



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### Petition

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| Registration No.   | 58  |
| Title              | SAFETY OF ELDERLY RESIDENTS AT 40 HEAD STREET BRAITLING |
| Presented on       | 15 February 2012  |
| Presented by       | Mr Giles  |
| Referred to        | PUBLIC & AFFORDABLE HOUSING (BURNS)                     |
| Date referred      | 15 February 2012  |
| Response due       | 18 September 2012                                       |
| Response received  | 15 March 2012   |
| Response presented | 27 March 2012   |

#### **Petition**

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

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH that we urgently seek the Northern Territory Government to install security gates on the Territory Housing complex at 40 Head Street, Braitling in Alice Springs, as well as more lighting and security cameras around the whole complex.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY that the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory urgently take the necessary steps to ensure the safety of the elderly residents of this complex.

#### **Response**

The Northern Territory Government places a high priority on addressing and resolving antisocial behaviour in public housing.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services (DHLGRS) is working with other agencies and stakeholders to implement the Public Housing Safety Strategy, which includes:

- a Territory wide Public Housing Safety Unit with Public Housing Safety Officers (in Darwin and Alice Springs) who will have legislative power to deal with antisocial behaviour in public housing;
- a "Three Strikes" policy that will categorise the nature and severity of antisocial behaviour incidents involving tenants and/or their visitors in public housing. The third formal warning (Strike 3) will lead to the commencement of legal eviction proceedings; and
- a Memorandum of Understanding with NT Police outlining how the two organisations will work together to respond to antisocial behaviour in public housing.

In response to concerns raised by the residents of the public housing complex at 40 Head Street, Braitling, DHLGRS has worked with NT Police to assess the safety of the complex and has already begun to implement measures to improve safety, including improved lighting and new fencing.

An upgrade to security lighting within the complex has commenced and will be completed by the end of March 2012.

New fencing will also be installed within the complex by the end of March 2012 which will aim to prevent unwanted visitors using the complex as a thoroughfare.

All shrubbery within the complex has been pruned to a maximum height of 1.5 metres above ground to improve visibility.

Five new directional signs will be installed to each entrance of the complex by the end of March 2012.

DHLGRS will continue to work with NT Police to assess the effectiveness of these measures and will consider further measures, if require.