

achieved so quickly and the Premier continues to talk down these achievements that these cases 'are not a vaccine'.

Eradication was never the original intention in the Pandemic. It was about flattening the curve and managing the cases as they arise, with State wide harsh lockdowns. The Victorian Government has continued to change the goalposts in order to keep lockdowns in place and even when we had only a handful of outbreaks, still couldn't properly trace it, relying on infected persons answers to questions without any verification or investigation. The Kilmore/Shepparton outbreak is a case in point.

5. The Need for a Royal Commission and Financial Accountability over the State Governments handling of the Pandemic

The freedoms we now have should have been in place for the last 4 months, like every other State and Territory in Australia. The Victorian Government's failure in the hotel quarantine process (and question marks still over, who approved it and why a non-approved supplier was chosen, is still not known) has caused significant damage to many people and their children's

- health,
- well-being
- living standards and wealth
- and sadly lives (other than through COVID)

These effects and the costs of those to the economy will be felt for many years to come and the proposed \$155 Billion debt borrowings may only be the start of the true debt this State will end up in if the money is not properly managed

This State Budget with its significant proposed infrastructure appears to be a further opportunity for the State Government to hide any blowouts in pre-COVID infrastructure works cost overruns and new projects, within the costs incurred by the State in COVID management. It is critical that the Auditor General closely look at the allocation of these costs so true costs of COVID versus infrastructure project costs as well as properly determine why over 800 Victorian's lost their lives from the Victorian Government's quarantine process.

I do not consider the judicial review into the hotel quarantine to be truly independent. Only a Royal Commission can best try to achieve the answers, rather than a judicial inquiry, with terms of reference set by the Premier using a judge appointed by the Premier. I have no doubt the Premier was in complete control of the whole Pandemic process in Victoria despite the charade of a Crisis Cabinet and supposed medical experts, making decisions relating to lockdown restrictions.

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