

Connect › Support › Advance

Shoalhaven
City Council



Session Number 1A

Strengthening Business Assurance Through Building Internal Relationships

Presented by

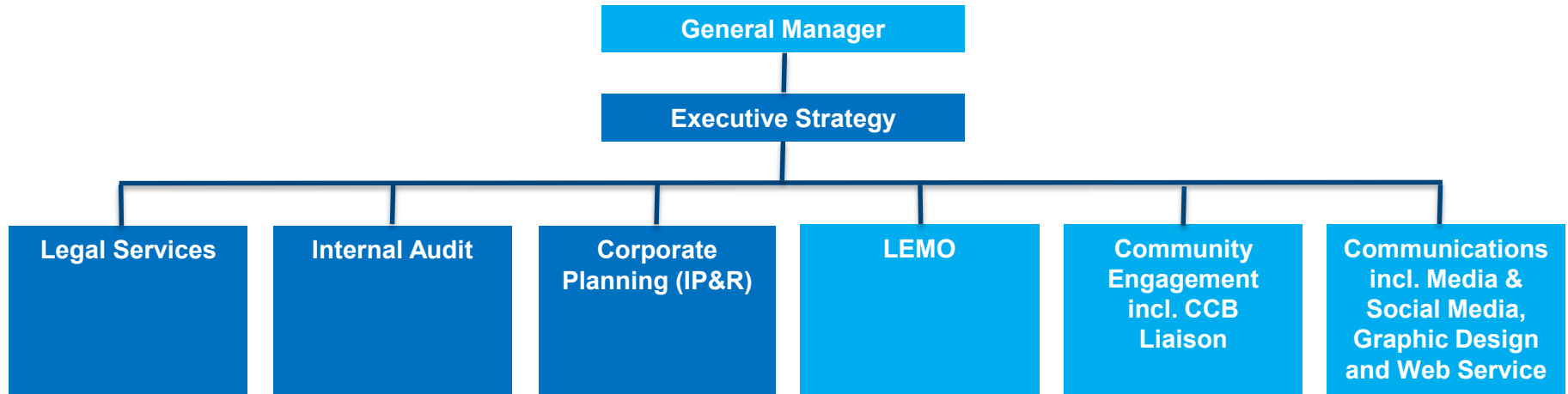
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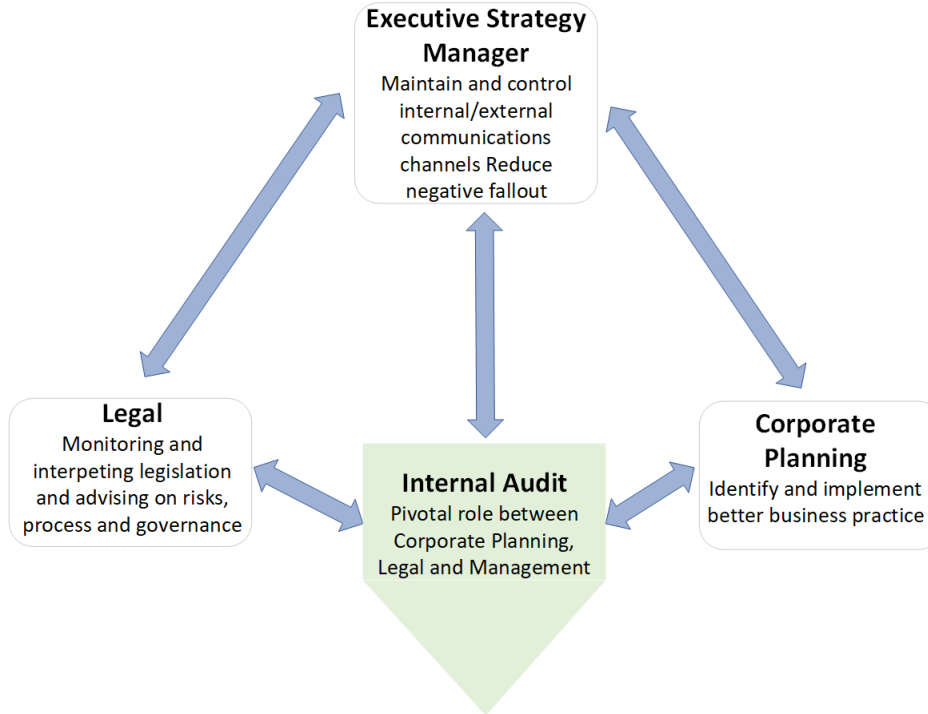
Organisational Structure



