

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
VICTORIA

29-6-16

The Secretary
Legal and Social Issues
Committee
Parliament House
Spring St.
East Melbourne, 3002
VICTORIA

Dear Sir or Madam,

Retirement Villages for People: in VICTORIA

I have recently attended an inspiring meeting at Roseville and have thus also joined Residents of Retirement Villages Victoria Inc. (RRVV).

I am a fairly recent arrival to [REDACTED] having moved in from my Blackburn home in February, 2016.

Firstly, a bit of background a fifth-generation Australian, I matriculated in Melbourne in 1962; all my formal education has been undertaken in Victoria. I was first a Primary

School Teacher, studying at Frankston Teachers' College (now Monash Peninsular.). Later I received further qualifications from Monash Clayton.

Subsequently, I taught at Box Hill Institute for almost 10 years, including Communication Skills and also Occupational Health and Safety.

I am a great advocate of both subjects.

Following Box Hill, I taught briefly at RMIT, (^{MAINLY} TAFE sector)... I taught Building Inspectors there.

In addition, experience was gained teaching Primary in Australia and the U.K. Also there were opportunities to work in administration, both in Melbourne and Reading (U.K.)

For several years, in Melbourne, I worked as "my own family Carer", attending to several very elderly relatives of mine - in the Bayside area - and I took close, intuitive, sensitive and practical care in their well being and lives. This was over about 7 years - and most of these relatives lived to 90 years (or nearly). They had very full lives, whether at home or in care.

I view age, old age and very, very old age as actually another interesting phase of life,

albeit rewarding for the person and for others they are in contact with.

This does not mean there can be "frustrations", "set-backs", "challenges" and things which need to be improved by both the individual and also authorities. I could say here "prevention" can be an "educative tool."

Living a long, full life has endless possibilities.

For the remainder of this letter I shall list just a few points which I believe are desirable.

██████████ is a lovely place to live. It is beautifully peaceful, the gardens and bird life are gorgeous. People are very friendly and there are so many activities for one to take part in ... eg Yoga (chair yoga), bowls, craft, movies, dinners, a book club etc etc etc. The medical side is excellent also, as are the management and staff.

The points I make follow:

- Entry. On entering, what would be helpful is flexibility - for the Brisbane AVEO managers to take into account

Some circumstances. Now these may include that Melbourne may have a 44°C temperature day. Early morning in moving could be best.

● A 45-minute personal "induction" on the day of arrival (together with an appropriate flyer) would be very helpful..... such things as lighting of gas, air cooling, Telstra, etc. Personal "induction" by authority would save angst. Maybe this could be optional, but offered anyway.

● Safety

Bathrooms should have metal towel rails, not plastic. Bathroom safety is fundamental to safe design.

● Rates

It seems some Melbourne Councils give about 15% reduction in rates. If this is so, what about Manningham? Why is there distinction in this?

I trust this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Greta Smith (9842 0452)