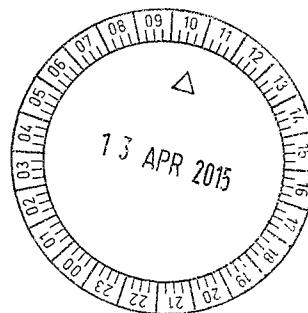




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The Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC  
Chairperson  
Legislative Council Standing Committee on Legislation  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms McSweeney

Thank you for your letter of 6 March 2015 concerning the Western Australia Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Legislation inquiry into a possible need for legislation dealing with the "demise of the crown".

In the Northern Territory, the Sovereign has no specific statutory role. The functions performed by the Sovereign or the Sovereign's representative elsewhere in Australia are performed in the Northern Territory by the Administrator. In turn the Administrator is appointed by the Governor-General under section 32(1) of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978*. This means that there are no legal issues following the death or resignation of the Administrator.

The limited nature of the relationship between the Sovereign and Northern Territory law do not appear to warrant any Northern Territory legislation on this topic. The identity of the Sovereign for Northern Territory purposes will be determined in accordance with Commonwealth law.

I look forward to reading the Committee's final report as it may bring to light new issues regarding the Imperial legislation that is still in force in the Northern Territory.

Yours sincerely

JOHN ELFERINK

20:48

7/4/15