

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**To the Councillors of the Town of Bassendean**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

### ***Opinion***

I have audited the annual financial report of the Town of Bassendean which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2020, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature or Type, Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Rate Setting Statement for the year then ended, as well as notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Statement by the Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion the annual financial report of the Town of Bassendean:

- (i) is based on proper accounts and records; and
- (ii) fairly represents, in all material respects, the results of the operations of the Town for the year ended 30 June 2020 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***

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the Town in accordance with the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant 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 my audit of the annual financial report. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### ***Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting***

I draw attention to Notes 1 and 11 to the annual financial report, which describe the basis of accounting. The annual financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the City's financial reporting responsibilities under the Act, including the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (Regulations). My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters:

- (i) Regulation 17A of the Regulations requires a local government to measure vested improvements at fair value and the associated vested land at zero cost. This is a departure from AASB 16 *Leases* which would have required the entity to measure the vested improvements also at zero cost.
- (ii) In respect of the comparatives for the previous year ended 30 June 2019, Regulation 16 of the Regulations did not allow a local government to recognise some categories of land, including land under roads, as assets in the annual financial report.

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

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Town 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 the annual financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual financial report, the CEO is responsible for assessing the Town'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 Town.

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report***

The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual 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 my 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 annual financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the annual financial report is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at [https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). This includes the identification and assessment of the risk of material misstatement due to fraud arising from management override of controls. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

### **Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

In accordance with the Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 I report that:

- (i) In my opinion, the following material matters indicate significant adverse trends in the financial position of the Town:
  - a. The Asset Sustainability Ratio has been below the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) standard for the last three financial years.
  - b. The Operating Surplus Ratio has been below the DLGSCI standard for the last three financial years.
- (ii) All required information and explanations were obtained by me.
- (iii) All audit procedures were satisfactorily completed.
- (iv) In my opinion, the Asset Consumption Ratio and the Asset Renewal Funding Ratio included in the annual financial report were supported by verifiable information and reasonable assumptions.

### **Other Matter**

The financial ratios for 2018 in Note 33 of the annual financial report were audited by another auditor when performing their audit of the Town for the year ending 30 June 2018. The auditor expressed an unmodified opinion on the annual financial report for that year.

### **Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Report**

This auditor's report relates to the annual financial report of the Town of Bassendean for the year ended 30 June 2020 included on the Town's website. The Town's management is responsible for the integrity of the Town's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Town's website. The auditor's report refers only to the annual financial report described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from this annual financial report. If users of the annual 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 annual financial report to confirm the information contained in this website version of the annual financial report.

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ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL  
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia  
Perth, Western Australia  
February 2021

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