

Inquiry into Fraud and Corruption Control in Local Government: a Follow-Up of Two Auditor-General Reports

Hearings 28 July 2025

Question on notice response from:

Carly Bloomfield, Manager Governance, Wellington Shire Council

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Richard WELCH: The question is: have any procurement contracts in the past five years been flagged for anomalies such as cost inflation, non-delivery of services or suspicious vendor patterns, and were any of these escalated to internal audit or integrity bodies? Perhaps we will start in the room and move around.

...

Richard WELCH: Thank you. If there is an irregularity identified or suspected – I am using the generic term ‘red flag’ if there is an irregularity – what is the procedure?

Carly BLOOMFIELD: I will take that on notice and provide that to you

Response:

Over the past five years, Wellington Shire Council has not had any instances flagged for anomalies such as cost inflation, non-delivery of services, or suspicious vendor patterns

Wellington Shire Council’s Procurement Policy reflects a strong commitment to fraud prevention, particularly in Section 2.2.3 (Fraud Prevention) and Section 2.2.4 (Reporting Fraud and Complaints). These sections provide clear pathways for internal staff, members of the public, and suppliers to raise concerns regarding procurement or contract processes. The Fraud and Corruption Control Policy further details the practices and protocols for investigating suspected fraudulent activity. Both policies include contact information for the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC), offering an external reporting option for those who prefer to escalate concerns outside the organisation.