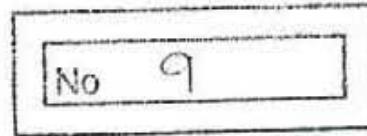


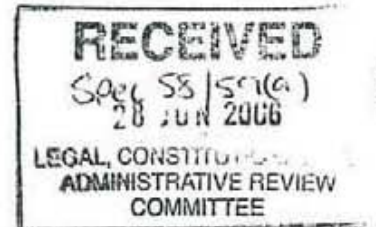
Auditor-General of Queensland



Your ref: Spec 58/Spec 59
Our ref: 00-3242
J Welsh 3405 1115

26 June 2006

Dr L Clark MP
Chair
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative
Review Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Dr Clark

I refer to your letter dated 26 May 2006 inviting me to participate in the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's review of the *Report of the Strategic Management Review – Office of the Queensland Ombudsman* and the *Report of the Strategic Management Review – Office of the Information Commissioner*.

While I do not have any comments to make in relation to the Report on the Strategic Management Review of the Office of the Information Commissioner, I would like to comment on one of the recommendations included in the Report on the Strategic Management Review of the Office of the Queensland Ombudsman. My comments relate to Recommendation 27 which states –

The Ombudsman should continue to discuss with the Auditor-General, ways by which the Auditor-General and his department might play a role in evaluating the complaint management systems by agencies.

While I believe that my mandate extends to conducting this type of audit, currently the Queensland Audit Office's resources are necessarily committed to carrying out the annual financial and compliance audit program required by legislation and to developing the performance management systems audit program as recommended by the Report of the Strategic Review of the Queensland Audit Office (4 October 2004). I do not believe at this time the Queensland Audit Office would be able to accept any additional audit responsibilities which are not part of QAO's principal activities. However, I am willing to continue discussions on action which can be taken either jointly or independently to support this activity. In particular, QAO can assist the Ombudsman by sharing our experiences so that the Ombudsman's audit program may be organised and executed by staff of the Ombudsman's Office who already have particular expertise in this area.



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If you would like to discuss this further, don't hesitate to contact me or alternatively your staff can contact my Acting Director-Audit Policy and Reporting, Mr John Welsh on 3405 1115.

Yours sincerely



Glenn Poole
Auditor-General