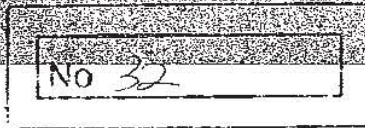
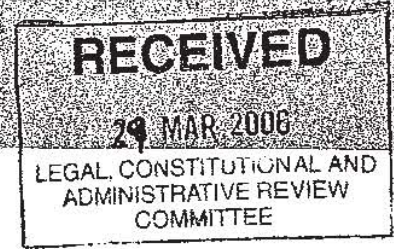




DR BRUCE FLEGG MP

Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party
Member for Moggill
Shadow Minister for Health



Thursday 17 March 2006

The Research Director
Legal, Constitutional & Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George St
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to contribute a small submission to the 'The Accessibility of Administrative Justice' Review administrative by the Legal, Constitutional & Administrative Review Committee. Please find below comments in dot form:

- The fees for non-personal application in some instances would restrict people from submitting an application for financial reasons.
- As most applications would be non-personal this would impact greatly and restrict applicants from lower socio economic environments to gain access to the information they require.
- In regards to reform of the FOI Act there probably needs to be a section that encompasses and considers financial hardship
- More openness is needed by releasing recommendations, opinions and ideas incorporated into documents need to be released and would help to have a broader more realistic picture of the whole situation being investigated by the applicant. Opinions often forms an integral part of a document. It is often important that the opinion is held even if not universally agreed.
- In regards to diversity of people having access to administrative justice I believe it can be improved by more promotion of the service so more people know about it and also by reducing the cost of the application fee
- I believe reform is necessary in the form of minor amendments to the FOI Act to do with the issue of accessibility
- The issue of access to documents forming part of a cabinet submission needs also to be addressed

Kind Regards

Dr Bruce Flegg MP
Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party/ Shadow Minister For Health

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