

MINUTES

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

24 January 2017

TIME: 7.30AM

CITY OF STIRLING

Winning Back Waste

Constituent Members: Cities of Perth, Joondalup, Stirling, Vincent and Wanneroo Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park













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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.35am.

2 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

MEMBERS

Cr Russ Fishwick (Chairperson)

Cr Stephanie Proud (Deputy Chairperson)

Cr David Boothman

City of Stirling

City of Stirling

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Brian Callander CEO MRC

Mr Gunther Hoppe Director Corporate Services MRC

Mrs Andrea Slater Finance Manager MRC

APOLOGIES

Ms Gayle Rogers External member

3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

At an Ordinary Council Meeting held on 7 July 2005 the Audit Committee was established by Council under s7.1A of the Local Government Act 1995 and at an Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 October 2005 Council adopted the Terms of Reference for the operation of the Audit Committee. These terms of reference were subsequently revised by Council at an Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 April 2014.

At an Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 October 2005 under s7.1B of the Local Government Act 1995, Council approved the Audit Committee under s.7.12A(2) of the Act for Council to meet with Council's auditor.

The primary objective of the Audit Committee is to accept responsibility for the annual external audit and liaise with the Council's auditor so that Council can be satisfied with the performance of the local government in managing its financial affairs.

The Committee is to facilitate:

- The enhancement of the credibility and objectivity of external financial reporting;
- Effective management of financial and other risks and the protection of Council assets;
- Compliance with laws and regulations as well as use of best practice guidelines relative to auditing;
- The provision of an effective means of communication between the external auditor, the CEO and the Council.

The full Terms of Reference can be found on the MRC's website at:

http://mrc.wa.gov.au/Documents/Agenda---2014/20140424---Members-Information-Bulletin-No--16.aspx

4 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 16 NOVEMBER 2016

RESOLVED

Cr Boothman moved, Cr Proud seconded

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2016 be taken as read, confirmed and the Chairman invited to sign the same as a true record of the proceedings.

(*Carried*: 3/0)

6 REPORTS

6.1 REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE AUDIT - 2016

BACKGROUND

The Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 require a local government to carry out a compliance audit for the period 1 January to 31 December each year. The Compliance Audit Return is to be adopted by Council and certified by the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The certified Compliance Audit Return is to be forwarded to the Department of Local Government by 31 March 2017.

At the Committee meeting a question was asked as to why a "no" response was given to the question (No.5) under the Delegation of Power/Duty when the Audit Committee has been delegated authority by the council to meet with the Auditors. It was agreed that a comment explaining why the MRC did not review this delegation was needed. The following comment was added prior to the committee considering the Responsible Officers Recommendation was modified accordingly.

"The council of the MRC has delegated to its Audit committee to meet with the councils Auditor. This delegation was not reviewed in 2016 but will be included in the annual review of policies and delegations that the CEO presents to council in September each year."

The draft Compliance Audit Return for 2016, including the additional comment referred to above, has been completed online at the Department of Local Government and Communities' website and is at Attachment 1 for Council's consideration.

DETAIL

There was one area of minor non-compliance identified in this year's compliance return. A comment has been added to the return demonstrating how compliance will be obtained in future years.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995 – Part 7 Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996 – Section 14 and 15

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMENT

Nil

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council endorse the Compliance Audit return for the 2016 calendar year, as presented.

RESOLVED

Cr Boothman moved, Cr Proud seconded

That the Audit Committee recommends that Council endorse the Compliance Audit Return for the 2016 calendar year with a comment added to question No. 5 of Delegation of Power/Duty advising that the delegation from the council to the audit committee to meet with MRC's Auditor was not reviewed and how it will be reviewed in future years.

(Carried: 3/0)

6.2 RISK REGISTER SUMMARY

SUMMARY

The MRC's initial Risk Register summary was tabled at the Audit Committee meeting held on 24 November 2014.

At the meeting it was agreed that a summarised risk register would be tabled with the Audit Committee every six months for discussion.

A summarised risk register which outlines those risks rated as 'High' or 'Extreme' is included as Attachment 2 to this agenda.

Management have prepared management plans for each of the risks included in the summary.

Management conducted a full risk register review in July 2016 and ongoing reviews of the 'High' or 'Extreme' risks, and the following risks have been changed or removed from/added to the summary risk register since it was last presented to the Audit Committee:

STRAT 05 - Federal/State Government changes to Environmental Law and or carbon pricing

Removed - Downgraded to a rating of 8 from 12 due to improved efficiencies in operations and compliance monitoring, as well as effective advocacy on matters affecting the MRC.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit Committee note the Risk Register Summary presented.

