

Dawn threatens to bring down council

by Alice Gorman
 council reporter

COUNCILLOR Dawn Crichtlow has vowed to bring down the Gold Coast City Council after being refused membership of a council committee.

Moments after the snub, Crichtlow told her colleagues that she would immediately book a meeting with Queensland Local Government Minister Desley Boyle and present her with a dossier of evidence compelling her to call in a council administrator.

Crichtlow wanted to be made a member of the economic and cultural development committee but chairwoman C- Ian Grew was not keen. The pair have been at odds for many years, doing little to hide their mutual animosity.

But despite this C- Grew said her opposition to C- Crichtlow's membership was not personal - she simply wanted to keep the committee small. She did not, however, reject C- Peter Young's nomination to the committee.

An angry and upset C- Crichtlow told the full council meeting that she had a right to be on the committee and in fact had instigated many successful issues handled by it, such as health, tourism and international relations.

"I demand that I be on it. Nobody else has been knocked back from going on to a committee in the past," said C- Crichtlow.

"I insist so strongly that if this doesn't happen I will be going to minister Desley Boyle to call in an administrator and I can because I believe that this council will have acted unlawfully or corruptly. This council will be seen as incompetent, I'm serious about that."

"The people of this city are sick and tired of this council playing the game of the bloc. There are investigations going on already about this council and about some of the decisions it has made."

Other than C- Eddy Saroff and Young supporting C- Crichtlow, few councillors bothered to debate the matter but voted to reject C- Crichtlow's request.

C- Crichtlow said she had no doubt that C- Grew's motivations were personal. Their sour relationship goes back to when C- Grew managed Southport Mall.

But C- Grew said it was C- Crichtlow who had the problem.

"I just don't need more people on the committee," said C- Grew.

"This is not a personal thing. I just try to do my job and unfortunately she appears not to like me. I can't help that. I'm very pleasant to her. I said hello to her today and she just put her nose in the air."



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