

Dear Minister Constable

I am writing regarding the threatened closure of the Denmark Centre for Sustainable Living.

I urge you to work with the Denmark community towards retaining the Centre for Sustainable Living in the education precinct, whilst still ensuring effective redevelopment of the Denmark High School.

I have been privy to a number of emails and face-to-face communications with people involved directly with the CSL, and the number one message from all of them is that they want to work with the Education Department to find a creative win-win solution, and perhaps a better arrangement for both parties than exists at present.

I'm sure you will appreciate how rare it is for a threatened community to express such a willingness towards creativity rather than conflict.

If your department also shows a willingness to engage creatively, then together you have a unique and fantastic opportunity to bring high school education right into the 21st Century and integrate it fully with life-long-learning.

I am interested in this outcome from three angles:

- Firstly, I work in the renewable energy industry and see the vital importance of the work the CSL is doing.
- Secondly, I have three children who will attend Denmark High School in the coming years, and I want them to have an integrated education in a vibrant education precinct.
- Thirdly, I have a long-term professional interest in creative engagement processes; I have seen this sort of process break down 20-year-long conflicts to the benefit of the parties and everyone around them. I know it works, but it does take a shift of approach (see attached for further information, in a business context).

I trust that you will be in contact with the leaders in the Centre for Sustainable Living, towards a better outcome for everyone.

Yours sincerely

Sonia Anderson