RESOLVED

Cr Boothman moved, Cr Proud seconded

That the Audit Committee note the Risk Register Summary presented.

(Carried: 3/0)

7 NEW BUSINESS	
Nil	
8 NEXT MEETING	
The next audit committee meeting is scheduled for July 2017.	
9 CLOSURE	
The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.45am.	
The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.45am.	

These Minutes were confirmed by the Audit Committee as a true and accurate record of the Audit

Committee Meeting held on 24 January 2017

Signed

Dated this

ATTACHMENT 1

TO ITEM 6.1

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

24 JANUARY 2017

COMPLIANCE AUDIT RETURN - 2016



Mindarie Regional Council - Compliance Audit Return Regional Local Government 2016

Certified Copy of Return

Please submit a signed copy to the Director General of the Department of Local Government and Communities together with a copy of section of relevant minutes.

No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,9	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major trading undertaking in 2016.	N/A		Brian Callander
2	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan for each major land transaction that was not exempt in 2016.	N/A		Brian Callander
3	s3.59(2)(a)(b)(c) F&G Reg 7,10	Has the local government prepared a business plan before entering into each land transaction that was preparatory to entry into a major land transaction in 2016.	N/A		Brian Callander
4	s3.59(4)	Has the local government given Statewide public notice of each proposal to commence a major trading undertaking or enter into a major land transaction for 2016.	N/A		Brian Callander
5	s3.59(5)	Did the Council, during 2016, resolve to proceed with each major land transaction or trading undertaking by absolute majority.	N/A		Brian Callander

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No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees resolved by absolute majority.	Yes		Brian Callander
2	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees in writing.	Yes		Brian Callander
3	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees within the limits specified in section 5.17.	Yes		Brian Callander
4	s5.16, 5.17, 5.18	Were all delegations to committees recorded in a register of delegations.	Yes		Brian Callander
5	s5.18	Has Council reviewed delegations to its committees in the 2015/2016 financial year.	No	The council of the MRC has delegated to its Audit committee to meet with the councils Auditor. this delegation was not reviewed in 2016 but will be included in the annual review of policies and delegations that the CEO presents to council in September each year.	Lynda Nyssen
6	s5.42(1),5.43 Admin Reg 18G	Did the powers and duties of the Council delegated to the CEO exclude those as listed in section 5.43 of the Act.	Yes		Brian Callander
7	s5.42(1)(2) Admin Reg 18G	Were all delegations to the CEO resolved by an absolute majority.	Yes		Brian Callander
8	s5.42(1)(2) Admin Reg 18G	Were all delegations to the CEO in writing.	Yes		Brian Callander
9	s5.44(2)	Were all delegations by the CEO to any employee in writing.	Yes		Brian Callander
10	s5.45(1)(b)	Were all decisions by the Council to amend or revoke a delegation made by absolute majority.	N/A		Brian Callander
11	s5.46(1)	Has the CEO kept a register of all delegations made under the Act to him and to other employees.	Yes		Brian Callander
12	s5.46(2)	Were all delegations made under Division 4 of Part 5 of the Act reviewed by the delegator at least once during the 2015/2016 financial year.	Yes		Brian Callander
13	s5.46(3) Admin Reg 19	Did all persons exercising a delegated power or duty under the Act keep, on all occasions, a written record as required.	Yes		Brian Callander

Discl	osure of Interest				
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.67	If a member disclosed an interest, did he/she ensure that they did not remain present to participate in any discussion or decision-making procedure relating to the matter in which the interest was disclosed (not including participation approvals granted under s5.68).	Yes		Brian Callander
2	s5.68(2)	Were all decisions made under section 5.68(1), and the extent of participation allowed, recorded in the minutes of Council and Committee meetings.	Yes		Brian Callander
3	s5.73	Were disclosures under section 5.65 or 5.70 recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the disclosure was made.	Yes		Brian Callander
4	s5.75(1) Admin Reg 22 Form 2	Was a primary return lodged by all newly elected members within three months of their start day.	Yes		Brian Callander
5	s5.75(1) Admin Reg 22 Form 2	Was a primary return lodged by all newly designated employees within three months of their start day.	Yes		Brian Callander
6	s5.76(1) Admin Reg 23 Form 3	Was an annual return lodged by all continuing elected members by 31 August 2016.	Yes		Brian Callander
7	s5.76(1) Admin Reg 23 Form 3	Was an annual return lodged by all designated employees by 31 August 2016.	Yes		Brian Callander
8	s5.77	On receipt of a primary or annual return, did the CEO, (or the Mayor/ President in the case of the CEO's return) on all occasions, give written acknowledgment of having received the return.	Yes		Brian Callander
9	s5.88(1)(2) Admin Reg 28	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained the returns lodged under section 5.75 and 5.76	Yes		Brian Callander
10	s5.88(1)(2) Admin Reg 28	Did the CEO keep a register of financial interests which contained a record of disclosures made under sections 5.65, 5.70 and 5.71, in the form prescribed in Administration Regulation 28.	Yes		Brian Callander
11	s5.88 (3)	Has the CEO removed all returns from the register when a person ceased to be a person required to lodge a return under section 5.75 or 5.76.	Yes		Brian Callander
12	s5.88(4)	Have all returns lodged under section 5.75 or 5.76 and removed from the register, been kept for a period of at least five years, after the person who lodged the return ceased to be a council member or designated employee.	Yes		Brian Callander

