Mr Mick Gentleman MLA Minister for Planning and Land Management Legislative Assembly for the ACT **GPO Box 1020** CANBERRA ACT 2601 gentleman@act.gov.au

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cc vassarotti@act.gov.au lee@parliament.act.au stephen-smith@act.gov.au rattenbury@act.gov.au

Dear Minister

## Clarification request on the Manor House proposal in Griffith

We write to you concerning the Canberra Times article of 15 July 2021 about the "Manor House" proposal, and in particular the following passage:

"If [Draft Variation] 375 is approved, manor houses or their equivalent could be built in any low-density residential zone, in the ACT," the petition reads in part.

Mr Gentleman said this was untrue, as the draft variation made a change for just one block on Blaxland Crescent, part of the ACT government's <u>demonstration housing project</u>. "Deliberately misleading scare campaigns such as the petition circulating from the opposition are detrimental to planning discussions and risk robbing Canberrans of housing choices," Mr Gentleman said."

Does this article correctly report your view? If so, it seems that you consider that the petition we are sponsoring via Ms Lee amounts to a "deliberately misleading scare campaign", in that we believe this proposal paves the way for similar projects elsewhere in RZ1 zones. As it is described as a "demonstration project" we naturally made this assumption.

In the light of your reported comments, we therefore seek your confirmation that the Government will not entertain similar proposals to the proposed "Manor House" elsewhere in Canberra's RZ1 zones.

Incidentally, after your email of 12 February 2021 (attached to this email), we have tried twice to meet with you or your staff, without any success. We would still welcome an opportunity to have that conversation about the Manor House and a number of other planning matters and we hope it can be arranged.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Denham AM President GNCA