



The Hon Niall Blair MLC

Parliamentary Secretary for Police and Emergency Services

MIN14/002822-02

Ms Helen Crossing
2011 Residents' Association
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15 JAN 2015

Dear Ms Crossing

Thank you for your email to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP regarding the homeless in Woolloomooloo. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

I have noted your concerns in relation to anti social activities around Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo and assure you that the NSW Government is taking strong measures to tackle the issue of anti social behaviour and alcohol related violence.

Last year the Government announced a comprehensive package to tackle drug and alcohol-fuelled violence. These measures include a new state-wide 10pm closing time for all bottle shops and liquor stores and increased fines for offensive language, offensive behaviour and continued drunk and disorderly behaviour.

I encourage you to continue to report any incidents of anti-social behaviour and/or criminal activity in this area to police to ensure an appropriate response. If any incident arises in which you or any other member of the public is in immediate danger and requires urgent police assistance, you should not hesitate to call the 000 emergency number. In the case of any incident which does not require a police attendance you can make a report to the NSW Police Force using the Police Assistance Line on 131444.

I would also encourage you to write to the City of Sydney Council directly in relation to this matter. The Council has a dedicated unit employing strategies around homelessness and more information can be found at:

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community/community-support/homelessness>

As community housing and homelessness fall under the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Family and Community Services, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, I have taken the opportunity to forward your correspondence to the Minister for her consideration and reply.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Hon Niall Blair MLC

Parliamentary Secretary for Police and Emergency Services