

Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria

Name: Ross Mogridge

Organisation:

Organisation position:

In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into homelessness to consider: Public housing,Services,Mental health,Rough sleeping,Indigenous people,Family violence,Housing affordability,Employment

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? Concerned citizen ,Other (please describe)

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Submission: I live in a purpose built facility for people with disabilities. It is managed by the housing officers of the the Department of Health and Human Services who work In the housing office in Churchill Avenue Ascot Vale. I am a disabled person have been a tenant for fifteen years.

My neighbour is a problematic tenant and is violent. This has led to personal safety orders being granted by the courts to myself and other tenants. The orders exclude the perpetrator from accessing his flat and he now has permanent accommodation elsewhere but still has a current tenancy agreement and frequents his flat every four of five day to feed his cat. His attendance is a breach of the orders and is criminal activity for which he has been successfully prosecuted but Victoria Police..

The management team at Ascot Vale Office of Housing have full knowledge of the situation and have all the supporting documents including twenty incident reports, police reports and court reports which would assisted in a review of the perpetrators tenancy agreement.

I find it difficult to come to terms with the Department when they allow a two bedroom apartment which is subsidised by the taxpayer to accommodate a cat when there are homeless women with children living in cars and tents.

In this case it is the mismanagement of the property by the senior worker which is making a contribution to the growing numbers of homeless persons by not freeing up housing stock.

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Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?

I hope I am chosen to tell my story to the committee as it is one the most horrific stories of the failure of services and the incompetence by the department and in particular the senior worker at the Ascot Vale office of housing and I am confident it will led to improvements in the future and assist homeless persons to obtain safe accommodation..

Signature:

Ross Mogridge