

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of Parliament  
Parliament House  
Corner Alice and George Streets  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to the petition lodged with the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 11 November 2003 by Ms Carryn Sullivan MP on behalf of residents of Sandstone Point, requesting delivery of a state school in the Sandstone Point precinct.

I am responding to individual petitioners advising them that Education Queensland continues to monitor residential development in the Sandstone Point development and retains an interest at this time in acquiring a primary school site.

Education Queensland prioritises the acquisition of school sites within available funds and in line with residential development rates and the capacity of existing schools to accommodate additional enrolments. While a possible future need is recognised for the Sandstone Point area, higher priorities in other parts of the State have existed to this point in time. Departmental officers have, however, consistently advised both the developer and Council of its continuing interest.

Departmental officers are aware of the current development application over the school site shown on the concept master plan for Sandstone Point and again formally advised Council of Education Queensland's continuing interest in the nominated site. Local authorities are responsible for considering development applications.

Should the development application be approved by Council and the land be sold to the applicants then Education Queensland may need to consider alternative sites. The Department's decision to acquire a site in the area remains subject to on-going review.

Acquisition of a school site in the Sandstone Point area will not automatically constitute a government commitment to deliver a school. Ministerial approval for the opening of a new school involves a separate decision-making process.

Please feel free to contact Mr Richard Churchman, Manager, Facilities Program Development Unit on telephone (07) 3237 0740, should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

**Anna Bligh MP**  
**Minister for Education**

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