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Minister for Housing and Public Works

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Councillor Nicole Johnston
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Dear Councillor Johnston

Thank you for your letter of 17 October 2013 about the former RSPCA site at Yeronga.

Since the middle of September 2013, staff from my office and the department have been in discussions with Queensland Cricket to facilitate a lease between the State and Souths Junior Cricket Club (the Club) for a proposed term of five years for a 3,370m² portion of the former RSPCA site.

It is my understanding that the Club is dealing directly with the Brisbane City Council to secure a lease over the adjoining Ron Porter Oval site, which they currently occupy on a seasonal licence basis. A combined lease over both parcels of land will allow the Club to extend the existing cricket field.

I have been told that the proposed lease of the land is on a non-exclusive basis, so the general public will have access to the site for recreational purposes when it is not in use by the Club. It is also proposed that the lease will allow the Club to sub-let the site during the cricket off season. This would increase the use of the recreational land which would be available for a number of local junior sporting clubs in the area.

Future disposal of the remainder of the site will be via an open market process, whereby interested parties will have the opportunity to submit offers.

I trust this information addresses your enquiry and thank you for supporting my initiative to lease part of this site to a local sporting club. If I can be of assistance with other matters within my portfolio, please contact my office on telephone 07 3237 1832.

Yours sincerely

Tim Mander MP
Minister for Housing and Public Works