

9 October 2015

The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP  
Minister for Social Housing  
office@hazzard.minister.nsw.gov.au

Dear Minister

*Brad,*

**Millers Point Social Housing Retention**

I write to provide further information on proposals to support the retention of social housing in Millers Point precinct within the government's sales program.

At our recent meeting, the Millers Point Community Working Party provided you with a list of compelling reasons to exempt tenants from the relocation program and I understand these correspond with criteria provided by your department.

With most tenants already relocated, others in the process of accepting offers and others potentially no longer eligible for social housing, I understand that around 85 tenancies remain to consider for exemptions from the relocation process.

These social housing tenancies could be kept in existing purpose-built, low maintenance, lower value properties within the area, while other properties are sold.

In addition, to keep existing social housing tenants in the area the government could allow elderly residents to age in place in their current properties, work with the City of Sydney to identify opportunity sites for new social housing developments in the area and ensure any future redevelopments in the area include social housing.

A diverse housing mix is essential for all parts of Sydney and low cost housing should be part of any redevelopment plans. Multi-unit properties sold for redevelopment including for internal refurbishment, should be required to provide a minimum number of social and affordable housing units, with these properties reserved for existing Millers Point housing tenants.

Redevelopment of the Ivanhoe Estate in Macquarie Fields will provide almost 25 per cent social and affordable housing units, with 556 social housing and 128 affordable housing units within the total 2,570 homes. Tenants who have been relocated from the area while this redevelopment occurs have been given the option to return once the new homes are complete. This should be used as a model for Millers Point.

**Could you please:**

- **retain some Millers Point social housing properties**
- **allow residents with agreed compelling reasons to stay or be relocated in the area**
- **allow elderly residents to age in place before selling their dwellings**
- **work to identify opportunity sites for new developments that include social housing**
- **require social housing in any redevelopment of multi-unit social housing properties sold**
- **give priority to rehousing Millers Point residents in these homes; and**
- **inform me what action you will take?**

Yours sincerely

Alex Greenwich  
Member for Sydney

