

Professor C. D'Arcy J. Holman
Chairperson
Review of *Mental Health Act 1996* and *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Defendants) Act 1996*
11th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock St,
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Professor Holman

Re: Review of the *Mental Health Act 1996* and *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Defendants) Act 1996*

Please find enclosed the Council of Official Visitors' submissions in relation to the review of the *Mental Health Act 1996* being conducted in accordance with section 215 of the *Mental Health Act 1996*.

The following Council submission documents are enclosed for the Review's consideration:

- 1 General and Overarching Issues, *Mental Health Act 1996*;
- 2 Involuntary Status and Community Treatment Orders, *Mental Health Act 1996*;
- 3 Treatment of Patients, *Mental Health Act 1996*;
- 4 Protection of Patients' Rights, *Mental Health Act 1996*, and
- 5 Mental Health Review Board, *Mental Health Act 1996*.

A summary of the Council's recommendations is also enclosed for reference.

The above submissions should be read in conjunction with the Council's previous submission in relation to the review of the effectiveness of the operations and need to continue the functions of Council of Official Visitors.

The Council submission in relation to the *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Defendants) Act 1996* will be forwarded under separate cover.

The Council is agreeable to a copy of its submissions being placed on the Review's website and available for public scrutiny.

If further information is required in relation to the Council's submissions please contact the Council's Executive Officer, Ms Catherine Stevenson, on 9226 3266.

The Council appreciated the opportunity to be involved in this review process.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Flynn
HEAD
COUNCIL OF OFFICIAL VISITORS

28 March 2003

Encl.