



The Hon Alister Henskens SC MP
Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services

EAP21/8729

Ms Kate Washington MP
Member for Port Stephens
PO Box 82
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324

Email: portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Washington,

Thank you for your letter received 2 June 2021 regarding the Tomaree Lodge site at Port Stephens.

I can confirm that the final residents left Tomaree Lodge on 4 May 2021 and are settling well into their new home in the community. Full de-commissioning of the site is now being finalised.

As you know there has been previous bipartisan commitment to keeping Tomaree in public hands once closed and we continue to work towards this outcome. The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is currently undertaking preliminary due diligence of the site to inform the way forward.

It is anticipated early community consultation through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)/Property and Development NSW (PDNSW) in order to advance the plans for future use of the site will commence in the coming months.

In relation to local residents and their security concerns for the site, I can confirm there remains a 24/7 security presence at Tomaree Lodge and that there have been no incidents reported to date.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Mr Jim Breen, DCJ Director Service Delivery Transfer on 0407 484 144 or at Jim.Breen@facn.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

THE HON ALISTER HENSKENS SC MP
Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services

18 June 2021