



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PAROLE BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2005

Sentence Administration Act 2003

SENTENCE ADMINISTRATION ACT 2003

TO: The Attorney General

FROM: The Parole Board of Western Australia

REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 112 OF THE SENTENCE ADMINISTRATION ACT 2003

“Before 1 October in each year, the Board is to give a written report to the Minister on-

- (a) the performance of the Board’s functions during the previous financial year;
- (b) the number of prisoners released on parole during the previous financial year; and
- (c) the operation of this Act and the relevant parts of the Sentencing Act 1995 so far as they relate to parole orders (other than CEO parole orders), to Re-entry Release Orders and to the activities of the Community Corrections Officers in relation to those orders during the previous financial year.”

This report covers the period 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

PAROLE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The following persons constituted the Parole Board of Western Australia as at 30 June 2005.

Chairman: H A Wallwork QC

Members: Ms C Chamarette M Psych (Clinical Psychologist) - Community member.
Inspector W J Mitchell - Police Department representative (Commissioner of Police nominee).
Professor N Morgan BA (Jurisprudence) MA (Criminological Studies) PhD with Distinction - Community member.
Mr Alan Piper MBA BE (Hons) FIE (Aust) FAIM CP Eng MACS - CEO, Department of Justice representative, succeeded by Mr Colin Murphy on 30 June 2005.
Mr I Sarich BAppSc (Soc Wk) – Community Justice Services, Department of Justice officer nominated by CEO.
Mr C Somerville BA - Community member.

Deputy Members: Acting Inspector B Bale (Deputy to Mr W J Mitchell).
Ms N Bennett Dip Teaching BE JP (Deputy to Mr C Somerville).
The Right Reverend M B Challen AO BSc Licentiate of Theology (Second Deputy to Professor Morgan).
Mr Alan Parke, Department of Justice (Deputy to Mr Piper).
The Reverend D A Robinson AM BA B Divinity M Theology (Deputy to Ms C Chamarette).
Mrs A J Thompson LLB BA (Deputy to Professor N Morgan).

Mr Wallwork was appointed as Chairman of the Board on 1 April 2004.

The following persons also performed duties as members during part of the year in their capacity as Officers within the Department of Justice:-

Ms D Bateman (BSc Psych); Mr D Bandy; Mr R Fong (BA, BSocAdm LLB (Hons) Grad Dip Leg Prac); Ms A Kenworthy; Ms A Rabbitt (B AppSc (Social Work) Grad Dip Crim Justice) and Ms A Walsh BA Criminal Justice Administration.

During the year, Ms Irene Morgan LLB (Hons) LLM, Legal Research Officer and Mr Jeff Bell, Acting Assistant Secretary made significant contributions to the legal and administrative functioning of the Parole Board.

PREAMBLE

1. Appointment of Deputy Members

In recognition of the increasing workload of the Parole Board over the last five years, and other commitments of Board members, permission was sought under Section 10 of the *Interpretation Act 1984* (WA) and pursuant to clause 4(1) of schedule 1 to the *Sentence Administration Act 2003* (WA), to appoint more than one deputy to a member appointed by the Governor. The Attorney General supported the appointment of second deputies and Cabinet approved the first appointment of a second deputy in December 2004. Further such appointments will relieve pressure on Board members in the coming year.

2. Workload of the Board

It is not generally appreciated that whilst judicial officers (Judges and Magistrates) sentence persons to terms of imprisonment and declare their parole eligibility, it is the responsibility of the Parole Board, in the case of most of the serious offenders, to decide or recommend, when those persons should be released from prison. In this regard, the Board has a most important and integral role in the sentencing process.

There were 78 scheduled meetings and 23 special meetings of the Parole Board during the year. Special meetings were held to consider unexpected events.

There were 63 occasions where video linking was used by prisoners appealing a decision of the Board. While this has increased the time required to deal with cases, this use of video linking is seen as a valuable tool in allowing prisoners to make personal representations to the Board regardless of their location within the State prison system.

The Board continues to encourage visitors to the Board and during the period of this report there were 80 visitors to the Board, the majority being Community Corrections Officers.

