

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 03 June 2005

CARP Appoints Le Grand For Redlands Investigation

Lavinia Wood, spokesperson for the Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc, today announced the decision of the CARP Executive to engage lawyer Mark Le Grand to undertake an investigation and prepare a report on behalf of CARP into alleged planning and development irregularities involving the Redland Shire Council.

"As a result of the role CARP has taken to assist Shire residents opposing unwanted urban expansion to make submissions to the Draft South East Queensland Regional Plan and the Draft Redlands Planning Scheme respectively, we have received numerous documents and statements from individuals wishing to bring apparently untoward occurrences and matters to the attention of the authorities. It quickly became evident that dealing effectively with this material and assisting these people was beyond our capability," Ms Wood explained.

"It will be Mr Le Grand's task to act as CARP's solicitor in collecting evidence, taking statements, and compiling a report for submission to the Crime and Misconduct Commission and/or to the Minister for Local Government for the consideration of those entities pursuant to their statutory responsibilities."

Mr Le Grand is a former Director of the Official Misconduct Division of the Criminal Justice Commission, a former Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions and a former Director of the National Crime Authority. He is also a veteran of several national Royal Commissions into drug trafficking and numerous State and Federal investigative task forces into organised criminal activity. Mr Le Grand is currently the principal of a legal practice specialising in criminal law and insurance matters, and is a Redlands resident.

"CARP is delighted to have engaged a lawyer of Mr Le Grand's calibre, and we await the outcomes of his work with great interest," Ms Wood said.

All Redlanders and others with information to contribute to the investigation confidentially or otherwise are invited to make contact in the first instance by e-mail on contact@carp-redlands.org.au; by fax on 3822-4943, or by writing to CARP at PO Box 427 Capalaba 4157.

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Lavinia Wood

Spokesperson

Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc