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3 DEC 2025

Ms Ella Haddad
Member for Clark
Email c/o: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Constituency Question – Chigwell Community Garden

Dear Ms Haddad

Thank you for your Constituency Question on Thursday 6 November, in regard to the Chigwell Community Garden.

As a supporter of this community garden, I have visited a number of times and donated an olive tree. To be clear, the garden has not closed and remains open.

The Tasmanian Government is providing funding of \$366 124 to Bucaan House 2025/26. Further to this, Bucaan House has been successful in a number of competitive grant funding rounds, securing \$232 108 since 2021. As incorporated entities, Neighbourhood Houses determine their own budget and funding priorities.

Historically, Neighbourhood Houses have not been funded specifically for community gardens, and they have been established and operated on diverted core funds, donations and great teams of volunteers.

As you may be aware, the land where the garden is situated is owned by Glenorchy City Council. I am working with Bucaan House and the council, to find a solution. Our discussions are progressing positively.

I am a staunch advocate for Neighbourhood Houses and continually advocate for their success. For the 2025/26 Interim Budget, this consisted of the continued commitment to support the Community Connector Program with \$1.296 million over four years. Funding to the network has grown from \$4.7 million in 2013/14 to over \$15 million in 2025/26. Since 2021 more than \$40 million has been provided to the Neighbourhood House network.

Yours sincerely

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

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