

Queensland University of Technology response to comments made by President of the QUT Student Guild Zoe Davidson to the Committee on Friday, 17 March 2023

RE: Student Accommodation

Regarding the former student residences, QUT student Guild has not raised this issue with the university even though there are regular meetings.

QUT purchased the site in 1993, refurbished the accommodation and re-opened it in 1996 and it was used as student housing only until 2000 when it had to be closed for residential use. The site was added to the Queensland Heritage Register in 2001 and, due to its heritage significance, there are requirements over the site which QUT is exploring the flexibility of the requirements to enable some form of use if possible.

The internal configuration of the buildings, alongside the steep hillside location, means that they did not comply with current accessibility requirements and there was no short-term fix.

QUT has a range of accommodation support options available and well utilised by students and is always proactively canvassing opportunities in the Queensland accommodation market for options for our students.

QUT has written this week to the QUT Student Guild to outline the challenges with the former student residences and, as always, continues to remind them that QUT is happy to work together to achieve the best outcomes for our students.

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