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Dr Lorraine Abernethie
 Principal Research Officer
 Economics and Industry Standing Committee
 Parliament House
 PERTH WA 6000

Dear Dr Abernethie

Parliamentary Inquiry - Provision, use and regulation of Caravan Parks (and camping grounds) in Western Australia

In respect to the above detailed inquiry the City of Swan provides the following comments which are based on our experience of applying the legislation:

With regards the impact of existing legislation

- The City has recently had cause to review the provision of 'road side rest areas' as provided for under regulation 11 of the Caravan and Camping Grounds Regulations. It appears from the regulation that the designation of such an area rests upon signage 'erected in accordance with a written law'. Legal advice obtained by the City indicates that the meaning of 'in accordance with a written law' is unclear, and suggests that, a local law providing for signage in rest areas is required for enforcement of the 24 hour restriction on camping.
- Regulation 11 also does not appear to permit tent / swag camping in a 'road side rest area' or a road reserve in an emergency. Whilst it would seem unlikely that an authority would take enforcement action in the case of non vehicle camping arising from an emergency situation, it does seem unusual for legislation to contain such provisions.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact David Rosling on 9267 9313.

Yours faithfully

(Mark Bishop)
 PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER