

Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Central Economic Development Agency Limited's financial statements and performance information for the nine months ended 30 June 2016

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Central Economic Development Agency Limited (the company). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Clint Ramoo, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to carry out the audit of the financial statements and performance information of the company on her behalf.

Opinion on the financial statements and the performance information

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the company on pages 9 to 17, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the nine months ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the performance information of the company on page 8.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the company:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 30 June 2016; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime.
- the performance information of the company presents fairly, in all material respects, the company's actual performance compared against the performance targets and other measures by which performance was judged in relation to the company's objectives for the nine months ended 30 June 2016.

Our audit was completed on 27 September 2016. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Board of Directors and our responsibilities, and explain our independence.

Basis of opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and carry out our audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the performance information are free from material misstatement.

Material misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts and disclosures that, in our judgement, are likely to influence readers' overall understanding of the financial statements and the performance information. If we had found material misstatements that were not corrected, we would have referred to them in our opinion.

An audit involves carrying out procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and in the performance information. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including our assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the performance information, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the preparation of the company's financial statements and performance information in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.

An audit also involves evaluating:

- the appropriateness of accounting policies used and whether they have been consistently applied;
- the reasonableness of the significant accounting estimates and judgements made by the Board of Directors;
- the appropriateness of the reported performance information within the company's framework for reporting performance;
- the adequacy of the disclosures in the financial statements and in the performance information; and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements and the performance information.

We did not examine every transaction, nor do we guarantee complete accuracy of the financial statements and the performance information. Also, we did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the performance information.

We believe we have obtained sufficient and appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements for the company that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The Board of Directors is also responsible for preparation of the performance information for the company.

The Board of Directors' responsibilities arise from the Local Government Act 2002.

The Board of Directors is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements and performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board of Directors is also responsible for the publication of the financial statements and the performance information, whether in printed or electronic form.

Responsibilities of the Auditor

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the financial statements and the performance information and reporting that opinion to you based on our audit. Our responsibility arises from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Independence

When carrying out the audit, we followed the independence requirements of the Auditor-General, which incorporate the independence requirements of the External Reporting Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with or interests in the company.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clint Ramoo", with a horizontal line underneath it.

Clint Ramoo
Audit New Zealand
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand