



**INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT  
QUEENSLAND INC**

Submission 112

02 March, 2000  
Ref: GOV-03

Gary Fenlon MLA,  
Chair,  
Legal, Constitutional and Admin Review Committee,  
Parliament House,  
George Street,  
BRISBANE 4000



Spec 1-4

Dear Sir,

**Freedom of Information Act Review**

I would advise that the Institute wishes to make a submission in regards to the cost associated with FOI applications and the charges that local governments are able to levy for that information, as follows;

*"The Freedom of Information Regulation 1992 should be amended to permit local governments to recover from applicants the actual cost of processing applications for access to documents under the Freedom of Information Act."*

There are many cases in local government where complex applications have cost Councils many thousands of dollars to provide the information and yet the only avenue for cost recovery is the \$30 application fee and photocopy costs. These charges do not reflect the extensive research time and legal costs which may be involved.

Thank you for the opportunity for making a submission to the Review of the FOI Act in Queensland.

Yours faithfully,

Tony Wehlow  
Executive Director

*Leading Professionals in Local Government*