

Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee

ANNUAL REPORT 2003/2004

REPORT NO. 45, AUGUST 2004

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 section 2) are set out in the *Parliament of Queensland Act* and other legislation.

The *Parliament of Queensland Act*¹ 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 section 4;
- a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year: see section 9; and
- a brief description of responses by ministers to committee recommendations: see section 4.

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

The Parliament, and hence the former committee, dissolved on 13 January 2004 for the State general election. Therefore, this report concerns two committees, namely the LCARC of the 50th Parliament and the LCARC of the 51st Parliament which was established on 18 March 2004.

¹ *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), s 108.

2. COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Law reform responsibilities

The *Parliament of Queensland Act* provides that the committee has the following four areas of responsibility.²

- 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.

² *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), ss 85-89.

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.³

2.2 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.

A consultative process has been agreed between the Treasurer and the committee for developing the Ombudsman's budget. In accordance with this process, on 23 March 2004 the Under Treasurer advised the committee that the Ombudsman had not submitted to the Cabinet Budget Review Committee a request for additional funding in the 2004/05 State budget. The Under Treasurer advised also that the Cabinet Budget Review Committee had endorsed the process and timetable for the 2004/05 budget.

The committee discussed the Ombudsman's funding at a meeting held with the Ombudsman on 11 May 2004: see section 4.5.

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 above discussion also relates to the proposed budget for the Information Commissioner.

Biannual meetings with the Ombudsman

Section 89 of *Ombudsman Act* provides that the committee'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; and
- 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 former committee agreed to 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;
- ask the Ombudsman written questions on notice on a variety of issues and require written answers to those questions before each 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 LCARC of the 50th Parliament met with the Ombudsman on one occasion in the reporting period. The current LCARC has also adopted this process and, similarly, met with the Ombudsman on one occasion during the reporting period. These meetings are discussed further in section 4.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

In section 4 the committee discusses inquiries completed during the reporting period.

In section 5 the committee discusses current inquiries.

In both of these sections the committee refers to particular stages of a broad constitutional reform

³ *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (Qld), s 84(2).

project. This inquiry emanated from 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*.⁴ The Premier tabled this report in the Legislative Assembly on 29 February 2000 for 'consideration and reporting' by the committee.⁵

LCARCs since that time have been progressively reviewing the QCRC's recommendations.

The current committee is completing the review of the QCRC's recommendations with an inquiry into the issue of a preamble for the Queensland Constitution: see section 5.1.

4. COMPLETED COMMITTEE INQUIRIES AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES TO COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act* requires that, if the committee recommends that the Government or a minister take action about 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.

In this section the committee summarises:

- significant issues considered by the committee during 2003/2004;
- the essence of committee recommendations made in relation to issues considered; and
- where applicable, ministerial responses to the committee's recommendations.

4.1 The role of the Queensland Parliament in treaty making – Review of tabling procedure (report no 39)

On 19 April 2000, the LCARC of the 49th Parliament tabled report no 22 *The role of the Queensland Parliament in Treaty Making*.⁶ In its report that committee recommended that the Premier be required to table in the Queensland Parliament from time to time certain information regarding proposed treaty actions. The committee further recommended that the Premier, at any time, but at least annually, report to the Queensland Parliament on: (a) any substantive issues for Queensland arising out of particular treaties during the reporting period; and (b) the adequacy of the treaty making and consultation process from Queensland's perspective.

That committee also recommended a review of the effectiveness of the above requirement by the LCARC two years after its implementation.

The former committee deferred review of the tabling procedure until March 2003, being two years after the Premier first tabled material in accordance with the earlier recommendation.

In early 2003, the former committee sought the views of:

- the Premier regarding the value of the tabling procedure; and
- the Clerk of the Parliament regarding any administrative difficulties associated with the procedure.

In the absence of any evident difficulties with the current arrangement, the former committee recommended in its report to Parliament (tabled on 17 July 2003) continuation of the current procedure whereby the Premier:

- tables certain information regarding proposed treaty actions in Parliament; and
- reports at least annually to the Parliament on issues relating to treaties.

That committee further recommended that the Standing Orders Committee consider adopting a new Standing Order in the same terms as the Sessional Order which enabled the Premier to table treaties information during Parliament's recess.

