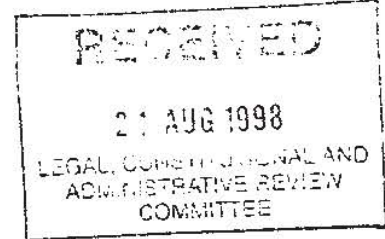




Spec 14 /
Submission No 1

Warrego Electorate Office
PO Box 131
CHARLEVILLE QLD 4470
Telephone (07) 4654 1946
Within Electorate 1800 814 479
Facsimile (07) 4654 2353

Howard Hobbs MLA
Member for Warrego
Shadow Minister for
Local Government and Planning



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

18 August 1998

Dear Sir

I wish to relate to you the following comments in relation to the findings and recommendations of the Report of the Strategic Review of the Queensland Ombudsman.

Recommendation 6

Appears to focus on educating the government agencies and does not include any recommendations to increase awareness in the general community.

Recommendation 9

There are numerous client reference groups in every State Government portfolio. If the Ombudsman was to have a representative on each group they would be doing nothing else but attending meetings. This recommendation is impractical.

Recommendation 10

The requirement of state and local government agencies to who all Ombudsman cases in their annual reports should not be to the extent that it reveals specific details about individual cases. This would be detrimental to confidentiality.

Recommendation 24

If the Ombudsman is to review visiting procedures an effort must be made to ensure that regional and remote communities continue to receive adequate service from the Office of the Ombudsman.

Recommendation 29

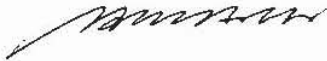
It is of concern that an overall review of all the administrative appeal mechanisms could result in the abolition of the Planning and Environment Court, and Land Court.

Recommendation 14

Allowing the Ombudsman remain open to entrepreneurial opportunities could well result in jeopardising the independence of the Ombudsman because of the perception of conflicts of interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these matters.

Yours faithfully



**Howard Hobbs MLA
Member for Warrego
Shadow Minister for
Local Government and Planning**