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Press Release - Hackney Redevelopment

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PRESS RELEASE BY THE PREMIER, HON. DON DUNSTAN, O.C., M.P. 22.9.67.

This week, representatives of a Citizens Group from Hackney came to see me concerning the possible redevelopment of the Hackney area.

Some time ago, the St. Peters Corporation appointed a consultant to advise on redevelopment of the St. Peters area. In the course of his survey it was found that one area needing almost complete redevelopment was the area of Hackney near the river, as in that part of Hackney designated, the majority of houses had got beyond their economic life and a number of them were sub-standard.

A proposal was then put to me as Minister in charge of Town Planning, for redevelopment of this area, and was referred to the State Planning Office for assessment. A number of proposals have been examined for redevelopment of the area and these are being evaluated currently by the Housing Trust before report to the State Planning Authority and to the Corporation. It is anticipated that some redevelopment will occur here and that it is likely to be partly by the Housing Trust and partly let to other developers.

Citizens in the area should be assured firstly that where their property is acquired they will be adequately compensated; secondly, that arrangements will be made to consider applications for accommodation in any new buildings built in the area; thirdly that consideration will be given in any plan to incorporate all existing small businesses in the area into the redevelopment to ensure that service at present provided for citizens in that area will be retained.

It is not possible to release details of the proposed development until a full report has been accepted by the Housing Trust and the Planning and Development Authority after consultation with the Corporation.

The citizens of the area can be assured that the fullest information will be given to them as soon as it is available, and that discussions will be held with them as to the future as soon as concrete proposals have been adopted.

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