

Rec 17/6/16

Cheryl Lizaris



The Secretary
 Legal and Social Issues Committee
 Parliament House, Spring Street
 EAST MELBOURNE VIC. 3002

25 May 2016

Dear Sir/ Madam,

SUBMISSION- Inquiry into the Retirement Housing Sector

I, as the representative for all the Retirement Villages in the City of Casey submit a claim for the reduction in Council rates.

The Casey Combined Retirement Villages are represented at second monthly meetings, by the Presidents of the Resident's committees, to discuss any issues residents may have.

The major on going concern is the amount of Council Rates all Retirement residents are expected to pay annually per unit. A large proportion of these residents are receiving the Aged Pension and the rates are huge burden; on top of the monthly maintenance fee to the owners which covers road maintenance within the village, lighting, and infrastructure.

Garbage collection is the only service supplied by Council within the Villages and although residents may use some of the other facilities outside supplied by Council they are at a minimum compared to the other citizens of Casey.

The over 55's move into Retirement Villages for security, on call facilities and the life style, therefore not requiring support systems supplied by Council.

We understand the law allows Councils to set differential rates for retirement Village units. The City of Casey has refused to do so. The Council does agree to pay an annual grant , per occupied units, for dispersal as Residents agree upon.

There appears to be some Local Councils already discounting 25% off Retirement Village rates.

This submission is requesting a 25% reduction, per unit, on our yearly Council Rates for all Retirement Villages in the City of Casey.

We ask the Legal and Social Issues Committee to recommend a change to the law requiring Local Councils to reduce their Council rates by 25% to all Retirement Villages.

Yours Sincerely



Cheryl Lizaris *LIZARIS*

Chairman

Combined Casey Retirement Villages Committee