1. Policy Statement
Council is committed to an open and accountable system of governance. In accordance with s105 of the Local Government Act 2009, Council must establish an Audit Committee which will meet no less than two times per year.

2. Scope
This Policy applies to Hinchinbrook Shire Council elected members, staff and external representatives appointed to, or providing support to Council’s Audit Committee.

3. Responsibility
Chief Executive Officer

4. Definitions
To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

**Audit Committee**
An independent review and specialist governance advisory committee of Council comprising Councillors and qualified external independent member(s) to overview and monitor the operation of internal and external audit, Council’s Strategic and other Operations, its Governance Frameworks and Key Risks and Controls.

**Internal Audit**
Internal Audit is the assessment and evaluation of control measures that the local government has adopted, or is to adopt, to manage the risks *(operational risks)* to which the local government’s operations are exposed.

5. Policy
Council shall maintain an Audit Committee and will establish a Charter to regulate and guide its activities. Audit Committee will develop and maintain an Internal Audit Charter.

6. Legal Parameters
Local Government Act 2009
Local Government Regulation 2012

7. Associated Documents
Audit Committee Charter