



Minister for Housing and Public Works  
Minister for Science and Innovation

Ref: COM 08118-2015  
Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

17 NOV 2015

Mr Neil Laurie  
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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 15 October 2015 regarding Petition No. 2479-15 presented to the Queensland Legislative Assembly by the residents of the East Pumicestone region of Bribie Island, Ningi and Sandstone Point regarding the need for Emergency/Crisis Accommodation in the Bribie Island region.

I would like to thank the residents for their concern and raising this very important issue about people who are homeless needing to access emergency or crisis accommodation in the east Pumicestone region and surrounding areas. The Queensland Government is committed to addressing the issue of homelessness in Queensland.

The residents' petition is timely as the Department of Housing and Public Works is developing a new Queensland Housing Strategy for housing and homelessness which will include addressing much needed resources and guide service delivery to assist Queenslanders' housing needs. The department will engage community and representative groups to participate in shaping the Strategy later this year.

While there may not be emergency or crisis accommodation in the specific areas mentioned in the petition, the department funds a total of 116 department owned and service provider managed units of accommodation under the Crisis Accommodation Program. This accommodation is within the Moreton Bay Regional Council Local Government Authority and suburbs on the northern perimeter of the Brisbane City Local Government Authority including Sandgate, Nudgee, Bracken Ridge, Aspley, Stafford, Boondall, Nundah, Chermside, Geebung, Northgate and Zillmere, all of which is within a short drive to Bribie Island.

I am advised that the department provides head-lease funding under the Crisis Accommodation Program to three providers within the Moreton Bay Regional Council Local Government Authority to lease 15 properties from the private rental market. Head-lease funding is a critical component of the department's investment in crisis accommodation as it gives providers the flexibility to change property locations in response to emerging and local need.

Additionally, in 2015–16, the department is providing approximately \$109 million to 216 specialist homelessness services across Queensland to assist people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, with accommodation and support.

Currently, there are seven funded specialist homelessness services that provide a combination of mobile support, immediate supported accommodation and supported housing for all target groups and transitional housing for young people in the Moreton Bay Regional Council Local Government Authority. This includes the Redcliffe, Pine Rivers, Morayfield and Pumicestone state electorates. The approximate funding provided to these services in 2015–16 is over \$3 million.

I hope this information answers your enquiry. If you need any more information or help with this matter, Mr Peter Evans, Acting Director, Market Development and Programs, Department of Housing and Public Works can be contacted on (07) 3007 4467 or email [peter.evans2@hpw.qld.gov.au](mailto:peter.evans2@hpw.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Leeanne Enoch MP  
**Minister for Housing and Public Works and  
Minister for Science and Innovation**