

Audit Summary Report

Year Ending 30 June 2020

Churches of Christ in NSW



1. SUMMARY

Recent changes to the Constitution of The Conference of Churches of Christ in New South Wales, adopted at a Special General Meeting of Conference held on 24 September 2020, included some changes to the clauses pertaining to the appointment of auditors each year for Fresh Hope. Under clause 27 (d), a new requirement for “an executive summary of each auditor's report to be presented to each Annual Conference” was included. This Audit Summary Report has been prepared specifically for the purpose of complying with this clause under the newly amended Constitution.

Fresh Hope's audit firm Stewart, Brown & Co has substantially completed their audit of Fresh Hope for the year ended 30 June 2020, with one final matter to be finalised, being the audit of the Annual Prudential Compliance Statement which is on track for completion and lodgement by 31 October 2020 in accordance with legislative requirements.

An audit completion report has been provided by Stewart Brown & Co which has been reviewed and discussed by the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee and Conference Executive. The purpose of the completion report is to identify and address only those audit matters of interest that have come to the attention of the auditors as a result of the performance of the audit. An audit of financial statements is not designed to identify all matters that may be relevant to those charged with governance. The matters addressed in the Audit Completion includes;

- Scope of the Audit
- Responsibilities of officeholders and management
- Responsibilities of the auditor
- Risk considerations
- Audit and accounting issues
- Audit differences
- Accounting Standards Update
- Auditor independence
- Material weaknesses and performance improvement observations

2. SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

The main purpose of the independent annual audit is to seek opinion from the auditors on the financial reports to the Officeholders of Fresh Hope. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and the intent from the auditors is to obtain reasonable assurance that the annual statutory financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence.

The auditors performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Interpretations) - Reduced Disclosure and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Audit opinions provided are done so based on the following procedures:

- Examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- Evaluating accounting policies and significant accounting estimates

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While the audit planning and testing work considers the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting, the audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal controls. Furthermore, the audit is not designed to identify all matters that may be relevant to the Officeholders. Accordingly, the Audit Completion report includes only those significant matters that have come to the auditor's attention as a result of performing the audit.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AUDITOR

Independence

The auditors have confirmed that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, they currently meet the independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit of the financial reports.

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012

The Auditors have a responsibility under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to report to the entity's officeholders whether, in their opinion, the annual financial reports of the entities comply with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Aged Care Act 1997

As the Churches of Christ Community Care holds refundable accommodation deposits in accordance with the Aged Care Act 1997 our officeholders are required to provide a prudential compliance statement to the Department of Health. An audit report will be provided in accordance with our legislative obligations thereon.

Retirement Villages Act 1999

As the Churches of Christ Community Care operates self-care villages, it is required by Section 118 of the Retirement Villages Act 1999 to provide to residents copies of the income and expenditure statements of the villages along with a number of written statements. An audit report is to be provided thereon. Section 119(3) of the Act also requires the auditors to make a statement in the audit report if they are not satisfied, or they believe that there is considerable uncertainty, as to whether our entity has the capacity, during the financial year immediately following, to meet the liabilities of the village as and when they fall due.

4. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The auditors have confirmed via their Audit Completion report the following for the financial year ended 30 June 2020;

- There were no uncorrected audit differences.
- There were no omissions or other errors in the presentation and disclosures in the financial statements.

Furthermore, unqualified audit opinions have been provided by the auditors with respect to the following annual statutory financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2020;

- Churches of Christ Community Care: General Purpose
- Churches of Christ in NSW Conference Executive: Specific Purpose
- The Churches of Christ Property Trust: Specific Purpose
- Fresh Hope Housing: Special Purpose

Scott Griffiths
Chief Financial Officer, Fresh Hope

12 October 2020

Andrew Ball
Executive Ministry Director, Fresh Hope

12 October 2020