

Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria

Name: Jude Power

Organisation:

Organisation position:

In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into homelessness to consider: Public housing, Housing affordability, Rough sleeping, Family violence, Services, Indigenous people, Mental health, Employment

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? Concerned citizen

Are there any additional themes we should consider? The epidemic of AirB&B's in many areas which is swallowing up former low rental homes

Submission: I am a 72 year old disability pensioner in private rental, which I can just afford with erratic casual work, which of course is not possible for many people in my situation. I've lived here for nearly 10 years but still dread every lease renewal date and am certain my lease will not be renewed next year, as I am taking the owner to VCAT because of longstanding necessary repairs, some from a kitchen fire over a year ago and others which threaten my physical safety. The agents consistently recommend to him that he not give me more than one year at a time, presumably because they want their annual lease renewal fee. If my lease is not renewed I face homelessness: there are very few affordable rentals in my area and I doubt if I would be given priority by agents/owners, in spite of my perfect rental record in the area going back more than 15 years. I have applied for public housing on a priority basis but doubt very much if that will be approved in time.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions? YES, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD STOP SELLING OFF PUBLIC HOUSING AND INCREASE IT SUBSTANTIALY!

Signature: Jude Power