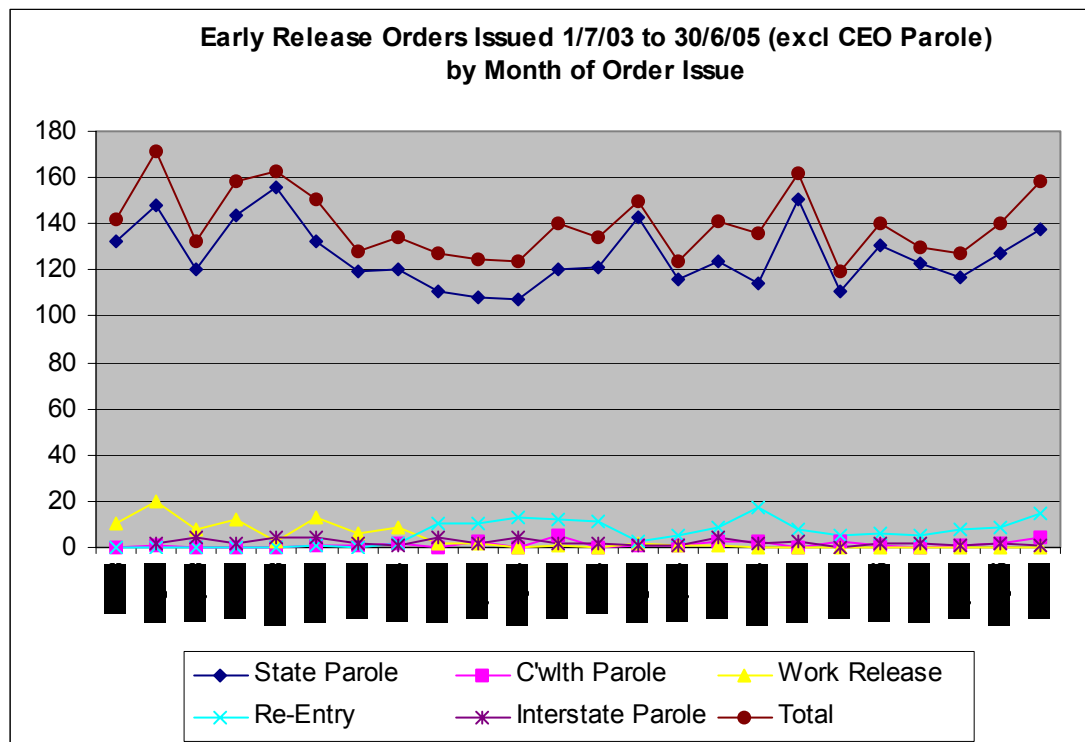
PAROLE BOARD CONSIDERATIONS 2004/2005		
Total Considerations	3823	100%
Outcome	Number of Orders	% of Total
Release on Parole	1106	28.93%
Defer Release on Parole	648	16.95%
Parole Denied	85	2.23%
Suspend Parole	522	13.66%
Cancel Suspension	150	3.93%
Cancel Parole	266	6.96%
Re-entry Release	103	2.69%
Deny Re-entry Release	184	4.81%
Suspend Re-entry Release	2	0.05%
Cancel Re-entry Release	6	0.16%
No Action on Breach	49	1.28%
Defer Action of Breach	41	1.07%
Appeal allowed/upheld	32	0.84%
Decision to Stand	126	3.30%
Pre Release Program Approved	10	0.26%
Defer Pre Release Program	73	1.91%
Cancel Pre Release Program	1	0.03%
Other Decisions	173	4.52%
Adjourned	137	3.58%
Cases Re-listed	48	1.25%
Permission to Leave State	61	1.59%

Secretary Decisions		
Total Considerations	694	100%
Auto Paroles	425	61.24%
Other Decisions	269	38.76%

Total Considerations for 2004 -05	4517
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NB: The Auto Parole releases and other Secretary decisions were omitted from the previous Annual Report.