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Collaboration Channels



Legal Services



- Provide advice across the organisation on issues including risks, processes and governance (probity)
- Update management on legislative changes
- Identification of better practices

Internal Audit



- **Assurance on council processes and operations through internal audits**
- **Administrative support to Risk & Audit Committee**
- **Provide probity advice at times**
- **Liaison between Risk & Audit committee, management and external auditors**

Corporate Planning

- **Provide organisational support to meet legislative requirements - Planning and Reporting**
- **Update management on legislative changes**
- **Identification of better practices related to business planning and measurement**

Legal Services, Corporate Planning and Internal Audit



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- **Independent roles**
- **Provide services across entire organisation**
- **Focus on business improvement**
- **Risk management**

Useable Information

- **Reliable, accurate and context specific data is required to generate usable information**
- **Usable information is in turn at the heart of Business Assurance processes**
- **Audit, Legal and Corporate Planning functions are underpinned by usable information**

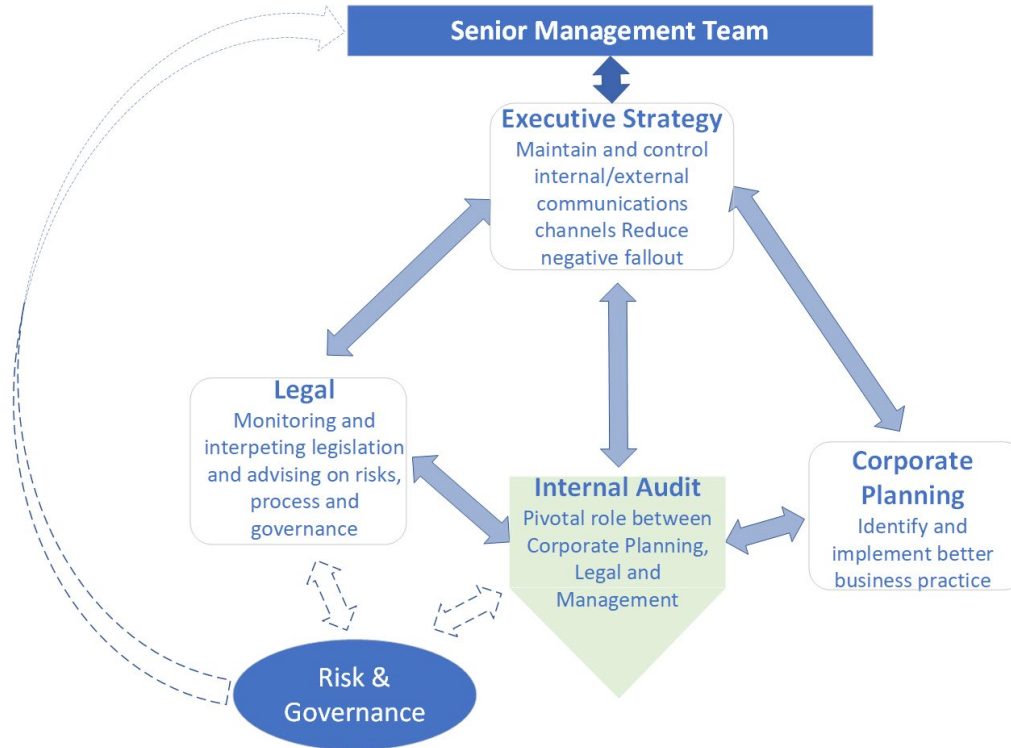
Audit and Corporate Planning Linkage



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- **Legislation changes to Local Government Act**
- **Both Audit and Corporate Planning are being aligned with business improvement**
- **New Planning and Reporting software brings Corporate Planning and Audit together**

