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## Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports

Our Ref: 72-34837  
Your Ref: A914138; Petition No. 006

Hon Peter Foster MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
[env@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:env@parliament.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Foster

### **PETITION NO. 006 – CARAVAN PARKS AND CAMPING GROUND REGULATIONS 1997**

Thank you for your letter of 9 September 2021 regarding the Petition No. 006 – Caravan Parks and Camping Ground Regulations 1997. I note the information provided to you by the Hon John Carey MLA, Minister for Housing; Local Government on 2 September 2021.

The Planning system is responsible for regulating the use of land and is therefore responsible for approving the location of caravan parks and camping grounds, as a land use. If a caravan park is a discretionary use under a local planning scheme, until a development approval is issued, approval for individual caravans cannot be approved under the *Caravan Parks and Camping Ground Act 1995* and the supporting Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997 (Regulations).

Development approval is generally not issued for the temporary occupation of a caravan on private land, as the requirements of the Regulations limit the time during which a caravan park can be occupied on private land.

Generally, the long-term occupation of caravans (even when self-contained) is not supported, as it can lead to an increase in the quantity of caravans in a variety of locations across the State. Any proposal for the location of residential accommodation, where it is not on a short-term basis, i.e. is permanent, needs to be suitably located to ensure it:

- has appropriate services and infrastructure available
- is located and constructed with consideration to risk from natural hazards like bushfire, flood and cyclone
- has appropriate scale to the amenity of the area, particularly in rural locations.

These issues are addressed through the Planning system, both at the zoning stage, by setting out the appropriate locations for residential or other types of accommodation, and at the development approval stage, by undertaking a specific assessment of the site to determine if it is an appropriate location for a dwelling to be constructed. These are not matters that are able to be addressed under the *Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995*, which purpose is to regulate the operation of these types of uses, once approved in appropriate locations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the petition and I am happy to provide any further information the Committee may require during its inquiries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line and a loop.

**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING**

23 SEP 2021