

Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee

ANNUAL REPORT 2001/2002

REPORT NO. 35, AUGUST 2002

1. INTRODUCTION

The Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee ('the committee' or 'LCARC') is a statutory committee of the Queensland Parliament established under s 80 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld). The committee's responsibilities (described in chapter 2) are set out in the *Parliament of Queensland Act* and other legislation.

The *Parliament of Queensland Act* (s 108) requires the committee to table in the Legislative Assembly, within four months and fourteen days after the end of each financial year, a report about the committee's activities during the year.

The Act further requires this report to include:

- a list of committee meetings and the names of members attending or absent from each meeting: see Appendix A;
- a summary of issues considered by the committee, including a description of the more significant issues arising from the considerations: see chapter 3;
- a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year: see chapter 7; and
- a brief description of responses by ministers to committee recommendations: see chapter 3.

The committee has prepared and tabled this report in accordance with this requirement.

2. THE COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 The committee's law reform responsibilities

The *Parliament of Queensland Act* provides that the committee has the following four areas of responsibility.¹

- Administrative review reform which includes considering legislation, or provisions of legislation, about—
 - (a) access to information;
 - (b) review of administrative decisions;
 - (c) anti-discrimination; or
 - (d) equal employment opportunity.

However, the committee's jurisdiction does not extend to: investigating particular conduct; reviewing a decision to (or not to) investigate a particular complaint or decision; or reviewing reports, findings, recommendations or decisions in relation to a particular investigation, complaint or decision, or particular conduct the subject of a report by the Queensland Ombudsman.

- Constitutional reform which includes any bill expressly or impliedly repealing any law relevant to Queensland's Constitution.
- Electoral reform which includes monitoring generally the conduct of elections under the *Electoral Act 1992* (Qld) and the capacity of the Electoral Commission Queensland to conduct elections.
- Legal reform which includes—
 - (a) recognition of Aboriginal tradition and Island custom under Queensland law; and
 - (b) proposed national scheme legislation referred to the committee by the Legislative Assembly.

The *Parliament of Queensland Act* also requires the committee to deal with an issue referred to it by the Legislative Assembly or under another Act, whether or not the issue is within the committee's areas of responsibility.²

¹ *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), ss 85-89.

² *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), s 84(2).

2.2 The committee's other responsibilities

In addition to the committee's 'law reform' responsibilities, other legislation confers on the committee specific statutory responsibilities in relation to the Ombudsman, the Information Commissioner and the Electoral Commission Queensland. During the year, various committee activities related to these additional responsibilities.

Funding of the Ombudsman

Section 88(3) of the *Ombudsman Act 2001* (Qld) requires the Treasurer to 'consult' with the committee in developing the proposed budget of the Ombudsman for each financial year.

The following occurred during the reporting period in accordance with a consultative process agreed between the Treasurer and the committee for development of the Ombudsman's budget.

- In September 2001, the Under Treasurer provided the committee with a copy of correspondence to the Ombudsman regarding monitoring the 2001-2002 budget and developing the office's 2002-2003 budget and forward estimates.
- In April 2002, the Under Treasurer advised the committee of the Ombudsman's funding requests and offered the committee the opportunity to meet with the Treasurer regarding these requests. (The committee subsequently advised the Under Treasurer that it did not seek a meeting with the Treasurer and provided its views on the Ombudsman's funding requests.)
- In June 2002, the Under Treasurer advised the committee of the outcome of the Ombudsman's funding requests.

Funding of the Information Commissioner

The Office of the Information Commissioner, established under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (Qld), shares its allocated funding with the Office of the Ombudsman. Accordingly, the process described above also relates to the proposed budget for the Information Commissioner.

Appointment of the Ombudsman

Section 59 of the *Ombudsman Act* provides that a person can only be appointed as the Ombudsman if, among other matters, the Premier has consulted with the committee about: (a) the process of selection for appointment; and (b) the appointment of the person as Ombudsman. (The Ombudsman also holds the position of Information Commissioner.)

The term of the former Ombudsman, Mr Fred Albietz, expired on 13 August 2001. In November 2000, the Premier:

- consulted with the former committee about the selection process for a new Ombudsman; and
- invited the Chair and Deputy Chair of the former committee to be members of the selection panel to appoint a new Ombudsman.

