



Carlton Housing Estate Resident Services  
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My Name is Hamdi Ali

I am the secretary of the Public Housing residents Association CHERS.

I am trained to be an Engineer building Computers/Networks, not building community networks or to be community worker, social worker, but that is what I found myself doing .

I come to Carlton late 2005 but only started involving what was happening in the area around 2008/9, my first impression was the residents are not engaging with local agencies and the office so I was keen to change that and be part of.

I would latter realise it was not as I was thinking, it made some uneasy about my voluntary effort to help.

I mention this because there is the impression that residents are not keen to engage while there is hardly an easy way for them to involve, while most of them are busy too like everybody else to support themselves and families.

### **Positives of the redevelopment**

The renewal of the whole area, some improvement of the open spaces mostly the main estate Lygon Drummond Area.

An overall renovation of the older stock but is taking very long and less significant work done than previously as time goes.

There was more attention from the government to the area. But Community Agencies were always in the middle and the go between residents direct involvement very limited.



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Very small Jobs created I heard not seen it myself.

### Negative

The sale of Public land for ever, loss for next generation loss of significant public land down from previous generations, without more significant Public housing capacity created, Loss of open spaces.

You can't help but feel there is a lack of ownership for the Public buildings in terms of the quality and scrutiny on the Private builders. You feel like that is yours and build some for us/ for the Public and build for yourself the builder is left to their own to decide, to give a credit the department did say they asked the Public units to be bit bigger than the Privaten, which might be the case.

In terms of the building quality we saw by the experience of the people who live some not so good outcome.

No was appropriate planning the Heating system not working for an entire building like 38 Elgin, water leaking shortly after finish.

Not planning the building for the NBN connection I believe it was a requirement for any building around that time, but only one Building was done for NBN after we brought to the attention of the DHHS Carlton was NBN built commence. even that was done very badly with very bad deal forced on the residents unnessecesly with the local office saying we have nothing to do although they done the deal and signed up the resident to Clear Network.

So some residents paid hundreds of dollars a deal they wore not given any other option for the start.

In general The need for an increased role for local governments in the affairs of the Public Housing residents like other residents Tenants thrown to wolves on clear network very little duty of care shown.



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Massive opportunity missed to provide Job security and training for Public housing Tenants please see below.

### **The quality of social and public housing units.**

In the of Carlton redevelopment which I have involved in the CLC ( community lesson Committee ) just before the real start of the first constriction, the best engagement and consultation was while the public housing buildings wore on going after that the CLC has just but stoped.

It was the best time for the residents issues in general to be responded as exceptionally high level delegation was coming to Carlton mostly monthly.

Compared shortly after the last public building was done where we felt the most frustration and felt very much ignored by the department.

The office as we call it very much preferred not to communicate the tenants directly but thru Local agencies, just easier for them.

Its worth mentioning both during the peak of the redevelopment and shortly after, and even now,

There is a dispropcinate focus on local agencies pretend to represent the residents even causing many times residents unable to deal the Local office directly, some agencies not all took advantage of it if not encourage it, that is the nature of a comparative environment for government funding where those the target of the funding have no capacity to influence the situation.

### **The quality of the Build**



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The ownership and the quality of what to be built and how to be built?

If a sale of the public housing land is unavoidable we should only sale

- A) What is necessary to build more and improve what we have
- B) maximize the number of Public housing units
- C) Other avenues should be looked first to reduce the coast of running Public housing and maximizing the income from the asset by adding other ways of value adding not only renting house to tenants.

In an ideal world we minimize the sale of public land while increasing the public housing units as much as possible if we sale land.

If we can't avoid the sale of a major public land.

We have to consider too, very seriously the impact on the current residents in the social issues and their wellbeing.

I am referring the possibility of the current residents getting job opportunity and training of the sale building and the ongoing bases for the future.

This is very significant to the current population of public housing.

They are commonly implied that they need support and help to get meaningfully lasting jobs.

That is in comparing the previous immigrant generations.



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If we neglect that those were mostly economic migrants from mostly functioning governments and mostly from Europe.

But more significantly unskilled jobs with very little requirement other than to present yourself for work.

Worked everywhere.

The communities which are predominant in these mostly walk ups near High rises are from a mostly non-functioning States where they have hardly experience of the modern Australian mostly semi-skilled work environment.

Where you are expected to perform before you show up for work, like job hunting skill Resume and to attend an interview where you must investise what are your skills strengths and weaknesses.

I am aware an attempt was made by earlier estate governments to help the residents of the public housing Jobs wise it was effective up to a point but my understanding is its effectiveness was relative to the people who were involved in terms of commitment and approaches.

It would be the most unfair and would be an abandonment if the land is sold for private use which means very reduced open space in an already crowded inner suburban. With overall reduction of the public housing availability for the near future if not immediately.

While the current residents don't even get jobs and skills for the work which is happening very close to them.

