

Our ref: CTS 06184/26

Mr Lew Rojahn  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council

Email: [ceo@hopevale.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@hopevale.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Rojahn

The Auditor-General recently tabled in Parliament her Report 12: Local Government 2025 (the report). A copy of the report can be found on the Queensland Audit Office's (QAO) website at [www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/reports-parliament/local-government-2025](http://www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/reports-parliament/local-government-2025).

The Auditor-General has made one recommendation for councils in the report, advising councils to review the termination clauses in executive contracts to ensure they are appropriate.

In addition to the above recommendation for councils, the Auditor-General highlighted several other matters for councils throughout the report. I encourage you to address the following if they apply directly to your council:

- ensuring access to appropriately skilled finance staff, as a key enabler of timely financial reporting
- maintaining a continued focus on controls needed to prevent fraud
- actioning the increasing number of new or unresolved significant deficiencies
- attending to any outstanding prior year recommendations
- strengthening asset accounting and asset valuation processes
- proactively planning for, and maintaining, appropriate controls to support timely end-of-financial-year reporting
- meeting the requirements of an active internal audit function, and an effective audit committee where required.

I look forward to working with all councils in implementing the QAO's recommendation.

If you require any further information, please contact Ms Tara Nguyen, Acting Director, Local Government Division in the department by telephone on (07) 3096 6573 or via email [tara.nguyen@dlgwv.qld.gov.au](mailto:tara.nguyen@dlgwv.qld.gov.au), who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blagoev', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Bronwyn Blagoev  
**Director-General**

cc Ms Shannon Gibbs  
Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council  
Email: [shannon.gibbs@hopevale.qld.gov.au](mailto:shannon.gibbs@hopevale.qld.gov.au)