

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

Report No. 5

in the 37th Parliament

2007

Published by the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of Western Australia, Perth, August 2007.

Printed by the Government Printer, State Law Publisher, Western Australia.



Community Development and Justice Standing Committee

Annual report 2006-2007

ISBN: 978-1-921355-15-8

(Series: Western Australia. Parliament. Legislative Assembly. Committees. Community Development and Justice Standing Committee. Report 5)

328.365

Copies available from: State Law Publisher

10 William Street PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9321 7688 Facsimile: (08) 9321 7536

Email: <u>sales@dpc.wa.gov.au</u>

Copies available on-line: <u>www.parliament.wa.gov.au</u>



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

Report No. 5

Presented by:
Mr A.P. O'Gorman, MLA
Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly
on 16 August 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Mr A.P. O'Gorman, MLA

Member for Joondalup

Deputy Chair Ms K. Hodson-Thomas, MLA

Member for Carine

Members Mr S.R. Hill, MLA

Member for Geraldton

Mrs J. Hughes, MLA Member for Kingsley

Dr G.G. Jacobs, MLA Member for Roe

COMMITTEE STAFF

Ms Katherine Galvin, BSW (until **Principal Research Officer**

3/11/06)

Dr Brian Gordon, (from 11/12/06)

Research Officer Ms Dawn Dickinson, BSc (Hons)

MURP (until 10/02/07)

Ms Jovita Hogan, BA (Hons) (from

12/02/07)

COMMITTEE ADDRESS

Community Development and Justice Standing Committee Legislative Assembly Parliament House Harvest Terrace PERTH WA 6000

Fax: (08) 9222 7804 Email: lacdjsc@parliament.wa.gov.au Website: www.parliament.wa.gov.au

Tel: (08) 9222 7494

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
COMMITTEE STAFF	. i
COMMITTEE ADDRESS	. i
COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONS AND POWERS	
CHAIR'S FOREWORDv	
CHAPTER 1 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES	1
1.1 PORTFOLIOS	
1.2 COMMITTEE ACTIVITY	1
1.3 PUBLIC HEARINGS	2
1.4 BRIEFINGS	8
1.5 INVESTIGATIVE TRAVEL	8
1.6 REPORTS TABLED	
1.7 WORK IN PROGRESS	
CHAPTER 2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1	

COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

The functions of the Committee are to review and report to the Assembly on: -

- (a) the outcomes and administration of the departments within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities;
- (b) annual reports of government departments laid on the Table of the House;
- (c) the adequacy of legislation and regulations within its jurisdiction; and
- (d) any matters referred to it by the Assembly including a bill, motion, petition, vote or expenditure, other financial matter, report or paper.

At the commencement of each Parliament and as often thereafter as the Speaker considers necessary, the Speaker will determine and table a schedule showing the portfolio responsibilities for each committee. Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the Assembly will stand referred to the relevant committee for any inquiry the committee may make.

Whenever a committee receives or determines for itself fresh or amended terms of reference, the committee will forward them to each standing and select committee of the Assembly and Joint Committee of the Assembly and Council. The Speaker will announce them to the Assembly at the next opportunity and arrange for them to be placed on the notice boards of the Assembly.

CHAIR'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the third annual report of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee of the thirty-seventh Parliament. The report gives a brief synopsis of the work of the Committee during the reporting period 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007.

The Committees of the Legislative Assembly represent an essential component to the overall work performed by the Parliament. The process by which the standing Committees operate allows for ongoing investigation and inquiry into the many portfolio areas within the jurisdiction. This committee has had sixteen portfolios allocated allowing us to become involved in areas we may not encounter in electorate business and Members are to be commended for their commitment both to the Committee and its processes.

