

From: theperks [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2016 8:32 PM
To: LSIC
Subject: Submission: inquiry into the Retirement Housing Sector

Our major concern is the failure of Casey Council to reduce the rates for the Retirement Villages in Casey. Having decided to downsize from a much larger property to a unit in a retirement village, we then expected the amount of rates to be substantially reduced, whereas we are currently charged \$1552.80 per annum. As the Council are not responsible for the lighting, grass cutting and roads within the Village, the amount we have to pay is exorbitant. We have repeatedly approached our Ward Councillors with petitions from the Village residents to no avail.

We also pay maintenance fees as well as water and power, and we have, in fact, not reduced our living costs as we had planned. For example, staff have been reduced, so we are now charged for replacing tap washers, changing light bulbs, etc.

Many residents receiving the age pension are finding it very difficult to exist as the costs continue to increase.

We therefore request that the Legal and Social Issues Committee give this matter urgent attention and add support for an ombudsman.

David and Gladys Perkins