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A tale of shady council workings

In 2008, the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption released its report about allegations of clandestine development deals involving members of the Wollongong City Council. The inquiry laid bare a complex tale of sex, greed and bribes that led to the council being sacked. These events have inspired a new play at Wollongong's Merrigong Theatre Company, *Table of Knowledge*, named after the famous kebab shop meetings, when Wollongong identities gathered each morning. But aside from telling a good story, Merrigong's artistic director Simon Hinton says the theatre company has a responsibility to be a mirror for the community. "When it broke, our first reaction as the local theatre company was how are we going to respond to this?" he says. Merrigong approached Sydney theatre group version 1.0. and with transcripts from the inquiry constructed the play. The show, part of the company's 2011 season, is devised and performed by a cast including Alan Flower, Kym Vercoe and Yana Taylor (pictured).

BRIDGET CORMACK