At this time I would like note the significant input from Mr Rob Johnson, Dr Elizabeth Constable and Hon Dr Judy Edwards who have been appointed to the Committee for the *Inquiry into the Prosecution of Assaults and Sexual Offences*. I look forward to continuing to work with them on the inquiry. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new member Dr Graham Jacobs.¹

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Principal Research Officer, Dr Brian Gordon, and Research Officer, Ms Jovita Hogan, who undertake a wide variety of tasks on behalf of the Committee to ensure that our work is as efficient and effective as possible. I thank them for their invaluable contribution to the work of the Committee. I would also like to acknowledge the former staff assigned to the Committee, Ms Katherine Galvin and Ms Dawn Dickinson for their past endeavours.

I look forward to continue working with my colleagues on the Committee to progress the two inquiries on which we are currently working, as well as to pursue other relevant issues over the remaining term of the Parliament.

MR A.P. O'GORMAN, MLA CHAIR

Tony Oforman

¹ Appointed 4 April 2007.

CHAPTER 1 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

1.1 Portfolios

The sixteen portfolio areas of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee are:

- Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- Attorney General
- o Justice
- Electoral Affairs
- o Indigenous Affairs
- Police and Emergency Services
- Community Safety
- Community Development
- Women's Interests
- o Seniors
- o Youth
- Disability Services
- Culture and the Arts
- o Sport and Recreation
- Local Government
- o Environment

1.2 Committee activity

During the course of this reporting period (Table 1.1), the Committee:

- Conducted 2 inquiries;
- Held 40 deliberative meetings;

- Has taken evidence from/or was briefed by 95 persons; and
- Undertook investigative travel to a range of intrastate locations in relation to the inquiries.

Table 1.1

Summary of activities of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2006

- 30 June 2007

Description	Activity
Briefings	3
Deliberative meetings	40
Formal evidence hearings	33
Witnesses appearing at hearings	91
Reports tabled	3
Report findings tabled	19
Report recommendations tabled	102

1.3 Public Hearings

Pursuant to Assembly Standing Order 264, the Committee has power to send for persons, papers and records. During the period 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007, the Committee conducted 33 public hearings, taking evidence from 91 witnesses to assist with its investigations (Table 1.2). In addition to public hearings the Committee held a number of closed sessions.

Table 1.2

Public Hearings of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
4/07/2006	Mr Peter Stubbs	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
	Mr Gary King	Ranger and Chief Bushfire Controller	Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
	Mr Lincoln Heading	Unity Manager	Kununurra State Emergency Service

			<u> </u>
	Mr Andrew Ogilvie	Captain	Kununurra Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
	Mr Graeme Downe	District Manager	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Ms Lynn Carter	Volunteer Officer in Charge	Wyndham Emergency Services Unit
	Mr Peter Cann	Acting Director Country North	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Tony Stephenson	District Manager	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mrs Anne Koeyers	Chairperson	North Kinberley Land Conservation District Committee
6/07/2006	Mr Robert Smillie	A/Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Halls Creek
	Mr Tony Morley	Executive Manager Regulatory Services	Shire of Halls Creek
	Ms Lynette Craig	Councillor/Pastoralist	Shire of Halls Creek
	Mr Brian Harris	Captain	Halls Creek Emergency Services Unit
	Mr Kevin White	Regional Fire Coordinator, Kimberley	Department of Conservation and Land Management
	Mr Edward Hatherley	Regional Fire Operations Officer, Kimberley	Department of Conservation and Land Management
7/07/2006	Mr John Abbott	Senior Ranger CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
	Mr Andrew Twaddle	Officer in Charge	Fitzroy Crossing Emergency Services Unit
	Mr Stuart Robinson	President	West Pilbara Volunteer Sea Search and Rescue
	Mr Terrance Swetman	Team Leader	Karratha State Emergency Service

