

**Submission  
No 240**

## **INQUIRY INTO SOCIAL, PUBLIC AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**Organisation:** Christ Church Gladesville Parish Council

**Date received:** 26/03/2014

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Corner Victoria Road and Jordan Street, Gladesville. P.O. Box 250, Gladesville 1675  
Ph: 9817-2631 | Fax: 9817-1156 | office@christchurch.org.au | www.christchurch.org.au

The Director  
Select Committee on Social, Public and Affordable Housing,  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Christ Church Gladesville Parish Council

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for agreeing to accept this late submission to the inquiry on Social, Public and Affordable Housing. As a local church in the Northern Suburbs, support for individuals and families who receive this kind of care from the government are of significant concern to our church community. Our church family enjoys relationships with folks from Blandville Court and Ashburn Place, and enjoy fellowship with these people in our community.

People who find themselves in public, social and affordable housing do not do so by choice, and are in many cases in need of care, concern and support from those around them. In such cases, these people draw support from the many groups around them, including church groups, charity groups, the government, as well as each other.

Although termed as housing estates, places like Ashburn Place, Blandville Court and Ivanhoe Estate are in every sense communities of people who find themselves belonging to each other, supporting and caring for their neighbours, as they are cared for by groups around them.

Our church sees the tremendous blessing of having a truly diverse community from a variety of backgrounds in the Macquarie, Ryde and Gladesville areas. To that end, we support the notion of social, public and affordable housing communities being located within what may be termed as more affluent suburbs, avoiding a ghetto-like approach or mentality to public housing.

Our church sees a need to care for people in these situations, who may, through the process of government be ignored or perhaps overlooked. We would ask the inquiry to consider the human cost of balancing the budget on the backs of housing estate redevelopment in New South Wales. We therefore note the proposed development of Ivanhoe Estate, and more recently the reported development of Millers Point with concern.

We ask the committee to maintain and recommend policies that defend the weak, and uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.

Sincerely,

Christ Church Gladesville Parish Council