



8.2 Legal Services Panel

Report Author: Acting Group Manager Corporate and Community
Authoriser: Acting General Manager

PURPOSE

To advise Council of the intention to terminate the contracts of the current legal services panel and re-establish a new panel through a tender process.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. Council undertake a tender process to re-establish a legal services panel.
2. Clause 22 in the current panel member contracts '*Termination For Any Reason*' be invoked to terminate the contracts of the current panel members.
3. Provide written notice to panel members.
4. Council's writes to existing panel members inviting them to reapply.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

In late 2017 Council sought tenders from suitably qualified firms for the provision of a Legal Services Panel for a three (3) year contract, commencing on 1 February 2018 with a two-year option period.

At the 14 February 2018 meeting of Council, it was resolved (MN18/18):

THAT in relation to the report concerning Tender for Legal Services - Council adopts the recommendations contained within the Closed Council report – Item 22.5, as follows:

THAT Council accept Tender 6330/17.27 Legal Services Panel and the five (5) listed tenderers to form a panel arrangement for a period of three (3) years, with an option to renew for a further two (2) years:

- Marsdens Law Group
- Shaw Reynolds Lawyers
- Lindsay Taylor Lawyers
- RMB Lawyers
- Sparke Helmore Lawyers

In February 2021 a two-year extension to each lawyer's contracts was exercised, commencing 1 March 2021 with a date for completion 28 February 2023.



REPORT

In light of recent organisational reviews that have been undertaken it is seen as appropriate to refresh Council's legal panel.

A tender process will commence in June and be reported back to a Council meeting in July 2021.

Until the tender is awarded and new panel established, under section 55(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council will utilise the Local Government Procurement contract Legal Services (LGP320) for legal services.

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Community Engagement

Nil.

Internal Communication and Consultation

Procurement.

External Communication and Consultation

Nil.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

- **Environment**

There are no environmental issues in relation to this report.

- **Social**

There are no social issues in relation to this report.

- **Broader Economic Implications**

There are no broader economic implications in relation to this report.

- **Culture**

There are no cultural issues in relation to this report.

- **Governance**

There are no governance issues in relation to this report.

COUNCIL BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RELATED COUNCIL POLICY

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Council is seeking to terminate the services of the current legal services panel and undertake a tender process to re-establish a new panel.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.