Early Release Orders Issued 1/7/04 to 30/6/05 (excl CEO Parole)						
Month	State Parole	C'wlth Parole	Work Release	Re-Entry	Interstate Parole	Total
Jul-03	132	0	10	0		142
Aug-03	148	1	20	0	2	171
Sep-03	120	0	8	0	4	132
Oct-03	144	0	12	0	2	158
Nov-03	156	0	3	0	4	163
Dec-03	132	1	13	1	4	151
Jan-04	119	1	6	0	2	128
Feb-04	120	2	9	2	1	134
Mar-04	111	0	2	10	4	127
Apr-04	108	3	2	10	2	125
May-04	107	0	0	13	4	124
Jun-04	120	5	1	12	2	140
Jul-04	121	0	0	11	2	134
Aug-04	143	1	2	3	1	150
Sep-04	116	1	1	5	1	124
Oct-04	124	3	1	9	4	141
Nov-04	114	3	0	17	2	136
Dec-04	151	0	0	8	3	162
Jan-05	111	3	0	5	0	119
Feb-05	131	1	0	6	2	140
Mar-05	123	0	0	5	2	130
Apr-05	117	1	0	8	1	127
May-05	127	2	0	9	2	140
Jun-05	138	4	0	15	1	158



3. Visits by Board Members

Members of the Board were able to visit the Kimberley and Pilbara regional prisons and Community Justice Services (CJS) Centres as well as the Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women, Bentley.

In February 2005, the Rev D Robinson, Ms A Rabbitt and Ms N Bennett visited the Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women. The Pilbara and Kimberly Regions each had three Board members visit from 29 May to 1 June 2005.

Mr I Sarich, Ms A Walsh and Ms N Bennett spent time at Roebourne, Karratha, South Hedland and Newman CJS centres and spoke to staff about the manner in which the Board makes decisions impacts on the management of offenders in their region. A morning was also spent visiting the Jigalong Aboriginal Community and meeting with the Community Council and Elders who expressed concern over the release of violent offenders back to Jigalong while they were on parole. Some time was also spent at Roebourne Regional Prison where various issues were raised, including allowing sufficient time prior to the release date to organise transport, clothes and prisoner's property.

Acting Inspector B Bale, Ms C Chamarrette, Ms J Thompson and Mr J Bell (Acting Assistant Secretary) visited Broome CJS and Broome Regional Prison as well as the Bungarun Work Camp at Derby. They also visited Mount Pierre, Kupartiya, Kurngull Corporation, Ngarantjadu and Wangkatjungka Communities before arriving at Halls Creek. From Halls Creek the group visited Balgo, Mulan and Billiluna Communities.

The visit to the Kimberley emphasised the remoteness of Communities in this region, the concerns of community members with the placing of parolees and the difficulties Department of Justice staff have in travelling to remote areas to supervise offenders.

4. Appointment of a Victim Representative and Victim Issues

The Board has been advised that amendments will be made to the *Sentence Administration Act 2003* by the end of 2005 to allow for the appointment of a Victim Representative on the Board. This will be in line with the appointment of a Community/Victim Member to the Supervised Release Review Board who was appointed on 1 January 2005.

When deciding on a prisoner's release on parole, the Board is required to consider a number of factors set out in section 16 of the *Sentence Administration Act 2003*. The Board has been advised that there will be an amendment to section 16 of the Act, which will formally require the Board to take into consideration victim submissions when considering a prisoner's suitability for release on parole.

The Board already takes into account victim issues. It also considers the degree of risk that the release of the prisoner would appear to present to the personal safety of people in the community or of any individual in the community. It has been the Board's practice to consider the possible effect of an offender's release on a victim as well as any potential victims.

Over the years, Victim Issues have been given an increasing emphasis throughout the criminal justice system.

5. Availability of Programs

The Department of Justice offers a number of treatment programs designed to rehabilitate particular groups of prisoners such as violent offenders and sex offenders. These programs are run at selected prisons, mostly in and around the Perth metropolitan area. Over the past two years, the Board has observed there are some important basic questions concerning programs such as *what* programs will run; *where* will they run; and *when* will they run.