When Parliament was dissolved in January 2001, the selection process was suspended in accordance with caretaker conventions regarding significant appointments.

Following the return of the Government and the resumption of the selection process, the Premier invited the Chair and Deputy Chair of the current committee to be part of the selection panel. The Chair and Deputy Chair accepted that invitation.

On 10 July 2001, following completion of the selection process, the Premier wrote to the committee advising of the selection panel's proposed appointment of Mr David Bevan as Ombudsman. The committee subsequently unanimously endorsed the appointment of Mr Bevan and advised the Premier accordingly.

On 9 August 2001, the Governor in Council approved Mr Bevan's appointment. Mr Bevan commenced in the role on 17 September 2001.

Appointment of the Electoral Commissioner

In accordance with s 23 of the *Electoral Act 1992* (Qld), a person can only be appointed as the Queensland Electoral Commissioner if, among other matters, the Attorney-General has consulted with the committee about: (a) the process of selection for appointment; and (b) the appointment of the person as Electoral Commissioner.

The former Electoral Commissioner, Mr Des O'Shea, resigned from the position effective 6 July 2001.

In August 2001, the Attorney consulted the committee about the appointment process for a new Electoral Commissioner. In November 2001 the Attorney and the committee further corresponded about the appointment process and the proposed appointment of a number of candidates to the position.

Mr Bob Longland commenced in the position on 12 February 2002.

3. COMPLETED COMMITTEE INQUIRIES AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES TO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

In this chapter the committee summarises:

- significant issues considered by the committee during 2001/2002;
- the essence of committee recommendations made in relation to issues considered; and
- where applicable, ministerial responses to the committee's recommendations.

Section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act* requires that, if the committee recommends that the Government or a minister take action on an issue, the minister who is responsible for the issue must provide the Legislative Assembly with a response. This response must set out any recommendations to be adopted and the way and time within which they will be carried out, and any recommendations not to be adopted and the reasons for not adopting them.

The minister must table the response within three months of the committee's report being tabled. If the minister cannot comply with this requirement, the minister must table an interim response within three months including reasons for not complying with the three month time limit and, within six months, table a final response.

3.1 Progress report on implementation of recommendations made in the *Report of the Strategic Management Review of the Offices of the Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner* (report no 30)

On 21 June 2000, the Premier tabled in the Legislative Assembly the *Report of the Strategic Management Review of the Offices of the*

Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner ('the review report').³

The review report was referred to the committee pursuant to the then *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1974* (now the *Ombudsman Act*) and the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (Qld).

The former committee reported to Parliament regarding the review report in July 2000: LCARC report no 26.⁴ (The background to the strategic management review and the former committee's involvement in that review is detailed in report no 26.)

In that report, the former committee stated that it looked forward to working with the offices of the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner to ensure that the benefit of the conduct of the review is fully maximised.

After its appointment on 3 May 2001, the current committee familiarised itself with the background to the strategic management review and noted:

- the various statutory responsibilities which the LCARC has regarding the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner;
- that the review report identified a role for the LCARC in monitoring implementation of the review recommendations; and
- that the Premier has encouraged the committee's involvement in overseeing the offices' activities in implementing the review recommendations.

Accordingly, the committee requested, and subsequently received from the Ombudsman a written progress report on the offices' implementation of the recommendations of the strategic management review and the earlier 'strategic review'⁵ of the office.

³ The Consultancy Bureau Pty Ltd (commissioned by the Queensland Government), *Report of the Strategic Management Review of the Offices of the Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner*, The Brisbane Printing Place, June 2000.

⁴ LCARC, *The Report of the Strategic Management Review of the Offices of the Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner*, report no 26, Goprint, Brisbane, July 2000.

⁵ Queensland Government, *Report of the Strategic Review of the Queensland Ombudsman (Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations)*, Goprint, Brisbane, May 1998.

The committee reported to Parliament on 8 August 2001 on the offices' progress in implementing the recommendations of both reviews.

Ministerial response

No ministerial response was required.