Collaboration Channels



Maintain Control Over Disruption

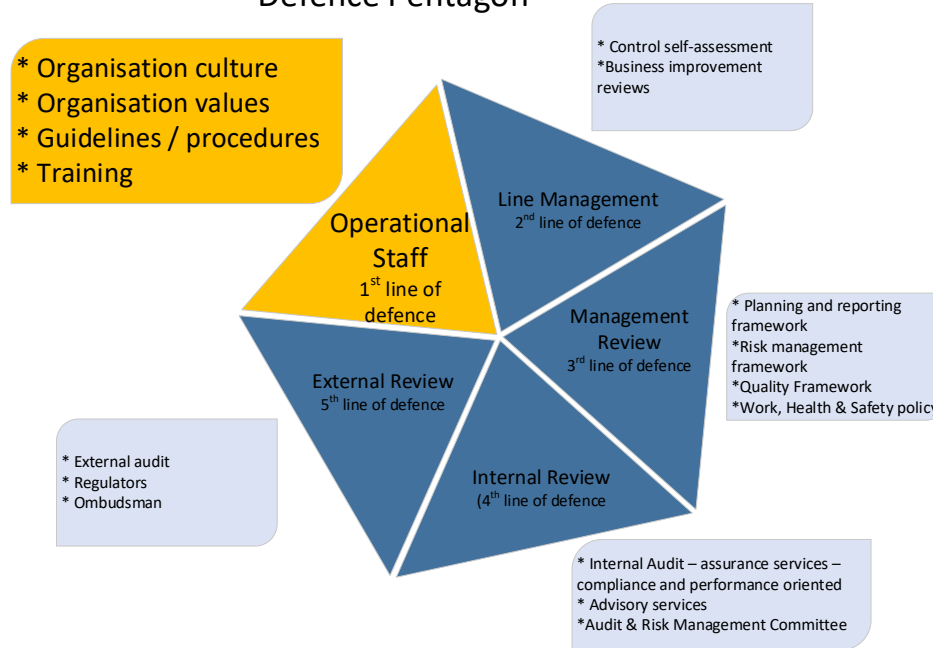


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- **New Council**
- **Transformation**
- **Merger**
- **Special Rate Variation – unknown budgets**
- **New Group Directors**
- **Council decision making**
- **New software – 2 iterations**

Defence Pentagon

Defence Pentagon



Silo Effect

- Incorrect recommendation / report / advice
- Inefficient use of resources
- Misalignment with Strategic Plan or IP&R Framework

Values That Underpin Our Roles



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Respect

- Roles we play in the organisation

Integrity

- Peer review
- Recommendations/advice free from influence

Collaboration

- Similar roles
- Focussed on business assurance activities

Adaptability

- Informal situation allows adaptability
- Working across the organisation
- Refocus roles to align with business improvement

Example of Strengthening Business Relationships



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- **Audit**
- **Risk issues**
- **Legal issues**
- **Public relation issues**
- **Governance**

Strengthening Business Relationships – Day to Day



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- **Regular informal discussions on issues as they arise**
- **Exchange of information and ideas**
- **Broader discussion around significant issues**

Benefits of Strong Internal Relationships

- **Professional support**
- **Avoidance of duplication where possible**
- **Value to the organisation**
- **Recent issues are discussed**
- **Superior advice as issues are known**
- **Improved use of time and resources**

Considerations for Future

- **Develop database of audits and legal advices.**
- **Inclusion of Risk, Audit and Corporate Planning as one software solution**
- **Strengthening ties with Risk and Governance**
- **Improve business alignment across the organisation**
- **Increased use of cross-functional teams within the organisation**

Learnings

- **Silos are less effective**
- **Useful information is power when shared**
- **Informal interactions can provide better insights**
- **Wider perspective on issues through collaboration.**
- **Better outcomes**
- **Advices and recommendations are more adaptable and practicable to organisation.**

Session Number

Strengthening Business Assurance

Through Building Internal Relationships

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