The Board repeats its concerns (made in earlier annual reports including its Annual Report of 2004) about the lack of availability of programs in several prisons: -

- (a) Prisoners in regional prisons can often only access programs if they are transferred to other locations.
- (b) The transfer of prisoners to another prison often means that they are further removed from their families and Aboriginal Communities.
- (c) Prisoners in protection units and those serving short sentences are particularly disadvantaged by the lack of available programs.
- (d) In its previous Annual Reports (2003 and 2004), the Board stressed the urgent need for the development and delivery of culturally appropriate programs for Aboriginal prisoners. In 2002/2003, the Board considered 1,118 Aboriginal prisoners for parole releases. In 2004/2005, the Board considered 832 Aboriginal prisoners for their first release to parole and 385 for a re-release to parole. The Board reiterates its concerns that there are currently not enough programs in regional areas, which are Aboriginal "specific". It is encouraging that some Aboriginal specific programs are being developed within regional prisons. However more work needs to be done in this area.
- (e) In regional prisons, there is a significant shortage of officers who can make assessments and facilitate programs for prisoners.
- (f) Women prisoners at Bandyup Prison and regional prisons also appear significantly disadvantaged in terms of program access.

The Board urges that prisoners should be allowed to participate in a relevant program in a timely manner so that programs are completed prior to their eligibility date for release. Too often, this is not happening at the present time. It costs approximately \$90,000 per prisoner per year to accommodate an offender in prison. The Board has recently initiated a review of "special term" prisoners sentenced to two years or more imprisonment for offences of

a violent or sexual nature, approximately two months prior to their release dates instead of one month as previously adopted.

With regard to Life and Indefinite sentenced prisoners, the Board has taken steps to initially consider those cases approximately three months after the prisoner has been sentenced. The purpose is to ensure that if possible the needs of prisoners for programs and treatment are tackled as soon as possible after their imprisonment

In terms of community treatment programs, the Board welcomes the initiative of the Programs Branch of the Department of Justice in recruiting staff to deliver an expanded range of programs in the metropolitan and regional areas. New offender rehabilitation programs have been developed for the metropolitan area and large country towns such as Bunbury.

Regional Program Development Officers have been employed to address the availability of programs for people in regional and remote areas, but they face serious logistical problems in trying to develop appropriate and culturally relevant programs. However, programmatic interventions, such as brief psycho-educational programs and community education programs are being developed.

It is an initiative that the Board welcomes.

6. Evaluation of Programs

The Board reiterates its concern which was expressed in its Annual Report of 2004 that many of the prison-based treatment programs have not been subject to systematic evaluation in terms of their impact on recidivism or other measures of effectiveness.

The Board has noted that in early July 2004, the Department of Justice announced that a project was being conducted to independently evaluate programs and risk assessment tools with the aim to monitor recidivism, to evaluate programs, to provide valuable information on offender treatment needs and risk assessment, and to produce a profile of Western Australia's violent and sexual offenders.

The Board looks forward to being informed of the project's progress and outcomes, particularly as the risk of re-offending is such an important factor for the Board to take into account when considering the release of a prisoner (discussed below).

7. Risk Assessments

In considering a person's suitability for release on parole, section 16 of the *Sentence Administration Act 2003* requires the Board to consider a number of "parole considerations" including "the degree of risk" that the release of the

prisoner would appear to present to the personal safety of people in the community or of any individual in the community.”

The Board often relies on risk assessment conducted on prisoners by experts in the field. It is apparent from the Board’s own observations and from the transcripts in the Mahoney Inquiry that it is, at times, very difficult to predict or assess a person’s level of risk of re-offending in a violent or sexual manner. Risk assessment is not an exact science particularly when someone may be assessed to be at a “moderately high”, “low-medium”, “medium-high”, “moderate” or “relatively low” risk of re-offending. The Board has, in some cases, requested a risk assessment be conducted by a psychologist or expert who is independent of the Justice System.

With regard to Aboriginal prisoners, it would be worthwhile to conduct a study on the appropriate risk assessment tools to apply to them.

