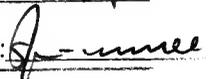




The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
Member for Hasluck

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| Queensland Legislative Assembly | |
| Number: 562071207 | |
|  16 JUL 2020 | Filed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| MP: Ms Trad | By Leave <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clerk's Signature:  | |

Reference: MB20-000185

Ms Jackie Trad MP
Member for South Brisbane
PO Box 5326
WEST END QLD 4101

Dear Ms Trad 

Thank you for your correspondence of 19 June 2020 regarding the Musgrave Park Hostel property. This property is owned by Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL) and has been vacant since December 2017.

The Australian Government recognises the need for culturally appropriate accommodation for Indigenous Australians across the country and is committed to ensuring the housing needs of all Australians are met. While state and territory governments are responsible for housing, the Australian Government spends more than \$6 billion a year to improve housing and homelessness outcomes. This includes around \$1.6 billion a year through the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) to states and territories. For 2020-21, Queensland is receiving \$325.2 million through NHHA.

Under NHHA, state and territory governments are responsible for determining priorities and the type and locations of services funded. State and territory governments also make decisions about social and community housing, including the building, allocation and refurbishment of dwellings.

In addition, the Australian Government provides approximately \$36.2 million each year to AHL to provide temporary accommodation to Indigenous Australians across Australia. AHL operates in locations of greatest need to support Indigenous Australians to access education, training, employment and health opportunities.

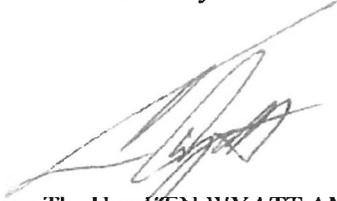
As you would be aware, Musgrave Park Hostel previously provided accommodation for up to 12 tertiary education students, but has not operated since December 2017. AHL operates two hostels nearby the Musgrave Park Hostel site, which provide approximately 85 critical beds for Indigenous Australians needing accommodation in Brisbane.

Given the Queensland Government's responsibilities under NHHA, I encourage you to raise crisis accommodation issues with the Queensland Minister for Housing and Public Works, the Hon Mick de Brenni MP.

I understand AHL is open to assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane with its accommodation needs at alternative sites. If you would like further information about AHL, I encourage you to contact Mr Dave Chalmers, Chief Executive Officer, AHL. Mr Chalmers can be contacted on (02) 6212 2011 or dave.chalmers@ahl.gov.au.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely



The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
15/7/2020