general purpose committee

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section

organisation and resources

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SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES.

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ITEM: 20 **Approval for Interstate Travel**

FILE NUMBER: GP027/001/GMA/OGC27LAX.G09

REPORT:

The Property Council of Australia "Cities for the New Economy Leadership Summit" is being held in Surfers Paradise, Queensland, from 22 to 24 April 2001.

The Summit will focus on issues affecting urban development and the commitment to advancing urban affairs policy within the development industry and government as seen by The Property Council of Australia and the Urban Land Institute. Sessions will include issues such as community building, the affect of shifting populations on urban development, new approaches to commercial and retail centres and the roles of public/private sectors.

Councillor Glenys Gilling has indicated an interest in attending the Summit and, as the cost will be approximately $2,100.00 per delegate, in accordance with Council's travel policy, approval for this is required.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve the attendance of Councillor Glenys Gilling at The Property Council of Australia "Cities for the New Economy Leadership Summit" in Surfers Paradise from 22-24 April 2001.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 20 Oooo

ITEM: 21 **Hawkesbury District Basketball Association - Commitment to Debt Repayment.**

FILE NUMBER: GM001/023 PT11/CSV/OGC27LCX.C07

REPORT:

Further to the report (Item 19 Organisation and Resources) in the General Purpose Committee 27 March, 2001, the following information is provided.

Correspondence has been received from Hawkesbury District Basketball Association together with a cheque for $2,000 which the Association has resolved to pay from the outstanding debt. The context of the correspondence is as follows:-

> *"It is recognised that the debt is outstanding but clearly the present board cannot resolve or commit for future boards.*
>
> *This is a matter for each board when appointed and should be addressed during their tenure.*
>
> *It is suggested that at the commencement of each calendar year Hawkesbury Leisure Centres Incorporated correspond with the Hawkesbury District Basketball Association Board of Directors and ascertain from a yearly budget the amount that can be paid during the calendar year.*
>
> *The amount payable should not jeopardise the financial viability of the Hawkesbury District Basketball Association.*
>
> *The board has recognised the decrease in basketball participation and has reviewed, and is reviewing future planning for an increase in participation in the sport.*
>
> *Your letter was tabled at the board meeting and discussions held on the proposal for a levy to apply to existing hourly Court hire fees.*
>
> *After much discussions and recognising the cost to the individual players and the participants the board cannot agree to a levy to the existing hourly Court higher fees".*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 21 Oooo

ITEM: 22 **Audit Committees**

FILE NUMBER: GF001/001 PT5/CSV/OGC27LCX.C08

REPORT:

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 13 March 2001 a Best Practice Guideline for Audit Committees was tabled by Councillor Williams. As stated in the Audit Committee's Best Practice Guide, the role of the Audit Committee would be as follows:

> *"An Audit Committee is unique in that it provides a forum where Directors, Management and Auditors can deal together with issues relating to the management of risk and with financial reporting obligations. Although Auditors have a responsibility to report to stakeholders, their objective views can also be of value to the Directors who are elected to govern the entity on behalf of those stakeholders."*

The main objectives of an Audit Committee would be as follows:

- Improving the credibility and objectivity of the accountability process.
- Assisting the Board of Directors to discharge their responsibility.
- Providing a formal forum for communication between the Board and Senior Financial Management.
- Improving the efficiency of the Board of Directors.
- Improving the effectiveness of the internal and external audit functions.
- Facilitating the maintenance of the independence of the external Auditor.
- Providing a structured reporting line for internal audit.
- Improving the quality of internal reporting.
- Strengthening the role and influence of non-executive Directors.

The internal Audit Committee is a sub-committee of a Board of Directors (listed and unlisted companies) and is not necessarily relevant to local government as the primary purpose of a Board of Directors is a profit motive bearing in mind shareholders' interests. Within the Local Government Act, the corporate governance implications of Elected Members is outlined and is moreover satisfied by the Annual Report, Management Plan, Quarterly Reviews, General Purpose Financial Reports and monthly reporting through the current committee structure.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 22 Oooo