In research conducted in the United Kingdom in 2002 by the Centre for Criminological Research, University of Oxford, entitled “*Reconviction rates of serious sex offenders and assessments of their risk*”,¹ the findings challenge some preconceptions about the risks posed by sex offenders which have implications for sentencing and parole policies. For example, the report questioned whether sex offenders who deny their offences, and therefore do not accept their need for treatment, pose a particularly high risk of repeating their sexual crimes. The research also, more generally, suggests caution in assuming that there will be a marked reduction in sexual reconvictions if all those identified as “high risk” were to be subject to very much longer indeterminate sentences of imprisonment.

8. Aboriginal Issues

The Board shares a number of concerns and findings in a report entitled “*Aboriginal People and Justice Services: Plans, Programs and Delivery*” by Professor Neil Morgan and Ms Joanne Motteram (Law Reform Commission of Western Australia, Background Paper No. 7, December 2004).

Firstly, the Board is very concerned that the number of Aboriginal people in our prisons has risen to unacceptable levels. The report by Professor Morgan and Ms Moterram states:-

“Although Aboriginal people constitute a very small proportion (around 3%) of the State’s total population, they provide a – and frequently the - major client/customer group for the Department of Justice. This is most starkly illustrated by the fact that Aboriginal people currently constitute over 40 per cent of the State’s prison population, over 25 per cent of people on community corrections orders, and around a third of children appearing in the Children’s

¹ For a more detailed account, please see “Sex Offenders Emerging from Long-Term Imprisonment: A Study of Their Long-Term Reconviction rates and of Parole Board Members’ Judgments of Their Risk”, *British Journal of Criminology*, 42, 371-394.

Court. At some pressure points they constitute an even higher proportion, accounting for around 50 per cent of the female prisoner population, and 70-80 per cent of the juvenile detention population. In addition, it is now widely acknowledged that many Aboriginal people (especially women) face complex and entrenched issues of victimisation.”

Further, on 30 June 2003, the Aboriginal imprisonment rate was 2,744 per 100,000 of the adult population.² This means that as at 30 June 2003, one in 19 Aboriginal males was in prison at any given time in Western Australia.³

The most troubling statistic of all is that as at 30 June 2005, Aboriginal prisoners constituted 40.5% of the prison population in Western Australia. More than 80 per cent of the increase between January 2003 and October 2004 in this State’s prisoner population comprised Aboriginal inmates. The same report states:-

“ ... on 28 October 2004, there were 1,264 Aboriginal inmates (an increase of 44.5%) and around 2,000 non-Aboriginal inmates (an increase of 6%). Over the following three weeks (to 18 November 2004), the number of Aboriginal prisoners increased by 36 (to 39.2% of the prison population). The number of non-Aboriginal prisoners increased by just 20. The total prison population reached over 3,300 for the first time.”⁴

One apparent reason for the high Aboriginal imprisonment rate is the high rate of offending. However, it is difficult to understand why Western Australia’s imprisonment rate is so much higher than the rest of Australia. The report by Professor Morgan and Ms Motteram stated that “much of the explanation for our high imprisonment rate must lie in systemic issues within our criminal justice system.”. Of relevance to the Board, the report states that:-

- * Aboriginal people have borne the brunt of punitive law and order initiatives such as the three-strike laws.
- * Aboriginal people (at least in regional prisons) have less access to prison based programs that facilitate parole release and should reduce re-offending.
- * Aboriginal people, especially women, are disproportionately imprisoned for fine default.
- * There is no evidence that abolishing short prison sentences has had the desired effect. In fact, Aboriginal imprisonment rates have increased dramatically since January 2004.

An important issue of concern raised in the report is the dislocation of Aboriginal detainees and prisoners from their land, culture and family. In

² Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Prisoners in Australia* (2003).

³ “*Aboriginal People and Justice Services : Plans, Programs and Delivery*” by Professor Neil Morgan and Ms Joanne Motteram (Law Reform Commission of Western Australia Background Paper No. 7, December 2004), pages 15-16.

⁴ At pages 16-17.

many cases, Aboriginal prisoners are not able to have visits from their families due to the geographical distance of Aboriginal Communities in remote areas. This can be a very stressful experience for all concerned and is compounded in the case of Aboriginal prisoners who come from a traditional background with a different language.

