

Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria

Mr Geoffrey Constable

Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this inquiry into homelessness to consider::

Rough sleeping,Public housing,Mental health,Family violence,Services,Employment,Indigenous people,Housing affordability

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :

Concerned citizen

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I have been a resident of Southbank for over 5 years. The issue of homelessness is seen daily in Southbank and in the CBD (where I work). It appears to be worsening and is now seen as a 'part of life' in our great city to my great shame.

There are many people that I have seen on the street for more than a year. Some of these people are in a highly dishevelled state, transporting their possessions in shopping trolleys or a bag trolley.

Some of these people are disturbed due to drugs, mental illness or other issues. And yet here they are living on the street. They are a danger to themselves and the general public with some of them acting aggressively and lying on the street in front of buildings, etc.

Some of these people disappear for a period of time (hospital, jail?), and then they are back again. It's an appalling situation to see this.

There is also an endemic begging situation in many locations (both ends of Evan Walker Bridge, Queensbridge St near Freshwater Place, Princes Bridge, Woolworths Flinders St, Elizabeth St, Southern Cross Station, etc. It is unclear if all or only some of these people are homeless.

From all appearances it seems that the Labor government is not interested in this problem. It seems they have given up. Homelessness is in the too hard basket. Not as exciting as building a new tunnel - no ribbons to cut. Sure, this submission process is being run but it's easy to run an inquiry, the real work is what comes next.

My vision is that within the next five years the government works with appropriate partners, government agencies, etc. to achieve zero homelessness in Victoria. That may be a lot to ask but bold action is required and results can be achieved with the political will to do so.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

Less talk and analysis, just do something and see how it goes. Adapt the processes as you proceed according

to their efficacy.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

G S Constable