

**Meeting: 4:00pm – 5:30pm on 29 April 2014**

**Attendees: John Lawler, Christopher Stewart and Michael Grant QC**

- Mr Grant provided an update in relation to the work he was doing with witnesses on in-camera considerations and will have finalised within the next few days.
- Mr Grant confirmed testimony received under coercion at the Inquiry's hearings can be utilised in any Legislative Assembly proceedings under the Member's Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards Act 2008
- Mr Grant confirmed the appropriate term to use relating to the Stella Maris Crown lease grant is 'the proposed Crown lease grant' or 'the offer of the Crown lease grant'.
- Mr Grant confirmed that under the Legislation the Minister is the only person who can make a decision in relation to the Crown Lands Act but confirmed that Cabinet plays an important role and that there was nothing improper in his view in relation to Cabinet directing or approving the issue of the Crown lease. The two can co-habitat together.
- On the issue of natural justice, we had a lengthy discussion and confirmed the Inquiry had been conducted fairly from the outset, with the opportunity to provide witnesses with a proofing session where all the documents they were to be shown were provided to them in advance and the matters that were of concern in those documents and in the other inquiries identified by the Inquiry's staff had been put to the relevant witnesses before their testimony. Further confirmed, that these matters put to them during the hearings, not the specifics of the findings, clearly, but we both agreed that the key witnesses would've been aware of the areas of concerns and potential criticism. It was also noted that with former ministers Lawrie and McCarthy that natural justice considerations could also be realised through the Legislative Assembly and through any privileges committee hearing if that was to be determined. As a result it was agreed there was no need to advise any of the witnesses of the findings of the Inquiry prior to delivering the report to the Administrator on 26 May 2014.
- I provided Mr Grant with a copy of Michael Maurice's advice which I indicated was heavily caveated, where some of the issues discussed during the meeting were canvassed by Michael, I indicated that I did not intend to waive privilege on that advice and that I didn't intend to refer to it in the report in the first instance, given that he had not had all the material available to the Inquiry provided to him because of the time constraints. He agreed there was no need to refer to the advice in the report.
- Finally Mr Grant read through the recommendations and findings and provided advice and guidance on some relatively minor changes he thought the recommendations and findings would benefit from. I agreed with his positions and have subsequent made those changes.