⁴ Goprint, Brisbane, February 2000.

⁵ Hon P D Beattie MP, Queensland, Legislative Assembly, *Parliamentary Debates (Hansard)*, 29 February 2000 at 45-46.

⁶ Goprint, Brisbane.

Ministerial response

A ministerial response was tabled on 19 September 2003. The Premier endorsed the recommendation regarding continuation of the current tabling procedure.

A new Standing Order also permits a Minister or the Governor to table any document concerning the affairs of the State when the House is not sitting.⁷

4.2 Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendations regarding entrenchment of the Queensland Constitution (report no 41)

This inquiry concerned the QCRC's recommendations relating to entrenchment of the Queensland Constitution.⁸ In essence, a review of these recommendations required the committee to consider whether any provisions of the Queensland Constitution should be entrenched and, if so, how and when entrenchment should be effected.

On 27 August 2002, the committee released a consultation paper titled *The Queensland Constitution: Entrenchment – Proposals for comment*⁹ which invited public submissions on various committee proposals.

The committee received 23 submissions in response to its consultation paper. In addition, on 28 November 2002 the Queensland Chapter of the Australian Association of Constitutional Law hosted a round-table discussion in conjunction with the committee to discuss the proposals contained in the committee's consultation paper and other relevant issues.

In its report (tabled in August 2003) the committee addressed a wide range of issues concerning entrenchment of the Constitution.

In particular, the committee's majority report noted that the QCRC's report related to the current system of government, that is, a constitutional monarchy but that there was considerable support for, and activity directed at, change in that system of government to a republic. A successful Commonwealth referendum on this issue would, practically, require Queensland and each of the

other Australian states to take steps to also become republics.

In this light, the committee's majority reported that it could not support referendum entrenchment of provisions of the Constitution which relate to the current monarchical system of government. Further, the committee considered that, unless compelling justification for an earlier constitutional referendum arises, any further consolidation or referendum entrenchment of the Constitution should be delayed until the Queensland Parliament seeks a republic referendum.

Subject to these comments, the committee proposed in its report a test for deciding which provisions of the Constitution should be referendum entrenched. The committee used this test to identify essential elements of the Constitution which should be referendum entrenched at the appropriate time.

The committee also recommended that the Constitution should be amended as soon as possible by way of ordinary legislative amendment so that four requirements together comprising 'parliamentary entrenchment' apply to the whole Constitution. Parliamentary entrenchment is an important procedural mechanism to ensure that amendments to the Constitution are given detailed consideration and in such a way as to facilitate public input to the proposed amendments.

Ministerial response

A ministerial response was tabled on 28 April 2004. The Government supported the committee's recommendation that there be no further referendum entrenchment of provisions relating to the monarchical system of government while the prospect of a change to a republican system of government remains on the agenda.

The Government also supported the committee's general approach regarding which provisions of the Constitution should be referendum entrenched but stated that the Government will decide at the appropriate time which specific constitutional provisions it will put forward for referendum entrenchment.

The Government did not support the recommendation that all provisions of the Constitution be parliamentary entrenched due to a number of concerns.

4.3 Hands on Parliament: A parliamentary

⁷ See Standing Order 301A of the current *Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly* and Standing Order 31 of the *Standing Rules and Orders* to be binding from 31 August 2004.

⁸ Note 4.

⁹ Goprint, Brisbane.

committee inquiry into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' participation in Queensland's democratic process (report No. 42)

In its report, the QCRC noted interest in, and support for, the possibility of having special representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the Legislative Assembly. While it did not propose how this might occur, the QCRC recommended that the LCARC of the 50th Parliament '*conduct an inquiry into the possibility of special representation for Aborigines and for Torres Strait Islanders*'.¹⁰

In August 2002, the LCARC resolved to broaden the QCRC's recommendation and inquire into the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in democratic processes in Queensland, including the possibility of special representation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In December 2002, the committee released an issues paper to stimulate public submissions to its inquiry.¹¹ In this paper the committee sought feedback on five strategies that might assist in enhancing Indigenous people's participation in democratic processes. These strategies concerned:

- enhancing participation in existing processes;
- direct input into Parliament;
- an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly;
- dedicated seats in the Parliament; and
- changes to the electoral system.

