

[REDACTED]

From: Sheila Hedderick [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 9 June 2016 5:28 PM
To: LSIC
Subject: Differential Rate for Retirement Village Residents

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Sheila Hedderick, i am a resident of [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. In October 2013 shortly after moving into this retirement village i asked our residents committee why the rates for my LEASED unit were higher than the three bedroom house i OWNED in South Morang, Victoria. I received a reply much to the effect that the committee had tried to get the Geelong Council to investigate the rate charges without success. On hearing this i was shocked that the effort had been a one off, no result campaign. Thankfully the committee decided to try again for a differential rate for our homes, again this has been a saga that has given me lots of angst over the past couple of years. I have had communications with the Geelong Rate Department who handballed it to the Valuer General Office who handballed it back to the Geelong Council. After years of nothing i have been informed of this Parliamentary Inquiry taking submissions and I would like to add my name to the list. I am at a loss as to how they can charge 71 homes in this village more rates than the average home on the streets of Leopold. Further blood boiling amazement, is the fact that I have a house identical to five others in my particular street and yet i pay more rates than any other house?????? I don't know how they arrived at their figures and furthermore there is nowhere for me to turn for advice. I believe an Ombudsman for the Retirement Villages of Victoria is necessary and should be appointed at the earliest convenience. I add my name to the weight of any proposal for the fair treatment of people in Retirement Villages and although there is a lot more for me to say i believe keeping this short and to the point is the requirement.....Yours faithfully.....Sheila Hedderick

Sheila Hedderick