



SUMMARY DECISION CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL

Details

Date of decision:	20 December 2024
Complainant:	Mayor Athina Pascoe-Bell
Respondent:	Councillor Danielle Eveleigh
Local Government Council:	City of Palmerston
Code of Conduct:	Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2019
Sitting Panel Members:	Councillor Peter Clee – Chair Councillor Peter Pangquee – Member Ms Anna Shackell – Member

Panel Determinations

	Summary of Complaint	Breaches established	Action taken
1.	Care and Diligence	Yes	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent contravened item 2 by discussing internal Council matters with an external third party.
2.	Courtesy	Yes	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent contravened item 3 in the course of their exiting the Council meeting on 1 October 2024.
3.	Conflict of Interest	-	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent has not contravened item 7.1 or item 7.2 of the Code of Conduct.
4.	Respect for Confidences	Yes	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent contravened item 8.1 but not item 8.2 by discussing internal Council matters with an external third party.
5.	Accountability	Yes	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent contravened item 10 by failing to provide details of the



			external third party to which information was disclosed for the purposes of investigation.
6.	Interests of Municipality, Region or Shire to be Paramount	Yes	The Panel has concluded that the Respondent has not contravened item 11.1, but did contravene item 11.2 by refusing to name the person she provided confidential information to, the nature of the advice and the relationship between her and the third party.

Recommendations

Noting that the Panel has found that the Respondent breached clause 3 of the Code of Conduct regarding 'Courtesy', the Panel recommends that the Respondent issue a written apology to the Council, in acknowledgement of the behaviour exhibited in the course of exiting the Council Meeting on 1 October 2024.

Noting that the Panel has found that the Respondent breached clause 2 of the Code of Conduct regarding 'Care and diligence' and clause 8 of the Code of Conduct regarding 'Respect for confidences', the Panel recommends that the Respondent undertake training in relation to confidentiality principles and requirements as soon as practicable. The Panel also recommends that training of this nature be incorporated during the on-boarding process for any new Councillors, and be referenced in any training manual or relevant internal policies.

Right of Review

Pursuant to section 327 of the Act, the Complainant can apply to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) for review of the Panel's decision. Such an application must be made within 28 days of receiving this decision notice.