	Mrs Kathryn Swetman	Acting Rescue Officer	Karratha State Emergency Service
	Mr John Lorantas	Captain	Dampier Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
	Mr Michael Booth	Captain	Karrathat Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
	Mr Guy Thompson	Director Technical and Development Services	Shire of Roebourne
	Mr Michael Werts	Emergency Response Manager	Woodside Energy Ltd
	Mr Gino Zaza	Emergency Response Coordinator Karratha Gas Plant	Woodside Energy Ltd
10/08/2006	Mr Vaughan Price	Captain	South Hedland Fire and Rescue Service
	Mr Matthew Scott	A/Chief Executive Officer	Town of Port Hedland
	Mr Peter Wilden	Ranger Coordinator Ranger Services	Town of Port Hedland
	Cr Desmond Pike	Councillor	Town of Port Hedland
	Mr Richard O'Connell	Regional Manager Public and Community Affairs	BHP Billition Iron Ore
	Mr Graham Locker	Coordinator Emergency Services	BHP Billition Iron Ore
06/08/2006	Ms Kerry Fitzgerald	President	Fremantle Volunteer Sea Rescue Group
	Mr Michael Graham	President	Cockburn Volunteer Sea Search and Rescue
	Mr Roger Howell	Group Liaison Officer	Whitfords Volunteer Sea Rescue Group
	Mr Frank Pisani	Member	Fremantle Volunteer Sea Rescue Group
30/08/2006	Mr Simon Bowen	Manager Community Safety	Shire of Mundaring
	Mrs Fiona Bentley	Director Community Development	City of Wanneroo

	Mr Michael Barry	Manager Ranger and Safety	City of Wanneroo
		Services	
5/09/2006	Mr Robert Fenn	Executive Director, Development Services	City of Albany
	Mr Stephen Gray	Emergency Management Coordinator	City of Albany
	Mr Len Smith	Chairman	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mr Len van der Waag	Executive Officer	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mrs Vicki Brown	Small Business Field Officer	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mrs Leanne Grant-Williams	Community Member	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mr Maurice House	Community Member	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mrs Mechelle Kerr	Community Member	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mrs Christine Lehmann	Community Member	Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mr Klaus Braun	Consultant, Emergency Risk Management, ICS Group	On behalf of Great Southern Area Consultative Committee
	Mr Maynard Rye	A/Chief Executive Officer	Great Southern Development Commission
	Mr Rob Stewart	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Plantagenet
	Mr Kevin Forbes	Shire President	Shire of Plantagenet
	Mr Anthony Middleton	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Cranbrook
6/11/2006	Mr Chris Jackson	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Lake Grace
	Mr Rodger Crossman	Senior Policy Officer, Farm Business Development	Department of Agriculture and Food
	Mr Alan Wright	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Kent
	Cr Bruce Altham	Shire President	Shire of Kent

			1
	Ms Linda Elms	District Manager, Great Southern and Central South Region	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr John Tonkin	Area Manager Narrogin	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Don Wallace	Zone President - Corrigin/ Lake Grace	WA Farmers Federation
	Mr Bruce Duckworth	Farmer	Community Member - Lake Grace
	Mrs Helen Bennett	Farmer	Community Member - Lake Grace
	Mr Scott Strevett	Farmer	Community Member - Lake Grace
10/11/2006	Mr Bill Perry	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Greenough
	Mr Tom Hartman	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Mullewa
	Mr Paul Findlater	A/Regional Manager, Northern Region	Department of Agriculture and Food
	Mr Rodger Crossman	Senior Policy Officer, Farm Business Development	Department of Agriculture and Food
	Mrs Jano Foulkes-Taylor	Pastoralist - Tardie Station	Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA
	Mr Peter Jeffries	Station Owner - Billabalong Station	Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA
	Mr Gordon Hall	Project Director	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
14/11/2006	Mr Jeff Gale	Deputy Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Harvey
	Mr Don Punch	Chief Executive	South West Development Commission
	Ms Alison Lannin	Manager	Small Business Centre Bunbury-Wellington
	Mr Lewis Winter	Community Emergency Management Officer/ Recovery Coordinator	City of Bunbury

