



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

16 March 2001



Mr R Doyle  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Mr Doyle

Please find enclosed the Response to Public Works Committee Report No. 72, November 2000 on "Queensland Police Service – Upgrade of District Headquarters and Replacement of Regional Headquarters at Rockhampton".

Your assistance in tabling the response as soon as possible would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

[Original Signed]

**Sue Wright**  
**Cabinet Legislation and Liaison Officer**  
**Department of Public Works**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**REPORT NO. 72, NOVEMBER 2000**

**QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE –  
UPGRADE OF DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AND REPLACEMENT OF REGIONAL  
HEADQUARTERS AT ROCKHAMPTON**

**FINAL RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Works Committee (PWC) undertook an inquiry into the Queensland Police Service (QPS) project in Rockhampton. In the report tabled in Parliament on 14 November 2000, the PWC was satisfied with all aspects of the planning, procurement and fitness for purpose of the facility.

The report identified the QPS 'building code' as being instrumental in achieving the successful outcome and recommends:

*"... that the Minister for Public Works promote the development and use of building codes similar to that used by the QPS in other appropriate departments and agencies."*

The PWC report makes particular reference to the benefits that QPS achieved by preparing a detailed design document that fully describes QPS's standard requirements for their projects. This ensured the Rockhampton project achieved best practice in police facility design.

The PWC also noted that by preparing a building code, the QPS substantially reduced the time and money spent in developing the design. The PWC made further comment that other Queensland Government departments would achieve similar benefits by developing a standard design briefing document that outlines their own best practice design requirements.

While there would be benefits in agencies having a standard design document, the term 'building code' presently used by the QPS is likely to cause confusion. The same term is generally accepted as referring to the Building Code of Australia (BCA) that is contained in Queensland legislation under section 8 of the *Standard Building Regulation 1993*.

The BCA provides a national minimum building standard, however the QPS 'building code' is an accommodation standard that specifically addresses the design requirements for Queensland police facilities. It is therefore necessary to replace the term 'building code' by a term that more appropriately reflects the purpose of the QPS document. A 'design standard' would be a more appropriate title.

The Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) approved by the Government in June 1999 has been established to promote the effective delivery of the Government's capital building works program and provides best practice frameworks for agencies involved in capital works.

The CWMF already promotes the development and use of 'Project Briefs' to all agencies undertaking capital works. A Guideline is presently being prepared that will provide detailed advice on the use of Project Briefs.

I have requested that this Guideline be expanded to promote the development and use of design standards by each agency. The Guideline will give detailed advice to agencies on how to prepare a design standard and what information should be included in the document so that design consultants can produce documentation for building work that addresses the agency's needs.