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Our Ref: OCR62230
Your Ref: Petition No. 131
Enquiries: Adam Majid, Manager Development Services
Direct Line: (08) 9158 9342

Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman, Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr O'Brien

PETITION No. 131 – OPPOSE LOCATION OF LIQUOR STORE IN SOUTH HEDLAND SHOPPING CENTRE

Reference is made to your letter dated 20 October 2016 in relation to the above mentioned petition tabled in the Legislative Council on 7 September 2016.

The Town of Port Hedland (Town) is aware of the anti-social behaviour and is working with local stakeholders in an effort to try and combat the issues.

Ultimately, the Town takes the view that the location of the liquor store is not the issue, the issue is the drug and alcohol abuse that occurs within the Town resulting in addictions. Relocating a liquor store will only shift the problem instead of addressing the root cause.

Recently, the Liquor Accord moved to investigate and implement an alcohol purchasing management system, such as the "TAMS" system being implemented in the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley. The Town supports this motion of the Liquor Accord and has already had conversations with the Member for the Pilbara on the same.

The Town is open to working with all agencies to assist in addressing the problems at hand, but there needs to be recognition from all stakeholders that resourcing is key to try and address the root cause of drug and alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour.

Should you require any further information regarding this matter please contact Adam Majid, Acting Director Community & Development Services on (08) 9158 9342 or amajid@porthedland.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Linnell', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris Linnell
Acting Chief Executive Officer

03/11/2016