

CABINET MINUTE

BRISBANE, 14 1 119 86

DECISION NO.

47848

SUBJECT: RETENTION OF SERVICES OF DIRECTOR OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

(Submission No. 43144)

Copies Received at 3.15 a.m. 9 11 119 86 Mr. Hinge

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CONFIDENTIALCABINET MINUTE

Copy No. _____

Brisbane, 14th January, 1985Decision No. 47848

Submission No. 43144

TITLE: Retention of Services of
Director of Local Government.

CABINET decided:-

That, after his retirement as Director of Local Government on the 31st January, 1986, Mr. H.N. Jacobs be retained by the Government to review the Local Government Act on the basis set out in paragraph 5 of the Submission.

CIRCULATION: Department of Local Government and copy to Minister.
Premier's Department and copy to Premier and Treasurer.
Parliamentary Counsel.
All other Ministers for perusal and return.



Certified True Copy



A/Secretary to Cabinet.

Submission No.21

Copy No.

FOR CABINET

Retention of Services of Director of Local Government

1. The present Director of Local Government, Mr. H.N. Jacobs retires from that position on the 31st January, 1986.

2. As Ministers will be aware, Mr. Jacobs has had a long and distinguished career in Local Government and I have already raised with Cabinet the possibility of retaining Mr. Jacobs' services after retirement, on a part-time basis, to perform specialised duties relating to Local Government which it is not possible for the Department of Local Government to perform due to the pressure of other business.

3. I have in mind that Mr. Jacobs might be retained initially by the Government to carry out a complete review of the provisions of the Local Government Act.

This Act, in its current format, was introduced in 1936 but, as Ministers will appreciate, has been the subject of considerable amendment since that time. The Act is currently a most difficult Act to comprehend, it contains a number of redundant provisions, and there are a number of other provisions which are in urgent need of consolidation or rewriting into a clear and concise form in line with modern day legislation. There is also a great need for a simplification of many of the procedures prescribed by various provisions of the Act, the town planning provisions being a prime example in this regard.

4. Representations have been made to me by the Local Government Association of Queensland seeking a complete revision of the Act and Cabinet approval has already been obtained to a review of the financial provisions. There has also been pressure, over a considerable period of time, and from several quarters, including the Development Industry, for a review of the town planning and subdivision of land provisions of the Act.

5. I therefore propose that Mr. Harold Jacobs, the retiring Director of Local Government, be retained by the Government after retirement to carry out a complete review of the provisions of the Local Government Act at an annual fee of \$15,000. At this stage, it is anticipated that the task would take no longer than 2 years to complete and the amount of \$15,000 per annum has been determined having regard to Mr. Jacobs' present salary, the proportion of the duties of the position of Director of Local Government which might be related solely to legislation and the number of hours per week which would need to be devoted to the task in order to successfully complete it within the allotted time. Payment would, of course, be made only upon production of satisfactory evidence, properly certified, of work performed.

If this proposal be approved, the review will be conducted only after consultation with interested parties such as the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Development Industry and after reference to Cabinet for decisions on policy issues.

It is intended also, that the review be conducted in consultation with the Parliamentary Counsel who will be responsible for the final preparation of the necessary legislation.

6. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that, after his retirement as Director of Local Government on the 31st January, 1986, the services of Mr. H.N. Jacobs be retained by the Government to review the Local Government Act on the basis set out in paragraph 5.

R.J. HINZE
Minister for Local Government,
Main Roads and Racing

Department of Local Government,
BRISBANE. 9/1/86