

## Minister for Housing and Public Works

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 17 March 2016, regarding petition number 2528-15, tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 15 March 2016, in relation to the review of the *Retirement Villages Act* 1999 (the Act).

I would like to thank petitioners for raising this very important matter.

I understand that the review of the Act has been protracted over a number of years and I can appreciate the concerns that many retirement village residents have raised.

The Queensland Government recently released the Working Together for Better Housing and Sustainable Communities discussion paper - the first key step in developing a 10 year strategy.

The purpose of the discussion paper is to seek feedback on a range of housing issues from homelessness and social housing through to affordable rental, home ownership and importantly, retirement options.

The input and views of Queenslanders will help shape the development of a new Queensland Housing Strategy, which will set out how issues across the housing continuum, including those in the retirement villages sector, will be addressed over the next 10 years.

Any changes or reviews to the Act will need ensure that residents are adequately protected when entering, living and leaving villages and parks, by promoting fair and transparent relationships between operators and residents.

The department is encouraging Queenslanders to review the discussion paper and to put forward a written submission detailing your views, experience and perspectives or your innovative ideas and information to help shape the strategic direction for better housing outcomes in Queensland by visiting Get involved website www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Mick de Brenni MP

Minister for Housing and Public Works