



Minister for Housing and Public Works

Ref: HS 00843-2016

19 MAY 2016

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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 21 April 2016 regarding petition numbers 2576-16 and 2526-16, tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 19 April 2016, in relation to homelessness issues on the Redcliffe Peninsula.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this important issue and express my gratitude for the work undertaken by Club 189 in supporting people experiencing homelessness and others in need in the Redcliffe community.

The purpose of the Department of Housing and Public Works' current Homelessness Program funding is to assist people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to obtain housing, maintain their housing and maximise their capacity to be independent, self-reliant and connected to appropriate social and community supports. While I am unable to commit to the proposal to establish a drop-in centre at Redcliffe at this time, the department is looking at new approaches to respond to the high level of homelessness and housing instability in Queensland.

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 discussion paper is seeking a new integrated approach to homelessness and housing issues, including a significant focus on preventing, responding and ending homelessness. 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 will be addressed over the next 10 years.

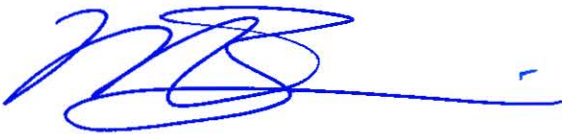
The department is encouraging all Queenslanders to review the discussion paper and put forward a written submission detailing their views, experience and perspectives or their innovative ideas and information to help shape the strategic direction for better housing outcomes in Queensland. There are a number of ways Queenslanders can have their say:

- access the discussion paper on the Queensland Government's website www.qld.gov.au/housing;
- prepare a written response and either email to housingstrategy@hpw.qld.gov.au or post to Housing Strategy Team, GPO Box 690, Brisbane Qld 4001;

- visit the Queensland Government's Get Involved website and complete the online survey at www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au;
- attend a Queensland Government, industry or community led engagement session. Session details can be found at www.qld.gov.au/housing.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mick de Brenni', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mick de Brenni MP
Minister for Housing and Public Works