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No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
13	s5.103 Admin Reg 34C & Rules of Conduct Reg 11	Where an elected member or an employee disclosed an interest in a matter discussed at a Council or committee meeting where there was a reasonable belief that the impartiality of the person having the interest would be adversely affected, was it recorded in the minutes.	Yes		Brian Callander
14	s5.70(2)	Where an employee had an interest in any matter in respect of which the employee provided advice or a report directly to the Council or a Committee, did that person disclose the nature of that interest when giving the advice or report.	Yes		Brian Callander
15	s5.70(3)	Where an employee disclosed an interest under s5.70(2), did that person also disclose the extent of that interest when required to do so by the Council or a Committee.	Yes		Brian Callander
16	s5.103(3) Admin Reg 34B	Has the CEO kept a register of all notifiable gifts received by Council members and employees.	Yes		Brian Callander

Dispo	Disposal of Property					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent	
1	s3.58(3)	Was local public notice given prior to disposal for any property not disposed of by public auction or tender (except where excluded by Section 3.58(5)).	N/A		Brian Callander	
2	s3.58(4)	Where the local government disposed of property under section 3.58(3), did it provide details, as prescribed by section 3.58(4), in the required local public notice for each disposal of property.	N/A		Brian Callander	

Finar	Finance					
No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent	
1	s7.1A	Has the local government established an audit committee and appointed members by absolute majority in accordance with section 7.1A of the Act.	Yes		Brian Callander	
2	s7.1B	Where a local government determined to delegate to its audit committee any powers or duties under Part 7 of the Act, did it do so by absolute majority.	Yes		Brian Callander	
3	s7.3	Was the person(s) appointed by the local government to be its auditor, a registered company auditor.	Yes		Brian Callander	
4	s7.3, 7.6(3)	Was the person or persons appointed by the local government to be its auditor, appointed by an absolute majority decision of Council.	Yes		Brian Callander	



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
5	Audit Reg 10	Was the Auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 received by the local government within 30 days of completion of the audit.	Yes		Brian Callander
6	s7.9(1)	Was the Auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2016 received by the local government by 31 December 2016.	Yes		Brian Callander
7	S7.12A(3)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act required action to be taken by the local government, was that action undertaken.	N/A		Brian Callander
8	S7.12A (4)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report (prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act) required action to be taken by the local government, was a report prepared on any actions undertaken.	N/A		Brian Callander
9	S7.12A (4)	Where the local government determined that matters raised in the auditor's report (prepared under s7.9 (1) of the Act) required action to be taken by the local government, was a copy of the report forwarded to the Minister by the end of the financial year or 6 months after the last report prepared under s7.9 was received by the local government whichever was the latest in time.	N/A		Brian Callander
10	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the objectives of the audit.	Yes		Brian Callander
11	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the scope of the audit.	Yes		Brian Callander
12	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include a plan for the audit.	Yes		Brian Callander
13	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include details of the remuneration and expenses to be paid to the auditor.	Yes		Brian Callander
14	Audit Reg 7	Did the agreement between the local government and its auditor include the method to be used by the local government to communicate with, and supply information to, the auditor.	Yes		Brian Callander



