

10 June 2022

RE: 5/25 WAVERLEY ROAD TARINGA

Good afternoon,

I write to draw your attention to my imminent eviction from the above public housing premises at the hands of your Department. I wrote to Minister Enoch last month, requesting that she take action to stop the eviction from proceeding. I have followed up on that letter today as I did not receive a response. With the date of my eviction (17 June) now just a week away, I feel that urgent action is required to avoid me becoming homeless. Despite the Minister's comments on ABC Radio this morning to the contrary, there is a very real possibility that I will be evicted into homelessness by the Department.

Therefore, I appeal to you as a person of influence to take action to prevent this eviction from occurring. I have attached to this email a selection of the many letters of support from the local community, including my State Member of Parliament, Michael Berkman.

I note that the execution of the Warrant of Possession is discretionary, in that there is no obligation for the eviction to proceed. The Warrant merely authorises the eviction, it does not confer an obligation on either the Department or the Police to enforce it. It is therefore in your prerogative to choose not to enforce the Warrant and to keep me in my home. After consideration of the material I present to you, and your diligent further enquiries, I respectfully request that you exercise your discretion in this way.

You will be aware that the circumstances leading to the ultimate issue of the Warrant of Possession stem from an alleged breach of my obligation to keep the premises clean. You will also be aware that the breach was remedied before the QCAT hearing, and remains in this state today, some 6 weeks later. Notwithstanding the fact that I have been issued with breaches of a similar nature previously, there is no risk of further recurrences of this matter due to the thousands of dollars I have invested in storage over the last 12 months. The Department was fully aware of this, yet they continued to adopt a non-negotiable, legalistic approach.

I have lived in the western suburbs of Brisbane since 1995. Over more than a quarter of a century, I have developed many community connections in this area. Eviction will sever these ties, leaving the community worse off. More importantly, the destabilisation which will result is very likely to have severe adverse effects on my mental health. The Department was made aware of my mental health disability on my application for public housing in 2015, yet they have time and again ignored its reality. The result of the Department's constant refusal to recognise my disability has manifested in inappropriate engagement attempts and now, ultimately, the prospect of eviction. In effect, I am being penalised because the Department has refused to communicate with me appropriately, and has been too lazy to make the necessary concessions. The eviction, if it goes ahead, will undo many years of therapeutic progress and personal development undertaken by myself and my psychologist.

I invite you to contact me by email if you wish to learn more.

I have faith in common sense prevailing in this situation. Please take whatever action is available to you to cancel my eviction.

Yours sincerely,

David Barker
25 Waverley Road
TARINGA