



TERRI BUTLER MP

Shadow Assistant Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Shadow Assistant Minister for Universities
Shadow Assistant Minister for Equality
Federal Member for Griffith

Our ref: BC:TB:291342G/170504

4 May 2017

The Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
PO Box 6100, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email: pwc@aph.gov.au
And by post

Dear Secretary

HMAS Moreton Unit Relocation Project

I refer to the above. I write to commend to the committee certain submissions that have been made, to respond to an inaccuracy in the Community Consultation Report, and to seek that the committee hold a hearing in Brisbane, preferably at Bulimba.

Firstly, I commend to the committee the submissions you have received from the Bulimba District Historical Society Inc and the Easy and Sustainable Transport Bicycle Users Group Incorporated.

In particular, I would like to congratulate the Bulimba District Historical Society Inc on the detail and quality of their submission. The group is a volunteer organisation with committed locals deeply concerned about the need to consider all indigenous and non-indigenous cultural and heritage issues associated with the site.

Secondly, I refer to the *Community Consultation Report for the HMASA Moreton Unit Relocation Project, HMAS Moreton, Bulimba, Queensland*. Regrettably that document seems to claim that I declined an offer of consultation. That is incorrect. The offer of consultation was not declined; two members of my staff attended the Community Information Session on 3 April, 2017 on my behalf, and the email of 6 April 2017 confirmed that my staff had briefed me on this project.

Had the department, via its project manager, given my office more than a few days' notice, I would have been more likely to have been able to attend.

This lack of notice was compounded by the fact that confirmation of the meeting was sent on Thursday, for a Monday meeting, during a period of office closure due to Cyclone Debbie.

Lastly, I refer you to the *PWC Process Tasks of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC)*, specifically Task 2 – PWC Public Consultation and Task 4 – PWC Hearing. The latter states

"The PWC Committee prefers short hearings to be held in the location of the project. The hearing is conducted in an appropriate location readily accessible to all witnesses and the general public."

I do not believe the scheduled hearing in Canberra on May 5 complies with these processes.

Accordingly I request that a public hearing be held in Brisbane, preferably on or near the site at Bulimba.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms Belinda Carey of my office

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terri Butler". The script is cursive and fluid.

Terri Butler MP
Federal Member for Griffith