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	Admin Reg 18C	Did the local government approve the process to be used for the selection and appointment of the CEO before the position of CEO was advertised.	N/A		Sonia Cherico
2	s5.36(4) s5.37(3), Admin Reg 18A	Were all vacancies for the position of CEO and other designated senior employees advertised and did the advertising comply with s.5.36(4), 5.37(3) and Admin Reg 18A.	N/A		Sonia Cherico
3	Admin Reg 18F	Was the remuneration and other benefits paid to a CEO on appointment the same remuneration and benefits advertised for the position of CEO under section 5.36(4).	N/A		Sonia Cherico
4	Admin Regs 18E	Did the local government ensure checks were carried out to confirm that the information in an application for employment was true (applicable to CEO only).	N/A		Sonia Cherico
5	s5.37(2)	Did the CEO inform council of each proposal to employ or dismiss a designated senior employee.	N/A		Sonia Cherico

Vo	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s5.120	Where the CEO is not the complaints officer, has the local government designated a senior employee, as defined under s5.37, to be its complaints officer.	N/A		Sonia Cherico
2	s5.121(1)	Has the complaints officer for the local government maintained a register of complaints which records all complaints that result in action under s5.110(6)(b) or (c).	Yes		Sonia Cherico
3	s5.121(2)(a)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording of the name of the council member about whom the complaint is made.	Yes		Sonia Cherico
4	s5.121(2)(b)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording the name of the person who makes the complaint.	Yes		Sonia Cherico
5	s5.121(2)(c)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include provision for recording a description of the minor breach that the standards panel finds has occured.	Yes		Sonia Cherico
6	s5.121(2)(d)	Does the complaints register maintained by the complaints officer include the provision to record details of the action taken under s5.110(6)(b) or (c).	Yes		Sonia Cherico



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
1	s3.57 F&G Reg 11	Did the local government invite tenders on all occasions (before entering into contracts for the supply of goods or services) where the consideration under the contract was, or was expected to be, worth more than the consideration stated in Regulation 11(1) of the Local Government (Functions & General) Regulations (Subject to Functions and General Regulation 11(2)).	Yes		Brian Callander
2	F&G Reg 12	Did the local government comply with F&G Reg 12 when deciding to enter into multiple contracts rather than inviting tenders for a single contract.	Yes		Brian Callander
3	F&G Reg 14(1) & (3)	Did the local government invite tenders via Statewide public notice.	Yes		Brian Callander
4	F&G Reg 14 & 15	Did the local government's advertising and tender documentation comply with F&G Regs 14, 15 & 16.	Yes		Brian Callander
5	F&G Reg 14(5)	If the local government sought to vary the information supplied to tenderers, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought copies of the tender documents or each acceptable tenderer, notice of the variation.	N/A		Brian Callander
6	F&G Reg 16	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening tenders comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 16.	Yes		Brian Callander
7	F&G Reg 18(1)	Did the local government reject the tenders that were not submitted at the place, and within the time specified in the invitation to tender.	N/A		Brian Callander
8	F&G Reg 18 (4)	In relation to the tenders that were not rejected, did the local government assess which tender to accept and which tender was most advantageous to the local government to accept, by means of written evaluation criteria.	Yes		Brian Callander
9	F&G Reg 17	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 17.	Yes		Brian Callander
10	F&G Reg 19	Was each tenderer sent written notice advising particulars of the successful tender or advising that no tender was accepted.	Yes		Brian Callander
11	F&G Reg 21 & 22	Did the local governments's advertising and expression of interest documentation comply with the requirements of F&G Regs 21 and 22.	N/A		Brian Callander
12	F&G Reg 23(1)	Did the local government reject the expressions of interest that were not submitted at the place and within the time specified in the notice.	N/A		Brian Callander



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
13	F&G Reg 23(4)	After the local government considered expressions of interest, did the CEO list each person considered capable of satisfactorily supplying goods or services.	N/A		Brian Callander
14	F&G Reg 24	Was each person who submitted an expression of interest, given a notice in writing in accordance with Functions & General Regulation 24.	N/A		Brian Callander
15	F&G Reg 24AD(2)	Did the local government invite applicants for a panel of pre-qualified suppliers via Statewide public notice.	N/A		Brian Callander
16	F&G Reg 24AD(4) & 24AE	Did the local government's advertising and panel documentation comply with F&G Regs 24AD(4) & 24AE.	N/A		Brian Callander
17	F&G Reg 24AF	Did the local government's procedure for receiving and opening applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 16 as if the reference in that regulation to a tender were a reference to a panel application.	N/A		Brian Callander
18	F&G Reg 24AD(6)	If the local government to sought to vary the information supplied to the panel, was every reasonable step taken to give each person who sought detailed information about the proposed panel or each person who submitted an application, notice of the variation.	N/A		Brian Callander
19	F&G Reg 24AH(1)	Did the local government reject the applications to join a panel of pre-qualified suppliers that were not submitted at the place, and within the time specified in the invitation for applications.	N/A		Brian Callander
20	F&G Reg 24AH(3)	In relation to the applications that were not rejected, did the local government assess which application(s) to accept and which application(s) were most advantageous to the local government to accept, by means of written evaluation criteria.	N/A		Brian Callander
21	F&G Reg 24AG	Did the information recorded in the local government's tender register about panels of pre-qualified suppliers, comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24AG.	N/A		Brian Callander
22	F&G Reg 24AI	Did the local government send each person who submitted an application, written notice advising if the person's application was accepted and they are to be part of a panel of pre-qualified suppliers, or, that the application was not accepted.	N/A		Brian Callander



