

Date: 30 March 2017

SUMMARY:

- Suspended Shire of Exmouth Council members to undertake compulsory training;
 - Training must be completed before Councillors can be reinstated
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Suspended Exmouth Shire Councillors to get training

Suspended Shire of Exmouth Councillors will receive training from the Department of Local Government on governance and the roles and responsibilities of local councils.

Shire of Exmouth Commissioner Ian Fletcher said he had been advised by the Department of Local Government and Communities that the training would take place in May or June, during their period of suspension.

The training will include instruction on meeting procedures, roles and responsibilities, integrated planning and reporting, financial interest and financial management responsibilities for elected members.

“It is very important that Councillors understand their roles and responsibilities under the Local Government Act and under the terms of their suspension, Councillors have to complete this training before they can be returned to office,” Commissioner Fletcher said.

“The Shire of Exmouth is also working with the Department to arrange training for senior staff in the organisation to ensure everyone is aware of their responsibilities as local government officers.

“We have a responsibility as an organisation to ensure staff receive constant training and support to assist them in carrying out their duties.”

Commissioner Fletcher said that while this had been lacking in the past, in the wake of the Corruption and Crime Commission Inquiry, the Shire was taking its responsibility to improve governance very seriously.

“We are doing a power of work behind the scenes to ensure the Shire can move forward with a culture of honesty, integrity and respect and start regaining the trust of the community,” he said.

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