



MEDIA RELEASE

CCC to hold public examinations into the Shire of Exmouth

26 October 2016

The Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) will hold public examinations into the Shire of Exmouth as part of its ongoing investigation into allegations of serious misconduct by certain officers at the Shire.

The examinations are expected to provide insights and learnings for all local government authorities and will provide ratepayers of Exmouth the opportunity to hear how people entrusted to manage their funds have made decisions and behaved in their business dealings.

For the first time, members of the public, regardless of where they are, will have access to the examinations via live streaming available on the Commission's website. Residents of Exmouth and the wider community will be able to view the examinations from their computer or mobile device.

Part of the Commission's investigation centres around a major contract of the Ningaloo Centre, a significant \$30 million-plus infrastructure project currently under development.

To-date, the CCC's investigation has included a search of the Shire of Exmouth premises in Maidstone Crescent Exmouth in August this year, as well as private examinations of a number of witnesses.

In deciding to hold public examinations, the CCC has carefully balanced the public interest of the ratepayers of the Shire of Exmouth and the wider community, the potential for prejudice and the privacy of individuals involved.

It has concluded that in this matter, the public interest will best be served by public examinations. The Commissioner will reserve the right to move from a public into a private examination at any time if appropriate.

The examinations, which follow the Commission's first public examinations held in regional Western Australia earlier this year (relating to the corrupt activities of the former CEO of the Shire of Dowerin), are likely to serve as another timely reminder of the importance of good governance, the ethical management of public funds, and the responsibility elected members and administrators have in managing and overseeing those funds.

Media briefing: Tuesday 8 November 2016
9:15 am
Corruption and Crime Commission
186 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000.

Public examinations: Tuesday 8 to Friday 11 November 2016
Approx. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Corruption and Crime Commission
186 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000.

Live streaming: The public can view the examinations by visiting the Commission's website from 10:00 am on Tuesday 8 November 2016 at www.ccc.wa.gov.au/operation-sara

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Media contact

Marie Mills: (08) 9421 3600 or 0418 918 202

Louisa Mitchell: (08) 9421 3600 or 0434 308 208