

# GREG PETTY

Independent Candidate for Lord Mayor

MEDIA RELEASE



## Internal Ombudsman

Independent Lord Mayor Candidate Greg Petty recently announced on 10 August if elected he would seek appointment of an Internal Ombudsman to Wollongong City Council (WCC).

Mr. Petty recommended *“creating or upgrading the position of Professional Conduct Coordinator to **INTERNAL OMBUDSMAN**.”*

**“This person shall be employed by ICAC, paid for by ICAC, & report direct to ICAC and the people of Wollongong”.**

Following Mr. Petty’s MEDIA RELEASE, WCC’s General Managers office released a copy of the Job Specification for the existing role of Professional Conduct Coordinator dated 11 August, 2011.

The supply of the Job Specification resulted from a request to the WCC General Manager on 4 August by Mr. Petty which stated: *“Subject: Job Specifications - Professional Conduct Coordinator. Could you please forward a copy or links to the job role and responsibilities, including reporting criteria”?*

*“As an Accountant and Company Secretary my whole business life, I like many other professionals have been subject to rigorous internal and external audit processes, why then was the approval date of the Job Specification dated 11 August, one day after the Press Release and 7 days after it was formally requested?”*

The recently received Job Description for the Professional Conduct Coordinator shows that officer reports directly to the General Manager. Mr. Petty asks if this is the most appropriate reporting given the history of systemic corruption uncovered by the *Independent Commission against Corruption* in WCC.

Mr Petty, an Accountant and Company Secretary, recognises the new Council will always be accessed in terms of the previous Council scandal. *“This is not about any individual or collective group, on the contrary auditing, crime prevention, corruption, etc is a about process and appropriate reporting procedures”.*

Also noted in the Job Specification was that Community was at the bottom of the External Working Relationship list. Greg stated *“Successful organisations put the customer they serve **FIRST**, before self interest. Does that not say where the Community comes in the past and current councils’ considerations?”*

Mr. Petty would also support *“any recommendation... on a Royal Commission on past Council matters”.*

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More information on this issue:

[Mr. Petty’s Press Release 10 August 2011](#)

WCC Job Specification