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To contact Gerry: 8983 1302(bh)  8983 1237(ah)  0428 698 037(mobile)

**BLOCK SIZES REFLECT POOR PLANNING**

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says that the reason for 700 sq m blocks in the new suburb of Palmerston is a mixture of poor planning and guess work by the Government.

Gerry says that the Government announced there would be 850 blocks available in Johnston without knowing the amount of land that would be available for housing.

Now that a detailed assessment of the land has been completed it is obvious that for the Government to reach its target, it has had to allow for smaller lot sizes.

Gerry says that if the government believes in lower energy housing than it needs to allow for larger lots sizes with smaller building envelopes so that natural breezes and east west orientation can be achieved.

He said that larger blocks also mean that people are not living in each other’s back pocket which surely has better social outcomes.

Gerry says that before the Government announces how many lots will be available in a new suburb it needs to cut out the spin, get the facts and then say how many lots will be available.