3.2 Review of the members' oath or affirmation of allegiance (report no 31)

By letter dated 17 May 2001, the Premier asked the committee to consider recommendation 7 of the Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee ('MEPPC') report no 44,⁶ namely:

That the Oath of Allegiance taken by members of the Legislative Assembly be reviewed, within current constitutional arrangements, as part of the consolidation of the Queensland Constitution and that such review take into account the aspirational statements contained in the previous Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee's Statement of Commitment.

The members' oath of allegiance was then contained in s 4 of the *Constitution Act 1867* (Qld). One of the LCARC's statutory areas of responsibility is constitutional reform.⁷

The committee subsequently resolved to: (a) consider the issue raised in the Premier's letter; and (b) as a first step, seek expert advice from Dr Gerard Carney, Associate Professor of Law, Bond University, regarding a number of issues associated with the MEPPC's recommendation.

In its report on this issue (tabled 25 October 2001), the committee recommended that:

- the Premier introduce a bill to amend s 4 of the *Constitution Act* (as part of the then effort to consolidate Queensland's Constitution) to include a requirement that members of the Queensland Legislative Assembly make an oath or affirmation of office (recommendation 1); and
- the committee conduct further public consultation on the issue of whether members of the Queensland Legislative Assembly

⁶ MEPPC, *Report on a code of ethical standards for members of the Queensland Legislative Assembly*, report no 44, Goprint, Brisbane, September 2000.

⁷ See now the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), s 87.

should be provided with an option as to whether to swear or affirm allegiance to the Crown, or only to the people of Queensland (recommendation 2).

The committee is dealing with this second recommendation as part of its current review of specific content issues regarding the Queensland Constitution: see chapter 4.

Ministerial response

The Premier responded to the committee's first recommendation on 9 November 2001 during the second reading debate on the Constitution of Queensland 2001 and Parliament of Queensland Bill 2001.

The Premier stated that:

*Making provision for an oath or affirmation of office for members in the bill that I have introduced is the government's response to LCARC's report no 31 ...*⁸

The requirement now appears in the *Constitution of Queensland 2001*, s 22 and schedule 1.

3.3 Freedom of Information in Queensland (report no 32)

On 11 March 1999, the Queensland Parliament referred a wide range of matters regarding the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (Qld) ('the FOI Act') to the former committee for inquiry and report. The terms of reference for the inquiry essentially required a comprehensive review of the Act.

The former committee conducted extensive public consultation and research regarding this review including:

- an initial call for public submissions on the terms of reference in March 1999;
- a June 1999 study tour to New Zealand;⁹
- the release of a discussion paper on 8 February 2000 which invited a second round of public

⁸ Hon P Beattie MP, Queensland, Legislative Assembly, *Parliamentary Debates (Hansard)*, 9 November 2001 at 3717.

⁹ The former committee reported on its New Zealand study tour in its 1998/99 annual report. See also LCARC report no 15, *Report on a study tour of New Zealand regarding freedom of information and other matters: From 31 May to 4 June 1999*, GoPrint, Brisbane, July 1999.

input on broad policy matters and FOI ‘design principles’;

- an informal meeting with approximately 50 state and local government FOI coordinators on 17 March 2000;
- a visit to the FOI units of the Queensland Police Service, Brisbane City Council and Queensland Health on 11 May 2000; and
- a public hearing at Parliament House on 11 and 12 May 2000 at which the committee heard from a variety of stakeholders including the Deputy Information Commissioner, Queensland government departments, individuals and organisations who have used the freedom of information process, and academics specialising in freedom of information.

The former committee was unable to finalise this inquiry prior to the dissolution of Parliament for the 2001 general State election.

Soon after its establishment on 3 May 2001, the current committee resolved to finalise the review of the FOI Act on the same terms of reference as the Parliament had referred to the former committee.

This committee subsequently:

- reviewed the extensive amount of material gathered by the former committee;
- met with the new Information Commissioner on 7 November 2001 to discuss the review; and
- held an FOI coordinators’ forum on 16 November 2001 similar to that held by the former committee.