The committee provided copies of its issues paper to over 700 agencies and individuals.

Between March and July 2003 the committee engaged in an extensive program of consultation through meetings with key agencies and individuals and public meetings throughout Queensland.

The committee received 56 written submissions to its inquiry.

In its report (tabled in September 2003) the committee recommended a range of achievable and workable strategies to enhance the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander people in Queensland's democratic processes.

These strategies centred around:

- acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first peoples of this country;
- encouraging political parties to actively recruit, encourage and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in various aspects of party processes;
- enhancing civics and voter education;
- enhancing employment, training and leadership development opportunities and programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in democratic institutions and processes;
- enhancing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' participation in local government; and
- enhancing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' direct input into policy, legislative and consultative processes.

The committee also recommended that the LCARC, or its appropriate successor, should:

- monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the strategies recommended in the report; and
- after three state electoral cycles or nine years, whichever is the later, conduct an evaluation of the strategies to determine the extent to which they have enhanced participation and whether any further action is required.

Ministerial response

The Government's response to the committee's recommendations was tabled in the Parliament on 21 April 2004. The Government's response indicated support for, and a willingness to implement, most of the committee's recommendations.

The Government noted the committee's recommendation regarding a proposed evaluation of the strategies recommended in the report and further stated that it would request the committee to conduct an interim evaluation after the first full electoral cycle, with a full evaluation after three electoral cycles (or nine years).

¹⁰ Note 4 at 91, recommendation 5.6.

¹¹ Goprint, Brisbane.

4.4 Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman (25 November 2003) and final 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. 43)

In accordance with the process outlined in section 2.2, the committee held its fourth general meeting with the Ombudsman on 25 November 2003.

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

- complaint numbers and the improved timeliness within which complaints are handled;
- the proportion of complaints resolved informally;
- the Office's policy on early intervention in complaints;
- initiatives put in place by the Advice and Communication Unit;
- the progress of the Workplace Electrocutions Project;
- the impact of *Catalyst*, the Office's complaints and records management system that became operational on 3 December 2002;
- the ongoing effect of the restructure of the Office;
- the progress of the Complaints Management Project and the steps involved in its various stages;
- the feedback provided to the Department of Corrective Services drawn from complaints by prisoners;
- general budgetary issues, including the impact of an unsuccessful funding request of \$60 000 during the 2002/03 budget process; and
- the development of human resource policy and procedures manuals for the Office.

The committee also reported that nearly all of the recommendations of the *Strategic Management Review* relating to the office had been implemented or substantially implemented. Similarly, most recommendations relating to the Office of the Information Commissioner had been implemented.

Ministerial response

No ministerial response required.

4.5 Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman – 11 May 2004 (report no. 44)

In accordance with the process outlined in section 2.2, the committee held its fifth general meeting with the Ombudsman on 11 May 2004.

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

- the timeliness of complaints resolution;
- the *Catalyst* complaints and records management system and the improved capacity of the Office to analyse and report on complaints data;
- a review of the investigative team structure;
- assistance being given to agencies to improve complaint handling procedures, including the Effective Complaints Management Project, and the preparation and issue of publications such as *Developing Effective Complaints Management Policy and Procedures*;
- the Better Decisions Project to improve administrative decision-making;
- the co-operative project, with other complaint agencies, to promote multicultural access to, and awareness of, services;
- recommendations made to agencies to improve practices and procedures, including formal recommendations under section 50 of the *Ombudsman Act*;
- surveys of complainants conducted to ascertain satisfaction with the outcome of complaints;
- progress towards a completed package of human resource policies; and
- budgetary issues for the Office, including budgetary limitations in relation to proposed advice and awareness activities and printing and production.

Ministerial response

No ministerial response required.

5. CURRENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

5.1 Preamble for the Queensland Constitution

The final QCRC recommendations to be reviewed by LCARC relate to a preamble for the Queensland Constitution. In April 2002, the former committee stated that it did not propose to pursue the issue of whether the Constitution should include a preamble and, if so, what form that preamble should take. The Premier later wrote to that committee asking it to reconsider its position.¹²

Subsequently, in its *Hands on Parliament* report, the former committee recommended that, as a step towards constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the LCARC should consider the issue of a preamble for the Queensland Constitution and, in particular, inclusion in that preamble of due recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.¹³

On 17 June 2004, the current committee released an issues paper titled *A preamble to the Queensland Constitution*¹⁴ to facilitate the committee's call for public submissions on the QCRC's recommendations.

The issues paper invited public submissions on the issues raised in the paper by the closing date of 27 August 2004. To the end of the reporting period, the committee had received three such submissions.

5.2 Four year parliamentary terms

On 18 March 2004, the Premier wrote to the committee requesting that the committee undertake a new examination of the issues surrounding four year parliamentary terms for Queensland.

The committee is currently examining this request.

5.3 Monitoring of *Hands on Parliament* recommendations (ongoing)

As noted in section 4.3, in the *Hands on Parliament* report the former committee recommended that LCARC monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the strategies

¹² LCARC, *The Queensland Constitution: Specific Content Issues*, Goprint, Brisbane, April 2002.

¹³ LCARC, *Hands on Parliament: A parliamentary committee inquiry into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples participation in Queensland's democratic processes*, Goprint, Brisbane, September 2003.

¹⁴ Goprint, Brisbane.

recommended in that report to enhance the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland's democratic processes.

In accordance with that recommendation, in May 2004 the current committee followed up each action identified in the Government's response to the report by writing to the Ministers responsible seeking their advice as to progress in implementing relevant recommendations.

6. MEETINGS AND OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES FOR 2003/04

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

Description	Total
Committee meetings	17
Public meetings (see below)	1
In-camera hearings	0
Inspections, attendance at conferences, study tours etc	2
Committee publications	7
Ministerial responses to committee reports	5
Ministerial responses to committee reports outstanding as at 30 June 2004	0
Consultants engaged	1 ¹⁵

The current committee's first meeting (held on 8 April 2004) consisted of a series of meetings with key statutory office holders relevant to the committee's jurisdiction, namely, the:

- Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, Mr David Bevan;
- Electoral Commissioner, Mr Bob Longland;
- Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Ms Susan Booth; and
- Chair of the Queensland Law Reform Commission, Justice Roslyn Atkinson.

The committee undertook public meetings as part of its *Hands on Parliament* inquiry. These meetings were convened by sub-committees and advertised as open to the public although formal evidence as such was not taken by the sub-

¹⁵ The committee engaged Professor Gerard Carney to assist with stage 2 of its constitutional reform inquiry – Entrenchment of the Queensland Constitution: see section 4.2.

committees. Most of these public meetings took place in the 2002-03 financial year.

7. STAFF

The committee's secretariat is staffed by a Research Director, Principal Research Officer and Executive Assistant.

From 3 February 2003 to 18 September 2003, Ms Angela Ruska was seconded for two days per week from the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy to assist the committee with its *Hands on Parliament* inquiry. The committee paid 40% of Ms Ruska's salary for this period.

8. TRAVEL

The then Chair and Research Director attended meetings relevant to the *Hands on Parliament* inquiry in Sydney on 31 July 2003.

The Chair of the current committee and the committee's Research Director attended the national conference of the Australasian Study of Parliament Group in Perth on 28 and 29 May 2004. The theme of this conference was *The role of Parliament in constitution making and constitutional amendments*. The Research Director presented a paper at the conference on recent constitutional developments in Queensland.

9. COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE

9.1 Expenditure

Staff salaries and other employee-related expenses (excl taxes and superannuation) ¹⁶	\$158,995.26
Salary related taxes etc ¹⁷	\$10,569.55
Superannuation	\$18,568.70
Staff – Temporary	\$11,264.52
Travel ¹⁸	\$7,502.35
Consultants	\$4,250.00
Meeting expenses	\$1,259.10
Witness expenses	\$1,237.06
Telecommunication costs	\$2,078.43

¹⁶ Includes overtime, long service leave levy and other allowances.

¹⁷ Includes fringe benefits tax, payroll tax and work cover.

¹⁸ 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.

