

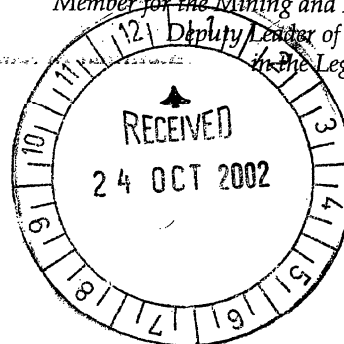


**MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND WORKS;
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT;
THE KIMBERLEY, PILBARA & GASCOYNE**

Our Ref: 1-6933
Your Ref: P0-1-01

21 OCT 2002

Hon Tom Stephens MLC
*Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region
Deputy Leader of the Government
in the Legislative Council*



Malcolm Peacock
Deputy Usher of the Black Rod
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Peacock

Thank you for your letter dated October 1 in relation to the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation about the Code of Conduct Local Law of the City of Perth.

I have noted recommendations 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3. In relation to 3.1, it should be noted that the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and the Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) have established a committee to revise and update the model Code of Conduct which was produced by the then Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA). The Department is represented on this committee. The Department has given 'in principle' support to the inclusion of the revised Code within regulations where appropriate subject to my final approval.


In relation to recommendation 3.2, the Department is preparing policy positions to establish a tribunal in conjunction with WALGA, the LGMA and other interested bodies. While the final format of a tribunal and its operation has yet to be determined, it is likely to deal with breaches of the model code of conduct, to be informal, to have the power to suspend councillors or withhold their entitlements under the Act, and have the power to make recommendations to councils. Further work is being undertaken in relation to the proposed tribunal's involvement with offences under the Act and its power to deal with staff.

In relation to recommendation 3.3, the proposals will be designed to facilitate incorporation within the proposed State Administrative Tribunal to facilitate the efficiencies desired by the Government.



I welcome the Joint Standing Committee's report into the Code of Conduct Local Law of the City of Perth and look forward to the implementation of a revised code and tribunal system to address problems identified by the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Stephens', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Tom Stephens MLC
MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND WORKS;
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT;
THE KIMBERLEY, PILBARA AND GASCOYNE