The committee reported to Parliament on its review on 20 December 2001. The committee’s extensive report contained 175 recommendations and 46 conclusions. The major reforms recommended in the committee’s report include:

- the establishment of an independent entity (a Queensland ‘FOI monitor’) with the general responsibility of:
 - monitoring compliance with, and administration of, Queensland’s FOI regime; and
 - promoting community awareness and understanding of the FOI regime and

providing advice and assistance to agencies and members of the public about the regime;

- the development of a whole-of-government strategy to promote the greater disclosure of government-held information outside the FOI Act, including the introduction of administrative access schemes;
- legislative provisions to facilitate a flexible and consultative approach to processing FOI applications. Such an approach has the potential to allow better focussed applications, reduce processing time and cost and, at the same time, improve outcomes for applicants;
- the ongoing implementation of practices within the Office of the Information Commissioner that balance the need for legal precision in handling FOI reviews and decisions with the need for timely and responsive service to the public; and
- mechanisms to require agencies and ministers, in applying exemption provisions, to focus on the harm which would result from disclosure of a document, rather than on the class of documents to which the relevant document belongs. In relation to the Cabinet exemption, the committee recommended that a purposive test be incorporated into s 36(1) of the Act to limit the Cabinet exemption to documents created for the purpose of being submitted to Cabinet.

The committee also:

- reported that it intends to conduct a comprehensive review of the fees and charges regime introduced in November 2001 after one year of implementation; and
- identified a number of areas which it believes warrant further consideration but were outside the terms of reference of the review.

Ministerial response

The Attorney-General tabled an interim response to the committee’s report on 9 April 2002. In his response, the Attorney stated that given the extensive nature of the committee’s recommendations and the need to carefully consider the report, it was not possible to provide a response at that stage but that he would provide a final response by 20 June 2002. On 13 August 2002 the Attorney-General tabled a ministerial

response addressing individual committee recommendations.

3.4 The Electoral (Fraudulent Actions) Amendment Bill 2001 (report no 33)

On 28 November 2001, the Legislative Assembly referred the Electoral (Fraudulent Actions) Amendment Bill 2001 ('the bill') to the committee for consideration and report back to the House before 31 March 2002. The bill was a private member's bill introduced on 18 October 2001 by Mr Lawrence Springborg MP, Member for Southern Downs and Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister for Justice, Shadow Minister for Innovation, Information Technology and Rural Technology, and Shadow Minister for Fair Trading.

In December 2001, the committee called for public submissions on the bill by advertising in various newspapers throughout the State and by directly writing to approximately 240 persons and organisations that it identified as having an interest in the bill.

Submissions closed on 15 February 2002, although the committee continued to accept submissions past that date. The committee received 13 submissions to its inquiry.

On 8 March 2002, the committee met with the Queensland Electoral Commissioner, Mr Bob Longland, and the Deputy Electoral Commissioner, Ms Trudy Aurisch, to discuss issues concerning the bill.

In its report on the bill (tabled on 27 March 2002), the committee stressed that it wholeheartedly agreed with the sentiment of the bill that electoral fraud is totally unacceptable and that measures must be in place to ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, people are discouraged from engaging in such practices.

However, the committee also reported that it had some fundamental concerns with the bill. In particular, the committee considered that there were insurmountable issues as to the practical application of the bill and, more critically, its constitutional validity.

In a majority report the committee recommended that the Legislative Assembly not proceed further with the bill in any form.

Ministerial response

No ministerial response was required. The bill subsequently failed.

3.5 Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman ~ 12 April 2002 (report no 34)

One of the committee's four general areas of responsibility is administrative review reform which includes considering legislation or provisions of legislation about matters including review of administrative decisions.¹⁰ In addition, the committee has a number of specific functions prescribed by the *Ombudsman Act 2001*¹¹ which relate to the Ombudsman. In particular, s 89 of that Act provides that the LCARC's functions under the Act include:

- to monitor and review the performance by the Ombudsman of the Ombudsman's functions under the Act;
- to report to the Assembly on any matter concerning the Ombudsman, the Ombudsman's functions or the performance of the Ombudsman's functions that the committee considers should be drawn to the Assembly's attention;
- to examine each annual report tabled in the Assembly under the Act and, if appropriate, to comment on any aspect of the report;
- to report to the Assembly any changes to the functions, structures and procedures of the office of the Ombudsman the committee considers desirable for the more effective operation of the Act.

