

# Legislative Council



MEDIA RELEASE

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1 April 2010

## **Committee launches new inquiry into Transportation of Detained Persons**

The Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs resolved on 31 March 2010 to inquire into the Transportation of Detained Persons.

In light of ongoing community concern regarding the death in custody of Mr Ward, the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs will examine the extent to which the systemic problems identified by the Coroner have been actioned and inquire into other measures by the Government to prevent further deaths in custody.

The Terms of Reference of the inquiry are:

*The Committee is to inquire into and report on:*

- 1. progress in relation to the implementation of the Coroner's Findings in relation to the death of Mr Ward;*
- 2. the feasibility of air transport or video conferencing instead of long haul vehicle transport;*
- 3. the scope and efficacy of government action to reduce indigenous incarceration and recidivism rates to prevent further indigenous deaths in custody;*
- 4. whether the Coroners Act 1996 (WA) should be amended to require the Government to respond to coronial recommendations within a set timeframe; and*
- 5. any other relevant matter.*

The Members conducting the inquiry are Hon Brian Ellis MLC (Chair), Hon Kate Doust MLC, Hon Phil Edman MLC, Hon Colin Holt MLC and Hon Lynn MacLaren MLC.

The Committee invites written submissions from interested persons. The submission must address the inquiry's terms of reference.

Submissions should be received by 4pm on Friday 14 May 2010.

Questions regarding this Report should be addressed to Hon Brian Ellis MLC, Chairman, on 0429 082 332, or Ms Linda Omar, Committee Clerk, on 9222 7207, or emailed to [lomar@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:lomar@parliament.wa.gov.au).