliance Audit Return</li> </ul>	Low 6

**REPORT:**

At the ordinary meeting of council held on 23 November 2023 council resolved:

*COUNCIL RESOLUTION*

23.11-03

*MOVED: Cr K Wheatland*

*SECONDED: Cr A White*

*CEO RECOMMENDATIONS*

**AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*The following Regional Councillors be appointed on the Audit & Risk Committee for a term expiring November 2025:*

1. *Cr K Wheatland*
2. *Cr H Fitzhardinge*
3. *Cr A White*

**STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*The following Regional Councillors be appointed on the Stakeholder Relations Committee for a term expiring November 2025:*

1. *Cr K Wheatland*
2. *Cr H Fitzhardinge*
3. *Cr A White*

**CEO PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*The following Regional Councillors be appointed on the CEO Performance Review Committee for a term expiring November 2025:*

1. *Cr K Wheatland*
2. *Cr H Fitzhardinge*
3. *Cr A White*

**MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC)**

*The following persons be appointed on the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for a term expiring November 2025:*

1. *Cr K Wheatland (Delegate with voting rights)*
2. *Cr H Fitzhardinge (Deputy with voting rights)*

**METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL WORKING GROUP (WALGA/MWAC SUB COMMITTEE)**

*The following person be appointed on the Metropolitan Regional Council working group for a term expiring November 2025:*

1. *Mr Tim Youé*

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 3/0*

Mayor Fitzhardinge has indicated her preference to step down from the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC). It is proposed that Cr Wheatland remain the RRG appointed delegate to this council and that Cr Edinger or Cr Archibald be appointed as the Deputy member in her place.

REPORT NO	13.2
SUBJECT	APPLICATION FOR COMPLIANCE EXEMPTIONS
AUTHOR	A Johnson, Executive Manager Governance & Culture
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	M Tieleman, Acting Chief Executive Officer
EMPLOYEE INTEREST	Nil
DATE OF REPORT	18 February 2025
FILE REFERENCE	FD: Corporate Governance/Council
ATTACHMENTS	Letter to Minister – RRG Compliance Exemption Application

#### CEO RECOMMENDATIONS

**That Council authorise the Acting Chief Executive Office to apply to the Minister for Local Government for the following compliance exemptions from the *Local Government Act 1995*:**

- 1. The requirement to livestream council meetings as detailed in s5.23A;**
- 2. The requirement to appoint an independent presiding member to chair the audit, risk and improvement committee.**

#### VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

For the regional council to endorse the application to the Minister for compliance exemptions.

**NATURE OF COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE MATTER:**

**Advocative**

Not applicable

**Executive**

**S2.7 Role of Council**

- (1) The council governs the local government's affairs and, as the local government's governing body, is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions.
- (2) The council's governing role includes the following —
  - (a) overseeing the allocation of the local government's finances and resources;
  - (b) determining the local government's policies;
  - (c) planning strategically for the future of the district;
  - (d) determining the services and facilities to be provided by the local government in the district;
  - (e) selecting the CEO and reviewing the CEO's performance;
  - (f) providing strategic direction to the CEO.

**Legislative**

*The Local Government Act 1995*

*Local Government Amendment Act 2024*

**IMPLICATIONS TO CONSIDER:**

**Consultative:**

Not Applicable

**Strategic relevance:**

Compliance requirement

**Policy related:**

**Financial:**

**Legal and statutory:**

As noted above.

**Risk related:**

Risk No	Risk Description	Potential Consequences	Controls Are Currently In Place,	Overall Risk Rating
A03	Non-Compliance (Corporate)	1. Infringement by relevant authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compliance Calendar/Register</li><li>• State Government Legislative Updates Annual Compliance Audit Return</li></ul>	Low 6

## REPORT:

The Department of Local Government has embarked on a review of the *Local Government Act 1995* resulting in the most significant reforms to the Act in 25 years. The reforms aim to achieve:

1. Earlier intervention, effective regulation and stronger penalties
2. Reducing red tape, increasing consistency and simplicity
3. Greater transparency and accountability
4. Stronger local democracy and community engagement
5. Clearer roles and responsibilities
6. Improved financial management and reporting.

