



**Hon Peter Collier MLC  
Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs  
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council**

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Our Ref: 34-58302

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC  
Chairman  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your letter dated 3 December 2014 seeking comments on the terms of the petition and submission from Karntimarta Aboriginal Corporation and community members regarding housing conditions and the delivery of basic services at the Warralong Community (the Community).

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA) has advised that the Community is not located on Aboriginal Lands Trust estate. DAA further advises that the Department of Housing is responsible for the provision and maintenance of housing within the Community, under contract to Pilbara Meta Maya (regional service provider), pursuant to a Housing Management and Maintenance Agreement (HMMA), which was entered into with the Community in early 2009.

In relation to concerns regarding delivery of basic services in the Community, DAA has advised that the services referred to are currently funded by the Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and delivered by the Pilbara Meta May Regional Aboriginal Corporation (PMM).

PMM is currently contracted to provide regular rubbish collection services to the Community. DAA has been advised that PMM has experienced difficulties in obtaining cooperation from members of the Community in relation to arranging a clean-up prior to cyclone season. PMM also manages the Remote Area Essential Services Program which covers water, sewerage and power supply.

DAA understands that DPMC previously provided funding for the employment of administration/coordination positions in some communities. However, this funding is no longer available and further funding is not expected. In the past, the Community has been considered as being of insufficient size to warrant the placement of a coordinator.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment on the terms of the petition.

The concerns raised in the petition could be referred to the Minister for Housing.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Collier', written in a cursive style.

Hon Peter Collier MLC  
**MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

13 JAN 2015