Reference books, publications, subs etc	\$1,138.18
Printing of publications	\$11,414.27
Advertising	\$5,650.40
Miscellaneous expenses including maintenance of equipment, stationery and consumables	\$678.78
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$234,606.60

9.2 Revenue

The committee's revenue for the period was \$10.80. All of this revenue related to the proceeds of sale of the *Queenslanders' Basic Rights*¹⁹ handbook through Goprint outlets.

9.3 Total operating position

The committee's total operating position was \$41,392.29 less than that budgeted. This is largely due to the committee not being in existence for the period around the 2004 State election.

Dr Lesley Clark MP
Chair

¹⁹ This handbook was prepared as part of LCARC report no 12 *The preservation and enhancement of individuals' rights and freedoms in Queensland: Should Queensland adopt as bill of rights?*, Goprint, Brisbane, November 1998.

APPENDIX A: LCARC MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD 2003 – 2004

LCARC (50th Parliament)

DATE OF MEETING	KAREN STRUTHERS	FIONA SIMPSON	LIZ CUNNINGHAM	PETER LAWLOR	RONAN LEE	RACHEL NOLAN	DOROTHY PRATT
19 August 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 August 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 September 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 September 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 September 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
7 October 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 October 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28 October 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
25 November 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 December 2003	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

LCARC (51st Parliament)

DATE OF MEETING	LESLEY CLARK	FIONA SIMPSON	ANDREW FRASER	RONAN LEE	MARK MCARDLE	ANDREW MCNAMARA	IAN RICKUSS
8 April 2004	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
20 April 2004	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28 April 2004	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 May 2004	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 May 2004	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
15 June 2004	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
17 June 2004	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

LCARC MEMBERSHIP – 50TH PARLIAMENT

CHAIR: Ms Karen Struthers MP, Member for Algeria
DEPUTY CHAIR: Miss Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydore
MEMBERS: Mrs Liz Cunningham MP, Member for Gladstone
Mr Peter Lawlor MP, Member for Southport
Mr Ronan Lee MP, Member for Indooroopilly
Ms Rachel Nolan MP, Member for Ipswich
Mrs Dorothy Pratt MP, Member for Nanango

LCARC MEMBERSHIP – 51ST PARLIAMENT

CHAIR: Dr Lesley Clark MP, Member for Barron River
DEPUTY CHAIR: Miss Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydore
MEMBERS: Mr Andrew Fraser MP, Member for Mount Coot-tha
Mr Ronan Lee MP, Member for Indooroopilly
Mr Mark McArdle MP, Member for Caloundra
Mr Andrew McNamara MP, Member for Hervey Bay
Mr Ian Rickuss MP, Member for Lockyer

SECRETARIAT

MS KERRY NEWTON	Research Director
MS SARAH LIM	Principal Research Officer (until 7/5/04)
MS JULIE COPLEY	Principal Research Officer (from 1/6/04)
MS ANGELA RUSKA	Project Officer (until 18/9/03)
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>.

The committee's contact details are:

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Email: lcarc@parliament.qld.gov.au

REPORTS	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. <i>The 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

REPORTS	DATE TABLED
35. Annual Report 2001/2002	23 August 2002
36. The Queensland Constitution: Specific content issues	27 August 2002
37. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman ~ 26 November 2002	12 December 2002
38. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman ~ 29 April 2003	6 June 2003
39. The role of the Queensland Parliament in treaty making – Review of tabling procedure	17 July 2003
40. Annual Report 2002/2003	21 August 2003
41. Review of the Queensland Constitutional Review Commission's recommendations regarding entrenchment of the Queensland Constitution	27 August 2003
42. Hands on Parliament: A parliamentary committee inquiry into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' participation in Queensland's democratic processes	11 September 2003
43. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman (25 November 2003) and final 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	17 December 2003
44. Meeting with the Queensland Ombudsman ~ 11 May 2004	17 June 2004

PAPERS

<u>PAPERS</u>	DATE TABLED
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
The Queensland Constitution: Entrenchment (Proposals for Comment)	27 August 2002
Hands on Parliament - A Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Participation in Queensland's Democratic Process	12 December 2002
A preamble for the Queensland Constitution?	17 June 2004