Two key pieces of legislation have been enacted, *Local Government Amendment Act 2023* and *Local Government Amendment Act 2024*.

Due to the unique and unusual circumstances, surrounding the proposed transition and winding up of the Resource Recovery Group, Mr Tieleman, Acting Chief Executive Officer, sought an exemption from the Minister for Local Government relating to two of the more onerous changes brought about by the amendments.

The provisions of the Act being requested for exemption are:

1. **Section 5.23A – Electronic broadcasting and video or audio recording of Council meetings**  
This is a new regulation effective to council meetings from 1 January 2025 onwards.

An exemption from the requirement to livestream council meetings has been requested.

RRG will continue its current practice of recording all council meetings.

2. **The Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 proposes to change the *Local Government Act 1995* to change the audit committee to and audit, risk and improvement committee (AIRC) that is independently chaired.**

An exemption from the requirement to appoint an independent presiding member has also been requested.

The exemptions are requested due to the impending withdrawal of all remaining participant members and anticipated wind up of the Regional Local Government.

Gaining exemptions from these matters will reduce costs for the Regional Local Government, particularly in relation to the need to advertise and remunerate an independent committee member and given that there has been no public attendance in the last two years it is unlikely that livestreaming would be utilised by any member of the public.

The exemptions have been requested for a period of 18 months expiring on 30 June 2026 to allow time for the Regional Local Government to complete the transition and winding up process.

For the Minister to properly consider the request for exemption, Council are required to authorise the Acting Chief Executive Officer to apply for such exemptions.



2 January 2025

Hon Hannah Beazley BA MLA  
Minister for Local Government; Youth; Minister Assisting  
the Minister for Training and Workforce Development  
7th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Email: [Minister.Beazley@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Beazley@dpc.wa.gov.au)

Dear Minister Hannah Beazley,

**RE: APPLICATION FOR COMPLIANCE EXEMPTIONS**

I am writing to formally request an exemption from the new requirements to live stream council meetings and the appointment of an independent presiding member for the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committees, due to our unique and unusual circumstances surrounding the proposed transition and winding up of the Regional Local Government.

Provisions of the Act being requested for exemption:

**1. Section 5.23A - Electronic broadcasting and video or audio recording of council meetings**

*New Regulations effective to council meetings from 1 January 2025 onwards.*

Requesting an exemption from the requirement to livestream council meetings.

The Regional Local Government will continue its current practise of recording all council meetings.

**2. The Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill) proposes to change the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) to change audit committees to an 'audit, risk and improvement committees' (ARIC's) that are independently chaired.**

Requesting an exemption from the requirement to appoint an independent presiding member.

How it meets the limited circumstances:

The unusual circumstance of the Local Government being in a proposed transition and winding up of the Regional Local Government. All member Local Governments have resolved to withdraw from the Regional Council effective from 1 July 2025. However, with the evaluation of options for the continuation of waste services operation at the Canning Vale Centre, the withdrawing Local Governments have delegated authority to extend to 31 December 2025.

Reasons for the request:

In this situation, it seems counterintuitive to expend further resources to comply with incoming legislative amendments relating to ARIC and livestreaming requirements. In the circumstances the expense of putting this functionality in place outweighs any benefits that might be gained. In addition, the Regional Local Government Council meetings have rarely had any public attendance (nil in the past two years).







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Given the unique and temporary nature of our situation, we believe that a compliance exemption is justified. This exemption would allow us to focus our limited resources on ensuring a smooth and orderly transition, without the added burden of meeting these new requirements.

Period that the exemption is being requested for:

18 months with the exemption to expire 30 June 2026, to allow time for the Regional Local Government to complete the transition and winding up process.

Thank you for your consideration, should you require any further information or wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me on (08) 9329 2700.

Yours sincerely,

**MARTEN TIELEMAN**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

