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JAMIE PARKER MP
Member for Balmain



Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
Haymarket Post Shop
NSW 1240

22nd December 2016

Dear Chair,

Re: Submission to IPART review of social and affordable housing

Please see below a submission regarding the above review of public housing, signed by 107 public housing tenants in my constituency of Balmain:

I am writing to express my strong view against any increases in rent or increases to financial contributions from public housing tenants. Public housing tenants are already on low incomes, and any additional costs will only increase the hardship faced by many.

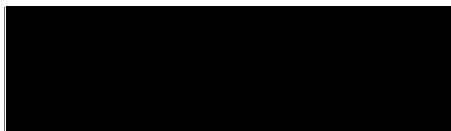
I ask you to consider this submission when making your decision about the levels of rent paid by public housing tenants. Government should be investing in public housing to ensure that properties are well repaired and that there is more housing available so that people in need can receive help.

Individual comments included:

"I think the rents should not go up. It's difficult enough as it is to afford food, electricity and essentials. I have not been able to afford to set up a home business as the rent costs too much and i can't go out to work because of my disability. I do not see that the housing situation is getting better for anyone. They are moving people out of sites and not building new housing stock. Too many people are on the wait list for many years. As Housing NSW is not doing much in the way of repairs and letting many estates fall into disrepair i feel this is criminal. I have had to take Housing NSW to the tribunal to get essential repairs done and i will have to do it again. Very disappointed. I see too many homeless people living across the road from me and they need to be housed."

"We naturally feel very insecure with any LNP government living as we do in an upmarket suburb, constantly expecting to have our place sold for profit and us moved forcibly to the far West. Any reassurance as to our permanency of residence will ensure our vote. Some think we have it good however on the full range human needs it is still very difficult living on a pension."

Yours sincerely,



Jamie Parker MP
Member for Balmain