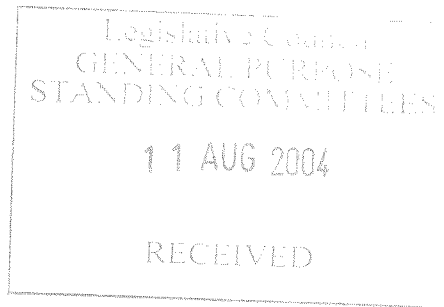


**INQUIRY INTO THE APPROVAL OF THE DESIGNER
OUTLETS CENTER - LIVERPOOL**

Organisation: Bohemia Crystal
Name: Ms Kimberley Birch
Telephone:
Date Received: 11/08/2004

Subject: Employee of Bohemia Crystal

Summary



K Birch
4 Wynyard Avenue
BASS HILL NSW 2197

To Whom it May Concern

I would like to submit this letter expressing my concerns about the current situation relating to the closing down of the Designer Outlets Liverpool. I like many colleagues employed at the centre am very frustrated and extremely disappointed in the way the Government and Westfield's have gone about closing us down. It appears that the "Big Brother Syndrome" has appeared, bullying the little operator out of business.

My employment is vital for my income and well-being. I am a mother of three children and the wages I earn go towards paying for vital living expenses such as food and clothing. By the tick of a pen, my life and many others employed at the Centre have become very angry as it appears laws and local government policy have not been invoked to prevent this tragedy from occurring. I do not understand how Westfield's can instigate legal proceedings against the Centre when for example, a service station can open right next to each other or different food chains such as McDonald's and KFC franchises, trading side by side. I was under the belief that free trade was healthy for the economy.

Westfield's and the New South Wales Government, (Mr Carr and his fellow ministers) have not taken into consideration that by having more people come to the centre, you are inviting more people to the area to spend on local businesses. Customers are going to go to Westfield's regardless of our business. Consumers like variety, if you take that away, consumers are going to shop else where in another area. Not in the Liverpool area.

It is very obvious that I am seeing corruption at its highest level, the proprietor who applied for the permit done so in the appropriate manner, through Council. However it appears that the decision has been over ruled by the Government deciding to see in favour of Westfield's because of their influence within the community.

My anger and frustration is felt by all employed within the Centre, please mindful of the actions you are taking. Remember you are taking my livelihood away, which could eventuate myself attending Centrelink to seek employment. Which I find ironic since you are going to have numerous people lined up at Centrelink offices throughout the area requesting Government assistance. A total contradiction to what I am trying to achieve and others at the centre, which is to be EMPLOYED!

Regards Kimberley Birch , C/O Bohemia Crystal, 6th August, 2004