In February 2002, the committee discussed a process to ensure that it fulfilled its statutory functions regarding the Ombudsman. In this regard, the committee agreed to:

- aim to hold two general meetings with the Ombudsman each year;
- time these meetings so that one follows the tabling of the Ombudsman's annual report and the other precedes the estimates process;

¹⁰ *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), s 86.

¹¹ This Act commenced on 3 December 2001, effectively replacing the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1974* (Qld).

- ask the Ombudsman written questions on notice on a variety of issues and require written answers to those questions before the meeting;
- meet with the Ombudsman and ask follow up questions without notice; and
- report to Parliament on these proceedings and include in the report the written questions on notice, answers to those questions and a transcript of the meeting.

In accordance with this process, the committee met with the Ombudsman and senior officers of the Ombudsman's office on 12 April 2002 to discuss issues arising from the Ombudsman's 2000/2001 annual report¹² and the strategic plan for the Office of the Queensland Ombudsman 2001/02-2004/05.¹³ Prior to the meeting, the committee asked the Ombudsman a series of questions on notice and received the Ombudsman's response to those questions.

Key issues the committee raised with the Ombudsman throughout this process included:

- recent changes to the organisational structure of the office;
- current and future priorities of the office;
- strategies to fulfil the Ombudsman's role to improve the quality of decision-making and administrative practice in agencies;
- office resources; and
- complaint handling timeframes and resolution of outstanding complaints.

On 14 May 2002, the committee reported to Parliament on its meeting with the Ombudsman and included in its report the committee's questions on notice and the Ombudsman's responses to those questions, together with a transcript of the meeting of 12 April 2002.

Ministerial response

No ministerial response was required.

¹² Queensland Ombudsman, *2000/2001 27th Annual Report to Parliament*, Brisbane, October 2001.

¹³ A copy of this strategic plan is available at <www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au/strategic/index.html>.

4. CURRENT COMMITTEE INQUIRIES

4.1 Constitutional reform

On 29 February 2000, the Premier tabled in the Legislative Assembly the report of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission (QCRC) titled *Report on the possible reform of and changes to the Acts and laws that relate to the Queensland Constitution*.¹⁴ As this title suggests, the QCRC's mandate was wide-ranging, essentially, to research and investigate whether there should be reform of, and changes to, the Acts and laws that relate to the Queensland Constitution.

The Premier stated that he tabled the QCRC's report for 'consideration and reporting' by the LCARC.¹⁵

The then LCARC subsequently reviewed and reported to Parliament on:

- the QCRC's recommendations relating to a consolidation of the Queensland Constitution;¹⁶ and
- the QCRC's recommendation that the maximum term of the Legislative Assembly be extended to four years with a fixed minimum period of three years.¹⁷

The former LCARC did not embark on a review of the remainder of the QCRC recommendations before its dissolution in January 2001 for the 2001 general State election.

In February 2002, this committee resolved to conduct an inquiry into issues of constitutional reform encompassing:

- a review of the QCRC recommendations not considered by the former committee and other issues raised by the QCRC;

¹⁴ GoPrint, Brisbane, February 2000.

¹⁵ Hon P D Beattie MP, Ministerial statement, Queensland Constitutional Review Commission Report, Queensland, Legislative Assembly, *Parliamentary Debates (Hansard)*, 29 February 2000 at 45-46.

¹⁶ LCARC, *Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendations relating to a consolidation of the Queensland Constitution*, report no 24, GoPrint, Brisbane, July 2000.

¹⁷ LCARC, *Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendation for four year parliamentary terms*, report no 27, GoPrint, Brisbane, July 2000.

- issues of constitutional reform which the Government referred to the committee in a letter from the Acting Premier dated 17 January 2002; and
- an outstanding issue from LCARC report no 31 relating to the oath or affirmation of allegiance required to be taken or made by Queensland members of Parliament: see chapter 3.2.

The committee is dealing with these issues of constitutional reform in separate stages. The first two stages largely relate to matters which the QCRC has given substantial consideration to and concern certain substantive issues of constitutional reform (stage 1), and entrenchment of the Constitution (stage 2).

The third stage of the committee's inquiry will concern QCRC R5.6 that, during this Parliament, the LCARC conduct an inquiry into the possibility of special representation for Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

Finally, the committee will give further consideration to the issue of a preamble for the Constitution.

