

MEDIA RELEASE - TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

Auditor-General tables Volume 1 report to Parliament on results of the audit of State entities and audited subsidiaries of State entities for 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2025

The Auditor-General, Martin Thompson, today tabled Volume 1 of their report to Parliament on the audit of financial statements of State entities and audited subsidiaries of State entities for the years ended 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2025.

This report focuses on the outcomes of all of Audit Tasmania's audit activity to assess the adequacy of the internal control structures of State entities. This activity occurs in both our financial and performance audits units. An effective internal control structure underpins the integrity and accuracy of financial data, it also assists in ensuring compliance and delivery of objectives in an efficient, effective and economical manner.

We acknowledge the efforts taken by many entities to continuously improve their control structures in the face of changing technology and risks. The report notes ongoing improvements by entities in resolving findings raised in past audits and a significant number of prior period matters that have been resolved. However, room for improvement remains. Several common areas of concern continue to appear. The higher risk areas include continued weaknesses in relation to:

- Inadequate information technology controls, in particular an overreliance on service providers and an assumption that risks are being managed by external parties. Poor Business Continuity Plans, with many that were narrow in scope and in some cases out of date. Ongoing failures to meet basic security standards, including the management of privileged and generic users.
- Gaps in the management of infrastructure, including poor documentation, inadequate valuation processes and a lack of rigour to the management of work in progress and the associated capitalisation of costs incurred.
- Inadequate segregation, review and approval processes, including approval outside authorised delegations and limited segregation of duties for incompatible activities.
- Failure to either create or maintain adequate documentation to support business processes and practices.

This report also provides an overview of the ouctomes of our audits conducted for the year ended 31 December 2024. The most significant finding in relation to these audits is the continued financial challenges facing the University of Tasmania. The University recorded a fourth consecutive deficit from core operations, resulting in the accumulated total deficits from over the last 4 years now exceeding \$122.40 million. Continued deficits from core operations are not sustainable and the University will need to ensure it follows through with its plans to address the current trend of deficits.

Click through to the reports - AGR 2024-25 Volume 1

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