



## Department of Planning and Community Development

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1902660 File No: 10/024946-11

22 August 2011

Mr Brian Walsh  
Kew Cottages Coalition  
22 Fellows Street  
KEW 3101

Dear Mr Walsh,

### **FORMER KEW COTTAGES (KEW RESIDENTIAL SERVICES) Princess Street Kew H2073. COMPLAINT RECEIVED.**

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2011 relating to the former Kew Cottages site and in particular your objection to the permit application P17156, recent works undertaken in the form of bulk earth removal and your belief that section 160 of the *Heritage Act 1995* ("the Act") has been breached.

On 10 August 2011 Heritage Victoria officers attended the Kew Cottages site and inspected the works currently underway. It is agreed that a great deal of earth has been removed from the site and that some vegetation has also been removed. Such works have been approved by issue of permit P15955, and the permit applicant assures us that the works are in accordance with that permit. There was no requirement by Heritage Victoria for those trees removed to remain.

The purpose of section 160 of the Act is to provide an avenue for Heritage Victoria to deal with owners when a registered place is falling into disrepair or when a place is not being maintained to the extent that its conservation is being threatened. There are a number of works underway at the Kew Cottages site and these works do not fall within the 'failure to maintain' realm made available under this section of the Act.

In relation to the other matters you raise in relation to the issue of permit P9639, I make the following comments. Heritage Victoria has given approval of every stage prior to the commencement of works in that stage. Works associated with the registered roadways and paths is being undertaken as permitted by the relevant staged permits. The proposal to build apartments adjoining buildings listed as B1, B3 and B6 is no longer being considered by the developer. The adaptive re-use of those buildings is anticipated. The three apartment buildings in the south west corner of the site are apparently no longer being considered by the developer.

Since this site visit, there have been further discussions with Mr Brad Evans of Walker Corporation in relation to your concerns. As a result Mr Evans has provided Heritage Victoria with a written response as well as a brochure on 'Tree Controls' which I have attached for your information.

Should you wish to discuss these matters further please contact Peter Brooks on 8644 8898.

Yours sincerely,



**Jim Gardner**  
**Executive Director**  
**HERITAGE VICTORIA**

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