4.1.1 The Queensland Constitution: Specific content issues

In April 2002, the committee released an issues paper titled *The Queensland Constitution: Specific content issues*¹⁸ to facilitate a call for public submissions on certain specific issues of substantive constitutional reform (stage 1 of the committee's wider constitutional review inquiry). The committee advertised its call for submissions in various newspapers throughout the State and by directly writing to approximately 460 persons and organisations that it identified as having an interest in the issues under inquiry.

Submissions closed on 31 May 2002, although the committee accepted submissions received after that date. As at 30 June 2002 the committee has received 37 submissions.

The committee intends to report to Parliament on stage 1 of its review early in the 2002/2003 financial year.

4.1.2 The Queensland Constitution:

¹⁸ Goprint, Brisbane.

Entrenchment

The committee is currently working on a consultation paper regarding stage 2 of its wider constitutional review inquiry. The committee anticipates releasing this paper at the same time as the stage 1 report.

5. MEETINGS AND OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES FOR 2001/02

Below is a summary of committee meetings and other activities for the financial year.

Description	Total
Committee meetings	36
Public hearings ¹⁹	1
In-camera hearings	4
Committee publications	7
Ministerial responses to committee reports ²⁰	2
Ministerial responses to committee reports outstanding as at 30 June 2002 ²¹	1
Consultants engaged ²²	3

6. TRAVEL

The committee undertook no travel during the reporting period.

7. COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE

7.1 Expenditure

Staff salaries and other employee-related expenses ²³	\$161,468.07
Salary related taxes etc ²⁴	\$9,332.20
Superannuation	\$19,087.44
Travel ²⁵	\$2,159.01

¹⁹ FOI coordinators forum held on 16 November 2001.

²⁰ This comprises one interim response to the committee's FOI report (see chapter 3.3) and one final response to the inquiry into the MPs' oath or affirmation of allegiance (see chapter 3.2).

²¹ A final ministerial response to the committee's report on FOI in Queensland (see chapter 3.3) was tabled on 13 August 2002.

²² The committee engaged the same consultant, Dr Gerard Carney, to assist with its inquiries into the MPs' oath or affirmation of allegiance (see chapter 3.2) and stages 1 and 2 of its constitutional reform review (see chapter 4).

²³ Includes overtime, long service leave levy and other allowances.

²⁴ Includes fringe benefits tax, payroll tax and work cover.

Consultants	\$3,000.00
Meeting expenses	\$2,102.18
Telecommunication costs	\$1,940.48
Reference books, publications, subscriptions etc	\$1,180.91
Printing of publications	\$15,682.50
Advertising	\$6,952.30
Miscellaneous expenses including maintenance of equipment, stationery and consumables	\$445.01
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$223,350.10

7.2 Revenue

The committee's revenue for the period was \$88.20. All of this revenue related to the proceeds of sale of the *Queenslanders' Basic Rights* handbook through Goprint outlets.

7.3 Total operating position

The committee's total operating position was \$33,919.10 less than that budgeted.

Karen Struthers MP Chair

LCARC MEMBERSHIP – 50TH PARLIAMENT

Mrs Karen Struthers MP (Chair)
Miss Fiona Simpson MP (Deputy Chair)
Mrs Liz Cunningham MP
Mr Peter Lawlor MP
Mr Ronan Lee MP
Ms Rachel Nolan MP
Mrs Dorothy Pratt MP

STAFF

Ms Kerry Newton (Research Director)
Ms Veronica Rogers (Principal Research Officer)
Ms Tania Jackman (Executive Assistant)

CONTACTING THE COMMITTEE

Copies of this report and other LCARC publications are available on the Internet via the Queensland Parliament's home page at: [<www.parliament.qld.gov.au/committees/legalrev.htm>](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/committees/legalrev.htm).

The committee's contact details are:

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²⁵ Includes travel and travel-related expenses relating to: regional committee members attendance at committee meetings, hearings etc. and staff travel with, or for, the committee.

