



Queensland
Government

Hon Karen Struthers MP
Member for Algeester

Your reference: Petitions 1238-09 and 1251-09
Our reference: HS02216/09

**Minister for Community Services and
Housing and
Minister for Women**

6 AUG 2009

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 23 June 2009 enclosing two petitions in relation to the Department of Communities proposed social housing project at 35–37 Surman Street, Birkdale.

The Director-General, Department of Communities, is responsible for administering the 'public housing' provisions of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* (IPA) Chapter 5 Part 6, under which all social housing projects are determined. Under these provisions, projects are assessed against planning schemes and where they are determined as 'substantially inconsistent' with the planning scheme, projects are publicly notified.

The project at 35–37 Surman Street, Birkdale was publicly notified from 1 May to 25 May 2009 in order to give members of the community an opportunity to make submissions. The Director-General is required by the Act to consider all submissions before deciding whether or not to proceed with the proposed project. Even though the two petitions were received after the public notification period, the Department will consider them, along with the other submissions received. It is not appropriate to comment on this project as a determination is yet to be made.

All submitters will be advised in writing of the Director-General's decision in relation to this project, once it has been made.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Karen Struthers MP
Minister for Community Services and Housing
and Minister for Women

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