

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
OBERON COUNCIL**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the special purpose financial statements of Oberon Council (Council) for the year ended 30 June 2013, comprising the Statement by Council, Income Statement by Business Activities, Balance Sheet by Business Activities, and accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the best practice management disclosures in Notes 2 and 3 and accordingly we express no opinion on them.

Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial statements are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Council and the Division of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. The Council's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the Council. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements

This auditor's report relates to the special purpose financial statements of Oberon Council for the year ended 30 June 2013 included on Council's web site. Council is responsible for the integrity of Council's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the web site. The auditor's report refers only to the statements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the information included in the audited financial statements presented on this web site.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the special purpose financial statements of Oberon Council are presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of those applicable accounting policies detailed in Note 1, the accounting requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial statements have been prepared for distribution to the Council and the Division of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the Council or the Division of Local Government or for any purpose other than for which the statements were prepared.

Application of the requirements of Section 416 of the Local Government Act 1993

Without qualification to the opinion expressed above, attention is drawn to the date of issue of the financial statement. We note that the financial statements have not been completed within four months of the end of the year, as required by section 416 (5). In addition, whilst Council applied for and received an approved extension to 29 November 2013 under Section 416, it did not complete the financial statements within this timeframe.

Accordingly, this aspect of the financial statement does not comply with the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2.



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291 Stewart Street
Bathurst
Dated: 6 December 2013



LR Smith
Partner