In some cases, the Board understands that Aboriginal prisoners are transferred to a metropolitan prison for purposes of assessments, reports, medical treatment, and participation in programs or court appearances. Again, this places additional stresses on them.

The Board stresses the need for “*inter-agency collaboration*” or a “*whole of government approach*” in order to address Aboriginal justice issues. The Gordon Inquiry may have assisted in driving changes in this area. The Board agrees with Professor Morgan and Ms Moterram’s findings that:-

- * Western Australia does not have good Aboriginal structures upon which to build coordinated justice initiatives particularly in regional areas. The Board notes that steps are currently being put in place through the Kimberley Justice Plan and the Cross Border Justice Project. However these initiatives are still in their infancy.
- * Even if the focus is on the whole of government approach, there is a need for “good coordination within individual government departments in order to drive systemic and sustained change.” Ad hoc initiatives which “fade away” are to be avoided. By way of illustration, the Gordon Inquiry expressed concern with regard to prison based treatment programs: “The Inquiry finds that programs should not place excessive reliance on any single officer or employee and accordingly risk the program lapsing when that person ceases employment.”

Space precludes a thorough discussion of other areas of concern and shortfall affecting Aboriginal prisoners and reference should be made to the report by Professor Morgan and Ms Motteram. Some concerns which affect the Board are succinctly summarised in their report in Chapter 8:-

- * Aboriginal prisoners do not move through the prison system to the same extent as non-Aboriginal prisoners and they tend to endure the worst prison conditions.
- * Re-entry issues for Aboriginal prisoners, including getting home after their imprisonment has ended.
- * Lack of detailed evaluations in core areas (including treatment programs).
- * The need to consider new forms of program development rather than attempting a peripheral ex post facto “indigenisation” of generic programs.
- * Program delivery has been poor over a sustained period in some prisons, especially in regional prisons.

The Board agrees that these problems are not of recent origin and that further funding is required with particular consideration of the allocation of current funding.

9. Mental Health Issues

Mental health issues experienced by prisoners continue to be a growing problem for decision making by the Board. In any given Board meeting, there are prisoners who have been detected and diagnosed with some form of mental illness or mental impairment. Paranoid schizophrenia, borderline personality disorder, intellectual disability, dementia, drug-induced psychosis, risk of self-harm, chronic psychotic disorder, bi-polar disorder, psychopathy and depression are some examples of mental health problems which the Board has to take into account when considering a person's suitability for release to the community. People with an intellectual disability or brain damage can also pose difficulties on release.

The profile of such prisoners typically include a young man who has a combination of mental health problems, is of Aboriginal descent, who comes from a remote Community and has limited family and community supports. Even when such a prisoner is released into the community, the delivery of mental health services in remote areas is limited. To give an example, the Board considered a case of an Aboriginal man with paranoid schizophrenia who required close and structured supervision in the community if he were to be released on parole. The Board was advised that there was only one resident psychiatrist based in Geraldton who was responsible for the whole of the Midwest/Gascoyne region, and that the mental health service was able to offer case management of one hour per week. The Board urges that immediate funding be given to provide more services to country areas.

In summary, mental health issues have ramifications in terms of:-

- * The provision of adequate psychiatric care and supervision in the community particularly in regional and remote areas of Western Australia.
- * Treatment programs tailored to meet the needs and abilities of these prisoners.
- * Suitable accommodation with support structures and supervision.
- * Support and supervision in the community.

10. Lack of a Secure Facility with Supervision in the Community

The Board reiterates its concern expressed in the Annual Report of 2004, that it is often inappropriate to place a person (particularly a person with a mental health problem or intellectual disability) in unsupported accommodation in the community. In many cases, it can be very difficult to find appropriate accommodation options to suit the needs of individuals.

In the Board's view, consideration should be given to the establishment of designated places which are not prisons but which offer appropriate security and supervision. Currently, no such places exist. The Board is concerned that some prisoners may have to spend a great part of their lives in prison because there is no alternative place for them to live.

