

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY 13th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	18
Title	Department of Housing Keith Lawrie Flats, Alice Springs
Presented on	Thursday 8 February 2018
Presented by	Member for Araluen (Mrs Lambley)
Referred to	Minister for Housing and Community Development (Hon Gerry McCarthy MLA)
Date referred	8 February 2018
Response due	10 May 2018
Response received	6 April 2018
Response to be presented	1 May 2018

Petition

To THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

That the NT Government takes action on the state of the Department of Housing's Keith Lawrie Flats in Bloomfield Street Alice Springs by either,

1. selling off the flats, or

2. demolishing the whole complex

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT That the NT Government takes action on the state of the Department of Housing's Keith Lawrie Flats in Bloomfield Street Alice Springs by either,

1. selling off the flats, or

2. demolishing the whole complex

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, As IN DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Response

The Department of Housing and Community Development's Executive Director, Service Delivery South, will attend a meeting at the complex in early April 2018 with Northern Territory Police, the Member for Araluen, Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, and concerned residents. This meeting will discuss antisocial behaviour actions at the complex and other related issues. The date of this meeting is being coordinated between the Department and the Araluen electorate office.

The Department has no plans to sell or redevelop the Keith Lawrie complex. Overall the dwellings within this complex are structurally sound and are generally in good condition. In

addition, the Northern Territory Government has recently invested in significant works to improve the amenity of the complex, including upgrades to security lighting, painting and grounds maintenance.

Furthermore, I am pleased to advise that the Northern Territory Government has recently announced a \$69 million stimulus package to undertake additional upgrades and repairs and maintenance to public housing in urban and regional centres. Part of this stimulus package includes \$20 million for capital works to upgrade complexes, including the Keith Lawrie complex.

In short, given the recent and upcoming significant investment of building works and the structurally sound foundations of the complex, it has been determined that it is more economically viable to maintain the complex rather than demolish or redevelop. This will allow the Department to continue to deliver access to safe, affordable and secure housing for our most vulnerable Territorians.