

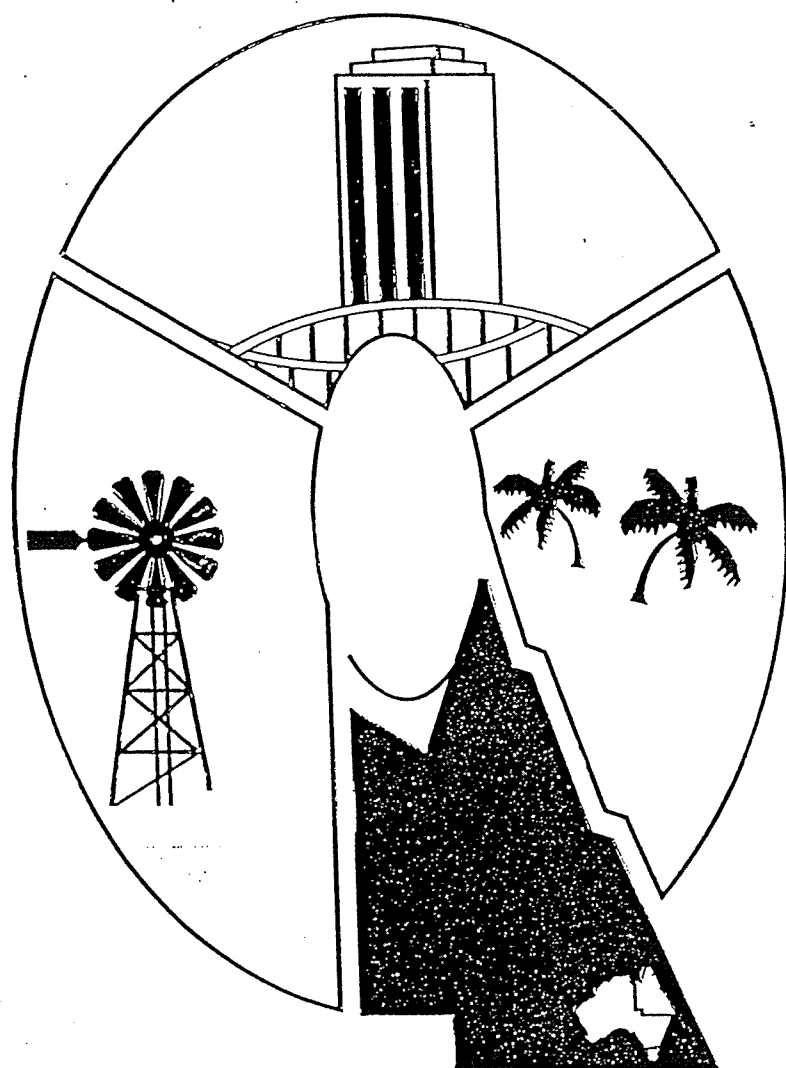


# **O**MBUDSMAN

Queensland

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Parliamentary Commissioner for  
Administrative Investigations



*Serving  
Queenslanders*

1996/97  
23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report

## 9. WHISTLEBLOWING & PUBLIC SECTOR ETHICS ACT

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As required by the Whistleblowers Protection Act, I advise that apart from employment related cases where the complainant is raising his or her own particular circumstances (cases which technically are whistleblowing but I believe are not meant to be categorised as such) I received only one whistleblowing case during the year. This involved the allegedly improper use of vehicles at a University. The investigation of the matter has required some ingenuity to disguise the identity of the whistleblower, and has produced some surprising results in that it appears the information was not only correct but the abuse went beyond what was originally alleged. The investigation is not yet complete.

The Office is presently in the final stages of formulating its Code of Conduct as required by the Public Sector Ethics Act and I intend to publish the code as soon as possible. It will be included in next year's Report.

*I am pleased to be able to report that yesterday I received a letter from the Royal Brisbane Hospital in which I was advised that my application for travel and accommodation assistance under the PT Scheme at the hospital had been reviewed and that my claim for reimbursement had been approved. The letter went on to apologise for the delay in contacting me. ...*

*I would like to sincerely thank the Ombudsman's Office for their help and support in this dispute. I was very impressed with the way the matter was handled, the investigating officer seemed to have a thorough grasp of the facts of the case in spite of the enormous time lapse since the original complaint.*

*K - Everton Hills*

*We would like to compliment you on the manner (your officers) conducted their interview with me.*

*My wife and I thank you most sincerely for your prompt attention in attending to this situation which has been of considerable concern to us.*

*E - Mirani*

*Thanks to the very effective intervention of your office. I am delighted to inform you that my pontoon is finally in place.*

*I - Bribie Island*