



Office of the Mayor

Frankston City Council

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10 March 2015

Mr David Moloney
Chairman
St Anne's Parish Social Justice Group
56 Austin Road
SEAFORD VIC 3198

Dear Mr Moloney,

RE: HOMELESS ISSUES IN THE MUNICIPALITY

I acknowledge your joint letter to all Councillors and several senior officers expressing your views on actions you believe Council should take to address the homeless issue in the municipality and opportunities which could be explored with the Seaford Cabin Park lease negotiations towards such goals.

Your letter was discussed informally by all Councillors recently.

Councillors share your concerns for the welfare of the homeless. However, at this point no formal action is proposed by Councillors in respect to the ongoing lease negotiations which Council anticipates will be completed by late March along the lines of Council's earlier decision conveyed to all parties.

As has been previously advised such decision was not taken lightly and was taken entirely in response to community concerns for the welfare of residents which has remained at the forefront of Council's deliberations at all times.

Councillors do not consider it appropriate to complicate existing negotiations at this time. As you are aware a report on the negotiations and outcomes is expected by Council by late April or sooner.

Council will give consideration to the report and any issues that were raised at that time by the proprietor and may include some of the issues raised by community groups.

The issues you raise are in Councillors opinion more appropriately dealt with as part of a broader solution to the challenges of the homeless in our community. Federal and State

Government have important roles in provision of capital funding, managing public housing and funding homelessness programs around health and / or social support. Local Government has a role in relation to housing affordability and homelessness through planning and regulation of housing; monitoring and fostering housing supply and working with community service organisations involved in health and wellbeing.

I note the letter acknowledges Council has on occasions past gifted land in support of Federal and State Government's roles; hence going beyond the typical Local Government jurisdiction. Council has worked and will continue to work to alleviate homelessness through partnerships, collaborations and advocacy strategies with housing and health community service organisations and this is the preferred approach.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in local community issues.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. Mayer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S" and a checkmark-like flourish at the end.

Cr Sandra Mayer, BA, GAICD
MAYOR – FRANKSTON CITY