	Mr John Kowal	Manager Community Law and Safety	City of Bunbury
	Mr Paul Carr	District Manager, SES Southwest Region	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Rodger Crossman	Senior Policy Officer, Farm Business Development	Department of Agriculture and Food
21/02/2007	Mr John Lane	Emergency Management Coordinator	Western Australian Local government Association
	Michelle Mackenzie	Policy Manager	Western Australian Local government Association
	Mr Frank Edwards	Chief Executive Officer	City of Perth
	Kimberley John Dean	A/Manager Emergency Services Unit	Department of Community Development
	Mr Maurice Commack	Incident Management Manager	Main Roads Western Australia
	Mr Robert Kenneth Phillips	Manager Budget and Program Management	Main Roads Western Australia
	Mr Stephen Moir	A/Managing Director	Small Business Development Corporation
	Mr Edgar Ronald Richardson	Policy Director	Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA
28/02/2007	Dr Graham Jacobs,	MLA	Member for Roe
	Mr Terry Redman	MLA	Member for Stirling
21/03/2007	Ms Jo Harrison-Ward	CEO	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Ian Robert Bowden	A/Manager, State Emergency Management Services	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr James Eamon Butterworth	A/Director Strategic Management	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Graham Capper	WANDRA Administrator	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Frank Pasquale	A/Executive Director Corporate Services	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA

1.4 Briefings

In addition to gathering evidence during the formal hearings, the Committee received a number of informal briefings. The briefings were used to gain information in relation to the Committee's inquiries as well as other matters (Table 1.3)

Table 1.3

Briefings provided to the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
18/09/2006	Ms Jo Harrison-Ward	Chief Executive Officer	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
	Mr Craig Hynes	Director Country Operations	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA
21/02/2007	Mr Maurice Cammack	Incident Management Manager	Main Roads Western Australia
21/03/2007	Mr James Butterworth	A/Director Strategic Management	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of WA

1.5 Investigative Travel

During the reporting period the Committee travelled to Kununurra, Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing, Karratha, Dampier, Port Hedland, Geraldton, Albany, Lake Grace, Bunbury and Esperance. The people the Committee spoke to are listed above in Tables 1.2 and 1.3.

1.6 Reports Tabled

The Committee tabled 3 reports during the period 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007, they were as follows:

- Annual Report 2005-2005 (tabled 14 September 2006);
- Inquiry into Fire and Emergency Services Legislation (tabled 19 October 2006); and
- Inquiry into Western Australia's Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements (tabled 10 May 2007).

1.7 Work in Progress

The Committee is currently working on two inquiries: *The Inquiry into the Prosecution of Assaults and Sexual Offences* and *Collaborative Approaches in Government*; with the former being referred to the Committee by the Legislative Assembly and the latter a self-initiated inquiry. The Committee anticipates reporting on these inquiries by 29 November 2007 and 27 November 2008 respectively.²

The Member for Hillarys, Mr Rob Johnson, the Member for Churchlands, Dr Elizabeth Constable and the Member for Maylands, Hon. Dr Judy Edwards have be appointed to the Committee for the duration and purpose of the *Inquiry into the Prosecution of Assaults and Sexual Offences*.

² Terms of reference for the Committee's inquiries can be found on the Parliament of Western Australia web site: www.parliament.wa.gov.au/web/newwebparl.nsf/iframewebpages/Legislative+Assembly+-+Current+Committees

CHAPTER 2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Community Development and Justice Standing Committee does not have its own formal budget and is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for major expenditures is required on a case-by-case basis and is entirely at the discretion of the Speaker.

The Committee's expenditure for the financial year 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007 (in accordance with Standing Order 276) is detailed below:

Table 2.1

Expenditure Items of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2006 - 30 June 2007

Expenditure Item	\$	
Advertising	10,000	
Conference Fees	100	
Travel	79,200	
Protocol	1,600	
Printing	6,300	
Legal Fees	4,200	
TOTAL	101,400	

Notes:

- Figures rounded off to nearest \$100.
- Salaries of committee staff are not included.
- Costs of shared administrative expenses, including lease costs for committee accommodation, not included.