

CHINCHILLA SHIRE COUNCIL

A Vital Friendly Shire

In Reply Please Quote:1/5/5

Our Ref: EH:KB

Your Ref:

16 May 2000

The Research Director
Legal, Constitutional and
Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE Q 4000



Submission No 48

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's
Recommendation for Four Year Parliamentary Terms**

Chinchilla Shire Council has received the discussion paper on the above matter and supports the recommendation of a four (4) year term for the Queensland Legislative Assembly with a fixed three (3) year term, based on the argument for the recommendation in the discussion paper.

Local Government has recently moved to a four (4) year term which will allow new members to become familiar with the system and responsibilities and be able to make decisions in the best interest of the community before the completion of the first term as it takes at least two (2) years for new members to understand our system of government. This situation is similar to the State and Federal Parliaments.

Also, the electorate will have an extra 12 months to gauge the performance of the governments initiatives and whether the initiatives are moving the community in the right direction. Under the present three (3) year term, governments are either coming out of election phase or moving into election phase, leaving 1/3 of the term for decision making.

Local Government should have improved direction from a four (4) year term State Government than the present three (3) years.

The four (4) year term will bring Queensland more in line with other State Governments, saving cost to the state on conducting less frequent elections, savings which can be channelled into more productive sections of Queensland's economy.

Yours faithfully,

Ed Hoffmann
CHIEF EXECUTIVE