No	Reference	Question	Response	Comments	Respondent
23	F&G Reg 24E	Where the local government gave a regional price preference in relation to a tender process, did the local government comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24E in relation to the preparation of a regional price preference policy (only if a policy had not been previously adopted by Council).	N/A		Brian Callander
24	F&G Reg 24F	Did the local government comply with the requirements of F&G Reg 24F in relation to an adopted regional price preference policy.	N/A		Brian Callander
25	F&G Reg 11A	Does the local government have a current purchasing policy in relation to contracts for other persons to supply goods or services where the consideration under the contract is, or is expected to be, \$150,000 or less.	Yes		Brian Callander

I certify this Compliance Audit return has been adopted by Cou	uncil at its meeting on
Signed Mayor / President, Mindarie Regional	Signed CEO, Mindarie Regional Council

Council

ATTACHMENT 2

TO ITEM 6.2

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

24 JANUARY 2017

RISK REGISTER SUMMARY

Mindarie Regional Council Summary Risk Register Updated 19 January 2017

Risk Ref.	Risk description	Causal factors		Existing Controls	Consequence	Likelihood	Pr. Risk r	Previous rating
OPS-02	Inability to contain leachate from groundwater within landfill boundaries.	Stage 1 unlined Liner failure Environmental factors Water table rise Third party influence on ground water	Water plume Contaminated sites branch status Damaged reputation Urban extraction requirements	Lined landfill Remediation extraction Rediverting leachate BEMP CSM Leachate level testing DER Contaminated Site Branch	м	Ω	15	
OPS-01	Inability to contain landfill gas within Landfill boundaries	Stage 1 unlined Insufficient capture Natural migration of gas Power station failure Damage to liners Infrastructure failure	Environmental impacts Financial penalties Loss of license Poor public perception	Power station Monitoring License conditions Third party design of landfill BEPM Liners and membranes Stakeholder relationships CSM Contract arrangements with LP&G Engaged GHD consultancy services	ιΛ	3	15	
OPS-06	Inability to contain odours within site boundaries	Type of waste received/accepted Inadequate cover Poor gas capture Extreme weather events Poor leachate management Tying in to existing landfill Urban encroachment	Complaints Non compliance with license Investigations Financial penalties Reputation damage	Gas collection Daily cover Leachate management Alternate cover SOP Odorous load management Biological odour control	2	۲۵	10	
OPS-21	Inability to keep recyclable materials out of landfill	Lack of recycling business Lack of education and awareness Lack of recycling options	Longevity of landfill Costs to landfill Reduces life cycle of landfill Poor public perception Increased global warming potential	Engaging with Recycling Contractors Engaging with Recycling Contractors Grants for resource recovery Waste segregation Resell from shop Education program Recover Recycled material from landfill Recover Recycled material from transfer Manage Hazardous Waste	м	ιn	15	
OPS-22	Major Fire or Explosions	Bush fire due to severe weather Major vehide fire Criminal activity Methane Gas leak resulting in explosion or damage to gas bottle	Inability to deliver service Legal action Loss of revenue Personal injury Property damage Poor public perception	Business Continuity Plan Emergency Management Plan Emergency Exercises Fire Fighting Equipment Trained personnel - Wardens EMMP SOP's Emergency Equipment Review	rv	2	10	
OPS-24	Chemical Spill	Chemical delivered to site in damaged containers Staff and customer inattentive Damage by plant Unidentified loads	Inability to deliver services Legal Action Personal injury Property Damage Temporary Closure of part or all of site Loss of Revenue Health and Safety Disgruntle customers Poor public perception	Business Continuity Plan SOP's Trained personnel - Wardens EMP DER license Emergency Equipment Dangerous goods license requirements and compliance EMMP	ιΛ	2	10	