



Your reference: Petition 1412-10
Our reference: COM 06023-2010



**Queensland
Government**

Office of the
**Minister for Community Services and
Housing and
Minister for Women**

19 MAY 2010

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 14 April 2010 concerning the Petition No. 1412-10 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The project at 15 Harpa Street, Palm Cove (corner of Harpa and Oliva Streets) is for 18, two-bedroom apartments configured as one, four-storey building. The project is being delivered as part of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan. The density of the development is consistent with requirements of the 'Consolidated Cairns Plan 2009'.

The Nation Building and Jobs Plan is aimed at constructing new dwellings to maximise the economic stimulus effect. The Far North Queensland region has a high unemployment rate and timely economic stimulus aimed at supporting growth and jobs is a key objective.

This site is within 400 metres of a bus stop. Bus services run on a 30 minute basis to and from this stop, connecting prospective tenants with the retail centre at Clifton Beach which is 3.2km to the south as well as educational, recreational, medical and employment opportunities throughout the northern beaches suburbs.

The Queensland Government is committed to integrating social housing across a wide range of areas and suburbs and establishing a better mix between social rental and privately owned properties. Over 600 people are listed for social housing in the northern beaches communities and this project will add to the social housing stock already in the Cairns region, including 34 dwellings located at Port Douglas.

The Department of Communities will establish a dedicated property manager to liaise and advise on tenancy issues at this complex. This manager's primary responsibility will be to ensure initial and subsequent tenancy allocations are made under the Matching for Success approach, which means when filling vacancies, tenants will be appropriately matched to the property, neighbourhood, community and local support services (e.g. work, training or employment opportunities) to ensure the best outcome for the tenants and local community. The project is under construction and is scheduled for completion in December 2010.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Karen Struthers MP
**Minister for Community Services and Housing
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