



MEDIA RELEASE

CCC breaks new ground by holding public examinations in regional WA

8 July 2016

For the first time, the Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) is conducting public examinations in regional Western Australia.

The CCC will hold examinations over two days in Dowerin to further expose the circumstances surrounding activities of former Shire of Dowerin CEO, Mr Dacre Alcock, who has pleaded guilty to four charges of stealing as a servant.

The public examinations in the Dowerin Community Club on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 July 2016 allow witnesses to assist the CCC's inquiry – without leaving the District. The landmark examinations make it possible for the Dowerin community to hear first-hand about a matter that directly impacted their community.

Large amounts of public monies are expended annually by Western Australia's local governments. For the financial year of 2014/15 it is estimated that Western Australia's local governments received approximately \$1.9 billion in rate revenues. Additionally, a further \$282 million was estimated to have been received in Local Government Grants. Robust policies and practices are required to ensure this money is spent appropriately. Creating awareness of what can happen when these practices breakdown encourages local authorities across the State ensure measures are in place to address risks and reduce the incidence of misconduct.

In April 2016, Mr Alcock pleaded guilty to four separate charges of stealing as a servant. A comprehensive financial investigation by the CCC uncovered 665 instances of theft totalling \$599,879.92. The investigation found that Mr Alcock used

several methods to steal from his employer, including using a Shire-issued purchasing card to deposit money into personal online betting accounts and EFT transfers from the Shire's Municipal Fund and Trust Fund accounts into his personal bank accounts.

Mr Alcock has been committed for sentencing in the Perth District Court on 30 September 2016.

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