



REF: HOM 15/207

Ms Helen Crossing  
2011 Residents Association  
[Helen@insperationalworkplaces.com.au](mailto:Helen@insperationalworkplaces.com.au)

Dear Ms Crossing

Thank you for your email to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP regarding the anti-social behaviour of homeless persons in Woolloomooloo. The Hon Gabriele Upton MP, Minister for Family and Community Services has been advised of your concerns and has asked that I reply on her behalf.

I would like to thank you for highlighting the issues experienced and in particular for suggesting some possible solutions. While matters such as ranger patrols, signage and lighting fall under the responsibility of the City of Sydney Council, the Department of Family and Community Services, through Going Home Staying Home, funds a number of service providers to meet the needs of homeless persons in and around Woolloomooloo.

These services are working collaboratively to address the needs of rough sleepers in the Woolloomooloo area through outreach services, case management, housing application assistance, referrals to crisis and transitional accommodation and other services including health, alcohol and other drug support, employment, education and legal assistance.

In addition to this, the Department is actively working with the local Kings Cross Area Command and the City of Sydney Council to assist in addressing the needs of rough sleepers and to reduce the impact that rough sleepers have on the local community in the Woolloomooloo area.

I understand the issues you raise are both confronting and unpleasant; however, issues such as homelessness are complex, as I am sure you appreciate, and require a comprehensive approach to resolve. The Department is currently working on supporting the collaborative intervention required to resolve these issues.

I trust the above information regarding the approach to homelessness in your area addresses your concerns. For further information please refer to <http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/Help+with+Housing/Homelessness/Going+Home+Staying+Home/>

Yours Sincerely

Geraldine O'Grady  
**District Director**

16 FEB 2015