PETITION to restore support services for Public Housing Tenants in Redfern and Waterloo

To the Honourable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of NSW in Parliament.

The Petition of citizens of New South Wales brings to the attention of the House that Waterloo and Redfern have lost vital place based independent community development provided to public housing tenants by the Housing Community Programme (HCP). HCP has been running since 1994 and for 14 years was hosted by Counterpoint Community Services. HCP worked alongside the regional Tenant Participation Resources Services (TPRS) hosted by Inner Sydney Voice which has also been disbanded after 23 years. Funding for both programs has been merged to create a very different regional Tenant Participation and Community Engagement (TPCE) without any community consultation and tenants can no longer expect the same level of service.

The undersigned petitioners ask the Legislative Assembly to call on the Government to:

- 1. Urgently assess the consequences of winding up TPRS and HCP on place-based work in Redfern and Waterloo
- 2. Ensure there is no loss of support, services or historical community activities
- 3. Provide additional funding to local community centres impacted by the HCP decision so community centres can continue to provide place-based programs
- 4. Recognise that funding to local NGOs for Communities Plus projects are in response to new needs arising and do not replace the need of HCP and TPRS programs

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