The Board wrote to the then Director-General of the Department of Justice regarding its concerns. In a letter dated 5 May 2005, the Director General of the Department of Justice responded with the following information:-

- (a) A working group of senior officers has recently been established to develop a viable plan for (the prisoner's) release into the community. Members of the group include the Principal Clinical Consultant (Department of Justice), the Assistant Superintendent Special Functions Unit Casuarina Prison, the Deputy Public Advocate, the Director Country Services Co-ordination (Disability Services Commission) and a representative from the Office of Mental Health. It is anticipated that the group will report within the next few months.
- (b) Over the past 12 months, there has been extensive cooperation and discussion between the Department of Justice, the Public Advocate, Disability Services Commission and the Department of Health to formulate a viable model for a "declared place". It has been acknowledged that a "whole of government" approach with respect to expertise and resources was required. As a consequence, a senior officers' group has been established to report back to the Human Services Directors General Group within four months on a preferred service model or models for a "declared place".

Whilst the lack of a "declared place" applies to mentally impaired accused persons under the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board, the same issues apply to some of the Parole Board cases. The Board looks forward to receiving advice on any progress in this matter.

11. Update on Review of the Board

The recommendations in the "*Review of the Parole Board, Mentally Impaired Defendants Review Board and the Supervised Release Review Board (August 2002)*" conducted by Mr Peter Frizzell, Director Strategic Review, Department of Premier and Cabinet, are continuing to be implemented. The Committee established by the Director General of the Department of Justice to implement the recommendations has now become a Standing Committee overseeing the implementation of those recommendations still to be finalised. Much work has now been accomplished and the majority of the recommendations have been implemented.

12. Restructure of the Board Administration

The continuing increase in the Board's workload over the past five years has resulted in a restructure of the administrative aspects provided by the Secretariat to the Parole Board and the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board, in accordance with recommendations of the Frizzell Report.

There are currently eight staff employed in various roles to provide managerial, legal and administrative support to the Boards, and it is planned that this number will be increased to eleven. The new positions were advertised internally recently, to be filled immediately after Expressions of Interest whilst the process to fill the positions permanently should be completed by December 2005.

The proposed eleven positions are:

- Manager (Level 7)
- Legal Research Officer (Level 7)
- Senior Secretary (Level 5)
- Secretary (Level 4)
- Assistant Secretary (Level 4)
- Coordinator (Level 3)
- Administrative Officer (Level 2)
- Support Officer (Level 2)
- Records Officer (Level 1)
- Records Officer (Level 1)
- Records Officer (Level 1)

A major outcome of this restructure will be one administrative group focused on supporting the functions of the Boards. The Level 7 Manager's position will assist in making this important position more attractive with the prospect of attracting and retaining appropriately experienced and knowledgeable personnel. It is anticipated that the Manager will be able to devote more time to provide leadership and management roles and provide strategic direction. Generic staffing of the other positions will provide for the flexibility required to cover periods of absence due to secondment, annual or other leave. This will broaden the knowledge base within the unit and provide for improved customer service and succession planning.

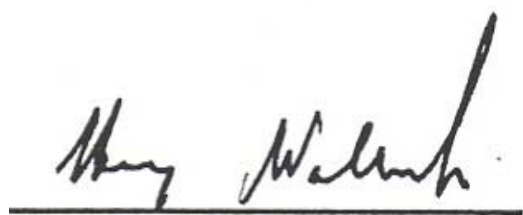
CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board once again wishes to acknowledge the ongoing assistance and the cooperation provided to it throughout the year by the many Government Departments, Agencies and Voluntary Groups which are involved with the supervision and treatment of re-entry releasees and parolees, including their preparation for release.

The Board also takes this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the Secretariat of the Board for their valuable contribution, support and hard work.

As Chairman, I would like to extend my personal thanks to all Board Members and Deputies for their work and contribution during the year. I also wish to thank the services provided by the Department of Justice, the various Agencies and Voluntary Organisations involved in the rehabilitation and supervision of re-entry releasees and parolees into the community.

As Chairman, I also wish to thank the Secretariat Staff for their support and hard work in what is a challenging and complex task.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H A Wallwork', is written over a horizontal line.

H A WALLWORK QC
CHAIRMAN