

Ref: DPW01152/07

Mr N Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 808-07 entitled "Preservation of Yungaba" tabled in the Queensland Legislative Assembly by the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Member for South Brisbane on 19 April 2007.

The Queensland Government has recognised the significance of Yungaba and has consistently pursued two priorities. These priorities have been the preservation of the historic and community significance of Yungaba and the establishment of new purpose built facilities for the multicultural community.

As Yungaba was built for residential purposes, I am advised that conversion of the building to any other use would require significant intrusion in order to meet the requirements of the Building Code.

The State Government has selected Australand as the preferred developer for the site as the proposal from Australand preserves the heritage main building for residential purposes without significant change and provides for a new purpose built Multicultural Centre to accommodate the many Queensland cultural groups and organisations.

A Heritage Agreement requires that limited access will still be provided through guided tours to the gardens and the central hall of Yungaba. The central hall is to include photographs and drawings of the building and interpretative material on the way the building functioned. The landscaping will provide public parkland and a riverwalk adjacent to the river to enable viewing of the heritage main building.

The contract with Australand for the sale of Yungaba has been in place for several years and the State is bound to honour its legal commitment.

Australand has recently lodged a new development application with the Brisbane City Council seeking approval to allow the Yungaba development to proceed, in line with council planning guidelines.

The application is currently being considered by the Brisbane City Council and has yet to be referred to the State for assessment and advice. This referral will include referral to the Queensland Heritage Council, amongst other State agencies, for assessment. I am also advised the application is impact assessable under the Brisbane City Plan 2000 and will require public notification in accordance with the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*. During public notification, you will have the opportunity to view the details of the proposal and lodge submissions with Council regarding the proposed development.

As requested, an electronic copy of this response has been forwarded to you via email TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Robert Swarten MP
**Minister for Public Works, Housing and
Information and Communication Technology**