KING ISLAND COUNCIL

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT PANEL

This code of conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of the King Island Council Audit Panel members. The standards support the characteristics of good governance outlined in the *Good Governance Guide for Local Government in Tasmania* (reference below).

As an independent source of scrutiny in the interests of the community, the Audit Panel provides checks and balances on key Council activities and a means of highlighting issues that require strategic attention.

Councillors who are members of the Audit Panel are in a unique position and have an obligation to maintain an Audit Panel perspective in the interests of the community when they discharge their duties as Panel members, ie they must display independence of mind, separate from their role as a councillor.

In performing their role on the King Island Council's Audit Panel, and in acting in the best interests of the community, all members of the King Island Council Audit Panel commit to the following standards.

1. Effective management of conflicts of interest

1.1 Members avoid conflicts of interest that arise between their personal interests and their public duty as an Audit Panel member, as far as reasonably possible. This includes pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflicts of interest (actual, potential or perceived). Where avoidance is not possible, members appropriately manage conflicts of interest. Members are responsible for acting in good faith and exercising reasonable judgment to manage conflicts of interest, including the offer or receipt of gifts and benefits.

1.2 Council members may at times deal with conflicts of interest as a consequence of their dual roles as an audit panel member and a councillor. This may present as a conflict between the interests of the community (as seen from the Audit Panel perspective).

1.3 All members will regularly provide advice of their actual, potential and perceived conflicts to the panel.

2. Proper use of Council information

2.1 Members maintain the confidentiality of any information, documents and communication that the Council or panel has designated as being in confidence. Members only access Council information needed for them to perform their role as a panel member and not for personal interests or reasons.

3. Proper use of position

3.1 Members perform their role in the best interests of the Council and the community. Members operate within the intended scope of the Audit Panel (as outlined in the Audit Panel Charter) and adhere to relevant Council policies and procedures.

4. Appropriate interactions

4.1 Members act ethically and treat all persons with fairness and respect. Members conduct themselves in a way that positively represents the panel, and is in the best interests of the Council and the community. Members interact appropriately with fellow members, councillors, Council staff and the community, and give full respect and consideration of to all relevant information known to them. Members should not interact directly with council staff without the prior approval of the panel and the general manager.

4.2 The Council has policies and procedures to provide additional guidance for members where indicated (*) [*King Island Council Audit Panel Charter*].

4.3 Further information on the ethical standards covered in this code of conduct, and the terminology used, can be found in the:
Good Governance Guide for Local Government in Tasmania:
(www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/local_government).

Legislative Requirements:
Local Government Audit Panel Guidelines: A practice Guide (Revised March 2018)
Local Government (Audit Panels) Amendment Order 2015

Related Procedures/Guidelines:
King Island Council Audit Panel Charter

Adopted by Council July 2026