APPENDIX A: LCARC MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD 2001 – 2002

DATE OF MEETING	KAREN STRUTHERS	FIONA SIMPSON	LIZ CUNNINGHAM	PETER LAWLOR	RONAN LEE	RACHEL NOLAN	DOROTHY PRATT
9 July 2001	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
12 July 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31 July 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3 August 2001	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
3 August 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
30 August 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
30 August 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
11 September 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 September 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 September 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 October 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 October 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 October 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 October 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 October 2001		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 October 2001		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7 November 2001	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
16 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
27 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 November 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 December 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 December 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12 December 2001	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 February 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6 March 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8 March 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 March 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 April 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
12 April 2002	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 April 2002	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
8 May 2002	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 June 2002	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 June 2002	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

<u>REPORTS</u>	DATE TABLED
1. Annual report 1995-96	8 August 1996
2. Report on matters pertaining to the Electoral Commission of Queensland	8 August 1996
3. Review of the Referendums Bill 1996	14 November 1996
4. Truth in political advertising	3 December 1996
5. Report on the Electoral Amendment Bill 1996	20 March 1997
6. Report on the study tour relating to the preservation and enhancement of individuals' rights and freedoms and to privacy (31 March 1997—14 April 1997)	1 October 1997
7. Annual report 1996-97	30 October 1997
8. The Criminal Law (Sex Offenders Reporting) Bill 1997	25 February 1998
9. Privacy in Queensland	9 April 1998
10. Consolidation of the Queensland Constitution – Interim report	19 May 1998
11. Annual report 1997-98	26 August 1998
12. The preservation and enhancement of individuals' rights and freedoms in Queensland: Should Queensland adopt a bill of rights?	18 November 1998
13. Consolidation of the Queensland Constitution: Final Report	28 April 1999
14. Review of the <i>Report of the Strategic Review of the Queensland Ombudsman</i> (Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations)	15 July 1999
15. Report on a study tour of New Zealand regarding freedom of information and other matters: From 31 May to 4 June 1999	20 July 1999
16. Review of the Transplantation and Anatomy Amendment Bill 1998	29 July 1999
17. Annual report 1998-99	26 August 1999
18. Issues of electoral reform raised in the Mansfield decision: Regulating how-to-vote cards and providing for appeals from the Court of Disputed Returns	17 September 1999
19. Implications of the new Commonwealth enrolment requirements	2 March 2000
20. The Electoral Amendment Bill 1999	11 April 2000
21. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman (Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations) regarding the Ombudsman's <i>Annual Report to Parliament 1998 – 1999</i>	19 April 2000
22. The role of the Queensland Parliament in treaty making	19 April 2000
23. Issues of Queensland electoral reform arising from the 1998 State election and amendments to the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i>	31 May 2000
24. Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendations relating to a consolidation of the Queensland Constitution	18 July 2000
25. Annual report 1999-00	19 July 2000
26. The <i>Report of the strategic management review of the Offices of the Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner</i>	19 July 2000
27. Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendation for four year parliamentary terms	28 July 2000
28. The prevention of electoral fraud: Interim report	14 November 2000
29. Annual report 2000-01	2 August 2001
30. Progress report on implementation of recommendations made in the Report of the strategic management review of the Offices of the Queensland Ombudsman and the Information Commissioner	8 August 2001
31. Review of the Members' oath or affirmation of allegiance	25 October 2001
32. Freedom of Information in Queensland	20 December 2001
33. The Electoral (Fraudulent Actions) Amendment Bill 2001	27 March 2002
34. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman – 12 April 2002	14 May 2002

PAPERS

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Truth in political advertising (Issues paper)	11 July 1996
Privacy in Queensland (Issues paper)	4 June 1997
The preservation and enhancement of individuals' rights and freedoms: Should Queensland adopt a bill of rights? (Issues paper)	1 October 1997
Upper Houses (Information paper)	27 November 1997

Inquiry into issues of Queensland electoral reform (Background paper)	25 November 1999
The role of the Queensland Parliament in treaty making (Position paper)	25 November 1999
Freedom of Information in Queensland (Discussion paper)	8 February 2000
Four year parliamentary terms (Background paper)	11 April 2000
Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendations relating to a consolidation of the Queensland Constitution (Position paper)	27 April 2000
Inquiry into the prevention of electoral fraud (Issues paper)	8 September 2000
The Queensland Constitution: Specific content issues (Issues paper)	18 April 2002